

Newsletter September 2017

ETA joins "More EU budget for transport" campaign

An alliance of 30 EU transport organizations presented on the 21st of September a campaign to increase Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) funding in order to improve and renovate EU transport infrastructure.

With the slogan "More EU budget for transport, the best investment plan for Europe" the campaign demands a stronger CEF budget, the necessary changes to address the Facility's funding shortcomings and the completion of the TEN-T network by 2030.

CEF supports the development of interconnected trans-European networks in the fields of transport, energy and digital services. The Facility specifically funds the construction of the trans-European corridors which will become the spine of the European transport system. Completing the TEN-T network will create 10 million extra jobs by 2030. Every billion invested in the core network will create close to 20,000 new jobs.

It is essential for ETA to participate in this campaign and strengthen the voice of the transport and logistics sector. Our industry's future relies on the governments capacity to improve ports' infrastructure and connectivity with their hinterlands. As these projects require heavy public financing and do not often generate a quick return on investment, it is essential to increase CEF budget. Sufficient CEF funding is the best guarantee for the completion of the TEN-T network in due time which could give the EU economy a big competitiveness boost.

Download [here](#) the campaign leaflet.





Jean-Claude Juncker´s state of the Union speech: EU to further its trade agenda

As every autumn after the summer break, political activity returned to the EU Parliament with the EC President´s state of the Union speech. This time Mr. Juncker´s tone was more optimistic than previous years due to the brighter economic perspectives and the renewed sense of purpose found by the EU institutions after a dark 2016.

The EC president proposed a new EU framework for investment screening. This new initiative would give the European Commission and the national governments more power to scrutinize, and if needed, block the purchase of strategic infrastructure or firms, such as ports or defence technology companies.

Concerning EU´s trade policy, Mr. Juncker mentioned the opening of Free Trade Agreement negotiations with Australia and New Zealand and a new push to finalise the agreements with Mexico, Mercosur and Japan before the end of his term in 2019. If concluded and ratified these agreements would reaffirm EU´s position as the main global trade power. Linked to this, the EU-Canada Comprehensive and Economic Trade Agreement began to be provisionally applied since the end of September, although its complete ratification and entry into force will take a few more months. You can read President Juncker´s speech [here](#).



ETA Executive Member, Charo Coll is elected president of the International Salvage Union

Boluda´s Offshore and Salvage General Manager, Charo Coll was elected President of the International Salvage Union. She will replace John Witte at the helm of the organization. Ms. Coll had already been the Vice President of ISU since 2015. At the same meeting, Mr Richard Janssen, Managing Director of Smit Salvage was elected as Vice President of the Union.

ISU represents the international marine salvage industry. Its 60 members from 34 different countries provide essential services to the world's maritime and insurance communities. ETA is an affiliated member of the Union and a number of ETA members are also part of ISU.

On behalf of the Secretariat and the whole ETA family, we congratulate Ms. Coll and wish her success in this new endeavour.

Next events

27-28 Oct.

Pilotage/Towage Services and
Technologies Congress
Izmir

30 Nov.

FEPOR 3rd
Stakeholders´ Conference
Brussels

