

FBA

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Trans-China railway, New Silk Road and Maritime Silk Road: Trade Opportunities and Challenges in Central and Eastern Europe



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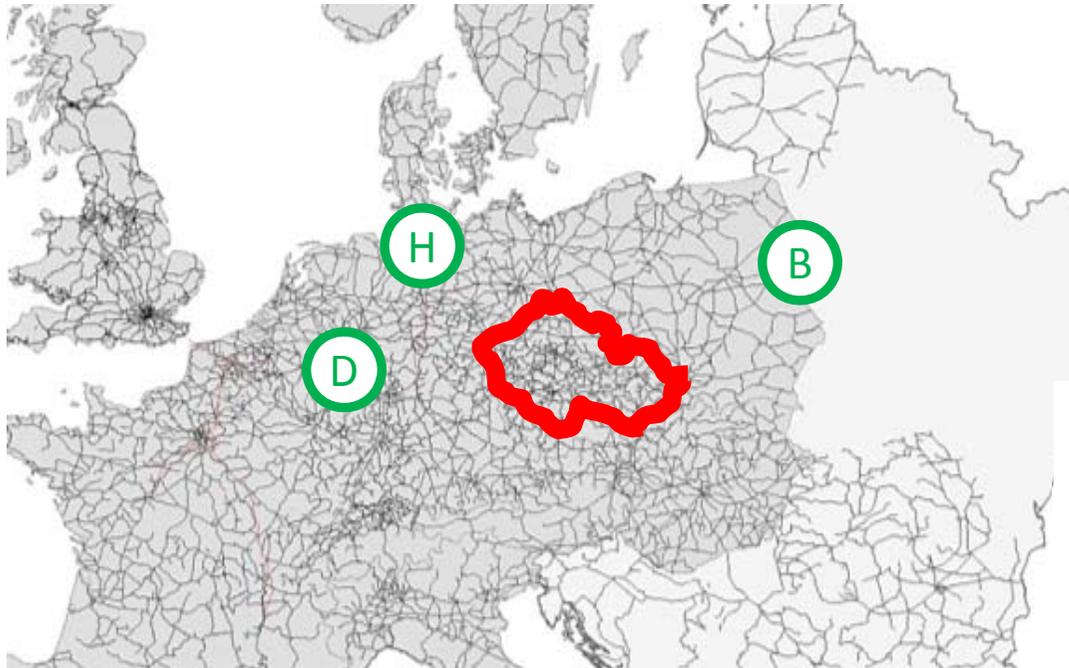
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Project scope and objective

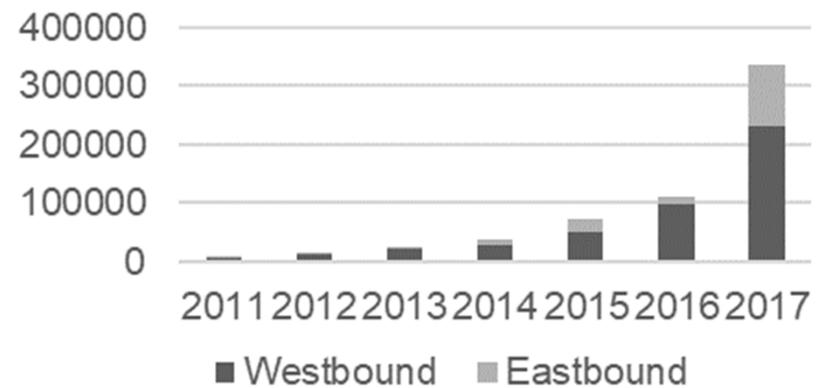
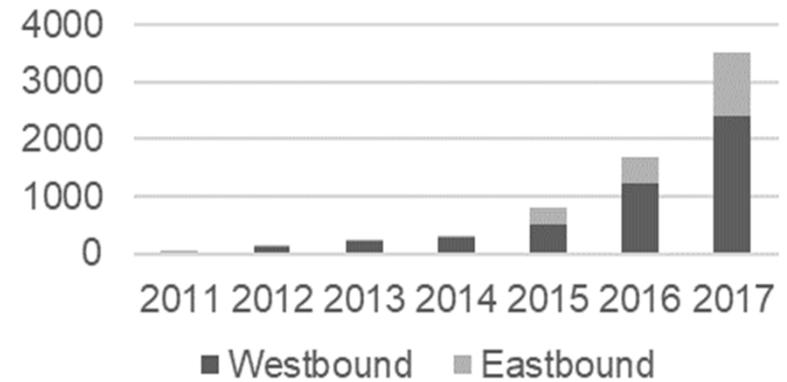
- **Geographically** scoped
- Structured literature review, **QL and QT** research stages > focus on QT
- QT: **Empirical** (freight forwarding company) data analysis and scenario analysis for shipment pricing
- **Trans-Asia railway** (within NSR) **attractiveness and positioning** (regarding maritime shipping within MSR, sea&air)

China-Europe rail transport and its growing potential

(no. of container block trains up, TEU volume *p.a.* down)



Source: Tech Magazine 2012, Department of Geography and Sociology UL



Source: Hafen Hamburg Marketing, 2019, Geis CZ Air+Sea, 2018 data set and own calculations.

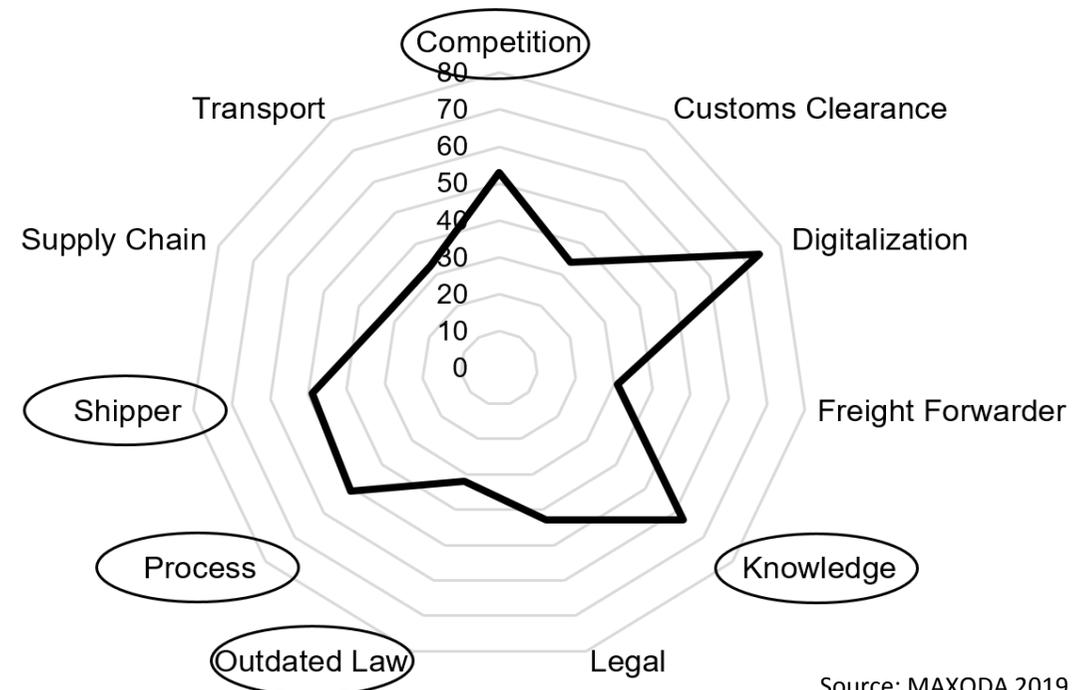
Research questions (RQs)

- **RQ 1: How is the BRI development framework (particularly NSR) affecting the containerized cargo trade between PRC and the EU, with the Czech Republic being the EU landlocked markets' showcase?**
- **RQ 2: What approaches (big data analytics, common CIM/SMGS consignment note – bill of freight for rail shipments, e-customs, SCM data sharing, etc.) within 'digitization' or 'digitalization', are used by the related BRI parties (railway operators, freight forwarders, carriers, multimodal transport operators (MTOs) or even policy makers) with the application on geographically scoped Far East Asia (PRC)-EU trade lanes?**
- **RQ 3: How to assess the current digitalization development in the Czech Republic while concerning the role of market actors active in the intermodal transport chains and policy makers providing its institutional and legal framework with the relevance to the NSR and its position to maritime shipping?**

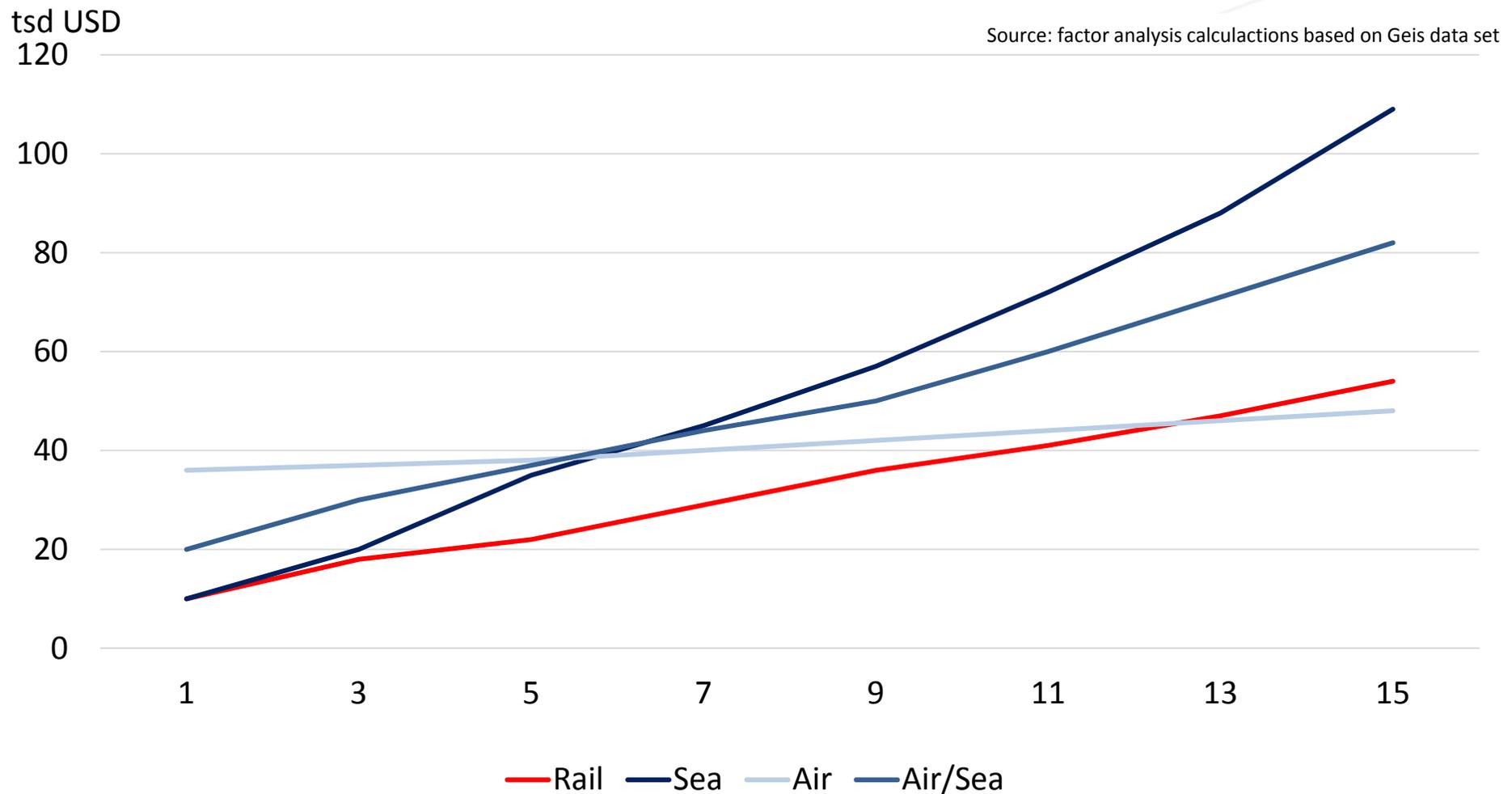
Interviewees' distribution and results

Position title by organization	Organization
Country top manager	Ocean carrier (O1)
Country top manager	Ocean carrier (O2)
Ocean-freight head	Freight forwarder (F1)
Country FCL manager	Freight forwarder (F2)
Air & Sea branch manager	Freight forwarder (F3)
Procurement manager	Cargo beneficiary (C1)
EMEA SCM director	Cargo beneficiary (C2)
Rail transport department head	Ministry of Transport of the Czech Republic (M1)

top keywords identification used in the interviewees' responses, their relative importance by occurrence



High-time sensitivity scenario for high-value containerized goods shipments



Findings

- **Research complementing** existing Asia – Europe transport geography literature of quantitative approaches and modelling assumptions
- PRC-EU rail freight service an **emerging competitive solution**: faster than sea and with much lower transport costs than air transport
- **Potential alternative** for companies that no longer can see air and sea combination as the only options while shipping high-value and time-sensitive goods
- **Questionmark** for NSR corridors: sustainability of the PRC subsidies for exported shipments, capacity constraints in European rail network and hubs
- Research **limitation**: interviews with MNCs top managers only and the data set by single company

Publication outcomes

2019

- KOLÁŘ, Petr, JANČÁLEK, Martin. New Silk Road and Trans-Asian Railway: Analysis with the Focus on the European Hinterland and the Case of the Czech Republic. In: Proceedings of the 4th Belt and Road Initiative Conference (BRI 2019). Bangkok, 01.08.2019 – 03.08.2019.
- KOLÁŘ, Petr, NOVÁK, Radek. Global Transport Chains: Focus on Freight Distribution between Far East Asia and Europe – Rail Connectivity Potential and Digitalization. In: Australasian Transport Research Forum (ATRF 2019). Canberra, 30.09.2019-02.10.2019
- KOLÁŘ, Petr. Čínsko-evropská železnice narazila na své limity. Logistika [online]. 2019, vol. 25, no. 1–2, pp. 46–47.
- POLÁČEK, Bohumil, KOLÁŘ, Petr. Vyplatí se výměna českého přístavu v Hamburku? Logistika [online]. 2019, vol. XXV, no. 1–2, pp. 30–32.

2018

- KOLÁŘ, Petr, SCHRAMM, Hans-Joachim, PROCKL, Günter. Belt and Road Initiative: Trade Opportunities and Challenges for Intermodal Transport Stakeholders in Europe – The Role of Digitalization and Logistics 4.0. In: IAME 2018: Annual Conference of the International Association of Maritime Economists. Mombasa, 11.09.2018 – 14.09.2018.
- KOLÁŘ, Petr, JANČÁLEK, Martin. Disruptive potential of digitalization within Belt Road Initiative development framework projects: European Perspective and focus on New Silk Road. In: Belt & Road Initiative Conference 2018. Ho Chi Minh City, 24.06.2018 – 27.06.2018.

Source: Mercator Institute for China Studies (MERICS), 2017



Thank you for your attention
Q & A (if possible)

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