

## R3 Examples Background Text

### Airport Expansions and Night Flights

- As a result of the privatization of the Airports in Portugal, Lisbon airport has witnessed an increased number of flights. This includes flights during the night. Many citizens, organizations and movements have been demanding the end of night flights in the city between 11PM and 7AM.
- According to NGO ZERO - Lisboa airport has around more than 80 flights per night directly affecting inhabitants' sleep. Around 400 thousand people are affected by the noise level coming from the planes during the night that reaches about 45 dB(A). A level more than 10% above WHO recommendation
- In 2019 the Spanish and Catalan governments approved a plan from Barcelona Airport to enlarge its third runway. This plan would destroy the remaining wetlands of the Llobregat River Delta (a Natura 2000 protected area). Despite the protests of civil society the plan has been tendered in 2025.
- In Valencia the region's two main airports, Alicante-Elche Airport (L'Altet) and Manises Airport, are located in densely populated metropolitan areas, contributing to noise pollution for local residents and fueling an unsustainable tourism economy - Verdes Equo
- In 2024 a capital expenditure programme to support the expansion of Fiumicino Airport was announced which will require the removal of protected-area boundaries in order to build a fourth runway. This poses a serious danger to nature in the Roma Coastal State nature reserve and would, and a risk to public health due to an increase in noise and air pollution.
- In December 2024 Centralny Port Komunikacyjny (CPK) and Polish Airports (PPL) signed an agreement to collaborate on the construction of a new central airport set to become a hub for regional and global travel in Warsaw.
- In November 20205 it was announced that Heathrow Airport's plan for a third runway, which involves moving the M25 motorway, had been chosen by the government as the successful bid to deliver airport expansion.

### Ports

- The expansion of the Port of Valencia threatens the Albufera Natural Park, a RAMSAR wetland and Biosphere Reserve. A port breakwater extends 2 km out to sea, altering the coastal dynamics and the shoreline of the wetland.
- The Royal Caribbean cruise port planned for Fiumicino threatens to destroy a delicate terrestrial and marine ecosystem and risks undermining the habitability in coastal areas as well as damaging cultural heritage.

### Motorways and Bridges

- The Austrian government has announced significant plans for motorway expansion including the development of the A8 motorway into 8 lanes amongst other projects.
- Seismic analyses conducted by ISPRA and INGV have demonstrated that The Messina Strait Bridge, proposed by the Meloni government, would stand directly on an active seismic fault posing a danger to both human life and wild life and the proposals are wholly inadequate.

### Train Services

- In Spain the Mediterranean corridor, whilst having the potential to connect nearly 50% of the national population, has been significantly slow to develop. This would significantly boost economic activity if it received proper investment.
- Due to the discontinuation of government subsidies in France from 2026 onwards, Nightjet was forced to discontinue the Vienna/Berlin-Paris (night train) connections from 14 December 2025.

### Best Public Transportation Practices

- Many countries offer key innovative learnings for good public transport practices, notably Luxembourg, Japan, South Korea and Switzerland who have all sought to simplify affordable access to public transport for all.
- Introduced in 2021, the Austrian Klimaticket is a flat-rate, year-long subscription that significantly lowers the cost of public transport, promoting climate-friendly travel.