

A SMARTER VISION OF THE BASQUE AIRPORT SYSTEM

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With the role of the Foronda Airport in Gasteiz revolving around, these days the news appears in the local press that the [unused Vitoria airport terminal will open during the daytime](#) to meet the needs of the flying club and private aviation (until now the airport is only used at night as freight loading and unloading terminal). Taking advantage of this positive circumstance, we encourage once again to think more intelligently and to articulate the Bilbao-Basque Country international airport around the Foronda and Loiu terminals. The opportunity to interconnect them by taking advantage of the high-speed train has been lost, but the sooner someone starts talking about cooperating instead of competing or collaborating instead of rivaling, the many possibilities that an infrastructure like Foronda has and that the driving capacity that the Bilbao-Vitoria conurbation of 1.5 million inhabitants treasures. It will especially be beneficial for travelers from the city of Vitoria who, because they do not have a connection system with the Loiu terminal by public transport.

On the other side of the country (although only 100km away) they seem to be a bit more practical and have already renamed the other major Basque airport Biarritz-Pays Basque. Neither the Basque government nor the Gipuzkoan authorities seem to have yet sensed the strategic importance of having this other large airport at the service of Basque citizens and companies. If the license is allowed, they keep looking at the *Play-Mobil* terminal in Hondarribia, hoping that some kind of natural cataclysm will finally allow its expansion instead of naturally converging with the airport from La Labor and combining capacities.

We encourage those responsible for politics to raise their eyes above the Guggenheim, the *medieval almond tree* or the island of Santa Clara and make a move to rationalize and strengthen the Basque airport system, which still has so much potential. Just having an integrating and collaborative discourse would be a real breakthrough.

There are no comments yet.