





# **European State Aid for Covid-19**

This document lists support from the EU and European governments to businesses in general, and the exhibition industry in particular.

Latest updates are highlighted in grey. Specific measures related to our industry are highlighted in yellow, links to sources and more information are underlined in yellow.

We hope that by gathering together examples of financial and other support for the exhibition industry planned or already implemented, it will en8courage other governments and policymakers to do the same in their respective countries.

Exhibitions and trade shows are the fastest of fast-tracks to economic recovery once the coronavirus crisis has passed and will deliver the best return on investment now.

The information contained in this document is subject to change. Last updated: 31 March 2022. If you have any updated information for your country or market, please email us and let us know.

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#### Austria:

#### 1. Emergency help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 9 April, under the Temporary Framework, an Austrian liquidity scheme to support the economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme is Austria-wide, targeted at all companies, and allows for the provision of aid in the form of: (i) Direct grants, repayable advances and guarantees with a maximum of €800 000; (ii) State guarantees for loans subject to safeguards for banks to channel State aid to the real economy; (iii) Subsidised public loans to companies, with favourable interest rates. The measure allows aid by COFAG (COVID-19 be granted Finanzierungsagentur des Bundes GmbH), which is a special purpose vehicle to grant liquidity assistance measures. Aid is granted under the measure either directly or, if it concerns guarantees on loans or subsidised public loans, through credit institutions and other financial institutions as financial intermediaries.

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 17 April Austrian guarantee schemes to support Austrian small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The schemes will provide guarantees on working capital loans that will enable those SMEs to cover their short-term liabilities, despite the current loss of revenues caused by the pandemic. The schemes complement the €15 billion Austrian

#### 2. Restart help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 6 July 2020, an €8 billion Austrian scheme to compensate companies for damages related to the coronavirus outbreak to be in line with EU State aid rules. Under the scheme, undertakings will be entitled to compensation for certain damages suffered as a result of the coronavirus outbreak. The compensation, in the form of direct grants, can cover a maximum of 75% of fixed costs incurred during a limited period of three months, with a maximum amount of €90 million per group.

On 18 September 2020, certain amendments to a previously approved Austrian liquidity assistance scheme to support Austrian enterprises affected by the coronavirus outbreak to be in line with the State aid Temporary Framework. The original scheme was approved on 8 April 2020 under case number SA.56840, and provides for temporary limited amounts of aid in the form of (i) direct grants. (ii) guarantees on loans and repayable advances, and (iii) guarantees on loans and subsidised interest rates on loans. The aim of the original scheme was to enable enterprises affected by the coronavirus outbreak to cover their short-term liabilities, despite the current loss of revenues caused by the pandemic. Austria notified certain modifications to the original scheme, in particular: (i)micro or small enterprises can now benefit from the measure even if they were considered in difficulty on 31 December 2019, under certain conditions; and

#### 3. Recovery help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 23 November, the second phase of an Austrian scheme to support the uncovered fixed costs of companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the aid, in the form of direct grants, aims to provide economic assistance to all businesses, self-employed individuals, associations and institutions, to keep them solvent and bridge liquidity shortages related to the coronavirus outbreak. The measure is a country-wide scheme and, together with the first phase of the scheme already approved by the Commission in May 2020 (SA.57291), has a total estimated budget of around €12 billion.

On 19 January 2021, under EU state aid rules, a €300 million Austrian scheme to support event organisers affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the scheme aims to provide economic assistance to all undertakings (including the self-employed, associations and institutions) whose activities will be cancelled or restricted until December 2022 due to the coronavirus outbreak. The measure aims to encourage operators to restart their planning and organising activities.

On 5 July 2021, the Commission approved a scheme to compensate event organisers that had to cancel or restrict events scheduled to take place between 1 July 2021 and 31 December 2022 due to the measures implemented to limit the spread of

liquidity scheme that the Commission approved on 8 April 2020. The schemes will provide 100% guarantees for underlying loans up to an amount of €500,000 (except for the agricultural and the fisheries and aquaculture sectors, where the 100% guarantees are limited to underlying loans up to an amount of €100,000 and €120,000, respectively). For loans above those thresholds, the schemes will provide 90% guarantees for underlying loans up of €25 million. The schemes were approved under the State aid Temporary Framework adopted by the Commission on 19 March 2020, as amended on 3 April 2020.

(ii)an increase of €4 billion in the total budget of the the virus. The support is open to businesses of all scheme, from €15 billion to €19 billion.

Measures related to public quarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

sizes active in Austria.

On 3 September 2021, the Commission approved a €1.6 million scheme to support publicly owned micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises in the Salzburg region active in the pool and wellness sectors affected by the restrictive measures implemented to limit the spread of the coronavirus. Under the scheme, the aid, in the form of direct grants, aims to mitigate the sudden liquidity shortages the companies are facing due to the coronavirus outbreak.

Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 3 June 2021, the Commission approved a €95 million wage subsidy scheme to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the public support, in the form of a bonus, is open to companies in sectors particularly affected by the restrictive measures imposed by the government to limit the spread of the virus, such as hospitality. The aim of the scheme is to support employees and help preserve jobs.

https://investinaustria.at/en/downloads/covid-19.php https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/austria en

#### Belgium:

#### 1. Emergency help:

- Expenditure measures (direct grants):
- Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 11 April, Belgian loan guarantee scheme to support the Belgian economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The Belgian support measure, in the form of State guarantees on new short-term loans, will be accessible to all companies, including small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and self-employed traders. The aim of the scheme is to help businesses affected by the economic impact of the current crisis cover their liquidity needs, thus ensuring the continuation of their activities.

On 14 May, a Belgian guarantee measure related to public guarantees: a Belgian guarantee measure, with an indicative budget of €500 million, for companies with export activities affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The support, in the form of State guarantees on loans, will be accessible to companies whose exports represent at least 30% of their annual turnover and will be implemented by the Credit-Export Agency "Credendo", acting on behalf of the State. The measure will be open to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and large companies that face economic difficulties and liquidity shortages due to the coronavirus outbreak.

#### 2. Restart help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 10 July 2020, a €6.35 million Belgian scheme to support up to 95 organisations, active in the social tourism sector in Flanders, which have suffered from a severe revenue reduction due to the coronavirus outbreak. The public support, which will take the form of direct grants, is intended to mitigate the severe liquidity shortage that the Flemish tourism organisations are facing, and prevent their bankruptcy.

On 9 October, was approved a €15.8 million Belgian scheme to support hotels and aparthotels in the Brussels-Capital Region in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The measure allocates direct grants of minimum €20,000 and maximum €200 per hotel or aparthotel. These grants aim to provide support to affected establishments for lost income and ongoing operating costs for insurance, maintenance and security. The purpose of the measure is to mitigate the liquidity shortages that the hospitality operators are facing due to the restrictive measures imposed by the government to limit the spread of the virus, and to ensure continuity of their economic activity.

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 6 August, A €50 million scheme to support companies active in the Flemish events sector that have been affected by the coronavirus outbreak.

#### 3. Recovery help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 20 November, was approved a €434 million Belgian wage subsidy scheme to support companies whose activities were suspended due to new emergency measures put in place by the Government to limit the spread of the coronavirus. The scheme is open to companies in the hospitality, culture, recreation and events, sports, holiday parks and campsites sectors, as well as travel agencies, tour operators and touristic information services. The public support, in the form of direct grants, was earmarked to assist employers pay the social security contributions for the July - September 2020 period. The scheme aims to avoid lay-offs and help beneficiaries resume their business activities after the compulsory shutdown period.

On 1 February 2021, a €200 million Belgian scheme to support companies active in the Flemish Region affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support, in the form of direct grants, is open to companies active in all sectors. The scheme was subsequently amended on 25 March 2021, the modifications allowing for additional aid options for beneficiaries and supplementary budgetary allocations.

On 22 February 2021, a €34 million Belgian scheme to support tourism companies in the Flemish Region, in the context of the coronavirus

The objective of the scheme is to provide the necessary financing and insurance to companies active in the Flemish events sector in order to fund the restart of their activities, thereby enabling them to organize an event, to make investments, and to place orders. The support will take the form of repayable advances of a minimum amount of €25.000 and a maximum amount of €800.000. calculated as a maximum of 60% of the total costs of the event, as budgeted in the company's business plan. The repayable advance will have to be reimbursed if the event actually takes place. Conversely, the repayable advance will not have to be reimbursed if the event is cancelled because of the coronavirus outbreak or of related measures adopted by the competent authorities.

On 6 August a Belgian support scheme for enterprises in the HORECA sector (hotels, restaurants, catering) and the mobile retail food sector, which have been severely affected by the coronavirus crisis. The support takes the form of an exemption from the annual contribution due by enterprises from these sectors to the Federal Agency for the security of the food chain (AFSCA) for 2020, which will apply to the entire Belgian territory. The aim of this scheme is to reduce the costs of the beneficiaries who are facing a serious lack of liquidity as a result of the coronavirus crisis.

outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the scheme aims to support investments in health measures, ecologic sustainability, digitalisation and professional training, to help the recovery of the tourism sector on the background of the pandemic.

On 22 February 2021, a €149 million Belgian scheme to support the uncovered fixed costs of companies in the Flemish Region affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the scheme is open to companies active in all sectors except the financial one. The public support, in the form of direct grants, aims to mitigate the economic difficulties and the sudden liquidity shortages the beneficiaries are facing due to the restrictive measures imposed by the Belgian authorities to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

On 12 March 2021, a €10 million Belgian scheme to support organisers of festivals planned to take place in the Flemish and Brussels Regions in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support, in the form of direct grants, aims to mitigate the liquidity shortages faced by the beneficiaries due to the coronavirus outbreak.

On 8 April 2021, the Commission approved a scheme worth €14.6 million to support hotels and similar accommodation establishments in Wallonia that were affected by the coronavirus crisis. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support, in the form of direct grants, aims to alleviate the liquidity shortages faced by the beneficiaries, thus mitigate the impact of the restrictive measures

imposed by the Belgian authorities to limit the spread of the virus.

On 12 April 2021, the Commission approved an aid scheme amounting to €1.3 million aimed at supporting operators of tourist attractions in Wallonia affected by the coronavirus crisis. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support, in the form of direct grants, aims to alleviate the sudden liquidity shortages faced by beneficiaries following the restrictive measures imposed by the Belgian authorities to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

On 17 May 2021, the Commission approved, under EU state aid rules, a €255 million scheme aimed at supporting businesses and self-employed persons in Wallonia affected by closure decisions due to the coronavirus pandemic. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support, in the form of direct subsidies, aims to mitigate the consequences of the restrictive measures imposed by the authorities to limit the spread of the virus for business-to-business trade in Wallonia. The aim of the scheme is to alleviate the sudden cash shortage the beneficiaries are facing due to the coronavirus crisis.

On 7 June 2021, the Commission approved three wage subsidy schemes to support employers in sectors particularly affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The first scheme, worth €28.5 million, targets the travel sector, while the second and third ones, of €7.7 million and €22.6 million respectively, aim to support the hotel and events sectors. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support, in the form of wage subsidies, was earmarked to help employers cover the social security

contributions, allowing them to resume their activities and preserve jobs.

On 21 June 2021, the Commission approved a €8.6 million scheme to support operators in the tourist accommodation sector in the Brussels-Capital region affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the public support, in the form of direct grants, aims to mitigate the liquidity shortages faced by the beneficiaries due to the coronavirus outbreak and the restrictive measures implemented to limit the spread of the virus.

On 19 July 2021, the Commission approved a €10 million scheme to support event-organizing companies in the Flemish Region affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support, in the form of direct grants, aims to compensate event-organizing companies for costs incurred in relation to the rebooking of cancelled events. The beneficiaries are companies active in certain sectors (mainly arts, entertainment and recreation).

On 2 August 2021, the Commission approved a €80 million scheme to support Wallonian micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including self-employed workers in the restaurant and cafe sectors affected by the coronavirus pandemic and the restrictive measures implemented to limit the spread of the virus. The support, in the form of direct grants, aims to mitigate the business disruption incurred by the beneficiaries.

On 15 October 2021, the Commission <u>approved</u> a €45 million scheme to support companies active in the Brussels-Capital region affected by the

coronavirus outbreak. The aid, in the form of direct grants, is open to companies of all sizes active in the nightclub, restaurant and café, event organisation, culture, tourism, sport and passenger transport sectors. The measure aims to help the beneficiaries' economic activity

On 6 December 2021, the Commission approved a €12.5 million scheme to support businesses in the cultural, artistic or professional events sector in the Brussels-Capital Region affected by the coronavirus pandemic. The purpose of the scheme is to support the beneficiaries' economic activity during and after the pandemic

On 10 January 2022, the Commission approved a €25.5 million Flemish scheme to support companies in the context of the coronavirus pandemic. The measure is open to companies affected by business disruption due to the restrictive measures put in place to limit the spread of the virus. The assistance, in the form of direct grants, aims to support companies active in all sectors to overcome the decline in turnover and continue their economic activity.

On 11 January 2022, the Commission approved a €100 million Flemish scheme to support companies affected by the coronavirus pandemic and the restrictions in place to limit the spread of the virus. The scheme is open to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises active in all sectors, except the financial one. The assistance, in the form of loans, aims to support the beneficiaries to continue their economic activity.

On 18 February 2022, the Commission <u>approved</u> a €5 million scheme to support small and medium-

sized companies in the Brussels-Capital Region operating in the events and cultural sectors, in the context of the coronavirus pandemic. The scheme aims to help the beneficiaries continue their economic activity.

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 31 March 2021, the Commission approved a €200 million Belgian scheme to support economic activity in Wallonia in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the public support, in the form of subsidised interest rates for senior and subordinated loans, is open to small and medium-sized enterprises and large companies active in all sectors of the economy except the financial one. The objective of the measure is to mitigate the liquidity shortages that businesses experienced due to the measures implemented in Wallonia because of the coronavirus outbreak.

On 26 April, a €75 million scheme to support the costs of companies active in the Flemish Region restarting their activities affected by the restrictions imposed due to the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the scheme is open to companies of all sizes active in all sectors except the financial one. The public support, in the form of loans, aims to help businesses facing liquidity shortages.

https://www.belgium.be/en/economy/business/creation/financing\_and\_support https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/belgium\_en\_

#### Bulgaria:

#### 1. Emergency help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 8 April, a BGN 1.5 billion (approximately €770 million) Bulgarian wage subsidies support scheme for preserving employment in the sectors most affected by the confinement measures put in place due to the coronavirus outbreak. The wage subsidy aid scheme will allow the Bulgarian authorities to finance 60% of the wage costs (including the employers' social security contributions) of undertakings that, due to the coronavirus outbreak, would otherwise lay off personnel. The measure is restricted to undertakings active in the sectors most affected by the current public health crisis, such as retail, tourism, passenger transport, culture, sports activities, amusement and recreation activities and others.

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 8 April 2020, a Bulgarian public guarantee scheme to support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The Bulgarian support measure is a guarantee scheme on existing or new loans to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak (so-called "Intermediated SME Loan Guarantee Program"). Following a BGN 500 million (€255 million) State-funded capital increase of the Bulgarian Development Bank AD, the latter will provide public guarantees on

#### 2. Restart help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 29 June 2020, a BGN 200 million (approximately €102 million) Bulgarian scheme to support medium-sized companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The public support will be by the co-financed European Regional Development Fund (€87 million). It will take the form of direct grants of up to €75,000 per company and will be accessible to companies active in all sectors, except in the primary production and processing of agricultural products, fishery, aquaculture, forestry and the financial and gambling sectors. The purpose of the scheme is to address the liquidity needs of medium-sized companies and to help them to continue their activities during and after the outbreak. The measure is expected to benefit approximately 1,500 medium-sized companies.

On 14 August, a €28 million (BGN 55 million) Bulgarian scheme to support tour operators forced to limit or suspend their activities due to restrictions in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The measure was approved under the State aid Temporary Framework. Under the measure, tour operators are entitled to receive €35 for each passenger that has booked a travel package with them, which includes a flight into Bulgaria. Eligibility is restricted to flights between 14 May and 31 December 2020. The scheme will be in the form of a direct grant. The measure is open to all tour operators and carriers regardless of the country of

#### 3. Recovery help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 16 December, a €40 million Bulgarian scheme to support small enterprises affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the public support will take the form of direct grant of €25,565 per beneficiary, to cover part of their operating costs. The scheme, co-financed European by the Regional Development Fund, will be accessible to small enterprises active in certain sectors and meeting certain requirements defined by Bulgaria. The aim of the measure is to help beneficiaries overcome the economic consequences of the coronavirus outbreak and maintain employment.

On 21 December, the Commission approved a €26 million Bulgarian scheme to support tour operators and travel agents in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the public support will take the form of direct grants. The grants aim to refund customers and cover the costs incurred by operators to carry out their main activities. The aim of the measure is to help the beneficiaries address the liquidity shortages faced due to the coronavirus outbreak.

On 20 January, a €79 million Bulgarian scheme to support micro, small, and medium enterprises affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework the scheme, cofinanced by the European Regional Development Fund, is accessible to enterprises in certain sectors

investment loans and working capital loans to micro, small and medium-sized companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak in Bulgaria. The scheme aims at limiting the risk associated with issuing loans to those companies that are most severely affected by the economic impact of the current crisis. It will help businesses cover their immediate working capital or investment needs and ensure that they have sufficient liquidity to continue their activities.

registration and to all travelers regardless of the country of origin. The objective of the measure is to stimulate incoming tourism. It will facilitate access to finance and mitigate the sudden liquidity shortages that the affected companies are facing.

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals: whose activities were suspended or limited by governmental restrictive measures imposed to limit the spread of the coronavirus. The support aims to help the beneficiaries cover part of their operating costs, and support activities necessary to overcome the shortage of funds or lack of liquidity.

On 30 March 2021, the Commission approved the modification of a scheme providing wage support to employers and the self-employed in sectors most affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the scheme, first approved in July 2020 and previously extended in December 2020, was granted a second extension until end-2021, a budgetary increase from approximately €20.5 million to around €76.7 million, and amendments extending the scope of the eligible beneficiaries.

On 26 May 2021, the Commission approved an €8.4 million scheme to support tour operators affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support, in the form of direct grants, aims to help the beneficiaries address the liquidity shortages caused by the coronavirus outbreak.

On 8 November 2021, the Commission approved a €15.34 million scheme to support companies active in the tourism sector affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The assistance, in the form of direct grants, aims to alleviate turnover difficulties and support the overall economic activity of the beneficiaries.

On 9 November 2021, the Commission approved a €51 million wage compensation scheme to support companies and self-employed persons active in

sectors particularly affected by the coronavirus outbreak and the restrictive measures implemented to limit the spread of the virus. The assistance, in the form of a compensation, aims to help avoid lay-offs and support the beneficiaries resume their activities.

On 17 January 2022, the Commission approved a €15.3 million scheme to support companies active in the tourism sector affected by the coronavirus pandemic. The assistance, in the form of direct grants, aims help the beneficiaries address their liquidity needs and continue their activities during and after the pandemic.

On 19 January 2022, the Commission approved a €3.07 million scheme to support tour operators affected by the coronavirus pandemic. The assistance, in the form of direct grants, aims to provide liquidity support to the beneficiaries, to help refund customers for travels cancelled due to the coronavirus outbreak and the travel restrictions put in place to limit the spread of the virus.

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/bulgaria\_en\_

# Cyprus:

1. Emergency help:	2. Restart help:	3. Recovery help:	
Expenditure measures (direct grants):	Expenditure measures (direct grants):	Expenditure measures (direct grants):	
Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:	On 26 June 2020, two Cypriot schemes providing direct grants and subsidised interest rates to companies and self-employed workers affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The first scheme, with a budget of €100 million, will be open to micro and small enterprises with up to 50 employees (including self-employed workers) and will provide them with one-off grants of up to €6,000 per company. The measure is expected to support more than 50,000 enterprises. The second scheme, with a budget of €180 million, will be open to all companies and self-employed workers. It will provide subsidised favourable interest rates on new loans signed between 1 March 2020 and 31 December 2020, for loans with a maximum duration of four years. The aim of both schemes is to address the liquidity needs of the eligible undertakings, including the self-employed, to help them continue their activities during and after the	On 14 April 2021, the Commission approved a €8 million aid scheme to support tour operators affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support, in the form of direct grants, is open to tour operators that have concluded agreements with air carriers travelling to Cyprus. The scheme aims to stimulate incoming tourism, benefitting mainly businesses in the tourism, hospitality and food sectors.  On 23 September 2021, the Commission approved a €900,000 scheme to support wine producers in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The assistance, in the form of direct grants, aims to partially cover the beneficiaries' costs of managing wine and must stocks, and compensate wine producers the loss of wine value due to a loss of quality.	
	<ul> <li>Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:</li> <li>On 12 January 2021, the Commission approved, under EU state aid rules, a €86.6 million Cypriot scheme to support companies active in the tourism sector (including organisers of package travel, hotel businesses, and car rental companies) affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The public support is granted in the form of public guarantees aimed at covering vouchers (i.e. credit notes) issued by the beneficiaries to either consumers or</li> </ul>	

organisers of package travels for cancelled travel packages or individual touristic services booked prior to 31 October 2020. The scheme aims to support service providers in the touristic sector that are experiencing significant revenue losses and liquidity shortages due to the coronavirus outbreak and the restrictive measures that Cyprus and other governments have had to implement to limit the spread of the virus.

On 17 August 2021, the Commission approved a €1 billion scheme to support enterprises and self-employed individuals in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The support, in the form of state guarantees on new loans, is open to companies active in all sectors except the financial one. The aim of the scheme is to provide liquidity for viable companies that experienced business disruption due to the coronavirus outbreak.

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#### Czechia:

#### 1. Emergency help:

- Expenditure measures (direct grants):
- Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 15 May 2020, an approximately €18.5 billion (CZK 500 billion) Czech scheme for guarantees on loans to support lending to companies with up to 500 employees that are affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the scheme, the support will take the form of State guarantees on loans. The scheme will be managed by the Czech promotional bank, Českomoravská záruční a rozvojová banka, a.s. (CMZRB). The measure aims at limiting the risks associated with issuing loans to companies with up to 500 employees that are most severely affected by the economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak, enhancing access to external financing, thus ensuring the continuation of their activities.

#### 2. Restart help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 26 June, CZK 5 billion (approximately €184 million) Czech scheme to support retail businesses and service companies renting premises, which were limited or forbidden to carry out their activities due to the measures imposed by the government in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The public support, which will take the form of direct grants, will cover 50% of the original rent due for the months of April, May and June 2020, on the condition that the owner of the premises agrees on a 30% reduction of the original rent. This aims at incentivising the private sector to mitigate the sudden liquidity shortages that the affected companies are facing due to the measures taken by the Czech government to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

On 26 June 2020, a €2.6 million Czech scheme to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The public support will take the form of direct grants. The scheme will be open to companies active in Moravia-Silesia and is composed of two separate measures that will provide support to (i) micro-enterprises in the manufacturing sector; and (ii) companies of all sizes that operate tourist attractions. The aim of both measures is to address the liquidity needs of companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak, thus helping to preserve the continuity of economic activity during and after the outbreak.

#### 3. Recovery help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 25 November, a €28.4 million Czech scheme to support operators who had to cancel or postpone cultural events due to the restrictive measures implemented by the government to limit the spread of the coronavirus. The scheme follows a Czech aid scheme to support operators of cultural events. Under the new measure, the support targets events cancelled or postponed between 1 March 2020 and 31 December 2020. Direct grants were earmarked to cover up to 50% of the eligible expenses for limited, postponed or cancelled cultural events, and up to 80% of eligible expenses for continuous cultural activities (i.e. the operation of theatres, music clubs, artistic management agencies, cultural centres and other similar facilities). Support will also be available for the operation of cultural venues, and for self-employed artists or professional technicians active in the cultural sector.

On 23 December, were approved two Czech schemes with a total budget of €20 million, to support profit and non-profit sport entities participating in professional leagues and companies organising sport events, affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The public support, in the form of direct grants, is available to companies that have experienced a significant decline in revenue due to the coronavirus outbreak and the measures imposed by the Government to limit the spread of the virus. Both schemes aim to address the liquidity

On 19 August 2020, a €34 million (CZK 900 million) Czech scheme to support operators who had to cancel or postpone their cultural event(s) due to the restrictive measure that Czechia had to implement to limit the spread of the coronavirus. The public support will take the form of direct grants and will cover up to 50% of the eligible expenses, i.e. the expenses incurred by the operator to organise the event that was ultimately postponed or cancelled. The purpose of the measure is to facilitate access to external financing by the beneficiaries and to mitigate the sudden liquidity shortages they are facing as a result of the coronavirus outbreak.

On 27 August 2020, a Czech aid scheme of 126.7 million euros (3.31 billion CZK) to support operators offering accommodation services, forced to close their doors due to restrictive measures that the Czech authorities had to take to limit the spread of the coronavirus. Public support will be granted through direct subsidies in the form of a fixed amount per room and per day, for the entire period during which the accommodation was closed, ie from 14 March to 24 May 2020. The measure aims to alleviate the sudden cash shortages that beneficiaries face as a result of the pandemic.

On 3 November, a €110.5 million Czech scheme to support retail businesses and service companies renting premises, whose activities were limited or forbidden due to the measures imposed by the government in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The public support will take the form of direct grants and will cover 50% of the rent due for the months of July, August and September 2020. The purpose of the scheme is to mitigate the liquidity shortages that the affected companies are

needs of the beneficiaries and to help them to continue their activities during and after the outbreak.

On 14 January 2021, was adopted the modification of an existing aid scheme and a new measure to support Czech employers to be in line with the Temporary Framework. The existing scheme, approved in July 2020, consists of grants covering up to 80% of the employers' wage costs. Its extension and budget increase, from €866 million to €970 million, are estimated to benefit around 280,000 businesses and prevent unemployment. The new aid measure, worth €160 million, provides support to businesses that were prohibited or restricted from carrying out their activities due to the coronavirus outbreak. The financing, covering up to 100% of the employers' wage costs, is expected to support around 27,000 businesses of all sizes.

On 8 March 2021, a €38.5 million Czech scheme to support companies active in the ski resort sector that have been adversely affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support, in the form of direct grants, aims to mitigate the sudden liquidity shortages these companies are facing due to restrictive measures implemented by the Czech government to limit the spread of the virus, notably the mandatory closure of ski resorts in wintertime.

On 22 March 2021, a Czech scheme of approximately €3 million to support businesses operating tours that were prevented from carrying out their activities due to government measures introduced to limit the spread of the coronavirus. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the

facing due to the measures taken by the Czech government to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals: public support, in the form of direct grants, aims to help the beneficiaries address their liquidity needs, preserve employment and maintain the operation of businesses and the supply of services in the tourism sector.

On 30 March, the Commission approved a Czech aid scheme worth approximately €22 million to support companies active in the organisation of fairs, exhibitions, conferences and business events, in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the public support, in the form of direct grants, aims to mitigate the economic difficulties and the liquidity shortages faced by the beneficiaries due to the outbreak and the measures implemented to limit the spread of the virus.

On 10 May 2021, a scheme of approximately € 1.9 billion to support companies of all sizes active in all sectors, except the financial one, affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the aid, in the form of direct grants, guarantees or loans, aims to provide the beneficiaries with sufficient liquidity to continue their activity during and after the coronavirus outbreak.

On 26 April 2021, a €1.9 billion scheme to support the uncovered fixed costs of Czech companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the scheme aims to benefit companies of all sizes activating in all sectors except the financial one. The purpose of the scheme is to mitigate the economic difficulties and liquidity shortages faced by businesses due to

the restrictive measures imposed by the government to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

On 28 September 2021, the Commission approved the modification of two existing schemes aimed at supporting companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The schemes, previously approved in January 2021 and July 2020, and subsequently amended in January 2021, increase the overall budgets from €160 million to €856 million, and from €970 million to €1.1 billion respectively, and extend the nominal amount per beneficiary as well as the duration of the support programme. The modifications aim to help the beneficiaries continue their economic activities and avoid layoffs.

Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 29 March 2021, a Czech scheme ('COVID Invest') for guarantees on new investment loans, to support lending companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak, and the modification of an existing scheme ('COVID Plus') providing guarantees to large exporting companies. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the two schemes can jointly generate loans with a nominal amount of up to €19.3 billion. The 'COVID Invest' scheme, sharing its budget with the 'COVID III' scheme approved in May 2020, aims to provide guarantees on new investment loans to small and medium-sized enterprises and large companies. The scheme aims to support the liquidity needs of firms whose financial needs have increased significantly over the past year, including fastgrowth companies, start-ups and scale-ups, and

will be managed by the Czech promotional bank (CMZRB).

On 11 May 2021, a €11.6 million scheme to support businesses active in the travel services sector, in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support, in the form of bank guarantees, secures the beneficiaries' co-participation under a compulsory bankruptcy insurance. The purpose of the scheme is to help the beneficiaries facing liquidity shortages benefit from this protective measure, allowing them to continue their activities during and after the coronavirus outbreak.

On 28 January 2022, the Commission approved the reintroduction of a previous scheme meant to support travel agencies in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The reintroduction also includes a budget increase of €8.3 million. The support, in the form of bank guarantees, secures the beneficiaries' co-participation under a compulsory insurance against bankruptcy and thus aims to help travel agencies facing a lack of liquidity to obtain such an insurance, allowing them to continue their activities during and after the pandemic.

https://www.vlada.cz/en/

https://www.mpo.cz/en/guidepost/information-about-coronavirus/

https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/czechia\_en https://www.pubaffairsbruxelles.eu/state-aid-commission-approves-e22-million-czech-scheme-to-support-fairs-and-exhibitions-sector-in-context-of-coronavirus-outbreak-eu-commission-press/

## Croatia:

1. Emergency help:		2. Restart help:	3. Recovery help:		
•	Expenditure measures (direct grants):	Expenditure measures (direct grants):	Expenditure measures (direct grants):		
•	Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:	<ul> <li>Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:</li> </ul>		
		On 18 June 2020, an approximately €40 million (HRK 300 million) Croatian scheme to support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) active in the cultural sector and the creative industry which were among the most affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The ban on gathering and cancelling cultural events, closing theatres, cinemas and concert halls has had significant economic effects on entrepreneurs, independent artists and others active in the culture sector. The support will take the form of public guarantees on loans with a nominal loan amount of up to maximum €800,000. The State guarantee will cover 100% of the loan. The scheme aims at providing liquidity to SMEs affected by the coronavirus outbreak, thus enabling them to continue their activities, start investments and maintain employment. Companies active in the cultural sector and the creative industry are eligible for aid under this scheme. The measure is expected to support up to 1,000 enterprises.  On 30 June 2020, an approximately €80 million (HRK 600 million) Croatian scheme to support	On 12 January 2021, the Commission approved a Croatian State aid scheme of approximately €202 million to support businesses of all sizes active in the sports and tourism sectors and in their directly related sectors, such as hotels and restaurants, affected by the coronavirus pandemic. Under the Temporary Framework for state aid, the aid, in the form of guarantees on new working capital and investment loans, and subsidised interest rates for new loans, aims to help eligible companies access liquidity and continue their economic activity.  On 20 December 2021, the Commission approved an amendment to an existing scheme to support the maritime, transport, travel and infrastructure sectors in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The amendment, following previous ones in July, August, December 2020 and September 2021, includes an overall budget increase by €132,8 million and the extension of the measure until 30 June 2022. The purpose of the scheme is to provide liquidity to enterprises of all sizes affected by the coronavirus outbreak, enabling them to continue their activities, start investments and		
		enterprises active in the maritime, transport, travel, infrastructure and related sectors that have been severely impacted by the coronavirus outbreak. The support will take the form of State guarantees	maintain employment.		

on new loans from banks or other financial	
institutions. The State guarantee will cover up to	
90% of the loans. The scheme aims at providing	
liquidity to enterprises of all sizes affected by the	
coronavirus outbreak, thus enabling them to	
continue their activities, start investments and	
maintain employment. The scheme is expected to	
support over 1,000 companies.	

https://www.expatincroatia.com/tax-relief-covid-19/ https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/croatia\_en

#### Denmark:

#### 1. Emergency help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 12 March 2020, a Danish aid scheme SA.56685 to compensate organisers for the damage suffered due to the cancellation of large events with more than 1,000 participants or targeted at designated risk groups.

On 6 April 2020, under Article 107(2)(b), a Danish scheme that compensates companies particularly affected by the coronavirus outbreak, up to a maximum of DKK 60 million (approximately €8 million) per company. Under the scheme, private companies registered in the Danish Central Business Register (CVR), which have a proven decline in revenues of more than 40 % because of the coronavirus outbreak in the period from 9 March to 9 June 2020, will be entitled to compensation for the damages suffered. In particular, they will be compensated in part or in full for the fixed costs that they continue to bear. The Danish authorities foresee several levels of compensation according to the level of the turnover decline. The Commission assessed the measure under Article 107(2)(b) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), which enables the Commission to approve State aid measures granted by Member States to compensate specific companies or specific sectors (in the form of schemes) for the damages directly caused by exceptional occurrences.

#### 2. Restart help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 2 June 2020, under EU State aid rules, an approximately €97 million (DKK 725 million) Danish scheme to compensate travel operators for damages caused by the cancellation of package travels due to the exceptional circumstances caused by the coronavirus outbreak and the subsequent travel restrictions imposed by the Danish Government. Travel operators will be entitled to compensation for the losses suffered as a consequence of reimbursing consumers in the event of cancellation. The compensation, in the form of direct grants covering up to 100% of documented losses related to the coronavirus outbreak, will be granted by the Danish Travel Guarantee Fund and will cover the period from 26 January 2020 until 31 May 2020, corresponding to the timeframe in which the Danish government has put in place travel restrictions.

On 14 July 2020, under EU State aid rules, a DKK 1.1 billion (approximately €148 million) Danish scheme to compensate damages suffered by companies whose activities are still subject to the restrictive measures implemented by the Danish Government to limit the spread of the coronavirus, while the rest of the economy is progressively reopening. The scheme will be open to companies that are still forbidden to carry out their activities and to suppliers of goods and services for events that have been cancelled, because of these measures. Under the scheme, such companies,

#### 3. Recovery help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 13 November, the Commission approved, under EU State aid rules, the amended Danish support for companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak, following a Danish scheme previously approved by the Commission in July and extended to January 2021. The additional support consists in a new scheme worth around €80 million, for the provision of limited amounts of aid to suppliers of companies prohibited from operating, and suppliers of private events cancelled due to governmental restrictions to limit the spread of the coronavirus. The support, in the form of direct grants, was earmarked to cover the liquidity shortages of the beneficiaries, from 1 September 2020 to 31 January 2021.

On 27 November, the Commission approved a €107 million Danish scheme, as well as the extension of a previously approved Danish measure, to help companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The support was earmarked to help businesses cover from 75% to 90% of employee salary costs. The first scheme, with a budget of approximately €107 million, is open to companies affected by local restrictions imposed to contain the spread of a specific coronavirus variant that originated from mink. Both schemes aim to help the beneficiaries address liquidity needs and pay salaries, to avoid lay-offs and continue operating.

Prolongation and modification of a previously approved scheme to compensate companies for damages caused by the cancellation of public events due to the coronavirus outbreak to be in line with EU State aid rules. Denmark notified the following modifications to this scheme: (i) as a direct consequence of further temporary prohibitions of public events decided by the Danish Government in the public health interest, the duration of the measure is extended to cover events that should have taken place between 6 March and 31 August 2020 (previously, only events scheduled until 30 March 2020 could be compensated); (ii) the scheme will now be accessible to organizers of events with more than 350 participants (previously, beneficiaries were organisers of events with more than 1,000 participants); and (iii) the budget of the measure has increased from DKK 91 million (€12 million) to DKK 2,310 million (€310 million).

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 3 April 2020, a Danish State loan facility in support of the Travel Guarantee Fund ("Rejsegarantifonden"). The loan aims to support the Travel Guarantee Fund, which provides reimbursement to travellers in case of travel cancellations. In particular, the measure covers travel packages that were cancelled due to the exceptional circumstances caused by the coronavirus outbreak and the subsequent travel restrictions imposed by the Danish Government. It aims to ensure liquidity for travel organisers and the quickest possible refunds or reimbursements to travellers.

which have a documented decline in turnover of more than 35% because of the coronavirus outbreak, will be entitled to compensation for the damage they suffer. This will be applicable for the period between 8 July to 31 August 2020 compared to a reference period before the coronavirus outbreak. The maximum aid amount per company is DKK 60 million (approximately €8 million).

On 15 July 2020, a €27 million (DKK 200 million) Danish scheme to support companies whose activities are still subject to the restrictive measures implemented by the Danish Government to limit the spread of the coronavirus. The scheme will be open to companies that are still facing financial difficulties as a result of the coronavirus outbreak as they are active in those sectors that are still subject to restrictive measures limiting customers' access, even though the total operation ban was lifted since 8 June 2020. The measure will provide beneficiaries with a grant of up to €800,000 (approximately DKK 6 million) per company during the period from 9 July to 8 August 2020.

Under EU State aid rules, a DKK 1.1 billion (approximately €148 million) Danish scheme to compensate damages suffered by companies in the tourism and travel-related sectors. The scheme will be open to companies active in those sectors and whose activities are still affected by previous border closure and travel restrictions that have now been lifted, or by the remaining border and travel related measures implemented by the Danish government to limit the spread of the virus. Under the scheme, such companies, which have a documented decline in turnover of more than 35% because of the coronavirus outbreak, will be entitled to compensation for the damage they

On 14 December, the Commission approved a Danish scheme to support event organisers affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The support, in the form of direct grants, is open to organisers of events in the field of culture, sport and business, that are subject to various restrictions. The aim of the scheme is to mitigate the sudden liquidity shortages that the beneficiaries are facing due to these restrictive measures, and to ensure continuity of their economic activity.

On 22 December, the Commission approved a €37.5 million Danish umbrella scheme to cover part of the fixed costs of companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The support, in the form of direct grants, is open to companies active in all sectors except for the financial one. The purpose of the scheme is to mitigate the economic difficulties and the sudden liquidity shortages that the beneficiaries are facing due to the restrictive measures imposed by the government to limit the spread of the virus.

On 22 December, the Commission approved a €94 million Danish umbrella scheme to support the uncovered fixed costs of companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid <a href="Temporary Framework">Temporary Framework</a>, the support, in the form of direct grants, is be open to companies active in all sectors except for the financial one.

On 21 January 2021, the Commission approved the prolongation of a Danish scheme to compensate companies whose activities are still subject to restrictive measures implemented by the Danish Government to limit the spread of the coronavirus. The existing scheme, approved in July 2020, was first amended in November 2020. The

On 30 April 2020, four Danish schemes granting tax deferrals and comparable measures to ease liquidity constraints of Danish small and mediumsized enterprises (SMEs) facing difficulties due to the coronavirus outbreak. The public support, with a total budget of €130 million (DKK 970 million), will support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. This will take the form of tax deferrals and similar measures in relation to VAT and payroll tax liabilities. The Danish Parliament adopted an "Act on interest-free loans corresponding to declared VAT, payroll tax and advance payment of tax credits due to COVID19". Certain VAT and payroll tax instalments, which were due to be paid or were paid already in the context of the coronavirus outbreak, but could not be deferred in view of the date of adoption of the Act, will be reimbursed in the form of interest-free credit facilities. The scheme will be accessible to Danish SMEs active in most sectors. The measures are intended to ease the liquidity constraints faced by those companies, thus helping them to continue their activities.

suffer. This will be applicable for the period between 8 July to 31 August 2020 compared to a reference period before the coronavirus outbreak.

On 8 October, a €10.5 million Danish scheme to support companies that have been prevented from operating in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme is open to companies active in sectors that were covered by a total operation ban implemented to limit the spread of the coronavirus (from March 2020) and for which the total ban was lifted (after September 2020) and replaced by general safety and health measures limiting customer access. The support will take the form of direct grants, and aims to facilitate access to finance and mitigate liquidity shortages.

On 30 October, Danish scheme of around €99.4 million to support cafés, restaurants, nightclubs, discotheques and venues that are restricted on their opening hours, as well as their suppliers, in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The support will take the form of direct grants and help mitigate the sudden liquidity shortages that these companies are facing because of the restrictive measures imposed by the government to limit the spread of the virus.

Measures related to public guarantees, loans tax deferrals:

scheme enables Denmark to compensate companies that are still not allowed to carry out their activities, and to compensate suppliers of goods and services for events that have been cancelled due to the necessary restrictive measures.

On 21 January 2021, the Commission found the prolongation of an existing Danish scheme to compensate companies for damages caused by the cancellation of public events due to the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme, originally approved on 12 March 2020, was modified twice, in May and November 2020. The scheme enables Denmark to compensate organisers of events for the losses suffered due to the restrictive measures that the Danish government had to implement to limit the spread of coronavirus, which led to the cancellation, postponement or significant modification of planned events.

On 22 Mars 2021 prolongation and adjustment of State Aid SA.56685 as amended by SA.57209, SA.59667 and SA.61056 – Compensation scheme for cancellation of events caused by COVID-19.

On 10 May 2021, the Commission approved, under EU state aid rules, a scheme of approximately €47 million per month, to compensate damages suffered by companies in the tourism and travel-related sectors. The aid, in the form of direct grants, is open to beneficiaries active in sectors still affected by border and travel-related measures implemented by the Danish government to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

On 2 August 2021, the Commission approved a €13 million scheme to support large events

suppliers affected by the coronavirus outbreak and the restrictive measures implemented to limit the spread of the virus. The support, in the form of direct grants, aims to mitigate the liquidity shortages faced by the beneficiaries and to address part of the losses incurred due to the risk of event cancellation linked to the coronavirus outbreak.

On 4 August 2021, the Commission approved a scheme of approximately €19.7 million to support 15 cultural institutions affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme, complementing a previous measure approved in March 2021, concerns the beneficiaries who requested more than €800,000, compensating them for their operational losses up to a reasonable profit.

On 3 December 2021, the Commission approved a €23.33 million scheme to support travel operators affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The assistance, in the form of direct grants, aims to support travel operators that have to pay an additional fee to cover the liquidity shortages due to the coronavirus outbreak and the consequent bankruptcies of certain travel operators.

• Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

https://danishbusinessauthority.dk/

https://www.copcap.com/covid-19-overview-of-relief-packages

https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/denmark\_en

## Estonia:

1. Emergency help:	2. Restart help:	3. Recovery help:
Expenditure measures (direct grants):	Expenditure measures (direct grants):	Expenditure measures (direct grants):
On 21 April 2020, eight Estonian State aid schemes in the form of direct grants and payment advantages to provide liquidity to companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Eight support schemes, with a total estimated budget of €75.5 million, to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the schemes, public support will be provided as follows: direct grants for: (i) small companies that seek to transform their products, services, processes and business model in order to support their viability; (ii) companies that invest in development projects to support their viability; companies in the tourism sector (iii) that seek to restructure their activities, to develop new	tax deferrals:	On 26 November, a €5.5 million Estonian scheme to support companies active in the tourism sector affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the public support, in the form of direct grants, was earmarked for accommodation providers, travel agencies, tourism attraction operators, tourism service providers, international coach service providers, conference organisers and tourist guides. The purpose of the measure is to mitigate the sudden liquidity shortages that these companies are facing due of the restrictive measures imposed by the government to limit the spread of the virus.
products and/or services, or to change their business model as a result of the outbreak; and (iv) to mitigate coronavirus related damage; (v) direct grants to companies and organisations active in the culture and sports sectors affected by the coronavirus; and three measures related to the City of Tallinn: (vi) payment advantages to companies supplying products or services; (vii) a waiver of penalties to companies that failed to fulfil orders in due time; and (viii) reduced rent leases and usage		On 18 February 2021, €3.2 million Estonian scheme to support organisers of cultural events in Ida-Viru County and Harju County in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support, in the form of direct grants, aims to mitigate the sudden liquidity shortages that companies are facing due to the coronavirus outbreak.
<ul> <li>fees to lessees of municipal property.</li> <li>Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:</li> <li>On 31 March 2020, two Estonian State aid schemes to support the economy in the context of</li> </ul>		On 25 March 2021, the Commission approved an Estonian scheme of €9.9 million to support companies active in the tourism and tourism-related sectors affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the aid, in the form of direct grants, aims to help the beneficiaries address their liquidity

the coronavirus outbreak. The first scheme will be implemented and administered by the public Foundation KredEx, and the second one, implemented by the public Estonian Rural Development Foundation. Under both schemes, with a total estimated budget of €1.75 billion, the support will consist either in the provision of public guarantees on existing or new loans, or in the granting of loans at favorable terms. The aim of the schemes is to help businesses cover immediate working capital or investment needs that have been impaired by the effects of the coronavirus outbreak.

needs and continue their activities throughout the pandemic.

On 10 May 2021, the Commission approved a €8.8 million scheme to support organisers of cultural events in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support, in the form of direct grants, aims to mitigate the sudden liquidity shortages the beneficiaries are facing due to the coronavirus outbreak.

On 12 May 2021, the Commission approved a €44 million scheme to support companies active in the tourism and retail sectors affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support, in the form of direct grants, aims to help the beneficiaries address their liquidity needs and continue their activities during and after the outbreak.

On 4 June 2021, the Commission approved a €4 million scheme to support bus companies in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the public support, in the form of direct grants, aims to mitigate the liquidity shortages faced by the beneficiaries due to the restrictive measures imposed by the government to limit the spread of the virus.

On 14 June 2021, the Commission approved a €1.5 million scheme to support operators of experience centres and buildings used for conferences, theatres, concerts and other similar events, in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the assistance, in the form of direct grants, aims to

compensate these operators for the damage suffered due to the suspension or disruption of their activities due to the restrictive measures imposed by the government to limit the spread of the virus.

On 14 June 2021, the Commission approved a €10.6 million scheme to support companies active in the cultural and sport sectors affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the assistance, in the form of direct grants, aims to cover the costs incurred by the beneficiaries for restructuring their business and continue to operate under the restrictive and precautionary measures imposed by the government to limit the spread of the virus.

• Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

https://www.kriis.ee/en

https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/estonia\_en

# Finland:

1. Emergency help:	2. Restart help:	3. Recovery help:
Expenditure measures (direct grants):	Expenditure measures (direct grants):	Expenditure measures (direct grants):
On 24 April 2020, a Finnish scheme to support the Finnish economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The Finnish public support will take the form of direct grants, equity injections, selective tax advantages and advance payments, as well as repayable advances, State guarantees and loans. The scheme aims at enhancing access to liquidity by those companies, which are most severely affected by the economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak, thus allowing them to continue their activities, start investments and maintain employment. The scheme will be open to all companies, with the exception of companies active in the primary agricultural, fishery and aquaculture sectors, and will apply to the whole territory of Finland.  On 29 May 2020, under EU State aid rules, a €120 million Finnish scheme that compensates companies operating restaurants, bars or cafes for the loss of revenue caused by the coronavirus outbreak and the national measures taken to limit the spread of the virus. Under the scheme, these companies will be entitled to compensation for the damages suffered in the form of direct grants covering 15% of their loss of revenue up to €1 million, and 5% for the part of their losses above €1 million, during the two-month period of lockdown in Finland. Aid may be granted up to a maximum amount of €500 000 per beneficiary. To ensure that no beneficiary is overcompensated, a control	Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:	On 9 June 2021, the Commission approved a €170 million scheme to support the uncovered fixed costs of companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak and by the restrictive measures imposed by the government to limit the spread of the virus. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the assistance, in the form of direct grants, is open to all sectors except the financial, agricultural, fishery and aquaculture ones.  • Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:  On 21 April 2021 the Commission approved an amendment to the scheme SA.57059 (2020/N) − COVID-19: Loan guarantee and subsidised interest rate loan scheme for undertakings most affected by COVID-19.

mechanism guarantees that the Finnish authorities recover any compensation exceeding the net losses of each beneficiary. The Commission assessed the measure under Article 107(2)(b) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, which enables the Commission to approve State aid measures granted by Member States to compensate specific companies or specific sectors for the damages directly caused by exceptional occurrences.

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 21 April 2020, a Finnish aid scheme to support the Finnish economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme will support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak, and will be managed and implemented by the State-owned Specialised Financing Company, Finnvera Plc. Under the scheme, the public support will take the form of State guarantees on new investment and working capital loans; or Subsidised investment and working capital loans with favourable interest rates. The scheme aims at providing liquidity to companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak, thus enabling them to continue their activities, start investments and maintain employment.

https://tem.fi/en/coronavirus/guidance-for-businesses https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/finland\_en

#### France:

#### 1. Emergency help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 20 April 2020, a French "umbrella" scheme to support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and large corporates in France affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme, called "Regime Cadre Temporaire", covers: a) limited amounts of aid in the form of direct grants, equity injections, repayable advances and subsidised loans, up to a maximum nominal amount €800,000.

On 30 June 2020, a French scheme of € 207 million to support the French economy during the coronavirus outbreak. This support will take the form of salary support in sectors particularly affected by the pandemic, including hospitality, tourism and transport, whose activity has been interrupted by measures put in place by the State to stop the spread of the virus. The measure aims to ensure that workers in these sectors will keep their jobs, and receive a monthly income, while reducing the salary costs for employers.

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 21 March 2020, under Article 107(3)(b), three French State aid schemes (SA.56685). Two schemes enabling the French public investment bank, Bpifrance, to provide State guarantees on commercial loans, and credit lines, respectively, for enterprises with up to 5000 employees. One scheme to provide State guarantees to banks on

#### 2. Restart help:

- Expenditure measures (direct grants):
- Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 30 June 2020, a €30 billion French subordinated loan scheme to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The total amount of subordinated loans with favourable interest rates that can be granted under the scheme is €30 billion. The measure aims at supporting access to funding for enterprises of all sizes to sustain their economic activities. The measure will be open to companies active in all sectors, with the exception of those active in the financial sector. The scheme will be managed by the central government. bν territorial administrations and by other granting authorities. The subsidised subordinated loans will be granted directly by the granting authorities

#### 3. Recovery help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 16 December, the Commission found that a €4.1 billion amendment to a French wage subsidy scheme to support businesses affected by the coronavirus pandemic was in line with the Temporary Framework. The scheme was approved by the Commission in June 2020 and amended in October 2020 (SA.58978). France requested the amendment to support employers in regions particularly hit by the coronavirus pandemic. The scheme, as amended, is open to employers in all company sizes and any sector or economic activity. The scheme aims to alleviate the costs borne by employers, alleviate liquidity shortages, avoid layoffs and ensure the continuity of economic activity during and after the pandemic.

On 26 January 2021, the Commission approved a €200 million French aid scheme to support businesses serving the public that have been affected by the coronavirus pandemic. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the public support, in the form of a wage subsidy, aims to reimburse the wage costs corresponding to paid vacation days for employees. The scheme is open to companies in the hospitality, tourism, catering and events sectors, and aims to alleviate costs and avoid layoffs.

portfolios of new loans for all types of company this is direct aid to the companies that will enable banks to quickly provide liquidity to any company that needs it.

On 20 April 2020, a French "umbrella" scheme to support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and large corporates in France affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme, called "Regime Cadre Temporaire", covers: a) State guarantees for loans, subject to safeguards for banks to channel State aid to the real economy; and/or b) Public loans to companies with favourable interest rates.

On 13 March 2021, a French scheme of approximately €2 billion to support the uncovered fixed costs of companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the scheme is open to companies of all sizes activating in all sectors, except the financial sector. The public support, in the form of direct grants, aims to mitigate the economic difficulties and the liquidity shortages that the beneficiaries are facing due to the restrictive measures that the French government imposed in an effort to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

On 22 March 2021, under EU state aid rules, a French scheme with a budget between €140 and €700 million, to compensate ski lifts operators for the damages suffered due to the restrictive measures introduced to limit the spread of the coronavirus. The aid, in the form of direct grants earmarked to cover up to 49% of the estimated turnover loss, aims to compensate the ski lift companies operating in winter sport resorts.

On 31 March 2021 the Commission approved aid for the reconstruction of hall 3 in Parc d'Expositions du Bourget in view of the Olimpic and Paraolimpic games in 2024.

On 18 October 2021, the Commission approved a €700 million scheme to support certain retailers and services affected by the pandemic and the restrictive measures put in place to limit the spread of the virus. The scheme is open to furniture, clothing, IT, sport, optics and jewellery retail outlets, and services such as household goods repairs, hairdressing and beauty care. The support, in the form of direct grants, aims to help the

beneficiaries address the losses incurred in the context of the coronavirus outbreak.

On 29 November 2021, the Commission approved a €700 million scheme to support certain companies particularly affected by the coronavirus pandemic and the restrictive measures implemented to limit the spread of the virus. The scheme is open to companies operating in certain sectors strongly affected by closures, particularly the catering, events and accommodation sectors, travel agencies, gyms, museums and leisure parks. The assistance, in the form of direct grants, aims is to help businesses continue their economic activity during and after the pandemic.

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 28 July 2021, the Commission approved a €8.4 billion wage subsidy scheme aimed at supporting small and medium-sized enterprises operating in sectors particularly affected by the coronavirus pandemic and the restrictive measures that the French government had to implement to limit the spread of the virus. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the assistance, in the form of exemptions from social contribution payments, aims to support small and medium-sized enterprises to resume their activities and avoid layoffs.

https://www.tresor.economie.gouv.fr/Articles/8e8aa40d-25f6-4d84-be69-f4b3dfb73a10/files/14e9a24b-3299-41a1-b119-7f907ac8a6achttps://www.economie.gouv.fr/cedef/aides-publiques-entreprises

https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/france\_en https://ec.europa.eu/competition/elojade/isef/case\_details.cfm?proc\_code=3\_SA\_61094

#### Germany:

#### 1. Emergency help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 11 April 2020, amendments to two German schemes to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak ("Bundesregelung Kleinbeihilfen 2020" and "Bundesregelung Darlehen 2020"), under the Temporary Framework. The scheme supports companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak provided for aid to be granted via direct grants, repayable advances and tax or payment advantages.

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 24 March 2020, a German scheme to enable the granting of loan guarantees at favourable terms to help businesses cover immediate working capital and investment needs. This support will be implemented through German federal and regional authorities, and promotional and guarantee banks.

On 11 April 2020, amendments to two German schemes to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak ("Bundesregelung Kleinbeihilfen 2020" and "Bundesregelung Darlehen 2020"), under the Temporary Framework. The amendment approved allows also for aid in the form of loans, guarantees and equity. In particular, guarantees can cover 100% of the risk of loans with a nominal amount of up to €800,000. The scheme enabling granting of loans at favourable terms "Bundesregelung Darlehen 2020" is now amended

#### 2. Restart help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 31 July 2020, a €840 million German State guarantee scheme to cover vouchers issued by travel operators for cancelled travel packages booked before 8 March 2020. Thanks to this scheme, the German State makes sure that travellers who accept vouchers will be able to either use them or receive a full refund, even if the issuing travel operator becomes insolvent. Tour operators will pay a premium equal to 0.15% of the value of the voucher covered for small and medium-sized enterprises and 0.25% for large companies.

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 8 July 2020, German plans to set up a fund with a budget of up to €500 billion for providing guarantees and investing through debt and equity instruments in enterprises affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The German support measure is a fund ('Wirtschaftsstabilisierungsfonds') to provide liquidity and capital support to German enterprises affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the scheme, the support will take the form of (I) guarantees (that are expected to mobilise €400 billion of the total amount), as well as (II) subsidised debt instruments in form of subordinated loans, and (III) recapitalisation instruments (in total up to €100 billion), in particular equity instruments (acquisition of newly issued ordinary and preferred shares or other forms of

#### 3. Recovery help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 23 November, a German 'umbrella' scheme to support the companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme aims to provide extraordinary economic assistance to all German self-employed businesses, individuals. associations and institutions whose operations are temporarily closed as a result of the lockdown measures imposed by the government to limit the spread of the virus. The measure is a Germanywide scheme with an estimated budget of €30 billion. Support may take the form of direct grants, state guarantees for loans or subsidised public loans. The scheme will also enable Germany to support to companies affected by the lockdown measures implemented in November 2020.

On 22 January 2021, a €12 billion German umbrella scheme aimed at compensating companies for damages suffered due to restrictive measures to contain the coronavirus outbreak to be in line with EU state aid rules. Under the scheme, companies from all sectors are entitled to compensation in the form of direct grants, for damages suffered during the lockdown periods imposed by the German government in March/April and November/December 2020 to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

On 25 January, under EU state aid rules, a €642 million German federal umbrella scheme to compensate companies active in the trade fairs

in order to allow for subsidised interest rates for loans provided to beneficiaries.	shareholding) and hyb (namely convertible participations).	 instruments and silent	and congress sector for damages the coronavirus outbreak, and restrictive measures put in government to limit the spread of scheme, open to owners and operations congress infrastructure in Germa intermediary companies, aims to confide the loss of profit directly resprohibition of events.
			On 31 May 2021, the Commission €10 billion scheme to compensate damages related to the coronaviru in line with the state aid Tempor The scheme entitles companies from compensation in the form of didamages suffered due to the full activities as a result of the coronand the restrictive measures in government to contain the spread
			On 9 July 2021, the Commission a EU state aid rules, a €750 mil reimburse travellers in case of package travel organisers. Under aid, in the form of a state guarantee

es suffered due to and the specific place by the of the virus. The erators of fairs and nany, as well as cover up to 100% esulting from the

n confirmed that a ate companies for irus outbreak was orary Framework. from all sectors to direct grants, for all closure of their navirus outbreak, imposed by the d of the virus.

approved, under nillion scheme to of insolvency of r the scheme, the ee on future loans that may be taken out by the Travel Insolvency Fund, aims to compensate the beneficiaries and ensure that consumers are protected at all times.

On 11 October 2021, the Commission approved a €150 million scheme to support organisers of fair trades and exhibitions in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme, open to organisers of all sizes, aims to compensate them for the costs of organising events scheduled to take place between 1 October 2021 and 30 September 2022, in case of cancellations on the background

of the restrictive measures in place to limit the spread of the virus

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 2 December, plans to set up a scheme under which the German federal and regional authorities can invest through debt and equity instruments in enterprises affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The support will take the form of subordinated loans and recapitalisation instruments, in particular equity instruments and hybrid capital instruments. Individual measures will be limited to €250 million per beneficiary, the total provisional budget of the scheme being around €3.5 billion. The scheme complements the support German companies may receive under the German Federal Economic Stabilisation Fund, approved by the Commission on 8 July 2020, mostly targeted at large companies.

https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Web/EN/Issues/Priority-Issues/Corona/corona.html
https://www.ueberbrueckungshilfe-unternehmen.de/UBH/Navigation/DE/Home/home.html
https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/iobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/germany\_en\_

## Greece:

#### 1. Emergency help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 8 April 2020,a Greek aid scheme to support the Greek economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. This new scheme will support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) affected by the coronavirus outbreak, and takes the form of grants. It is intended to cover interest up to €800 000 per company on existing debt obligations (fixedmaturity loans, bonds or bank overdrafts) for a period of 3 months, with an option for extension for another 2 months. The scheme will apply to the whole territory of Greece and will be open to SMEs from sectors affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme is designed to support the liquidity of SMEs facing temporary difficulties as a result of the outbreak and, thus, remedy a serious disturbance in the Greek economy.

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 3 April 2020, a Greek aid scheme to support the Greek economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. This support measure is in the form of guarantees on loans, and will be implemented through the issuance of guarantees by the Hellenic Development Bank (HDB) to financial intermediaries. The measure will partially guarantee eligible working capital loans originated by financial intermediaries, to help businesses cover immediate working capital needs. It is open to all Greek undertakings with the exception of

## 2. Restart help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 29 October, the Commission approved a €7.7 million Greek scheme to support Athens Municipality micro and small companies active in the cultural sector, in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The public support, co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund, will take the form of direct grants aimed to mitigate the sudden liquidity shortages due to the measures imposed by the Greek government to limit the spread of the virus and to ensure economic activity continuity. The measure will help companies organise cultural events that promote the cultural assets of the city of Athens.

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 20 October, a €450 million Greek scheme to support companies active in the tourism, transport, construction and energy sectors that have been particularly affected by the measures imposed to limit the spread of the coronavirus outbreak. Under the State Aid Temporary Framework, the support will take the form of subsidised loans open to companies with up to 3,000 employees in the respective sectors. The scheme will be financed with the resources of the Greek State, as well as of the Greek Infrastructure Fund, which is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund and managed by the European Investment Bank

## 3. Recovery help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 17 May 2021, the Commission approved a €793 million support measure for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the public support, in the form of direct grants, is open to companies active in all sectors except the financial one. The aid aims to provide liquidity support to qualifying beneficiaries, to safeguard businesses against the risk of default, allowing them to preserve their economic activity and helping them recover after the coronavirus crisis.

On 1 June 2021, the Commission approved, under EU state aid rules, a €800 million scheme to support companies active in tourism affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the aid, in the form of direct grants, is open to companies of all sizes and aims to provide beneficiaries with working capital needed for acquiring materials necessary for their activities, to support the continuity of their economic activities.

On 6 July 2021, the Commission approved a €14 million scheme to support companies active in the art and entertainment sectors, particularly in theatre and cultural venue management, in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support, in the form of direct grants, aims to cover the

financial intermediaries, such as banks, undertakings active in aquaculture, in agriculture and in sectors non-eligible by the European Regional Development Fund.

beneficiaries' loss of revenue due to the restrictions imposed to limit the spread of the virus. The purpose of the scheme is to help the beneficiaries address their liquidity needs and ensure the continuity of their activities.

On 28 July 2021, the Commission approved a €130 million scheme to support micro and small enterprises affected by the coronavirus outbreak and the restrictive measures implemented to limit the spread of the virus. Under the scheme, the aid will take the form of direct grants and will consist of a fixed amount of minimum €500 and maximum €4,000, depending on the number of employees and the region of location.

On 21 December 2021, the Commission approved a €20 million scheme to support companies active in the art and entertainment sectors in the context of the coronavirus pandemic. The public support, in the form of direct grants, is open to companies managing theatres, cinemas and other cultural venues, and partially covers the ticket revenue losses incurred due to restrictions in place to limit the spread of the virus. The purpose of the scheme is to help the beneficiaries address their liquidity needs and continue their activities during and after the pandemic.

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 30 August 2021, the Commission approved a scheme to support the uncovered fixed costs of companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The support, open to companies of all sizes activating in all sectors except the financial one, has an estimated budget of up to €500 million and

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form of a credit dedicated for tax and social security
obligations. The purpose of the scheme is to bridge
liquidity shortages related to the coronavirus
outbreak and support companies preserve the
continuity of their economic activity during and after
the pandemic.

https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/greece\_en

# **Hungary:**

#### 1. Emergency help:

#### • Expenditure measures:

On 8 April 2020, a Hungarian aid scheme to support the Hungarian economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme is to support businesses affected by the coronavirus outbreak, and will be managed by the competent agency, Hungarian Investment Promotion Agency Non Profit Ltd (HIPA Non-Profit Ltd). The public support, which will take the form of direct grants, will be accessible to medium and large enterprises, which are particularly hit by the economic consequences of the coronavirus outbreak and which are active in certain sectors defined by Hungary. The scheme aims at supporting companies that face difficulties due to loss of income and liquidity resulting from the economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak. In particular, it will help businesses to cover their immediate working capital or investment needs.

On 17 April 2020, a HUF 350 billion (approximately €1 billion) scheme to support the Hungarian economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Support will be in the form of direct grants using EU structural funds for that purpose. The scheme will be open to all companies, i.e. micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and large companies, which have access to European structural funds and are facing difficulties as a result of the economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme was approved under the State aid Temporary Framework adopted by the

## 2. Restart help:

Expenditure measures:

On 10 December, the Commission approved a €132.5 million Hungarian aid scheme to support the catering, culture, sports and accommodation sectors, which have been affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the scheme aims to alleviate employer's costs and avoid lay-offs, as well as to mitigate the liquidity shortages the beneficiaries are facing, and ensure the continuity of economic activity during and after the outbreak. The public support for the catering, culture and sports sectors is granted as wage subsidies, consisting of exemptions from fiscal obligations born by the employers, and direct grants amounting to 50% of the employees' gross salary.

• Measures related to public guarantees:

On 23 November, a €145 million Hungarian scheme to provide liquidity and capital support to companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support is to take the form of subordinated loans, recapitalisations and convertible loans. The scheme is managed by two state funds, and recapitalisation is a mandatory component of aid, possible to combine with debt and/or other instruments.

## 3. Recovery help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 17 May 2021, the Commission confirmed the modification of the aid scheme for the protection of the economy (case SA.59477, subsequently amended by cases SA.60367, SA.61329, SA.61842 and SA.62268) to be in line with EU state aid rules, approving additional support of €63.2 million. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the modification allows for the introduction of a new measure to the existing scheme, aiming at supporting self-employed individuals severely affected by the coronavirus outbreak. This measure will provide a direct grant equal to the Hungarian minimum wage and will cover a period of three months (May to July 2021).

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 16 April 2021, the Commission approved a €50 million 'umbrella' scheme to support Hungarian companies in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support, in the form of direct grants as well as aid for the uncovered fixed costs of companies that suffered a decline in turnover. The scheme is open to companies of all sizes active in all sectors except the financial one and covers the entire territory of Hungary. The aim of the scheme is to help the beneficiaries to address their liquidity

Commission on 19 March 2020, as amended on 3 April 2020.

On 7 May 2020, three Hungarian aid measures, with a total budget of around € 900 million, to support the Hungarian economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Under the three schemes, with a total budget of around € 900 million, the public support will take the form of direct grants. The measures, which will be open to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and large companies facing economic difficulties and liquidity shortages due to the coronavirus outbreak. The schemes are expected to benefit up to 5,000 businesses. The schemes aim at providing businesses which are particularly affected by the coronavirus outbreak with sufficient liquidity to cover their immediate working capital and investment needs, thus enabling them to continue their activities, make investments and maintain employment during and after the outbreak.

On 25 May 2020, an approximately €60 million (HUF 21 billion) Hungarian scheme to support micro, small and medium sized enterprises ("SMEs") affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The aim of the measure is to ensure that micro companies and SMEs affected by the coronavirus outbreak have sufficient liquidity to cover their immediate working capital and investment needs by facilitating access to loans. The support will take the form of direct grants intended to cover part of the financial costs (interests and handling fees) incurred by micro companied and SMEs in relation to certain loans granted until 31 December 2020. The aid will be channelled through credit institutions. The Hungarian authorities expect that

needs and co	ntinue thei	activity	during	and	after

up to 6,000 micro companies and SMEs will be able to benefit from the scheme.

On 9 June 2020, a HUF 54 billion (approximately €155 million) "umbrella" scheme to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The measure will allow the Hungarian authorities to grant aid under certain existing schemes in the form of direct grants to cover investments by companies aiming at preserving jobs or creating new job opportunities. The aim of the "umbrella" scheme is to help companies address the liquidity shortages they are facing as a result of the coronavirus outbreak.

On 22 June 2020, the modification of a previously approved Hungarian scheme to support the Hungarian economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak to be in line with EU State aid rules, in particular with the State aid Temporary Framework. The existing scheme was approved on 20 May 2020 under case number SA.57269. Hungary notified the following modifications to this scheme: (i) an increase in the estimated total budget of the scheme, from HUF 57 billion (approximately €156 million) to HUF 103 billion (approximately €288.3 million); and (ii) the extension of the initial scheme to new capital funds ("Hiventures" and "Crisis Funds"). It is estimated that between 240 and 420 companies will benefit from the modification of the existing scheme.

• Measures related to public guarantees:

On 17 April 2020, a HUF 350 billion (approximately €1 billion) scheme to support the Hungarian economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Support will be in the form of loans and

equity measures, using EU structural funds for that purpose. The scheme will be open to all companies, i.e. micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and large companies, which have access to European structural funds and are facing difficulties as a result of the economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme was approved under the State aid Temporary Framework adopted by the Commission on 19 March 2020, as amended on 3 April 2020.

On 7 May 2020, a €1.55 billion (approximately HUF 550 billion) Hungarian aid scheme to support the Hungarian economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme was approved under the State aid Temporary Framework adopted by the Commission on 19 March 2020, as amended on 3 April 2020. The scheme consists of two complementary measures that will be managed and implemented by two separate entities: (i) The semi State-owned Garantiga Credit Guarantee Company Ltd. will provide guarantees on loans up to a maximum of €14 million (approximately HUF 5 billion) per company; (ii) The State-owned MFB Ltd. (Hungarian Development Bank) will provide guarantees for loans in excess of that amount up to a maximum of €28 million (approximately HUF 10 billion) per company. Under the scheme, the public support provided by Garantiga will take the form of State guarantees on new and existing investment and working capital loans. The support provided by the Hungarian Development Bank will take the form of State guarantees on new investment and working capital loans. The guarantees will be channelled through credit institutions. The scheme will be open to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and large companies.

On 25 May 2020, a Hungarian scheme, with an estimated budget of HUF 57 billion (approximately €156 million), to support the Hungarian economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The support will take the form of equity injections and convertible loans (i.e. loans that can be converted into equity) of up to €800,000. The scheme will be open to companies active in all sectors, with some exceptions defined by Hungary, namely companies active in the agricultural, fishery and aquaculture sectors. It is estimated that between 140 and 220 companies will benefit from the support. The purpose of the scheme is to address the liquidity needs of companies affected by the current crisis and to help them to continue their activities, start investments and maintain employment during and after the outbreak.

https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/hungary\_en\_

#### Ireland:

### 1. Emergency help:

#### • Expenditure measures:

On 21 April 2020, an Irish scheme to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme, called "Sustaining Enterprise Scheme", will support undertakings operating in the manufacturing and internationally traded services sectors in Ireland affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The public support, which will take the form of direct grants, repayable advances, equity injections, and subsidised loans, aims at ensuring that companies have sufficient liquidity to maintain their activities during and after the outbreak. The scheme, which applies to the whole territory of Ireland, will be open to companies of all sizes.

• Measures related to public guarantees:

On 31 March 2020, an Irish scheme to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The support, in the form of repayable advances, will be accessible to companies that experience or expect to experience a decline in turnover of at least 15% compared to their revenue before the coronavirus outbreak in Ireland. The scheme applies to undertakings in Ireland employing 10 or more full time employees in certain manufacturing sectors and/or internationally traded sectors, with a turnover of less than €500 million per year.

On 21 April 2020, an Irish scheme to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme, called "Sustaining Enterprise

## 2. Restart help:

- Expenditure measures:
- Measures related to public guarantees:

On 14 August 2020, a €26 million Irish scheme to support companies in the tourism and hospitality sectors affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The public support will take the form of direct grants to cover the costs of adapting businesses to the requirements for re-opening set out in the guidelines adopted by Ireland. The aim of the measure is to help those companies address the sudden liquidity shortages they are facing and to support them in the implementation of the necessary measures to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

On 14 August 2020, an Irish loan guarantee scheme mobilising €2 billion support for companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The support will take the form of State guarantees on new loans provided by financial intermediaries to companies with up to 499 employees. The measure aims at enhancing access to external financing for these companies, thus helping them ensure the continuation of their activities.

## 3. Recovery help:

Expenditure measures:

On 19 November, the Commission approved a €7 million Irish scheme to support commercial venues, promoters, and producers of live performances in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The public support, in the form of direct grants of €10,000 minimum or €800,000 maximum per beneficiary, was earmarked for supporting jobs in the culture sector, and allowing commercial organisers to start preparing productions while complying with public health protection measures. The purpose of the measure is to mitigate the sudden liquidity shortages that these companies are facing.

On 19 November, the Commission approved a €10 million Irish scheme to support companies operating in the coach tourism sector affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The public support, in the form of direct grants, was earmarked for beneficiaries that lost revenue due to the coronavirus outbreak between 13 March 2020 and 31 December 2020. The purpose of the measure is to mitigate the sudden liquidity shortages that these companies are facing.

On 18 December, the Commission approved a €15 million Irish scheme to support Ireland-based inbound tourism agents affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The support, in the form of direct grants, aims to mitigate the sudden liquidity shortages that these companies are facing because of the

Scheme", will support undertakings operating in the manufacturing and internationally traded services sectors in Ireland affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The public support, which will take the form of direct grants, repayable advances, equity injections, and subsidised loans, aims at ensuring that companies have sufficient liquidity to maintain their activities during and after the outbreak. The scheme, which applies to the whole territory of Ireland, will be open to companies of all sizes.

restrictive measures imposed by the government to limit the spread of the virus.

On 5 March 2021 the Commission approved a €55 million Irish 'umbrella' scheme to support companies active in tourism or in directly related sectors in context of coronavirus outbreak (SA.61236) (daily news: MEX/21/1062).

On 6 April 2021, a €60 million "Small Business Assistance Scheme for COVID" to support small and medium-sized enterprises affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the scheme is open to companies in all sectors, except financial institutions and companies operating in the primary production of agricultural products, fisheries or aquaculture sectors.

On 30 August 2021, the Commission approved a €11.5 million scheme to support companies active in the events sector affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the scheme, the aid, in the form of direct grants, is open to micro, small and mediumsized enterprises providing event services to the arts and culture sector or active in the broader events sector. The purpose of the measure is to mitigate the sudden liquidity shortages that the companies are facing due to the coronavirus outbreak and the restrictive measures implemented to limit the spread of the virus.

On 1 December 2021, the Commission approved a €10 million scheme to support companies active in the arts and culture sectors affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The support, in the form of direct grants, aims to mitigate the sudden liquidity shortages the beneficiaries are facing due to the

coronavirus outbreak and the restrictive measures implemented to limit the spread of the virus.

On 2 December 2021, the Commission approved amendments to existing Irish schemes to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The original schemes were approved by the Commission in April 2020 (SA.57036), in June 2020 (SA.57453 and SA.59709), in August 2020 (SA.57465), in March 2021 (SA.61236) and in May 2021 (SA.63067). The amendments were made to accommodate an extension of all schemes until 30 June 2022, an increase of the maximum ceilings for limited amounts of aid and aid in the form of support for uncovered fixed costs, as well as an overall budget increase by €65 million for the 'umbrella' scheme to support companies active in tourism or in directly related sectors (SA.61236).

On 19 January 2022, the Commission approved amendments to an existing scheme to support commercial venues, producers and promoters of live performances affected by the coronavirus pandemic. The modifications regard an overall budget increase by €45 million, and adjustments of eligibility conditions. The purpose of the scheme is to provide support to the beneficiaries and help them continue their economic activity.

• Measures related to public guarantees:

https://enterprise.gov.ie/en/What-We-Do/Supports-for-SMEs/COVID-19-supports/ https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/ireland\_en\_

## Italy:

### 1. Emergency help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 21 May 2020, a €9 billion Italian "umbrella" scheme to support the Italian economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Under the scheme, the Italian Regions and Autonomous Provinces, other territorial bodies as well as Chambers of commerce, will be able to provide support to companies of all sizes, including selfemployed, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and large companies. Public support can be granted through: Direct grants, guarantees on loans and subsidised interest rates for loans. Aid for coronavirus-related research and development (R&D), for the construction and upscaling of facilities to develop and test coronavirus-relevant products, and for the production of coronavirusrelated products, such as vaccines, medical products, treatments and devices, disinfectants and protective clothing, active pharmaceutical ingredients and active substances used for disinfectants. Wage subsidies for employees to avoid lay-offs during the coronavirus outbreak. This scheme aims at supporting companies that face difficulties due to loss of income and liquidity shortages resulting from the economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak. In particular, it will help businesses cover immediate working capital or investment needs. This scheme will also support and promote research and production of coronavirus-related products and will help employees to avoid layoffs in these difficult times.

## 2. Restart help:

Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 16 June 2020, the modifications of the previously approved Italian scheme compensate self-employed workers and companies (with less than 500 employees) affected by the coronavirus outbreak to be in line with EU State aid rules. The budget of the measure has substantially increased. The budget representing the expected public costs of the scheme notified by Italy is now of €25 billion. Furthermore, the maturity of the fully guaranteed loans with an amount up to €30,000 has been increased from six to ten years. The Commission concluded that the scheme, as modified, remains necessary, appropriate and proportionate to remedy a serious disturbance in the Italian economy, in line with Article 107(3)(b) TFEU and the conditions set out in the Temporary Framework.

On 8 July 2020, approved a €6.2 billion Italian scheme to support small businesses and self-employed affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the scheme, the public support will take the form of direct grants. The scheme is open to small businesses and self-employed active in all sectors, except the financial sector and the public administration. The amount of individual aid will be calculated as a percentage of the difference between the turnover recorded by eligible beneficiaries in April 2020 compared to turnover in April 2019 (at a minimum of €1,000 for natural persons and €2,000 for companies). The scheme

## 3. Recovery help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 4 December, a €625 million <u>Italian scheme</u> to support tour operators and travel agencies in Italy affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme aids to mitigate the impact of the crisis for tour operators and travel agencies limited or forbidden to carry out their activities due to the exceptional measures taken by the Italian government to limit the spread of the virus.

On 15 December, the Commission found the modification of the existing Italian "umbrella" scheme to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Italy notified the increase of the budget by €1 billion and the possibility to grant aid in the form of support for uncovered fixed costs, following modifications to the existing scheme. The aid, in the form of direct grants, public guarantees and loans at favourable conditions, aims to support companies of all sizes, including the self-employed and small and medium-sized enterprises, particularly with wage subsidies for employees to avoid lay-offs during the coronavirus outbreak.

On 18 December, the Commission approved a €370 million Italian scheme to support companies active in the congress and fair industry affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme is open to fair agencies and organisers of conventions and trade shows, as well as providers of logistics, transport and stand builders. The support, in the form of direct grants, aims to mitigate the economic

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 25 March 2020 the Italian State guarantee supporting a debt moratorium from banks to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme was approved under the State aid Temporary Framework to support the economy in the context of the COVID-19 outbreak adopted by the Commission on 19 March 2020.

aims at easing liquidity constraints that companies and self-employed are experiencing due to the negative consequences of the coronavirus outbreak, thus helping them continue their activities. The measure is expected to support 2.6 million small businesses and self-employed.

On 3 August 2020, the Commission approved a €300 million aid scheme to companies registered in Italy engaged in international activities and operations, whose activities have been particularly affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The aid will take the form of direct grants, being aimed at supporting companies facing liquidity shortages and ensuring the continuation of their activities.

On 17 September an Italian scheme, with an overall budget of €44 billion, to support large enterprises affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme consist of four measures. The scheme targets large companies that have faced a severe reduction of revenues in 2020. To be eligible, among other criteria, the companies should be considered strategic for the economy and for the labour markets. The measures under the scheme consists of (1) equity injections; (2) mandatory convertible bonds; (3) convertible bonds, upon request of either the beneficiary or the bondholder; and (4) subordinated debt. The four measures are administrated by an ad-hoc special purpose vehicle, "Patrimonio Rilancio".

On 29 September 2020, under the State aid Temporary Framework, a €403 million Italian scheme to reimburse costs borne by Italian companies for introducing protection measures at the workplace in order to reduce the risk of contagion in the context of the coronavirus

difficulties and the sudden liquidity shortages that the beneficiaries are facing due to the restrictive measures that the Italian government had to impose to limit the spread of the virus.

On 16 March 2021, the Commission approved a € 63 million Italian aid scheme to support the uncovered fixed costs of companies active in the trade fairs sector affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support, in the form of direct grants, aims to mitigate the economic difficulties and the liquidity shortages faced by the beneficiaries as a result of the suspension or reduction of their business activity due to the outbreak, and the related measures to limit the spread of the virus.

On 9 April 2021, a €12 million scheme to support publishers and journals of art and tourism materials in Italy, in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the public support, in the form of direct grants, aims to partially compensate the significant reduction of revenues associated to the sale of art and tourism publications in 2020, as a result of the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme aims to address the liquidity needs of the beneficiaries and help them to continue their activities during and after the outbreak.

On 9 June 2021, a €800 million scheme to help companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak and to support the development of coronavirus-relevant products. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the assistance, in the form of direct grants, loans and repayable advances, aims to support companies affected by the coronavirus

outbreak. The measure will be open to companies of all sizes active in all sectors except the financial sector. The scheme aims at preserving the continuity of economic activity during and after the coronavirus outbreak, while protecting people's health and safety. The measure provides for the reimbursement of 100% of costs borne by the beneficiaries for the purchase of devices and equipment for individual protection, in compliance with the measures introduced by the Italian authorities in March 2020 to limit the spread of the coronavirus in workplaces. The aid amount will be at least of €500, with a possible maximum amount of aid of €15,000 for companies with up to 9 workers, €50,000, for companies with between 10 and 50 workers and €100,000 for companies with more than 50 workers.

Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

outbreak, and incentivise economic activities dedicated to research and the production of certain products that are crucial to address the coronavirus outbreak.

On 9 July 2021, the Commission approved, under EU state aid rules, a scheme to support tour operators and travel agents in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme, which follows a previously approved measure, is financed from the existing €625 million budget and aims to compensate businesses that suffered damages due to the restrictive measures imposed to limit the spread of the virus.

On 4 August 2021, the Commission approved a €430 million measure to compensate ski lift operators for the damages suffered due to the restrictive measures implemented to limit the spread of the coronavirus. Under the scheme, the compensation, in the form of direct grants, aims to support the economic activity continuity of the beneficiaries and cover the losses incurred on the background of the pandemic.

On 31 August 2021, the Commission approved a €520 million scheme to compensate companies active in the trade fairs and congress sector and their service providers for the damages suffered due to the restrictive measures introduced to limit the spread of the coronavirus. The support, in the form of direct grants, aims to mitigate the losses incurred by the beneficiaries and help them continue their economic activity.

On 15 September, the Commission approved a €200 million scheme to support companies active in the tourist-accommodation sector affected by the

coronavirus outbreak. Under the scheme, the support, in the form of direct grants, aims to mitigate the sudden liquidity shortages faced by the beneficiaries due to the coronavirus outbreak and the restrictive measures implemented to limit the spread of the virus.

On 10 November 2021, the Commission approved a €4.5 billion scheme to support companies and the economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The assistance, in the form of direct grants, aims to support the beneficiaries to continue their economic activity.

On 19 November 2021, the Commission approved a €140 million scheme to support companies active in sectors particularly affected by the coronavirus outbreak and the restrictive measures implemented to limit the spread of the virus. The public support, in the form of direct grants, aims to help beneficiaries whose activities had been closed, such as discotheques, dance floors, nightclubs and others, to continue their economic activities.

On 30 November 2021, the Commission approved a €400 million scheme to support small and medium-sized enterprises affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The public support, in the form of direct grants and subsidised loans under the de minimis regime, is open to businesses engaging in international activities and operations relevant for the digital and green transition and active in all sectors, except the financial, the primary production of agricultural products and the fishery and aquaculture ones. The purpose of the measure is to support initiatives in the field of the

digital and green transition, initiatives that promote the internationalisation of businesses in the digital environment, and their participation in international events.

On 15 December 2021, the Commission approved a €10 million scheme to support entertainment agencies and tourist villages in the context of the coronavirus pandemic. The assistance, in the form of direct grants, aims to provide support for the beneficiaries' decline in turnover, and help them continue their economic activity.

On 18 January 2022, the Commission approved an umbrella scheme to support companies in the context of the coronavirus pandemic. The scheme is a re-introduction of a previously-approved measure that was subsequently amended in April 2021. The approved scheme includes an overall budget increase of €2.5 billion, from €12.5 billion to €15 billion, and an increase in the maximum aid amounts per beneficiary. The aim of the scheme is to support companies in difficulty due to loss of income and liquidity shortages resulting from the economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak.

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 16 November, a €175 million Italian scheme to support companies operating in the tourism and thermal bath sectors affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The support will take the form of an exemption from the obligation to pay certain social contributions. The scheme aims to reduce the labour costs borne by private employers active in the tourism and thermal bath sectors, to keep employment levels in the context of the coronavirus

outbreak. The measure provides for a total exemption from the payment of employers' social security contributions (except for contributions to insurance for accidents at work), for a maximum period of three months.

On 2 August 2021, the Commission approved a €868 million scheme to reduce the labour costs borne by private employers operating in the tourism, spas, commerce, cultural or recreational sectors, which have been particularly affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The support, in the form of a social security contribution exemption, aims to help preserve employment levels.

On 17 September 2021, the Commission approved a €1.24 billion scheme to support companies hiring young workforce in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme, in the form of an exemption from social security contribution payments, aims to reduce the labour costs of the beneficiaries, therefore help address their liquidity needs and promote the employment of young people.

On 18 October 2021, the Commission approved a €31.9 billion scheme to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme consists of two measures, granting limited amounts of aid and support for incurred uncovered fixed costs incurred between March 2020 and December 2021, and is open to companies of all sizes operating in all sectors except the financial one. The support, in the form of tax exemptions and reductions, tax credits and direct grants, aims to help the beneficiaries address their liquidity needs and cover the fixed costs derived from the lack of revenue.

On 10 November 2021, the Commission approved
a €245 million scheme to support companies active
in the textile, fashion, and accessories sector
affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The support,
in the form of a tax credit, is open to all companies
and aims to mitigate the sudden liquidity shortages
faced by the beneficiaries due to the restrictive
measures implemented to limit the spread of the
virus.

www.governo.it | Governo Italiano Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/italy\_en">https://ec.europa.eu/competition/state aid/cases1/202112/291754 2256990 60 2.pdf</a>

### Latvia:

#### 1. Emergency help:

• Expenditure measures:

On 23 March, two Latvian support measures under the State aid Temporary Framework. The schemes aim at enhancing the access to external financing for companies that are the most severely affected by the economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak: one is a loan guarantee scheme, and the other a subsidised loan scheme

On 29 May 2020, a €800,000 Latvian scheme to support tour operators that bore the costs of the repatriation of travellers in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The public support, which will take the form of direct grants, is intended to cover the financial costs incurred by those operators for the repatriation to Latvia of travellers who were on holiday abroad in the course of the outbreak. The aid will be channelled through the Latvian Consumer Rights Protection Centre. The purpose of the scheme is to mitigate the liquidity shortages that tour operators had to face due to the costs incurred to repatriate travellers and to help them progressively resume their activities during and after the outbreak

• Measures related to public guarantees:

## 2. Restart help:

Expenditure measures:

On 31 July 2020, a €19 million Latvian scheme to support tourism and events operators, which had to limit, suspend or cease their activities due to the emergency measures adopted in order to limit the spread of the coronavirus. The public support will take the form of direct grants and will amount to 30% of the mandatory state social security contributions paid by the beneficiary in 2019. Companies that have faced an income loss of at least 30% over one month during the period from April to June 2020, compared to the same month in 2019, will be eligible for aid under this scheme. In addition, the grants should be used for the remuneration of employees' work. The aim of the measure is to facilitate access to finance and to mitigate the sudden liquidity shortages that the affected companies are facing.

On 4 August 2020, the Commission approved a Latvian scheme with an estimated budget of €51 million, to support companies engaged in the export of goods and services in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The financial support, which will take the form of direct grants, will cover up to 25% of the mandatory social security contributions paid by the beneficiaries. The scheme will benefit around 350 companies, and will be open to those with exporting activities active in all sectors. The purpose of the scheme is to address the liquidity needs of companies affected by the current crisis, and to help them to continue their activities, start

## 3. Recovery help:

• Expenditure measures:

On 17 December, the Commission approved a €70.8 million Latvian scheme to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The support, in the form of direct grants, is open to companies active in all sectors, excluding primary producers of agricultural products, public companies and financial institutions. The aim of the measure is to help beneficiaries counter the decrease in working capital in the context of the second wave of the coronavirus.

On 19 January 2021, the Commission approved a €5 million Latvian scheme to support organisers of cultural events who had to cancel announced public cultural events due to the restrictive measures implemented by the Latvian government to limit the spread of the coronavirus. The support, in the form of direct grants, aims to mitigate the sudden liquidity shortages that these companies are facing due to the coronavirus outbreak.

On 12 May 2021, the Commission approved a €6 million scheme to support companies active in the arts, entertainment and recreation sectors in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the scheme is open to companies whose operations were affected by the government-imposed restrictive measures to limit the spread of the coronavirus. The support, in the form of direct grants and loans, aims to support companies' working capital and

investments and maintain employment during and after the outbreak.

Measures related to public guarantees:

mitigate the negative impact of the coronavirus outbreak on their financial situation.

On 25 May 2021, the Commission approved a €20 million measure to support owners of shopping centres in Latvia, in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the public support, in the form of direct grants, aims to cover costs related to the use of the buildings from 1 December 2020 to 31 December 2021.

On 14 December 2021, the Commission approved an amendment to an existing scheme to support companies affected by the coronavirus pandemic, whose turnover has declined due to the outbreak and the restrictive measures put in place to limit the spread of the virus. The support, in the form of direct grants, aims to help the beneficiaries continue their economic activity and help preserve jobs.

• Measures related to public guarantees:

On 6 December 2021, the Commission approved a €21.9 million scheme to support companies and the self-employed affected by the coronavirus pandemic and the restrictive measures implemented to limit the spread of the virus. The assistance, in the form of interest-free deferrals of payment of taxes and social security contributions, aims to enhance the liquidity of the beneficiaries and help them continue their activities during and after the pandemic.

## Lithuania:

#### 1. Emergency help:

#### • Expenditure measures:

On 30 April, a Lithuanian rent compensation scheme to support tenants operating in certain sectors, including retail, hotels, restaurants, culture and sports. The scheme will be accessible to companies operating in certain sectors defined by Lithuania, including retail, hotels, restaurants, culture and sports and whose annual turnover in the previous year does not exceed €50 million. The public support will take the form of direct grants to cover part of the rents due by those companies. The scheme aims at mitigating the sudden liquidity shortages that tenants operating in certain sectors are facing due to the measures imposed by the Lithuanian State to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

On 25 May 2020, a Lithuanian scheme, with an estimated budget of €10 million, to support of cultural and art institutions and organisations, in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The measure, which will take the form of direct grants, is intended to support the creation of new products and/or services by cultural and art institutions and organisations in the period between 19 March and 31 December 2020. The objective of the scheme is to help ensure the continuation of activities of these organisations during and after the outbreak. It also aims at promoting the creation of digital cultural products and services, in view of the physical restrictions and other adjustments introduced by

## 2. Restart help:

#### • Expenditure measures:

On 11 September 2020, a €1 million Lithuanian scheme to support tour operators that had to repatriate travellers in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The public support will take the form of direct grants and will amount to 75% of the expenses incurred by the operator to repatriate travellers from abroad between 26 February and 31 March 2020. The purpose of the measure is to mitigate the sudden liquidity shortages that the affected tour operators are facing because of the repatriation costs.

• Measures related to public guarantees:

On 26 June 2020, two Lithuanian measures, with an estimated total budget of €50 million, to support travel agencies, tour operators, accommodation and catering businesses which were affected by the measures adopted by the Lithuanian authorities to face the coronavirus health emergency. The public support will take the form of: (i) individual guarantees to ensure that tour operators can respect their contractual obligations, in particular in case of insolvency or bankruptcy; and (ii) loans to tour operators, accommodation and public catering service providers. The first measure will provide guarantees to tour operators established in Lithuania, with a maximum amount not exceeding €800,000 per beneficiary. The second measure will provide loans to tour operators to finance the reimbursement of travellers for trips that did not

## 3. Recovery help:

• Expenditure measures:

On 23 December, the Commission approved a €150 million Lithuanian aid scheme to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The public support, in the form of direct grants, is open to companies active in all sectors of the economy, except the agricultural, fishery, aquaculture and financial ones. The scheme aims to mitigate the liquidity shortages faced by the beneficiaries due to the coronavirus outbreak, and help the beneficiaries continue their activities during and after the pandemic.

On 12 April 2021, the Commission approved a €120 million aid scheme to support companies that had to suspend or reduce their activities due to government-imposed restrictive measures aimed at limiting the spread of the coronavirus. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the scheme is open to companies active in the sectors most affected by the outbreak except the agriculture, forestry, fishing, credit, insurance, pension funding, and the financial ones. The aim of the scheme is to help the beneficiaries address their liquidity needs and continue their activities during and after the outbreak.

• Measures related to public guarantees:

On 23 December, the Commission approved a €30 million Lithuanian scheme to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The support

the Lithuanian government to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

• Measures related to public guarantees:

On 8 April, a Lithuanian aid scheme to support the Lithuanian economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The Lithuanian support measure is a guarantee scheme for working capital and investment loans granted by commercial banks to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The support under the Lithuanian scheme will be open to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and large companies facing difficulties as a result of the economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak. The aim of the scheme is to help businesses to cover their immediate working capital or investment needs, thus ensuring the continuation of their activities.

On 10 April, two Lithuanian aid schemes to support the Lithuanian economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The Lithuanian support measures, offered by the national promotional institution INVEGA, aim at providing liquidity in the form of subsidised loans to companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak, in particular: (i) The first measure, which is offered to SMEs via financial intermediaries, will facilitate access to finance in the form of subsidised loans for enterprises facing cash shortages. (ii) The second measure, which is directly provided to companies, concerns loans for outstanding invoices.

On 26 May 2020, Lithuanian plans to set up a fund with a target size of up to €1 billion that will invest through debt and equity instruments in medium-

occur as a result of coronavirus-related travel restrictions, as well as to accommodation and catering service providers for the costs incurred as a result of the same restrictions. The purpose of the measures is to facilitate access to finance and to mitigate the sudden liquidity shortages that the affected companies are facing.

On 18 November, €100 million Lithuanian scheme enabling the deferred payment of social security contributions for enterprises affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme is open to businesses active in sectors affected by the emergency measures ordered by the Lithuanian government to limit the spread of the coronavirus. The aim of the measure is to address the liquidity needs of the eligible enterprises, and help them continue their activities during and after the outbreak.

makes available loans of up to €100,000 with subsidised interest rates provided by *Investicijų ir verslo garantijos* (Invega), a Lithuanian promotional institution. The scheme is open to companies active in all sectors of the economy except the agricultural, fishery, aquaculture and financial ones. The scheme aims to enhance access to financing for the beneficiaries, helping them continue their activities during and after the outbreak.

On 19 January 2021, the Commission approved a €156 million Lithuanian aid scheme for enterprises affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The public support, in the form of tax deferrals and tax-related liquidity measures, aims to address the liquidity needs of the beneficiaries and help them continue their activities during and after the outbreak.

On 12 April 2021, the Commission approved a €120 million aid scheme to support companies that had to suspend or reduce their activities due to government-imposed restrictive measures aimed at limiting the spread of the coronavirus. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the scheme is open to companies active in the sectors most affected by the outbreak except the agriculture, forestry, fishing, credit, insurance, pension funding, and the financial ones. The aim of the scheme is to help the beneficiaries address their liquidity needs and continue their activities during and after the outbreak.

sized and large enterprises active in Lithuania affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the scheme, the support will take the form of subsidised debt instruments and recapitalisation instruments. The State will provide an initial investment of €100 million in the fund, and will guarantee bonds up to €400 million that will be issued to raise additional capital for the fund. The State's total investment in the fund may therefore increase up to €500 million. The fund will also aim to attract private investments for up to additional €500 million. Private investments will be made on different terms with respect to the State: the risksharing arrangements will be determined through an open, transparent, non-discriminatory call in order to minimise any possible aid to private investors.

https://lrv.lt/en

https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/lithuania en

# Luxemburg:

#### 1. Emergency help:

- Expenditure measures:
- Measures related to public guarantees:

On 24 March 2020, Luxembourg's scheme to support companies and liberal professions affected by the economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak. The support takes the form of a repayable advance to allow beneficiaries to cover their operating costs in the difficult situation caused by the coronavirus outbreak.

On 25 May 2020, a €30 million Luxembourg aid scheme to support investments by companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme will be accessible to companies of all sizes active in all sectors, with some exceptions defined by Luxembourg, namely companies active in the financial sector, in the fishery and aquaculture sectors and in the primary production of agricultural products. The objective of the scheme is to enable companies experiencing a decrease in liquidity due to the coronavirus outbreak to undertake investments that they would not otherwise undertake due to the current crisis.

## 2. Restart help:

• Expenditure measures:

On 2 June 2020, two Luxemburgish State aid schemes, for a total estimated amount of €260 million, to support certain companies severely affected by the coronavirus outbreak. In the framework of both schemes, the aid will be given in the form of direct grants. The first scheme, with an estimated budget of €200 million, will be open to businesses of all sizes operating in certain sectors defined by Luxembourg (including hotels. restaurants, and travel and event organisers). These businesses will be able to benefit from the scheme if they have had a fall in turnover of at least 25% due to the coronavirus outbreak, during the first half of 2020 and if this situation is expected to continue during the second half of 2020. The second scheme, with an estimated budget of €60 million, will be open to micro and SMEs in the retail sector, or offering certain categories of services, as defined by Luxembourg (such as hairdressers, opticians, stylists, dry-cleaning and laundry services). These businesses can benefit if they have had to suspend their activities or have registered a fall in turnover of at least 50% between March and May 2020 due to the pandemic. The aim of these State aid schemes it to respond to companies' sudden need for liquidity as a result of the coronavirus outbreak, and to help them continue their activities.

## 3. Recovery help:

Expenditure measures:

On 24 November, a Luxembourg state aid scheme of around €120 million, to support the uncovered costs of companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The support, in the form of direct grants, was earmarked to provide economic assistance to businesses, including those operating in the hospitality, accommodation and entertainment sectors, to help with the liquidity shortages faced due to the coronavirus outbreak.

on 25 November, a €60 million Luxembourg aid scheme to support certain companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The public support, in the form of direct grants, was earmarked for addressing the liquidity needs of the beneficiaries and help them continue their activities during and after the outbreak. Targeted sectors include hotel and camping, restaurant and catering services, travel and event organisation services, retail trade or vocational training.

• Measures related to public guarantees:

• Measures related to public guarantees:

On 1 July 2020, under EU State aid rules, a €145 million Luxembourgish reinsurance scheme to support the trade credit insurance market in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Trade credit insurance protects companies supplying goods and services against the risk of non-payment by their clients. Given the economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak, the risk of insurers not being willing to maintain their insurance coverage has become higher. The Luxembourgish reinsurance scheme, with a total budget of €145 million, ensures that trade credit insurance continues to be available to all companies, avoiding the need for buyers of goods or services to pay in advance, therefore reducing their immediate liquidity needs.

https://meco.gouvernement.lu/en/dossiers/2020/coronoavirus-entreprises.html
https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/luxembourg\_en

## Malta:

#### 1. Emergency help:

#### • Expenditure measures:

On 24 April 2020, a Maltese wage subsidies schemeto support companies operating in the sectors affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The Maltese support measure will finance the wage costs of employers that, due to the coronavirus outbreak, would otherwise have laid off employees. The scheme will be accessible to companies of all sizes and also self-employed individuals operating in sectors that are strongly affected by the current health crisis and the containment measures adopted by national authorities. The aim of the scheme is to preserve employment and avoid layoffs of employees at a time when many business activities are either suspended or significantly reduced.

• Measures related to public guarantees:

On 2 April 2020, a Maltese State aid scheme to support the economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The support takes the form of a guarantee scheme for working capital loans granted by commercial banks to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak.

On 14 May 2020, a €40 million Maltese interest rate subsidy scheme to support companies facing acute liquidity shortages due to the current coronavirus outbreak. The purpose of the scheme is to address the liquidity needs of companies of all sizes in Malta. The support will take the form of an interest

## 2. Restart help:

#### • Expenditure measures:

on 16 July 2020, a €108 million Maltese scheme to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The public support will take the form of direct grants and will be open to companies of all sizes active in all sectors, except the financial sector. Under the scheme, companies will be granted up to €7,500 per company to cover rental costs, and up to €7,500 per company to cover electricity bills. The measure is expected to benefit 20,000 companies. The aim of the scheme is to address the liquidity needs of companies affected by the current crisis and to help them to continue their activities, start investments and maintain employment during and after the outbreak.

• Measures related to public guarantees:

On 6 July 2020, a bond subscription facility of € 18.7 million by the Malta Development Bank (MDB) to support a bond issue by real estate developer Mediterranean Investment Holdings p.l.c. (MIH). In July 2020, MIH will issue a €20 million bond on the Maltese Stock Exchange Market to cover its financial needs. The Maltese financial markets have been experiencing a sharp decrease in investor confidence since the start of the coronavirus outbreak. There is therefore a risk that the bond will be undersubscribed. This could risk resulting in a broader contagion, especially since MIH belongs to the Corinthia Group, the largest issuer of fixed-income securities on the Maltese

### 3. Recovery help:

• Expenditure measures:

On 27 May 2021, the Commission approved a €215 million wage subsidy scheme to support companies operating in sectors affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support aims to finance the wage costs of employers and help them avoid layoffs. The scheme is accessible to companies of all sizes and self-employed individuals operating in sectors strongly affected by the current health crisis and the containment measures adopted by the national authorities.

On 26 November 2021, the Commission approved a €10 million support package for tourism and other related sectors directly affected by the coronavirus outbreak and the restrictive measures put in place to limit the spread of the virus. This public support is open to small and medium-sized enterprises and microenterprises active in the accommodation, travel, tourist events and cultural heritage sites sectors. The package consists of three schemes aimed at supporting the organisation of meetings, conferences and exhibitions, cultural heritage sites and licensed tour operators offering travel package holidays to Malta.

• Measures related to public guarantees:

rate subsidy by covering the interest costs on the initial two years of a loan, which will result in lower interest rates for the borrower. Consequently, the measure will mitigate the pressure on the liquidity and financial sustainability of Maltese companies. This measure follows the €350 million guarantee scheme, which was approved on 2 April 2020.

Stock Exchange. Through the bond subscription facility, the MDB would cover the part of MIH's bond, if any, that remains unsubscribed by the market – up to a maximum of €18.7 million, with an annual interest rate of 5.5%.

On 8 September 2020, a €67.5 million Maltese scheme to support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs. The public support will take the form of State guarantees on loans for a nominal value of up to €250,000 per company. The purpose of the scheme is to provide access to working capital to those SMEs that are facing sudden liquidity shortages due to the coronavirus outbreak.

https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/malta\_en\_

## The Netherlands:

#### 1. Emergency help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 29 May 2020, under EU State aid rules, Dutch plans to set up a new development finance institution named "Invest International". Invest International will be set up as a joint venture between the Dutch State and the existing Dutch development finance institution FMO. The Dutch State would grant start-up capital of up to €800 million and provide yearly subsidies of €9 million. Invest International will have as objectives to support the foreign trade and international cooperation objectives of the Dutch authorities by supporting entrepreneurs and international projects in low-income, lower-middle-income and upper-middle-income countries. The scope of Invest International's activities will provide additional financing to companies and projects that otherwise remain underfinanced because of market failures. Concretely, Invest International will focus on improving access to finance to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), certain smallmidcaps and local public authorities for the execution of projects that are in line with Invest International's objectives. The Commission found that the creation of Invest International is an appropriate and proportionate solution to provide additional financing to companies and projects that otherwise remain underfinanced because of market failures. Furthermore, Invest International will implement safeguards to ensure that the state-

## 2. Restart help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 29 June 2020, a Dutch scheme, with an estimated budget of €1.4 billion, to support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The public support will take the form of direct grants of up to €50,000 per company. The scheme will be open to SMEs active in all sectors. The purpose of the scheme is to address the liquidity needs of companies affected by the current crisis and to help them to continue their activities, start investments and maintain employment during and after the outbreak.

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

## 3. Recovery help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 12 February 2021, the Commission approved, under EU state aid rules, a €38.7 million Dutch scheme to support zoos in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme consists of two measures covering the periods from 18 March to 14 May 2020, and from 15 May to 30 September 2020, respectively.

On 16 March 2021, the Commission confirmed that subsequent modifications to a scheme aimed at supporting small and medium-sized enterprises affected by the coronavirus outbreak were in line with the state aid Temporary Framework. The scheme, initially approved in June 2020 and subsequently modified in November 2020 and February 2021, was extended to large enterprises and its budget increased to around €2 billion from €970 million originally. The amendments also provide that additional aid may be granted to companies active in the non-food retail, travel and agricultural sectors.

On 14 June 2021, a €385 million scheme to support event organisers in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The measure, open to event organisers of all sizes active in the Netherlands, aims to compensate the beneficiaries for the costs of organising events planned by the end of 2021, that may be cancelled because of the restrictive

supported institution does not crowd out private financial institutions.

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 22 April, a Dutch loan guarantee scheme of up to €10 billion to support the Dutch economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme was approved under the State aid Temporary Framework adopted by the Commission on 19 March 2020, as amended on 3 April 2020. The loan guarantee scheme for working capital and investment loans granted by banks will help Dutch companies meet their liquidity needs in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme only covers loans granted by banks as of 24 March 2020. The Dutch State will guarantee 90% of new loans to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and 80% of new loans to large enterprises. On 24 April 2020, a Dutch State aid scheme to support small and medium-sized companies (SMEs) in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The Netherlands' public support, which will take the form of subsidised interest rates on loans, will be accessible to those SMEs whose main source of financing derives from external equity, venture capital or microcredit. The aim of the scheme is to help those companies which are experiencing difficulties in accessing liquidity due to the coronavirus outbreak cover their immediate working capital and investment needs, thus helping them to continue their activities

measures imposed by the government to limit the spread of the virus.

On 22 June 2021, modifications to an existing scheme aimed at supporting small and medium-sized enterprises affected by the coronavirus outbreak were in line with the state aid Temporary Framework. The scheme was previously modified in November 2020 and February 2021 to accommodate the additional needs of the beneficiaries. The latest amendments include an overall budget increase of €3.5 billion, an extension of the eligible period, an increase in the aid amount per beneficiary and a prolongation of additional aid for companies active in the agricultural sector.

On 16 February 2022, the Commission approved a €120 million scheme to support companies of all sizes active in all sectors, in the context of the coronavirus pandemic. The aim of the scheme is to compensate the beneficiaries for the costs of events cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic and restrictive measures implemented to limit the spread of the virus.

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 4 November a €165 million Dutch measure to support the five Dutch Travel Guarantee Funds that operate package travel guarantee schemes in the Netherlands. The support will take the form of subsidised loans to ensure sufficient liquidity to guarantee all payments made by travellers for package tours that had to be cancelled due to the coronavirus outbreak.

On 21 January the House of Representatives voted in favour of a cancellation fund scheme to allow



https://business.gov.nl/corona/overview/the-coronavirus-and-your-company/ https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/netherlands\_en https://www.kvk.nl/english/

#### Poland:

### 1. Emergency help:

• Expenditure measures:

On 8 April 2020, under the Temporary Framework, a Polish aid scheme to support the economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Following the approval by the Commission of a Polish guarantee scheme on 3 April, this new scheme will be cofinanced by European Union funds under shared management, notably the European Regional Development Fund and the European Social Fund. Under this scheme, the Polish authorities will be able to grant aid to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak by providing liquidity support in the form of guarantees on loans and subsidised interest rates for loans.

On 10 April, a Polish scheme to support the Polish economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The Polish support measure, in the form of direct grants, is intended to partially cover interests on loans, which should normally be borne by the borrower. The scheme will be open to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and large companies facing difficulties as a result of the economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak. The aim of the scheme is to help businesses to cover their immediate capital needs, thus ensuring the continuation of their activities.

On 23 April 2020, 11 Polish State aid schemes to support the Polish economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The 11 Polish support schemes will support companies affected by the

## 2. Restart help:

- Expenditure measures:
- Measures related to public guarantees:

On 2 June 2020, under EU State aid rules, an approximately €1.6 billion (PLN 7.5 billion) Polish scheme that partially compensates large enterprises and certain small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) for the losses suffered due to the coronavirus outbreak and provides them with direct liquidity through loans. The scheme, which will be managed by the Polish Development Fund, is part of the "Financial Shield for Large Enterprises", a support programme set up by the Polish authorities. The support will be given in the form of subsidised loans at favourable interest rates which can be redeemed by 30 September 2021 in an amount not exceeding 75% of the actual damage incurred by the beneficiary companies from 1 March until at the latest 31 August 2020 directly due to the coronavirus outbreak.

On 11 June 2020, a Polish recapitalisation scheme of up to €1.65 billion (PLN 7.5 billion) to support large enterprises and certain larger small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme, which will be managed by the Polish Development Fund, is part of the "Financial Shield for Large Enterprises", a support programme set up by the Polish authorities which has an overall budget of approximately EUR 5.5 billion (PLN 25 billion). Under the scheme, the support will take the form of

## 3. Recovery help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 20 January 2021, the Commission approved a €1.9 billion Polish scheme to support companies operating in certain sectors affected by the coronavirus-outbreak. The scheme aims to provide support to companies of all sizes operating in several sectors affected by the coronavirus outbreak, including gastronomy, fitness, fairs, stage, film, entertainment and recreation. photography and physiotherapy. These companies could not provide services due to the measures introduced by the Polish government to limit the spread of the virus, or had to bear costs related to sanitary restrictions resulting in a decrease in attendance. Under the scheme, the public support will take the form of direct grants and exemptions from payment of contributions.

On 2 June 2021, modifications to an existing scheme to support companies in the tourism and cultural sectors as in line with the state aid Temporary Framework. The modifications were approved to allow for a budgetary increase to approximately €593 million, broaden the scope of the eligible beneficiaries, and extend the maximum amount of aid and the scheme duration.

On 25 June 2021, the Commission approved a €139.7 million scheme to support bus operators affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the assistance, in the form of direct grants, aims to compensate the

coronavirus outbreak. Under the schemes, the public support will take the form of (i) direct grants, (ii) repayable advances, (iii) tax and payments advantages, (iv) deferrals of tax payments and (vi) wage subsidies. The schemes, which will be open to micro (including self-employed workers), small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and large companies facing economic difficulties and liquidity shortages due to the coronavirus outbreak, is expected to benefit around 2.5 million businesses, including 2 million self-employed workers.

• Measures related to public guarantees:

On 11 May 2020, a €450 million scheme (approximately PLN 2 billion) to support the Polish economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The support measures available under the scheme will be co-financed by the EU structural funds (ESIF). The Polish support measure will take the form of loans and public guarantees on loans.

On 29 May 2020, under EU State aid rules, an approximately €1.6 billion (PLN 7.5 billion) Polish scheme that partially compensates large enterprises and certain small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) for the losses suffered due to the coronavirus outbreak and provides them with direct liquidity through loans. The scheme is part of a wider Polish support programme, the so-called "Financial Shield for Large Enterprises". The scheme, which will be managed by the Polish Development Fund, is part of the "Financial Shield for Large Enterprises", a support programme set up by the Polish authorities which has an overall budget of approximately EUR 5.5 billion and will be open to large enterprises and certain larger SMEs registered in Poland. The support will be given in

recapitalisation instruments, in particular equity instruments (acquisition of ordinary and preferred shares in public and private companies) and hybrid capital instruments (convertible bonds and loans).

On 21 September 2020, an approximately €193 million (PLN 851.9 million) Polish scheme to support companies operating in the tourism and cultural sector affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The support will take the form of (i) subsidised interest rates on loans, (ii) direct grants, and (iii) exemptions from the obligation to pay certain social contributions. Under the subsidised interest rates measure, the State support will cover the reimbursements, on behalf of tour operators, of package tours cancelled because of the coronavirus outbreak. The aid in the form of direct grants will support companies operating in the tourism and cultural sector, which had to interrupt their activities due to the coronavirus outbreak. The exemption from the obligation to pay certain contributions will support companies active in the tourism and cultural sector, which have lost more than 80% of their revenues due to the outbreak.

beneficiaries for the damages suffered due to the restrictive measures implemented to limit the spread of the virus.

• Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 16 November, the Commission approved a €264 million Polish scheme to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the scheme will grant public support in the form of tax deferrals and tax-related liquidity measures to companies of all sectors (except the financial sector) that suffer a decrease of 25% of their turnover during the crisis. The aim of the scheme is to address the liquidity needs of businesses, and help them to continue their activities during and after the outbreak. The measure is expected to benefit around 300,000 companies.

On 23 December, the Commission approved a €2.9 billion Polish scheme to support micro, small and medium-sized enterprises in certain sectors, including the retail, hospitality, leisure and transport ones, affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support, in the form of repayable advances, aims to provide relief from the liquidity shortages businesses are facing due to the pandemic.

On 12 March 2021, a €1.1 billion Polish scheme to support companies in various sectors affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the scheme consists of four measures aimed to help the beneficiaries meet their liquidity needs and continue their activities.

the form of subsidised loans at favourable interest rates which can be redeemed by 30 September 2021 in an amount not exceeding 75% of the actual damage incurred by the beneficiary companies from 1 March until at the latest 31 August 2020 directly due to the coronavirus outbreak. Beneficiaries of the aid will therefore have access to immediate liquidity, through loans. The aid is planned to be granted in the form of loans to be partially written-off later by an amount equivalent to the calculated damages suffered due to the coronavirus outbreak.

• Expenditure measures:

A package of loans to firms that can amount up to PLN 100 bln (4.5% of GDP). Operational and technical details of those measures differ depending on the firms' size (micro – up to 9, SME – 10-250 and large – over 250 employees).

Measures related to public guarantees:

Guarantees of the development bank (Bank Gospodarstwa Krajowego – BGK). A scheme of guarantees for medium and large companies affected by the pandemic worth in total PLN 100 billion (4.5% of GDP). A guarantee for a single company can amount up to PLN 200 million, for loans up to PLN 250 million (80%). The intended purpose of the loan is to ensure the company's financial liquidity.

On 9 February 2021, a €94.6 million Polish scheme to support non-governmental organisations, other entities engaged in public benefit work and religious legal entities affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the scheme is open to all such entities and consists of two measures: one in the form of a low-interest loan covering the running costs of nongovernmental organisations or other entities engaged in public benefit work, and the other, in the form of a wage subsidy to cover part of remuneration and social security contributions of religious entities. The aim of the scheme is to address the liquidity needs of the beneficiaries and to help them continue their activity during and after the outbreak.

On 2 June 2021, under EU state aid rules, a €800 million scheme to ensure that trade credit insurance continues to be available to all companies, avoiding the need for buyers of goods or services to pay in advance, therefore reducing their immediate liquidity needs.

On 18 June 2021, under EU state aid rules, a scheme to partially compensate large companies active in all sectors for the damages suffered due to the coronavirus outbreak. The aid, in the form of subsidised loans at favourable interest rates, aims to support the beneficiaries' immediate liquidity needs.

On 22 June 2021, the modification of an existing €1.1 billion scheme to support companies in various sectors affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the scheme consists of four measures aimed to help the beneficiaries meet their liquidity needs and continue their activities. The modification increased the budget to €5.2 billion, amended the eligibility criteria and extended the number of times that companies can benefit from aid.

https://www.gov.pl/web/coronavirus

https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/poland\_en

## Portugal:

#### 1. Emergency help: 2. Restart help: 3. Recovery help: • Expenditure measures (direct grants): • Expenditure measures (direct grants): • Expenditure measures (direct grants): Measures related to public guarantees, loans, Measures related to public guarantees, loans On 10 May 2021, the Commission approved a €22 tax deferrals: tax deferrals: million scheme to support micro- and SMEs in the region of Madeira, in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme, "APOIAR.PT.Madeira", is On 22 March 2020, four Portuguese guarantee schemes for small and medium-sized enterprises open to companies operating in the sectors most (SMEs) and midcaps affected by the Coronavirus affected. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the public support, in the form of direct outbreak. The schemes were approved under the State aid Temporary Framework, and apply in four grants, aims to help companies that have experienced a fall in turnover of at least 25% in different sectors: (i) tourism; (ii) restaurants; (iii) 2020 compared to the same period in 2019. extractive and manufacturing industry; and (iv) agency activities, tourism, event travel organisation. • Measures related to public guarantees, loans, On 4 April 2020, two Portuguese State aid tax deferrals: schemes to support the Portuguese economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The On 30 November, a €1.2 billion Portuguese schemes are to support companies affected by the scheme to support micro companies and SMEs coronavirus outbreak: a direct grant scheme, and a active in sectors particularly affected by the State guarantee scheme for investment and coronavirus outbreak. Direct grants available under working capital loans granted by commercial two different measures: 'Apoiar.PT', open to banks. The support under both schemes will be companies exclusively active in commerce and accessible to small and medium-sized enterprises services open to consumers, cultural activities, (SMEs) and large companies facing difficulties due touristic activities, the hospitality sector, and food to the economic impact of the coronavirus and beverage service activities, and 'Apoiar outbreak. The aim of the schemes is to help Restauração', open to companies in the food and businesses to cover their immediate working beverage sector. The aim of the measures is to capital or investment needs, thus ensuring the address the liquidity needs of the beneficiaries, and continuation of their activities help them continue their activities during and after the outbreak.

https://eportugal.gov.pt/en/noticias/governo-lanca-site-sobre-o-plano-de-resposta-a-covid19
https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/portugal\_en\_

### Romania:

#### 1. Emergency help:

#### • Expenditure measures:

On 11 April 2020, a Romanian scheme to support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Under the scheme, support will be granted in the form of: Direct grants, and State guarantees for investment and working capital loans. The support under the scheme will be accessible to SMEs facing difficulties as a result of the economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak. The aim of the scheme is to help businesses cover their immediate working capital or investment needs, thus ensuring the continuation of their activities.

• Measures related to public guarantees:

# 2. Restart help:

Expenditure measures:

On 27 August 2020, a €935 million (RON 4.521 billion) Romanian scheme for supporting companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The public support will take the form of direct grants for working capital and productive investments, and will be co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund. The measure will be accessible to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) active in specific sectors and certain large companies related to the eligible SMEs, which have been negatively impacted by the coronavirus outbreak. The aim of the scheme is to provide liquidity to these companies, thus enabling them to continue their activities, start investments and maintain employment.

On 24 November, a €216 million Romanian scheme to support small and medium enterprises affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the scheme, in the form of direct grants, was earmarked to help businesses cover liquidity shortages faced due to the coronavirus crisis, and to ensure that they have diversified financing channels.

• Measures related to public guarantees:

On 2 July 2020, a RON 4 billion (approximately €800 million) Romanian scheme to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the scheme, the public support will take the

# 3. Recovery help:

• Expenditure measures:

On 11 February 2021, the Commission approved a €35 million Portuguese scheme to support micro, small and medium-sized enterprises with head offices or permanent establishments in the region of the Azores in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme is open to companies from sectors most severely affected by the economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the public support, in the form of direct grants, is open to companies that have experienced a 25% fall in turnover in the first three guarters of 2020 compared to the same period in 2019. The scheme was complemented by a €15 million measure approved on 2 March 2021, aimed at supporting companies with 25% falls in turnover in the last quarter of 2020 compared to the same period in 2019.

On 21 June 2021, the Commission approved €610,000 scheme to support companies active in the independent cultural sector in Bucharest, in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support, in the form of direct grants, aims to mitigate the liquidity shortages faced by the beneficiaries due to the restrictive measures implemented to limit the spread of the virus.

On 27 October 2021, the Commission approved a €358 million scheme to support small and mediumsized enterprises affected by the coronavirus form of subsidised loans and State guarantees on loans. The measures will be managed by the development bank arm of Export Import Bank of Romania ("EximBank"), acting on behalf of the Romanian State and in full independence of the commercial activities of EximBank. The scheme will be open to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) with a turnover of above RON 20 million (approximately €4 million) in 2019 and to large companies. The measures aim at enhancing access to financing for these companies, thus enabling them to continue their activities during and after the coronavirus outbreak.

outbreak and the restrictive measures implemented to limit the spread of the virus. The aid, in the form of direct grants for investments, is open to businesses active in sectors particularly affected by the coronavirus outbreak, such as processing industry, construction, wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, transport and storage. The scheme is expected to benefit 4,000 beneficiaries.

Measures related to public guarantees:

On 16 October, under EU State aid rules, a €103 million Romanian guarantee scheme to support the trade credit insurance market in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme ensures that trade credit insurance continues to be available to all companies, avoiding the need for buyers of goods or services to pay in advance, therefore reducing their immediate liquidity needs.

https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/romania en

### Slovakia:

#### 1. Emergency help:

#### • Expenditure measures:

On 21 April 2020, a Slovak aid scheme for preserving employment and supporting selfemployed individuals affected by the coronavirus outbreak and the emergency measures taken by the State. The Slovak support measure is a wage subsidy aid scheme that would allow the Slovak authorities to finance a part of the wage costs (including employer's social security contributions) of undertakings that, due to the coronavirus outbreak, would otherwise have laid off personnel. The compensation will benefit employers that will preserve jobs despite the obligation to cease or reduce economic activities based on the emergency state measures. The scheme would also allow the Slovak authorities to compensate self-employed persons and employers affected by lower revenues due to the crisis or by the imposed restrictions of their operations. The measure is expected to support the jobs of close to 400,000 employees and 300,000 self-employed persons.

• Measures related to public guarantees:

# 2. Restart help:

#### • Expenditure measures:

On 16 June 2020, a €200 million Slovak scheme to support companies renting premises, which were limited or to carry out their activities due to the measures imposed by the Slovak government in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. These companies had to close business in the premises. interrupt teaching (in schools and school facilities) or exclude the presence of the public from the establishment due to the coronavirus outbreak. The public support, which will take the form of direct grants, is intended to cover the reduction of the rent negotiated with the landlord, up to a maximum amount of 50% of the original rent., More specifically, if a tenant negotiates a rebate of 20% of the rent with the landlord, the State will pay to the landlord, on behalf of the tenant, another 20% of the rent, thereby reducing the rent by 40% for the tenant. This aims at mitigating the sudden liquidity shortages that the affected companies are facing due to the measures taken by the Slovak authorities to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

On 19 June 2020, three Slovak aid schemes, with an overall budget of €4 billion, to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The schemes aim at providing liquidity to companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak, thus helping them continue their activities, start investments and maintain employment levels predating the coronavirus outbreak.

# 3. Recovery help:

#### • Expenditure measures:

On 22 December, €100 million Slovak scheme to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support, in the form of direct grants, is open to companies active in all sectors except for the primary agriculture, fishery and aquaculture, and financial ones. The scheme aims to address the liquidity needs of the beneficiaries, helping them continue their activities during and after the coronavirus outbreak. Over 1,000 companies are expected to benefit from the scheme.

On 18 January 2021, a €8 million Slovak scheme to support sport clubs participating in professional leagues in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The public support, in the form of direct grants, is available to companies that have experienced a significant decline in revenue due to the coronavirus outbreak and the measures imposed by the Government to limit the spread of the virus. The scheme aims to address the liquidity needs of the beneficiaries, and help them continue their activities during and after the outbreak.

On 15 January 2021: Commission approves €8 million Slovak scheme to support professional sport clubs in the context of coronavirus outbreak (SA.60212).

• Measures related to public guarantees:

On 11 August 2020, a €25 million Slovak scheme to support innovative companies with limited access to credit facilities in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The public support, which will take the form of convertible loans with maturities between 18 to 36 months, will be open to companies with a scalable innovative product or service with potential for significant growth in international markets. The purpose of the scheme is to help innovative companies access external financing at a time when the normal functioning of credit markets has been severely disrupted by the coronavirus outbreak.

On 4 May 2021, the Commission approved a €90 million scheme to support operators active in the tourism sector affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The public support, in the form of direct grants, aims at mitigating the impact of the restrictive measures implemented by the government to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

• Measures related to public guarantees:

On 10 September 2021, the Commission approved a €65 million scheme to support travel agencies in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Under the scheme, the public support, in the form of subsidised loans, aims to mitigate the losses incurred by cancellations due to the coronavirus outbreak and the travel restrictions put in place to limit the spread of the virus.

https://www.mic.iom.sk/en/news/637-covid-19-measures.html
https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/slovakia\_en\_

### Slovenia:

#### 1. Emergency help:

#### • Expenditure measures:

on 24 April 2020, a Slovenian State aid scheme to support the Slovenian economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The Slovenian support measure is an "umbrella" scheme including a dozen measures to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the scheme, the public support will take the form of direct grants, wage subsidies, exemption from paying social security contributions, reduction of certain taxes and water fees, bank guarantees, deferred payment of certain credits and compensatory payments.

### • Measures related to public guarantees:

On 30 April 2020, two Slovenian schemes to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the schemes, public support will be provided in the form of: rent rebates and rent exemptions for tenants of commercial real estate managed by Slovenian public bodies; and public guarantees on investment and working capital loans. Both schemes will be open to all companies active in Slovenia facing difficulties as a result of the economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak. The aim of these schemes is to address the liquidity needs of those companies which are most severely affected by the economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak and to help them to continue their activities, start investments and maintain employment during and after the outbreak.

### 2. Restart help:

#### • Expenditure measures:

On 29 June 2020, a €600 million Slovenian scheme to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the scheme, which will be open to companies active in different sectors, the support will take the form of direct grants, payment advantages and wage subsidies. The aim of the scheme is to help companies counter the liquidity shortages they face due to the coronavirus outbreak, continue their activities and preserve employment.

On 30 June 2020, under EU State aid rules, a €200 million Slovenian scheme to compensate large companies for the damages suffered due to the coronavirus outbreak and the confinement measures that the Slovenian Government had to implement to limit the spread of the virus. Under the scheme, companies will be entitled compensation of the damages incurred between 13 March and 31 May 2020, in the form of direct grants and exemptions from payment of social security contributions. The compensation will cover up to 100% of the difference between the operating results of the company concerned during the compensation period and its operating results in a reference period before the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme will be open to large companies active in all sectors, with some exceptions defined by Slovenia, namely companies active in the financial and insurance sectors. The measure is expected to benefit around 50 companies. The Commission

# 3. Recovery help:

#### • Expenditure measures:

On 15 January 2021, the Commission found the modification of a an existing Slovenian scheme to support the economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak, as well as a new measure, to be in line with the State aid Temporary Framework. The original scheme, initially approved in June 2020, was subsequently modified in July and November 2020. The new aid measure, funded within the budget of €1,350 million approved by the Commission under the second amendment of the existing scheme, provides grants to employers in micro and small enterprises, aiming to help them cover a 100% reimbursement of the wage compensations for employees (including social security contributions).

On 2 August 2021, the Commission approved a €22.8 million scheme to support companies in various sectors affected by the coronavirus outbreak and the restrictive measures that the implemented to limit the spread of the virus. The public support, in the form of direct grants, covers the annual leave employee costs. The scheme is open to companies of all sizes active in the sectors most severely affected by business disruption except for the financial, agriculture, fishery and aquaculture sectors.

On 30 July 2021, the European Commission has approved a €3 million scheme to support companies active in the event organisation sector

found that the Slovenian scheme is in line with Article 107(2)(b) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), which enables the Commission to approve State aid granted by Member States to compensate specific companies or specific sectors for the damages directly caused by exceptional occurrences, such as the coronavirus outbreak.

• Measures related to public guarantees:

affected by the coronavirus outbreak and the restrictive measures implement to limit the spread of the virus. The scheme, in the form of direct grants, aims to compensate the beneficiaries for the costs of organising events scheduled to take place between 1 August 2021 and 31 December 2021, in case of cancellations or restrictions due to the measures in place.

Measures related to public guarantees:

On 15 September, the Commission approved a €10 million scheme to support companies active in certain tourism sectors in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Under the scheme, the public support, in the form of loans with subsidised interest rates, aims to help the beneficiaries refund travellers for travel packages cancelled due to the coronavirus outbreak and the travel restrictions put in place to limit the spread of the virus.

https://www.gov.si/en/

https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/slovenia en

# Spain:

#### 1. Emergency help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 2 April 2020, a Spanish aid scheme to support the Spanish economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. This new "umbrella" scheme consists of a National Temporary Framework for State aid, based on which Spanish national, regional, and local authorities will be able to grant aid providing liquidity support to self-employed, SMEs and large companies in the form of direct grants, repayable advances, tax and payment advantages, guarantees on loans and subsidised interest rates for loans. The scheme will help businesses to cover immediate working capital or investment needs.

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 24 March 2020, two Spanish guarantee schemes for companies and self-employed workers affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The schemes are for new loans and refinancing operations for: (i) self-employed workers and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs); and (ii) larger companies, with the objective to ensure that these companies have liquidity to help them safeguard jobs and continue their activities.

# 2. Restart help:

- Expenditure measures (direct grants):
- Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 31 July 2020 Spanish plans to set up a Solvency Support Fund with a budget of €10 billion that will invest in companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The fund, established through the State budget, will provide debt and capital support to strategic enterprises active in Spain in the form of debt and recapitalisation instruments.

On 6 August, under EU State aid rules and in particular the Temporary Framework, the Commission approved amendments to two previously-approved Spanish guarantee schemes. The existing schemes with a total budget of €20 billion, providing guarantees on loans to companies and the self-employed, were approved on 24 March. The amendments to these schemes increase the budgetary allocation by €40 billion, which will be released in different tranches.

# 3. Recovery help:

• Expenditure measures (direct grants):

On 22 February 2021, the Commission approved the modification of an existing Spanish 'umbrella' scheme previously approved in April 2020 to support the economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak to be in line with the state aid Temporary Framework. The modification allows for limited amounts of aid through financial intermediaries and introduces a new measure to support the uncovered, fixed costs of companies affected by the outbreak. The public support, in the form of direct grants, tax and payment advantages, repayable advances, guarantees, loans and equity is accessible to companies of all sizes active in all sectors excluding the financial one. Its objective is to provide liquidity to companies experiencing a decline in turnover of at because of the coronavirus outbreak.

On 23 March 2021: Modification of Spanish schemes, including €10 billion budget increase for aid of limited amount, to further support economy in context of coronavirus outbreak (SA.61875) (daily news: MEX/21/1351)

 Measures related to public guarantees, loans, tax deferrals:

On 23 November, the Commission approved, under EU State Aid rules, a €2.55 billion Spanish scheme to compensate self-employed people and companies for damages suffered due to

coronavirus outbreak. The compensation will take the form of public guarantees for repayable new loans granted by supervised financial institutions, and new notes issued on the Alternative Fixed-Income Market. Under the scheme, around 15,000 self-employed are to be compensated for damages incurred between 14 March and 20 June 2020 (the period when the Spanish government implemented restrictive measures to limit the spread of the virus).

On 7 December, the Commission approved, under EU state aid rules, a €500 million Spanish reinsurance scheme to support the trade credit insurance market in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme aims to make trade credit insurance available to all companies, avoiding the need for buyers of goods or services to pay in advance, therefore reducing their immediate liquidity needs. The scheme was designed to supplement private reinsurance, operators having the possibility to choose a coverage of public reinsurance guarantee of up to 60%.

On 14 December, the Commission found the modification of a Spanish 'umbrella' scheme to support economy in coronavirus outbreak to be in line with the Temporary Framework. The existing scheme, providing guarantees on loans to companies and the self-employed affected by the coronavirus outbreak, was approved by the Commission on 2 April 2020. Spain notified modifications that allow final beneficiaries to request some changes to the terms of existing guaranteed loans granted under already authorised schemes: an extension of the initial period for an additional 12 months, and an extension of maturity by a maximum of three years,

up to a total of eight years. The aim of the modifications is to ease financing conditions for the final beneficiaries to better address the protracted duration of the crisis.

On 22 February 2021, the Commission approved the modification of an existing Spanish 'umbrella' scheme previously approved in April 2020 to support the economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak to be in line with the state aid Temporary Framework. The modification allows for limited amounts of aid through financial intermediaries and introduces a new measure to support the uncovered, fixed costs of companies affected by the outbreak. The public support, in the form of direct grants, tax and payment advantages, repayable advances, guarantees, loans and equity is accessible to companies of all sizes active in all sectors excluding the financial one. Its objective is to provide liquidity to companies experiencing a decline in turnover of at because of the coronavirus outbreak.

On 19 July 2021, the Commission approved, under EU state aid rules, plans to set up a €1 billion recapitalisation fund to invest through debt and equity instruments in certain companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The measure is open to companies established in Spain and active in all sectors except the financial one, with total net yearly revenues of minimum €15 million and up to €400 million on a consolidated basis, and that are now facing capital needs due to the coronavirus outbreak.

https://www.mincotur.gob.es/en-us/COVID-19/Paginas/COVID-19.aspx https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/spain\_en

# Sweden:

#### 1. Emergency help:

#### • Expenditure measures:

On 22 April under EU State aid rules a SEK 420 million (approximately €38 million) Swedish scheme that compensates companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak for the loss of revenue or additional costs related to the cancellation or postponement of cultural events. Under the scheme, those operators will be entitled to compensation for the damages suffered, in the form of direct grants covering 75% of their loss of revenue or additional costs up to SEK 1 million (approx. €90,600), and 50% for the part of the losses above SEK 1 million. Aid may be granted up to a maximum amount of SEK 10 million (approx. €906,000) per beneficiary.

On 22 April a Swedish rent rebate scheme of up to SEK 5 billion (approximately €453 million). The scheme is designed for tenants in the hotel, restaurants, retail and several other sectors that saw their revenues heavily decreasing or even disappearing due to the coronavirus outbreak. The measure covers up to 50% of rent reductions negotiated between tenants and landlords for the period 1 April to 30 June 2020. It aims at weathering the sudden decrease in income that tenants face due to the measures to slow down the spread of the epidemic, such as travel restrictions, social distancing recommendations, and others, and at preserving the continuity of economic activity during and after the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme was approved under the State aid

### 2. Restart help:

#### Expenditure measures:

On 11 June 2020, that an approximately €3.7 billion (SEK 39 billion) Swedish scheme that partially compensates companies exposed to large turnover decline for damages suffered due to the coronavirus outbreak, is in line with EU State aid rules. Under the scheme, companies from all sectors that are registered in Sweden and had a proven decline in turnover of more than 30% during March and April 2020 compared to a reference period before the coronavirus outbreak, with subsequent operating losses, will be entitled to compensation for the damage suffered. The compensation, in the form of direct grants, can cover a maximum of 75% of the fixed costs that the companies still had to bear, with a maximum aid amount of approximately €14 million (SEK 150 million) per company or group.

On 13 October, under EU State aid rules, two Swedish schemes to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak and related restrictive measures implemented to limit the spread of the coronavirus in May, June and July 2020. The first scheme, a prolongation of an existing scheme, aims to compensate companies for damages suffered due to the coronavirus outbreak by earmarking €3.7 billion in support for companies that have experienced a net turnover decline. The second scheme, approved under the State aid Temporary Framework, opens an estimated budget of approximately €239 million to Swedish

### 3. Recovery help:

#### • Expenditure measures:

On 15 February 2021 the Commission approved a €1.4 billion Swedish scheme to support uncovered fixed costs of companies affected by coronavirus outbreak (SA.60275) (press release: IP/21/583) • 4 February2021: €4.9 billion Swedish guarantee scheme to support economy in context of coronavirus outbreak (SA.61486) (daily news: MEX/21/421).

On 6 April 2021, the Commission approved the modification of an existing rent abatement scheme to support tenants operating in several sectors that have been affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the budget was increased from approximately €453 million to approximately €795 million and the duration was extended to include the January-end March 2021 period.

On 17 June 2021, the Commission approved the modification of an existing rent abatement scheme, initially approved in April 2020 and subsequently modified in February and April 2021, aimed at supporting tenants operating in several sectors that have been affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the budget was increased from the initial €453 million to €795 million, and subsequently to €1.38 billion.

Temporary Framework adopted by the Commission on 19 March 2020, as amended on 3 April 2020.

• Measures related to public guarantees:

On 2 April 2020, under the Temporary Framework, a Swedish aid scheme to support the economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. This is a guarantee scheme for new loans granted by commercial banks to support companies, mainly SMEs, affected by the coronavirus outbreak. It aims at limiting the risk associated with issuing loans to those companies most severely affected by the economic impact of the current crisis, thus ensuring the continuation of their activity.

companies that were able to resume their operations in June and July 2020 but still faced a turnover decline due to the economic situation and general safety and health measures limiting customer access.

• Measures related to public guarantees:

The duration of the scheme was extended to September 2021.

On 2 July 2021, the Commission approved a €297 million scheme to support organisers of events. Under the state aid Temporary Framework, the support, in the form of direct grants, aims to compensate organisers for potential losses incurred in case of cancellation of severe restrictions of events scheduled to take place between 1 June and 31 December 2021.

On 27 July 2021, the Commission confirmed that the modification of an existing compensation scheme to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak was in line with the EU state aid rules. The Commission approved the original scheme in June 2020 and its subsequent amendments, in October 2020 and March 2021. The latest amendments include an overall estimated budget increase by €224 million, an extension of the aid-granting period, a new round of aid for the period between August 2020 and April 2021, as well as a modification of the eligibility criteria, in particular the ranges of turnover decline for aid eligibility. The beneficiaries are entitled to receive support amounting to a maximum of 75% (100% in case of no turnover) of the uncovered fixed costs incurred in the eligible period, up to €4 million monthly per beneficiary.

• Measures related to public guarantees:

https://www.government.se/press-releases/2020/11/additional-crisis-measures-for-businesses/
https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/sweden en

# **United Kingdom:**

### 1. Emergency help:

• Expenditure measures:

On 6 April, an "umbrella" UK scheme to support SMEs and large corporates in UK affected by the coronavirus outbreak. UK-wide Temporary Framework for State aid allows for the provision of aid in the form of: a) Direct grants, equity injections, selective tax advantages and advance payments; b) State guarantees for loans subject to safeguards for banks to channel State aid to the real economy; c) Subsidised public loans to companies with favourable interest rates; d) Support for coronavirus related research and development (R&D); e) Support for the construction and upscaling of testing facilities to develop and test products useful to tackle the coronavirus outbreak: f) Support for the production of products relevant to tackle the coronavirus outbreak. The measure allows aid to be granted by UK authorities at all levels.

On 25 March 2020, two separate UK State aid schemes to support SMEs active in all market sectors having temporary financial difficulties due to the economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak called the "Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme" (CBILS).

• Measures related to public guarantees:

### 2. Restart help:

- Expenditure measures:
- Measures related to public guarantees:

On 24 August 2020, a UK scheme of up to GBP 15 million (approx. €16 million) to support companies in Scotland that are affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The public support, which will take the form of subordinated loans with subsidised interest rates, will be accessible to SMEs and large companies which have been negatively impacted by the coronavirus outbreak. Aim is to help companies address the liquidity shortages they face and enhance their access to financing, thus helping them continue their activities.

On 24 August 2020, under EU State aid rules, a UK guarantee scheme to support the trade credit insurance market in the context of the coronavirus outbreak. Trade credit insurance protects companies supplying goods and services against the risk of non-payment by their clients. Given the economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak, the risk of insurers not being willing to maintain their insurance coverage has become higher. The UK scheme ensures that trade credit insurance continues to be available to all companies, avoiding the need for buyers of goods or services to pay in advance, therefore reducing their immediate liquidity needs.

# 3. Recovery help:

- Expenditure measures:
- Measures related to public guarantees:

On 29 January, the Scottish Government has announced a £104.3m package which will be split into nine separate funds, with the events industry being one of the targeted recipients. Scottish businesses operating within the event, travel and hospitality industries can apply, even if they have already drawn on previous funding measures. The funds include a Pivotal Event Businesses Fund, for which details remain in progress, but is closed to expressions of interest and a wider Event Industry Support Fund.

https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus/business-support

https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/jobs-and-economy-during-coronavirus-pandemic/state-aid-cases/united-kingdom\_en https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/981436/restart-grant-la-guidance.pdf