

European Cyclists' Federation (ECF)

A significant increase in the number of trips made by bike is crucial for achieving the objectives of the European Green Deal and contribute to reducing the transport sector's greenhouse gas emissions by 90% by 2050. Cycling must therefore play a central role in Europe's transportation network and, by extension, the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) – the EU's flagship transport policy.

The ECF proposes two measures to ensure cycling is better integrated into Euro-Asian transport networks:

- Integrate EuroVelo, the European cycle route network, into ongoing efforts. EuroVelo could for instance be included as a fully-fledged TEN-T network alongside the networks for other modes. Synergies between EuroVelo and the UNECE Euro-Asian Transport Links initiative could also be explored. As the European cycle route network is already well-established, its integration into broader infrastructure networks would be easy to achieve and entail tremendous benefits for the whole policy.
- Integrate cycling infrastructure into relevant infrastructure projects (EATL, TEN-T and others). The potential for cycling traffic in the area covered by the respective projects should be evaluated and necessary elements of cycling infrastructure should be integrated into project planning, design, and construction.

The current review of the TEN-T guidelines and a continuation of the work of UNECE in EATL represent opportunities to level the playing field for transport modes. The update can correct the limitations of the current approach and foster an unprecedented growth in cycling infrastructure across the EU and in the long run between Europe and Asia.