

## **Topic title: Infrastructure financing**

## **Brief description and main aims:**

The financing of infrastructure is promoted and/or impacted by a series of initiatives, including the "Juncker Investment Plan", the Connecting Europe Facility (see specific MEMO), the Cohesion policy, legal constraints imposed to banks and insurance companies when they invest in infrastructure assets (i.e. Basel and Solvency rules), etc.

Back in 2014, President Juncker launched an ambitious investment plan aimed at boosting the EU's growth and jobs in the aftermath of the economic and financial crisis. In June 2018, the European Commission proposed to establish the InvestEU programme, as the continuity of the Juncker Plan. It aims to become the single instrument for EU policies for the period 2021-2027, to leverage and mobilise hundreds of billions EUR from the private sector by a solid EU guarantee system of investments. Amongst its priorities, the programme will support sustainable infrastructure.

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

Historically, FIEC has been very much mobilised on all issues touching upon the financing of transport infrastructure. This is very important for the EU's growth and competitiveness, as well as for construction companies in terms of business opportunities.

FIEC always advocates for strong budgets and strategies at the EU level, benefitting all EU countries and all modes of transport.

## Actions and key dates:

May 2018 – European Commission proposals on the various funds under the Cohesion policy June 2018 – European Commission proposal on the Invest EU programme

March 2019 – FIEC meetings with the French Banking Federation, the French Caisse des Dépôts et Consignation and Insurance Europe on various issues related to infrastructure financing

07/02/2019 – FIEC voting recommendations on Cohesion policy

20/03/2019 - Political agreement on the Invest EU programme in trilogue

FIEC is the European Construction Industry Federation, representing via its 29 National Member Federations in 26 countries (23 EU & 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.

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FIEC voting recommendations

07.02.2019

Draft regulation laying down common provisions of the various funds under the Cohesion Policy (COM(2018)375)

Dear Honourable Member of the European Parliament,

In view of the upcoming plenary vote on 13th February regarding the regulation laying down common provisions of the various funds under the Cohesion Policy, the European Construction Industry Federation (FIEC) calls upon the Members of the European Parliament to consider the following voting recommendations.