

PRESS RELEASE

Paris, January 18th 2024

What are the possible futures for the transport sector and the French Transport Regulatory Authority (ART)'s role? The French regulatory body launches a major public consultation on its strategic orientations for 2024-2029

At a time when transport plays a central role in the French economy and in the daily lives of French people, the regulatory body is launching a public consultation this Thursday, January 18, to run until February 10, 2024, with a view to drawing up its future strategic orientations for the period 2024-2029.

REGULATION IN LINE WITH THE CURRENT CHALLENGES FACING THE TRANSPORT SECTOR

Transport plays a central role in the French economy and in the daily lives of French people. There are many challenges ahead for this sector, all of which are of great concern to the public, such as the **ecological transition, price control** and accessibility for all, as well as the **quality of infrastructure and the service provided to users.**

Other issues cut across the various sectors regulated by ART: the arrival of new rail operators on the market, the end of motorway concessions, future changes to the regulatory framework for airports, and the development of digital mobility services are just a few examples.

In order to include economic regulation in the current challenges of the transport sector, the regulatory body is opening up a dialogue with stakeholders: institutions and public authorities, economic operators, organizations representing the sector, infrastructure and transport users and citizens are all invited to give their opinion.

TOWARDS ACT II OF TRANSPORT REGULATION

Since its creation in 2009, after 15 years of transport regulation and a period of significant extension of its competences between 2015 and 2019, ART's ambition is to adopt strategic orientations for 2024-2029, and to launch an "Act II" of economic regulation in the transport sector.

In line with ART's values of dialogue and transparency, the public consultation has the following objectives:

- hear from industry players about the challenges and issues they see for the future, particularly in terms of mobility and the management of regulated infrastructures;
- gather their feedback on ART's action, its role and the work it has carried out in relation to the sector in recent years, its achievements and the areas it could develop further;
- provide input for ART's reflections on the future and the development of its strategic orientations.

Feedback from industry players is eagerly awaited by ART. It will enable ART to take into account the challenges facing the sector in its future strategic orientations, to deepen its action in favor of sustainable mobility through effective regulation, and to continue strengthening its links with all stakeholders.

The public consultation is open from January 18 to February 10, 2024. Responses to all or part of the consultation, as well as any contributions that may be deemed appropriate to enlighten ART, should be sent, preferably by e-mail, to the following address: consultation.publique@autorite-transport.fr.

For further details (in French):

- [La consultation publique – version Word](#)
- [La consultation publique – version PDF](#)

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 29th December 2023 by Thierry Guimbaud.