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## STOP THE MILITARIZATION OF SUSA VALLEY!

from the No TAV Valleys, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011

subject: New Lyon-Turin railway (TEN-T Priority Project no. 6)

Dear Member of European Parliament,

For 22 years, on the border between Italy and France, citizens have been opposing the realization of a new, unnecessary and devastating railway line: the Lyon – Turin (TEN-T Priority Project no. 6).

We are writing you to draw your attention to the events which have taken place between June and August 2011 at La Maddalena in Chiomonte, Italy.

A brief video-letter is available at this web address:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RZI5Vo7saRQ.

It contains images that haven't been distributed by the mainstream media.

In this area – notwithstanding the false information reported by the media – there has been no work site set up for the construction of a geognostic preparatory base tunnel for TEN-T Priority Project no. 6 Lyon – Turin.

This fact was confirmed by European Parliamentary Members Gianni Vattimo and Paul Murphy who visited the La Maddalena site in July and August 2011.

Instead, a military site has been set up at this location presided by *Carabinieri* (military police), state police, finance police, forest rangers and, recently, troops from the *Corpo degli Alpini* just returned from Afghanistan, all of whom, with the objective of defending their base, commit verbal abuse on a daily basis, set off tear gas, intimidate citizens (photographing anyone who comes near) and prevent normal agricultural activities from being carried out in the area.

The "preventative" militarization of a territory in the European Union is an extraordinary fact and of a gravity that goes beyond anything imaginable.

This decision taken by the Italian Government throttles the lives of citizens in their own country and renders it a Police State that abolishes the constitutional rights of freedom of expression and of thought, and the freedom of movement of people in non-military areas.

We call for the attention of the European Parliament and request your definitive intervention condemning the Italian Government.

Thanking you for your kind attention, do not hesitate to contact us for additional information.

Sincerely,

The NO TAV Movement