Comunicado de imprensa

Lisboa, 2 de março de 2020.

Commission’s response team to coordinate work on halting COVID-19 outbreak

The European Commission continues working on its response to COVID-19. To coordinate this work, the Commission has set up a corona response team, a team of five Commissioners who will coordinate work on halting COVID-19 outbreak: Janez Lenarčič, in charge of crisis management, Stella Kyriakides, in charge of health issues, Ylva Johansson, for border-related issues, Adina Vălean, in charge of mobility and Paolo Gentiloni, for macroeconomic aspects. The response team will be working on three main pillars: first, the medical field; mobility, from transport to travel advice and Schengen-related questions; and economy.

Today, the Commission is also launching a dedicated webpage on COVID-19. The Commission has launched an accelerated joint procurement procedure for personal protective equipment with 20 Member States, with invitations to tender sent to a number of companies that will be included in the call. The aim is to ensure that Member States have access to personal protective equipment for Member States to minimise potential shortages. Tomorrow, Vice-President Jourová is going to meet with representatives of online platforms to discuss the issue of disinformation in the context of COVID-19 outbreak. A press conference with President von der Leyen and Commissioners Lenarčič, Kyriakides, Johansson, Vălean and Gentiloni took place this morning at the Emergency Response Coordination Centre. The President's remarks will be available here. You can watch the press conference again on EbS and download pictures here. More information on the EU's response to the COVID-19 outbreak is available in this Q&A.

Commission reports on progress made by Albania and North Macedonia

Today, the Commission presented updates on the progress made by Albania and North Macedonia in further addressing rule of law related reforms, in particular in the areas set by the Council in June 2018. Both countries have delivered further tangible and sustainable results and therefore the Commission’s recommendation to Albania and North Macedonia remains valid. The full press release is available online together with the updates on Albania and North Macedonia. The factographs Albania on its European path and North Macedonia on its European path are also available online.
EU4FairWork: Commission launches campaign to tackle undeclared work

Today, the Commission is launching the first European campaign to address undeclared work. The initiative aims to raise awareness on the issue and promote a culture of respect for social protection rules across the EU. This campaign is part of the EU’s efforts to combat undeclared work, which deprives workers of social protection, distorts competition between businesses, and leads to huge gaps in public finances. A new Special Eurobarometer illustrates the scale of the problem: 1 in 10 Europeans report they have purchased goods or services in the past year that might have derived from undeclared work. The press release is available here.

L’UE finance des projets d’une valeur de 5,1 millions d’euros pour soutenir la liberté et le pluralisme des médias


RegioStars Awards 2020: applications now open to reward the best EU Cohesion Policy projects

Today, the European Commission kicks off the 13th edition of the RegioStars competition. From 2 March to 9 May 2020, projects will be invited to compete in three categories: smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, urban development and the 2020 special “topic of the year” on the 30 years of Interreg, the EU’s emblematic scheme for cooperation across borders. The online application platform is accessible here. The guide for applicants is published here. The overview of last year’s RegioStars winners is available here.