



Media relations
P.O. Box, 9023 St. Gallen

St. Gallen, 2 April 2026

Media Release

regarding judgment of 27 March 2026 in the proceedings A-1864/2023, A-2214/2023, A-2219/2023, A-2250/2023 and A-2285/2023

Lugano Tram-Train Network: Court upholds plan approval

The Federal Administrative Court dismisses the appeals filed against the decision of the Federal Office of Transport approving the plans for the “Lugano Tram-Train Network – Priority Phase” project.

The project provides for a new 12.2 km tram-train link between the Valle del Vedeggio and Lugano city centre, including a 2.2 km tunnel, new stops, track doubling and related infrastructure. Several complaints were filed with the Federal Administrative Court (FAC) concerning the project approved by the Federal Office of Transport (FOT). The complaints cited noise impacts, vibrations, expropriations and alleged deficiencies in the project documentation. At the time the appeals were lodged, the estimated cost of the project was around CHF 514 million.

Emphasising the significant public interest of the project, the FAC confirms that it complies with federal environmental and property protection legislation, dismissing the appeals to the extent they were admissible. The FAC partially upholds the appeal of one landowner whose property is not affected by the construction works, annulling the exemption from vibration limit values granted by the FOT; that exemption was premature in the absence of any concrete construction works in the area. The aforementioned partial admission has no influence on the project. The appeals of two further appellants are declared entirely inadmissible for lack of standing.

This judgment may be appealed to the Federal Supreme Court.

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About the Federal Administrative Court

Located in St. Gallen, the Federal Administrative Court (FAC) was established in 2007. With its staff of 395 employees (334 FTE) and its 79 judges (70 FTE) it is the largest federal court in Switzerland. The Federal Administrative Court has jurisdiction to hear appeals against decisions rendered by Swiss federal administrative authorities. In specific matters, the FAC may grant review on decisions rendered by cantonal authorities. Recourse actions are also reviewed by the Court. The FAC is composed of six divisions. It renders an average of 7,000 judgments every year.