

## FERRMED CONFERENCE

### **LAUNCHING OF THE INTERNATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS' ALLIANCE FOR +FIRRST IMPLEMENTATION**

#### **+FIRRST: THE SOLUTION FOR INTEGRATED FREIGHT TRANSPORT IN EUROPE**

Brussels, November 13, 2025

The main European organizations involved in improving integrated road and rail transport **have joined forces to promote +FIRRST.**

The promoters of this initiative are **ESC, FERRMED, IRU, and UIRR**, along with **MCrit. (\*)**

So far, the Alliance has around fifty European organizations, among them shippers, rail operators, road haulers, infrastructure managers, intermodal terminals, and logistics operators.

FERRMED presented the Alliance today at the Residence Palace in Brussels, with the participation of representatives from the member organizations.

#### **+FIRRST: The FERRMED, Fast, Flexible and Integrated Rail-Road System of Transport**

The +FIRRST system is presented as the only solution to ensure that integrated road and rail transport optimizes sustainability, energy consumption, and the time spent transporting goods in the form of “Mobility as a Service” (**MaaS**). For further information of the +FIRRST System Implementation in the EU, you can watch an **explanatory video**: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T9HDhzWyZA>.

Furthermore, only **+FIRRST** enables integrated road and rail transport to meet **daily demand** between European nodes in real time. With this, **+FIRRST guarantees also sustainable territorial cohesion.**

During the presentation of the Alliance, FERRMED President, **Joan Amorós**, pointed out that the “FERRMED Study of Traffic and Modal Shift Optimization in the EU” presents a comprehensive set of findings that **could significantly contribute** to the objectives of the European Military Mobility Package 2025-2030.

For her part, **Raluca Marian**, General Delegate of the IRU Permanent Delegation to the EU, advocated for promoting collaboration among all modes of transport by **enhancing modal collaboration rather than modal shift, as +FIRRST System states.** In this regard, IRU proposed the corresponding amendment in the recent European Commission Combined Transport Directive revision.

## **The European Commission congratulates FERRMED**

The Land Director of DG MOVE, European Commission, **Kristian Schmidt**, stated during the conference that +FIRRST is a very ambitious project and represents a new way of organizing multimodal transport.

Schmidt added that **+FIRRST successfully adopts** a European perspective and emphasized that the system rightly focuses on terminals and intermodal terminals. The Commission believes that funding for this project should come from private investors, national funds, and European Union funds.

We have attached graphic materials and the speech of Mr. Kristian Schmidt in the Opening Session.

\* ESC - European Shippers' Council <https://europeanshippers.eu/>

\* IRU - World Road Transport Organization <https://www.iru.org/>

\* UIRR - International Union of Combined Road-Rail Transport Companies <https://www.uirr.com/>

FERRMED - Infrastructure and environmental nonprofit European lobby <https://ferrmed.com/>

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