

ETF Executive Committee Statement on the recent fatal train accident in Calabria, Italy

1. Yet another train accident occurred on 27 November 2023 in Calabria (Italy) when a regional train collided with a truck at a level crossing with the tragic fatalities of the train conductor and the truck driver.
2. The ETF joins its Italian affiliates FILT-CGIL, FIT-CISL and Uiltrasporti in their call to suppress the level crossings, as they still are one of the main causes of train accidents. This accident unfortunately shows that safety standards of the railway infrastructure need to be greatly improved and technologies and safety protections need to be upgraded.
3. ETF affiliates are united in saying that privatization of railways and railway infrastructures is certainly not a solution to these problems, as many experiences from different European countries have demonstrated.
4. The ETF Executive Committee express our deep condolences to the families and friends of the victims and wish a speedy recovery to the injured passengers. The ETF Executive Committee also express the support of ETF affiliates to the strike called by the Italian trade unions on the 30 November to bring public attention to the fragility of the railway infrastructure system, which has once again proven inadequate to protect the safety of users and workers.