



PRESS RELEASE

Zero-Emission Fleets: Calling for Legislation that Recognises the Realities of Public Transport



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UITP takes note of the upcoming legislative proposal on Clean Corporate Vehicles and stresses that the success of this legislation will depend on how accurately it reflects the realities of the public transport sector.

In its new Position Paper on Zero Emission Fleets, UITP is calling for a legislative framework that:

- Respects the specificities of the public transport sector and defines it as a distinct sector if included;
- Acknowledges the complexities and higher costs of operating heavy-duty vehicles;
- Ensures legal clarity and stability, avoiding duplication or contradiction with existing legislation for buses, and focuses instead on fleet segments that are not yet regulated in EU legislation;
- Sets ambitious but achievable targets for different vehicle types;
- Clarifies the sources and mechanisms for additional investments in vehicles and infrastructure. Public transport authorities and operators already face rising energy and labour costs, evolving ridership patterns since COVID, and ongoing pressures from new requirements (modernisation, digitalisation, fleet renewal, etc.). Without adequate support, the sector risks getting out of economic balance, sometimes leading to a reduction of services. Any new legislation that establishes higher requirements for bus operators and public transport authorities must be

complemented with sufficient, targeted EU-level funding and enabling conditions, including a favourable fiscal policy framework.

- Guarantees that no regions are left behind, ensuring that less wealthy or less populated areas are not disadvantaged in the transition to zero-emission fleets;
- Seeks to prevent negative impacts on competition and on the European bus and coach industry.

“Public transport operators are not conventional corporate fleet owners,” says Alberto Alonso Poza, Chair of the UITP EU Committee. “They are part of the mobility ecosystem, providing essential public services to citizens across Europe. This must be recognised in the legislative framework.”

By ensuring that these principles guide the drafting of the new legislation, the EU can build a coherent and effective framework that supports public transport's critical role in the decarbonisation of the European economy.

[Read the Position Paper in full](#)

[UITP in Europe](#)



ABOUT UITP EUROPE

UITP is the international association representing public transport stakeholders. In the European Union, UITP brings together more than 500 urban, suburban, and regional public transport operators, and authorities from all Member States. We represent the perspective of short distance passenger transport services by all sustainable modes: bus, regional and suburban rail, metro, light rail, tram and waterborne.

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