

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT AND TOURISM THE CHAIRMAN

To the Chair(s) of the Committee(s) concerned

Dear colleague,

As of January 2014, the European Union has a new transport infrastructure policy that connects the continent between East and West, North and South. The trans-European transport network (TEN-T) is developed through a dual-layer structure consisting of a comprehensive network and a core network, those two layers being the highest level of infrastructure planning within the Union.

The planning, development and operation of trans-European transport networks contribute to the attainment of major Union objectives, such as the smooth functioning of the internal market and the strengthening of economic, social and territorial cohesion. They are genuine arteries of Europe's economy and its citizens' well-being. Moreover, in a difficult economic context, investments in key infrastructures with strong EU added value can boost Europe's competitiveness.

Following this line, the Committee on Transport and Tourism of the European Parliament would like to invite Members of national Parliaments of the EU Member States, the candidate countries, and the countries of the European Economic Area to attend an interparliamentary committee meeting on the following topic:

"Trans-European transport network (TEN-T) including cross-border links"

I look forward to discussing experiences and best practices on the implementation of TEN-T projects with particular attention to cross-border links, which have a high European added value. The meeting would also provide an opportunity to address investments' challenges in the context of scarce financial resources and to discuss how TEN-T projects could benefit from innovative sources of funding.

The meeting is scheduled for

Tuesday, 13 October 2015, 15h00 to 18h30 in the European Parliament in Brussels.

I am therefore pleased to invite up to four Members of the relevant Committees(s) from every national Parliament (two from each Chamber in the case of bi-cameral Parliaments) to attend the meeting. Should you be unable to attend, we would welcome your written contributions

(to e-mail address <u>tran-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu</u>) which would be distributed to our respective Members and other participants.

The practical details regarding the meeting as well as a detailed draft programme will be forwarded in due course to your Parliament's services for relations with the European Parliament.

I sincerely hope that you will be able to accept my invitation, and I am looking forward to welcoming you in the European Parliament on 13 October 2015.

Yours sincerely,

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Michael CRAMER