

## Topic title: Connecting Europe Facility

### Brief description and main aims:

The Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) is a specific instrument for transport, energy and telecommunication infrastructure. It has a budget of €29.9 billion for the period 2014-2020: €23.1 billion (including €10 billion from the Cohesion Fund) for transport, €5.1 billion for energy and €1 billion for telecommunication.

In June 2018, the European Commission proposed to increase the budget for CEF by more than €42 billion after 2020. The dedicated budget for transport infrastructure is proposed to amount to approximately €30.6 billion.

### Why FIEC is dealing with this issue/topic and their objective(s):

FIEC strongly supports this global budget line and advocates, amongst others, for a larger budget for transport – in line with the real needs – as well as for maintaining high co-financing rates. This represents an essential investment for the EU's growth and competitiveness.

Moreover, since October 2017, FIEC is part of the campaign “More EU budget for transport – the best investment plan for Europe”, launched by associations from the transport sector, in order to be more vocal on this issue.

### Actions and key dates :

**October 2017** – FIEC joins the “CEF transport coalition”

**June 2018** – European Commission's proposal

**21/09/2018** - FIEC position paper

**03/12/2018** – Council (partial) general approach

**12/12/2018** – European Parliament resolution (Plenary)

**07/12/2018** – Political agreement (partial) in trilogue (exact amounts to be approved later on)

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| <p>FIEC is the European Construction Industry Federation, representing via its 31 National Member Federations in 27 countries (24 EU &amp; EFTA and Turkey) construction enterprises of all sizes, i.e. small and medium-sized enterprises as well as “global players”, carrying out all forms of building and civil engineering activities.<br/>Recognised “Sectoral Social Partner” (employers)</p> <p>Press Contact: Simon Gianordoli<br/>Tel. +32-2-514 55 35 / e-mail: info@fiec.eu</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           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| <p><b>FIEC position paper</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>21.09.2018</b></span></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 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| <p><b>Proposal for a Regulation establishing the Connecting Europe Facility COM(2018)0438 of 06/06/2018</b></p> <p><b>Strengthening transport, energy and digital infrastructure investment and objectives within the EU</b></p> <p><b>Background</b><br/>Transport, energy and the digital sectors are central to the EU's future. They enable the effective operation of the internal market. These sectors represent the backbone of the EU economy. To foster growth and employment, a wide approach to infrastructure must be adopted to achieve the well-functioning European networks, which play a fundamental role in trade both inside and outside EU borders.<br/>Investment needs for the TEN-T core network by 2030 have been estimated at about 350 billion by the European Commission. Cutting investment in infrastructure jeopardises long-term growth. Hence, the European Union is the crucial driving force behind assuring focused investment in viable infrastructure projects to foster sustainable growth, even in a period of budgetary discipline such as the current one.<br/>Therefore, a coherent policy and financing framework for infrastructure must be implemented in Europe. The CEF is so far one of the most successful EU programmes of the 2014-2020 programming period and it is important to maintain it for the period post-2020.</p> <p><b>Keeping the TENs funding programmes in the next MFF</b><br/>First, FIEC approves maintaining a common funding framework for infrastructure in the future MFF 2021-2027, to boost both public and private investment.<br/>Moreover, FIEC welcomes the emphasis on the convergence of the transport, energy and digital sectors through the synergy between these sectors. This emphasis is particularly important for the construction sector as it helps to achieve the decarbonisation and digitalisation goals. However, FIEC is concerned about the lack of ambition in the budgetary allocation. At €42.3 billion, it represents only around 2% of the EU budget (even without considering the need for mobility of military transport and equipments). A stronger budget for the Connecting Europe Facility post-2020 is needed with grants remaining the major component. FIEC calls for ambitious investment in transport infrastructure, despite constraints on public and private financial sources, in order to ensure long-term economic growth.</p> <p>FIEC supports the proposed transformation of the infrastructure network to civilian-military dual-use, to facilitate the mobility of military transport and equipment.</p> <p>FIEC - European Construction Industry Federation - Avenue Louise 225, BE-1050 Brussels / Tel. +32-2-514 55 35 / Fax +32-2-511 02 76 / Transperry Reg. 2021892-02-12-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100-101-102-103-104-105-106-107-108-109-110-111-112-113-114-115-116-117-118-119-120-121-122-123-124-125-126-127-128-129-130-131-132-133-134-135-136-137-138-139-140-141-142-143-144-145-146-147-148-149-150-151-152-153-154-155-156-157-158-159-160-161-162-163-164-165-166-167-168-169-170-171-172-173-174-175-176-177-178-179-180-181-182-183-184-185-186-187-188-189-190-191-192-193-194-195-196-197-198-199-200-201-202-203-204-205-206-207-208-209-210-211-212-213-214-215-216-217-218-219-220-221-222-223-224-225-226-227-228-229-230-231-232-233-234-235-236-237-238-239-240-241-242-243-244-245-246-247-248-249-250-251-252-253-254-255-256-257-258-259-260-261-262-263-264-265-266-267-268-269-270-271-272-273-274-275-276-277-278-279-280-281-282-283-284-285-286-287-288-289-290-291-292-293-294-295-296-297-298-299-300-301-302-303-304-305-306-307-308-309-310-311-312-313-314-315-316-317-318-319-320-321-322-323-324-325-326-327-328-329-330-331-332-333-334-335-336-337-338-339-340-341-342-343-344-345-346-347-348-349-350-351-352-353-354-355-356-357-358-359-360-361-362-363-364-365-366-367-368-369-370-371-372-373-374-375-376-377-378-379-380-381-382-383-384-385-386-387-388-389-390-391-392-393-394-395-396-397-398-399-400-401-402-403-404-405-406-407-408-409-410-411-412-413-414-415-416-417-418-419-420-421-422-423-424-425-426-427-428-429-430-431-432-433-434-435-436-437-438-439-440-441-442-443-444-445-446-447-448-449-450-451-452-453-454-455-456-457-458-459-460-461-462-463-464-465-466-467-468-469-470-471-472-473-474-475-476-477-478-479-480-481-482-483-484-485-486-487-488-489-490-491-492-493-494-495-496-497-498-499-500-501-502-503-504-505-506-507-508-509-510-511-512-513-514-515-516-517-518-519-520-521-522-523-524-525-526-527-528-529-530-531-532-533-534-535-536-537-538-539-540-541-542-543-544-545-546-547-548-549-550-551-552-553-554-555-556-557-558-559-560-561-562-563-564-565-566-567-568-569-570-571-572-573-574-575-576-577-578-579-580-581-582-583-584-585-586-587-588-589-590-591-592-593-594-595-596-597-598-599-600-601-602-603-604-605-606-607-608-609-610-611-612-613-614-615-616-617-618-619-620-621-622-623-624-625-626-627-628-629-630-631-632-633-634-635-636-637-638-639-640-641-642-643-644-645-646-647-648-649-650-651-652-653-654-655-656-657-658-659-660-661-662-663-664-665-666-667-668-669-670-671-672-673-674-675-676-677-678-679-680-681-682-683-684-685-686-687-688-689-690-691-692-693-694-695-696-697-698-699-700-701-702-703-704-705-706-707-708-709-710-711-712-713-714-715-716-717-718-719-720-721-722-723-724-725-726-727-728-729-730-731-732-733-734-735-736-737-738-739-740-741-742-743-744-745-746-747-748-749-750-751-752-753-754-755-756-757-758-759-760-761-762-763-764-765-766-767-768-769-770-771-772-773-774-775-776-777-778-779-780-781-782-783-784-785-786-787-788-789-790-791-792-793-794-795-796-797-798-799-800-801-802-803-804-805-806-807-808-809-810-811-812-813-814-815-816-817-818-819-820-821-822-823-824-825-826-827-828-829-830-831-832-833-834-835-836-837-838-839-840-841-842-843-844-845-846-847-848-849-850-851-852-853-854-855-856-857-858-859-860-861-862-863-864-865-866-867-868-869-870-871-872-873-874-875-876-877-878-879-880-881-882-883-884-885-886-887-888-889-890-891-892-893-894-895-896-897-898-899-900-901-902-903-904-905-906-907-908-909-910-911-912-913-914-915-916-917-918-919-920-921-922-923-924-925-926-927-928-929-930-931-932-933-934-935-936-937-938-939-940-941-942-943-944-945-946-947-948-949-950-951-952-953-954-955-956-957-958-959-960-961-962-963-964-965-966-967-968-969-970-971-972-973-974-975-976-977-978-979-980-981-982-983-984-985-986-987-988-989-990-991-992-993-994-995-996-997-998-999-1000</p> 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