***Invitation to the Shift2Rail States Representatives Group meeting and EU 27 Workshop***

*In June 2018, the S2R JU organized a first Dialogue on the future of Rail Research and Innovation, in particular considering the ongoing discussions on the next Union’s Multi Annual Financial Framework.*

*The S2R JU and the Chair of the SRG with support of the European Commission (DG MOVE and under the auspices of the Research, Development and Innovation Council, an advisory body to the Government of the Czech Republic, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and Ministry of Transport of the Czech Republic would like to invite the members of the SRG to attend an informal*

***S2R SRG******Dialogue on the future of Rail Research and Innovation***

*that will take place in the Czech Republic*

***on April 11 (9:00 – 12:00) at* CONGRESS HALLS of the Golf & Spa Resort Kunětická Hora** – [www.grkh.cz](http://www.grkh.cz)

*In this respect, it would be important that the representatives of the MS in the SRG, most from ministries of transport or similar,* ***would be accompanied by representative from the ministries of research and innovation, currently largely involved on the discussions on Horizon Europe.***

*The workshop will be an ideal occasion to have the SRG members to exchange views on the future of rail research and innovation building upon the results achieved by the S2R Joint Undertaking and its programme. Starting from the lessons learnt on the current programme implementation by the S2R JU and its members [e.g. S2R interim evaluation], it would be expected that the SRG members would bring forward their views on the expectations for a future R&I programme, the areas where improvements or changes would be needed as well as new ideas.*

*The workshop should explore how R&I, in particular rail R&I, can bring about a truly sustainable and integrated transport system through its cutting-edge and efficient innovative solutions addressing the needs voiced by the sector.*

The Workshop is followed by the Shift2Rail States Representatives Group meeting (for the members only) on April 10 and the “5th Railway Conference Pardubice 2019” on April 11 and 12 starting on April 11 at 13:00.