

MEDIA RELEASE

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EUROPEAN PASSENGER ORGANISATIONS DEMAND EXTENSION OF INTERNATIONAL LONG-DISTANCE TRANSPORT BETWEEN SWEDEN, DENMARK AND GERMANY

The European Passengers' Federation (EPF), the Swedish passengers' organisation Resenarsforum, the Danish passenger body Passagerpulsen and Council for Sustainable Traffic, the German passengers' organisation Pro Bahn and Verkehrsclub Deutschland (VCD) are criticising the current service on the longdistance Copenhagen - Hamburg route during engineering work on both the Danish and the German side, and ask DB and DSB to offer attractive and direct long-distance connections between Copenhagen and Hamburg on the Danish and German side during engineering work.

For long-distance travelers between Copenhagen and Hamburg DSB and DB currently only offer connections with a change at Fredericia or Rødby and a longer journey time of some 45 - 75 minutes. "Thus the service on the Copenhagen - Hamburg long-distance route does not at present do justice to the meaning of a long-distance service between two major European cities " according to the representatives of the European passenger bodies. "During the engineering work in the coming years we therefore ask for the long-distance service between Copenhagen and Hamburg to be diverted via Kolding."

RESTRICTIONS BECAUSE OF ENGINEERING WORK IN DENMARK

A specific criticism by the European passenger bodies is that, during the engineering work on the Danish Ringsted - Rødby line between March 24th and June 10th, DSB and DB are offering just two long-distance connections with a diversion via Fredericia and a change of train there, plus a 45-minute longer journey time; and only three long-distance connections by a replacement bus service from Copenhagen to Rødby with the long-distance Rødby - Hamburg service and a longer journey time of 45 minutes.

RESTRICTIONS BECAUSE OF ENGINEERING WORK IN GERMANY

Furthermore, there is engineering work from March 23rd to May 1st on the German line between Elmshorn and Pinneberg, so that DSB and DB offer a 30-minute longer journey time on the long-distance Aarhus -Hamburg service via Bad Oldesloe; so that passengers from Copenhagen to Hamburg who choose the diversion and change of train in Fredericia receive a 75-minute longer travelling time during this period. In the coming year, according to our information, the engineering work on the Danish section will last not just 2 and a half months but even for a period of 6 months. For that reason the European passenger organisations are asking DB and DSB to divert the Copenhagen - Hamburg long-distance trains via Kolding and to develop a replacement proposal for the sections Copenhagen - Rødby and Puttgarden - Hamburg which they are not serving.

BETTER CONNECTIONS IN MALMO AND COPENHAGEN AS WELL AS IN HAMBURG

In addition the European passenger bodies ask SJ, DSB and DB to provide attractive connections with change of 15-30 minutes between the international long-distance trains.

In Copenhagen the connection should be provided between the Stockholm - Malmö night train and the night Eurocity Copenhagen - Hamburg from north to south with a change in Lund and in the south-north direction with a change in Malmo.

In Hamburg in the morning and the evening, connections should be provided between the long-distance Copenhagen - Hamburg trains and the Nightjet trains Hamburg – Zurich, Hamburg – Vienna and Hamburg – Innsbruck.

EXTENSION AND ENHANCEMENT OF A NIGHT TRAIN CONNECTION STOCKHOLM - HAMBURG

The European passenger bodies also ask DSB and DB, as a first step, to offer the night intercity between Copenhagen and Hamburg not only on the summer timetable but all year round and also put in calls at Flensburg, Schleswig, Rendsburg and Neumunster in the night intercity on the German side.

A second step would be to provide a through Stockholm - Hamburg night train and a departure time from Stockholm that is attractive for overnight travelers and an arrival time in Hamburg that is attractive for night train users.

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