

## Presidency Conclusions

### 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Ministerial Council of Transport Community

Brussels 5 December 2025

*The Ministers of the Contracting Parties and Observing Participants of the Transport Community met under the presidency of Ms Enkelejda Muçaj, Deputy Minister of Infrastructure and Energy and co-chairmanship of H.E Commissioner for Sustainable Transport and Tourism Apostolos Tzitzikostas, for the 9<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Council of the Transport Community.*

*The Ministers:*

1. Reaffirmed the strategic **importance of transport connectivity for the EU integration process**. The Ministers stressed that the accelerated implementation of the EU acquis and the extension of the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) are essential to ensuring the smooth functioning of transport across the region, enhancing competitiveness, and to reducing fragmentation between the EU and its neighbouring partners. The Ministers also reconfirmed the crucial role played by the Solidarity Lanes and Green Lanes initiatives in facilitating transport, enhancing resilience, and supporting overall integration.
2. Recalled the **renewed momentum in the enlargement process** as highlighted during the last EU-Western Balkans Summit in December 2024 and recognized that this creates a clear **imperative to advance ambitious and durable reforms** in the transport sector. In this context, Ministers presented plans to accelerate integration in the transport sector, in line with the ambitions and timelines of the Western Balkans Growth Plan, the Transport Community Action Plans for acquis alignment, and the TEN-T Regulation.
3. Acknowledged progress achieved and the need for further advancement on acquis alignment, as highlighted in the **2025 Progress Report on the Implementation of the TCT Action Plans and EU Acquis Transposition**. The Parties endorsed this report, reiterated the significance of the measures outlined within each Action Plan, and reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing their administrative and technical capacities for improved transposition of Annex I of the Transport Community Treaty.
4. Welcomed the **Next Generation Action Plan on Social Issues and Passenger Rights (2026 – 2028)** and committed to continuing to enhance social standards, fair working

conditions, and robust passenger rights throughout the transport system, which are crucial components of a modern, sustainable, and inclusive mobility system.

5. Welcomed the conclusions of the **Transport Community 6th Social Forum** that took place on 10 April 2025 in Tirana, which represented a significant step towards the harmonised and effective enforcement of passenger rights across all transport modes in the Western Balkans.
6. Acknowledged the regional progress made towards **alignment with TEN-T standards** as outlined in the 2025 TEN-T progress reports. The Parties reaffirmed their commitment to intensifying efforts to ensure the timely and coordinated implementation of the TEN-T, in accordance with the timelines set out in the TEN-T Regulation.
7. Supported the **First Draft Work Plan of the Western Balkan Eastern Mediterranean Corridor**, as presented by its Coordinator Mr Marian-Jean Marinescu, and reaffirmed the significance of the development of the European Transport Corridors for enhancing connectivity in Europe.
8. Reaffirmed the region's commitment to **advancing multimodal transport connectivity** and welcomed the outcomes of the TCT Report on Multimodality, Terminal Assessment, and Digitalisation, which identified nine priority multimodal freight terminals (Durrës, Sarajevo, Doboj, Pristina, Bar, Skopje, Belgrade, Nis, Novi Sad) as the backbone of the regional network for possible inclusion in the TEN-T maps.
9. Applauded the work of the Transport Community and CEFTA Secretariats on the **Green Lanes initiative**, supported by the European Commission. The Ministers welcomed the conclusions from the Western Balkans Leaders' Summit held in Tirana on 21 November 2025 and looked forward to the deliverables foreseen for the EU-Western Balkans Summit in December 2025 in Brussels.
10. Committed to further **harmonising the working hours of the border inspections and implement other soft measures from the individual Green Lanes fiches**. Welcomed the progress on the implementation of the Comprehensive Roadmap for Enhancing Green Lanes, and the dedicated funds under Safe and Sustainable Transport Programme 2 for investments in physical improvements on selected crossing points.
11. Commended the example set by the **Solidarity Lanes initiative** as regards transport facilitation, and expressed appreciation for the EU's sustained support, which has enabled Ukraine to maintain vital trade flows, strengthened regional connectivity, and delivered

significant results for economic resilience and food security. The Solidarity Lanes have shown the ability of the EU, its Member States, and neighbouring partners to cooperate effectively and deliver impactful transport facilitation measures.

12. Welcomed the outcomes of the **Digital Mobility and ITS Conference held in Sevilla**, reaffirming the region's commitment to accelerating the digital transition of the transport sector, notably in the fields of Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS), electronic freight transport information (eFTI), and Alternative Fuels Infrastructure. The Ministers underlined that the adoption and implementation of the EU digital mobility legislation must remain a regional priority.
13. Committed to continued implementation of the **Reform Agendas, part of the Western Balkans Growth Plan**, particularly as regards the transport-related priority measures.
14. Acknowledged 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.
15. Commended the Transport Community for its support to the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine through **tailor-made technical assistances and capacity building programs** which advance their closer integration with the EU transport market and support the EU enlargement process. The Parties welcomed the willingness of Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova to become full members of the Transport Community.
16. Acknowledged the vital role of infrastructure development in **enhancing connectivity with the Observing Participants of the Transport Community**. The Parties take note of the current level of compliance of the Observing Participants with the TEN-T standards, as presented in the 2025 TEN-T Report prepared within the framework of the Transport Community.
17. Acknowledged the importance of **deepening integration in the road transport sector** through further alignment with the EU acquis and harmonisation of relevant standards, particularly in the areas of social regulations and access to the profession for road transport operators. The restrictions on the stay of professional drivers from the Western Balkans in the European Union should be considered as a priority issue. The Western Balkan Parties and Observing Participants emphasised the need for this matter to be resolved in due course.



18. Commended the **work of the Transport Community Permanent Secretariat** for its ongoing support in implementing agreed measures and fostering effective cooperation between the Regional Partners and the European Union.
19. Expressed **gratitude to the European Commission** for hosting the meeting and acknowledges the efforts of all stakeholders in advancing regional transport cooperation.

Done in Brussels on 5 December 2025

For the Ministerial Council of the Transport Community

The President

Ms Enkelejda Muçaj, Deputy Minister of Infrastructure and Energy

