

COVID-19

**Publications
on Coronavirus
by the European
Parliamentary
Research Service
(EPRS)**

#EuropeansAgainstCovid19



10 things the EU is doing to fight the coronavirus

1. Slowing the spread of the virus

To help limit the transmission of the virus in Europe and beyond, the EU has closed its external borders to non-essential travel, while ensuring essential goods keep moving across the EU through the introduction of green lanes. Additional resources are foreseen for the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, which provides rapid risk assessments and epidemiological updates on the outbreak.

EPRS published products

[The impact of coronavirus on Schengen borders \(Briefing\)](#)

[Temporary border controls in the Schengen area \(At a Glance\)](#)

EPRS ongoing publications

[Lessons learnt: Geopolitical consequences of the corona virus crisis \(Briefing\)](#)

[Coronavirus and the tourism sector \(At a Glance\)](#)

2. Providing medical equipment

EU-countries have speedy access to the first ever [RescEU stockpile of medical equipment](#), such as ventilators and protective masks, under the Civil Protection Mechanism. In addition, the EU has set up a huge international tender allowing member states to make joint purchases of equipment and drugs.

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[Medicines shortages \(Briefing\)](#)

[Mapping industrial production of medical devices \(Briefing\)](#)

3. Promoting research

The EU's Horizon 2020 research programme is [funding 18 research projects](#) and 140 teams across Europe to help find a vaccine quickly against Covid-19. The aim is to improve diagnostics, preparedness, clinical management and treatment.

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4. Assuring the EU's recovery

To help the EU recover from the economic and social impact of the pandemic, the European Commission will come up with a fresh proposal for the EU's long-term budget for 2021-2027, which will include a stimulus package. The European Parliament has the final word on the proposal.

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The Coronavirus outbreak and how the EU budget helps protect public health (Briefing)

Amendment of the 2014-2020 MFF regulation to allow global margin for commitments to be used for emergency support (At a Glance)

5. Repatriating EU citizens

More than 10 000 Europeans stranded around the world by the outbreak have been returned home thanks to the [EU Civil Protection mechanism](#).

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[Repatriation of EU citizens during the COVID-19 crisis: The role of the EU Civil Protection Mechanism](#) (Briefing)

EPRS ongoing publications

Status of emergency in several Member States (Briefing)

6. Boosting European solidarity

The European Parliament has backed new rules allowing member states to request financial assistance from the EU Solidarity Fund to cover health emergencies. With the [newly broadened scope of the fund](#), up to €800 million will be made available for member states this year to fight the coronavirus pandemic.

EPRS published products

[Joint debt instruments: A recurrent proposal to strengthen economic and monetary union](#) (Briefing)

[Financial assistance for countries seriously affected by a major public health emergency](#) (At a Glance)

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7. Supporting the economy

The European Central Bank is providing €750 billion to relieve government debt during the crisis, as well as €120 billion in quantitative easing and €20 billion in debt purchases. In addition, MEPs voted to make [€37 billion from existing EU structural funds available](#) to EU countries to tackle the coronavirus crisis and support healthcare, businesses and workers.

EPRS published products

[COVID-19 and the tourism sector \(At a Glance\)](#)

[Protecting the EU agri-food supply chain in the face of COVID-19 \(Briefing\)](#)

[The 'general escape clause' within the Stability and Growth Pact: Fiscal flexibility for severe economic shocks \(Briefing\)](#)

[Coronavirus Response Investment Initiative \(At a Glance\)](#)

[What can the EU do to alleviate the impact of the coronavirus crisis? \(Briefing\)](#)

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The European central bank's pandemic emergency purchase programme (Briefing)

8. Protecting jobs

To ensure employees can keep their job when companies run out of work due to the coronavirus crisis, the Commission has proposed the concept of state-supported short time work (SURE).

EPRS published products

[EU 27 support for national short-time work schemes \(At a Glance\)](#)

EPRS ongoing publications

The situation of artists and cultural and creative sector in times of Covid-19 pandemic (Briefing)

The European film industry caught in the turmoil of COVID-19 (Briefing)

Implications of the COVID19 on the World of Work (At a Glance)

Support for fishermen and aquaculture farmers impacted by the COVID-19 crisis (At a Glance)

9. Safeguarding the internet

With millions of people forced to stay at home, the EU has asked Netflix, Facebook and YouTube to reduce streaming quality to avoid overloading the web. This allows everyone to use the internet, be it for work or for leisure.

EPRS published products

[COVID-19 foreign influence campaigns: Europe and the global battle of narratives \(Briefing\)](#)

EPRS ongoing publications

Disinfo on COVID-19 and other health issues (At a Glance)

10. Protecting the environment and airlines

Parliament has supported the Commission's proposal to temporarily stop empty "ghost flights". By waiving the rule that obliges airlines to operate their planned take-off and landing slots to keep them the following season, the EU is ending unnecessary emissions and helping airlines adjust to lower demand.

EPRS published products

[Suspension of EU rules on airport slot allocation \(At a Glance\)](#)

EPRS ongoing publications

Outside the decalogue

EPRS published products

[COVID-19's impact on human rights outside the EU \(At a Glance\)](#)

[Global and regional governance: Initial response to the COVID-19 pandemic \(At a Glance\)](#)

[European Union response to coronavirus threat \(At a Glance\)](#)

[What can the EU do to alleviate the impact of the coronavirus crisis? \(Briefing\)](#)

[Addressing health inequalities in the European Union: Concepts, action, state of play \(In Depth Analysis\)](#)

EPRS ongoing publications

[Asylum-seekers and covid19 \(working title\) \(Briefing\)](#)

[EU support to its neighbours in the context of the COVID crisis \(Briefing\)](#)

[The impact of Coronavirus on energy markets in the EU \(At a Glance\)](#)

[The impact of COVID in Africa \(Briefing\)](#)

[Trafficking of protect animal species and Covid-19 \(Briefing\)](#)

[Media freedom amid covid19 crisis \(At a Glance\)](#)