

English summary of the European measures to control the coronavirus outbreak (18 - 24 April)

1. European summit

On 23 April, EU leaders discussed in a videoconference how to **address the impact of the coronavirus**. The European Council asked the Commission to analyse the **economic impact on the EU**, specific regions and sectors. The Commission will also prepare a detailed framework for the recovery fund, linked to a revision of the proposal for the multiannual financial framework.

The European Council also approved the EUR 540 billion European aid package drawn up by the Finance Ministers. This support package should be available to countries and companies from 1 June.

2. Health care

The European Commission, together with several partners, has established an [EU Covid-19 data portal](#) to rapidly collect and share comprehensive research data on the coronavirus.

From the Netherlands, **Marion Koopman** from **the Erasmus MC in Rotterdam** is working with various other partners on the establishment of the so-called [data-hubs](#).

On 24 April, the Commission published a **new [export authorisation scheme](#) for personal protective equipment** (temporary measures).

Following a request for assistance through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism, **the EU now coordinates the support to six Dutch Caribbean islands**.

3. Agri-food sector

The European Commission has proposed additional exceptional [measures](#) to **further support the most affected agricultural and food markets**. The Commission has also drawn up a [Q&A](#) on the coronavirus and food safety.

4. Economy

The European Commission has given the [green light](#) for a **€10 billion Dutch guarantee scheme** for loans to businesses during the coronavirus outbreak.

In order to support SMEs, the Commission has now made its [eTranslation](#) tool available to SMEs free of charge, with the important advantage of confidentiality.

5. #EUvsVirusHackaton

This weekend, the European Innovation Council organizes a **pan-European [#EUvsVirusHackathon](#)** to develop innovative solutions to challenges related to the coronavirus. Next Web organized a kick-off event earlier this week for the Dutch partners.

6. Kantar: EU actions little known

This week, research bureau Kantar published a new report on the public's perspectives on the corona crisis and government measures, including some results on the EU action. The report showed that a large part of the Dutch population does not yet know what action the EU is taking in this context. We would therefore like to invite you to share and disseminate this information in the Netherlands.

How does the coronavirus affect your life and work? We invite you to complete the Eurofound online survey [Living, working and COVID19](#) on this topic.

For background information and relevant documents, please consult the [coronavirus webpage](#). The Commission has also published a [timeline](#) on the EU coronavirus response. You can contact the [Representation](#) for all your questions and comments, including questions on the EU approach to the coronavirus, at COMM-NL-DEN-HAAG@ec.europa.eu.

Kind regards,

Didier Herbert

Head of the Representation of the European Commission in the Netherlands