



Factsheets on the Commission's 10 priorities

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#EURoad2Sibiu



FUTURE OF EUROPE

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European
Commission



The Juncker Plan: Getting Europe investing again

May
2019

TOWARDS A MORE UNITED, STRONGER AND MORE DEMOCRATIC UNION



'We need smarter investment, more focus, less regulation and more flexibility when it comes to the use of public funds. In my view, this should allow us to mobilise up to €300 billion in additional public and private investment in the real economy over the next three years.'

Then Candidate for European Commission President, Jean-Claude Juncker, Political Guidelines for the next European Commission, 15 July 2014

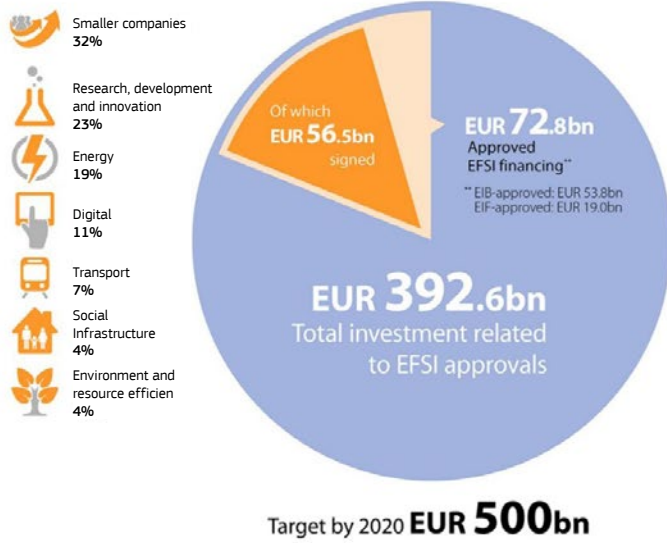
KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

A new boost for jobs, growth and investment was the number one priority of President Jean-Claude Juncker for his Commission. In November 2014, just three weeks into the mandate, President Juncker launched the **Investment Plan for Europe** also called the Juncker Plan.

The Investment Plan for Europe has three objectives: to make smarter use of financial resources; to provide visibility and technical assistance to investment projects; and to remove obstacles to investment and improve the business environment in the EU.

The **European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)**, is the Juncker Plan's main pillar. It provides a first loss guarantee under the EU budget to the European Investment Bank (EIB) Group, allowing it to invest in more, and often riskier, projects. The original investment target was €315 billion by mid 2018, which was achieved well ahead of time. As of April 2019, the Juncker Plan has mobilised €392.6 billion in additional investment and is on track to reach its new investment target of €500 billion by 2020.

European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) investment by sector*



EFSI investment relative to GDP*

Darker colours signify higher investment



Source: EIB Group figures; as of April 2019.

European Investment Advisory Hub

- Single access point to a wide range of advisory and technical assistance services for private and public project promoters
- More than **1,150 requests** from all Member States

European Investment Project Portal

- Online platform that brings project promoters and investors together
- Increasing the visibility of and financing opportunities for investment projects across Europe
- More than **1,200 projects** submitted

Using the flexibility in the Stability and Growth Pact

To encourage Member States to increase their investment levels and carry out important structural reforms, the Commission provided guidance in January 2015 on how to make the best possible use of the flexibility that is built into the existing rules of the Stability and Growth Pact. Flexibility here means allowing a temporary deviation from that country's budgetary objective in order to boost growth.

The Juncker Plan aims to **remove barriers to investment**, providing greater regulatory predictability, removing bottlenecks to investment and further deepening the single market.

As of April 2019, the Plan is expected to trigger €393 billion in investments. The deals approved under the Plan amount to €72.8 billion in financing and are located in all 28 Member States.

So far...

945,000 small and medium-sized companies (SMEs) have benefited from **improved access to finance**

30.6 million people benefited from **better healthcare**

7.2 million households have benefited from **renewable energy**

15 million households have benefited from **high-speed internet access**

750,000 jobs have already been supported

By 2020...

€500 billion investment to be mobilised

1.4 million jobs should be created

and **EU GDP** should rise by **1.3%**

PROJECT EXAMPLES

NIGHTINGALE HEALTH



An innovative blood analysis company in Finland whose technology makes it possible to measure a person's complete health status using a single blood sample. With a €20 million EIB loan under the Juncker Plan, Nightingale will accelerate its research and development activities with the aim of improving prediction and prevention for chronic diseases. By identifying a risk of developing certain chronic diseases, patients can take medication or make lifestyle changes earlier on to slow and prevent disease progression.



ECOALF

A circular economy startup in Spain that collects marine debris from the bottom of the sea, treats it, and converts it into thread to make clothes and accessories. Ecoalf works with 3,000 fishermen across 40 ports, collecting and transforming 250 tonnes of sea waste per year, with nearly 80% of what comes out of the sea being recycled. The company secured a loan under the Juncker Plan from its local bank, which has helped it create new jobs and seen some 80% growth.



OLIVIA AD

A sunflower oil producer in Bulgaria that employs more than 400 people. With a €31 million loan from the EIB under the Juncker Plan, Olivia AD is developing a new production plant to support its expansion plans. The investment includes an on-site wastewater treatment plant and a biomass steam boiler, using by-products as fuel-feedstock, which will provide the factory with all the heating required for production.



CARMAT

A ground-breaking medical research and development company that has designed a total artificial heart with the aim of providing an alternative to a heart transplant with real organs for patients suffering from end-stage heart failure. The EIB has loaned Carmat €30 million under the Juncker Plan to help finance its clinical trials and increase its production capacity, transforming it from a research entity to a commercial one, with the hope of bringing the artificial heart to market in the near future.



ORBITAL

A technology company in Sweden that has developed a water-saving solution for showers, saving up to 90% of water and 80% of energy compared to a conventional shower. Water that would normally go down the drain is cleaned and re-used in the same shower cycle, after being purified by a micron filter and a UV light to neutralise bacteria. Orbital secured a €15 million loan from the EIB under the Juncker Plan in order to step up the commercialisation of its product and continue its research and development.



RESALTA

A small energy services provider based in Slovenia that helps individual clients, companies and municipalities across South-Eastern Europe lower CO2 emissions, energy consumption and reduce their energy-related costs. Resalta received a €6 million investment from the European Investment Fund under the Juncker Plan to boost its development plans. To date, Resalta has helped save 300 GWh of energy and reduced CO2 emissions by 30,000 tonnes per year, the equivalent of planting 3,400 hectares of forest.



Given the success of the Juncker Plan, the Commission proposed InvestEU in June 2018. The programme, now agreed by the European Parliament and Member States, will boost private and public investment in Europe in the next long-term EU budget 2021-2027. It will combine under one roof the European Fund for Strategic Investments and 13 other EU financial instruments currently supporting investment in the EU.

INVESTEU WILL HOUSE ALL OF THESE FINANCING PROGRAMMES UNDER ONE ROOF

2021-2027

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ European Fund for Strategic Investments➤ CEF Debt Instrument➤ CEF Equity Instrument➤ Loan Guarantee Facility under COSME➤ Equity facility for Growth under COSME | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Innovfin Equity➤ Innovfin SME guarantee➤ InnovFin Loan Services for R&I Facility➤ Private Finance for Energy Efficiency Instrument➤ Natural Capital Financing Facility | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ EaSI Capacity Building Investments➤ EaSI Microfinance and Social Enterprise Guarantees➤ Student Loan Guarantee Facility➤ Cultural and creative sectors Guarantee Facility |
|--|--|--|

InvestEU is set to trigger at least €650 billion in additional investment.



May 2019

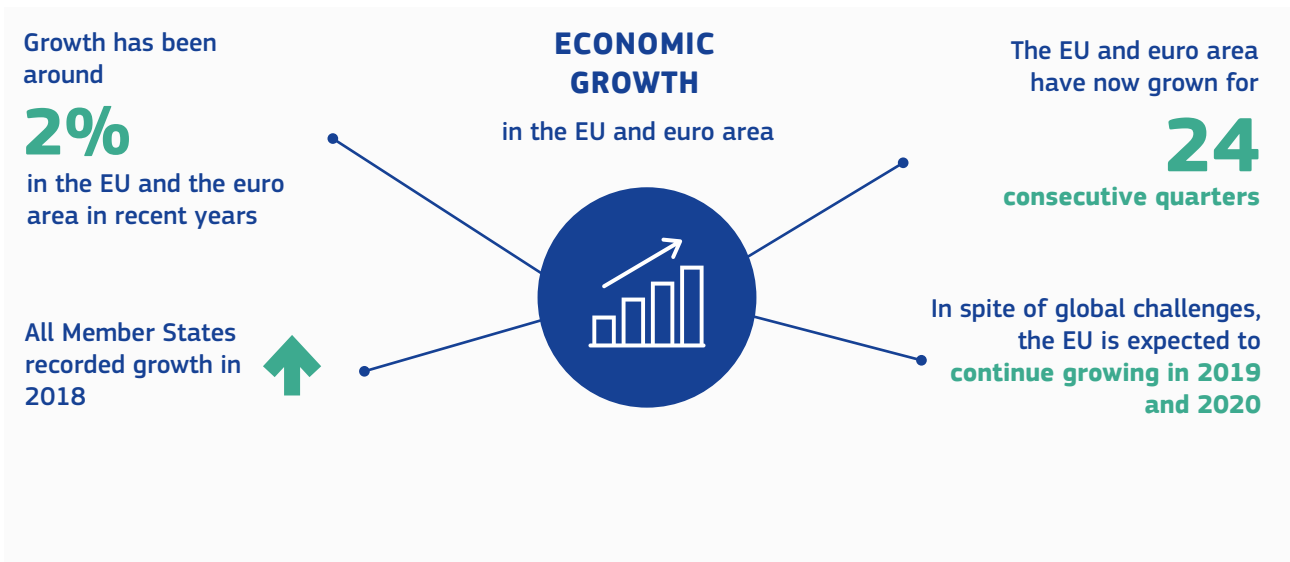
Progress on the economic situation

TOWARDS A MORE UNITED, STRONGER AND MORE DEMOCRATIC UNION

The EU's ambitious agenda for jobs, growth and investment and its work on the single market have contributed to a robust economic recovery. Europe's economy has grown for six consecutive years. Some 12.6 million jobs have been created since the start of the Juncker Commission and unemployment is at a record low in this century. At the same time, the state of public finances has improved across the board and disparities in wealth distribution between Member States are also shrinking again.

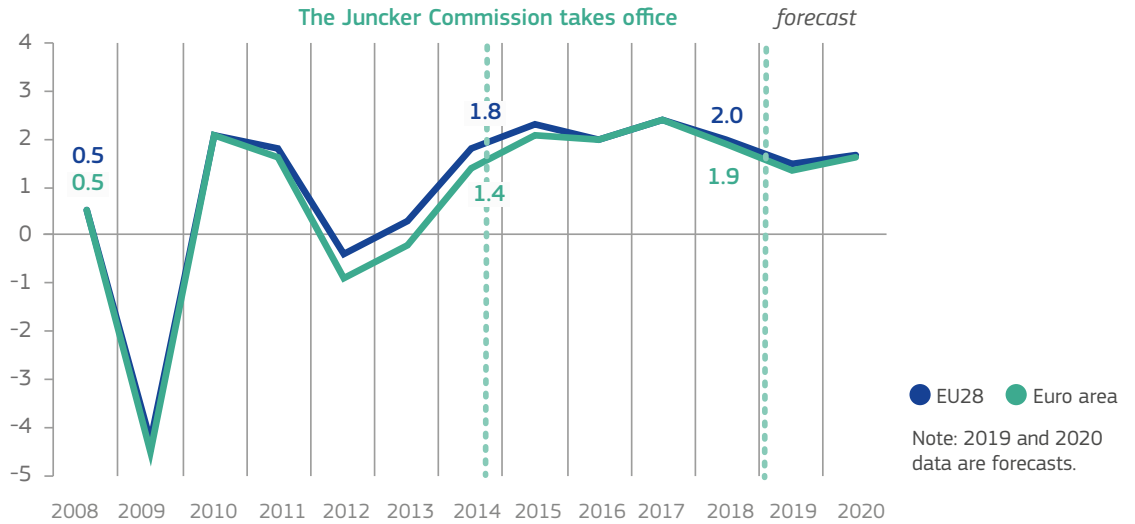
ROBUST GROWTH AND INCREASED INVESTMENT

In recent years, Europe has moved from economic recovery to expansion.

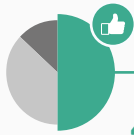


Gross domestic product (GDP) is expanding steadily

% change in real GDP



Source: European Commission (Eurostat except forecasts).



Europeans have a **positive opinion** of the current situation of the European economy.

49%

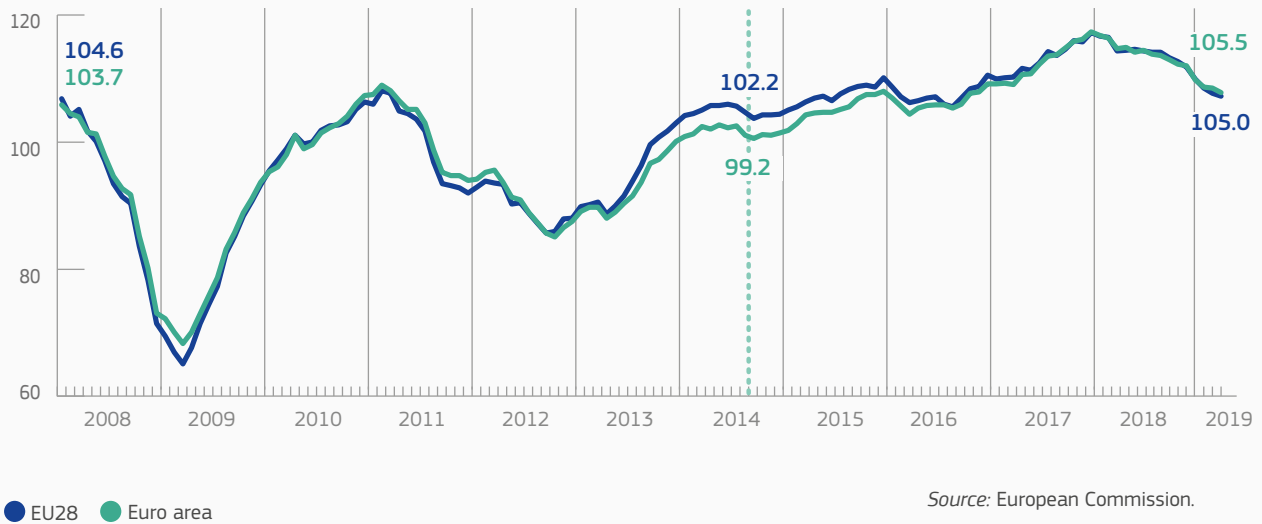
● 38% negative

● 13% 'do not know'

Source: Eurobarometer, Autumn 2018.

Economic sentiment indicator at high levels

The Juncker Commission takes office



By 2020, the European Fund for Strategic Investments is set to generate:



Investment has returned to pre-crisis levels and is steadily increasing

€500

billion in additional investment across Europe



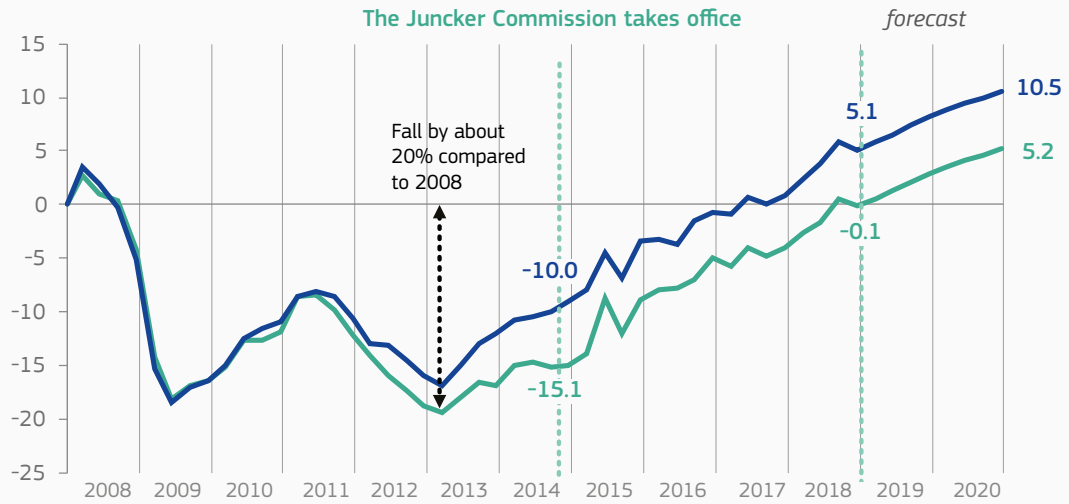
1.3%

increase in the EU's GDP

1.4 million jobs

Investment picking up

% change in the level of investment compared to 2008



● EU28 ● Euro area

Note: 2019 and 2020 data are forecasts.

Source: European Commission (Eurostat except forecasts).

MORE AND BETTER JOBS

Economic growth is a means to an end. Growth has helped to deliver a more social Europe.

A job-rich recovery is taking hold

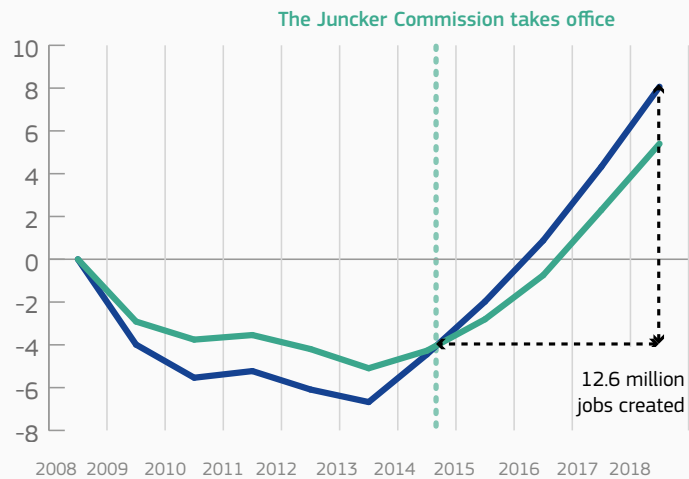
Jobs created since 2008, in millions of people



12.6

million jobs

have been created in the EU since the start of the Juncker Commission



● EU28 ● Euro area

Source: European Commission (Eurostat except forecasts).

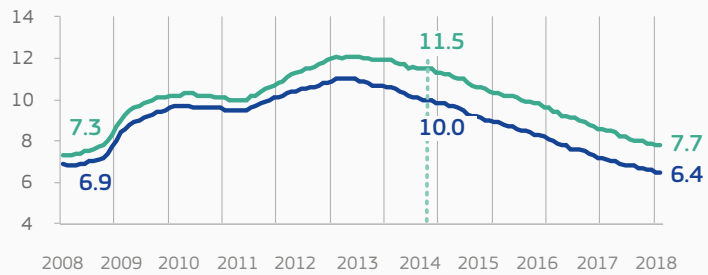
Unemployment is declining

% of active population

The Juncker Commission takes office



While still too high in certain Member States, **unemployment is at its lowest level EU-wide since the start of the century.**

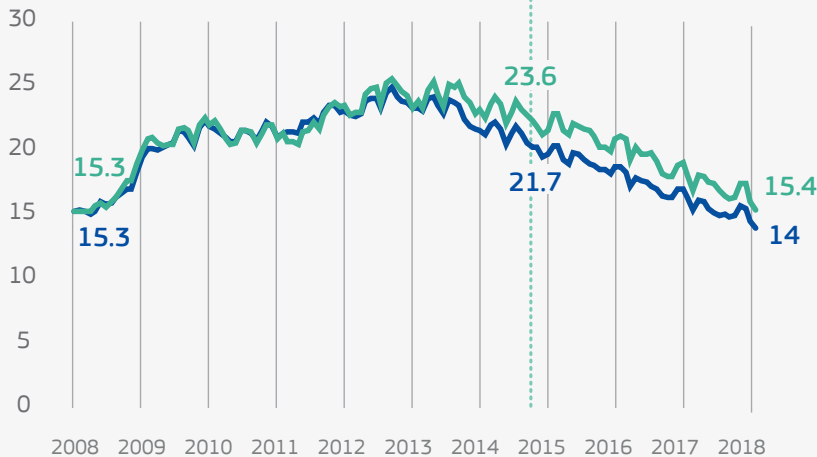


● EU28 ● Euro area Source: European Commission (Eurostat).

Youth unemployment is declining

% of active population

The Juncker Commission takes office



● EU28 ● Euro area

Source: European Commission.

Employment in Europe is at a record high



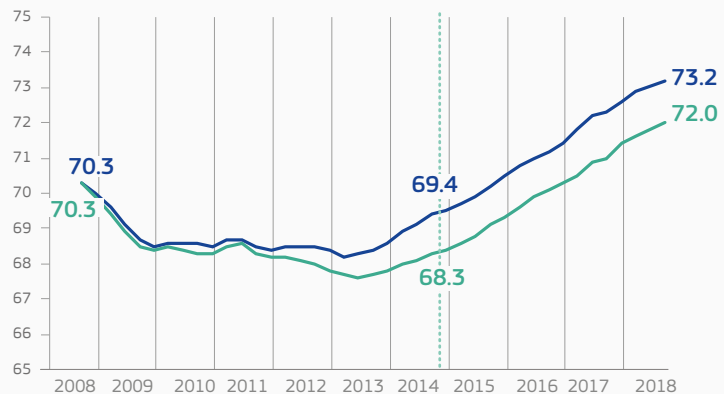
240

million people are working across our Union

Employment rate is increasing

% of working age population

The Juncker Commission takes office



● EU28 ● Euro area Source: European Commission (Eurostat).

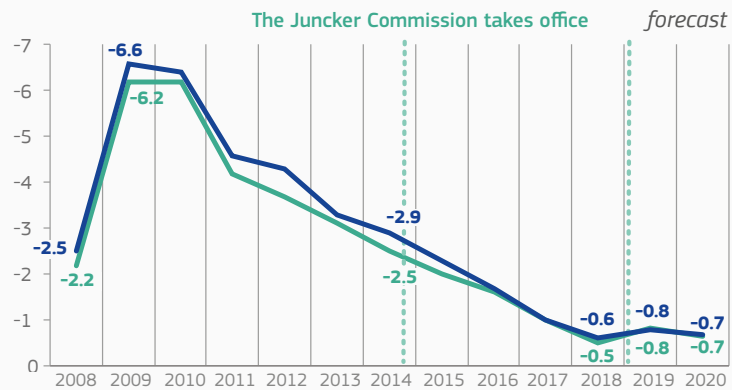
SOUND PUBLIC FINANCES

Significant progress has been made to ensure that Europe's public finances are sound, sustainable and capable of absorbing future shocks.

Public deficit is decreasing in EU countries

% of GDP

Government deficit in the EU decreased from **6.6%** in 2009 to **0.6%** in 2018.



● EU28 ● Euro area

Note: 2019 and 2020 data are forecasts. Source: European Commission (Eurostat except forecasts).

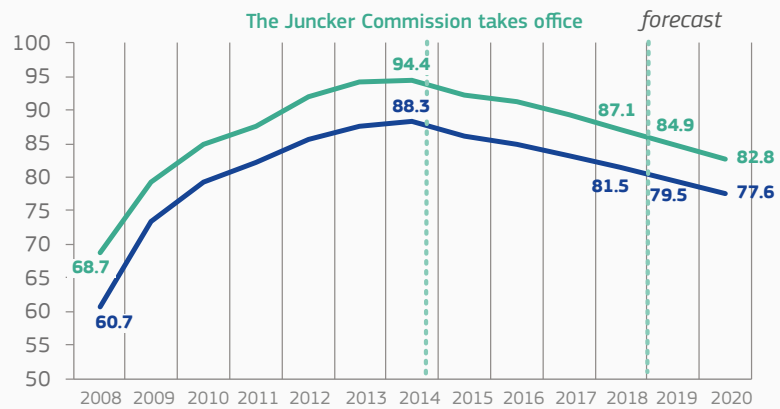


The ratio of government debt to GDP is falling from

88.3% in 2014 to **81.5%** in 2018.

Government debt is on a downward path

% of GDP

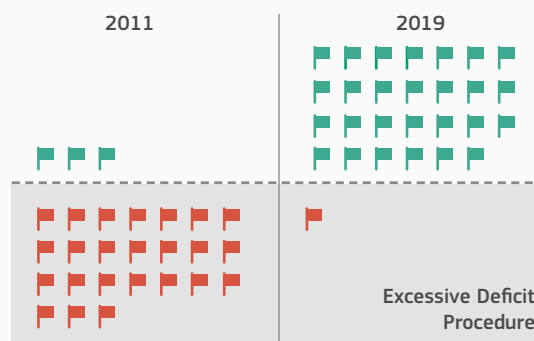


● EU28 ● Euro area

Note: 2019 and 2020 data are forecasts. Source: European Commission (Eurostat except forecasts).

1

Member State is currently in the Excessive Deficit Procedure under the Stability and Growth Pact, down from 24 in 2011.



The use of flexibility within the rules of the Stability and Growth Pact made it possible to strike the appropriate balance between pursuing sound fiscal policies and supporting growth, notably through reforms and investment.

Estimates suggest that the use of flexibility has boosted EU GDP by 0.8% over the last four years and resulted in around 1.5 million jobs.

Source: European Commission.

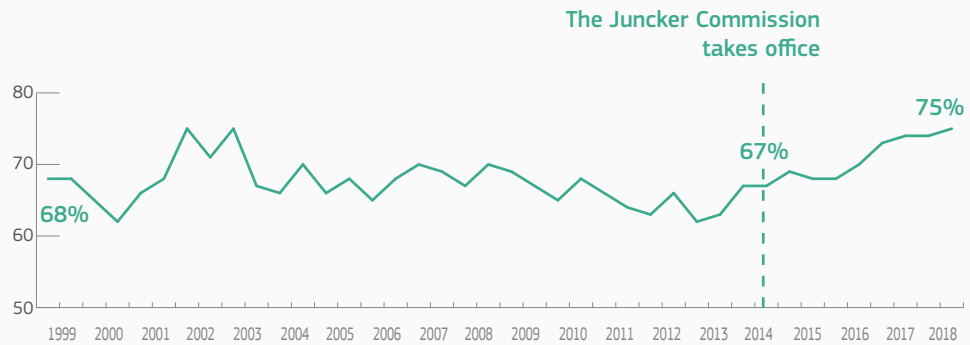
THE ROLE OF THE EURO

The euro brings stability and tangible benefits. Its global role is on the rise.

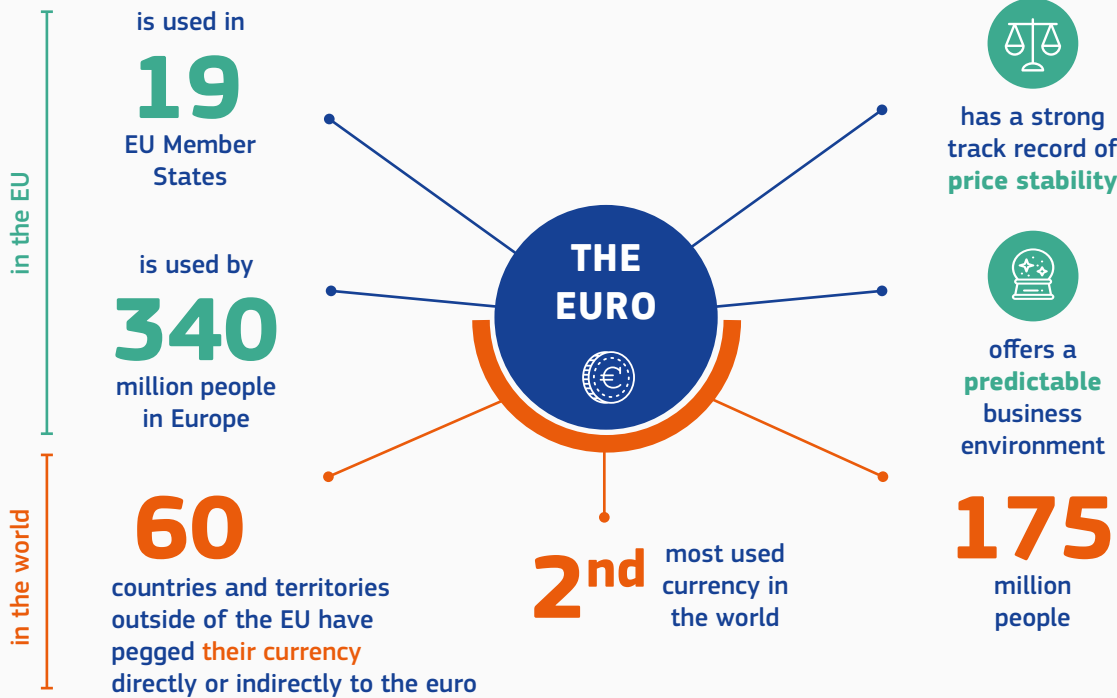


Support for the euro among citizens of the euro area, in %

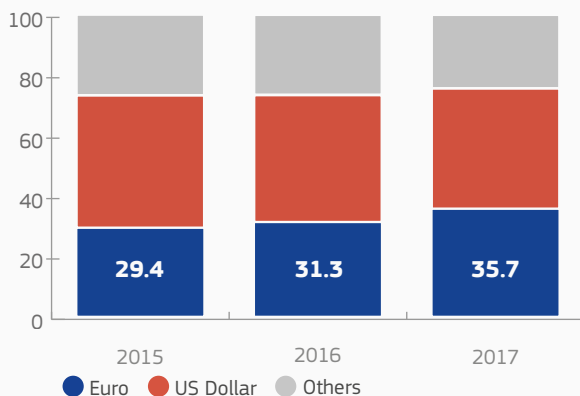
Three in four euro area citizens support the single currency. This is the highest share ever.



Source: Eurobarometer, Autumn 2018.



The share of the euro in global payments in %



The euro has made life and business much easier for Europeans:



price stability: inflation on average under 2%



more transparent and competitive markets: prices easily comparable



lower travel costs: cost of exchanging money has disappeared



more cross-border trade: no more exchange rate costs



interest savings for Member States resulting from the euro's introduction: up to €70 billion per year

Source: European Commission.



Deepening Europe's Economic and Monetary Union

May 2019

TOWARDS A MORE UNITED, STRONGER AND MORE DEMOCRATIC UNION



'I want to continue with the reform of our Economic and Monetary Union to preserve the stability of our single currency and to enhance the convergence of economic, fiscal and labour market policies between the Member States that share the single currency.'

President Jean-Claude Juncker's Political Guidelines, Strasbourg, 22 October 2014

The economic and financial crisis that hit Europe did not start in the euro area, but laid bare some of its institutional weaknesses. This is why the Juncker Commission made the completion of a deep and fair Economic and Monetary Union one of the 10 political priorities for its mandate. This is a means to an end: more jobs, growth, investment, social fairness and macroeconomic stability for the members of the euro area as well as for the EU as a whole. Significant progress has been made, but more remains to be done.

ACHIEVEMENTS

The Juncker Commission has delivered concrete measures to deepen Europe's Economic and Monetary Union. These follow up on the **Five Presidents' Report** of June 2015, the **White Paper on the Future of Europe** of March 2017, and the thematic **Reflection Papers on the Deepening of the Economic and Monetary Union and the Future of EU Finances** of May 2017. In December 2017, the Commission presented a comprehensive **roadmap** to further enhance the unity, efficiency and democratic accountability of the Economic and Monetary Union.

Economic Union:

- ✓ Macroeconomic Imbalances Procedure: early identification of threats to economic stability
- ✓ **Revamped European Semester: streamlined and strengthened, more emphasis on social issues**
- ✓ **Euro area recommendations: more focus on euro area priorities**
- ✓ **Structural Reform Support Service: technical support for reforms in the Member States**
- ✓ **European Pillar of Social Rights: key principles to support fair and well-functioning labour markets and welfare systems**
- ✓ **Social impact assessment: carried out for the latest stability support programme for Greece**
- ✓ **National Productivity Boards: monitoring productivity and competitiveness developments**
- ✓ **Proposals to establish dedicated budgetary instruments to strengthen Europe's Economic and Monetary Union**

Financial Union:

- ✓ Single Rulebook: *harmonised rules for a more resilient, more transparent and more efficient European financial sector, including the Banking Package - a comprehensive set of reforms that will further strengthen the resilience and the resolvability of EU banks*
- ✓ Harmonised rules for deposit insurance: deposits protected up to €100 000 per customer and per bank
- ✓ Single Supervisory Mechanism/Single Resolution Mechanism: centralised supervision and resolution of banks in the euro area
- ✓ **Capital Markets Union: new rules that will strengthen the Economic and Monetary Union and the international role of the euro by promoting capital mobility and private risk sharing. Capital Markets Union will also strengthen access to finance by boosting market-based funding, in particular for innovation and start-ups**

Fiscal Union:

- ✓ Financial support for Member States in difficulty: various rescue funds leading to the European Stability Mechanism
- ✓ 2-Pack/6-Pack legislation: stronger budgetary surveillance and focus on debt
- ✓ **European Fiscal Board: independent advice on the implementation of EU fiscal rules and euro area fiscal stance**
- ✓ **Simplifying fiscal rules: greater focus on the public expenditure benchmark**
- ✓ **Flexibility within the Stability and Growth Pact: to support investment and reforms and to better reflect economic cycles**

Democratic accountability and strong institutions:

- ✓ **Increased ownership: intensified dialogue with the European Parliament, national Parliaments, national Governments and stakeholders**
- ✓ **New start for EU social dialogue: more opportunities for social partners at all levels to discuss priorities**
- ✓ **Stronger focus on the international role of the euro and proposal to strengthen the external representation of the euro**
- ✓ **Proposals to integrate intergovernmental entities into the law of the EU and to strengthen efficiency and accountability through a European Minister of Economy and Finance**

adopted after the crisis (2010-2014)
done/initiated during the Juncker Commission

ONGOING WORK

Work on some of these measures put forward is still ongoing.

BUDGETARY INSTRUMENT FOR THE EURO AREA

✓ In May 2018, the Commission proposed dedicated budgetary instruments for the Economic and Monetary Union as part of the future EU budget for 2021-2027. In December 2018, Heads of State or Government tasked the Eurogroup to develop a budgetary instrument for convergence and competitiveness on the basis of the Commission's proposal. Discussions have been ongoing in the Eurogroup since January to prepare the decisions of the Euro Summit in June 2019.

ADDRESSING NON-PERFORMING LOANS

✓ The ratio of non-performing loans decreased by one third since 2014 in the EU and in the euro area and is now approaching pre-crisis levels. The Commission has put forward a comprehensive set of measures to reduce the level of existing non-performing loans and to prevent the build-up of non-performing loans in the future. While parts of this package are agreed, one measure on secondary market for NPLs is still pending.

CAPITAL MARKETS UNION

✓ The Capital Markets Union contributes to stability and resilience of the financial system and aims to get money - investments and savings - to flow more easily across the EU so that it can benefit consumers, companies and investors in a sustainable way. It is an integral part of the Juncker Commission's ambition to return growth to Europe and sustain it. The European Parliament and the Council have now agreed 11 out of 13 legislative proposals.

FURTHER STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF THE EURO IN THE WORLD

✓ In December 2018, the Commission outlined the benefits of a strengthened international role of the euro for the EU and the international financial system, and proposed initiatives to boost the role of the single currency. Completing the Capital Markets Union is essential in this context. As part of this effort, the Commission also adopted a Recommendation on the international role of the euro in the field of energy, promoting a wider use of the euro in this strategic sector.

A COMMON BACKSTOP FOR THE SINGLE RESOLUTION FUND

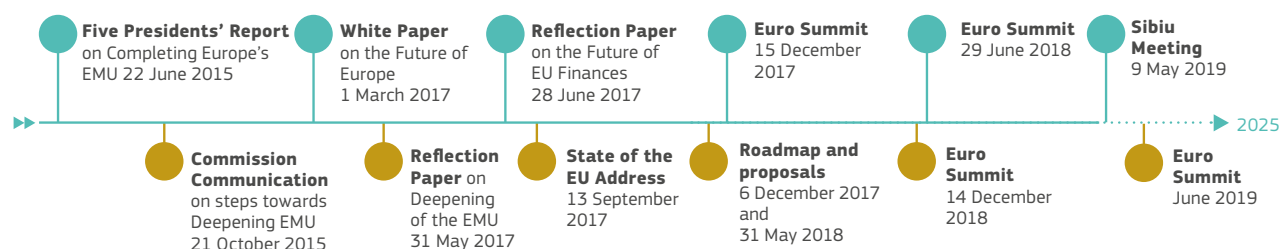
✓ The Euro Summit in December 2018 endorsed the terms of reference of the common backstop to the Single Resolution Fund, which set out how the backstop will be operationalised, and anticipated provided sufficient progress has been made in risk reduction, to be assessed in 2020. It also endorsed the term sheet on the European Stability Mechanism reform which should be completed shortly.

EUROPEAN DEPOSIT INSURANCE SCHEME

✓ The Commission proposed in 2015 a common depositor protection scheme for the euro area, alongside other measures to complete the Banking Union. Putting this in place - over time - is essential for increased trust and resilience of the banking system and the common currency. The Commission suggested a way forward in October 2017. The Eurogroup established a High-level group which will report back by June 2019.

INTEGRATING THE SUBSTANCE OF THE TREATY ON STABILITY, COORDINATION AND GOVERNANCE IN THE UNION LEGAL FRAMEWORK

✓ Integrating this Treaty into the law of the EU will provide for continuous and improved monitoring as part of the overall EU economic governance framework. The proposal takes into account the appropriate flexibility built into the Stability and Growth Pact and identified by the Commission since January 2015.





European Commission



A more social Europe

May 2019

TOWARDS A MORE UNITED, STRONGER AND MORE DEMOCRATIC UNION



'It is up to us to ensure that the handwriting of the European Social Model is clearly visible in everything we do. Because Europe is the protective shield for all of us who can call this magnificent continent their home.'

Then President-elect Jean-Claude Juncker, speech before the European Parliament, 22 October 2014

Since the start of its mandate, the Juncker Commission has placed social priorities at the core of its work, from the establishment of the European Pillar of Social Rights to mainstreaming social priorities in all policies. We have made significant progress: 12.6 million jobs have been created since the start of the Juncker Commission, unemployment has reached its lowest level since the start of recordings in 2000, and with about 240 million people in employment, the employment level has never been as high as today.

THE JUNCKER COMMISSION ACTED ON SEVERAL FRONTS:



Together with the proclamation of the European Pillar of Social Rights, 24 legal acts proposed by the Commission in the social field have now been agreed upon. A deal was provisionally reached on social security coordination, which needs to be confirmed by the colegislators. The other 2 proposals still on the table are linked to the broader discussion on the next long-term EU budget for 2021–2027, and will be decided in this context.

PUTTING SOCIAL PRIORITIES AT THE HEART OF EUROPE'S AGENDA

President Juncker announced the establishment of a **European Pillar of Social Rights** in his September 2015 State of the Union Address. The Pillar aims to deliver **new and more effective rights for citizens**. It expresses 20 principles and rights which are essential in the light of today's and tomorrow's social realities.

The European Pillar of Social Rights was proclaimed by the Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the Commission at the **Social Summit** for Fair Jobs and Growth on 17 November 2017 in Gothenburg. **This was the first meeting of EU leaders in 20 years entirely dedicated to social issues.** It was co-organised by the European Commission and the Swedish Government.





To make sure the Pillar becomes a reality on the ground, the Commission has taken a number of legislative and non-legislative initiatives where the EU has a legal competence to act. It has developed a Social Scoreboard to monitor Member States' progress on key employment and social indicators. This effort should help to achieve a 'social triple A' for Europe.



RENEWING AND MODERNISING SOCIAL LEGISLATION

The Commission has proposed several updates and complements to EU legislation to bring the social laws in line with the needs of today's world of work and societies.

For instance, the Commission proposed an initiative to **better balance professional and private life** for working parents and carers. The new rules, which are expected to come into force in the months to come, will give more rights to fathers and introduce new ones for carers:

 <p>10 days paternity leave at least, for all working fathers around the time of the birth of their child</p>	 <p>4 month parental leave at least, for each parent, of which 2 are non-transferable</p>	 <p>parents can take parental leave in a flexible form</p>	 <p>5 days carers' leave (at least), per year for all workers</p>
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In today's world of work, more and more workers have atypical contracts. To help make sure these workers have sufficient **transparency and predictability regarding their working conditions**, the European Parliament and the Council agreed on the Commission's proposal to improve transparency and predictability of working conditions. The issue of **access to social protection for workers on atypical contracts as well as the self-employed** is also addressed. Several other legislative initiatives were tabled to modernise the EU legal framework for occupational **health and safety at work**.

For instance, the Commission proposed to limit exposure to certain cancer-causing chemicals in the work place. So far, three batches of new and/or stricter exposure limits have been introduced, which will save more than 100,000 lives in the next 50 years. The first update was presented in May 2016, followed by proposals in January 2017 and April 2018. Since January 2019, all three updates have been agreed upon.

ENSURING FAIR LABOUR MOBILITY

Free movement is one of the most cherished freedoms of our Union: more than 8 in 10 Europeans support the free movement of citizens and the possibility to live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU. The Commission has put several proposals on the table that will facilitate labour mobility and ensure it is exercised in a fair way. The new rules will, for instance, bring the following advantages:



Posted workers will receive the **same pay for the same work at the same place.**



A better coordination between social security systems, by establishing a closer link between where social contributions are paid and where they are being received. The EU's rules also cover aspects that were not covered previously such as long-term care. The Commission made a proposal to that end in December 2016, for which a provisional deal was found in March 2019 but not yet endorsed by the European Parliament and Council.



Facilitate access for individuals and employers to information, support cooperation between Member States in the cross-border enforcement of EU rules and mediate in cases of cross-border disputes related to labour mobility, thanks to the European Labour Authority. President Juncker announced the creation of this Authority in his State of the Union address of September 2017, the Commission presented an initiative in March 2018, and it was agreed upon in February 2019 in a record time.

INVESTING IN YOUTH AND SKILLS

The **European Social Fund** is the European Union's main means of investing in people, ensuring they are equipped with the right skills needed to deal with challenges and changes on the labour market. It has a particular focus on youth employment.

Investing in Europe's people and their skills, particularly for its young people, is crucial to make Europe's economies and societies more cohesive and competitive, as well as more resilient in the light of changes in the world of work. The Commission has front-loaded and strengthened EU funding and developed several initiatives to increase young people's skills.

The **Youth Guarantee** is a commitment to ensure that all young people under the age of 25 receive a good quality offer of employment, continued education, apprenticeship or traineeship within a period of four months of becoming unemployed or leaving formal education. More than 14 million young people have participated in the scheme.



14 million young people have participated in the Youth Guarantee scheme

Via the European Vocational Skills Week, the Commission aims to modernise and promote vocational education and training. Following the resounding success of Erasmus+, we set up **ErasmusPro**, a similar initiative particularly targeted at apprentices. **Since 2017, young apprentices can go on a long-duration placement (6 to 12 months) abroad.**

The Commission has launched the **European Solidarity Corps** to provide both volunteering and professional opportunities for young Europeans and more than 124,000 people have registered. Since its launch, more than 14,250 young people have been participating in a solidarity project.

These efforts have been bearing fruit. Since 2013, there are **2.4 million less young people unemployed and 1.9 million less young people not in employment, education or training.** The youth unemployment rate has gone down faster than the overall unemployment rate, from 21.5% in November 2014 to 14.5% in March 2019.



2.4 million less young people unemployed in the EU



1.9 million less young people not in employment, education or training (NEETs)



more than **14,250** young people have been participating in a European Solidarity Corps project

RELAUNCHING SOCIAL DIALOGUE

The Commission launched a 'New Start for Social Dialogue' in March 2015 to strengthen the role of social partners. A quadripartite agreement was signed in June 2016, reaffirming the **fundamental role of the European social dialogue** as a significant component of EU employment and social policy making. Social partners have been closely involved in this Commission's policy-making processes, in particular as regards the work under the European Pillar of Social Rights and in the context of the European Semester of economic policy coordination.

MAINSTREAMING SOCIAL PRIORITIES ACROSS ALL POLICY DOMAINS

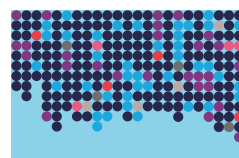
Europe's social priorities cut across all policy domains. This Commission has put social considerations on par with economic ones in all its core activities.

[Investment Plan for Europe:](#)

The so-called Juncker Plan also provides financing for social infrastructure and equipment, as well as strategic investments in social enterprises.



The Commission will help make high capacity broadband widely available, and focus on developing digital skills.



Europe on the Move: This initiative will ensure proper working conditions in the sector and improve passenger rights legislation for persons with reduced mobility.



The EU Energy Poverty Observatory (EPOV) is an innovative initiative by the European Commission to help Member States in their efforts to combat energy poverty. It exists to improve the measuring, monitoring and sharing of knowledge and best practice on energy poverty.

EU
ENERGY POVERTY
Observatory





European Commission



Making the most of the single market: delivering on the Capital Markets Union

May 2019

TOWARDS A MORE UNITED, STRONGER AND MORE DEMOCRATIC UNION



‘I believe we should complement the new European rules for banks with a Capital Markets Union. To improve the financing of our economy, we should further develop and integrate capital markets. This would cut the cost of raising capital, notably for SMEs, and help reduce our very high dependence on bank funding. This would also increase the attractiveness of Europe as a place to invest.’

Then Candidate for European Commission President, Jean-Claude Juncker, Political Guidelines for the next Commission, 15 July 2014

The Capital Markets Union aims to get money — investments and savings — to flow more easily across the EU so that it can benefit consumers, investors and companies. It is an integral part of the Juncker Commission’s ambition to sustain growth in Europe. The Capital Markets Union aims to break down remaining barriers that block cross-border investments in the EU and make it easier for EU companies and infrastructure projects to get the finance they need, regardless of where they are located. It also fosters sustainable finance, providing investors with more choice to invest in environmentally friendly companies and projects, making the EU a global leader in this field. More integrated financial markets complement the Banking Union by creating a cushion to absorb sudden shocks, and allowing risk to be shared by private actors across EU borders, making the Economic and Monetary Union stronger and more resilient. This, in turn, creates an incentive for market participants to use the euro, therefore reinforcing its international role.

WHAT ARE THE CURRENT ISSUES?



Start-ups and small and medium-sized enterprises need more funding for innovation and growth (market-based sources of finance are currently less than 15%)



EU households save heavily, but do not make the most of their savings



High fixed costs of up to 15% of the amount raised make access to stock markets especially costly for small businesses

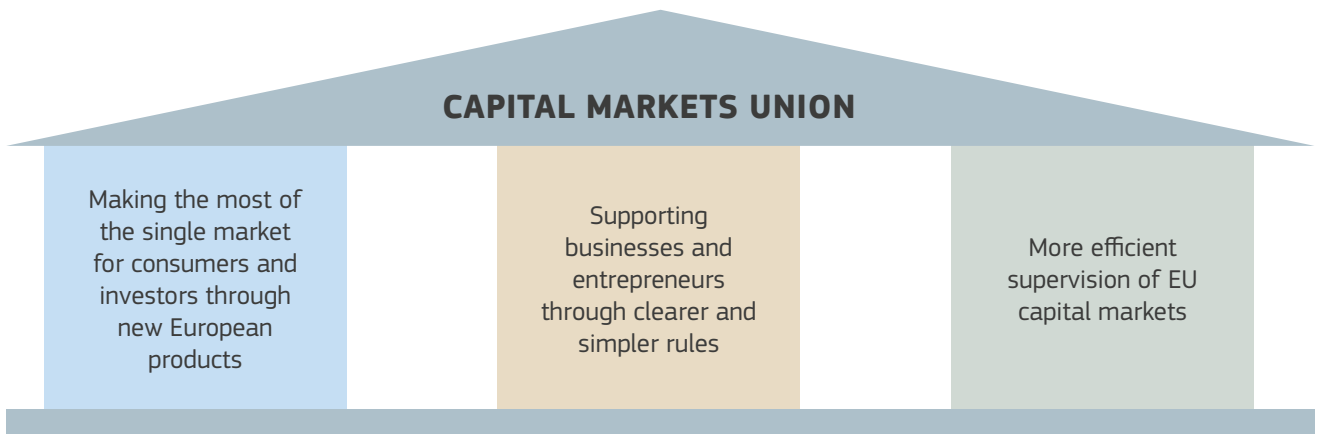


Investors face many barriers when investing in other EU countries

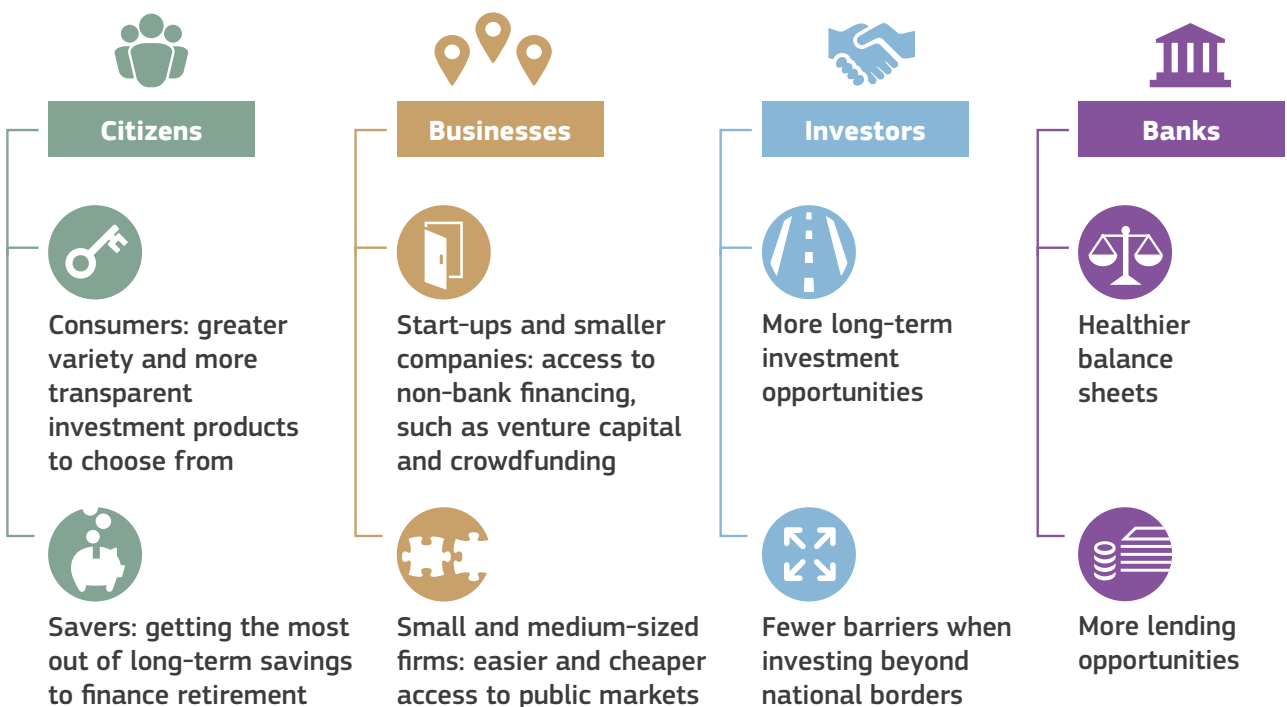


European businesses continue to depend greatly on banks for their financing, with too few alternative fund sources

THREE PILLARS OF THE CAPITAL MARKETS UNION



WHO BENEFITS FROM THE CAPITAL MARKETS UNION?



WHAT HAS THE JUNCKER COMMISSION DELIVERED SO FAR?





13 CMU legislative initiatives have been presented by the Juncker Commission



11 have been agreed by the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union



3 sustainable finance legislative initiatives have been presented by the Juncker Commission



2 have been agreed by the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union

DELIVERING THE CAPITAL MARKETS UNION

By pioneering action through its Capital Markets Union, the EU intends to globally lead the shift and scale up private investments to meet the objectives of the Paris Climate Agreement, through:

	<p>A unified EU green classification system - 'taxonomy' to determine if an economic activity is environmentally sustainable based on harmonised EU criteria.</p>
	<p>Transparency requirements on how financial companies integrate environmental, social and governance factors in their investment decisions.</p>
	<p>Two new categories of financial benchmarks with the aim of giving more information about the carbon footprint of different investment portfolios.</p>

Transitioning to a climate-neutral economy requires global solutions. Coordinating sustainable finance initiatives and tools across jurisdictions will:

- scale up sustainable finance
- ensure compatible markets for sustainable financial assets across borders and avoid fragmentation
- achieve economies of scale



BENEFITS FOR INVESTORS



additional opportunities to link global investors with local sustainable projects



BENEFITS FOR BUSINESSES

new sources of funding through global capital markets and the financial sector worldwide

DELIVERING ON THE CAPITAL MARKETS UNION

POLICY DESCRIPTION	OBJECTIVE	 European Parliament	 Council of the European Union
CAPITAL MARKETS UNION KEY BUILDING BLOCKS			
Simple, transparent and standardised securitisation	<i>To broaden investment opportunities and boost lending to Europe's households and businesses.</i>	Adopted	Adopted
Prospectus Regulation	<i>To facilitate access to financial markets for companies, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises.</i>	Adopted	Adopted
European Venture Capital Fund Regulation (EuVECA) and European Social Entrepreneurship Funds Regulation (EuSEF)	<i>To stimulate venture capital and social investments in the EU.</i>	Adopted	Adopted
Pan-European personal pension product (PEPP)	<i>To give citizens more and better options for retirement savings.</i>	Agreed	Agreed
Covered bonds	<i>To provide a source of long-term financing for banks in support to the real economy.</i>	Agreed	Agreed
Crowdfunding	<i>To improve access to this innovative form of finance for start-ups, while maintaining investor protection.</i>	Negotiating mandate	Not agreed
Cross-border distribution of collective investment funds	<i>To remove burdensome requirements and harmonise diverging national rules.</i>	Agreed	Agreed
Investment firms review	<i>To ensure a level playing field between the large and systemic financial institutions while introducing simpler rules for smaller firms.</i>	Agreed	Agreed
Preventive restructuring, second chance and efficiency of procedures	<i>To provide honest entrepreneurs with a second chance and facilitate the efficient restructuring of viable companies in financial difficulties.</i>	Agreed	Agreed
Promotion of SME Growth Markets	<i>To cut red-tape for small and medium-sized enterprises trying to access capital markets.</i>	Agreed	Agreed
Third-party effects on assignment of claims	<i>To enhance legal certainty about the applicable national law to the effects on third parties where a claim is assigned cross-border.</i>	Negotiating mandate	Not agreed
European Supervisory Authorities review including anti-money laundering rules	<i>To enhance supervisory convergence and strengthen enforcement, including against money laundering and terrorist financing.</i>	Agreed	Agreed
European market infrastructure regulation (Supervision)	<i>To ensure that the EU supervisory framework effectively anticipates and mitigates risk from EU and non-EU central counterparties servicing EU clients.</i>	Agreed	Agreed
SUSTAINABLE FINANCE INITIATIVES			
Sustainable finance: Taxonomy	<i>To help to reorient private capital flows towards more sustainable investments, such as clean transport, and help finance the transition to a low-carbon, more resource-efficient and circular economy.</i>	Negotiating mandate	Not agreed
Sustainable finance: Disclosure		Agreed	Agreed
Sustainable finance: Low carbon Benchmarks		Agreed	Agreed



Banking Union: Making our financial system even stronger

May
2019

TOWARDS A MORE UNITED, STRONGER AND MORE DEMOCRATIC UNION



'A continuing priority is to finish fixing the problems of our banking sector and to boost private investment. I have been a strong supporter of the development of stricter controls on banks through a Single Supervisory Mechanism and a Single Resolution Mechanism with a Single Resolution Fund that will be built up progressively. My Commission will be active and vigilant in ensuring that we implement the new supervisory and resolution rules fully, making European banks more robust so that they can get back to lending to the real economy.'

Then Candidate for European Commission President, Jean-Claude Juncker,
Political Guidelines for the next Commission, 15 July 2014

The global financial crisis that hit us 10 years ago taught us that when many banks get into trouble at the same time, this can put the entire financial system and economy in danger. Since the financial crisis, making banks stronger has been one of the Commission's main goals: it has put forward over 50 proposals to increase the resilience of the financial sector and help protect the economy.

The Juncker Commission has from the start worked to put the EU banking sector on an even sounder footing for future generations, with solid banks that perform their indispensable role in financing the economy and support growth. As the European Union and its economy are visibly regaining strength, the EU must continue to seize the momentum to reinforce its Economic and Monetary Union (EMU). Within the context of the roadmap set out by the Commission on 6 December 2017 for the deepening of Europe's Economic and Monetary Union, and in line with the Leaders' Agenda, one of the most immediate priorities is to complete the Banking Union and put in place all building blocks for a Capital Markets Union. This also means ensuring that taxpayers are not the first in line to bail out failing banks and EU citizens' money is kept safe. Both the European Parliament and Council have reaffirmed the importance of the Banking Union with a view to its completion.

Since 2014, banks directly supervised by the European Central Bank have increased their capital by **€234 billion**, and are also now much more resilient to liquidity shocks, with an increase of **€813 billion** in additional liquid assets.

STRONGER BANKS: THE STORY SO FAR

We have established a new regulatory framework and institutional set-up to effectively address remaining vulnerabilities in the Banking Union. These measures have delivered a strong improvement in banks' capital and liquidity positions, ensured better monitoring of banks' health and a more efficient process of dealing with banks in difficulties.



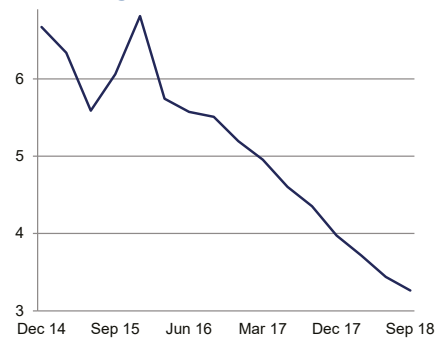
EU ACHIEVEMENTS IN TACKLING RESIDUAL RISKS

The Juncker Commission is focused on tackling residual risks, such as **continuing the reduction of non-performing loans** on EU banks' balance sheets.

Non-performing loans as a % of total loans in selected countries			
	Q3 2017	Q3 2018	% change
Cyprus	32.1	21.8	-32.02%
Spain	4.7	4.0	-15.09%
Greece	46.7	43.5	-6.7%
Ireland	11.2	7.8	-30.21%
Italy	12.1	9.5	-21.54%
Portugal	14.6	11.3	-22.42%
Slovenia	10.8	6.9	-35.92%

Source: European Central Bank.

EU total gross non-performing loans and advances,
in % of total gross loans and advances, end-of-quarter values



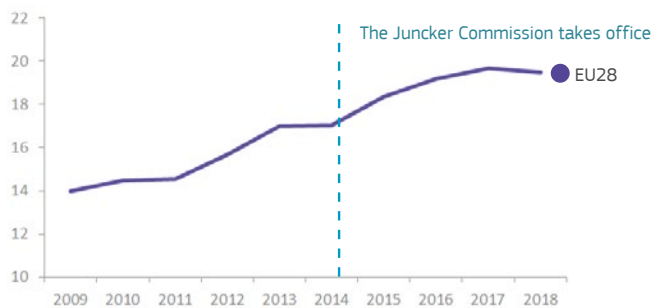
Source: European Central Bank

Source: European Central Bank.

Over a decade on from the financial crisis, European banks are stronger, safer and more secure.



Banks' total capital ratio, in %



Source: European Commission

DELIVERING ON THE ROADMAP TO COMPLETE THE BANKING UNION

MEASURE	DESCRIPTION	 European Parliament	 Council of the European Union
Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM)	<i>The SSM supervises all banks in the Banking Union. In place since November 2014.</i>	Adopted	Adopted
Single Resolution Mechanism (SRM)	<i>The SRM can restructure banks that are failing or likely to fail in the Banking Union. In place since January 2016.</i>	Adopted	Adopted
Single Resolution Fund (SRF)	<i>The SRF, made up of banks' contributions, can support the smooth resolution of a bank.</i>	Adopted	Adopted
European Deposit Insurance Scheme (EDIS)	<i>The Commission's EDIS proposal would strengthen the protection of bank depositors across the Banking Union. The co-legislators have so far not been able to agree on this proposal. The Commission suggested a way forward in October 2017.</i>	Not agreed	Not agreed
November 2016 Banking Package	<i>The Commission proposed reinforcing the banking Single Rulebook with further risk-reducing measures. Political agreement between the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union was agreed on 4 December 2018.</i>	Agreed	Agreed
Legislative proposal on business insolvency and restructuring	<i>The Commission presented a legislative proposal on preventive restructuring and second chance in November 2016.</i>	Agreed	Agreed
A backstop for the Banking Union	<i>The creation of a backstop for the Single Resolution Fund was agreed by Member States in 2013. On 6 December 2017, the Commission proposed to make the agreed backstop for the Single Resolution Fund a part of the European Stability Mechanism.</i>	Agreed	Agreed
Prudential measures to further address non-performing loans	<i>The Council agreed an Action Plan to further reduce nonperforming loans in July 2017. A political agreement was found between the co-legislators in December 2018.</i>	Agreed	Agreed
Secondary market for nonperforming loans	<i>The Commission proposed a set of measures to address non-performing loans in the EU banking sector. That package followed up on the Action Plan on reducing non-performing loans in March 2018.</i>	Not agreed	Partially agreed



European Commission



A drive for a fair and effective tax system in the EU

May 2019

TOWARDS A MORE UNITED, STRONGER AND MORE DEMOCRATIC UNION



'We need more fairness in our internal market. While recognising the competence of Member States for their taxation systems, we should step up our efforts to combat tax evasion and tax fraud, so that all contribute their fair share. I will notably press ahead with administrative cooperation between tax authorities and work for the adoption at EU level of a Common Consolidated Corporate Tax Base.'

Then candidate for European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, Political Guidelines for the next Commission, 15 July 2014

21 legislative initiatives have been presented by the Juncker Commission.

- 14** have been adopted by the Council of the European Union.
- 7** are still on the table, which the Council needs to adopt.

At least €50-70 billion: corporate tax revenues lost annually in the EU due to tax avoidance



€150 billion: VAT losses due to fraud, avoidance and miscollection each year – equivalent to the entire EU budget



74% of EU citizens believe that the European Union should do more to tackle tax avoidance.

WE AGREE. THIS IS WHY THE JUNCKER COMMISSION HAS DELIVERED ON:

<p>Tax transparency</p> <p>Far-reaching rules on information exchange</p> <p>↓</p> <p>Tax administrations can spot those who do not play by the rules</p>	<p>Anti-tax avoidance</p> <p>Legislation to close loopholes, put an end to preferential tax deals and increase transparency on beneficial ownership</p> <p>↓</p> <p>It is much more difficult for companies to game the system</p>	<p>Global action</p> <p>EU list of tax havens and increased tax cooperation with non-EU countries</p> <p>↓</p> <p>There is clarity on who does not play fair</p>	<p>Improving decision-making</p> <p>Debate kick-started on reforming decision-making for EU taxation policy</p> <p>↓</p> <p>Quicker, more effective and more democratic compromises on taxation in the future</p>
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WHAT HAS CHANGED SINCE 2014?



Transparency on cross-border tax rulings between Member States enables national tax administrations to detect abusive tax practices and to take the necessary action.

More transparency on tax paid by multinationals between Member States means that administrations can see where big companies are really paying their taxes

Binding rules to effectively tackle tax loopholes (ATAD) inside and outside the EU can stop profits from being siphoned out of the Union untaxed.

Strengthened anti-money laundering and company transparency rules so that the ultimate beneficiary behind every company, trust and fund is known.

Access to anti-money laundering information to tax authorities, allowing them to react quickly to cases of evasion and avoidance.

Transparency agreements with international partners signed to end banking secrecy between EU Member States and Andorra, Monaco, Liechtenstein, San Marino and Switzerland.

First common EU list of non-cooperative tax jurisdictions published along with stronger rules to prevent EU funds being transiting through those countries.

New rules to resolve double taxation issues more quickly, boosting tax certainty for businesses.

Cases against illegal State aid in taxation — tackling distortions of competition and restoring a level playing field.


New VAT rules to help small companies that sell goods online and to improve VAT collection for Member States on online sales.


Binding transparency rules for intermediaries who design and promote tax-planning schemes for their clients.


New cooperation and information exchange framework agreed between Member States to help fight VAT fraud.


FURTHER WORK TO BE DONE TO DELIVER ON TAX FAIRNESS AND TAX EFFICIENCY

All companies — big or small, global or local — must pay a fair share of tax where real economic activity is taking place and where their profits are actually made. EU Member States should now move forward on the key measures proposed by the Commission to deliver further on tax fairness and tax efficiency.


 **New corporate tax system:** The Common Consolidated Corporate Tax Base is a model for a corporate tax system for multinationals. It will reduce aggressive tax planning while boosting growth in the EU. Progress is needed to deliver an EU tax environment fit for the 21st century.

 **EU list of non-cooperative tax jurisdictions:** Work on this newly created list must continue: countries that have pledged reforms must be closely monitored. Member States must deliver soon on an updated list to reflect latest developments.

 **Public reporting:** Multinational companies most at risk of aggressive tax planning should publish the amount of tax they pay in each EU Member State.

 **Digital economy:** Commission proposals are now on the table to deal with the taxation of digital activities for which traditional tax rules do not work. We need to secure tax revenues and ensure that traditional businesses can compete fairly with the digital economy.

 **Creating a single EU VAT area:** Criminal VAT fraud deprives our communities of €50 billion a year. The Commission has proposed far-reaching reforms with a series of proposals to put in place a fraud-proof single EU VAT Area. Member States now need to deliver.

 **A move to Qualified Majority Voting decision-making:** The Commission has launched the debate on improving how decisions are made on EU taxation policy and has invited all stakeholders, including EU leaders, to engage constructively.



European Commission



Security Union: A Europe that protects

May 2019

TOWARDS A MORE UNITED, STRONGER AND MORE DEMOCRATIC UNION



'Combatting cross-border crime and terrorism is a common European responsibility. We need to crack down on organised crime, such as human traffickin smuggling and cybercrime. We must tackle corruption; and we must fight terrorism and counter radicalisation – all the while guaranteeing fundamental rights and values, including procedural rights and the protection of personal data.'

Then candidate for European Commission President, Jean-Claude Juncker, Political Guidelines for the next Commission, **15 July 2014**

Europeans rightly expect their Union to keep them safe. The Juncker Commission made security a top priority from day one. We have taken decisive action to deny terrorists the means to carry out attacks, share information between Member States, protect Europeans online and reinforce the management of our borders.

22 legislative initiatives have been presented by the Juncker Commission

- 15** have been agreed by the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union.
- 7** are still on the table, which the European Parliament and the Council need to agree.

DENYING TERRORISTS THE MEANS TO ACT

In the past four years, the Commission has taken a series of landmark steps to tighten security laws across the EU and cut terrorists off from the money, firearms and substances they use to carry out attacks



A new **law on combatting terrorism** ensures that terrorism-related offences — such as travelling abroad to commit a terrorist offence, returning or travelling within the EU for such activities, training for terrorist purposes and the financing of terrorism — are now **criminalised** and **heavily sanctioned** across Europe.



The Commission has also reinforced the control of legally-held **firearms** in the EU. New rules make it harder to legally acquire high capacity weapons and restrict access to **chemical substances** that could be used to make home-made explosives.



Terrorists and criminals are constantly looking for loopholes - using false identities and setting up multiple bank accounts, they pose a risk to the security of the EU as a whole. Cutting off the sources of **terrorism financing**, countering **money-laundering** and curbing **document fraud** are among the most effective ways to crack down on terrorists and criminal activities.



main legislative initiatives have been presented by the Juncker Commission

6

Initiatives agreed by the European Parliament and the Council.

- Law on combatting terrorism
- Restricted access to firearm
- Revised rules on anti-money laundering
- Improved security of ID cards
- Access to financial information in criminal investigations
- Restricting the marketing and use of explosive precursors

2

initiatives still pending agreement by the two institutions:

- European Public Prosecutor's Office to fight cross-border terrorism
- Improving cross-border access to electronic evidence

SHARING INFORMATION

Effective information sharing is a key element of security and border management as well as in the fight against terrorism. Thanks to the Commission's efforts to raise awareness and provide practical solutions, information exchange has increased significantly and Member States use databases, such as the **Schengen Information System**, much more often

The Schengen Information System - the most widely used information sharing system for border management and security in Europe



contains over

82 million alerts

as of 31 December 2018



It was consulted more than

6.1 billion times

in 2018 - a 200% increase compared to 2014



The Commission is working to **close information gaps** and allow **EU information systems to work together** – ensuring that border guards and police officers have the information they need exactly when they need it. In December 2017, the Commission proposed new measures to achieve full **interoperability** of EU information systems for security, border and migration management to enable information exchange and data sharing between the systems. This will ensure that border guards and police officers have access to the right information exactly when and where they need it.



Member States now need to ensure the full implementation of the existing rules, such as **Passenger Name Records**, adopted in 2016. This data is essential for identifying high-risk travellers previously unknown to law enforcement authorities and better tracking of criminal networks.



main legislative initiatives have been presented by the Juncker Commission

4

initiatives agreed by the European Parliament and the Council.

- Reinforced Schengen Information System
- Stronger eu-LISA Agency
- Upgrade of European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS-TCN system)
- Interoperability of EU information systems for security, border and migration

2

initiatives still pending agreement by the two institutions:

- Strengthened Visa Information System
- Revision of Eurodac system

PROTECTING EUROPEANS ONLINE



Large scale cyber-attacks that have recently targeted key infrastructure across the world show that we need to invest more heavily in **cyber security**. With the scaled-up EU response to cyber-attacks – through the **EU Cybersecurity Agency**, certifications for digital products and a large-scale attack blueprint – the EU will be better prepared to face these new challenges.



In the past two years, the Commission has driven action to counter radicalisation, both offline and online. The **Radicalisation Awareness Network** brings together practitioners from all Member States to develop best practices, and equips them with the skills they need to address violent extremism. EU initiatives to **counter terrorist propaganda and radicalisation online** are showing results. In 2015, the Commission launched the **EU Internet Forum** which brings together governments, Europol and the biggest technology and social media companies to ensure that illegal content, including terrorist propaganda, is taken down as quickly as possible. In March 2018, the Commission adopted a Recommendation on measures to effectively tackle illegal content online with a particular focus on terrorist-related content and proposed legislation in September 2018 to ensure **terrorist content is removed within one hour**.



5 main legislative initiatives have been presented by the Juncker Commission

3

initiatives agreed by the European Parliament and the Council.

- Cybersecurity Act
- Combatting fraud and counterfeiting of non-cash means of payment
- Updated rules on political party funding

2

initiatives still pending agreement by the two institutions:

- Removing terrorist content online
- Network of national coordination centres in cybersecurity

PROTECTING OUR BORDERS

In an area of free movement without internal borders, managing Europe's external borders must be a shared responsibility. We need to know who is crossing our borders and we need to be able to effectively secure our common borders.



Established in 2016, the **European Border and Coast Guard Agency**, built on the foundations of Frontex, is today at the core of the EU's work to support Member States in protecting the external borders. In March 2019, the European Parliament and the Council agreed upon the Commission proposal to further reinforce the European Border and Coast Guard and equip the Agency with a **standing corps of 10,000 border guards** to be rolled out by **2027** to ensure that Member States can rely on full EU operational support at all times. The Agency will also have a stronger mandate on **returns** and will cooperate more closely with **non-EU countries**, including those beyond the EU's immediate neighbourhood. This reinforcement will give the Agency the right level of ambition to respond to the common challenges facing Europe in managing migration and its external borders.

Securing our common borders and knowing who is crossing our borders

New European Border and Coast Guard Agency
standing corps of **10,000 border guards**
to be rolled out by 2027

No EU traveller will pass EU borders **without being systematically checked**



standing corps of **10,000 border guards**

to be rolled out by 2027



without being systematically checked



No traveller will pass EU borders unnoticed as both EU and non-EU nationals are now **systematically checked** against all relevant databases. The Commission has also reinforced the existing **Schengen Information System** to better track down dangerous criminals and terrorists and put in place new systems, such as the **Entry/Exit System** to improve the quality and efficiency of border controls and the **European Travel and Authorisation System (ETIAS)** to strengthen security checks on visa-free travellers.



3 main legislative initiatives have been presented by the Juncker Commission

3

initiatives agreed by the European Parliament and the Council.

- Entry/Exit System
- ETIAS
- Reinforced European Border and Coast Guard

INVESTING IN EUROPE'S SECURITY



EU funding is an important tool to help Member States better protect their citizens. Since 2014, the EU has invested close to **€3 billion** in keeping Europe safe – securing our borders, combatting organised crime and terrorism and researching new security solutions. For the next budgetary period, 2021-2027, the Commission is proposing to substantially increase funding for security to **€4.8 billion**.



European Commission



A more democratic Union

May 2019

TOWARDS A MORE UNITED, STRONGER AND MORE DEMOCRATIC UNION



‘For the first time, a direct link has thereby been established between the outcome of the European Parliament elections and the proposal of the President of the European Commission... It has the potential to insert a very necessary additional dose of democratic legitimacy into the European decision-making process.’

Then candidate for European Commission President, Jean-Claude Juncker, 15 July 2014

A COMMISSION PRESIDENT WITH A MANDATE FROM CITIZENS

Jean-Claude Juncker was the first Commission President to be elected through the ‘spitzenkandidaten’ process, where European political parties chose in advance their preferred candidate for the post and campaigned for his or her election. This pan-European process helped to bring the leaders of the EU Institutions closer to voters and closer to national political priorities. It strengthened the connection between the three institutions and helped them to agree common priorities, enhancing efficiency, effectiveness and democratic legitimacy.



Members of the Commission have taken part in over **2,000 debates** in the European Parliament since November 2014



Members of the Commission have had over **900 meetings with national Parliaments** since November 2014

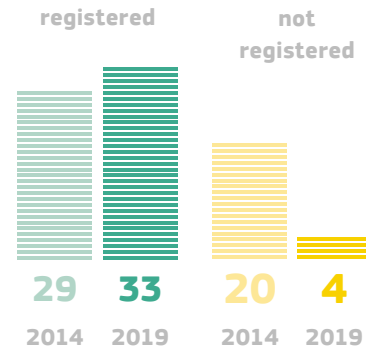
The Juncker Commission has also built a close bond with national parliaments and the European Parliament. Over the past four years, Commissioners made more than 900 visits to national parliaments across Europe and took part in over 2,000 European Parliament debates.

Shaping legislation

When one million citizens take the time to support a proposal for legislation, the European Commission must listen. In total, this Commission registered 33 Citizens' Initiatives, 14% more than the previous Commission. The **European Citizens' Initiative (ECI)** is a tool which has more wind in its sails since the start of the Juncker Commission. The Commission discusses every request at political level and takes a flexible approach to allow the maximum number of initiatives to be registered to encourage citizens' use of this valuable tool.



More European Citizens' Initiatives registered



The Juncker Commission has turned the promise of **European Citizens' Initiatives** into reality, proposing legislation based on a European Citizens' Initiative for the first time, with the revision of the EU Drinking Water Directive



Our proposal will:

- 💧 Improve access to water for all
- 💧 Upgrade drinking water standards
- 💧 Increase transparency to empower consumers
- 💧 Help the fight against plastic waste

Making legislation

The Juncker Commission has **opened up the policy-making process**, with citizens now able to give their opinion at every stage, from before the pen is taken up until after the Commission lays down its pen and sends proposals to the legislators. The Commission has made it possible for citizens to shape EU policy through:

- ▶ enhanced transparency on early ideas
- ▶ extended public consultations on draft legislation
- ▶ online feedback tools to review existing laws



The Better Regulation Portal: a dedicated new web portal for providing feedback on EU policy



- **75,000** monthly visits
- **Almost 980** Commission texts published for feedback
- **15,000** comments received so far

The Commission reaches out to citizens directly more often, through regular visits to Member States and by organising **citizens' dialogues** – which are town hall style meetings bringing together voters with Members of the Commission, Members of the European Parliament, national governments, local and regional authorities and civil society representatives. Under the Juncker Commission, almost 1.600 citizens' dialogues have taken place across the EU. Almost 190,000 people have now taken part directly, with millions more reached through media and social media coverage.

Citizens' dialogues in numbers

Since January 2015, as of 26 April 2019

close to **1,600** dialogues

190,000 participants

over **580** cities in **27** Member States

288 million people reached on traditional media

39 million impressions on social media

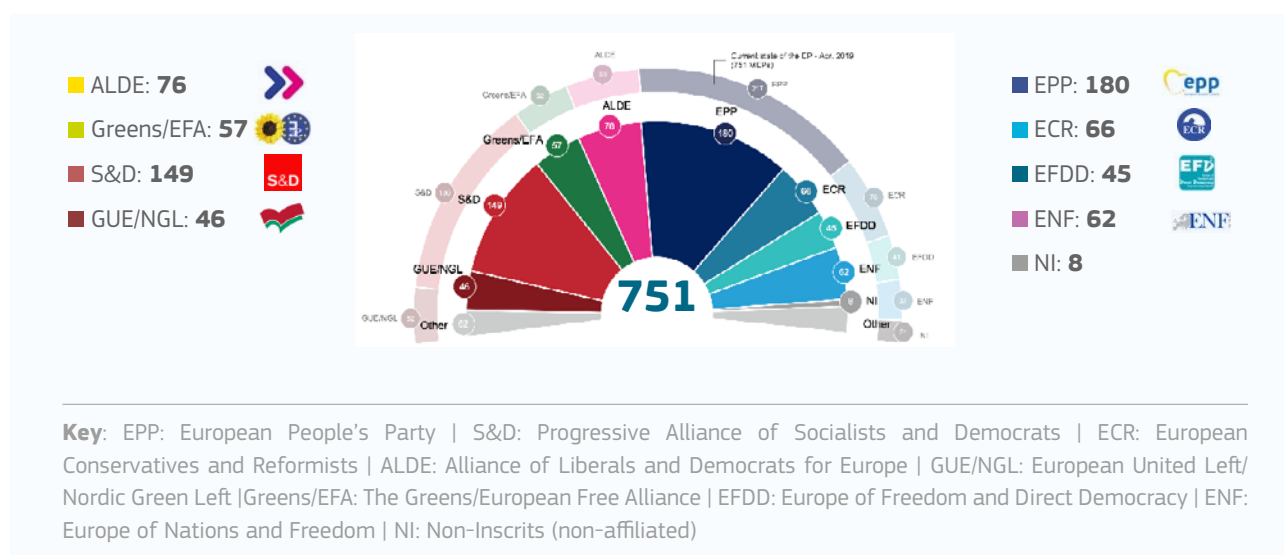
1,6 million people watched live webstreaming

NEW FRAMEWORK FOR EUROPEAN POLITICAL PARTIES

The manipulation of European citizens' personal data for electoral gains is a reality. The Cambridge Analytica revelations only demonstrate the depth of the risk posed by modern technologies to the electoral process. Personal data must be protected and European citizens also have the right to know who stands behind online political advertising.

The EU has tightened the rules on European political party funding. Those parties that breach data protection rules can be subject to new sanctions, which could amount to 5% of the annual budget of the European political party or foundation concerned. In addition, the EU agreed to revise the rules for funding of European political parties, making the link between European parties and their national parties more transparent. For instance, the rules make funding dependent on the national parties displaying the political programme and logo of their European party on their websites. This way Europeans know exactly who they are voting for in the European elections.

The European Parliament is currently composed of eight political groups.



Source: European Parliament

IMPROVED TRANSPARENCY RULES FOR MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

The Juncker Commission committed to **enhanced transparency** from day one. One of the Commission's first decisions was to make public all contacts between interest representatives (lobbyists) and the Commissioners. The introduction of this new system has made it easy for the public to see who is seeking to influence policy. As President Juncker said at the start of his mandate, we are throwing open the windows and doors of the Commission so the public can see what we are doing. This is why today there are almost 12,000 organisations and individuals registered in the Transparency Register, 5,000 more than when President Juncker took office.



All **meetings** of lobbyists with Commissioners, their staff and Director-Generals are now **made public online**.

The Commission has also adopted a new **code of conduct** for Commissioners, with the explicit agreement of the European Parliament. The new code of conduct sets clearer rules and even higher ethical standards and introduces greater transparency in a number of areas. This concerns for example Commissioners' travel expenses which are now being published online.

With the new code of conduct, President Juncker has also delivered on his proposal to allow Commissioners – all of them experienced and high-calibre politicians – to participate in the European elections campaign without having to take a leave of absence as in the past. Of course, when campaigning, Commissioners must continue serving European citizens by fully delivering on their institutional commitments.



European Commission



May 2019

Better regulation: big on the big things and small on the small things

TOWARDS A MORE UNITED, STRONGER AND MORE DEMOCRATIC UNION



‘Yes, I am an advocate of a stronger Europe in some fields. But I do not believe in more Europe for the sake of more Europe. I want a better Europe. A Europe that is big on big things and small on small things. When I am President of the next Commission I will work to do just that. This means that we will stop regulating each and every corner and every aspect of the daily lives of our citizens.’

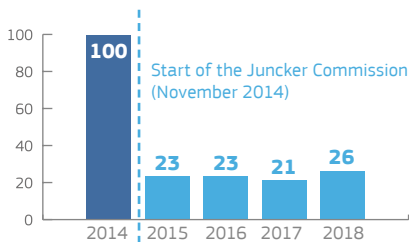
Then candidate for European Commission President, Jean-Claude Juncker, Athens, 19 May 2014

ACTING ONLY WHERE EUROPE ADDS VALUE: 75% LESS INITIATIVES EACH YEAR

Citizens do not want a Europe that intrudes on their everyday lives unnecessarily. This is why the **Juncker Commission** does not regulate things like oil cans or showerheads, but **concentrates on what we can do better together rather than alone** - such as tackling the refugee crisis, securing our external borders, or leading the fight against climate change.

The Juncker Commission is focused on a core set of [10 political priorities](#), **acting only where the EU adds value, and leaving other issues to national and local authorities.**

PRIORITY INITIATIVES



PROPOSALS FOR WITHDRAWAL



LAWS FOR REPEAL



INITIATIVES FOR REGULATORY SIMPLIFICATION



DELIVERING MORE EFFICIENTLY: ALL PLANNED PROPOSALS ALREADY TABLED

Delivering results where they are most needed requires that the EU Institutions work closely together.

With a President elected by both the European Parliament and the European Council, based on a popular mandate, **the Commission has worked much more efficiently with the legislators than in the past.**

Because the three Institutions have agreed on which proposals require priority treatment in the legislative process, they are delivered and adopted faster than before.

By summer 2018, the Juncker Commission had tabled all of the legislative proposals it committed to at the start of its mandate. In total, the Commission made **471** new legislative proposals and carried over an additional 44 presented by previous Commissions. Of these, **348** proposals have been adopted or agreed by the European Parliament and the Council. Remarkably, in around 90% of the cases, the final compromise was approved by consensus in the Council of Ministers, and thus supported by all 28 Member States.

In around **90% of agreed proposals**, the final compromise was approved by consensus in the Council.

EVIDENCE-BASED LAW-MAKING: INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

The Juncker Commission, committed to acting only where the EU adds value. The recent stock-taking exercise showed that our efforts to put better regulation at the heart of the decision-making process have been successful. These efforts have been recognised internationally by the OECD, which ranked the EU's regulatory policy as one of the very best in 2018. This success should be consolidated and sustained.

DELIVERING AT THE RIGHT LEVEL

As outlined, in the White Paper on the Future of Europe, taking decisions at the most appropriate level means, for example, that **96% of State Aid decisions are now in the hands of national rather than European authorities** thanks to Commission reforms. This is an increase of 28 percentage points compared to 2013.

96% of State aid Decisions handled directly at national level.

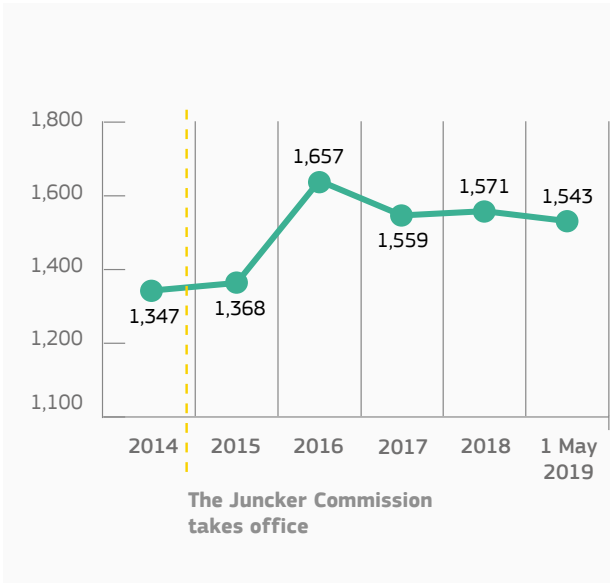
President Juncker set up a dedicated **task force** to help the Commission act on 'big things' and where it can actually achieve better results than Member States acting alone. In 2018 the Task Force looked at **'Doing Less More Efficiently'**, and reported to President Juncker with recommendations on how to better involve local, regional and national authorities in the EU policy-making. Building on the recommendations, the Commission set out in October 2018 the way forward to strengthen the **principles of subsidiarity and proportionality** to ensure that political priorities are delivered more efficiently.

APPLYING EU LAW PROPERLY

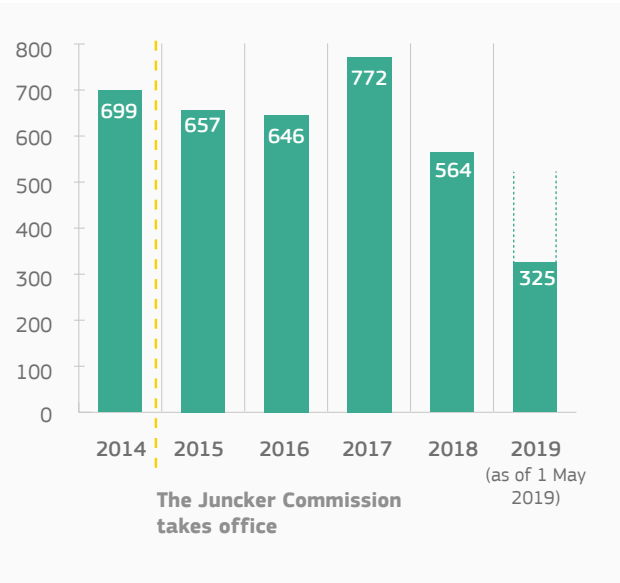
Law has no value to citizens and businesses if it is not correctly applied or enforced correctly. So the Commission has increased its efforts to both open and close infringement cases where EU legislation is not applied. In order to increase the effectiveness of enforcement, the Commission has applied a policy based on greater prioritisation. There are over 1,500 cases open, across all our Member States, which the Commission is working hard with the Member States to resolve, if possible without having to go to Court.

The Juncker Commission has closed over 500 cases each year since taking office in November 2014, without needing to go to Court, which shows our effective way of working with national authorities.

**Infringement cases open
at year-end 2014 - 1 May 2019**



**Infringement cases closed before
going to the Court of Justice**





European Commission



A Europe that protects our borders and delivers on a comprehensive migration policy

May 2019

TOWARDS A MORE UNITED, STRONGER AND MORE DEMOCRATIC UNION



‘Our common European values and our historic responsibility are my starting point when I think about the future of Europe’s migration policy. My experience tells me that Europe will need more solidarity to prepare for the future. The future of a prosperous continent that will always be open for those in need, but that will also deal with the challenge of migration together, and not leave some to cope alone.’

Then Candidate for European Commission President, Jean-Claude Juncker, **1 May 2014**

In 2015, faced with the most severe refugee crisis the world has seen since the Second World War, the EU managed to bring about a step change in migration management and border protection. The EU has offered protection and support to millions, saved lives, dismantled smuggling networks and brought irregular arrivals to Europe down to the lowest level recorded in 5 years. Nevertheless, more work is needed to make the EU’s migration policy truly future-proof in view of a constantly evolving geopolitical context and a steady rise in migratory pressure on a global scale.

30

main legislative initiatives have been presented by the Juncker Commission.

14

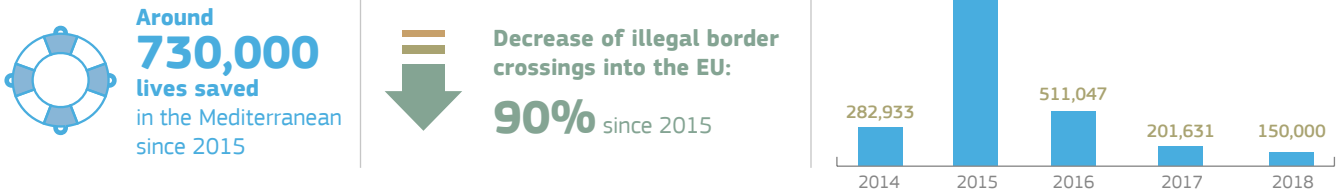
have been adopted by the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union.

16

legislative initiatives are still on the table for the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union to adopt.

IRREGULAR BORDER CROSSINGS REDUCED BY 90%

Saving lives, better managing migratory flows and fighting traffickers are the core objectives of the EU's migration policy. Following the EU-Turkey Statement, which was agreed in March 2016, arrivals to Greece were greatly reduced and remain 97% lower than the period before the Statement became operational. Arrivals in the Central Mediterranean in 2018 dropped by 80% compared to 2017 and so far in 2019, arrivals are over 90% lower than the same period in 2018. The total number of arrivals to Spain so far this year is 41% higher compared to the same period in 2018, with a significant decrease noted since February. In parallel, the number of lives lost in the Mediterranean has also gone down significantly.



PROTECTING OUR BORDERS WITH THE NEW EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD



Established in 2016, building on the foundations of Frontex, the **European Border and Coast Guard Agency** is today at the core of the EU's work to support Member States in protecting the external borders. In March 2019, the European Parliament and the Council agreed upon the Commission proposal to further reinforce the European Border and Coast Guard and equip the Agency with a **standing corps of 10,000 border guards** to ensure that Member States can rely on full EU operational support at all times. The Agency will also have a **stronger mandate on returns** and will cooperate more closely with **non-EU countries**, including those beyond the EU's immediate neighbourhood. This reinforcement will give the Agency the right level of ambition to respond to the common challenges facing Europe in managing migration and its external borders.



Around 1,000 official are already deployed across Europe at external land and sea borders. And with the **hotspots established in Greece and Italy since 2015**, we can now better manage and control migration flows: Every single person arriving in these hotspots is identified and registered and goes through a security check.



In addition, **new border security systems**, such as the **Entry-Exit System** and the **European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS)**, are being introduced to make sure we always know who is crossing our border. The Commission has also reinforced the existing **Schengen Information System** to better track down dangerous criminals and terrorists and proposed new measures to achieve full **interoperability** of EU information systems for security, border and migration management to ensure that border guards and police officers have access to the right information exactly when and where they need it.

SOLIDARITY AT HOME: CONCRETE HELP TO MEMBER STATES

The EU has provided unprecedented financial and practical support to its Member States.

This includes funding from the EU budget of €22 billion for internal and external migration management, more than double of what was originally foreseen for the period 2015-2018. €9.6 billion comes from the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) and the Internal Security Fund (ISF) for internal migration management and €12.4 billion for addressing the external aspects of migration. While Member States under pressure can apply for emergency funding, long-term funding helps national authorities make their migration and border management future-proof.



Emergency funding awarded to support EU Member States since 2014:
AMIF: €1.07 billion
ISF: €410 million

Learning the lessons of the past, the Commission proposed to almost triple funding for migration and border management within the EU to € 34.9 billion for the next long-term EU budget 2021-2027.

EU agencies, such as the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, the European Asylum Support Office and Europol provide operational assistance on the ground. Through its agencies, the EU is supporting Member States with manpower, expertise and equipment, on land and at sea, to manage and strengthen the external borders, provide protection to those who need it, actively return those who do not and, above all, to save lives.

Through the relocation mechanism, almost 35,000 asylum seekers - all eligible candidates for relocation - were transferred to other EU Member States between 2015 and 2017.

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS

Under the Juncker Commission, migration has been fully embedded in the EU's foreign policy. The new Partnership Framework on Migration combines all EU policies and instruments to actively address challenges outside the European Union related to migration. Concrete actions have been put in place and are delivering on the priorities to:

- Save lives
- Break the business model of traffickers and smugglers
- Enhance cooperation on returns and readmissions
- Address root causes of migration
- Improve opportunities in countries of origin
- Ensuring legal pathways for those in need of international protection

Visible achievements



Protection: Together with United Nations agencies, the EU works to improve protection of migrants and refugees along the Central Mediterranean Route: 6 transit centres have been put in place in Niger under the EU-IOM partnership; since May 2017, over 38,000 people have been assisted to voluntarily return to their homes from Libya and the Sahel and Lake Chad region; more than 3,500 people in need of international protection have been evacuated from Libya in view of further resettlement since the launch of the Joint African Union-European Union-United Nations task force in November 2017; over 13,000 migrants have been rescued in the desert by the IOM with Nigerien authorities. EU-financed projects will continue to support migrants and refugees currently in detention centres and disembarkation points in Libya while efforts of the Joint Task Force to empty the centres continue.



Fighting traffickers and smugglers: Operation Sophia has contributed to arresting 151 suspected smugglers and traffickers, 200 people arrested and brought to court in Niger with EU support; EU will support G5 Sahel Joint Force in taking action in the region with €100 million in funding; increased cooperation and exchange of information between European agencies like Europol and European Border and Coast Guard with local authorities.



Cooperation with partners has reached an unprecedented level: Support to partner countries in reforming their migration management systems, dedicated European migration liaison office deployed to EU Delegations in 12 key countries of origin and transit, reinforced work through multilateral initiatives such as the Contact group for the Mediterranean. The EU is working on improving practical arrangements on return and readmission with countries of origin. Formal readmission agreements or practical arrangements on return and readmission are now in place with 23 countries of origin and transit.



Opportunities: The EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa, worth €4.2 billion, provides assistance along migratory routes and supports opportunities for migrants in their home countries through initiatives that boost economic development, create jobs and increase stability.

- EU budget contribution: €3.7 billion
- Member States contribution: €494 million

Over 5.3 million people receive basic social services, food security and nutrition programmes. 41,000 jobs have been created or facilitated and 40,000 people have benefitted from training and skills development activities.

SAFE AND LEGAL PATHWAYS: A NEW BOOST FOR RESETTLEMENT

In September 2017, the Commission launched a new resettlement scheme for at least 50,000 refugees, the biggest EU resettlement scheme to date - under which 25,000 persons have already been resettled. In total, over 50,000 of the most vulnerable refugees in the Middle East and in Africa have found shelter in the EU since 2015 thanks to EU resettlement programmes.



By October 2019:

Member States should complete the remainder of resettlements.

OVERHAULING THE EU'S ASYLUM RULES

Learning the lessons of the last years, the EU needs a robust and effective system for sustainable migration management. The reform package presented by the Commission will put in place efficient and fair procedures that leave no room for abuses and secondary movements. The Commission has put all necessary proposals on the table but despite important progress in the negotiations, Member States have yet to agree on a common approach to the reform. The Commission will continue working with both the European Parliament and the Council to advance towards the finishing line

WHAT THE NEW RULES WILL MEAN IN PRACTICE

1. NO MORE
SECONDARY
MOVEMENTS

2. NO MORE
ABUSE OF
THE SYSTEM

3. EFFICIENT
AND FAIR
PROCEDURES

4. A MORE
EFFICIENT AND
FAIRER SYSTEM
FOR ALLOCATING
ASYLUM
APPLICATIONS
AMONGST MEMBER
STATES



European
Commission



May
2019

The EU as a stronger global actor

TOWARDS A MORE UNITED, STRONGER AND MORE DEMOCRATIC UNION



'There is strong demand for Europe throughout the world. I want Europe to get off the side-lines of world affairs. Europe must be an active player, an architect of tomorrow's world.'

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, State of the Union address, 12 September 2018

In a complex, connected and contested world, the European Union remains fully committed to **multilateralism** and to the **rules-based global order with the United Nations at its core**, promoting peace and security and developing stable partnerships, while defending universal rights and freedoms. This commitment makes the EU a **reliable and predictable partner** for countries and organisations around the world, be it the Paris Climate Agreement, the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the International Criminal Court or the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

The European Union is the **biggest investor in building strong international relations**, establishing strategic economic partnerships agreements with key players all over the world.

The EU is a major trade power, being the **biggest trading partner for almost any country in the world**. During this Commission's term, the EU has concluded **trade agreements** with 12 countries, including Japan, Canada and several African countries. The EU is also the main provider and the main destination of foreign direct investments in the world.

The EU set up the External Investment Plan to support countries in Africa and the EU Neighbourhood to mobilise up to €44 billion in investments by 2020.

EXPORTING STABILITY AND PROMOTING PROSPERITY IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

The European Union has renewed its efforts to delivery stability in its neighbourhood. Through its firm and credible enlargement policy, the EU exports stability and promotes political, economic and social transformation in the Western Balkans. The EU-Western Balkans relations got a significant boost over the past years, including through historic developments, signalling reconciliation, good neighbourly relations and regional cooperation. Among them is **the Prespa Agreement**, reached by Athens and Skopje in June 2018 on the settlement of the differences between their countries, including on the name, resolving one of the oldest conflicts in the region.

In addition, in 2018 the Commission presented a **new strategy for a credible enlargement perspective for and enhanced EU engagement with the Western Balkans**. The strategy spells out the priorities and areas of joint reinforced cooperation, addressing the specific challenges the Western Balkans face, in particular the need for fundamental reforms and good neighbourly relations. Progress along the European path is an objective and merit-based process which depends on the concrete results achieved by each individual country.

The strategy also outlined specific actions the EU will undertake over the next years to support the transformation efforts of the Western Balkans in areas of mutual interest. The Commission is currently implementing these **flagship initiatives** - they include for example investment of €700 million that will trigger €2.4 billion for road and rail connections as well as electricity networks or abolishing roaming charges across the Western Balkans.

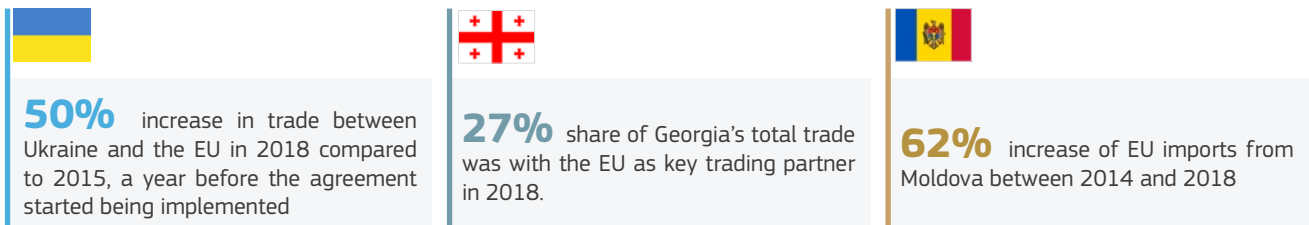


Photo with High Representative Vice-President, Commissioner Hahn, Prime Minister of Greece Tsipras and Prime Minister of North Macedonia Zaev

© European Union

ENGAGING WITH OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD – TO THE EAST

Through the **Eastern Partnership**, the European Union has helped to create 10,000 jobs, train 20,000 people, and provide over 100,000 loans to companies. We have improved access to free legal services, invested in transport links, promoted gender equality, and helped thousands of students to move between Europe and the Eastern Partnership region. In addition, we have agreed to achieve 20 deliveries for 2020 that will benefit the daily lives of citizens and will cover four priority areas: stronger economy, stronger governance, stronger connectivity and stronger society.



The EU recently concluded a new agreement with another of its eastern partners, **Armenia**, negotiations for a new agreement with **Azerbaijan** are progressing well, and is close to finalising negotiations on Partnership Priorities with **Belarus**.

The European Union has maintained its unity and principled position in its relations with **Russia**. Economic sanctions as well as travel bans and asset freezes on individuals and companies have now been in place for nearly over 5 years, as a result of Russia's **illegal annexation of Crimea**, its failure to implement the Minsk agreements, and its actions to undermine Ukraine's territorial integrity, independence and sovereignty.













Countries in the **East Neighbourhood** are benefiting from the External Investment Plan, which builds on the European Commission's experience in implementing regional investment facilities. Since 2008, the Neighbourhood Investment Facility has used € 2 billion grants to leverage more than € 16 billion from partner International Financial Institutions. Projects already supported by the EU will be stepped up with the help of the External Investment Plan and new ones will be financed.

ENGAGING WITH OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD – TO THE SOUTH

In the EU's Southern neighbourhood, partnership priorities have been agreed with **Lebanon, Jordan, Algeria and Egypt**, including the promotion of democracy, rule of law, respect for human rights, economic development and social cohesion.

In September 2016, the EU strengthened its support for **Tunisia**, the EU-Tunisia Youth Partnership was launched, and Tunisia became the first Arab country to participate fully in the EU's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme and to be associated to "Creative Europe".

In **Syria**, eight years after the outbreak of the conflict, the situation is still critical, with millions of Syrians displaced and in need of protection and humanitarian assistance. The EU plays a leading role in supporting Syrian refugees, asylum seekers, as well as host communities inside and outside Europe - with almost **€17 billion allocated in humanitarian and development assistance since 2011**. In March 2019, the EU hosted for the third time in a row the [Brussels Conference on Supporting the future of Syria and the Region](#). The Conference renewed the international community support to a lasting political solution to end the Syria crisis and addressed the most critical humanitarian issues affecting Syrians inside the country as well as refugees and host communities in particular in Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. €8.3 billion for 2019 and 2020 were pledged, the EU contribution representing around two thirds of the total.

IN SYRIA	IN LEBANON
 Around 7 million people have received health services, including child and maternal care.	 Over 170,000 refugees have benefited from protection services.
 Around 5 million Syrians have received food assistance to meet their daily needs.	 Over 375,000 Lebanese and Syrians benefited from health services.
 Around 9,000 Syrian farmers got support to restart agricultural production and received grants to develop businesses.	 Some 125,000 Lebanese and Syrian children have been granted access to education.
IN JORDAN	IN TURKEY (through the Facility for Refugees)
 650,000 Syrian refugees, most of them women and children, have been provided with health, food and basic assistance, winterisation support, shelter, water and sanitation, psychosocial support and protection.	 About 1.5 million people were helped to cover their basic needs through the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN).
 Over 400,000 Jordanians and Syrians and more than 12,000 households will have access to running and drinking water , and better access to waste services by the end of 2019.	 635,000 Syrian refugee children have access to education and 125 solid structure and 50 prefabricated schools built.
 Over 163,000 Syrian children have been enrolled in public schools and kindergartens .	 The families of over 470,000 refugee children received financial support for their education through the Conditional Cash Transfer for Education programme (CCTE).

The EU is constantly analysing structural concerns and emerging needs in the region. Due to the protracted crisis in **Libya**, the EU has stepped up cooperation with international partners, including in the framework of the African Union – European Union – United Nations Task Force to accelerate action in Libya and along the migratory route to provide protection and increase voluntary humanitarian return and reintegration and resettlement of vulnerable migrants. In parallel, the EU continues to address the needs of the Libyan population with initiatives to foster socio-economic development of the Libyan municipalities.

A NEW ERA OF EU RELATIONS WITH AFRICA

In September 2018, President Juncker proposed to deepen the EU's economic and trade relationship with Africa through a new **Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs**. The aim of the Alliance is to take the EU's partnership with Africa to the next level, building on the commitments taken at the African Union – European Union Summit in Abidjan in November 2017. To do so, the Commission proposes to boost investment, further attract private investors, support education and skills development for employability, as well as boost trade and improve the business climate. The EU is already Africa's first partner in trade, in foreign investment and in development. The Alliance is supported by the EU's budget, for which Africa is highlighted as a priority region.

Africa-Europe Alliance: 4 strands of action



Strategic investment and job creation



Investment in education and matching skills and jobs



Business environment and investment climate



Economic integration and trade

Main expected results from the Africa-Europe Alliance on which progress is ongoing

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investment through the Alliance will create up to 10 million jobs in Africa in the next 5 years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24 million people will have access to all-season roads through our leveraged investments in transport infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 105,000 students and academics will benefit from Erasmus+ by 2027 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 750,000 people will receive vocational training for skills development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30 million people and companies will benefit from access to electricity thanks to the EU's leveraged investments in renewable energy and a generation capacity boosted by 5 GW
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The implementation of the **EU External Investment Plan** is on track. By using an EU budget **guarantee and blending grants with loans**, the European External Investment Plan is expected to leverage additional private and public investment in Africa and the EU Neighbourhood of up to €44 billion by 2020. €37.1 billion of investments are already in the process of being mobilised in this way. In addition, the EU committed to dedicate over €300-350 million per year to **strengthening the business environment** and investment climate. The European Commission and Union's delegations provide technical assistance to help develop, together with financial institutions, sustainable and financially viable projects and attract potential investors.

The EIP is designed to attract more investment in particular from businesses and private investors in Africa and EU neighbourhood to strengthen our partnerships and contribute to achieve the Sustainable Development goals, helping to address some root causes of migration.

Africa has the youngest population of any region of the world and providing people with **access to education** is of paramount importance. The **Erasmus+ programme** has already supported more than 22,600 exchanges of students and staff between Europe and Africa.

In support of the African Continental Free Trade Area, the long-term perspective is to create a **continent-to-continent free trade area** between the EU and Africa. In the meantime, currently, 52 African countries benefit from a trade agreement, an Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) or a trade arrangement (Everything But Arms and the two Generalised Scheme of Preferences, Standard GSP and GSP+) with the EU to grant privileged access to its market. These countries pay fewer or no duties on exports to the EU, giving them vital access to the EU market and contributing to their growth.

The EU has also invested in **targeted partnerships with the African Union and the United Nations**. This has not only paved the way for enhanced cooperation to address the dire situation of refugees and migrants in Libya, but also to enhance peace and security in the region.

In addition, in order to **address the root causes of irregular migration**, the **EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa** (€4.2 billion) addresses skills gaps, improves employability through vocational training, and supports job creation and self-employment opportunities with a focus on strengthening micro, small and medium size enterprises, through 193 projects.

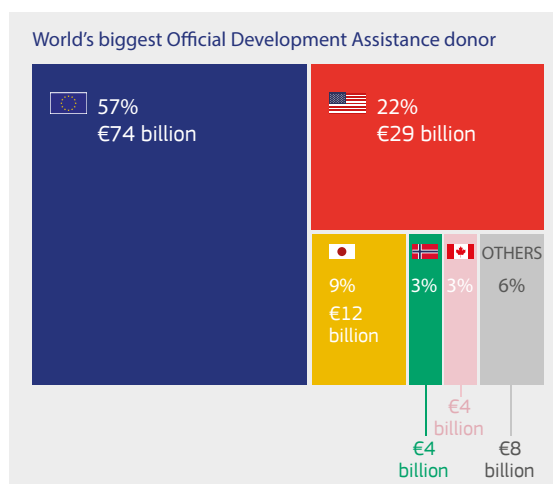
A LEADER IN GLOBAL COOPERATION, CRISIS RESPONSE AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

The EU plays an important role in diplomacy, the promotion of human rights, development cooperation and humanitarian aid and working with multilateral organisations. As such, the EU interests are represented in 140 countries around the world through its Delegations.

The EU remains by far the **largest provider of Official Development Assistance**. With €74.4 billion in 2018 the EU mobilised more funds than the rest of the world combined.

EU humanitarian assistance reached people most in need in over 90 countries in 2018, including Syria, Yemen, Venezuela, Myanmar and Bangladesh.

The EU is the biggest donor of development and humanitarian aid



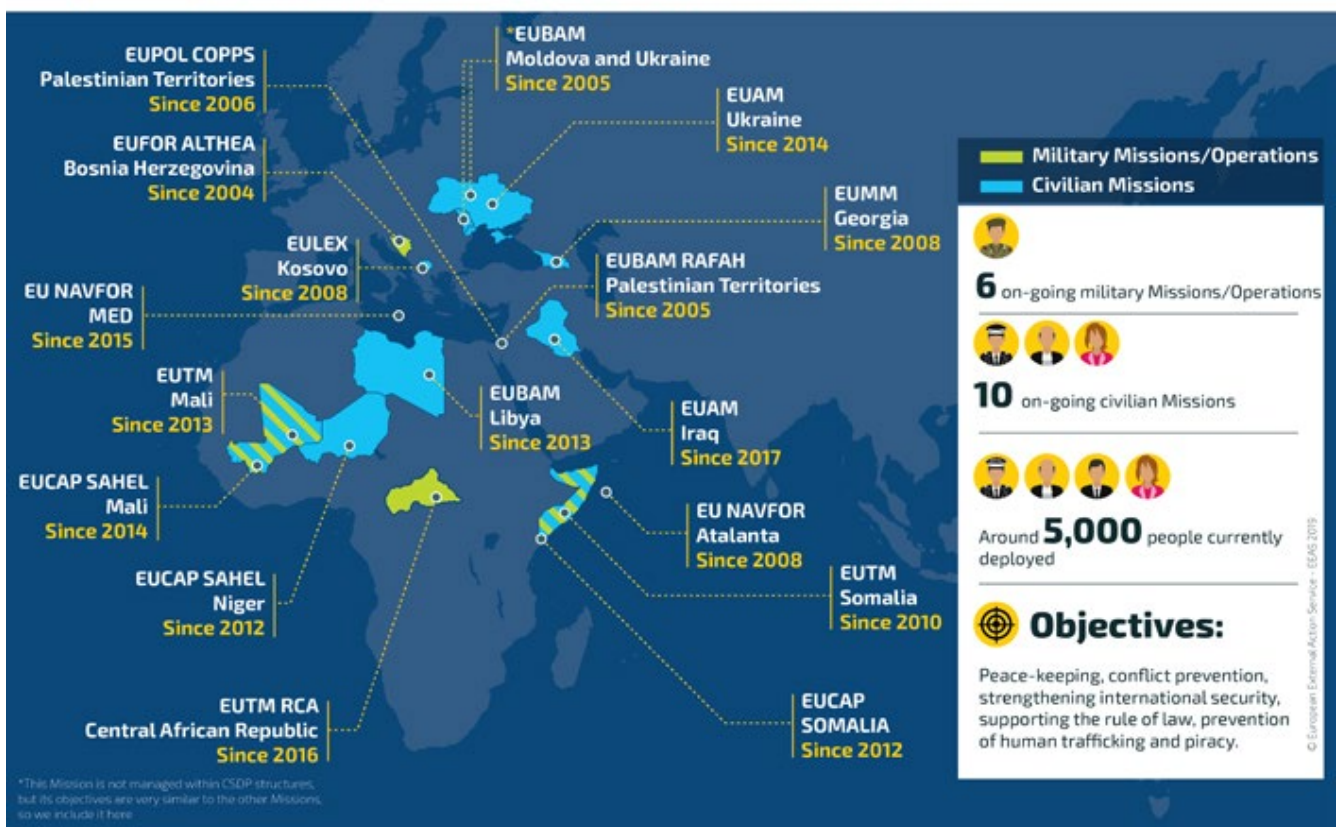
Source: OECD, April 2019
2018 data, EU = EU and its Member States

As a leading development actor, the EU has contributed significantly to the adoption of the UN **Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development**, and is committed to lead on its implementation across all sectors of intervention. For example, the EU has assisted tens of millions of people in improving their food security, providing high quality education, improving people’s health or promoting peace and stability.

The EU is also a leader in international **civil protection response**, helping to coordinate the delivery of essential supplies following various natural disasters or other crises around the world. In 2018, the EU Civil Protection Mechanism has been at the forefront of channelling lifesaving assistance for crises such as the Ebola outbreak in Democratic Republic of Congo, hurricanes in the Caribbean as well as the forest fires affecting Europe and neighbouring regions.

The EU is a global security provider. It is committed to contribute to the **resolution of different conflicts all over the world**. It currently has 16 military and civilian missions with over 5,000 staff, mainly in Africa, but also in the Middle East, Eastern Europe and the Western Balkans. The EU is working in the areas of peace-keeping, conflict prevention, the strengthening of international security, the support to the rule of law and the prevention of human trafficking and piracy.

EUROPEAN UNION CSDP MISSIONS AND OPERATIONS 2019



Together, the EU and its Member States have the **second largest defence budget in the world**, after the U.S. With the launch of the Permanent Structured Cooperation in 2018, 25 Member States committed to working and setting up projects together.

The European Union with its Member States are working on ways to tap into the potential of the existing Treaties in order to increase the use of **qualified majority voting** while maintaining a culture of consensus-building within the EU and to allow the EU act quickly and robustly in foreign affairs, be it for the imposition of sanctions, the dialogue on human rights respect or the decisions of civilian missions.

A TRUE GLOBAL ACTOR SHAPED BY SHARED INTERNATIONAL VALUES

Our foreign policy and diplomatic relations are shaped by shared international values: human rights, fundamental freedoms, democracy and the rule of law. These relations range over many fundamental issues and cover most regions and countries in the world.

The EU promotes international non-proliferation and disarmament agreements and supports denuclearisation talks. In the case of the **Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)**, the EU has introduced restrictive measures while keeping channels of dialogue open with all parties.

The European Union played an essential role in brokering and preserving the **nuclear deal with Iran** (the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action) which continues to prevent Iran from developing a nuclear weapon.

In 2018 the EU set out its vision for a new and comprehensive strategy to better **connect Europe and Asia**. This strategy will contribute to build efficient cross-border connections and transport, energy, digital and human networks.

The European Union negotiated with **Japan** an Economic Partnership Agreement, the biggest trade agreement ever negotiated by the EU and the first to include a commitment to the Paris Climate Agreement. The EU also concluded with **Japan** an arrangement that created the world's largest area of free data flows, based on a high level of protection.

The EU pursues with **China** a realistic, assertive, and multi-faceted approach with a view to ensuring fair, balanced and mutually-beneficial relations. The EU works for a more balanced economic relationship with China while at the same time pursue deeper engagement on global and multilateral issues, including reform of the World Trade Organisation.

For the EU, **Canada** is a like-minded partner globally, while bilaterally relations have grown importantly through Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) and Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA).

The EU is currently negotiating the new agreement that will govern its relations with 79 countries in **Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP)**, the 'post-Cotonou' Agreement.

The European Union (EU) and the countries of **Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)** have developed one of the most politically and economically integrated relationships and have concluded 27 association, trade or political and cooperation agreement.

The EU-U.S. partnership has prospered for more than six decades, constructed on a solid foundation of shared history. We remain natural partners and natural friends and continue to work very closely with the **United States** on a wide range of issues, from trade to foreign policy, to security and defence matters. The transatlantic partnership must remain the anchor of global stability and the driver of our common prosperity.

Open and fair trade in a rules-based global system

TOWARDS A MORE UNITED, STRONGER AND MORE DEMOCRATIC UNION



'As Commission President, I will be very clear that **I will not sacrifice Europe's safety, health, social and data protection standards or our cultural diversity on the altar of free trade.** [...] Nor will I accept that the jurisdiction of courts in the EU Member States is limited by special regimes for investor disputes. I will insist on **enhanced transparency** [...] during all steps of the negotiations.'

Then candidate for European Commission President, Jean-Claude Juncker, Political Guidelines for the next Commission, 15 July 2014

In its February 2019 plenary session, the European Parliament gave its green light to 2 flagship initiatives of the Juncker Commission's trade policy: the **trade and investment agreements between the EU and Singapore**, and the **creation of a European framework to screen foreign direct investment**.

These landmark files represent two sides of the same coin: a **Europe that creates opportunities for its companies and citizens** and a **Europe that protects**.

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH WELL-BALANCED PROGRESSIVE TRADE AGREEMENTS



- **Global trade** is a key driver of EU prosperity: 36 million jobs in the EU (1 in 7) are supported by exports.
- **Since November 2014**, the Juncker Commission has concluded and started implementing **new balanced trade agreements with 15 partners**.
- Today, European companies and citizens benefit from **open trade with 72 countries** around the world under 41 existing agreements, including with Japan and Canada.
- In addition to agreements with Japan and Canada, **4 more agreements with 13 countries have been finalised** and are under ratification.
- The Juncker Commission brought two other major negotiating processes (Mercosur and Mexico) into the final stretch.
- The Juncker Commission also opened **new negotiations with five countries**: Australia, Chile, Mexico, New Zealand, and Tunisia.



1. EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement

The EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement entered into force in February 2019.

Japan is already the EU's 2nd biggest trading partner in Asia after China, with more than 600,000 jobs in the EU tied to exports to that country.

EU exports to Japan are expected to rise by **€13 billion** a year while our exporters will save **€1 billion a year** in customs duties.

Examples of economic benefits:

- EU agri-food sector set to triple its exports
- access for EU companies to public tenders in 48 major Japanese cities and in the Japanese railway sector
- new opportunities for European firms in financial services, telecommunications, and transport

Creating opportunities and shaping globalisation

The Juncker Commission concluded the negotiations for an **Economic Partnership Agreement with Japan**. The agreement entered into force in February 2019.



EU and Japan account for almost

30% of global GDP

2. EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)

The agreement with Canada became effective on 21 September 2017. Over 1 million jobs in Europe are tied to close economic relations with Canada: 865,000 jobs are linked to exports and a further 221,000 EU workers are employed by Canadian firms in the EU.

Examples of economic benefits:

- CETA removed already over **98% of Canadian customs duties** and will, over time, save EU businesses €590 million each year
- Canadian authorities at all levels **welcome offers from European suppliers**
- EU accountants, architects, lawyers and engineers can soon see their **qualifications recognised** in Canada

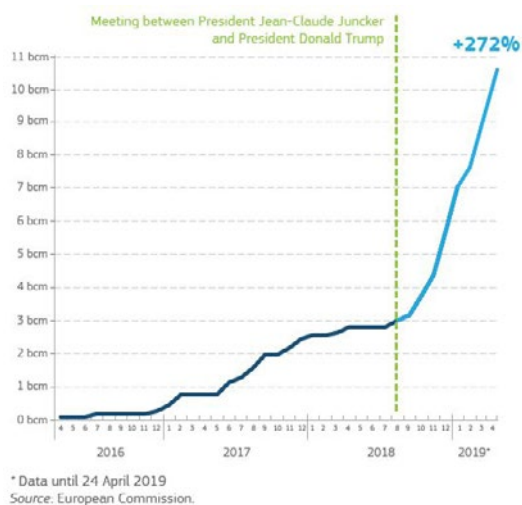


3. EU-U.S. relations

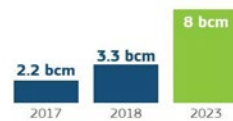
As a direct result of President Juncker's visit to Washington to meet President Trump in July 2018, and the Joint Statement agreed by both sides, the EU and the U.S. are now working towards the elimination of industrial tariffs between them and the further deepening of their trade relationship.

- Since July 2018, the EU and the U.S. have been working via the EU-U.S. **Executive Working Group** to implement the actions agreed in the Joint Statement.
- In April 2019, Member States adopted the Commission proposals allowing the EU to enter into formal trade negotiations with the U.S..
- With an import increase of 121% from July 2018 to April 2019 compared to the same period last year, the EU has already been delivering on its declaration of intent to increase **soybean imports from the US**. The U.S. is the main supplier of soybeans to Europe, accounting for 72% of EU soybean imports. On 29 January, the Commission concluded that U.S. soybeans also meet the technical requirements to be used in biofuels in the EU.

- Recent figures have also shown **an increase of 272% in shipments of liquefied natural gas (LNG)** from the U.S. since the meeting between President Juncker and President Trump.



32% of U.S. LNG exports went to the EU in January 2019



With the 2018 market share U.S. LNG exports to the EU could more than double by 2023



New long-term contracts with Polish and Spanish companies



Announcement of new LNG terminal in Brunsbüttel, Germany

DEFENDING EUROPEAN INTERESTS

There is no protection in protectionism. The EU stands for open, fair and rules-based trade, but we are not naïve. And within the boundaries of the multilateral rules, we will do whatever it takes to defend European producers and workers against unfair trading practices. Trade can only be open if it is fair.

A Europe that Protects



135 anti-dumping and anti-subsidy measures in place



defending a total of **334,000** direct jobs



including **216,000** jobs in the steel sector



An agreement was found to reform the EU's **trade defence rules**. It entered into force in May 2018 and included a new anti-dumping methodology and the modernisation of available instruments, allowing the imposition of higher duties in some cases, and reflecting social and environmental standards. Using the trade defence framework to its full extent, the EU currently has 135 anti-dumping and anti-subsidy measures in place and 3 safeguards.



The EU has now in place (since April 2019) its first ever framework to screen **foreign direct investment**. Delivering on President Juncker's commitment in his 2017 State of the Union address, this instrument will enable Europe to preserve its essential interests, while keeping the EU as one of the world's most open investment regimes.



A **Communication on steel** was presented in March 2016 outlining the EU's **swift a comprehensive response to the crisis in the sector**; it included a swathe of measures encompassing industrial, energy and, crucially, **trade policy**.



52 anti-dumping and anti-subsidy measures in place **concern steel products** that protect 141,000 direct jobs in the sector (increasing to 216,000 if we take into account the impact of the safeguards). The Commission's actions brought the first tangible signs of a recovery in the steel sector following the crises linked to the global overcapacity; EU production increased by over 4% (compared to 2016); following severe losses, in 2017 profitability ranged between 2%-8%.



Since November 2014, the EU has **won 9 disputes in the World Trade Organisation (WTO)**; this led to the removal of discriminatory taxes, illegal customs duties or export restrictions in key markets such as Russia, China, the United States, and South America. Together, these cases concerned an estimated value of EU exports of at least €10 billion per year.



The **EU successfully removed 88 barriers in several countries**, recovering export opportunities for European companies in sectors such as agro-food, automotive, aeronautics, ICT, electronics, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics. This created **additional export opportunities in the range of €4.8 billion each year**.

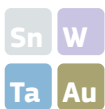


The Commission tabled a proposal for a European law to **increase reciprocity** in the access EU companies have to government contracts in other countries.

PROMOTING OUR VALUES IN OUR TRADE POLICY

Defending European standards and values

- All new EU trade agreements include a substantial chapter on sustainable development with social and environmental standards.
- The partnership concluded with Japan contains an explicit reference to the ratification and actual implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement.
- All trade negotiations covering investment protection now include the new Investment Court System, replacing the controversial and opaque Investor-State Dispute Settlement mechanism. An EU proposal to create a Multilateral Investment Court is under discussion with all interested international partners.
- The Juncker Commission has also started implementing new rules that promote the **responsible sourcing of minerals**. The new rules aim to prevent imports that are mined with the use of forced labour.



The Juncker Commission started implementing a proposal on '**conflict minerals**' to stop the financing of armed groups through trade in minerals.

A more inclusive and transparent trade policy

The Juncker Commission...



started publishing the proposals for new negotiating mandates.

published EU proposals, negotiating round reports and negotiating results of ongoing negotiations.



created an Advisory Group on trade agreements that will allow the Commission to engage with civil society and gather more easily different perspectives and insights from a wide and balanced group of stakeholders, ranging from trade unions, employers' organisations, consumer groups and other non-governmental organisations.



European Commission



May 2019

Towards a European Defence Union

TOWARDS A MORE UNITED, STRONGER AND MORE DEMOCRATIC UNION



‘In defence matters, it is not about establishing the European Union as an alternative model to NATO. Both have to work together and cooperate. In the defence sector we must have enhanced cooperation which the Lisbon Treaty also provides for. On procurement, in particular, we need to work together more rather than against each other, to obtain what we both need.’

Then candidate for European Commission President, 15 July 2014

Today, guaranteeing security means dealing with threats that transcend borders. No single country can address them alone. Europe’s citizens are looking to the European Union for protection, with 3 out of 4 in favour of a Common Security and Defence Policy among EU Member States (Eurobarometer, November 2018).



3 out of 4 Europeans want a Common Security and Defence Policy

MORE PROGRESS IN THE PAST FEW YEARS THAN IN THE PRECEDING 60

Following proposals from the European Commission, EU leaders agreed in December 2016 on a plan to deepen security and defence cooperation for the EU and its Member States to attain the necessary strategic autonomy to defend their collective interests, respond to external conflicts and crises, and project security in our neighbourhood. Since then:



The EU launched a common **European Defence Fund** to finance joint research and development.



25 Member States have agreed to jointly develop defence capabilities through **Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO)** to pursue greater cooperation in defence and security.

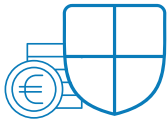


The EU has stepped up **cooperation with NATO** to an unprecedented level.

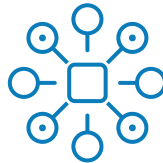
THE COST OF CURRENT FRAGMENTATION AND INEFFICIENCIES

	EU	UNITED STATES
Defence Expenditure		
Total amount	€ 227 billion	€ 545 billion
% of GDP	1.34	3.3
Investment per Soldier	€ 27.639	€ 108.322
Duplication of Systems in Use		
Number of types of weapon systems*	178	30
Main battle tanks	17	1
Destroyers/frigates	29	4
Fighter planes	20	6

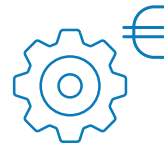
* Number of types of weapon systems for selected weapon systems categories
Source: NATO, International Institute for Strategic Studies, SIPRI, Munich Security Report 2017



Lack of cooperation between Member States in the field of security and defence is estimated to cost between €25 billion and €100 billion every year.



Currently, around 80% of defence procurement is run on a purely national basis, leading to a costly duplication of military capabilities.



Since 2010, less than €200 million has been spent each year on collaborative European research and technology in the field of defence.

HOW WILL THE EUROPEAN DEFENCE FUND HELP?

The European Defence Fund will contribute to Europe's strategic autonomy in protecting and defending its citizens. It will coordinate, supplement and amplify national investments in defence. The Fund will promote cooperation among Member States in producing state-of-the-art and interoperable defence technology and equipment. It will strongly encourage participation of small and medium-sized enterprises in collaborative projects and foster breakthrough innovation solutions.



Act as a catalyst for an innovative and competitive industrial and scientific base which is able to meet Europe's defence needs with cutting-edge, fully interoperable technology and equipment.

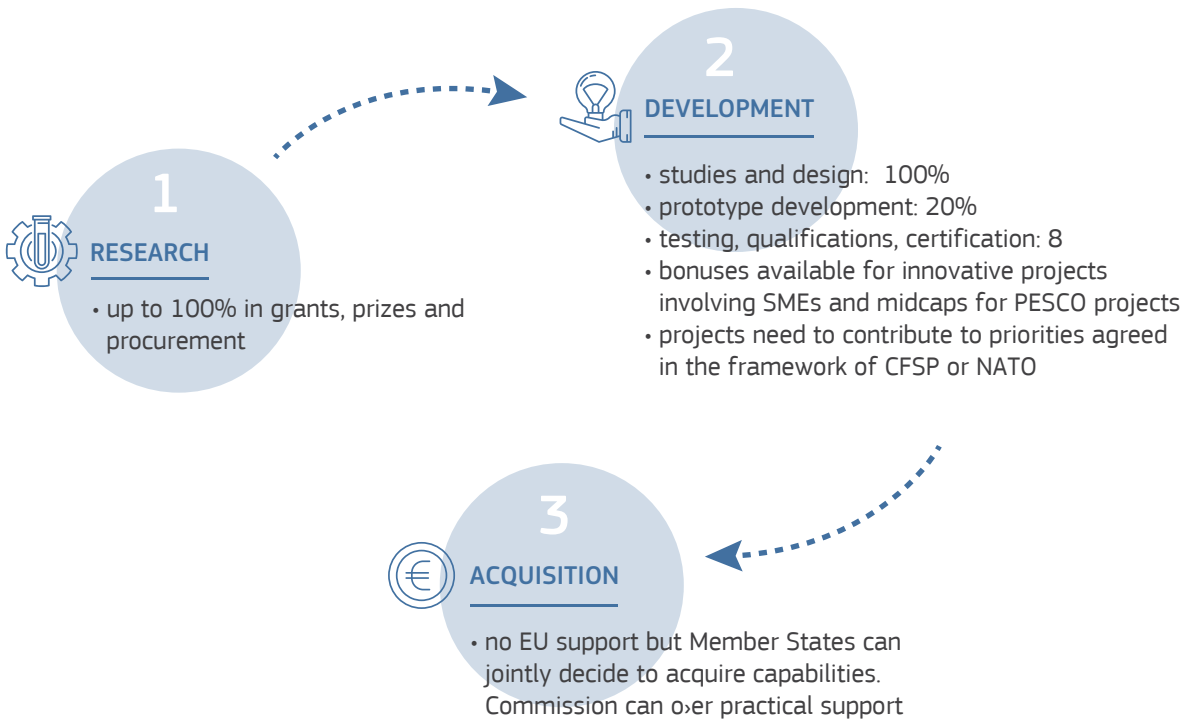


By pooling resources, Member States can get better value for their investment and develop technologies and equipment that would not be attainable working independently.



Offering support all along the research and development parts of the lifecycle will make sure that the results of research are not lost due to the lack of funding for developing prototypes and testing the technology.

Under the European Defence Fund, the EU is providing support all along the lifecycle, from research to prototype development up to certification. Up to 8% of the total budget will support disruptive, high-risk defence innovation.



Only collaborative projects involving at least 3 eligible entities from at least 3 Member States or associated countries.



Participation of third countries' entities is subject to defined conditions to ensure the security and defence interests of the EU and its Member States.

IS THE EUROPEAN DEFENCE FUND ALREADY A REALITY?

The European Defence Fund will be fully operational in 2021. Meanwhile, EU funded defence cooperation is already materialising with precursor programmes.

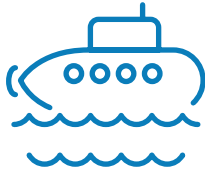
For the first time in European history, under the current EU budget period, the EU is incentivising European defence cooperation with a budget envelope of €590 million.

Several research projects are already underway. The Commission recently issued the first calls for projects to develop defence equipment and technology covering all domains (air, land, sea, cyber and space).

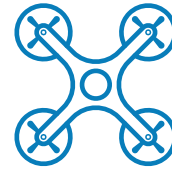
DEFENCE INDUSTRY EU BUDGET 2017-2020

RESEARCH	DEVELOPMENT
€ 25 million	2017
€ 40 million	2018
€ 25 million	2019
€ 90 million	2020
€ 90 million	TOTAL
	€ 245 million
	€ 255 million
	€ 500 million

SOME EXAMPLES OF EU-FUNDED PROJECTS



Ocean2020: the EU is investing €35 million into this research project of 42 partners from 15 EU countries to support maritime surveillance missions at sea by integrating drones and unmanned submarines into fleet operations.

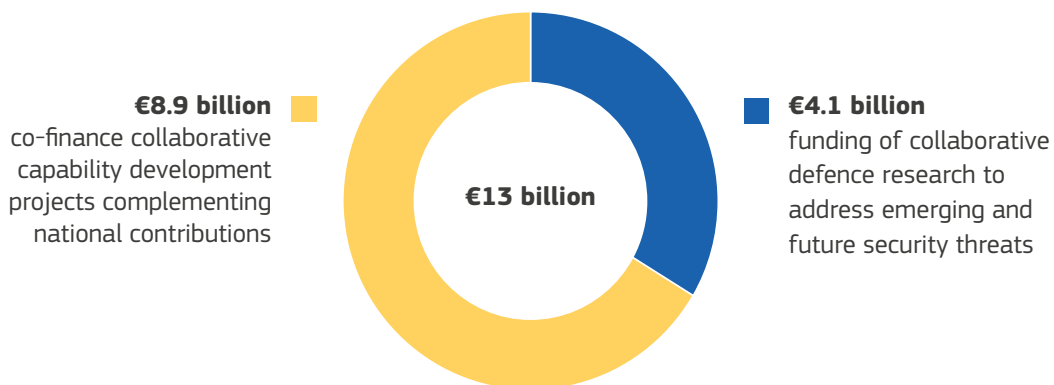


Eurodrone: the EU intends to support with €100 million the development of a Medium Altitude Long Endurance Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (MALE RPAS) with €100 million. The system is a crucial capability for Europe's strategic autonomy, identified by the European Council in 2013 as a Union priority where the EU currently has a clear technological and strategic dependency.

WHAT WILL DEFENCE COOPERATION LOOK LIKE FROM 2021?

The Commission proposed in June 2018 a fully-fledged European Defence Fund worth €13 billion under the next EU long-term budget to cover both the research and capability strands.

The EU institutions in February 2019 reached a partial political agreement on the European Defence Fund, subject to formal approval by the European Parliament and Council, which will foster an innovative and competitive defence industrial base and contribute to the EU's strategic autonomy.



The budgetary aspects of the future European Defence Fund are subject to the overall agreement on the EU's next long-term budget, proposed by the Commission in May 2018.

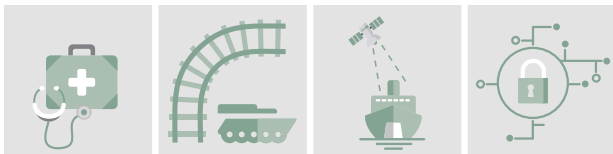
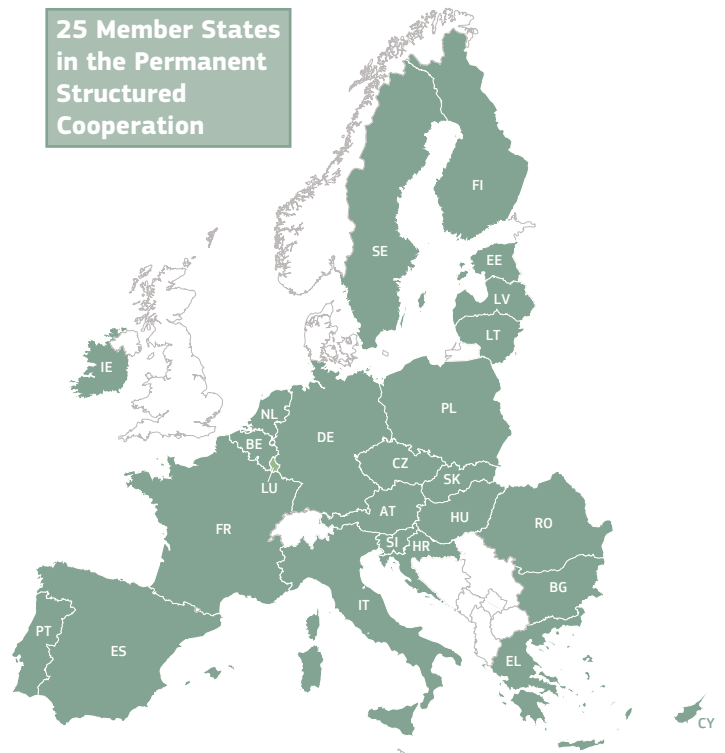
The European Defence Fund will complement other EU programmes proposed by the Commission, in particular the €6.5 billion earmarked for the Connecting Europe Facility to enhance the EU's strategic transport infrastructures to make them fit for military mobility, and the proposal for a new €100 billion research and innovation programme Horizon Europe. Moreover, it will aim at ensuring consistency with projects proposed under the Permanent Structured Cooperation rendering those two initiatives complementary and mutually reinforcing.

PERMANENT STRUCTURED COOPERATION: INCREASED AUTONOMY AND OUTPUT

25 Member States have agreed to collaborate on defence capabilities

- The Permanent Structured Cooperation will help Member States to jointly develop defence capabilities and make them available for EU military operations, enhancing the EU's capacity as an international security partner and maximising the effectiveness of defence spending.
- 34 collaborative projects has been agreed in areas like EU medical command, military mobility, maritime surveillance, cyber security.
- Permanent structured cooperation in defence aims to make European defence more efficient, by strengthening cooperation among Member States, connecting their forces through increased interoperability and enhancing industrial competitiveness.

25 Member States in the Permanent Structured Cooperation



REINFORCING COOPERATION WITH GLOBAL PARTNERS: EU-NATO

EU-NATO cooperation

The security of the EU and NATO are interconnected. Together, they can also mobilise a broad range of tools and make the most efficient use of resources to address those challenges and enhance the security of their citizens. Cooperation has become the established norm as a direct follow-up to the new level of ambition outlined in the Joint Declarations of July 2016 and July 2018.



(NATO) Summit, Warsaw 08-09/07/2016



Countering hybrid threats



Operational cooperation including at sea



Cyber security and defence



Defence capabilities



Defence industry and research



Exercises



Supporting partners' capacity-building efforts

74

concrete actions are underway



European Commission



A Digital Single Market for the benefit of all Europeans

May 2019

TOWARDS A MORE UNITED, STRONGER AND MORE DEMOCRATIC UNION



'I believe that we must make much better use of the great opportunities offered by digital technologies, which do not know any borders. To do so, we will need to have the courage to break down national silos in telecoms regulation, in copyright and data protection legislation, in the management of radio waves and in the application of competition law. That way, we can ensure that consumers can access services, music, movies and sports events on their electronic devices wherever they are in Europe.'

Then candidate for European Commission President, Jean-Claude Juncker, Political Guidelines for the next Commission, 15 July 2014

30

legislative initiatives presented by the Juncker Commission

28

have been politically agreed or finalised by the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union

2

legislative initiatives are still on the table for the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union to adopt

CREATING A DIGITALLY CONNECTED EUROPE

It is a priority for the Juncker Commission to provide our citizens with the best possible access to the online world and the skills to build a digital future for Europe.

Demand for wireless connectivity using smart phones and future 5G devices is continuously growing. Mobile traffic will grow eight fold in the next five years.



Before 2014

Many people in remote areas do not have access to good internet connections.

Under the Juncker Commission



Around €43.2 billion has been invested in the digital sector thanks to the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI). In addition, more than €14 billion under the European Structural and Investment Funds is being invested in digital technologies.

Overall 2,800 municipalities in Europe were already selected to receive a WiFi4EU voucher worth €15,000. Additional 3,400 municipalities will be selected to receive the voucher in the coming weeks. This voucher can be used to set up Wi-Fi hotspots in public spaces, such as town halls, libraries, museums, parks, squares and other places of public interest.

Radio spectrum waves are the basis for Wi-Fi, mobile phones and other wireless devices. Their use is not well coordinated across Europe.

Spectrum-enabled services are worth around €500 billion a year to the European economy.

A fragmented market and delays left Europe lagging behind in 4G connection for several years.

Better spectrum coordination will increase the value of spectrum-enabled services to €1 trillion a year by 2023.



Europe will be able to successfully launch 5G connections thanks to better spectrum coordination and a high level of cybersecurity of networks, granting high-speed mobile internet access to everyone and new services such as connected cars, remote health care, smart cities and video streaming on the move across the continent.

Difficulties for many citizens in dealing with public administrations online, especially when they work, live or do business in another EU country.



By 2020, the Single Digital Gateway will provide one entry point for online administrative procedures for citizens and businesses.

BREAKING DOWN DIGITAL BARRIERS FOR CONSUMERS AND BUSINESSES

In the online world the EU's four freedoms — the free movement of goods, capital, services and labour — are not yet a reality. The Juncker Commission has been tackling these problems.

Before 2014

Europeans cannot use their online subscriptions while they travel. Streaming of their favourite TV show might be blocked abroad.

Under the Juncker Commission



Since April 2018, Europeans can access their online subscriptions to films, sports events, e-books, video games or music services while travelling to another Member State.

Before 2014

High roaming prices for using your phone abroad in Europe. In 2007: over €0.50 per minute for a voice call, €0.28 for an SMS and €6000 per GB of data. High prices for international calls in the EU.

High prices for international calls in the EU.

Consumer rights were not adapted to the digital age.

Consumers are **geoblocked** from accessing goods and services online in other countries, for example requiring payment with a debit or credit card from a specific country only.

Prices charged for **delivery of small parcels** to another Member State are often up to five times higher than domestic prices, without a clear correlation to the real costs.

62% of companies that wish to sell online say that high delivery costs are a problem.

20 million people who live in the EU were born in a different EU Member State from the one they are resident in now. They often cannot access **audiovisual content** from their home countries.

26 million blind and visually impaired people in Europe are limited in their access to culture because the formats they need are not readily available.

Under the Juncker Commission



Roaming charges ended in June 2017. Since then, the use of mobile data has grown 12 times while the number of phone calls made by travellers has doubled compared to the habits before the end of roaming charges. The use of mobile data has grown 12 times while the number of phone calls made by travellers has doubled compared to the habits before June 2017.

Calls abroad to other countries in the European Union will cost less as of 15 May 2019. The new rules cap the price of intra-EU calls at 19 cents per minute (+VAT), and 6 cents per SMS (+ VAT).



Updated consumer protection rules and new digital contract rules will:

- grant consumers more rights in the online world;
- give consumers confidence when buying online and from different Member States.



Since 3 December 2018, the **new rules against unjustified geoblocking** ensure that consumers can access goods and services online without worrying about discrimination or geographically based restrictions.



Higher price transparency and increased regulatory oversight encourage lower prices, allow consumers and small businesses to take informed decisions, and **make parcel delivery more affordable**.

This has the potential to:

- increase cross-border e-commerce by more than 4%;
- increase the number of firms selling online across borders by more than 6% and the volume of online trade by 5%.



New rules will make it easier for broadcasters to enrich their online output across borders, granting people better choice and **access to content across borders** and allowing European culture to flourish.



New rules allow special formats of print material — such as Braille or Daisy — to be made and disseminated for **people with print disabilities**. People who are blind, visually impaired or otherwise print-disabled are able to access more books and other print material, including adapted audio books and e-books, in accessible formats — across the European Union and the rest of the world.

Before 2014

Companies and public administrations face difficulties in storing and processing **non-personal data** (e.g. traffic, weather) in different EU countries.

This stops SMEs and start-ups from entering new markets across borders and scaling up, and leads to the costly duplication of data storage facilities.

1 million EU businesses are dependent on **online platforms** to reach their customers. When issues emerge in the platform-to-business relations, they affect negatively businesses' sales and trust in the online economy. Nearly half of business users (46%), especially small ones, experience problems with online intermediation services.

The internet has grown enormously – nearly 1.3 billion websites allow 3.7 billion users daily to exchange information, trade and interact with unparalleled intensity. Disinformation is a long existing phenomenon. While online platforms have brought many benefits, they also allow false information to be produced, widely disseminated and promoted. According to Eurobarometer opinion poll 83 % of Europeans think **fake news** is a threat to democracy.

Under the Juncker Commission



A single set of rules are due to make it easier to do business across borders in the EU, as cross-border data storage and processing becomes easier and follows one single set of rules all across the EU.

Lower costs for data services and greater flexibility for companies could result in additional revenues for European businesses of up to €10.4 billion.



The first-ever rules on online platforms' trading practices will create a fair, transparent and predictable business environment for businesses and traders when using online platforms.

Traders selling online via marketplaces, hotels using booking platforms, or app developers are amongst those who will benefit from the new rules agreed today. The new regulation will also offer new possibilities for resolving disputes and complaints.



To protect its democratic systems and public debates and in view of the 2019 European elections as well as national and local elections, the EU has adopted an Action Plan to step up efforts to counter **disinformation** in Europe and beyond.

The Action Plan focuses on four areas: improving detection, analysis and exposure of disinformation; Stronger cooperation and joint responses to disinformation; Mobilising private sector to tackle disinformation; Raising awareness and improve societal resilience.

As part of the Action Plan a dedicated Rapid Alert System was set up in March 2019 among the EU institutions and Member States to facilitate the exchange of information on disinformation threats in real time.

INVESTING IN THE DIGITAL FUTURE OF EUROPE

Before 2014

Copyright-intensive industries are a key asset for the European economy – they represent 11.65 million jobs and contribute €915 billion per year, 6.8% of Europe's GDP.

Digital technologies have changed the ways we produce, distribute and access **creative content**, opening up new opportunities but also making it difficult for creators, rights holders and the press to negotiate with online platforms the terms and conditions for the use of their work.



Under the Juncker Commission

The **modernised copyright rules** help to create a sustainable digital environment by:

- making it easier for creators and authors to negotiate fair remuneration
- allowing creative sectors and the press to negotiate better deals for the use of their work online
- providing clearer digital rights for the citizens, and
- providing more opportunities for science, education and cultural heritage institutions

The new rules will directly benefit more than 500,000 authors – including composers, writers, directors, screenwriters, journalists, photographers, songwriters, and more than 500,000 performers including musicians, singers, actors, dancers and other performing artists.

Recent figures show that digital threats are evolving fast: ransomware attacks have increased by 300% since 2015. According to several studies, the economic impact of **cybercrime** rose fivefold from 2013 to 2017, and could further rise by a factor of four by 2019. Evidence suggests that people from around the world identify cyber-attacks from other countries among the leading threats to national security.



The EU has now a range of instruments, including the first EU-wide legislation on cybersecurity (Directive on Security of Network and Information Systems) and the **Cybersecurity Act** to reinforce cooperation against cyber-attacks. The Cyber Security Act will strengthen the role of the EU Cybersecurity Agency (ENISA) and establish a common European cybersecurity certification framework for IT services, systems and equipment.

The EU will also put forward a European network of centres of cybersecurity expertise, in order to help reinforce research and deployment of new cybersecurity capacities in the EU.

Artificial intelligence (AI) is traditionally linked with robotics, but its potential is far greater. The approach in Europe is rather piecemeal, with other parts of the world seen as more advanced in the development of artificial intelligence. Investment levels need to be increased, as does access to data, on which artificial intelligence thrives. The ethical and social aspects of artificial intelligence also need to be addressed, to ensure that the development of the technology is underpinned by trust and security.



The European Commission's approach to **artificial intelligence and robotics** deals with technological, ethical, legal and socio-economic aspects to boost the EU's research and industrial capacity and to put artificial intelligence at the service of European citizens and the economy. Artificial intelligence has become an area of strategic importance and a key driver of economic development. However, socio-economic, legal and ethical impacts have to be carefully addressed. The EU must join forces to stay at the forefront of this technological revolution, to ensure competitiveness and to shape the conditions for its development and use, ensuring European values are respected.

Supercomputers are needed to process ever larger amounts of data and bring benefits to society in many areas, from health care and renewable energy to car safety and cybersecurity. However, today, compared to its competitors from China, Japan or the United States, Europe is clearly underinvesting in high-performance computing, with a funding gap of €500-750 million per year. As a result, European scientists and industry increasingly process their data outside the EU.



€1 billion is being invested jointly with Member States to build a **world-class European supercomputer infrastructure**.

The EuroHPC (High Performance computing) Joint Undertaking was established in 2018 with the aim of equipping the EU by the end of 2020 with a world-class supercomputing infrastructure, which will support the development of leading scientific, public sector and industrial applications in many domains, including personalised medicine, bio-engineering, weather forecasting and tackling climate change, discovering new materials and medicines, oil and gas exploration, designing new planes and cars, and smart cities. So far, 27 European countries have joined the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking.



May
2019

Investing in youth

TOWARDS A MORE UNITED, STRONGER AND MORE DEMOCRATIC UNION



'Education and culture are the key to the future – both for the individual as well as for our Union as a whole. It is how we turn circumstance into opportunity, how we turn mirrors into windows and how we give roots to what it means to be 'European', in all its diversity. We must seize the opportunity and make sure education and culture are the drivers for job creation, economic growth, social fairness and ultimately unity.'

Jean-Claude Juncker, European Commission President,
Leaders' meeting in Gothenburg, 17 November 2017

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS SO FAR

The EU supports Member States' cooperation in the field of education, making it easier for young people to benefit from mobility and for teachers to gain experience and share knowledge by working across Europe. The EU budget is a significant contributor to cross-border educational programmes.

In the past 32 years more than 10 million people have benefited from Erasmus. Between 2014-2020, the Erasmus+ programme is projected to exceed its target of reaching 4 million people in the EU.

In 2017 the EU invested **a record €2.8 billion in the Erasmus+ programme**, resulting in mobility grants for **842,000 Europeans** to study, train, teach, work or volunteer abroad. This brings the total to more than 3.7 million participants since 2014. In the same year, **22,200 projects** received funding, involving **88,000** education, training and youth organisations.

The Commission proposes a stronger youth focus in the next Financial Framework by doubling the Erasmus+ budget to €30 billion for 2021-2027.

Increased mobility generates positive results in terms of the individual participants' employability, in addition to their social integration and participation in democratic life:

In July 2018, the Commission launched **DiscoverEU**, a new EU initiative to give young 18 years old the opportunity to discover Europe by rail for free, learn about its cultural heritage and diversity, make new friends and experience what it feels like to be European. During the first two rounds, around 30,000 participants were able to explore Europe, and more opportunities will follow in 2019. The Commission has proposed to include DiscoverEU in the future Erasmus programme after 2020.

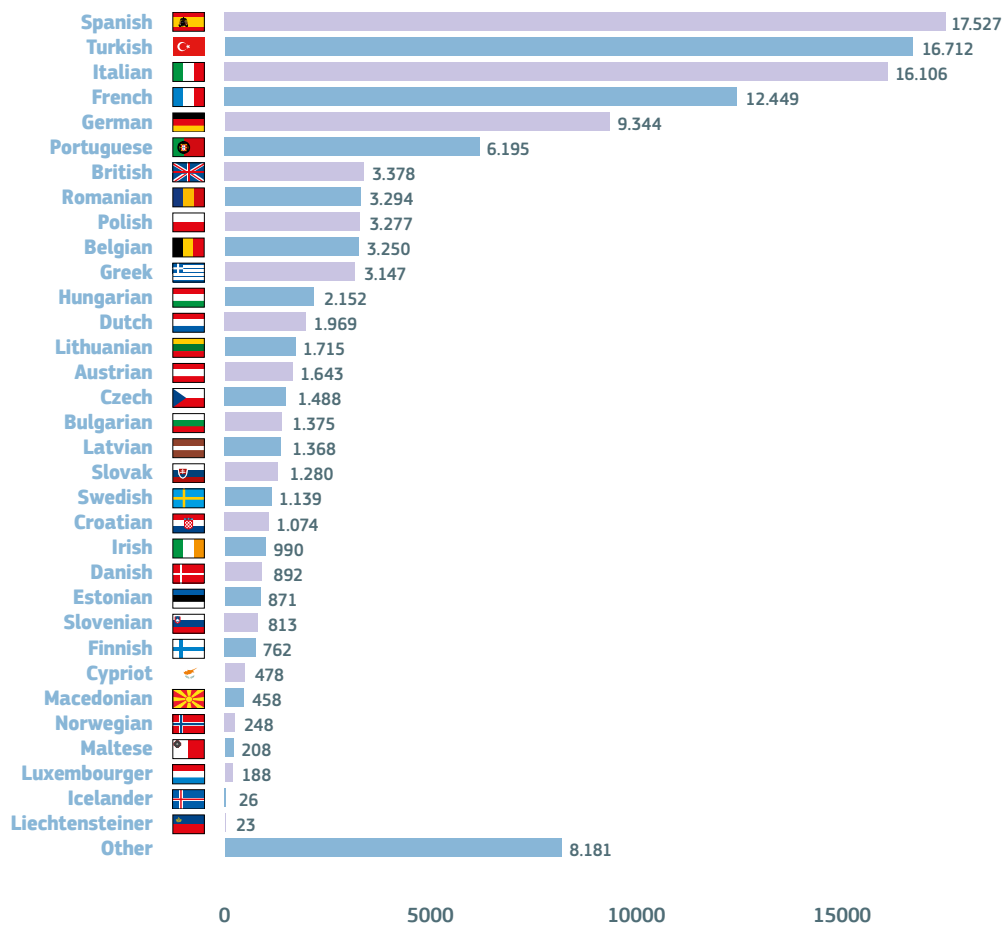
DiscoverEU participants have started building a community, using social media to share their stories, find travel partners, organise meet-ups or exchange tips and recommendations to make the most of their trips.

In September 2016 President Juncker announced the **European Solidarity Corps**: it gives young people a life-changing experience to volunteer, train, work or run their own solidarity projects. New opportunities have been created for 18 to 30-year-olds to support individuals and communities, while developing skills and gaining invaluable experiences.

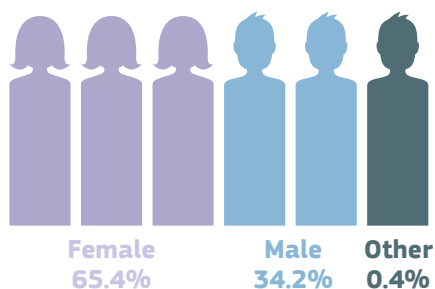
Since then, over 124,000 young people have registered. **More than 14,250 participants** have been participating in projects all over Europe.

The Commission proposed a €1.26 billion budget to strengthen and expand the European Solidarity Corps in the EU's next long-term budget, with the aim of providing at least **350,000 opportunities for young Europeans between 2021 and 2027**.

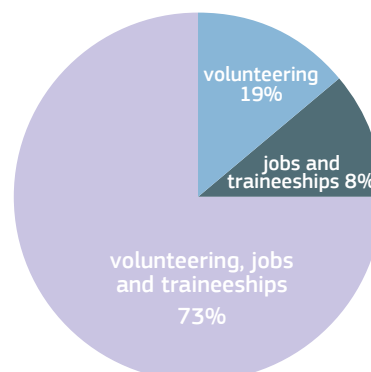
EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS: REGISTRATIONS BY NATIONALITY



REGISTRATIONS BY GENDER



REGISTRATIONS BY STRAND



Data extracted on 15 April 2019

eTwinning is the largest teachers' network in the world from pre-primary to upper secondary schools. This programme allows teachers to create joint projects. eTwinning improves teachers' and pupils' competences and is crucial in building a European sense of belonging.

eTwinning in numbers



6 million
teachers in Europe

- Over **680,000 teachers** have registered on the eTwinning teachers' network.
- Over **205,000 schools** participated through the eTwinning platform.
- Close to **90,000 projects** have taken place in the eTwinning teachers' network since its launch in 2005, covering all Member States.

In October 2018 the Commission launched a new tool to support digital teaching and learning in schools: **SELFIE** (Self-reflection on Effective Learning by Fostering the use of Innovative Educational Technologies) will be offered to 76.7 million students and teachers in 250,000 schools on a voluntary basis.

Every year, the Commission releases the Education and Training Monitor, its flagship annual publication on education and training in the EU. With its international comparison and country analysis, the Monitor fuels the debate on priority themes for education and informs national education reform debates.

TOWARDS A EUROPEAN EDUCATION AREA BY 2025

In November 2017, for the first time in the EU's history, the 28 EU leaders debated the future of education and culture at the Gothenburg Social Summit.

This resulted in the European Council in December 2017 calling on Member States, the Council and the Commission to take forward the agenda discussed in Gothenburg.

As a starting point in November 2017, the Commission set out a vision for a **European Education Area by 2025** in its contribution to the leaders' meeting in Gothenburg: 'a Europe in which learning, studying and doing research would not be hampered by borders. A continent, where spending time in another Member State – to study, to learn, or to work – has become the standard and where, in addition to one's mother tongue, speaking two other languages has become the norm. A continent in which people have a strong sense of their identity as Europeans, of Europe's cultural heritage and its diversity.'

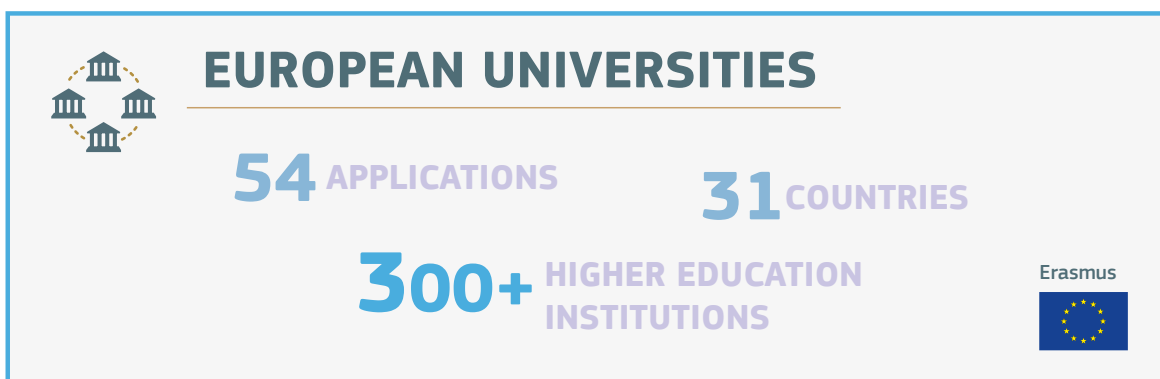
The European Education Area is designed to achieve **3 objectives**. Since the Gothenburg Summit, the Commission and the Member States have made concrete progress on each of them:

1. Promote cross-border mobility and cooperation in education and training

- Commission proposals for a substantially extended and inclusive **future Erasmus programme and European Solidarity Corps** (2021-2027) are under discussion in the European Parliament and the Council. The future Erasmus will support more than 12 million participants and the future European Solidarity Corps 350,000 young people.
- The **European Universities Initiative** will bring together a new generation of creative Europeans, who are able to cooperate across languages, borders and disciplines.

The first pilot call under the initiative resulted in applications from 54 alliances, involving more than 300 higher education institutions in 31 European countries including all EU Member States. The first 12 European Universities are due to be selected by summer 2019. A second pilot call is set to follow later this year, with a full roll out of the initiative envisaged under the future Erasmus programme as from 2021.

- The **European Student Card** to simplify learning mobility abroad and establish a clear European student identity is being tested on the basis of EU funded projects. This includes the **Erasmus without Paper Network** (now involving 800 universities) and the **Erasmus+ Mobile App** (downloaded by 60.000 students so far). The full roll out is foreseen by 2021.



2. Overcome obstacles that hinder learning in another country, the free movement of learners and the creation of a genuine European learning space

- To foster the **automatic mutual recognition** of higher education and upper secondary education diplomas and learning periods abroad by 2025 the Commission proposed a Council Recommendation which the Council adopted in November 2018.
- Boosting the teaching and learning of **languages** is the subject of a Commission proposal for a Council Recommendation scheduled for approval in May 2019. At the end of upper secondary school, young people should be able to fully use the language of schooling, fully use another European language, and confidently use a third language.

3. Support Member States in improving the inclusive, lifelong-learning based and innovation-driven nature of their education and training systems

- The Council Recommendation of May 2018 **on key competences for lifelong learning** was proposed by the Commission to foster the development of basic skills such as reading and maths as well as transversal competences such as learning to learn, citizenship and entrepreneurial skills.
- The Council adopted a second Recommendation in May 2018, on **promoting common values, inclusive education, and the European dimension of teaching**. Based on a Commission proposal, it aims to strengthen inclusive learning and young people's experience of European identity, shared values, common heritage and diversity and the functioning of the EU.
- The Commission's **Digital Education Action Plan** of January 2018 aims to reach 1 million teachers, trainers and learners by the end of 2019 in all EU Member States and the Western Balkans to ensure that young people are not only digitally confident but also digitally competent.
- To ensure solid and inclusive foundations for lifelong learning, the Commission's proposal for a Council Recommendation on **high quality early childhood education and care** is due to be adopted in May 2019.

Turning the European Education Area into a reality by 2025 is a decisive step towards ensuring «a Union where young people receive the best education and training and can study and find jobs across the continent» as highlighted by the EU Leaders in the Rome Declaration of March 2017.

The **Youth Guarantee** is a commitment by all Member States to ensure that all young people under the age of 25 years receive a good quality offer of employment, continued education, apprenticeship or traineeship within a period of four months of becoming unemployed or leaving formal education.

Each year more than 3.5 million young people registered in the Youth Guarantee are working or in training again.

The total **Youth Employment Initiative** budget is now **€8.8 billion**. It will continue to support more young people in need throughout the EU.



European Commission



A resilient Energy Union with a forward-looking climate change policy

May 2019

TOWARDS A MORE UNITED, STRONGER AND MORE DEMOCRATIC UNION



'I want to reform and reorganise Europe's energy policy into a new European Energy Union. (...) We need to strengthen the share of renewable energies on our continent. This is not only a matter of a responsible climate change policy. It is, at the same time, an industrial policy imperative.'

Then candidate for European Commission President, Jean-Claude Juncker, Political Guidelines for the next Commission, 15 July 2014

The European Energy Union will ensure that Europe has secure, affordable and climate-friendly energy. Wiser energy use helps the fight against climate change and is both a spur for new jobs and growth and an investment in Europe's future.



legislative initiatives have been presented by the Juncker Commission



legislative proposals **have been adopted**

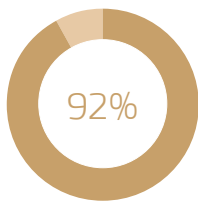
Europe is investing in the defence of its citizens and guarantees the security of their energy supplies. We give high priority to developing electricity interconnections. **We are investing in innovation and in the European industry** of the future, which needs to be both environmentally friendly and competitive.

For this work we have the most important mandate possible — that from our citizens. According to the last Eurobarometer on this subject, the vast majority of Europeans support our ambitious work to transform the European economy and implement the Paris Agreement.



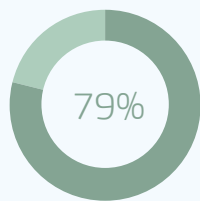
Eurobarometer results: A mandate from our citizens

The problem

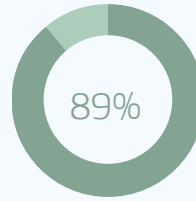


92% of EU citizens see climate change as a **serious problem**

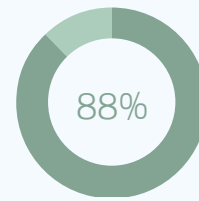
The solutions



79% agree that more public **financial support** should go to the clean-energy transition



89% believe it is important for their national government to **set targets** to increase renewable energy use



88% believe that their national government should **provide support** for more energy efficient

THE EU ENABLED THE PARIS AGREEMENT TO ENTER INTO FORCE AND WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN MAKING IT OPERATIONAL



In November 2015 the **EU played a leading role in brokering the historic, ambitious and global Paris Climate Agreement** between 195 countries. The EU's ratification of the Agreement in October 2016 triggered its entry into force, less than one year later. The Paris Agreement is irreversible.

In Paris the EU committed to an at least 40% cut in emissions by 2030.

Greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption are increasingly decoupled from economic growth. Between 1990 and 2017, the EU economy grew by 58%, while emissions decreased by 22%.

The EU and its Member States remain the largest provider of public climate finance, including to the multilateral climate funds, and have contributed € 20.4 billion in [climate finance or 2017](#).

In November 2018 in Katowice the EU was instrumental in adopting the so called Paris Rulebook, a set of measures making the Paris Agreement operational.

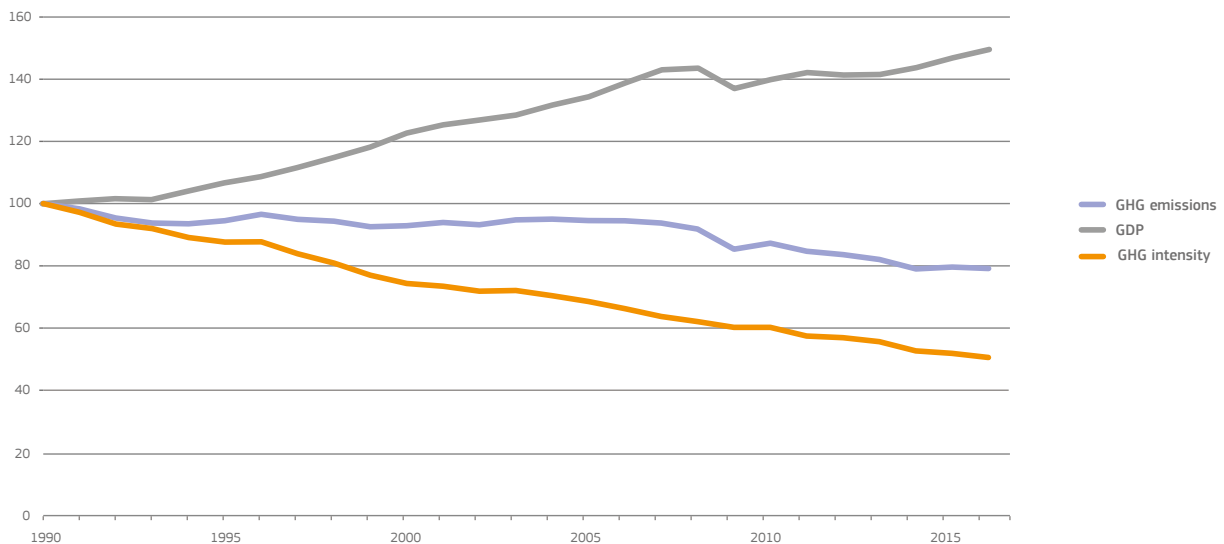
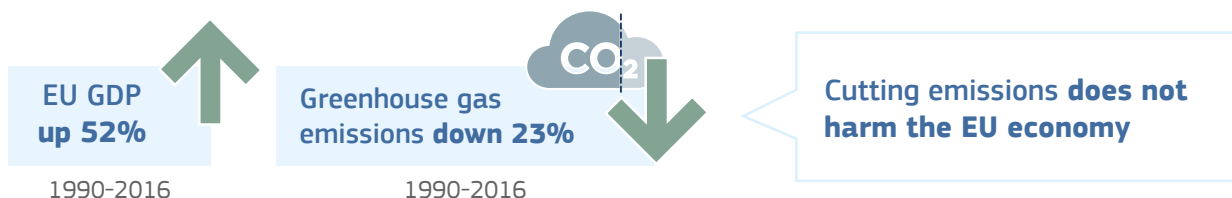


Figure 1: Changes in EU GDP (in real terms), EU greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and EU GHG emissions intensity of the economy

[Source: Fourth state of the Energy Union report; COM (2019) 175]

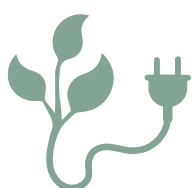


Source: Eurostat

SETTING THE RULES FOR A CLEAN, SELF-RELIANT AND COMPETITIVE FUTURE

The Energy Union has resulted in a comprehensive and legally binding framework for reaching the Paris Agreement goals, while simultaneously helping to modernise the European economy and its industry. This legislation includes the complete revision of the EU Emissions Trading System, which is the cornerstone of European climate policy. We are also accelerating the transition to low-carbon emissions in **other parts of our economy**. We have adopted a strategy for low-emission mobility and legislation on cutting CO₂ emissions from road transport, including emission standards for cars, vans and lorries promoting **cleaner mobility**.

Our 2016 **Clean Energy for All Europeans** set of measures was designed to show that the clean energy transition is the growth sector of the future — that's where the **smart money** is.



By mobilising up to **€177 billion** of public and private investment per year from 2021, this package can generate an increase of up to 1% in GDP over the next decade and create **900,000 new jobs**.



Clearer and simpler energy efficiency labelling rules will help households save almost €500 per year, increase industry revenue by over €55 billion per year and save as much energy by 2020 as Italy consumes annually.

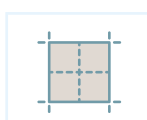


Legislation covers energy efficiency, renewable energy, the design of the electricity market, security of electricity supply and governance rules for the Energy Union. We are also accelerating clean-energy innovation by renovating Europe's historically inefficient buildings. The building and housing sector accounts for 40% of Europe's energy consumption. It needs much more investment, and at the initiative of the Commission, the European Investment Bank launched a brand new financial instrument, the

Smart Finance for Smart Buildings initiative. This initiative will help reduce the gap. It will also create local jobs and reduce energy poverty by using EU funds intelligently in a cost-effective way. This shows that 'energy efficiency first' is more than just a slogan: practical solutions strongly support our transition to a low-carbon economy and help us attain our Paris Agreement commitments.



Our work on energy security has ensured that no Europeans are left isolated. Newly **agreed legislation on the security of gas supplies** puts solidarity first. Member States have agreed to help their neighbours in the event of a serious energy supply crisis. The new rules ensure regional coordination to better prepare for and manage shortages; no European households will be left in the cold.



Properly interconnected electricity lines and gas pipelines form the backbone of an integrated European energy market anchored on the principle of solidarity and the creation of a well-diversified and competitive gas market. As President Juncker has said, we have a preference for pipelines that unite rather than pipelines that divide.

Our diversification strategy is developing around priorities such as the implementation of the Southern Gas Corridor, the development of a liquid gas hub in the Mediterranean and the promotion of access to liquefied natural gas (LNG) and gas storage, for which we adopted a strategy in February 2016.

Our preference is for strong regional cooperation, and it is delivering concrete results: key gas infrastructure is being implemented in the Baltic region. We have financially supported the construction of the gas interconnectors between Poland and Lithuania and the Balticconnector between Finland and Estonia. We have approved State aid for the Klaipeda LNG terminal in Lithuania and we are actively facilitating the establishment of a new northern corridor linking Norway to Poland through Denmark.

The Commission continues to support and **invest in electricity and gas infrastructure** to make the European energy system more competitive so that it will ultimately deliver a **better deal for European consumers**.

INVESTING IN A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Examples of Juncker Plan projects in the energy sector

The Juncker Plan has already generated €251.6 billion in investment and has mobilised other sources of European financing, including the Structural Funds and significant private investments, to fund numerous projects in the areas of renovation and energy efficiency, renewable energies and the new circular economy.

Smart solar panels in France

In **France**, the European Investment Bank is lending €15 million to Sunpartner Technologies to invest in research and development and increase its production levels. This small company makes **smart solar panels** to be used in innovative ways, such as to dim windows with your smartphone and power billboards off the grid



Tripla energy-efficient complex

Tripla is a construction project in Helsinki's Pasila district, to be completed in phases between 2019 and 2021. It will have **Finland's** largest shopping centre, offices, apartments and a new railway station. Tripla will create enough renewable energy to cover nearly all of its needs and will be fitted with recycling, water processing and waste processing systems.



New wind farms in Greece

In **Greece**, the European Investment Bank is providing €24 million to Terna Energy Group to build and operate three **new wind farms** with 18 turbines. This renewable energy source will have a huge impact on the transition to the low-carbon economy.



A new gas pipeline from Bulgaria to Austria

The European Investment Bank is lending €50 million to Transgaz in **Romania** to build a 478-kilometre stretch of a new **gas pipeline** from Bulgaria to Austria via Romania and Hungary. This important cross-border project will increase competition, which is good for the consumer, as well as bringing thousands of jobs to the region.



Energy-efficient social housing in Spain

In **Spain**, the European Investment Bank is providing €40 million to build more than 500 **energy-efficient social housing** units in Navarra. These will be nearly zero-energy buildings (NZEB), i.e. buildings with very low energy consumption owing to their design and the materials used in their construction. The project will create more than 700 jobs during the construction phase.



Smart gas meters in Italy

In **Italy**, the European Investment Bank is providing €300 million in financing to Italgas to install **smart gas meters**. This will improve the efficiency of the gas distribution system, as well as increasing customer information and awareness. The project will allow consumers to read their meters remotely and more frequently, which will lead to cost savings as well as a reduction in energy consumption.





European
Commission



An EU industry fit for the future

May
2019

TOWARDS A MORE UNITED, STRONGER AND MORE DEMOCRATIC UNION



‘Our internal market is Europe’s best asset in times of increasing globalisation. I therefore want the next Commission to build on the strength of our single market and to fully exploit its potential in all its dimensions. We need to complete the internal market in products and services and make it the launch pad for our companies and industry to thrive in the global economy, also when it comes to agricultural products.’

Then candidate for European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker,
Political Guidelines for the next Commission, 15 July 2014

The Juncker Commission pursues policies that provide an ecosystem for Europe’s industries to thrive in. This empowers industry to create quality jobs in a strong and fair Single Market, boost Europe’s competitiveness, foster investment and innovation - for example in clean technologies - and support regions and workers affected by industrial change.

OUR INDUSTRY:

Employs almost **37 million people** directly and created **1.7 million jobs** since 2013

Accounts for more than **2/3 of our exports**

Is growing again and now represents **25% of the EU’s Gross Value Added**

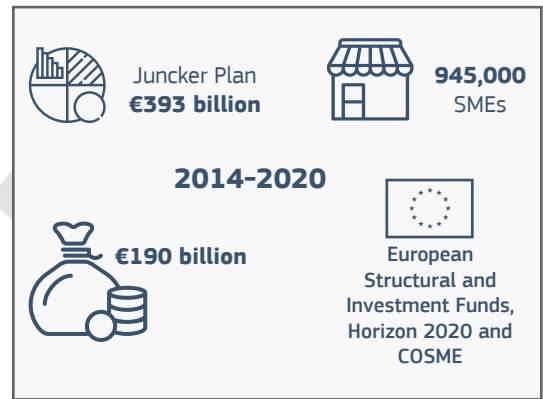
Europe’s industry has retained global leadership in many sectors. However, in a changing world our industry must adjust and adapt to remain ahead of the curve. With its industrial policy strategy, presented in September 2017, the Commission has brought together all existing and new initiatives relevant for industrial policy into one comprehensive strategy, which will help make EU industry fit for the future.

SIGNIFICANT EU INVESTMENTS GEARED AT INDUSTRIAL INNOVATION

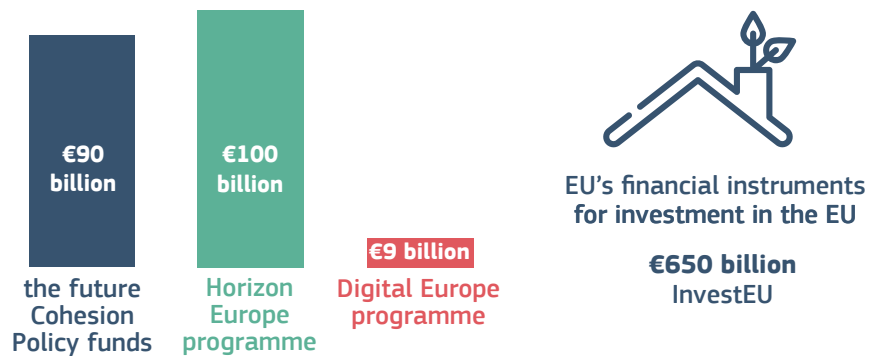
Since 2015, the Juncker Plan has mobilised €393 billion of investment and supported 945.000 small and medium businesses across all Member States.

In the 2014-2020 EU budget period, almost €190 billion from the EU budget is invested in research, innovation and the competitiveness of SMEs under the European Structural and Investment Funds, Horizon 2020 for research and development and COSME, the EU programme for the Competitiveness of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises, helping SMEs get better access to finance

In its proposal for the next long-term EU budget for 2021-2027, the Commission proposed to increase funding for investment, research and innovation:



Next long-term EU budget for 2021-2027 for investment, research and innovation



AN ESSENTIAL LEVEL PLAYING FIELD FOR COMPANIES: OUR SINGLE MARKET

Thanks to the single market, one of the largest markets in the world, EU companies benefit from a unique springboard to compete globally. They have access to more than 500 million consumers, benefit from more diverse, higher quality and cheaper inputs and operate under cutting edge standards, which position them well to take the lead globally. Consumers benefit from more choice, innovative products and better prices thanks to fewer technical, legal and administrative barriers. The Commission works constantly to increase the benefits of the single market:



The EU framework provides regulatory predictability and unprecedented investment, funding and business opportunities in key sectors of the economy, thanks to the following measures:

- The establishment of a Digital Single Market;
- The deepening of the Energy Union;
- The progress on the Clean and Circular Economy;
- The increased use of new EU-funded space infrastructure and services;
- The accelerated completion of the Capital Markets Union.

FOCUS ON STRATEGIC BUSINESS AREAS

To strengthen our industrial base, Europe needs to build on its strengths and assets. Artificial intelligence, batteries and cybersecurity are some of the many **strategic and future-oriented business areas** where boosting Europe's competitive advantage can generate growth across industrial sectors, value chains and regions, all while strengthening the EU's role on the global stage. Europe needs more industrial cross border cooperation, with strong European players in such key business areas. EU Member States and companies must join forces to stay at the forefront of the technological revolutions that will drive our competitiveness and economic development, by shaping the conditions for their development and use, ensuring respect of European values.

In international trade negotiations, where the EU negotiates with a single voice, the single market is also a great asset for our Union, since it gives trading partners access to a market of 500 million consumers. This gives the EU significant leverage in terms of access to foreign markets and creating new business opportunities for European companies. One such recent example is the Economic Partnership Agreement with Japan, the biggest trade agreement in force.

The EU has put in place flexible State aid rules to facilitate **Important Projects of Common European Interest**. These comprise innovative research projects that often entail significant risks and require joint, well-coordinated efforts and transnational investments by public authorities and industries from several Member States. The Commission fully supports Member States and their companies coming together to enable such important projects. The Commission is doing its utmost to facilitate such cooperation with positive spillover effects across Europe.

In December 2018, the Commission approved, under the State aid IPCEI framework, €1.75 billion of public investment, which will unlock an additional €6 billion of private investment for research and innovation in microelectronics. Four European countries – France, Germany, Italy and the UK – and around 30 companies and research institutions will join forces to enable research and innovation in this key technology. This was the first research and innovation project approved under the special, leaner rules for State aid for projects of strategic European interest.

Important joint efforts and investments are being made on **high-performance computing, microelectronics and batteries**.

The Commission has identified another 6 areas of strategic European interest that could potentially lead to future Important Projects of Common European Interest:



**Connected, clean
and autonomous
vehicles**



**Hydrogen
technologies and
systems**



Smart health



**Industrial Internet
of Things**



**Low-carbon
industry**



Cybersecurity

The European approach to **Artificial intelligence and robotics** ensures that technological, ethical, legal and socio-economic aspects are taken into account, while boosting the EU's research and industrial capacity and putting Artificial intelligence at the service of European citizens and the economy.

The Commission also aims to provide industry and businesses with access to world-class supercomputers thanks to its **High Performance Computing (HPC) Joint Undertaking**, and is developing a common EU approach to the security of **5G networks**.

At the end of 2018, the EU agreed on the Cybersecurity Act, which reinforces the mandate of the EU Agency for Cybersecurity to improve the support for Member States in this field and establish an EU framework for boosting the **cybersecurity** of online services and consumer devices.

A SOCIALLY FAIR APPROACH TO INDUSTRIAL TRANSITION



The European Pillar of Social Rights provides a comprehensive policy framework to steer employment and social performances across the European Union.

In line with the principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights, the Commission is rolling out a Skills Agenda for Europe to help bridge the skills gap and support workers in developing new skills, especially digital, for today's and tomorrow's job markets.

Under the next long-term EU budget, the strengthened European Social Fund - rebaptised European Social Fund Plus - will continue to invest in the skills of Europe's workforce.

In the event of company restructuring, the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund can step in to support European workers who lost their jobs through dedicated training and employability measures.

To help regions stand their ground in a globalised economy and a changing world, the EU has been helping them to invest in their niche areas of competitive strength (so-called smart specialisation) and partner with other regions to create innovation clusters.

EU budget 2021-2027

The European Social Fund Plus



European Globalisation Adjustment Fund



A LONG-TERM VISION FOR A CLEAN AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY



25%
Climate

With the Commission's proposal to have 25% of the next EU budget contributing to climate objectives, the EU will stay at the forefront of the decarbonisation transition.

Industry will benefit from new business solutions and technologies and new job opportunities will be created.

- The Commission set out a vision to become climate neutral by 2050. This strategic steer is essential to drive investments forward and make sure our industry remains cutting edge in providing the solutions and products which the world of tomorrow needs.
- The Commission has proposed new emissions limits for CO₂ and air pollutants, introduced more reliable, stricter emissions tests and reformed rules on how a car is placed on the EU market.
- The Commission's Circular Economy Action Plan unlocks industrial opportunities by using innovative, resource-efficient ways to provide products to customers.
- The Commission proposed to drastically reduce the use of single-use plastics and restrict the use of microplastics while increasing the recycling of plastic packaging on the EU market, including all plastic packaging by 2030, ensuring the commitment of key industries.
- The Capital Markets Union will ensure that the financial sector is playing its role in the transition towards a less carbon-dependent economy.
- The Commission also proposed an EU-wide classification system, which will allow investors and financial institutions to determine whether activities and investments are sustainable.

WELCOMING FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT WHILE PROTECTING ESSENTIAL INTERESTS

Foreign direct investment from third countries is a source of growth and jobs.

The EU has one of the world's most open investment regimes, as acknowledged by the OECD.

The EU wants to and will remain the most attractive destination for foreign direct investment in the world. However, in exceptional cases, foreign investments could represent a risk for security or public order by affecting critical technologies, infrastructure, inputs or sensitive information. In some cases, the risk may be exacerbated by the fact that investors are owned or controlled by the state of a third country.

To address such risks, the EU has adopted a European framework to screen foreign direct investment. Over the next 18 months, the Commission and EU Member States will take the necessary steps to make sure that the EU can fully apply the Investment Screening Regulation as of 11 October 2020.

USING THE TRADE DEFENCE FRAMEWORK TO ITS FULL EXTENT

The EU's trade defence rules in force since May 2018 include a new anti-dumping methodology and modernised instruments allowing the imposition of higher duties in some cases, and reflecting social and environmental standards. Using the trade defence framework to its full extent, the EU currently has **135 anti-dumping and anti-subsidy measures in place**, as well as 3 safeguards.

A EUROPE THAT PROTECTS



135 anti-dumping and anti-subsidy measures in place



defending a total of
334,000
direct jobs



including
216,000
jobs in the steel sector

A SINGLE MARKET FOR PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

The establishment of a single market for public procurement is one of the EU's key achievements.

However, the increasingly global nature of public procurement markets has revealed obstacles and loopholes that impede a level playing field in practice. The EU public procurement market is one of the largest and most open in the world. In Europe, companies from other countries can bid for public tenders on an equal footing with European companies. However, many of the EU's major trading partners apply restrictive practices that discriminate against EU businesses. The Commission is currently reflecting on a more strategic approach to the EU's procurement framework, including how to strengthen the application of EU rules in public procurement procedures conducted on the basis of international agreements and ensuring a high standard of quality, security, sustainability and social responsibility in all procurement benefitting from EU funding.

As part of this, the Commission, together with Member States, will, during the course of 2019, conduct an overview of the implementation of the current framework and publish a guidance on the legal framework on participation of foreign bidders and goods in the EU market.

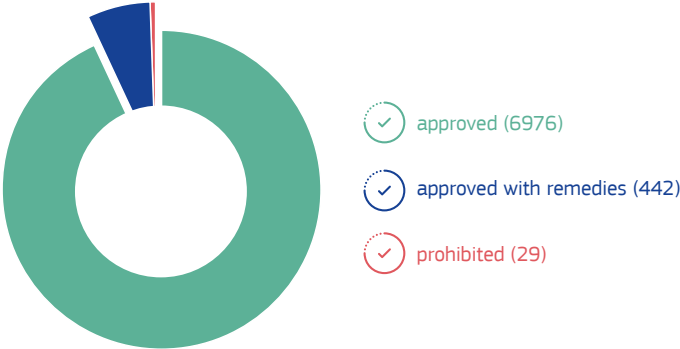
And the EU needs instruments to have leverage and ensure reciprocity. That is why the European Commission presented in 2016 a revised proposal to create an International Procurement Instrument. The Commission calls on the European Parliament and EU Member States in the Council to restart discussions and adopt the International Procurement Instrument before the end of 2019.

ENFORCING COMPETITION POLICY FOR THE BENEFIT OF CONSUMERS AND BUSINESSES

Since 1958, EU competition rules have supported Europe's industry and have coexisted with EU industrial policy objectives without preventing Member States from pursuing their industrial goals.

In today's global markets, a company is not going to be competitive abroad if it is not competitive at home. Competition policy with its different instruments not only ensures that we have open and fair competition within the internal market and fair prices for customers but also ensures that our companies have an incentive to remain competitive.

EU merger decisions since 1990



EU MERGER CONTROL

EU merger control rules were agreed and adopted by EU Member States to ensure that consumers and business customers do not suffer in terms of higher prices or less choice.

These rules allow companies to grow by buying other businesses whilst keeping markets open. Prohibitions of mergers remain exceptional and typically concern cases where the merging parties are not ready to submit appropriate remedies, which are viable and sufficient in scope to address the harm identified.

The Commission also looks carefully at whether the markets affected by a merger are local, national, Europe-wide or worldwide, considering factors such as how easily products can be transported over long distances and the extent to which customers trust the quality and reliability of supplies from outside Europe. The competitive pressure of existing or potential competitors outside Europe is included in the Commission’s analysis of the effects of a merger. With growing globalisation, the percentage of markets defined as worldwide in EU merger investigations has accordingly grown over the years.



European Commission



A United Union based on solidarity

May 2019

TOWARDS A MORE UNITED, STRONGER AND MORE DEMOCRATIC UNION



‘As candidate for President of the European Commission, I see it as my key task to rebuild bridges in Europe after the crisis. To restore European citizens’ confidence. To focus our policies on the key challenges ahead for our economies and for our societies.’

Then candidate for European Commission President, Jean-Claude Juncker, 15 July 2014

With Member States occasionally pulling in opposite directions, President Juncker and the Members of the College have acted in the European interest, bringing leaders together to broker agreements on complicated and emotional issues.

MANAGING CONFLICTS AND AVOIDING CRISES

Managing the Greek Eurozone crisis

President Juncker was central to **resolving the Eurozone crisis**, battling day and night to avoid a calamitous Greek exit from the single currency, and maintaining economic stability across Europe.

President Juncker maintained constant contact with the Greek Prime Minister, other EU leaders and the European Parliament to ensure that the Commission offered all possible technical and political support to resolving the crisis. He repeatedly stated his belief that Greece should not be pushed towards the exit door of the Eurozone, and that the unity of the single currency and the dignity of the Greek people should be preserved.

With the Eurozone crisis and Greek drama overcome, President Juncker’s position has been vindicated. The situation in Greece is now even better than projected.

In 2016, the country dramatically outperformed its primary surplus target. The Greek economy is now predicted to grow at 2.5% in 2018 and 2019.



President Juncker, Euro Summit, 7 July 2015

Economic Forecast for Greece **2.5% growth** in 2018 and 2019



Migration crisis in the Western Balkans

In the Western Balkans, when relations were strained between neighbouring countries at the height of the 2015 migration crisis, the Commission called an extraordinary meeting of Presidents and Prime Ministers.

Hosted at the Commission's Berlaymont Headquarters, the meeting brokered agreements on information and responsibility sharing to effectively manage the multiple borders in the region and deal humanely with the arrival of vulnerable asylum seekers.

The Commission's coordinating role continues, with regular videoconferences organised at political level between the Commission and national contact points from the leaders' offices and operational departments.



Angela Merkel, Jean-Claude Juncker and António Guterres, 25 October 2015

The Almaraz Case

In 2017, Portugal and Spain were divided over the controversial construction of a nuclear waste landfill site near the Portuguese-Spanish border, at **Almaraz**. President Juncker brought the Portuguese and Spanish Prime Ministers together to reach an amicable settlement.



António Costa, Portuguese Prime Minister, Jean-Claude Juncker and Mariano Rajoy Brey, Spanish Prime Minister (from left to right), 29 April 2017 →

BOOSTING SECURITY

RescEU - A European system to tackle natural disasters

From floods and storms, to forest fires and earthquakes, recent years have been tragic for Europe with almost 100 people losing their lives due to natural disasters. Damaging homes and infrastructure, the economic costs of natural disasters are huge: close to €10 billion were recorded in 2016. Between 2016 and 2018, the EU Civil Protection Mechanism was activated 78 times.

To better protect citizens from disasters and strengthen both response and preparedness, the EU adopted rescEU in March 2019. rescEU upgrades the EU Civil Protection Mechanism, establishing a new European reserve of capacities that initially includes firefighting planes and helicopters. RescEU also aims to respond to other emergencies in the future, such as medical emergencies, chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear emergencies.

These EU resources will complement national assets and will be managed by the Commission to support countries hit by such disasters.

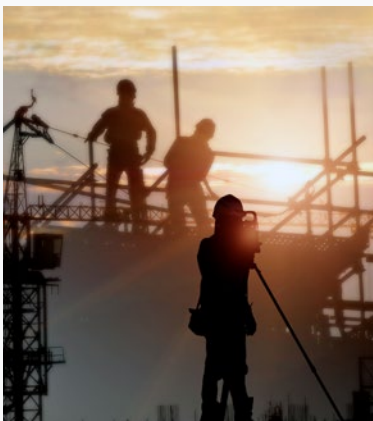


Between 2016 and 2018, the EU Civil Protection Mechanism has been activated 78 times.



Civil protection exercise 'eUrban Water Aid Project', Hungary, 5 April 2017

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The EU Solidarity Fund

When a Member State is hit by a natural disaster, the EU first gives a helping hand with its emergency response instruments and then with financial aid for reconstruction in the long term.

The EU Solidarity Fund can be used to support reconstruction efforts and cover some of the costs of emergency services, temporary accommodation, clean-up operations and protection of cultural heritage, in order to relieve the financial burden borne by national authorities.

Since the beginning of the Juncker Commission, €2 billion from the EU Solidarity Fund have been paid to disaster-stricken countries and regions.

Following the tragic earthquakes that hit central Italy in 2016 and 2017, the Commission mobilised a record €1.2 billion under the EU Solidarity Fund.

Emergency support for border management

In September 2016, President Juncker announced that the European Commission was fast-tracking requests from the Bulgarian authorities, and had decided to award **€108 million in emergency funding** to strengthen the management of migration flows.

The funding was used to increase reception capacities and the capacities of the asylum service as well as strengthen border surveillance and border control activities.

The Commission's rapid intervention showed our commitment to treating the external border of one Member State as the external border of all Member States.

Funding awarded to Bulgaria since this announcement now stands at over €150 million.



€150 million in emergency funding to strengthen the management of migration flows in Bulgaria

A Europe that protects - Systematic Schengen border checks



In April 2017 the EU introduced new measures for **systematic checks at the Schengen border**, in the interests of both security and migration management.

These commonly agreed rules were part of the legislative response to the Paris attacks and ensure that nobody can enter or leave the Schengen area without being checked against security databases.

Immediately after the new rules came into force, there were tensions at the Slovenian-Croatian border. President Juncker intervened to mediate. In the margins of the European Council, he spoke with the Prime Ministers of Slovenia and Croatia, Miro Cerar and Andrej Plenković, and they agreed that EU law reinforcing the controls at the Schengen borders and enhancing the security of our Union must be applied and implemented.

With Commission support, technical measures were proposed and a system put in place for targeted checks on specific occasions.

These measures helped to:



ease tensions



allow a smoother management of the border



less delays for travellers

Managing Denmark's Europol departure

Following the referendum in Denmark on **Europol** membership in December 2015, President Juncker worked closely with President Tusk and Danish Prime Minister Lars Løkke Rasmussen to agree on operational arrangements to minimise the negative impact of Denmark's departure from Europol.

After the referendum, Denmark could no longer get access to Europol's data repositories, or participate in Europol's operational work and databases.

The agreement reached in April 2017 was for the mutual benefit of Denmark and the rest of the EU in combatting cross-border serious and organised crime and international terrorism.

President Juncker led the efforts to agree a tailor-made arrangement allowing for cooperation, including the exchange of operational data, deployment of liaison officers and full alignment with European data protection rules.

Denmark now has a unique status which allows for much closer ties with Europol without membership.



Donald Tusk, Lars Løkke Rasmussen, Jean-Claude Juncker, 3 December 2015

CONNECTING EUROPEANS

The European Solidarity Corps

Announced by President Juncker in September 2016, the **European Solidarity Corps** gives 18-30 year olds the opportunity to do volunteer or paid work helping the community and wider society, while at the same time gaining invaluable life experience and job skills.

Participants have the opportunity to get experience in confronting challenging situations – from rebuilding communities after natural disasters to helping tackle issues such as social exclusion or helping welcome and integrate refugees and migrants.

Since the launch in December 2016...

124,000
young Europeans
signed up



14,250
placements already
organised



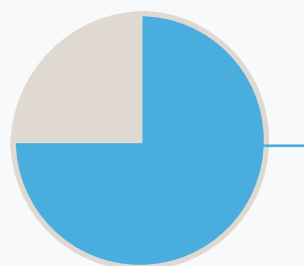
The Baltic Interconnector

The Baltic Interconnector gas pipeline is another example of the Juncker Commission uniting our nations around economic, strategic and citizen-friendly initiatives.

A first bidirectional gas pipeline is being built between Finland and Estonia thanks to grants of over €190 million from the Connecting Europe Facility, which will cover 75% of the project costs. This project will end the isolation of the Finnish gas market and boost the security of gas supply in the entire Eastern Baltic Sea region.

This is just one part of the strategic investment being supported in the region, which also includes the Gas Interconnector Poland–Lithuania (GIPL) and the Karksi project – the Estonia–Latvia interconnector – to which the Commission allocated a grant of €18.6 million.

Other projects include the strengthening of the transmission network between Lithuania and Latvia, the interconnector between Poland and Denmark (BalticPipe) and the expansion of the LNG terminal in Świnoujście, Poland. These projects are central to establishing a well operating gas market in the Baltic Sea region.



€190 million
EU grants
cover 75% of
project costs



European Commission



Justice and Fundamental Rights

May 2019

BASED ON MUTUAL TRUST AND MORE DEMOCRATIC UNION



‘Citizens expect their governments to provide justice, protection and fairness with full respect for fundamental rights and the rule of law. This also requires joint European action, based on our shared values.’

Then candidate for European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, Political Guidelines for the next Commission, 15 July 2014

A UNION BASED ON FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS



The European Union is much more than an internal market. It is not only a Union of economies but it is a **Union of shared values**. The EU Treaties and the Charter of Fundamental Rights set out the founding values of the European Union and the rights enjoyed by its citizens.

The Commission works to guarantee that fundamental rights are respected for all citizens, **including in the digital world**.

REMOVING ILLEGAL ONLINE CONTENT AND HATE SPEECH



IT companies removed **72%** of illegal hate speech

To respond to the proliferation of racist and xenophobic hate speech online, the European Commission and 4 major IT companies (Facebook, Microsoft, Twitter and YouTube) presented a [“Code of conduct on countering illegal hate speech online”](#) in May 2016. In February 2019, the fourth evaluation of the code of conduct on carried out by NGOs and public bodies showed that IT companies removed on average 72% of illegal hate speech notified to them. The Commission has also taken measures

to tackle illegal content online, such as terrorist content, child sexual abuse material, counterfeit products and copyright infringing material, and disinformation.

The Commission launched the **EU Internet Forum** in December 2015 to tackle the misuse of the internet by terrorist groups. The Forum brings together EU Interior Ministers, the internet industry and other stakeholders to work together in a voluntary partnership to address this complex issue and to protect EU citizens. To increase the speed and effectiveness of our response, in September 2018 the Commission proposed **new rules** to get terrorist content off the web within one hour – the critical window in which the greatest damage is done.

In December 2018, the Commission set out an **Action Plan against Disinformation**, in order to develop a coordinated response to disinformation both within the EU and in its neighbourhood, especially in view of the forthcoming European elections.

PROTECTING PERSONAL DATA

Data protection is of particular importance in the digital age.

The Juncker Commission finalised the **new EU data protection rules (GDPR)**. They came into force across the EU on 25 May 2018. The reform provides citizens with the following rights:

- A right to receive clear and understandable information about the processing of personal data;
- A right to obtain access to the personal data held about you;
- A right request that personal data is erased when it's no longer needed or if processing it is unlawful;

With tough sanctions, the new rules protect also Europeans from their personal data being abused, for instance in the context of the European election campaign.

The European Commission is closely monitoring the **EU-U.S. Privacy Shield**, which offers a strong protection for personal data. It also offers citizens **easy and cheap redress** for personal data transferred to the U.S. in case of complaints. The Commission published its second annual report on the functioning of the Privacy Shield in December 2018.



EU-U.S. Privacy Shield

Over 4,500 companies already certified

(April 2019)

In January 2019, the Commission adopted its **adequacy decision on Japan**, allowing personal data to flow freely between the two economies on the basis of strong protection guarantees.

FIGHTING DISCRIMINATION

33%
of women in the EU
experienced **physical or
sexual violence** (or both)
from the age of 15

96%
of Europeans say domestic
**violence against women
is unacceptable**

#SayNoStopVAW
European Commission
launched **social media
campaign**

€400 million
available to EU countries
from the Commission to
**fight violence against
women**

Source: European Commission, Eurobarometer 2016

WORK-LIFE BALANCE INITIATIVE

The Commission proposal to improve the work-life balance of working families has just been agreed. It will make it easier for men and women to share parental and care responsibilities and get flexible working arrangements.

10
days
paternity leave
(at least)
Compensated at least at
the level of sick pay

**4 months per
parent**
parental leave
(at least)
out of which 2 months
are non-transferrable
between parents

5
days
of carers' leave
per year

flexible
working arrangements
to all working parents
and carers with children
up to at least 8 years old

WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION

New EU-wide rules were just agreed, on the basis of a Commission proposal, which will guarantee a high level of protection for whistleblowers who report breaches of EU law.

The new rules cover a wide reach of areas of EU law, including anti-money laundering and corporate taxation, data protection, protection of the Union's financial interests, food and product safety and environmental protection and nuclear safety.

Whistleblowers will be protected by:

- Clear reporting procedures and obligations for employers
- Safe reporting channels
- Prevention of retaliation and effective protection

CIVIL AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE



Victims' rights have also been strengthened by giving them the right to information, support protection and compensation. These rights are also extended to family members of victims. Suspects or people accused of crimes will now have the same rights across the EU. The adoption of the **procedural rights** package will ensure that these people have access to legal aid, have the right to be presumed innocent, and to have a lawyer and gives special protection for children in criminal justice proceedings.



The Commission proposed improvements to the EU rules that **protect children in cross-border parental disputes** related to custody, access rights and child abduction. The new recast Regulation should be adopted in June 2019 and applied as of 2022.



The **European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO)** will tackle VAT fraud and fraud with the EU budget. 22 Member States are set to be part of the EPPO, which will work to protect the EU taxpayers' money. The Commission also proposed to expand the competences of the EPPO to help fight cross-border terrorism



The Commission presented a proposal to **equip prosecutors with modern tools to have access to evidence** that is saved **online or on the cloud**. This proposal will help judicial authorities fight crime and terrorism more efficient. The European Commission recommended in February 2019 to engage in negotiations with the U.S. on cross-border rules to obtain electronic evidence.

The Commission also recommended a mandate to negotiate on behalf of the EU under the Budapest Convention, which is the centrepiece of **international cooperation against cybercrime**. It provides a comprehensive framework for cooperation for over 60 countries.

EMPOWERING CONSUMERS

European consumers benefit from strong consumer rights, whether they buy in their own country or cross-border.

ONLINE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PLATFORM

The Commission launched an Online Dispute Resolution platform to help consumers and traders solve online disputes over a purchase made online.



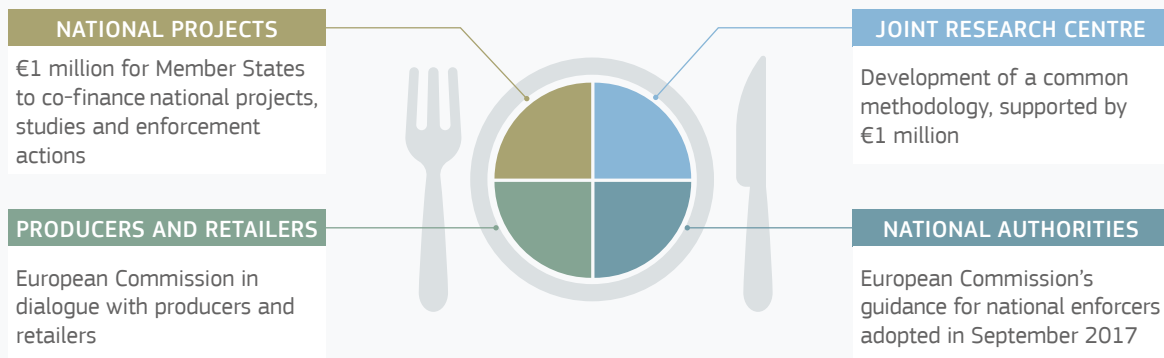
24,000 consumers used the new **online dispute resolution platform** in its first year

IMPROVED CONSUMER PROTECTION COOPERATION

In case of EU-wide breaches of consumer rights, the Commission has reinforced the coordination of common measures by national enforcement authorities with updated Consumer Protection Cooperation rules. It will ensure a swifter protection of consumers, while saving time and resources for Member States and businesses.

NEW DEAL FOR CONSUMERS

The Commission's menu of action



In April 2018, the European Commission proposed a 'New Deal for Consumers' to strengthen and better enforce consumer protection rules.

The adopted measures will bring tangible benefits for consumers:

- with effective penalties for violations of EU consumer law
- by tackling dual quality of consumer goods
- with strengthened consumer rights online

The Commission also proposed rules to establish a representative action, to give European consumers more redress possibilities. Discussions are still ongoing.



■ Publications Office
of the European Union