



Fair Transport Europe: final action day (27/03/2019)

1. Fair Transport Europe campaign

Fair Transport Europe is a campaign against social dumping in the European transport sector. We are fighting for quality jobs for transport workers and a safe, reliable and affordable service for customers. European transport trade unions are standing together to demand an end to exploitation and unfair competition. We're organising across Europe to show the strength of our movement, building up to an international week of action in March 2019. With the European Elections fast approaching, we expect clear commitments from politicians that they will defend and develop quality work in the transport sector. That's Fair Transport!

2. Campaign timeline

The campaign is organised in three phases:

- The first phase, which ran from January till May 2018, was the information phase, intended to raise awareness about ETF concerns, opinions and demands towards a broad audience
- The second phase, running from May 2018 until February 2019, is the action-oriented phase geared towards national and sectional levels.
- The third phase will see the culmination of the campaign in a **final action week, from Friday 22 March to Wednesday 27 March 2019.**

3. Final action week

The European Elections (end of May 2019) are one of the main reasons why ETF must organize highly visible actions to conclude the campaign. It is of the utmost importance that we organise a major, powerful event in order to influence politicians and parties to propose policies in line with our goals and then convince people to vote for them.

In preparation of the final action week, the candidates running for a European mandate must be confronted with union demands by organizing meetings with them and union members. This will give politicians the opportunity to learn about problems and abuses in the transport sector. Meanwhile, union members will get to know the parties and candidates who will support their case in the European Parliament.

To increase the visibility of the campaign and to create the possibility for all ETF affiliates to participate, the final action week will combine two types of action:

- 1) On the final action day (27 March) European transport workers will converge on Brussels. We will hold a “classical” **mass demonstration marching through the streets of Brussels**.
- 2) Supporting actions organised by ETF affiliates in their own countries on the days leading up to 27 March. These actions will take various forms: press conferences, meetings with policymakers, demonstrations, solidarity gatherings, symbolic actions... Since many affiliates are sending delegations to the demonstration in Brussels, the supporting actions are **opportunities for unions from different countries to meet one another**. Obvious transit countries are France, Germany and Austria. One crucial event will be the action in Strasbourg (26 March), at which MEPs will be invited.

Taken together, all these actions will highlight the strength of the ETF network.

4. Organisation of the final action day

Action mood

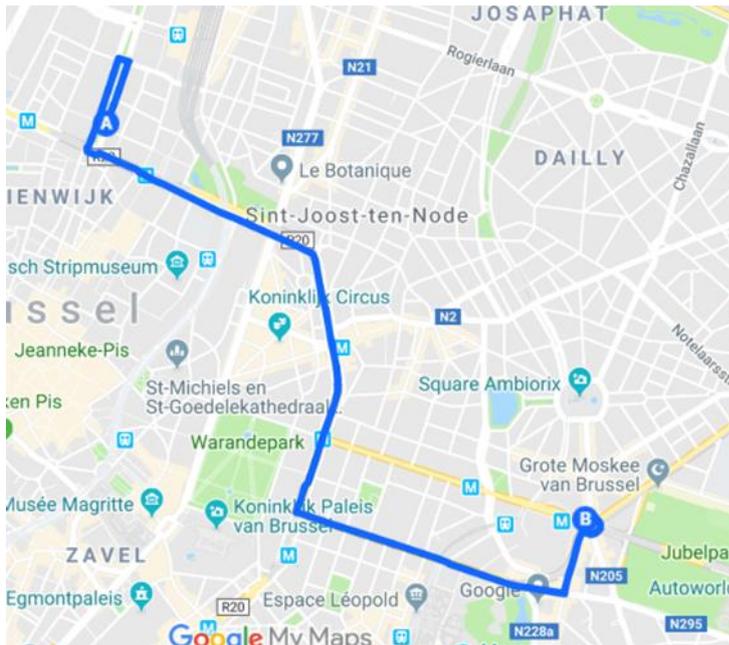
The overall mood of the final action day will be **constructive** and **festive**. Our demonstration in Brussels on 27 March should in no way be regarded as an action against Europe. **We have always engaged constructively** with the EU institutions and will continue to do so in the future, without losing our identity and principles. Of course, we are counting on national and EU policymakers to support our proposals for Fair Transport, allowing our members to make informed choices in the upcoming elections.

Since the ETF is a pan-European trade union organisation, this action is not exclusively geared towards the EU institutions. Our affiliates from outside the EU are also encouraged to organise actions and mobilise for the final action day. European transport workers are coming to Brussels to demonstrate their ability to mobilise across sectoral and national boundaries. **We should celebrate** what we have achieved with our Fair Transport campaign and rejoice in the process of renewal in which the ETF is currently engaged.

Timing and route of the demonstration

Based on the commitment of our affiliates, we are expecting a demonstration with more than 3000 participants.

We have requested and received permission to hold a demonstration along the following route:



Assembly from 12:00 in front of the ETUC building (Boulevard Roi Albert II 5)

Departure at 13:00

Down the Petite ceinture (small ring): Boulevard du Jardin Botanique going past Madou

Take the turn at Rue Joseph II

Turn again at Chaussée d'Etterbeek

Turn in at Rue Froissart

Arrival at Rond-point Robert Schuman at 15:00

Speeches and closing ceremony from 15:00 to 17:00

End of the festivities foreseen around 17:30

Materials and activities

A. Fireworks and any other disruptive items are considered contrary to the spirit of the demonstration.



B. Affiliates are expected to bring their own banners and union flags. The display of **country flags is especially** important to underline the pan-European character of the demonstration.



C. Participants are encouraged to bring along **visual signs of their identity as transport workers**: (parts of their) uniforms, working gear . . . This way, we show that workers from different transport sectors are coming together.

D. We will distribute our **Fair Transport badges** and **leaflets to passers-by** (primarily in English and French).

E. Each affiliate delegation should designate a couple of **security stewards**. These are recognisable individuals to brief people along the course of the action and to flag inappropriate behaviour.

F. The ETF Secretariat will distribute **ETF flags** and smaller **hand-held signs** containing our basic messages (about 20 versions in total)



G. The arrival site at Schuman will contain the following **accommodations and decorations**:

- Two decorated stages on trucks (one for speeches and another for entertainment)
- Music and DJ
- Gazebo tents
- Distribution of food and drinks
- Toilets

H. As soon as people arrive at Schuman, we will start our programme of **speeches, closing ceremony and celebrations**. This programme will take up 1.5 to 2 hours.

I. The cross-sectional committees (Youth, Women) will set up some photo corners (in gazebo tents). The Youth Committee will tackle the **letter box issue**. The women's committee will display a **cloth banner against violence on women** (Stronger Together campaign) on which people can make painted imprints with their hands. The point is to engage participants in worthwhile activities, so that they report about the action on social media.

J. Pending budgetary constraints, we are **exploring the possibility** to make a three-dimensional suit of our mascot (the Fair Transport “manneken” or “bonhomme”). This could make for interesting photo opportunities. We are also thinking about ordering whistles with our Fair Transport logo.

5. Promotion of the final action week

For use during the final action week, the ETF Secretariat is preparing a **briefing pack for the press** and a **toolkit for the affiliates** (with graphics templates, intros & outros to insert in videos and a PowerPoint template for events).

All materials available (including flag, rollup and poster designs) can be found in our **campaign toolkit**:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1nFxB2iRHQb_7kukTpbHoFVAAnFnM5nz8?usp=sharing

The Fair Transport campaign can be promoted through our **folded leaflet**, which is now available in English, German, French, Italian, Spanish and Russian.

To give affiliates the opportunity to further promote the final action day in Brussels, we are approaching a designer to make an attractive poster. In the meantime, affiliates are encouraged to make their own promotion posters using our generic poster template.

Pending budgetary constraints, we are also exploring the possibility to make a **promotional video for the final action week**, which should be available by the end of February.

6. Contacts

Please keep our campaigner, [Wouter Goedertier](#), updated about upcoming actions and your plans for the final action week.

For any assistance with graphics or messaging, contact our communications officer, [Bryn Watkins](#).