

IRSC 2023

INTERNATIONAL RAILWAY SAFETY COUNCIL

“Reshaping Railways in an Uncertain World”

CAPE TOWN, OCTOBER 1 - 6, 2023

HOSTED BY







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**Communication:
language diversity as a challenge for European railway interoperability?**

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Language matter in the European context: why is it an issue?

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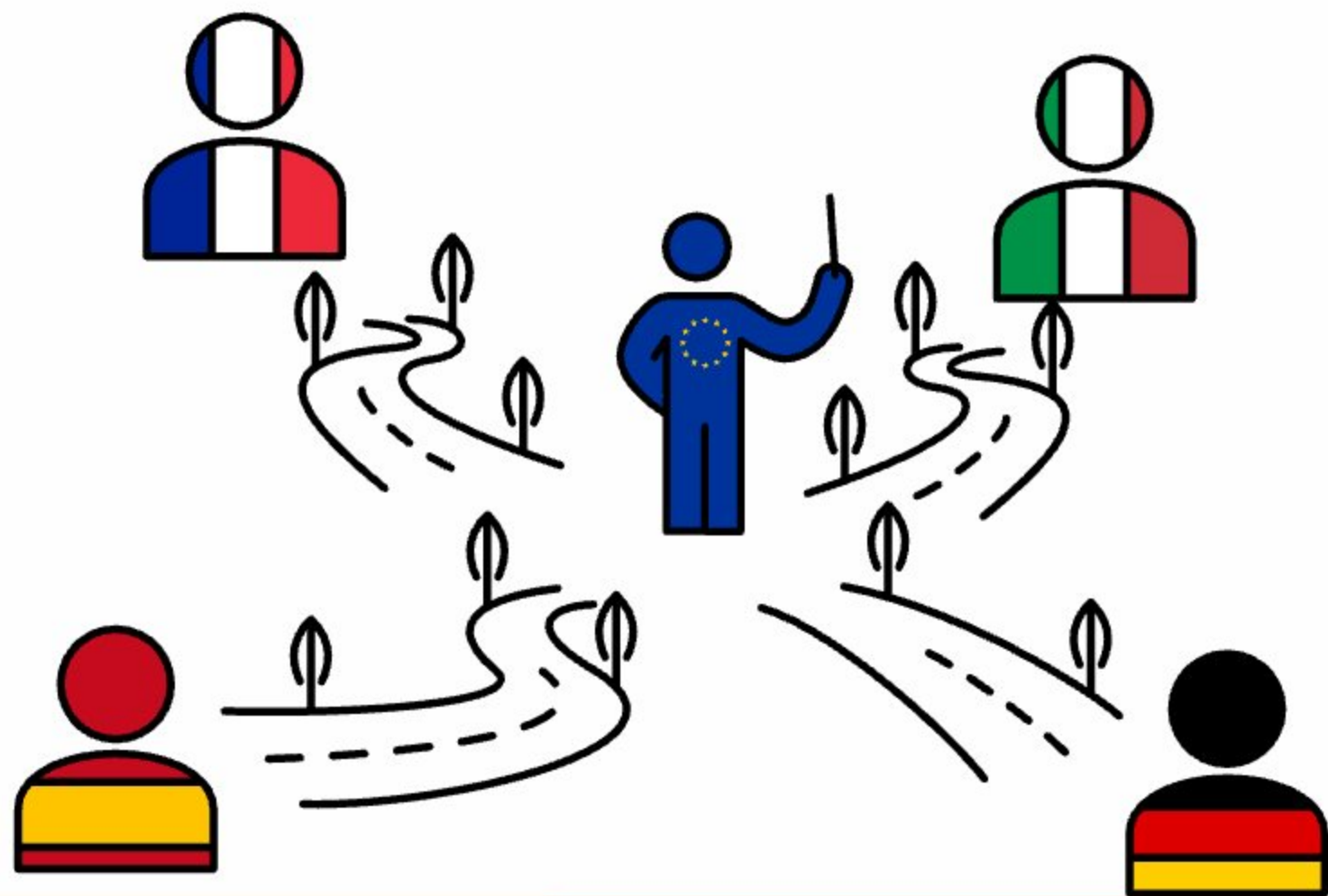
Part 1: Language matter in the European context : why is it an issue?

European Union goals



Part 1: Language matter in the European context : why is it an issue?

From a national patchwork...to an European network



Part 1: Language matter in the European context : why is it an issue?

Language diversity in Europe

27 countries

23 languages used in railway sector



Part 1: Language matter in the European context : why is it an issue?

French case

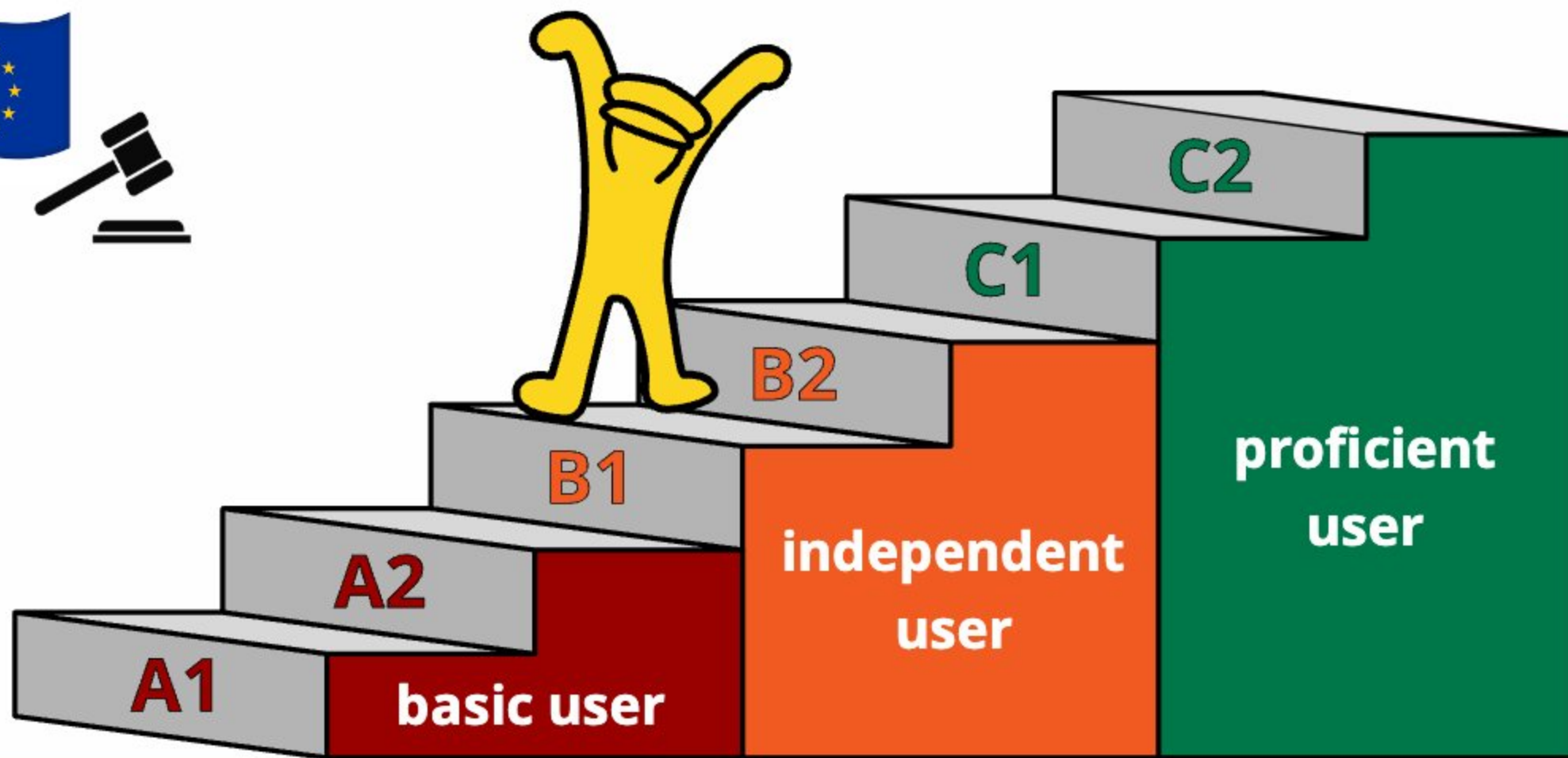
7 border countries

5 languages used in cross-border operations



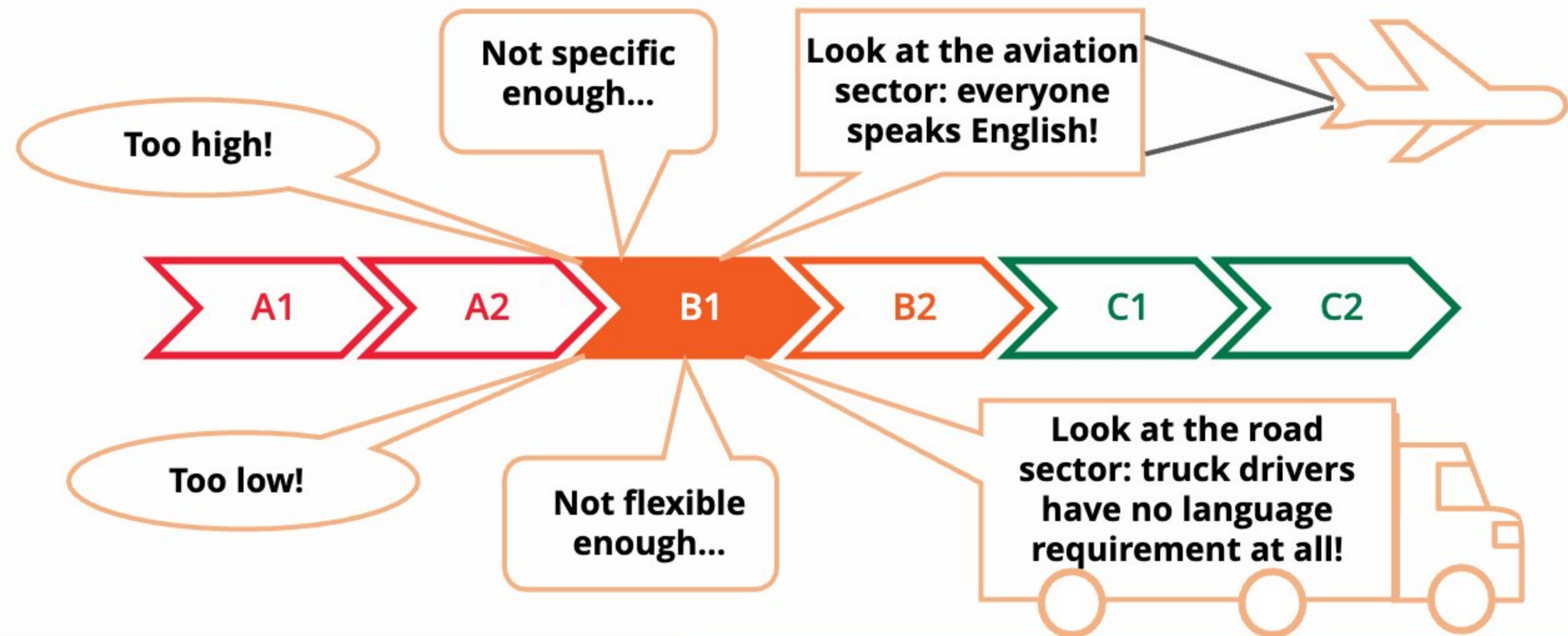
Part 1: Language matter in the European context : why is it an issue?

European Union legal framework



Part 1: Language matter in the European context : why is it an issue?

Feedback on the European Union legal framework



Part 1: Language matter in the European context : why is it an issue?

European Union legal framework impact

Recruitment difficulties



Additional costs



Risk of miscommunication



Multiple intermediaries



An aerial, black-and-white photograph of a large, symmetrical, and highly complex structure, possibly a bridge or a large-scale construction project. The structure is composed of numerous interconnected beams and supports, creating a dense, geometric pattern. The overall shape is roughly rectangular with a central vertical axis of symmetry. The structure is surrounded by a flat, light-colored ground, possibly a construction site or a large open area. The text "Which solutions?" is overlaid in the center of the image in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

Which solutions ?

Part 2: Current and upcoming solutions

Operational solutions

Technical solutions

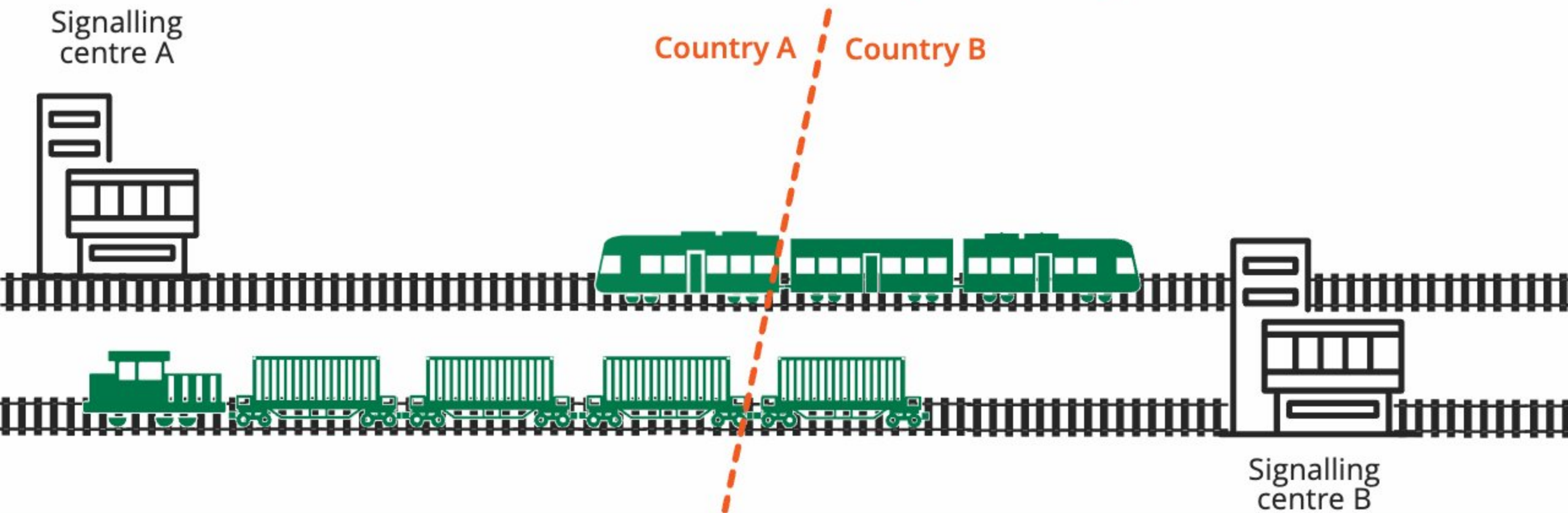
Regulatory solutions



Part 2: Current and upcoming solutions

Operational solutions

Infrastructure managers & Railway undertakings



Part 2: Current and upcoming solutions

Operational solutions

Cabine auxiliary



Exemption by the IM



Additional costs



More intermediaries



Language and technical training
and periodic assessment



Adaptative solution

Bilingualism of IM



Process requirement



Additional costs



Recruitment difficulties



Language training and periodic
assessment

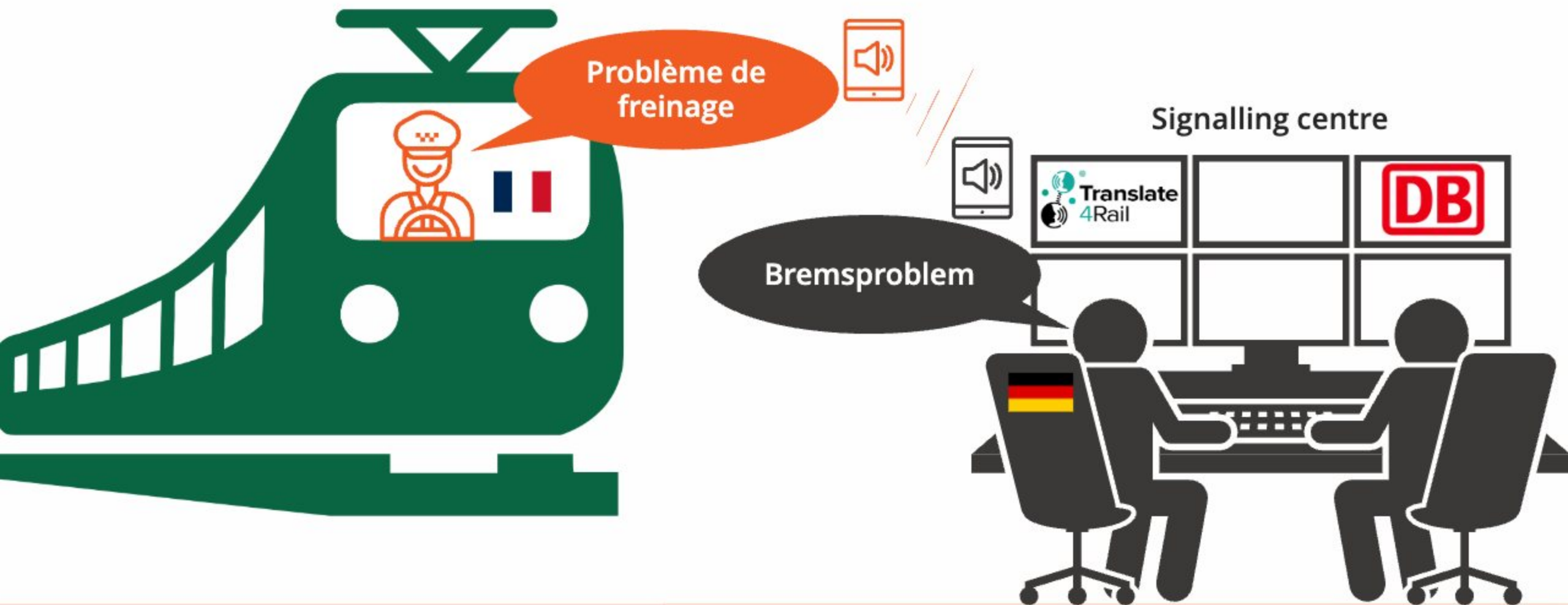


Restrictive solution



Part 2: Current and upcoming solutions

Technical solutions



More information : <https://translate4rail.eu/> <https://www.dbsystem.de/dbsystem-en/about-us/Digital-Stories-en/Deutsche-Bahn-is-developing-a-new-translation-tool-6180176>

Part 2: Current and upcoming solutions

Technical solutions

Translation tools



Reduced costs for staff training



No extra staff needed



Standardised messages to avoid misunderstandings



Time consuming tool development



Avoid multiplication of solutions



Part 2: Current and upcoming solutions

Regulatory solutions

Modification of the language requirements (B1 level) set by the Train Drivers Directive



Part 3: Conclusion and rôle of the French National Safety Authority

Help railway actors
in developing
concrete solutions

Anticipate the impact
of innovative
communication tools

Contribute to
regulatory
developments







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