

# AT A GLANCE

## Policy Departments' Monthly Highlights



### FOCUS

#### The effects of the pandemic on women



Dear Reader,

I wish you a happy and healthy New Year and hope that the COVID-19 pandemic will soon be overcome.

We already see that the pandemic's effects on women are manifold and especially the socio-economic consequences affect women disproportionately. More than 70% of healthcare workers in the EU are female, women provide most of the informal and unpaid care, as well as educational support at home. This has taken a heavy toll on women's health, their economic situation and

their prospects. In addition, domestic violence is rising significantly aggravating the already high pre-Covid numbers.

The study 'The gendered impact of the COVID-19 crisis and post-crisis period' gives a clear view into some of the most important gendered effects of the crisis as well as insights into how these may extend into post-crisis times.

*Evelyn Regner, MEP,  
Chair of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality*

#### The gendered impact of the COVID-19 crisis

*Policy Department for Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs*



Outbreaks affect men, women and other genders differently.

This study outlines gendered effects of the pandemic and how these may extend into the post-crisis period. Data includes: lack of sex-disaggregated data, role of (health) care workers, domestic violence, impact of quarantine, extra unpaid

labour due to lockdown, access to maternity, sexual and reproductive health services.

Scan the QR code  
to access the publication



### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

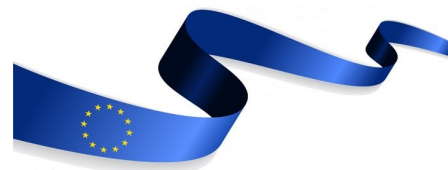
#### **BUDG** Pilot projects and preparatory actions in the EU Budget 2014-2019

Study presentation - online meeting  
14 January 2021

### SUPPORTING ANALYSES

Supporting Analyses are the research papers from policy departments that provide high-level independent expertise, analysis and policy advice in all areas of activity of the European Parliament.

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## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

### Horizon 2020: Geographical balance of beneficiaries

*Policy Department for Budgetary Affairs*

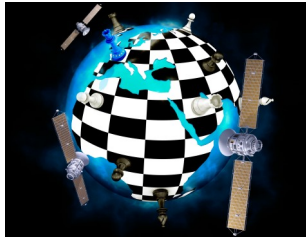


This briefing explores the performance gap between EU-15 and EU-13 countries under Horizon 2020, the reasons for this gap and policy options at national and EU levels. The purpose of Horizon 2020 is to support research and innovation of the highest quality, produced in international collaboration, and selected on a competitive basis. Under such conditions, uneven budget distribution is inevitable. However, participation in Horizon 2020 seems biased against the entire EU13 region.



### The space sector as an enabler of EU strategic autonomy

*Policy Department for External Relations*



Space is rapidly becoming a political arena hanging over geopolitical competition on earth. The EU must make important choices to preserve its position, as without strategic autonomy in space there can be no strategic autonomy on earth. This is crucial also for security and defence, so that the EU's ability to act autonomously is further enhanced.



### Impact of state aid on competition during COVID-19

*Policy Department for Economic, Scientific and Quality of Life Policies*



EU state aid policy is playing a pivotal role in mitigating the socio-economic damage caused by COVID-19 but excessive state aid could jeopardise free and fair competition. The study requested by ECON on EU state aid during COVID-19 confirms the need to maintain a level playing field. Monitoring and policy fine-tuning, focusing on SMEs and keeping Member States involved are the main challenges, as well as the goals of green and digital transformation and EU firms' global competitiveness.



### Climate spending in EU Cohesion Policy: state of play and prospects

*Policy Department for Structural and Cohesion Policies*



Cohesion Policy, due to its overall share of the EU budget, can play a vital role in delivering on EU climate objectives, and in paving the way for the green transition. Cohesion Policy seeks to make a significant contribution to the EU's overall climate-related spending target of 20% in the 2014-2020 period. Financing Europe's transition to climate neutrality as foreseen in the European Green Deal will require at least EUR 1 trillion in public and private investments over the next decade.



## FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

<b>CONT</b>	MEP's pension rights before and after the Members Statute in 2009 - Jan 2021
<b>DEVE</b>	The use of pesticides in developing countries and their impact on health and the right to food - Jan 2021
<b>IMCO</b>	The impact of COVID-19 on the Internal Market - Feb 2021
<b>JURI</b>	Nature's Rights: legal personality and access to justice - Feb 2021
<b>TRAN</b>	Transport infrastructure in low-density and depopulating areas - Feb 2021

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