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[Press release](#) | 30.05.2013

## EU transport networks

### Patchwork approach to TEN-T will continue as deal struck on new rules

The European Parliament and Council yesterday evening reached an agreement on revised rules on Trans-European Transport Networks from 2014 on (TEN-T). Reacting to the outcome, Green transport spokesperson **Michael Cramer** said:

*"This deal will prolong the patchwork approach to European transport networks, leading to EU funding for projects that have little or no EU added-value. The free-riding on EU money for national projects will continue, as cross-border projects are still neglected. The bulk of the €23 billion in funds will be used for national wish-lists. Despite 20 years of European transport policy, most transport infrastructure still has to hurdle borders, notably railways.*

*"Ultimately, the final trialogue negotiations were little more than a damage limitation exercise, as neither the majority of MEPs nor governments wanted to truly improve the situation. To this end, there were some definite silver linings in the outcome.*

*"There is clear progress in terms of the priority given to environmental protection under TEN-T, with environment and climate impacts to be assessed under impact assessments. For inland waterways, the worst has been avoided. Member states will not be forced to dredge free-flowing rivers, which would be a catastrophe for the environment.*

*"The new provisions will also ensure EU support for reducing the noise of rail transport, which is a boon for those living near rail freight lines. It will hopefully be possible to fund the retrofitting of trains with noise reduction technologies, like reduced-noise brakes."*

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## Responsible MEPs



Michael Cramer

Member

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