

Revision of the Eurovignette Directive (1999/62/EC)

Topic

On December 13, the European Parliament will vote on amending Directive 1999/62/EC on the charging of heavy goods vehicles for the use of certain infrastructures (Eurovignette - second reading - Reference COD/2003/0175).



Problems

In many European regions health and environmental dangers from road freight traffic reached a level that is no longer acceptable.

- Noise levels that affect sleep patterns
- Air pollution which often exceeds limits and endangers health
- Roads that fragment the landscape
- Increased accident risks on the roads

In sensitive regions - as mountainous areas - the negative effects of freight traffic are even higher due to particular topography and weather conditions.

Demands

The European people need a revised Eurovignette directive that reflects the true costs. This would favour a more sensible use of road freight transport, and therefore protect the health of people, nature and wild-life.

Over 500 Organisations representing 30 millions European citizens signed in 1999 the „International Petition for a kilometre-based heavy-goods vehicle charge in the whole of Europe“. In the ongoing debate, we appreciate the open approach of the European Parliament TRAN Committee (in contrast to the council), particularly to include external costs of up to 60% of infrastructure costs. However, this represents a minimal level of inclusion, considering the devastating effects and the huge costs of transport pollution. The inclusion of the external costs is not only an obligation from a scientific and economic point of view, but also the wish of millions of European citizens, who would also like to the Eurovignette to be mandatory.





European Transport Initiative Europäische Verkehrsinitiative Initiative Transport Europe

The European Transport Initiative ITE is a network of different environmental organisations mainly based in the Alps and other sensitive regions such as the Pyrenees, the Vosges or the Jura mountains. Its goal is to help the implementation of a transport policy friendly to both humanity and the environment. The ITE-network wants to intensify contacts between groups who fight against excessive traffic and to improve cross-border information exchange.

Our activities are guided by the following principles:

- Have all transport modes pay their true costs, including social and ecological costs
- Optimise the use of transport capacities and improve existing infrastructures
- Ensure the promotion of regional economic cycles to reduce long-distance road and air transport
- Ensure transparency and a more democratic approach in all public decisions

46 MEMBRES

(6.5.2005)

• **A – Austria (4)**

Initiative für ein Lebenswertes Wipptal
Kulturinitiative Gegenverkehr
Stopp Transitschneise Ennstal
Tälerbusprojekt (Verkehrsverbund Lungau-Murau-Nockgebiet)

• **CH – Switzerland (5)**

Alp Rail
Alpeninitiative - Initiative des Alpes
Greenpeace Schweiz / Suisse
Mountain Wilderness
umverkehr

• **D – Germany (3)**

Bund Naturschutz Bayern e.V.
Naturschutzbund Deutschland e.V.
Umweltbüro Neubeuern

• **I – Italy (8)**

Associazione difesa Monte Bianco
CAI - Club Alpino Italiano- CITAM PV
Cantiere Cuneo
CIPRA Italia
Legambiente Italia
Legambiente del Friuli-Venezia-Giulia
Transitinitiative Südtirol
WWF Italia

• **SI – Slovenia (1)**

CIPRA Slovenija

F – France (22)

Aboutir
ABS – Association du bassin de Servoz
Alsace Nature Liepvrette
ARSMB – Association pour le respect du site du Mont Blanc
COJAM – Coordination Jura-Alpes-Méditerranée
Comité pour la vie en vallée d'Aspe
COSTAV – Collectif pour la Sécurité et la Tranquillité des Axes Vosgiens
CPVH - Comité de préservation du village des Houches
Défense de la Vallée de la Vallière
Développement durable Apilles Rhône Durance
EMBRUN Ecologie
FARE SUD
FNAUT - Fédération nationale des associations d'usagers des transports
FNE - France Nature Environnement
FRAPNA Isère
LEIA
Littoral Actions Communes L.A.C.
Réagir !
SEPANSO Béarn Pyrénées
Thur Ecologie et Transports
UTAN - Union Touristique Les Amis de la Nature
Vosges Ecologie

• **FL – Liechtenstein (2)**

LGU Liechtensteinische Gesellschaft für Umweltschutz
VCL Verkehrs-Club Liechtenstein