

Rail Baltica in Estonia, a challenging land acquisition project

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Key words: Access to land; Cadastre; Land management; Land readjustment; Legislation; Professional practice; Real estate development; Spatial planning; Valuation; land acquisition, infrastructure

SUMMARY

Rail Baltica is a new high speed railway from Warsaw to Helsinki. In Estonia the length is 213 km with approximately 650 private parcels to acquire in total 1359 ha. The government has decided to make a new Act on Acquisition of Immovables in Public Interest (2018) with different options for land acquisition:

- 1) acquisition of the immovable;
- 2) acquisition of the immovable by way of expedited procedure;
- 3) exchange of the immovable; or
- 4) land consolidation.

This paper will describe the experiences so far:

- 1) Which steps are taken during the preparation of the railway trace.
- 2) In which way participation of the landowners and the users has worked out.
- 3) Were the preferred solutions of the landowners by preparing the railway plans equal to the experiences during the negotiations.
- 4) What is the reasons why landowners did not choose for land

consolidation.

5) What are the experiences in other countries, like the Netherlands.

6) What can we learn from the other countries like Latvia and Lithuania.

We make a update of the project (end 2020) in Estonia and we will add some extra information to the paper.

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FIG e-Working Week 2021
Smart Surveyors for Land and Water Management - Challenges in a New Reality
Virtually in the Netherlands, 21–25 June 2021