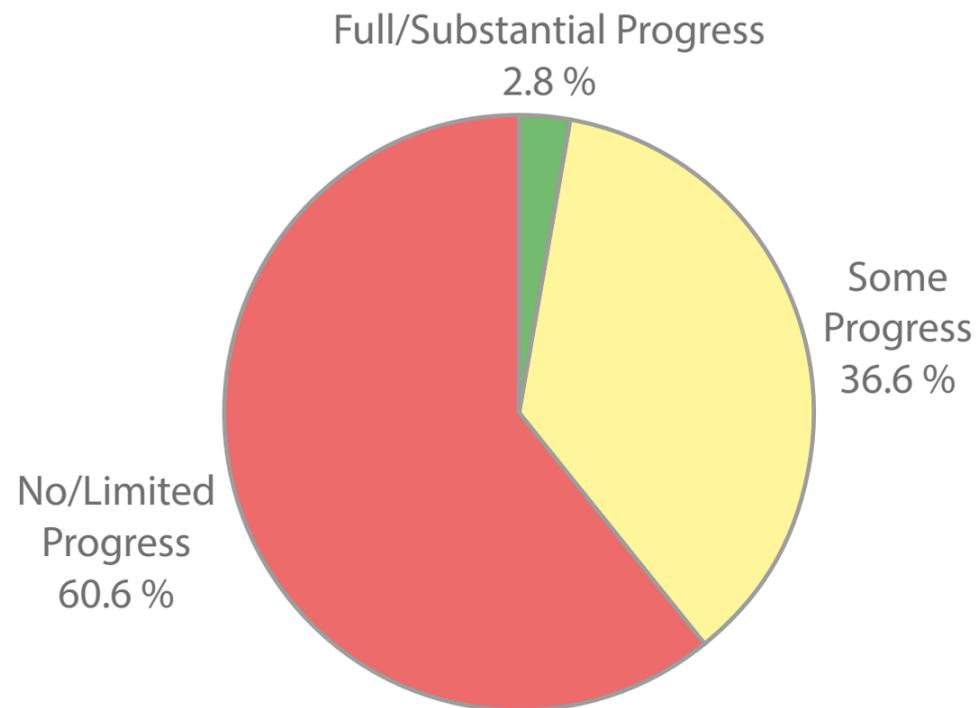


Implementation of the 2018 Country Specific Recommendations



Source: [EGOV calculations](#) based on the Commission [Country Reports](#) (February 2019).

Note: Based on Commission's assessment of actions taken (rather than outcomes that may materialise with a time lag), assigning identical weights to all CSRs (i.e. irrespective of their institutional and political sensitivities). Where applicable, this overall assessment does not include an assessment of compliance with the Stability and Growth Pact (SGP) that will be made in spring 2019 once the final data for 2018 will be available.



WORKING GROUP

MONITORING OF THE EUROPEAN SEMESTER CYCLE: SPRING 2019

Thursday 4 April 2019
European Parliament
Altiero Spinelli 6D128 - Brussels

The European Semester for economic policy
coordination from a parliamentary perspective
with the participation of EU National Parliaments' administrations

PROGRAMME

Foreword

The second working group for EU parliaments staff on the 'European Semester for economic policy coordination' will take place on 4 April 2019 at European Parliament's premises. It will focus on the "winter package" published by the European Commission at the end of February 2019.

The main element of the "winter package" is the so-called Country Reports, which are analytical documents prepared by the Commission and provide an overview of the economic and social challenges in each Member State. These reports are a tool under the European Semester and include also an assessment of reforms undertaken, including an assessment of implementation of the Country Specific Recommendations of the previous year(s) and identifies challenges ahead. For those Member States for which the Commission's Alert Mechanism Report of November 2018 identified risks of macroeconomic imbalances, the Country Reports include the in-depth-review, aimed at establishing whether the countries are experiencing macroeconomic imbalances and, if they are, to what extent.

The Commission also presented as part of the winter package a short overview on the state-of-play on the establishment of productivity boards in the Member States.

According to the Commission, since the introduction of the European Semester in 2011, all Member States have made progress in implementing country-specific recommendations (CSRs), although the rate of progress varies (for an overview of the implementation rate of 2018 CSRs, see back-page).

As a novelty this year, country reports identify priority areas for policy actions regarding public and private investment in Member States. The objective is to ensure coherence between the coordination of economic policies in the European Semester and the use of EU funds, which represent a significant part of public investment in several Member States.

The Country Reports serve as the basis for discussion with Member States of their national policy choices ahead of their national programmes to be submitted in April - and will lead to the formulation in late spring - of the 2019 Country-Specific Recommendations.

This staff working group aims to strengthen cooperation and better understanding among EU national parliaments' and European Parliament administrations of the main steps and tools of the European Semester process, through knowledge sharing and the exchange of best practice.

The organisers are grateful to all colleagues in the EU institutions taking an active part in this event, in particular the services of the European Commission (EC) and colleagues from the European Investment Bank (EIB), as well as to colleagues in national parliaments, for their very good collaboration in preparing this event.

We wish you a useful and productive day.

The organisation team of the European Parliament (EP)

Objective:

To strengthen cooperation and building capacity at administrative level among EU national Parliaments in the area of economic governance and to have a better understanding of the Country Reports through knowledge sharing and exchange of best practices.

Participants:

Staff from national parliaments and European parliament dealing with the Semester.

Logistics:

Travelling and accommodations costs covered by the participants.

Working language:

English.

10.00-10.15

Welcome and introduction

Kajus Hagelstam and Wolfgang Lehofer, EGOV/EP

10.15-11.15

The main elements of the Commission Country Reports and the next steps

Chair: Kajus Hagelstam, EGOV/EP

- Presentation, including on the assessment of CSRs implementation, **Sophie Dewispelaere**, SG/EC
- Presentation of the updated CSRs database, **Jost Angerer** and **Matteo Ciucci**, EGOV/EP
- Exchange of views

11.15 - 12.30

In-depth reviews (IDRs) for the 13 countries at risk of macroeconomic imbalances as identified in the Alert Mechanism Report of November 2018

Chair: Alice Zoppé, EGOV/EP

- Presentation, including some country examples **Jonas Jonas**, **Dimitri Lorenzani** and **Emiel Afman**, DG ECFIN/EC
- Exchange of views

12.30-13.30

Lunch break

13.30 - 14.30

Investment barriers and priorities based on the 2019 Country Reports

Chair: Jost Angerer, EGOV/EP

- Presentation **Gaetano d'Adamo**, DG ECFIN/EC
- Presentation **Hana Genorio**, SG/EC
- Presentation **Atanas Kolev**, EIB
- Exchange of views

14.30 - 15.00

The Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP)

Chair: Wolfgang Lehofer, EGOV/EP

- Presentation **Jerneja Jug Jerse / Barbara Ochotnicka**, SRSS/SG/EC
- Exchange of views

15.00 - 15.30

The National Productivity Boards: their role and current situation

Chair: Alice Zoppé, EGOV/EP

- Presentation **Erik Canton**, DG ECFIN/EC
- Exchange of views

15.30 - 16.15

Session among National parliaments' and European Parliament's administrations

- Pilot project: parliamentary involvement in the various stages of the Semester
- Summer Seminar outline/exchange of ideas
- Conclusions on possible follow-up