

## Presidency Conclusions of Ministerial Council of Transport Community

Belgrade, 16 May 2025

The Contracting Parties and Observing Participants of the Ministerial Council of the Transport Community hereby:

1. Express their **profound gratitude** to H.E. Ms Aleksandra Sofronijević, Minister of Construction, Transport, and Infrastructure, for her leadership as Chair of the Transport Community Ministerial Council and to H.E. Ms Magda Kopczyńska, Director-General of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport, for her dedicated co-chairmanship.
2. Welcome the endorsement of the **Transport Community Next Generation Action Plans 2025-2027**—covering Rail, Road, Road Safety, Transport Facilitation, Waterborne, and Multimodality sectors for the Western Balkans—by the Regional Steering Committee at its 25th meeting in Brussels on 14 November 2024. The Parties acknowledge the significance of the measures outlined within each Action Plan and reaffirm their commitment to enhancing their administrative and technical capacities for improved transposition of Annex I of the Transport Community Treaty.
3. Extend their **appreciation** to the Transport Community Permanent Secretariat, the European Commission, the EU member states and all technical committee members for their invaluable support in the drafting process and look forward to ongoing assistance to facilitate the successful implementation of these measures.
4. Commit to implementing the **Western Balkan Regional Partners' Reform Agendas**, part of the Western Balkans Growth Plan, focusing on advancing the accession process, particularly transport-related priority measures in alignment with the Transport Community Next Generation Action Plans 2025-2027

5. Recognise the conclusions of the **Green Mobility Summit** held in Sarajevo on 6-7 June 2024, co-organised by the Transport Community Secretariat and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) under the Regional Climate Partnership. The Parties endorse the Green Mobility Declaration, along with the Clean Bus and Clean Fleet Declaration and the Cycling Declaration, which collectively advance zero-emission mobility, align with alternative fuel infrastructure standards, and bolster the digitalisation and climate resilience of transport infrastructure.
6. Acknowledge the progress achieved and the need for further advancement on acquis alignment, as highlighted in the **Action Plans and the EU Acquis Progress Report 2024**. The Parties commend the work of the Transport Community Permanent Secretariat for its ongoing support in implementing agreed measures and fostering effective cooperation with the Regional Partners and the European Commission.
7. Note the regional progress towards **alignment with TEN-T standards** and convey appreciation for the European Union's continued support through the newly established **Western Balkans Eastern Mediterranean Corridor** and its Coordinator, Mr Marian-Jean Marinescu. The Parties pledge to intensify efforts to ensure the timely and coordinated execution of the TEN-T in alignment with the stipulated timelines of the TEN-T Regulation.
8. Support the Transport Community's **Five-year Rolling Work Plan for the development of the indicative TEN-T** extension to the Western Balkans, with a clear strategic objective for prioritising regional projects over the next five years and guiding the coordinated development of the regional transport network.
9. Welcome the conclusions of the Transport Community **Social Forum** held on 6 June 2024 in Sarajevo and commit to advancing the Social Aspects of the Acquis, as outlined in Annex I of the Transport Community Treaty. The Parties recognise the need to develop further the technical and managerial capacities of regional Non-Governmental Organisations, enabling their meaningful involvement in transport projects and policy-making processes.
10. Welcome the approval of projects under the **European Commission's Safe and Sustainable Transport Program**, which aim to improve safety at level crossings, modernise infrastructure, enhance capacity at selected border/common crossing points on the extended

TEN-T Network in the Western Balkans, address high-risk road sections, and promote sustainable and intelligent mobility solutions across the region.

11. Applaud the work of the Transport Community and CEFTA Secretariats on the **Green Lanes** initiative, supported by the European Commission, which resulted in enhanced trade and transport flows in the Western Balkans, extending the initiative to the EU member states.
12. Welcome the **Comprehensive Roadmap for Enhancing Green Lanes, Improved Customs Cooperation and Modernisation of Border/Common Crossing Points**, endorsed at the EU-Western Balkans summit in Brussels in December 2024, and looking forward to the implementation of improvements on selected border crossing points.
13. Acknowledge the current alignment status of the **Observing Participants** of the Transport Community, the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine, and Georgia with the EU acquis as outlined in Annex I of the Treaty and note the preparation of dedicated Action Plans for Rail, Road, Road Safety, and Waterborne and Multimodal Transport.
14. Recognise the critical importance of infrastructure development in strengthening connectivity with the Observing Participants of the Transport Community. The Parties note the current compliance status of the observing participants with TEN-T standards as outlined in the dedicated **TEN-T report** prepared within the framework of the Transport Community.
15. Recognise the importance of enhancing integration in the road transport sector by further aligning with the EU acquis and harmonizing relevant standards, including in the areas of social regulations and access to the profession for road transport operators. In this context, the parties express their readiness for an open and constructive dialogue, as well as additional involvement, in order to address the situation of professional drivers from the Western Balkans and Observing Participants in a mutually satisfactory manner and in the shortest possible period of time. The restrictions on the stay of professional drivers from the Western Balkans in the territory of the European Union should be discussed as one of the priority issues. The Western Balkan parties and Observing Participants stressed that this issue should be resolved in due time.
16. European Commission invites all the Ministers for the next Ministerial Council Meeting in Brussels at the end of 2025.

17. The Ministerial Council expresses gratitude to the **authorities of the Republic Serbia** for hosting the meeting and acknowledges the efforts of all stakeholders in advancing regional transport cooperation.

Done in Belgrade on 16 May 2025

For the Ministerial Council of the Transport Community

The President

H.E. Ms Aleksandra Sofronijević

Minister of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure

