

Platform North

Cross-border cooperation to support the development of the transport system and society

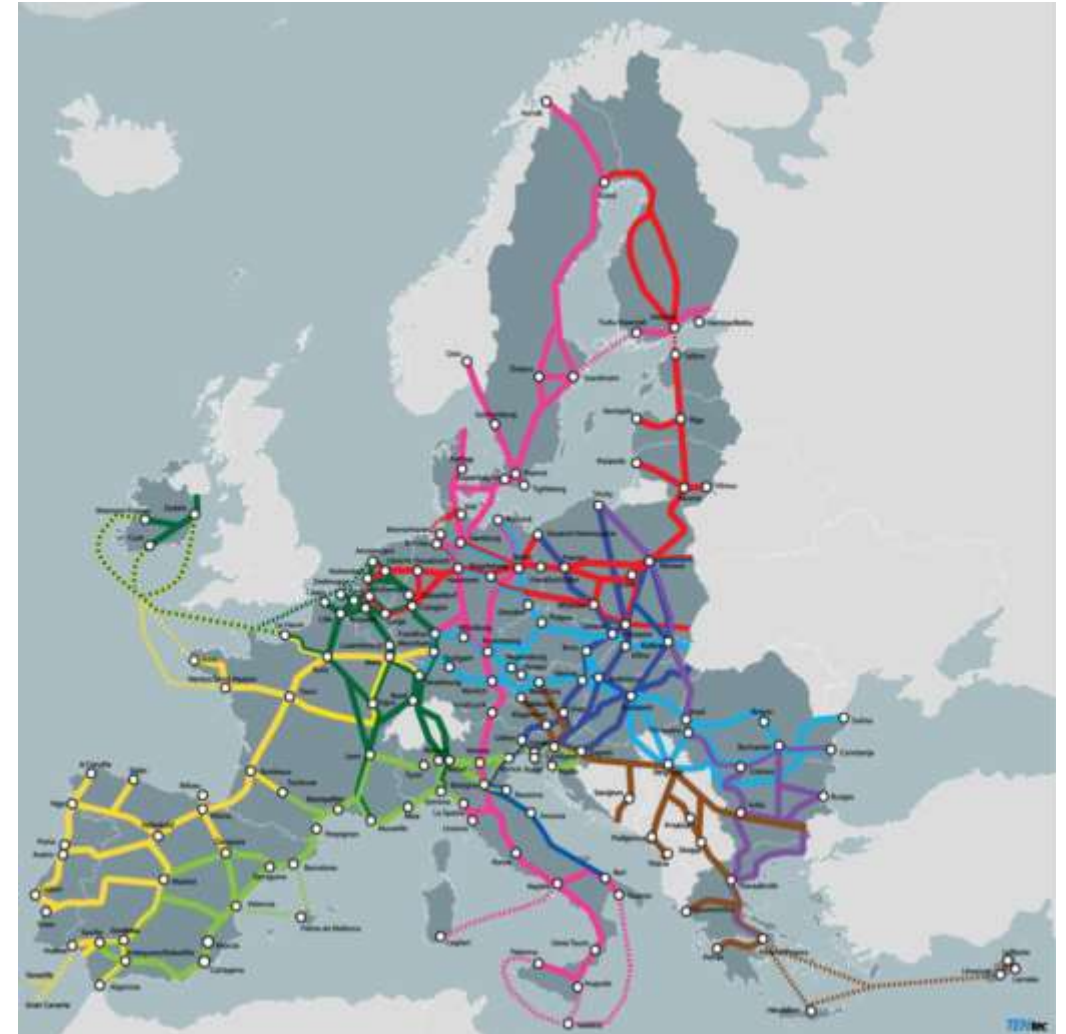


About Platform North

Why a Platform North?

- Industrial competitiveness
- Defence and preparedness needs
- Climate and emissions

Need of cross-border collaboration



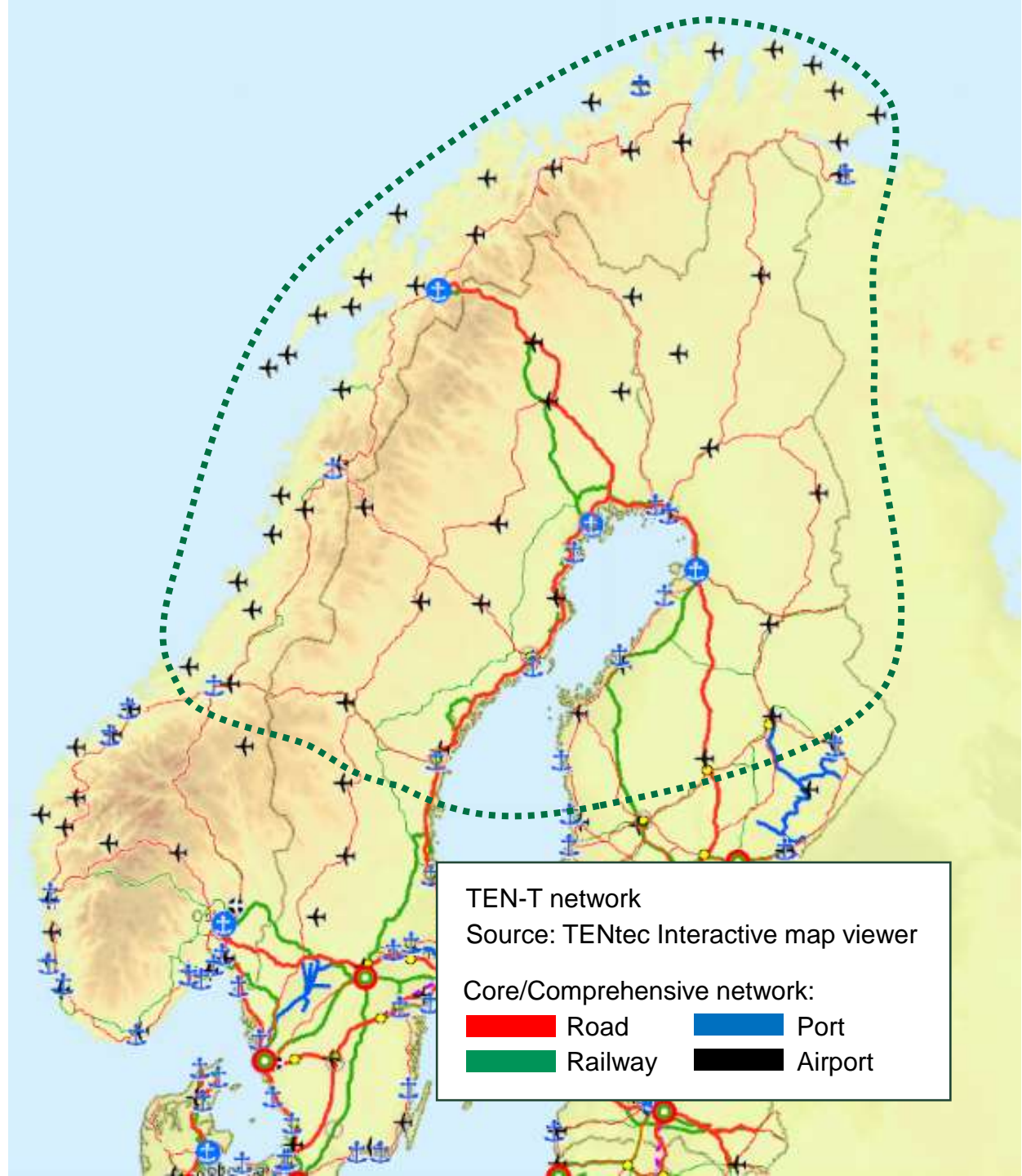
Platform **North**

Platform North

A network for stakeholders to exchange information, enhance a system perspective, coordinate and collaborate efforts for development

Wide range of stakeholders: EU (CNC, RFC), ministries, infrastructure managers, national authorities, regional authorities, ports, transport operators, companies, associations, existing collaborative initiatives, academia

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Why do we need Platform North?

We need to adapt the infrastructure to the needs, and assure a cross-border seamless access.



The ambition of Platform North is to be an umbrella cooperation for exchange of information, to enhance a system perspective, and to coordinate and collaborate efforts for development, as there are several initiatives on-going within the Northern Nordics.

Activity time line

Initial informal dialogues – Big Yes!

Infrastructure managers

Norwegian public roads administration; Norwegian railway directorate; BaneNor; Finnish transport infrastructure agency; Centre of economic development, Transport and the Environment (ELY) North Ostrobothnia/Kainuu; County council of Troms; County council of Finnmark

Business life representatives

Swedish Confederation of Transport Enterprises/EU rail freight corridor ScanMed; Chambers of commerce of Mid Sweden; Chambers of commerce of Norrbotten; Chambers of commerce of Västerbotten; Chambers of commerce of Oulu; Chambers of commerce of Ostrobothnia; Chambers of commerce of Troms; Confederation of Norwegian Enterprise; Norges lastebileierförbund; Samferdselsforum Nord

Regional public actors

Regional council of Lapland; Regional council of Ostrobothnia; Regional council of North Ostrobothnia; Regional council of Kainuu; Region Västerbotten, Region Jämtland Härjedalen, Region Västernorrland, County administrative board of Norrbotten, County administrative board of Västerbotten, County administrative board of Västernorrland, North Sweden European Office

Formalizing

The first Platform North Forum and preparation of MoU

Steering committee

- Smaller group
- Continue organising further work



Adm. coordinators

Prioritized measures

- **Financing**
(possibilities for funding and joint applications)
- **Joint transport plan**
(Plans and projects)
- **Information platform**
(cross-border view on transport system demand)

Platform North Forum

First open event,
12–13 February 2025



2024–2025

Preparation of MoU

Formalizing a joint work of driving organisations

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Current activities 2026

Prioritized measures

- Financing
- Joint transport plan/Digital map
- Information platform*

* Information will be a continuous task following the Chair

Steering Committee meetings and WS



Signing of MoU to formalize cooperation



Second Platform North Forum 17–18 March 2026



Norway new Chair* 2026/2027



Platform North Memorandum of understanding (MoU)

Intention

- The intention of this MoU is to **facilitate cooperation** in Platform North by forming a relationship between
 - national governmental authorities
 - regional governmental authorities
 - politically governed regions
 - business representative organisations

operating in Northern Norway, Northern Finland and Northern Sweden.

- Future additional driving parties may join the MoU at a later stage.



Objective

- Adaptation of the infrastructure to the needs
- Cross-border seamless access



Purpose

- Provide a forum
- Address key areas
- Development of the transport system
- Development of climate neutrality
- Common overview, understanding and information
- Support stakeholders with the conditions to plan their activities individually and collectively
- Strengthen collaboration



Forms

- Platform North is a network
- Steering Committee with 12 representatives (4/ country, different organisations, possible rotation once a year)
- The Chair is rotated yearly among countries
- Administrative Coordinators (1/country, and 1 for Chair)
- The Chair organisation is responsible for arranging the yearly Platform North Forum

- MoU evaluation after 3 years

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Who have signed the MoU so far?

- Map of organisations that have signed
- Short comments
 - Åsa Ågren Wikström, Vice Chair of the Regional Development Board, Region Västerbotten,
 - Merete Nordheim, CEO, Bodø Business Forum
 - Pekka Rajala, Director Logistics, Finnish Transport Infrastructure Agency



Driving Platform North forward together!



Coffee and Cake!