

PRESS RELEASE

UITP Welcomes Commission's Proposal for ETS Revision and Urges Greater Support for Public Transport



Brussels, 23 September 2026

UITP, the International Association of Public Transport, welcomes the European Commission's proposal to revise the [EU Emissions Trading System \(ETS\)](#) and was pleased to see its greater focus on directing carbon revenues toward the clean transition.

As the voice of public transport operators and authorities across Europe, UITP is urging policymakers to ensure a strategic, predictable, and robust allocation of ETS revenues to public transport, emphasising that such investment is not an isolated sectoral subsidy, but a strategic instrument for reducing overall emissions by enabling a shift towards more sustainable modes of transport.

In response to the ETS revision, UITP has identified the following key priorities:

- 1. Direct more ETS revenues to public transport and decarbonisation**
Ensure a strategic and predictable share of ETS revenues supports public transport, rail, modal shift and climate adaptation.
- 2. Recognise carbon avoidance alongside carbon removals**
Give greater recognition to preventing emissions through modal shift to public transport alongside carbon removals.
- 3. Safeguard the implementation and stability of ETS2**
Avoid further delays or weakening of ETS2 to ensure policy stability and support the shift away from fossil-fuel-based mobility.

4. **Use ETS2 and Social Climate Fund revenues to support vulnerable users**

Invest in affordable, accessible and zero-emission public transport to expand services, address transport poverty and enable a just transition.

"Public transport sector has already shown its substantial role in decarbonisation, by enabling millions of citizens to shift away from private cars, drastically cutting CO2 emissions, and reducing dependence on imported fossil fuels. Now, we must build on this progress by accelerating investment in public transport to drive the transition towards a cleaner, more resilient and sustainable Europe"

Victor Muller, European Expert, UITP

Read UITP's official Position Paper

[View all UITP Position Papers here](#)

FOR EDITORS

(UITP) The International Association of Public Transport works to enhance quality of life and economic well-being by supporting and promoting sustainable transport in urban areas worldwide. As a passionate champion of sustainable urban mobility, UITP is internationally recognised for its work to advance the development of this critical policy agenda. With more than 2000 members in 100 countries, UITP has a long history to its name, and is the only worldwide network to bring together all public transport stakeholders and all sustainable transport modes.

About UITP's work in Europe:

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.

Questions? Quotes? Interview requests? Contact Scott Shepherd

UITP Head of Corporate Communications and Press Relations scott.shepherd@uitp.org