

# PRESS RELEASE

Paris, December 31<sup>st</sup> 2023

## Thierry Guimbaud appointed President of the French Transport Regulatory Authority

***By decree of the President of the French Republic of December 29<sup>th</sup>, published on 30<sup>th</sup> December in the official Journal of the French Republic, Thierry Guimbaud was appointed President of the French Transport Regulatory Authority (ART), following approval by the relevant commissions of the French Parliament.***

First statement of Thierry Guimbaud, President of ART:

*"I would like to thank the President of the French Republic and the Parliament for their trust. As President, my ambition is for ART to help build sustainable mobility over the coming years, through ever more effective regulation in the six sectors for which it is responsible. The strategic priority of my presidency will be to contribute to the three major challenges currently facing transport policy, which are at the heart of French people's concerns: the ecological transition, given that the sector is responsible for over 30% of our greenhouse gas emissions; price control, to preserve the purchasing power of users and the competitiveness of our economy; and improvement of the quality of infrastructure and of the service provided to users".*

Thierry Guimbaud succeeds Bernard Roman, who was President of ART from 2016 to 2022.

He salutes the work accomplished by Bernard Roman, who has made ART a key and respected actor in the transport sector. During his term of office, Bernard Roman led major regulatory advances and, thanks to the support and confidence of Parliament, extended the regulatory body's powers and strengthened its means of action, while guaranteeing its independence.

Thierry Guimbaud would also like to pay tribute to Philippe Richert, who has been serving as acting President of ART since August 2022 and who, over the past seventeen months, has ensured the entry of ART into "Act II" of regulation. He also warmly thanks ART's vice-presidents, Sophie Auconie, Florence Rousse et Patrick Vieu, as well as all the staff.

Before being appointed President of ART, Thierry Guimbaud devoted most of his professional life to the world of transport.

Born in 1957, general administrator and ENA alumnus (class of 1990-1992 "Condorcet"), he began his career in 1982 at the Ministry of the Economy and Finance as commissioner in charge of competition investigations, particularly in the public works sector.

In 1992, he joined the Ministry of Public Works as head of the motorway concession and financing office, where he was responsible for the financial programming of investments in motorways and other concession structures.

In 1996, Thierry Guimbaud joined Aéroports de Paris, then a state-owned company, as head of the strategy department, where he was responsible for steering major strategic projects, before becoming operations manager at Charles-de-Gaulle airport in 1998.

In 2005, he became Director of Transport Services and Operations at Syndicat des Transports d'Île-de-France (STIF), now Île-de-France Mobilités (IDFM), where he was responsible for defining transport policy and implementing it through public service contracts with major public and private operators.

In 2011, he was appointed Director of transport services at the French Ministry of Transport. In particular, he steered the drafting of the Law of 4 August 2014 on rail reform, which considerably strengthened the regulatory body's powers.

In 2017, Thierry Guimbaud took up the position of chief executive officer of Voies navigables de France (VNF), until his appointment as President of ART in 2024.

**On the occasion of his appointment as President of ART, Thierry Guimbaud would like to send a video message to all ART agents, members and partners of ART.**

**Consult:**

- [The decree of the President of the French Republic appointing Thierry Guimbaud as President of ART \(in French\)](#)
- [The video message of Thierry Guimbaud, President of ART to stakeholders \(with English subtitles\)](#)
- [Audition of Thierry Guimbaud by the commission of territory planning and sustainable development of the French Senate on 6 December 2023 \(in French\)](#)
- [Audition of Thierry Guimbaud by the commission of sustainable planning and territory planning of the French National Assembly on 6 December 2023 \(in French\)](#)
- [Organization chart of ART \(in French\)](#)

## **About the French Transport Regulatory Authority (ART)**

Since 2010, the French railway sector has had an independent authority to accompany its gradual opening to competition: the Autorité de régulation des activités ferroviaires (Araf). Law 2015-990 of 6 August 2015 on growth, activity and equal economic opportunity extended the regulator's powers to road activities - coach transport and motorways. On 15 October 2015, Araf became the Autorité de régulation des activités ferroviaires et routières (Arafer), with the mission to contribute to the proper functioning of public service and competitive activities for the benefit of rail and road transport customers.

With competence for the regulation of airport charges since 1 October 2019, Arafer became the Transport Regulatory Authority (ART) on that date. Lastly, Law No. 2019-1428 of 24 December 2019 -mobility act-extended ART's powers and missions to the opening up of mobility and ticketing data, as well as to the regulation of infrastructure manager activities and security activities carried out by RATP in Île-de-France.

Its opinions and decisions are adopted by a college of five independent members chosen for their economic, legal or technical skills in the field of digital services or transport, or for their expertise in competition matters. It is chaired since 29<sup>th</sup> of December 2023 by Thierry Guimbaud.