



Common Press Release of BGL, IRU, AISÖ, ANITA, FNTR, ITD, NLA and TLN

## **Brenner transit: Hearing before the European Court of Justice on 21 April 2026**

**The Alpine Transit Working Group is expecting the ECJ to withdraw the anti-transit measures and thus find a solution to the unsustainable situation on the Brenner route.**

**BGL, Frankfurt am Main, 16.04.2026:**

On 21 April 2026, the hearing in Italy's infringement proceedings against the Austrian anti-transit measures will take place before the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg. The associations of the Alpine Transit Working Group welcome the fact that this case, which is of paramount importance for the European transport industry, is finally moving forward. The Alpine Transit Working Group assumes that the ECJ will consider the anti-transit measures applied by Austria to be inadmissible. In the past, the ECJ had already ruled twice that the sectoral driving ban is incompatible with EU law.

Background: The Italian government had filed a complaint with the European Court of Justice against Austria on 30 July 2024 over the numerous anti-transit measures along the Brenner corridor. The European Commission supports the action as intervener. In case C-524/24, Austria is alleged to have infringed the fundamental principle of the free movement of goods, as measures such as the sectoral driving ban, the night driving ban, the winter driving ban and block handling are compatible with EU law.

In recent years, the associations of the Alpine Transit Working Group have repeatedly made it clear to the EU Commission and all other political parties that the situation is unacceptable for the economy, particularly the medium-sized transport industry, the truck drivers concerned, but also for residents in the Bavarian Inn Valley. No solution could be found in numerous government talks involving the neighboring countries and the EU Commission. Austria's unilateral transit restrictions on one of the main corridors of the TEN-T networks remain in place. The exchange of goods within the European Union is massively impeded.

The associations of the Alpine Transit Working Group welcome the fact that a final judgment of the ECJ is to be expected soon after the hearing. The obstacles in the Brenner transit have long been intolerable for the transport industry: "We assume that due to the clear legal situation, Austria will be condemned to withdraw the anti-transit measures. It would be an overdue signal for strengthening the single market. A functioning internal market is of vital importance for the free movement of goods and trade in the European Union, especially in times of global barriers to trade."

**Ansprechpartner:**

Bundesverband  
Güterkraftverkehr Logistik  
und Entsorgung (BGL) e.V.  
Breitenbachstraße 1  
60487 Frankfurt am Main  
TEL +49 69 2572048-70  
MAIL [torres@bgl-ev.de](mailto:torres@bgl-ev.de)  
[www.bgl-ev.de](http://www.bgl-ev.de)



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In addition to BGL, the Alpine Transit Working Group includes the road transport associations AISÖ (A), ANITA (I), FNTR (F), ITD (DK), NLA (DK, S, N), TLN (NL), and the International Road Transport Union (IRU).