



Dear Members of the Transport Committee,

Dear MEPs from Alpine regions and states,

when voting on the **Report on improving the connection and accessibility of the transport infrastructure in Central and Eastern Europe**

**(2015/2347(INI))** at the next plenary session of the European Parliament, CIPRA International kindly invites you to vote against the two amendments adopted by the Transport Committee:

G. whereas some geographical areas covered by the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP) have major social and economic problems because of their marginal position in relation to the Scandinavian-Mediterranean corridor, in the stretch running alongside the Brenner motorway;

22. Considers it a matter of priority for the socio-economic development of the eastern part of EUSALP to complete the Italian A27 motorway, with an exit in Austria, and to improve the Italian and Austrian road network in this geographical area, by means of appropriate ancillary works;

**There are many reasons to vote against the report in its current form, we would like to point out the following three:**

1. The European Commission, together with all Alpine States, has signed the **Alpine Convention**, a transnational treaty with the scope of protecting the Alps and giving way to a sustainable development. The Protocol on Transport (<http://www.alpconv.org/en/convention/protocols/Documents/transportprotocolEN.pdf>) clearly sets boundaries and defines procedures for a further enhancement of road infrastructures. In our view, the proposed enhancement of the A27 is a clear contradiction to the Alpine Convention.
2. The amendments create a **link between the Macroregional Strategy for the Alps EUSALP and new road infrastructure projects**, moreover, the Alps are projected as an obstacle to traffic and to economic development. A sustainable view would place attention to the vulnerability of the Alps and on the citizens that live there.
3. Already today, Alpine transit brings a series of negative impacts to **health, environment and safety** with it. In order to maintain a high quality of life for the Alps and their inhabitants, as well as to meet international climate reduction targets, it is necessary to aim at a more intelligent mobility mix and not to new road connections.

### **Who we are**

CIPRA is an independent non-governmental, non-profit umbrella organisation that has been committed to the protection and sustainable development of the Alps since 1952. With its international executive office in Liechtenstein, its representatives in seven Alpine states and around one hundred member organisations and institutions CIPRA today represents an important alpine-wide network. From this broad base we are able to play a pioneering role in contributing to solving current problems and upcoming challenges aimed at bringing about a sustainable and ecological

future for the Alpine region. The Alpine Convention, launched at CIPRA's initiative, is a guiding principle for the way we think and the way we act. It was signed by the Alpine States as a treaty under international law in 1991 and has since provided a platform for cross-border co-operation. As an observer organisation, CIPRA actively supports the Alpine Convention.

You can find our latest statements and positions on Alpine transport under: <http://www.cipra.org/en/transport/news>

Please contact us and we are happy to provide you with further documentations to argue against new road infrastructure as a solution to complex socioeconomic problems.

Best regards,

Christian Baumgartner, acting president of CIPRA International

Federica Corrado, president of CIPRA Italy

Peter Hasslacher, president of CIPRA Austria

Klauspeter Dissinger, president of CIPRA South Tyrol

19.10.2016

International Commission for the Protection of the Alps

CIPRA International

Im Bletscha 22 · 9494 Schaan · Liechtenstein

T [+423 237 53 53](tel:+4232375353) · F [+423 237 53 54](tel:+4232375354)  
[international@cipra.org](mailto:international@cipra.org) · [www.cipra.org](http://www.cipra.org)