# **EuroVelo History**

Jens Erik Larsen

Foreningen Frie Fugle

& EuroVelo Council

Nantes 2. nd of June 2015



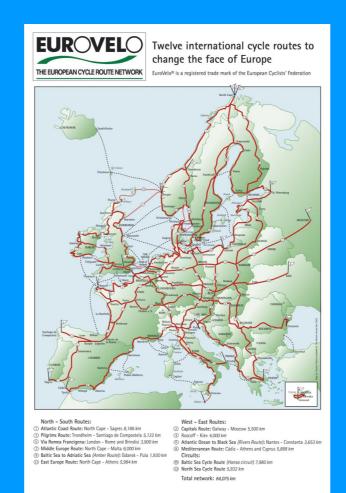


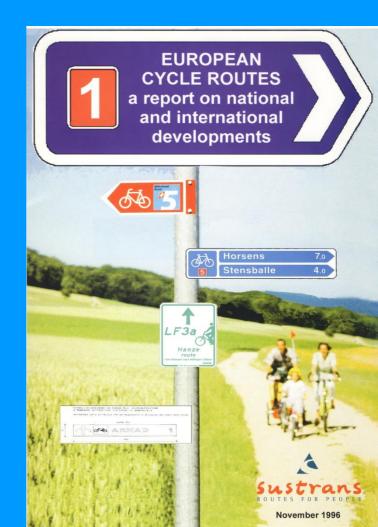
EuroVelo history started 20 years ago ...



# ...or maybe a little before....







### **CYCLING WITHOUT BORDERS**

TOWARDS A EUROPEAN NETWORK OF LONG-DISTANCE CYCLE ROUTES

INTERNATIONAL COLLOQUIUM

BRUGES, 10<sup>TH</sup> - 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY 1996

**CONGRESS REPORT** 









# **EuroVelo**

#### **EUROPEAN CYCLE ROUTE NETWORK**

The EuroVelo project is a proposal put forward by the *European Cyclists' Federation* (*ECF*) to develop a European Cycle Route Network spanning the whole continent within a time scale of some 15 years. Whilst designed for holiday cyclists from abroad, such a network would naturally also cater to local cyclists, for both utility and recreational purposes.

A working group within the ECF has produced an initial proposal comprising 12 pan—European routes. Linking all European countries, this network would be largely based on existing and planned routes at a national, regional and local level. The project involves aspects of many divergent fields: transport, tourism, recreation, environment, congestion and road safety, regional development, public health and fitness, cultural exchange.

The development of the EuroVelo network would be organised at two levels. A central network-wide bureau would produce standards, guidelines and procedures. Through its preparatory work on the project and its close connections with the field of European cycle tourism, the ECF would be a natural partner here. Each route would then be developed and maintained by its own individual management organisation,

established by the appropriate authorities and other bodies connected with that particular route.

The opening of the first route is envisaged in the Spring of 2000. Thereafter, the aim would be to open a new route each year until 2011. Routes would be opened on attainment of a "satisfactory" level but would continue to be developed to a "desired" level. A process of incremental development would thereafter ensure the continual improvement of the network.

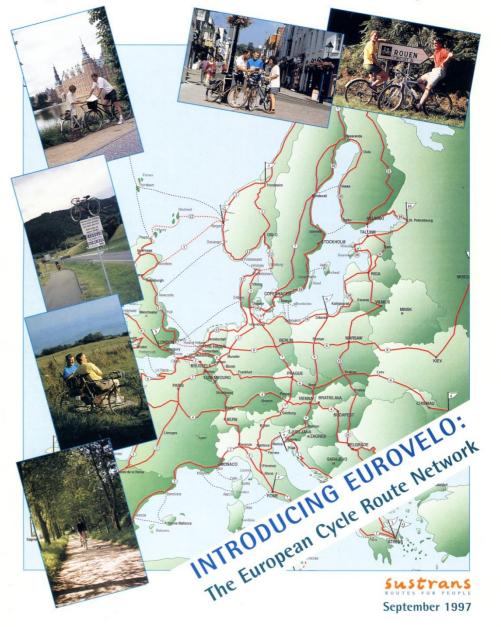
The aim of the network is to promote cycle touring and thereby cycling in general. In so doing, European tourism would be encouraged to develop along sustainable lines. A whole range of benefits would accrue from this, ranging from preservation of the environment and creation of small-scale employment opportunities to promotion of European cohesion and upholding rural settlements. There would also be a range of spin-off effects ranging from improving public health and fitness to easing traffic congestion.

National cycle networks are already in place in several European countries, notably in Denmark and the Netherlands. Some countries are in the process of completing national networks, notably the UK and Switzerland, whilst others already have extensive networks of long-distance routes, notably Germany and Austria. The EuroVelo network would be based on existing routes wherever possible and would not itself give rise to any large amount of construction work. Information and signposting at the European level would be catered for by high-level maps, brochures and guides which would lead the tourist to existing products at the national, regional or local level.

Funding is now being sought to develop a detailed activity plan for the EuroVelo project, to cover the initial three-year period 1998–2000. This plan will cover the inauguration and initial work of the 12 route management organisations and propose guidelines for their structure as well as detailing the co-ordination functions to be performed by the central bureau. The plan

# **European Cycle Routes**

a report on national and international developments





Logroño, 20, 21 y 22 de noviembre de 1997

## Congreso Europeo sobre **L'incrarios Culturales** y Rufas Temáficas

**CONFERENCIA EUROVELO** 

Logroño, November 20th, 21st and 22nd 1997

**European Congress** about Cultural Itineraries and Themafic Roufes

**EUROVELO CONFERENCE** 













Patrocinan:







Conferencia de Presentación

Objetivo: Definición y presentación del Proyecto Euro Velo: Red Europea de Grandes Rutas para Cicloturismo.

¿Qué es Euro Velo? Un proyecto impulsado por la Federación Europea de Ciclistas, con el respaldo de la Comisión Europea y organismos nacionales, destinado a desarrollar una Red Europea de Rutas Cicloturistas, Itinerarios sin tráfico motorizado, que cruzan las fronteras para acercar a los ciudadanos de la Europa del futuro. Rutas fáciles, seguras, accesibles, siquiendo los grandes itinerarios culturales. Para que todos disfrutemos de una mayor calidad de vida.

Dirigido a: Organismos, colectivos, medios de comunicación, promotores y usuarios de la U.E. y de otros países europeos.

Precio de inscripción: 15.000 Ptas. Se han solicitado a la Comisión Europea ayudas para viajes y estancias.

Traducción simultánea Español-Inglés.



#### Programa:

- ·Presentación del Proyecto EuroVelo en el Congreso Europeo de Itinerarios Culturales (20 de Noviembre).
- ·Conferencia de Presentación del Proyecto EuroVelo.
  - Criterios para selección de rutas.
  - Desarrollo de la Red, señalización, diseño, promoción...
  - Apoyo de la Comisión Europea y de organismos nacionales.
  - Financiación.
- ·Visita a la Via Verde del Cidacos.

#### Más Información:

Srtas. Ana López y Carmen Lorenzo Fundación de los Ferrocarriles Españoles c) Santa Isabel, 44. 28012 Madrid-E Tlf: 34-1-539 23 51 / 528 28 15 Fax: 34-1-528 09 86 viasverdes < fue pu 02@renfe.es>

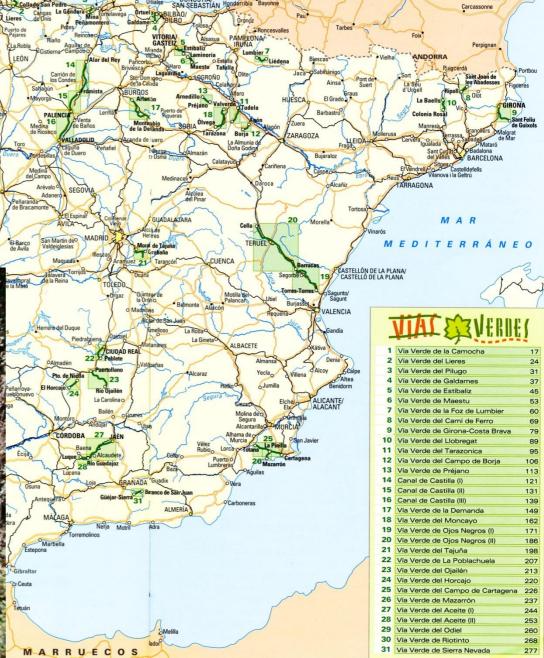






GUIDE ET PLAN DES SERVICES DE L'ITINÉRAIRE





CANTÁBRICO

### **EuroVelo Management Team**

### **European Cyclists' Federation**

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### Route co-ordinator

## De Frie Fugle

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# **EuroVelo match funders**

European Travel Commission  CYCLEUROPE AB GROUP (Bicycle Manufacturer)  Int. Gartenschau 2000, Steirmark (Tel +43 316 244 424, Fax + 6) A  Donau Touristik (Tel. +43 732 779577, Fax +43 732 779677) A  GRACQ  Region de Bruxelles-Capitale  Toerisme Vlaanderen  Velobüro Olten  Veloland Schweiz  Verkehrs-Club der Schweiz (Tel +41 31 328 82 00) CH  Croatian National Tourist Board  CRO  RDA Central Moravia (Tel + 420 68 5416618)  Czech Tourist Board  City of Copenhagen  Danish Cyclists' Federation (Tel +45 3323121)  DK  Danish Tourist Board (Fax + 45 33931416; http://www.dt.dk)  DK  De Frie Fugle	Region of la Rioja E Region of Navarra E Region of Valencia E Estonian Road Administration EE Min. of Transport and Communication FIN Province of Reggio Emilia I Province of Torino I Letzebuerger Velos-Initiativ (LVI) L Pedalnor (Tel + 47 51 66 40 60) N Rogaland County N Fietsplatform (Tel + 31 334 65 36 56) NL Dutch Tourist Board NL Cyclists Touring Club (Tel + 44 1483 417217) UK Dept. of Environment Transport & Regions UK Dover District Council
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Diputacion Foral de Bizkaia	one was a
Region of Andalucia E	Welsh Office UK

note: some of the above organisations offer information about cycling; please contact them using the telephone and fax numbers given







### Report on development June 1998



EuroVelo® aims to promote a shift to the bicycle from the private car. It is managed by the European Cyclists' Federation, Idéværkstedet De Frie Fugle (DK) and Sustrans (UK) and supported by the European Commission

# EuroVelo Style Book

# Rules for EuroVelo® reports and letters

To ensure consistency and maximise impact for materials produced by and on behalf of EuroVelo® Management Team and Working Group

**April 1998** 

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Icovelo ● Jornal EuroVelo ● Revista EuroVelo ● Newyddiadur EuroVelo ● EuroVelo Noviny ● Nuaci

IOURNAL OF THE EUROPEAN CYCLE ROUTE NETWORK • NO.1 SPRING 199

# Euro Velo gathers speed

The launch of EuroVelo in 1997 triggered a wave of research and planning activity across Europe during 1998

Havre in northern France was the site of one of the first EuroVelo construction projects in September 1998.

The project, in which an international volunteer work camp built 600m of EuroVelo Route 6 through the city, was one of a range of activities carried out by EuroVelo and its partners during 1998. These included research into the network's routes and its economic benefits, fundraising and the preparation of a detailed business plan, and the establishment of a management structure.

The route definition research was one of the most ambitious projects.

instruction has begun! Volunteers building part of the Channel to Black Sea Route





For local journeys too: family cyclists near Bridgend on the Atlantic Coast Route

Consultants from ten European countries have now surveyed nine of the proposed EuroVelo routes, providing valuable planning data. Results from the remaining surveys are expected soon.

Other research was undertaken to assess the network's economic benefits. An outline market study conducted by Staffordshire University in the UK found that EuroVelo has considerable job creation potential, particularly among SMEs in rural areas. Plans are in hand to develop a more detailed study.

Much of the preliminary research has now been completed and work to identify funding sources for the implementation phase of the project has intensified. EuroVelo has already won support from 54 funders in 23 countries. It is hoped that future fundraising activities will be helped by the new EuroVelo logo and corporate identity, which were designed during 1998.

With the EuroVelo project growing rapidly, the creation of a steering committee was an important step taken during 1998. The committee brings together influential people from many professional fields and represents a valuable resource for the project as it moves into its implementation phase.

#### **European Parliament**

EuroVelo is now under the patronage of the European Parliament.

"Bringing the people of Europe together is one of the European Union's (and in particular the European Parliament's) main objectives and aspirations. In a Europe in which frontiers are disappearing, it is important for the people of that continent to get to know one another and to experience the huge variety of landscapes, cultures and traditions which are the Union's main attraction. What better way for us to do so than the one proposed by EuroVelo: by exploring a network of cycle

I wish EuroVelo every success in what is a very interesting project."

José María Gil-Robles
President of the European Parliament

## First newsletter 1999





# Manual for the Production of the 12 Route Reports of EuroVelo

#### Background

The European Cyclists' Federation (ECF) has since 1995 been developing a project proposal for a Europe-wide network of cycle routes, now known as EuroVelo. The European Commission and other sources have agreed to fund a preparatory phase in 1998, to prepare the project to reach its first target date - the opening of the first EuroVelo Cycle Route in year 2000.

The EuroVelo proposal calls for 12 pan-European routes linking all countries of Europe, largely based on existing and planned routes at a national, regional and local level. See the enclosed EuroVelo map.

As well as holiday cyclists, such a network will also cater to local cyclists, for both utility and recreational purposes. It is designed to bring benefits in many fields, including transport, tourism, recreation, environment, congestion and road safety, regional and local development, energy, public health and fitness, and cultural exchange.

#### Purpose of route reports

- to give an overview of each of the 12 routes
  - describing their course
- listing known obstacles to their implementation
  - indicating likely timescale
- showing the scale of funding required for their completion
- outlining political and administrative framework for development of each route
- to supply the feasibility study with information about technical and organisational facts
- to enable the EuroVelo Manement Group to rank the routes in priority order and elect the first to be opened
- to enable revision of the EuroVelo sketch map
- to produce the basis material for a European cyclists' map



Route Report for route number 5
Route Romea Francigena: London – Rome



April 1999, Thomas Ledergerber, Velobuero, Solothurnerstrasse 107, CH-4600 Olten

# The North Sea Cycle Route

The longest signed cycle route 6000 km

**7 Countries** 

67 Regional partners

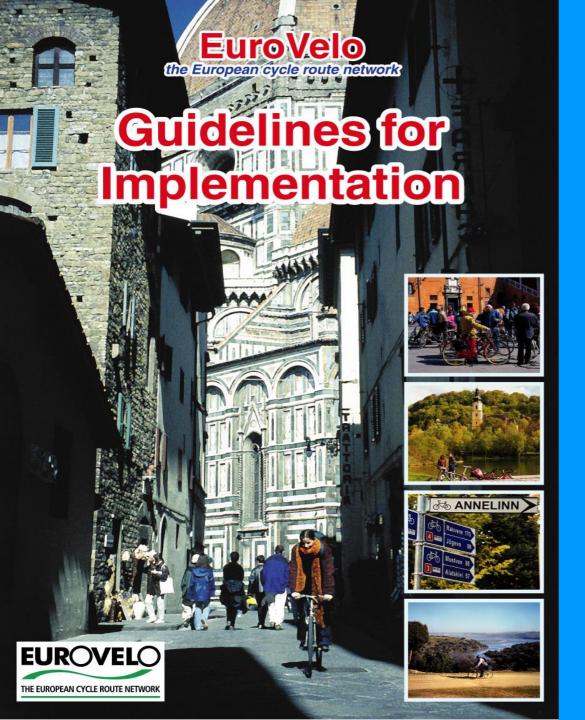
700 Municipalities

www.Northsea-cycle.com

Opened 2001









# Twelve international cycle routes to change the face of Europe

EuroVelo® is a registered trade mark of the European Cyclists' Federation



#### North - South Routes:

- ① Atlantic Coast Route: North Cape Sagres 8,186 km
- 3 Pilgrims Route: Trondheim Santiago de Compostela 5,122 km
- (5) Via Romea Francigena: London Rome and Brindisi 3,900 km
- (7) Middle Europe Route: North Cape Malta 6,000 km
- Baltic Sea to Adriatic Sea (Amber Route): Gdansk Pula 1,930 km
   East Europe Route: North Cape Athens 5,984 km

#### West - East Routes:

- ② Capitals Route: Galway Moscow 5,500 km
- 4 Roscoff Kiev 4,000 km
- Atlantic Ocean to Black Sea (Rivers Route): Nantes Constanta 3,653 km
- Mediterranean Route: Cádiz Athens and Cyprus 5,888 km
   Circuits:
- 10 Baltic Sea Cycle Route (Hansa circuit) 7,980 km
- 13 North Sea Cycle Route 5,932 km







# EuroVelo the European cycle route network



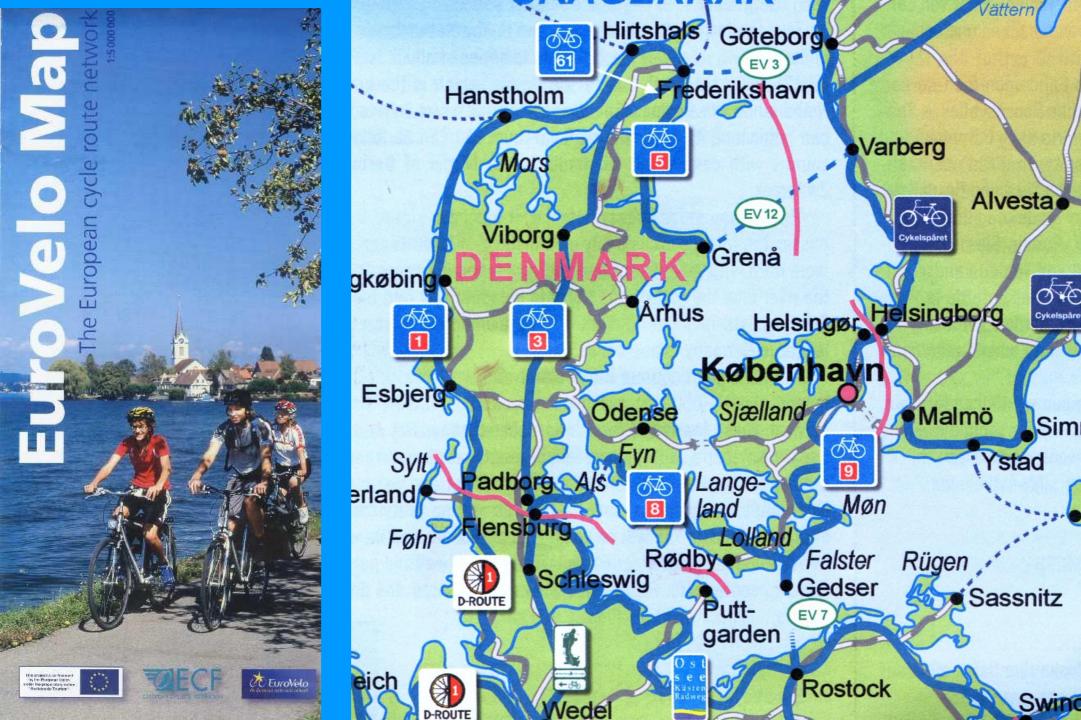
# **EuroVelo**

The European cycle route network













#### **DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR INTERNAL POLICIES**

# POLICY DEPARTMENT STRUCTURAL AND COHESION POLICIES



**Culture and Education** 

**Fisheries** 

**Regional Development** 

**Transport and Tourism** 

THE EUROPEAN CYCLE **ROUTE NETWORK EUROVELO** (Provisional version)

**STUDY** 



# **EuroVelo**

Signing of EuroVelo cycle routes













Kirn 15 Monzingen 3,0

Germany

Switzerland

Examples:

France



Hungary



Serbia

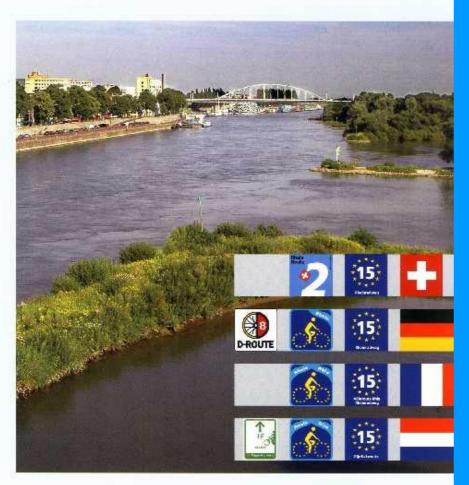




# **Rhine Cycle Route**

### Market Analysis

Short Version









# **EuroVelo**

National Coordination Centres

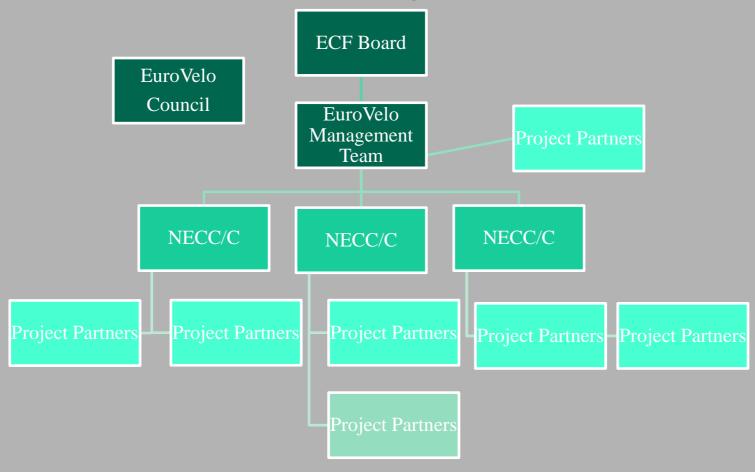
Guidance on application process







# Euro Velo organisation



# Euro Velo tools - web

Up-to-date and easily accessible information

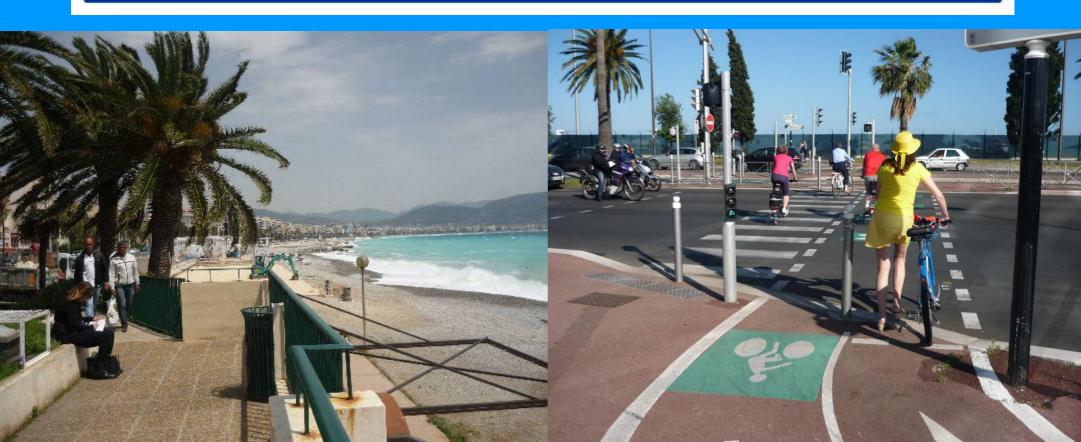
- •www.eurovelo.com
- Euro Velo facebook



Lucas business



This package connects to EuroVelo 8 – Mediterranean Route, a long distance cycle route that passes through eleven European countries from Spain to Cyprus. The route forms part of EuroVelo, the European cycle route network. EuroVelo 8 is expected to be realised in 2020 by which time it will total 6,000 km. Hundreds of kilometres are already in place waiting to be explored. More information is available from EuroVelo.com.













# EuroVelo – lobby goals

Complete EuroVelo by 2020!

Inclusion / reference on EuroVelo in TEN-T





For further information about EuroVelo and the 14 routes please contact:

The EuroVelo website:

http://www.eurovelo.org/

The European Cyclists' Federation:

http://www.ecf.com/

The 21 National EuroVelo Coordination Centres and Coordinators:

http://www.eurovelo.org/ euroveloorganisation/ coordination-centres/centres/

For more details please refer to the European Parliament's study 'The European Cycle Route Network EuroVelo - Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Tourism' (September 2012):

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/studiesdownload.html?languageDocument=EN&file=75871

This project is co-financed by the European Union under the preparatory action "Sustainable Tourism".







Thanks to all who works with EuroVelo and Good luck in future

