

The Connecting Europe Facility: the best MOVE towards economic growth

Europe needs to grow its way out of the economic crisis.

Today, we commit our support to the creation of transport, energy and telecom infrastructure that interconnects Europe and we call for the creation of a Connecting Europe Facility.

We need to invest seriously in European networks and this will not be achieved without pan-European investments from the European Union budget. European money needs to be used better.

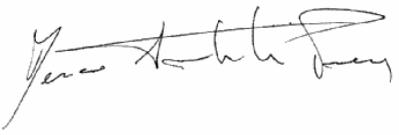
A Connecting Europe Facility will provide real 'added value'. It will help to build and complete the railways, airport links, ports, maritime transport links, energy grids, pipelines, intelligent transport systems and broadband networks that are essential for Europe. It will help to join up missing links and remove bottlenecks. These investments will generate growth and jobs, and will make work and travel easier for millions of European citizens and businesses. It will help to boost Europe's single market and provide security for further investment.

EU Governments and the European Parliament are negotiating the next EU budget. They have the responsibility to agree on a budget for growth. They will only be credible if the Connecting Europe Facility is properly funded.

At a time when the global marketplace is becoming ever more competitive, Europe simply cannot afford to delay investments in its infrastructure. We need to connect to compete.

We therefore call on European leaders to fully recognize the added value of developing and completing the networks and urge them to endorse the European Commission proposal allocating €50 billion of the EU budget to create the Connecting European Facility.

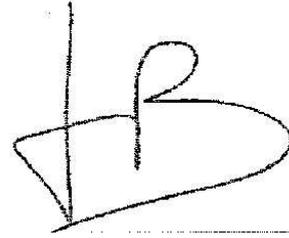
<p>Emanuele Grimaldi CEO of Grimaldi Shipping Lines</p> 	<p>Hans Smits CEO of Port of Rotterdam</p> 
<p>Eddy Bruyninckx CEO of Port of Antwerp</p> 	<p>Leif Johansson Chairman of Ericsson and of the European Roundtable Industrialists</p> 

<p>Christian Kern CEO of ÖBB Holding AG</p> 	<p>Søren Skou CEO of MAERSK Line</p> 
<p>Franck Riboud Président Directeur Général de Danone Chairman & CEO President of Comité pour la Transalpine Lyon Turin</p> 	<p>Wolfgang Eder CEO of Voestalpine AG</p> 
<p>Mauro Moretti Chairman of CER and CEO of Ferrovie dello Stato Italiane Spa</p> 	<p>Thierry Déau CEO of Meridiam Infrastructure – private investment fund</p> 
<p>Marco Tronchetti Provera Chairman and CEO of Pirelli & C SpA</p> 	<p>Olof Persson CEO of AB Volvo</p> 
<p>Frank Appel CEO of Deutsche Post DHL</p> 	<p>Carlo Pesenti CEO of Italcementi Group</p> 

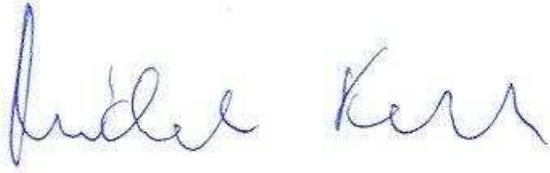
Dan Sten Olsson
CEO of STENA AB

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dan Sten Olsson', written in a cursive style.

Fabrice Brégier
CEO and President of Airbus SAS

A stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a vertical line on the left and a large, rounded 'B' shape on the right.

Dr Michael Kerkloh
CEO of Munich Airport

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michael Kerkloh', written in a cursive style.