



UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE



**First Regional Workshop of Euro-Asian
Transport Links Phase II: Facilitation of
Euro-Asian Transport in the ECO Region**

Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, 27-29 April 2009

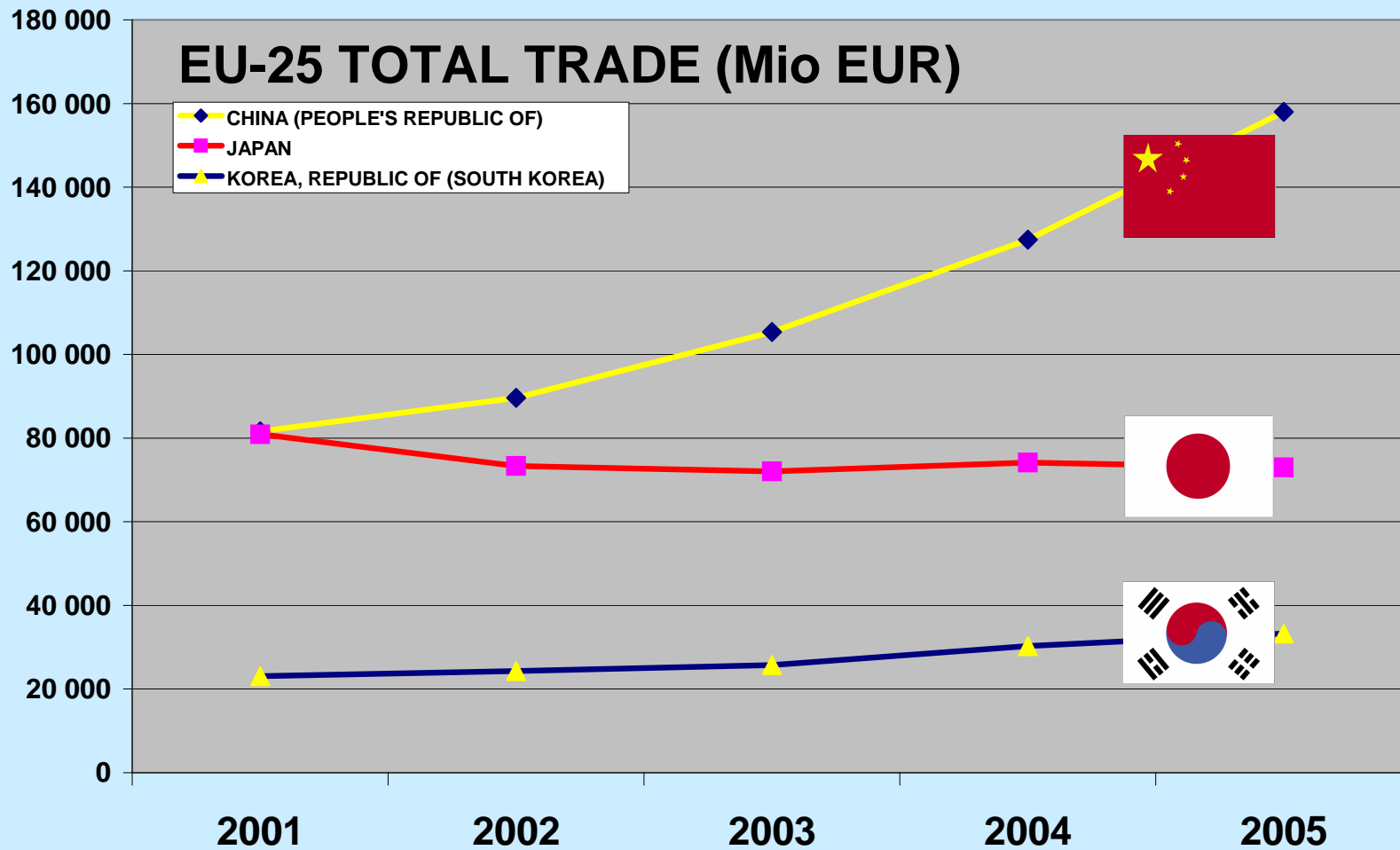
Developing Euro-Asian Transport Links Challenges and Opportunities

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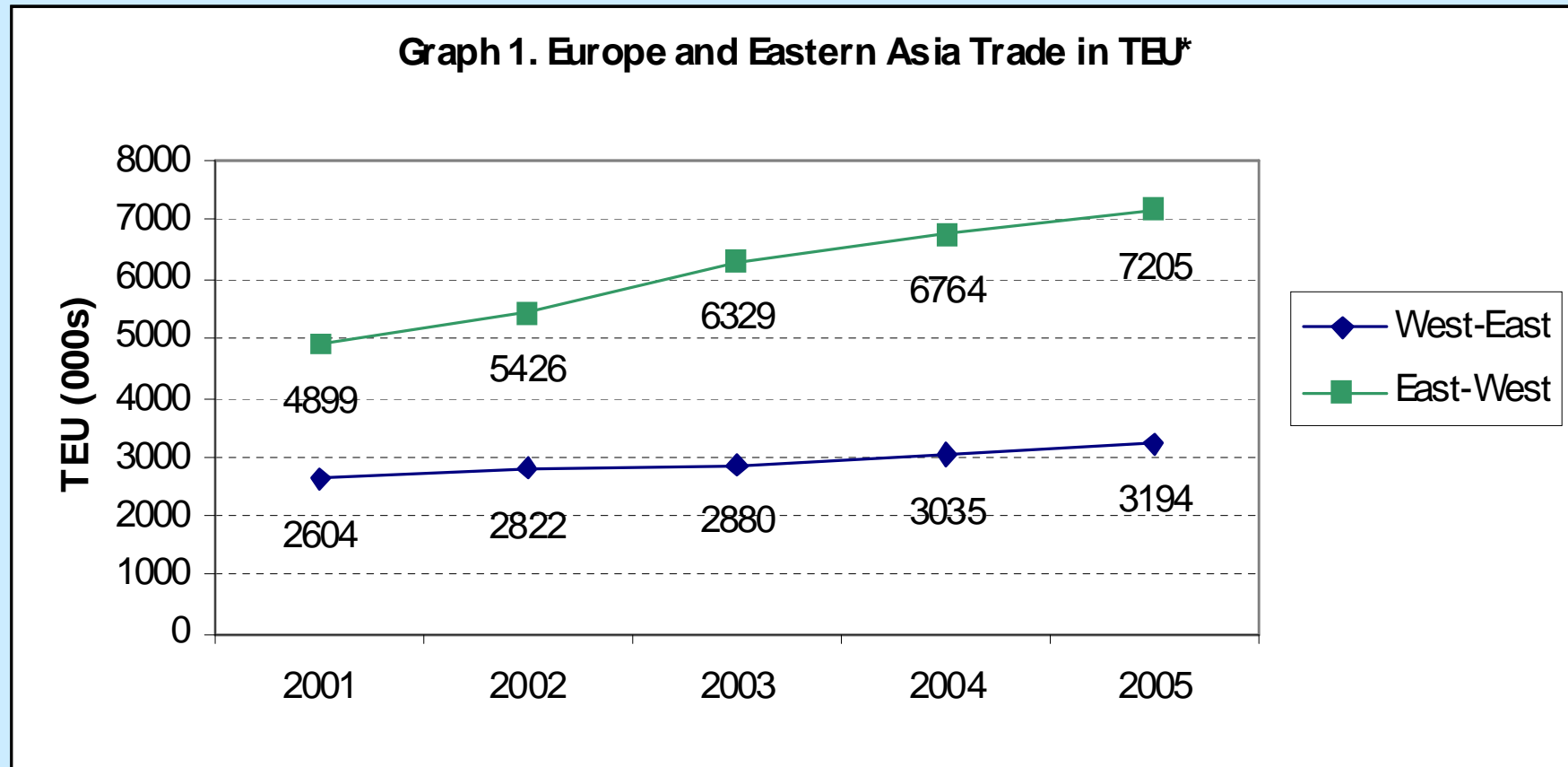
The Europe- Asia trade





Europe- Asia TEU traffic

Graph 1. Europe and Eastern Asia Trade in TEU*



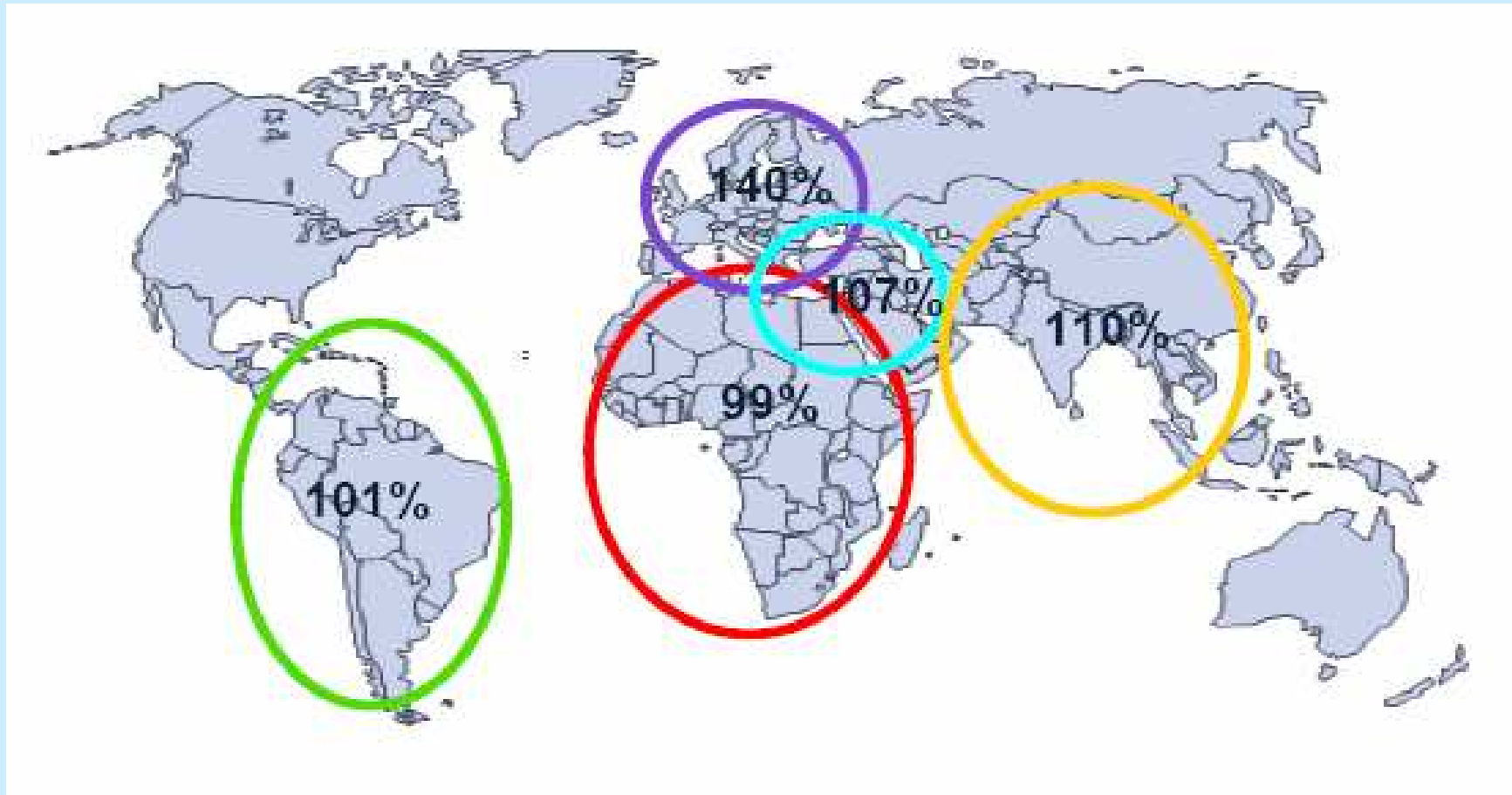


Europe–China modal split

Modal split - Transport of Full Load Containers between China and Europe (Million full load TEUs)			
	Westbound	Eastbound	Total
Sea transport	4,5	2,5	7,0
Rail	< 0,2	< 0,1	<0,3
Road (Truck)	< 0,03	< 0,03	<0,06



Expected Utilization Rates by 2011

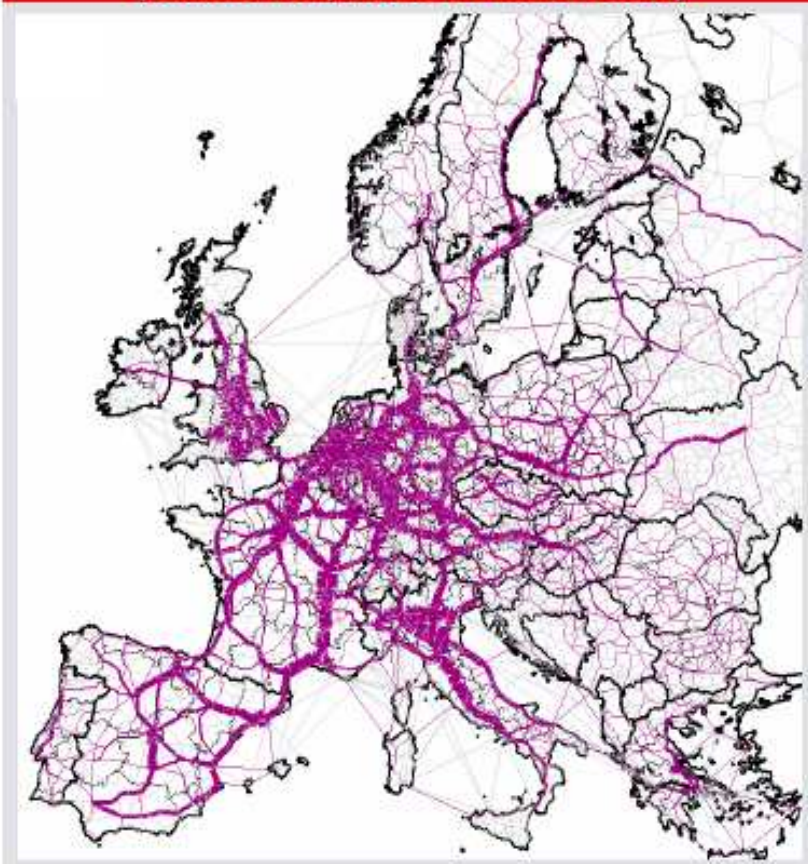




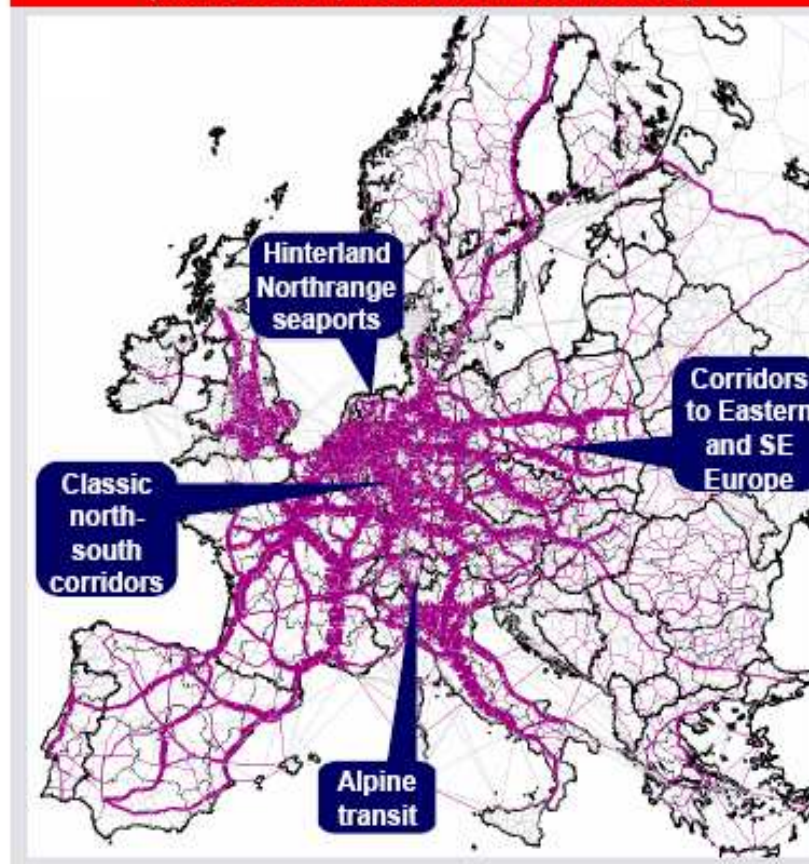


Expected bottlenecks in European transport flows

European transport flows 2004
(totals for rail, road and inland vessel)



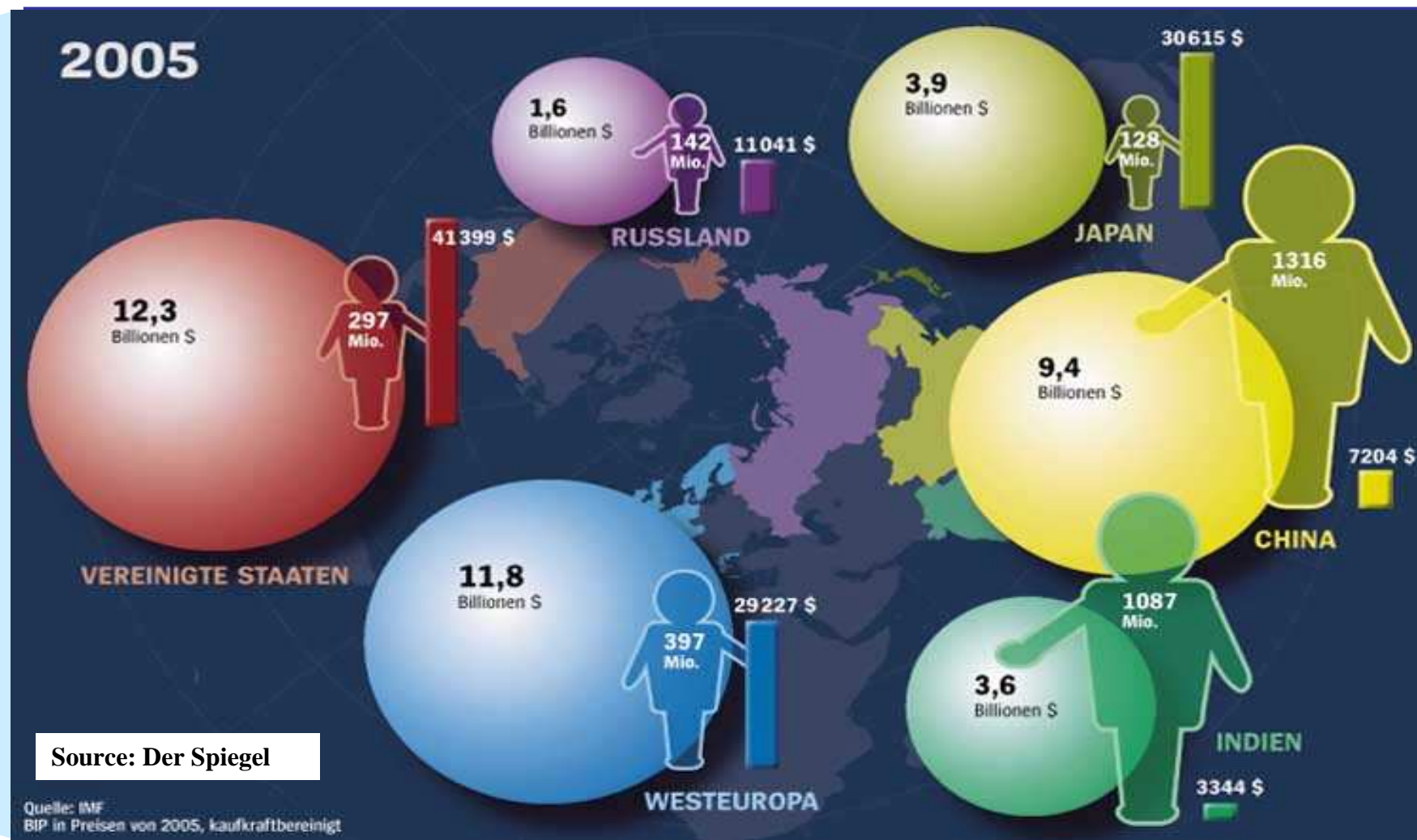
European transport flows 2015
(totals for rail, road and inland vessel)



Source: ROMP; Factor 40 million t / mm, interzonal transport >50 km

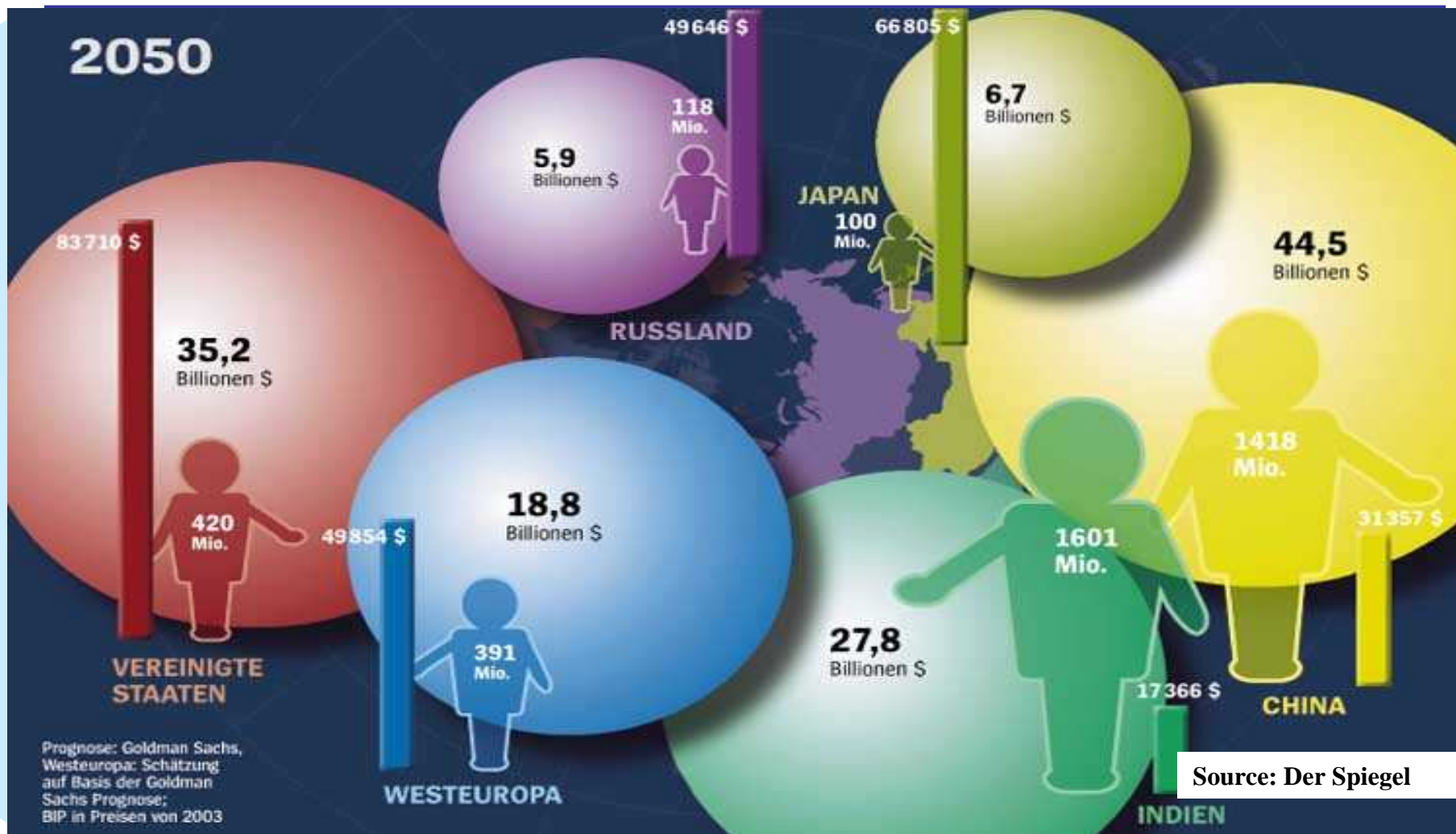


Changing Global Balances: 2005



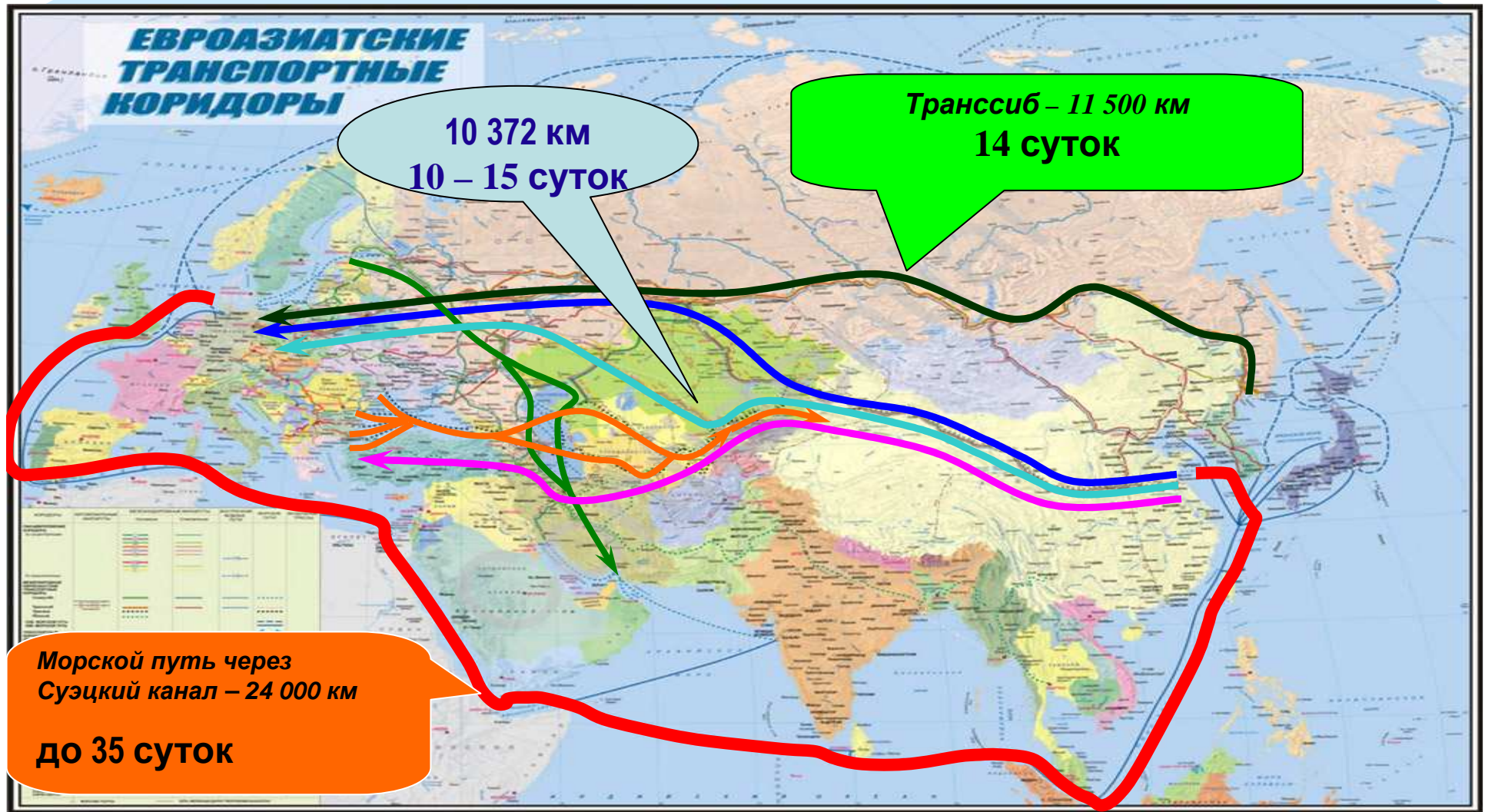


Changing Global Balances: 2050





Distance comparative advantage of EATL routes





EATL Opportunities

- Globalization increases transport of goods E-A
- Further growth of China & India generates more transport demand
- Congestion of main ports and hinterland routes
- Container shipment via Suez Canal is limited and soon will reach its maximum capacity (container vessels- Cape of Good Hope alternative will increase costs)
- **EATL inland transport shorter than maritime**
- **Development of EATL will provide solution to future transport capacity needs E-A**
- Important tool for socio-economic development of EATL countries, including landlocked countries
- Vehicle for integration into global economy and prosperity



EATL Challenges

- **Inadequate transport infrastructure, performing below its capacity**
- **Only 1% of the 1 trillion \$ Euro- Asian trade uses EATL**
- **Maritime Transport cost lower and quality of service higher**
- **Long and cumbersome border procedures and controls**
- **Non proper implementation of TIR Convention**
- **High Transit fees and restrictive permits**
- **Transport market structure and competition**
- **Homogeneous transport rules and regulations**
- **Safety, security, environmental and health concerns**



Addressing Challenges

- EATL countries must adhere and fully implements 16 main UN legal instruments
- **Implement effectively harmonized border crossing procedures and transport regulations**
- **Implement priority projects along the EATL routes by devoting higher investments**
- Ensure good maintenance of existing and new infrastructure
- Create an effective legal environment for PPP investments
- Improve the business environment for FDI firms in transport
- Create a EATL technical assistance programme, financed voluntary from high income countries
- Promote inter-country cooperation with neighboring and other EATL countries and overcome destructive sub-regional conflicts
- Benefit from ITC work, EATL, SPECA, TEM and TER Projects using them as platforms for cooperation, sharing best practices and development of EATL
- Promote NTFC and take measures to address road safety



Conclusions

- Great opportunities - But also many challenges ahead
- Backlog in transport infrastructure should be gradually removed
- Transit transport and border crossing operations should be improved
- Transit charges should be reduced
- Security and safety threats to transport operators should be address
- Public Private Partnerships and enhanced cooperation at national, regional and interregional levels should be promoted
- **Current problematic situation can be reversed !**
- **Grasp opportunity to play a unique transit role along EATL routes**
- EATL is planned to provide the maximum possible assistance
- Active participation and support by countries indispensable for success
- ECE-ECO cooperation will bring tangible results to the benefit of countries
- ECE committed to assist countries in development of EATL routes



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Thank you!

<http://www.unece.org/trans/MinisterialITC70/index.html>