



3 September 2020



European Commission proposals to the Council for decisions to grant financial support (€87.3 billion) to 16 Member States under the **SURE** instrument. Once the Council approves these proposals, the financial support will be provided in the form of loans granted on favourable terms from the EU to Member States

https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/sure-commission-proposals-council-support-member-states_en

Capital Markets Recovery Package. The package proposes targeted changes to capital market rules, which will encourage greater investments in the economy, allow for the rapid re-capitalisation of companies and increase banks' capacity to finance the recovery, as part of the Commission's overall coronavirus recovery strategy.

https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/200722-proposal-capital-markets-recovery_en

New €100 million **Recovery Equity Facility for Innovative Technology** and new terms under **InnovFin Equity** to step-up support for the venture capital market

https://www.eif.org/what_we_do/equity/news/2020/new-covid-19-innovfin-equity-measures

€128 million support under Horizon 2020, the EU's research and innovation programme, to 23 new **research** projects in response to the continuing coronavirus pandemic.

https://ec.europa.eu/info/files/new-research-projects-coronavirus_en

New EIB index measures **economic vulnerability** to COVID-19 in countries outside the EU

<https://www.eib.org/en/about/initiatives/covid-19-response/vulnerability-index>

The EU calls for more **transparency** on **trade-related measures** by WTO members introduced by partners around the world in response to the coronavirus pandemic

<https://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=2172>

European Ombudsman Emily O'Reilly is asking the European Commission details about how it has ensured transparency during the pandemic — specifically regarding meetings with lobbyists, decisions related to emergency public procurement and the transparency of scientific advice

(<https://www.ombudsman.europa.eu/en/correspondence/en/130853>).

O'Reilly also launched inquiries into the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (<https://www.ombudsman.europa.eu/en/opening-summary/en/130813> and <https://www.ombudsman.europa.eu/en/opening-summary/en/130612>) and into the Council of the EU, asking for documentation on the establishment of a European unemployment scheme (SURE) and amending regulations for air services, among others (<https://www.ombudsman.europa.eu/en/opening-summary/en/130715>).



EFCA meetings continue being held via **online** platforms until further notice.

<https://www.efca.be/index.php/calendar>

EFCA and FEACO (European Federation of Management Consultancies Associations) encouraged DG DEVCO (Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development) to continue its digitalisation **efforts after the COVID-19 crisis** - Director General Koen Doens (DG DEVCO) acknowledged EFCA/FEACO proposals to digitalise contract procedures

<https://www.efcanet.org/news/digitalisation-procurement-and-contract-implementation-reply-dg-devco>

The **EFCA** Industry Barometer Task Force is conducting a fourth 'COVID-19' survey in week 36

The **EFCA** website carries information on **travel restrictions** (Belgium)

<https://www.efcanet.org/faq>

The first-ever **EFCA** webinar addressed a key challenge for the industry: how to derive and use quality criteria in public procurement and convince clients to move away from lowest-price based award? It brought best knowledge and practical experiences from Dutch experts.

<https://www.efca.be/news/never-mind-price-ask-what-cost>

CORONAVIRUS GUIDANCE

Covid-19 Cost Assessment Toolkit - A methodology for assessing and reporting the cost implications of post covid-19 working conditions in the construction industry (The professional practice task group of the Construction Leadership Council (CLC) Covid-19 task force, UK)

<http://www.constructionleadershipcouncil.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/2020-07-COVID-19-COST-ASSESSMENT-TOOLKIT-FINAL.pdf>

European **construction survey** / RICS: construction activity declined in Europe during the second quarter of the year

<https://www.rics.org/globalassets/rics-website/media/market-surveys/construction-monitor/rics-europe-construction-monitor-q2-2020.pdf>

The **number of tenders** released by **international donors** has jumped by 13% in the second quarter of 2020, reaching a total of 16,215. One of the reasons for this was a substantial growth in procurement in sectors that can be directly linked to the COVID-19 pandemic. The sector of greatest interest to international donors remains that of civil engineering.

https://www.developmentaid.org/#!/news-stream/post/71867/international-donors-increase-funding-for-the-health-environment-and-mass-media-sectors-in-q2-2020?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=NewsAlert&token=cf93c698-06e8-11ea-8cc5-52540068df95

Cybercrime: COVID-19 impact / INTERPOL report shows significant target shift from individuals and small businesses to major corporations, governments, and critical infrastructure during

<https://www.developmentaid.org/api/frontend/cms/file/2020/08/COVID-19-Cybercrime-Analysis-Report-August-2020.pdf>

Trade costs in the time of global pandemic / WTO information note

https://www.developmentaid.org/api/frontend/cms/file/2020/08/trade_costs_report_e.pdf

The Next Normal / McKinsey & Company

<https://www.mckinsey.com/featured-insights/the-next-normal>

The next normal in construction

<https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/capital-projects-and-infrastructure/our-insights/the-next-normal-in-construction-how-disruption-is-reshaping-the-worlds-largest-ecosystem>