

Protest Against the Destruction of the Historic Peloponnese Railway Line.

Dears,

I am unpleasantly surprised to have learned the intention of the Technical Chamber of Greece (TEE) to convert the historic narrow-gauge railway line of the Peloponnese, in the section from Megara–Corinth–Kalamata, into a bicycle path.

In its announcement of September 24, 2025, TEE stated its plan to commission a particularly costly preliminary study, to be financed by the Hellenic Green Fund.

The destruction of this existing 250-kilometer-long railway line - an environmentally friendly mode of transport and a valuable infrastructure asset of the country's central rail network - contradicts fundamental national planning objectives, as:

- this line is included in the officially approved The Statutory National Spatial Planning Framework of Greece (2009);

- the upgrading and reoperation of the Corinth–Argos–Nafplio section is part of the Approved National Strategic Transport Plan of Greece (NTSP - 2019), which was prepared and substantiated through studies on behalf of the Ministry of Transport, upon the mandate of the competent Directorate-General of the European Commission. In 2022, a feasibility study commissioned by OSE confirmed the project's positive socio-economic justification based on key indicators (ERR, ENPV, and B/C);

- the further upgrading of the Corinth–Tripoli–Kalamata corridor is included in the Ministry of Transport's Operational Plan (2024–2044) for the development of Greek railways. This specific infrastructure underwent a complete renovation between 2004 and 2009, funded by the Peloponnese Regional Operational Program (ROP), with an investment of €80 million for a full renewal of the railway superstructure with heavy materials designed for speeds up to 120 km/h;

- the line is included in the current comprehensive network of the Trans-European Transport Networks (TEN-T/Railways – Comprehensive network);

- at the same time, while local residents are persistently demanding the reactivation of the railway, a cooperative program has already begun between the Swiss Confederation, Europa Nostra, and the Hellenic Society for the Environment and Cultural Heritage, in collaboration with ETH Zurich, to promote the reopening of this specific line.

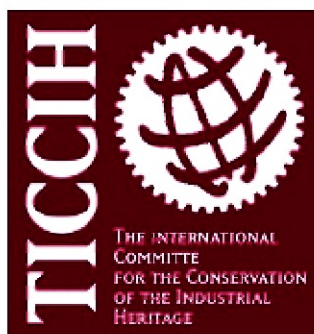
In light of the above, I firmly support VIDA NPC and other organizations in protesting the irreversible destruction of this precious public infrastructure. While I call for the line's dismantling to be cancelled, I offer my personal support, and that of TICCIH, in all actions to prevent this. The necessary reactivation of the line will not only help preserve the region's historical identity, but will also serve as a tool for sustainable development throughout the Peloponnese.

Regards,

Francesco Antoniol

--

Francesco Antoniol
Executive Director
The International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage
E: francesco@ticcih.org
W: <http://ticcih.org/>





Ομάδα ΒΙ.Δ.Α <vidaomada@gmail.com>

Protest Against the Destruction of the Historic Peloponnese Railway Line.

1 message

Francesco Antoniol <francesco@ticcih.org>

Sat. Oct 11. 2025 at 4:09 PM

Bassano del Grappa, Italy, 11 October 2025

Ministry of Environment and Energy

Stavros Papastavrou

info@ypen.gov.gr secmin@ypen.gr

Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport

Hristos Dimas

yme@yme.gov.gr

Technical Chamber of Greece

George Stasinos

president@central.tee.gr tee@central.tee.gr

Hellenic Green Fund

John Androulakis

grafeioproedrou@prasinotameio.gr

Hellenic Railways Organization

George Ioannou and Hristos Palios

info@osenet.gr

Hellenic Railways Organization – Directorate of Track Maintenance

disyg@osenet.gr

Region of Peloponnese

Dimitris Ptochou

periferiarxis@ppel.gov.gr grammateia@ppel.gov.gr

Hellenic Ministry of Culture

Lina Mendonis

minoff@culture.gr

Ministry of Culture and Sports, General Directorate of Restoration, Museums and Technical Works

Amalia Androulidaki

gdamte@culture.gr aandroulidaki@culture.gr

Ministry of Culture and Sports, Directorate of Modern Cultural Heritage

Villy Fotopoulou

sfotopoulou@culture.gr

European commissioner for sustainable transport and tourism

Apostolos Tzitzikostas

cab-tzitzikostas-contact@ec.europa.eu

Trans-European transport network (ten-t)

European coordinator for the western Balkans - Eastern mediterranean European transport corridor

Marian-Jean Marinescu

move-westernbalkans-easternmediterranean-etc@ec.europa.eu

European Federation of Museum and Tourist Railways and Tramways

Mimmi Mickelsen

Mickelsen@fedecrail.org contact@fedecrail.org

Vault of Industrial Digital Archives

Iraklis Fassourakis

vidaomada@gmail.com