

Euroopan komission kuuleminen monivuotisen rahoituskehysten asetusehdotukseen, Verkkojen Eurooppa -välineen (CEF) perustamiseksi vuosiksi 2028-2034 (COM(2025)547) - Tampereen kaupungin lausunto

In terms of transport connectivity, Finland is an island. Efficient and reliable transport connections, both within key urban nodes and between them, are indispensable for Finland's accessibility, competitiveness, security of supply, and overall strategic security. These connections are a precondition for future cross-border connections and projects, which would help connect Finland with rest of Europe and support a more coherent European single market.

The accessibility of major cities, together with well-functioning national and cross-border transport connections, is essential to strengthening Europe's competitiveness, resilience, and overall security. In this regard, we welcome the European Commission's proposal to double the budget of the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF).

However, the six biggest cities in Finland (Helsinki, Espoo, Vantaa, Tampere, Oulu and Turku) have serious concerns about the specific objectives of the CEF programme in the transport sector being limited to cross-border connections and support for military mobility. While recognising the crucial importance of these objectives, we consider equally important that CEF continues to support strategically significant national projects included in TEN-T core and extended core networks, as well as investments in TEN-T urban nodes. This is pivotal also from the military defense point of view. Finally, we also emphasize the role of coastal cities, harbors, and sea traffic, as well as the role of the international airport cities, for security of supplies.