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 all fronts to support Member States in preparedness, halt the spread of COVID-19 and ensure a robust economic recovery. It also implements various measures to address the current crisis.

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 suppliers. This will ensure that health authorities and health operators have access to personal protective equipment for Member States to minimise potential shortages.

The Commission has decided to launch a dedicated webpage on COVID-19. The webpage will provide up-to-date information and guidance for all Member States and citizens. It includes useful links to the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), the World Health Organization (WHO), relevant EU bodies and national authorities.

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Tomorrow, Vice-President Věra 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 Ursula von der Leyen and Commissioners Janez Lenarčič, Stella Kyriakides, Ylva Johansson, Adina Vălean and Paolo Gentiloni took place today at the Emergency Response Coordination Centre. The President's remarks will be available here. You can watch the press conference again on EbS 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 provide the two candidate countries with clear and constructive feedback 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 tackle undeclared work. The initiative is backed by the European Parliament. The campaign is designed to raise public awareness of the problem and to encourage businesses to adopt more responsible practices. It is part of a broader strategy to improve working conditions across the EU.

The campaign will be supported by a range of activities, including public awareness campaigns, social media initiatives, and stakeholder engagement. It is hoped that these efforts will encourage businesses to adopt more responsible practices and to take an active role in tackling undeclared work.

The campaign is supported by a range of stakeholders, including businesses, trade unions, and civil society organisations. The Commission is committed to working with these partners to ensure that the campaign is effective and that it has a lasting impact.

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


De plus amples informations sur les projets sont disponibles ici.

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

Today, the European Commission launches the 13th edition of the RegioStars competition. From 2 March to 9 May 2020, applications will be accepted under four 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.