

Motions

Motion number	21
Name of the person introducing the Motion to the GA	David Grosclaude
Member party	Partit Occitan
Title [of the Motion]	The EU should not finance the LGV high-speed rail lines
<p>The EFA asks that the LGV Bordeaux-Dax, Bordeaux-Toulouse, Marseille-Nice lines do not benefit from European budgets.</p> <p>For several years, successive French governments have persisted in developing a very high-speed rail network, the ecological cost of which is unbearable and the social and economic utility of which has not been proven.</p> <p>The choice of Very High Speed rail is that of a development policy that does not correspond to our vision of territorial balance.</p> <p>LGVs in France are the product of a centralised vision of development. The major argument is to bring the major cities of the hexagon closer to Paris.</p> <p>The cost of these lines is disproportionate to the expected time savings for travellers. Billions are spent for a few minutes of saved time. Thousands of hectares are destroyed.</p> <p>The improvement of the existing network and the equipment as well as the improvement of the management of the paths, are much more effective solutions and will allow the greatest number of citizens to benefit from a modern, ecological and reliable rail network.</p> <p>For a large majority of the population living in medium-sized and small towns or living in rural areas, high-speed lines do not make it possible to travel faster.</p> <p>The real effort to be made is that of the daily train: the regional trains.</p> <p>Improving traditional long-distance lines is also an economical and ecological way to improve the speed of door-to-door travel for the greatest number of people.</p> <p>For the record, the European-level financing of the LGV lines is expected to be up to 20%. Add to this that local authorities are called upon to finance these projects to a large extent, which will only make them more dependent on the centre. As for the benefit for cross-border relations and the improvement of travel within the European Union, it is almost nil.</p>	