

PRESS RELEASE

MORE EU BUDGET FOR TRANSPORT: Transport Coalition launches campaign for more CEF budget

02.04.2024

UIP together with 43 European transport organisations, representing the key spectrum of Europe's transport network urge the Council and the European Parliament to increase the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) budget for transport in the upcoming review of the Multi-Annual Financial Framework.

Massive oversubscriptions of the current CEF transport budget underline once again that the ambitions and challenges of the transport sector are high, yet are not met with the necessary EU support. The take-away for European leaders and policymakers should be clear: this is the moment for **Europe to reverse the trend of continued underfunding of the transport sector and set the bar high**. A strong CEF instrument for transport is the best guarantee to deliver high EU added value, foster a level playing field across Europe and enable *no regret* investments.

"In order for all transport modes to enter the digital world, significant investments are required in rail infrastructure, operations and rolling stock to connect rail freight to the supply chain. It is essential to have a strong EU budget for transport as digital backbone of the economy.", **Gilles Peterhans, Secretary General of UIP – International Union of Wagon Keepers**

If Europe is to strengthen its resilience, be a leader in the shift to net-zero and finally complete the Trans-European Transport Network, it must translate its words into deeds and reflect these ambitions in the new EU budget for transport.

The transport sector is of strategic importance in responding to Europe's geostrategic, environmental and capacity challenges. Recent and ongoing crises have proven once again that only with a strong, adaptable and innovative transport sector at its core, Europe will be able to respond effectively to massive disruptions and safeguard its supply chain sovereignty.