



Brussels, **XXX**
[...] (2023) **XXX** draft

COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) .../...

of **XXX**

**amending Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council
as regards the indicative maps of the trans-European transport network**

(Text with EEA relevance)

This draft has not been adopted or endorsed by the European Commission. Any views expressed are the preliminary views of the Commission services and may not in any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of the Commission.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. CONTEXT OF THE DELEGATED ACT

Annex III to Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 on Union guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network (TEN-T) and repealing Decision No 661/2010/EU (hereinafter "the Regulation") contains indicative TEN-T maps for certain neighbouring countries with which the Union has a close cooperation on transport policy.

The Regulation provides for the possibility to adopt delegated acts to adapt or include indicative maps based on high-level understandings on transport infrastructure networks between the Union and the neighbouring countries concerned (Article 49(6)).

Such high-level understandings between the Union and the Western Balkan partners were signed in May and June 2023.

The objective is to allow the Union to better target its cooperation with the Western Balkan partners.

2. CONSULTATIONS PRIOR TO THE ADOPTION OF THE ACT

The Commission has consulted experts of the competent Member State authorities on xx September 2023. The Member States unanimously supported the proposed amendments of the maps of the indicative TEN-T for the Western Balkans.

3. LEGAL ELEMENTS OF THE DELEGATED ACT

The delegated act adapts the indicative TEN-T maps of neighbouring countries in the Annex III of the Regulation, as latest amended. It follows from the revision of the TEN-T Regulation and the request of the Western Balkan partners to better align the indicative TEN-T with the development of the infrastructure in the countries.

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of **XXX**

**amending Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council
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(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on Union guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network and repealing Decision No 661/2010/EU¹, and in particular Article 49(6) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 provides for the possibility to adapt the indicative maps of the trans-European transport network (TEN-T) of specific neighbouring countries, or add new ones, based on high-level understandings on transport infrastructure networks between the Union and the neighbouring countries concerned.
- (2) High-level agreements as referred to in Article 49(6) of Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 were signed between the Union and Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia in May-July 2023. The agreements on the changes to the indicative TEN-T maps concern railway, road and inland waterways. The changes to the indicative maps should allow the Union to better target its cooperation with the Western Balkan partners.
- (3) Firstly, these changes will contribute to a better prioritisation of infrastructure projects located on the TEN-T in the Western Balkans region, notably by upgrading the railway connection between Durrës and Skopje from the comprehensive to the extended core network. Secondly, these changes will improve transport connections within the region and between the region and the EU Member States by adding rail and road connections to the TEN-T. Thirdly, the revised TEN-T includes additional nodes (airports and ports) thereby reinforcing the coherence of the TEN-T in the region.
- (4) Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 should therefore be amended accordingly,

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¹ OJ L, 20.12.2013

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 (1999) and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Annex III to Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 is amended in accordance with the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels,

*For the Commission
The President*

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