



 @transportpublic  
 PromocioTransportPublic  
 @transportpublic  
 www.transportpublic.org  
 info@transportpublic.org  
 93 244 49 70

## EN E-004310/2020 Answer given by Ms Vălean on behalf of the European Commission (27.10.2020)

The European Year of Rail 2021 will coincide with the launch of the **new funding instruments for the period 2021-2027 with a proposed strong support to modernise and develop rail infrastructure.**

In particular, the Connecting Europe Facility 2021-2027 will continue to finance projects in the rail sector, including a strong focus on Member States eligible to the Cohesion Fund.

Modernisation of transport (rail) infrastructure will be eligible under the European Regional Development Fund and Cohesion Fund. The volume of financing devoted to transport and rail infrastructure will depend on the programming for each Member State.

**In addition, under Next Generation EU<sup>1</sup>, the new Recovery and Resilience Facility<sup>2</sup> will offer additional funding possibilities.** Investments in sustainable transport is among the country-specific recommendations addressed to several Member States by the Council in 2020. The Commission therefore expects Member States to submit national recovery and resilience plans, which contribute to the sustainable and digital transition of the transport sector after COVID-19. **It could include infrastructure, fleet renewal or lowering track access charges to boost rail.**

Under the European Year of Rail 2021, a series of events, campaigns and initiatives will take place across the EU to promote rail as a sustainable, innovative and safe mode of transport. The Commission's proposal on a European Year of Rail<sup>3</sup> still needs to be adopted by the co-legislators.

<sup>1</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_20\\_1658](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_1658)

<sup>2</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda\\_20\\_949](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda_20_949)

<sup>3</sup> <https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12234-European-Year-of-Rail-2021>