

PRÉCIS

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Passage.

Generally, European trains still stop at borders to change locomotives and staff. This is often necessary. The German and French voltage systems are incompatible. Spain — though not Portugal — has a broad gauge track. English bridges are lower than elsewhere, and passengers on German trains would need a ladder to reach French platforms, twice as high as their own. But those physical constraints pale in comparison to an even more formidable barrier — national chauvinism. While officials in Brussels strive for an integrated and efficiently run rail network to relieve the Continent's gorged roads and airways, and cut down on pollution, three member countries — France, Germany and Italy—are working feverishly to develop their own expensive and mutually incompatible high-speed trains.

(The engine of a train)

Comparison of railway system of European Union Countries

The European train system is different than others. They need a ladder to reach platforms. On the other hand, their tracks are broad. The voltage system is incompatible with each other. Some countries are still working to develop high-speed trains.

One-third of Precis = 40 words

Total words = 102