



## PRESS RELEASE

# ADRIPASS

## Integrating multimodal connections in the Adriatic Ionian Region

Final Conference: Strategies and tools to reduce cross-border obstacles  
December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2020, virtual conference

*After three years of successful implementation, the partnership of the ADRIPASS project (Integrating multimodal connections in the Adriatic Ionian Region), led by the Central European Initiative - Executive Secretariat, organised its final virtual conference on 2 December 2020. The event aimed at providing evidence of the results achieved in the framework of the project, and at sharing ideas and visions on the future of integrated multimodal transport, ICT tool application and transnational institutional cooperation. The Partners, therefore, provided hints and best practices emerging from analyses and surveys focusing on the future integrated multimodal transport, on measures included in the ADRIPASS Transnational action plan for transport facilitation in the Adriatic Ionian Region, as well as pilot action results consisting in ICT tools for improving multimodal transport. The key points of the ADRIPASS transnational strategy for the improvement of multimodal transport and accessibility were shared as a final project outcome, representing a basis for a strong transnational cooperation network.*

*Around 70 participants attended the event and provided important feedback to the ADRIPASS results, in terms of capitalisation in the Adriatic-Ionian Region.*

*CEI-ES Secretary General Roberto Antonione, welcomed the participants underlining the contribution the ADRIPASS project had provided to the CEI mission and confirmed the willingness to capitalise on the best practices achieved over its three-year implementation period, with the ultimate goal to further promote multimodal sustainable transport in the region, which was also advised by Ms. Barbara Di Piazza, Head of the Interreg ADRION Programme Joint Secretariat. Some further inputs for the future use of ADRIPASS results, especially regarding soft measures and smart solutions, were provided by Ms. Sandra Sodini, Director of the GECT Euregio Senza Confini and Mr. Pierluigi Coppola, EUSAIR Coordinator of Pillar 2 - Connecting the region.*

*Speakers dwelled upon the importance of a sustainable, integrated and multimodal transport for the Adriatic-Ionian Region, to reduce congestion, decrease environmental impact and ensure smooth and efficient connections with the rest of Europe. Strong institutional cooperation, a reduction of waiting time at border crossings and the application of ICT tools were underlined as important factors to achieve a more connected Europe and economic*



*growth. As a result, the ADRIPASS transnational strategy for the improvement of multimodal transport and accessibility in the Adriatic-Ionian Region was particularly welcomed, especially by Mr. Matej Zakonjšek, Director of the Transport Community Permanent Secretariat who signed the letter of support. Round table discussions confirmed the need for a more unified and sustainable multimodal transport system, which would connect the EU and the Western Balkan countries, supported by transnational cooperation and joint efforts to involve decision makers. It was noted that the area presents great differences from country to country which should be overcome through a pan European approach, endorsement of identified measures (digitalisation, streamlining of border crossing procedures, soft measures, upgrading of infrastructure) through a coordinated political commitment. The ADRIPASS cooperation network made up of all project partners, the Ministries of Transport of the involved countries and some regional organisations will take up the ADRIPASS recommendations and inputs for their actual implementation.*

*Summary of ADRIPASS with donors and project partners - MAX 5 lines*

*Optional: Annex of project action or other documents in local language (if needed)*

Contact person:

Name and Surname

Address

e-mail:

Telephone nr.:

Project website



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Social media accounts