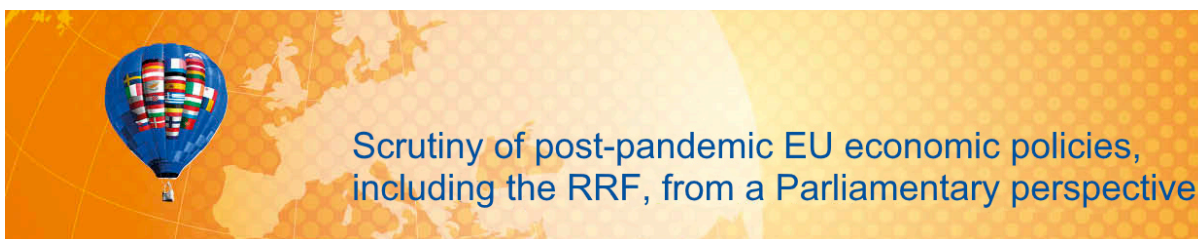


Survey on the role of national parliaments in the implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility

Synthetic presentation of the results





Survey on the role of national parliaments in the implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility

Synthetic presentation of the replies

Abstract

Parliamentary scrutiny is important to ensure full transparency and accountability and to enhance the democratic legitimacy, as well as to sense of citizens' ownership of the RRF. This survey aims to keep stock of whether and how EU national parliaments are involved in the implementation of the RRF.

This document was prepared by Economic Governance Support Unit in view of an [Implementation Report](#) on the Recovery and Resilience Facility by the European Parliament.

This document was requested by the European Parliament's Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs.

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BACKGROUND

In February 2022, the European Parliament services launched a survey on the parliamentary dimension of the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), in cooperation with the European Centre for Parliamentary Research and Documentation (ECPRD - Area of Interest “Economic and Budgetary Affairs”) and with some colleagues working in national parliaments, including in the secretariat of the Conference of Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs (COSAC).

The survey aimed at gathering information on how national parliaments are dealing with the Next Generation (NGEU) programmes, in particular whether and how they are scrutinising the implementation of the RRF, including the achievement of milestones and targets identified in the National Recovery and Resilience Plans (NRRPs). Another area of interest was the involvement of stakeholder, social partners or national fiscal institutions by national parliaments.

The questionnaire (presented in Annex 1) included 12 questions, some of them with sub-questions requiring specific descriptions. The online survey was open from 9 February to 31 March 2022, with the possibility of updating information in future.

The survey received 29 replies, covering parliaments in 24 Member States. In case of four Member States (Czechia, Italy, Poland and Romania) replies were provided by the two chambers. No replies were received by the cut-off date of this edition from three Member States (Bulgaria, France, and Malta).

The summary presented in this document provides a preliminary and general overview of the replies received; a more in-depth analysis will be provided later on. Further insights and specific information concerning each country will also be discussed in forthcoming webinars for parliamentary staff, including one to be organised by ECPRD in May 2022.

SUMMARY OUTCOME OF THE SURVEY

Overall, all the Parliaments of the 24 Member States¹ that replied to the survey are (to different degree) involved in scrutinising the implementation of NGEU/RRF, even if only one Member State (Portugal) set up a specific Committee.

13 national parliaments have established practices for the Government to present progress (including risks) on the implementation of the NRRPs. The responses show that 58² % of the parliaments have been informed by their Governments of risks of not achieving milestones and targets.

Nevertheless, such presentations cover information on payment requests only in four cases. 21 national parliaments (87%) reported that there is no legal obligation for the Government to submit the payment requests, nor the related assessments by the Commission, to the national parliament.

Only 21% of the national Governments of the responding parliaments have provided information on the implementation of RRFs in other EU Member States.

¹ AT - BE - CY - CZ - DE - DK - EE - EL - ES - FI - HR - HU - IE - IT - LT - LU - LV - NL - PL - PT - RO - SE - SK - SI

² In this section, percentages refer to the total of responding national parliaments (while noting that in the case of two replies from one and the same Member State due to bicameral system, these replies have been combined).

12 national parliaments intend to consult stakeholders as part of their scrutiny of the RRF implementation; they include social partners (8), local and regional representatives (9), independent fiscal institutions/productivity boards (6) and other stakeholders (6).

According to the replies to the survey, 92% of the national parliaments reported that their government have informed them on coordination between national actions taken under the RRF and other EU budgetary programmes (e.g. structural funds).

71% of the national parliaments have been provided with information on the achievement of milestones and targets contributing to the implementation of the 2019 and 2020 Country Specific Recommendations.

Only 47% of the national parliaments from the Euro Area have been informed by their Government about the Commission's [assessment on their Draft Budgetary Plans for 2022](#), which had been submitted by the Government to the Commission in autumn 2021.

58% of the national parliaments intend to monitor the progress of the achievements in the RRF implementation of the quantitative targets. 62% of the national parliaments reported that they do not intend to scrutinize the financing and realization of specific RRP projects.

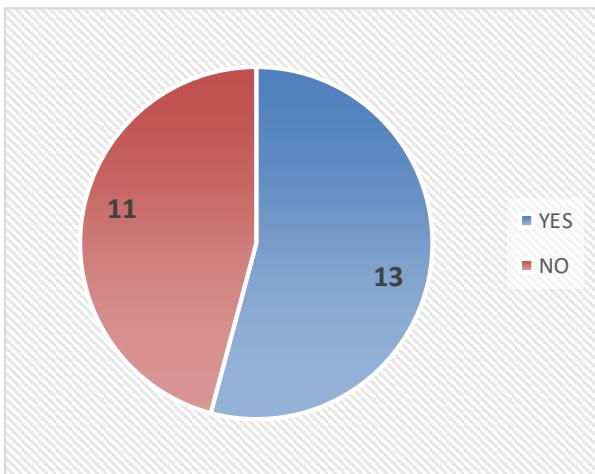
MAIN OUTCOMES OF THE SURVEY

The aggregated findings of the survey are presented below, mainly in a visual format. These may be regarded as preliminary findings and a more in-depth analyses will follow.

- Has your Parliament/Chamber set up a specific body/Committee devoted to the RRF/NGEU and the RRP?

The only chamber that set up a specific body is Portugal (Assembleia da República).

- Is there an established practice of your Government in presenting to your Parliament/Chamber the progress on implementing the RRP?



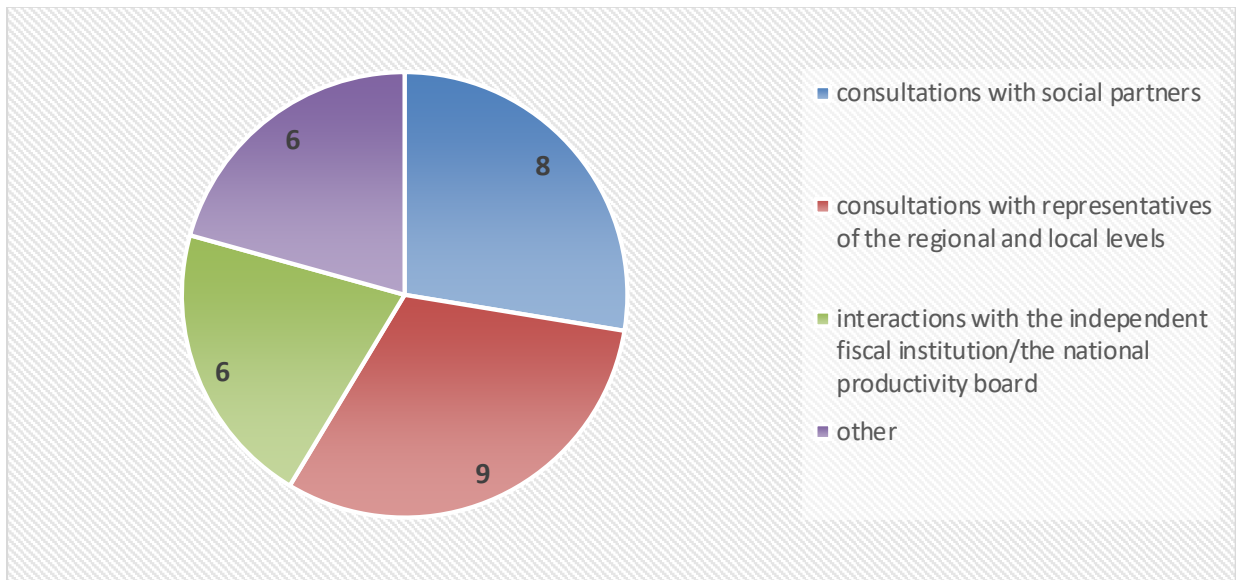
YES	AT - CY - EE - IE - IT - LT - LU - NL - PT - RO - SK - ES - SE
NO	BE - HR - CZ - DK - FI - DE - EL - HU - LV - PL - SI

<p>Is there a legal obligation or practice for your Government to submit the Government's payment requests and the related assessments by the Commission?</p>	<p>Is your Parliament/Chamber informed by your Government about any risks of not achieving the milestones and targets as set out in your RRP?³</p>												
<p>A pie chart with a red slice representing 'NO' at 21 and a blue slice representing 'YES' at 3. A legend to the right shows a blue square for 'YES' and a red square for 'NO'.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Response</th> <th>Count</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>YES</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NO</td> <td>21</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Response	Count	YES	3	NO	21	<p>A pie chart with a blue slice representing 'YES' at 14 and a red slice representing 'NO' at 10. A legend to the right shows a blue square for 'YES' and a red square for 'NO'.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Response</th> <th>Count</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>YES</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NO</td> <td>10</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Response	Count	YES	14	NO	10
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YES	3												
NO	21												
Response	Count												
YES	14												
NO	10												
<p>Has the Government provided information on the implementation of RRPs of other EU Member States?⁴</p>	<p>Does your Parliament involve or plan to involve/consult stakeholders as part of the parliamentary scrutiny process of the RRP implementation?</p>												
<p>A pie chart with a red slice representing 'NO' at 19 and a blue slice representing 'YES' at 5. A legend to the right shows a blue square for 'YES' and a red square for 'NO'.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Response</th> <th>Count</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>YES</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NO</td> <td>19</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Response	Count	YES	5	NO	19	<p>A pie chart with a blue slice representing 'YES' at 12 and a red slice representing 'NO' at 12. A legend to the right shows a blue square for 'YES' and a red square for 'NO'.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Response</th> <th>Count</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>YES</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NO</td> <td>12</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Response	Count	YES	12	NO	12
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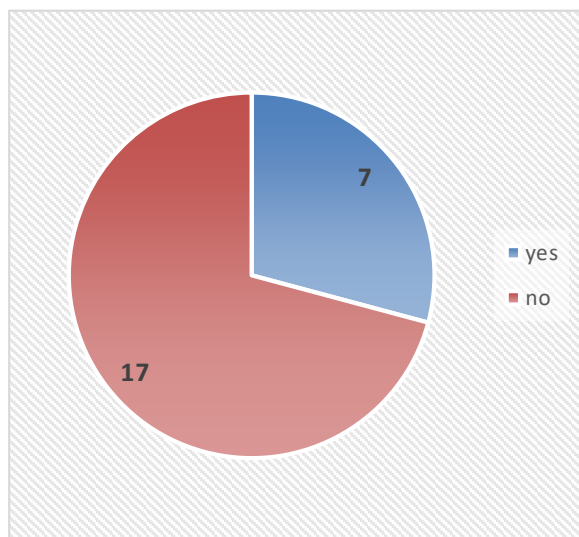
³ The Senate of Czechia and the Chamber of Deputies of Romania were not informed by their respective Governments and replied NO to this question.

⁴ The Sejm of the Republic of Poland was not informed by its Government and replied NO to this question

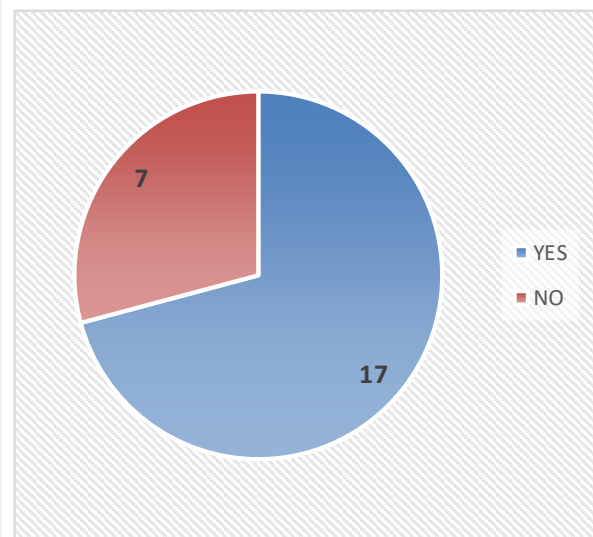
If yes to the previous question, please specify or provide examples:



Is the Government informing your Parliament/Chamber on any coordination between national actions taken under the RRP and other EU budgetary programmes (e.g. structural funds)?⁵



Does your Government provide specific information to your Parliament/Chamber on the achievement of milestones and targets contributing to the implementation of the 2019 and 2020 country specific recommendations?⁶

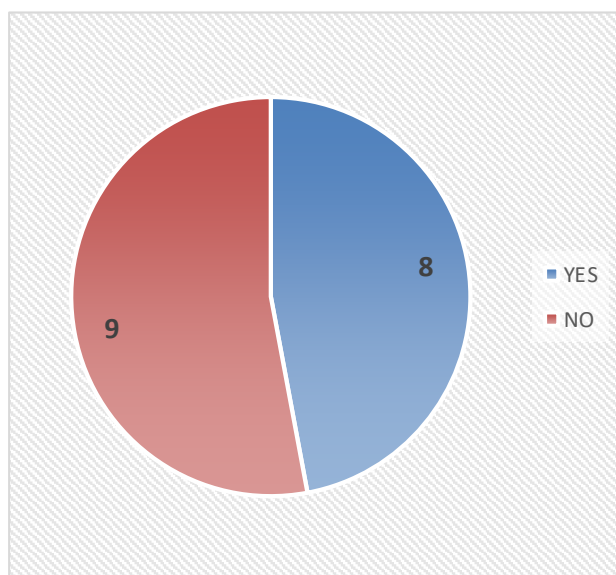


⁵ The Senate of Romania was not informed by the Government and replied NO to this question.

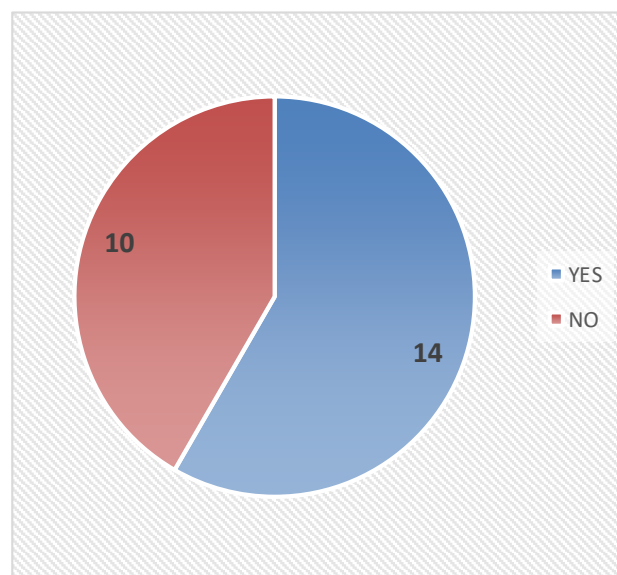
⁶ The Chamber of Deputies of Czechia was not informed by the Government and replied NO to this question.

Has the Government (Euro Area Member States only) informed your Parliament about the Commission's opinion on your 2022 Draft Budgetary Plan (as submitted to the Commission in autumn 2021) with particular regard to RRF implications?

Euro Area Member States only

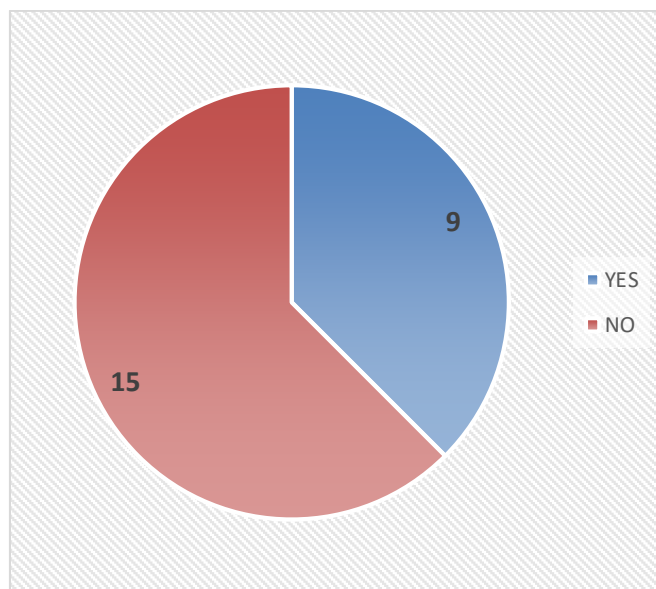


Does your Parliament/Chamber monitor or intend to monitor the progress in the actual achievement of RRP implementation, notably of quantitative targets (e. g. concerning the destination of a minimum predetermined amount of resources to climate action and digital transition) as well as some other priorities (e.g. gender quality, inclusion and equal opportunities, youth etc.)? ⁷



⁷ The Chamber of Deputies of the Czechia and the Chamber of Deputies in Romania replied NO to this question.

Does your Parliament/Chamber intend to monitor and/or scrutinize progress made in financing and realizing one or more projects included in your RRP⁸?



Some further information relating monitoring or scrutinising specific projects:

Nine parliaments (AT, CY, EL, HU, LV, LT, PT, RO, SE) intend to monitor/scrutinize the progress made in financing and realizing specific projects included in the RRP. However, monitoring and scrutiny takes different forms in different member states. Austria intends to apply the general practice used by the national Parliament to scrutinize the government proposals and their implementation: these include mandatory impact assessments and reports on internal ex-post-evaluations. Cyprus and Greece gave a similar answer, as each committee shall be dealing with the matter falling under its competence. In Greece, the competent Minister or body submits a relevant file to the Standing Committee if the undertaking exceeds the amount of twenty million euros. In Latvia, Portugal and Romania the scrutiny is extended to the projects which are implemented at a regional and/or local level and to projects directly managed by private entities or public-private partnerships. Hungary did not provide an explanation and Lithuania will scrutinize (if necessary) depending on the decisions of the MPs.

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⁸ The Chamber of Deputies of Romania replied NO to this question.

ANNEX

Questionnaire used for the Survey



Questionnaire for national parliaments on the NGEU and RRF implementation

This is a survey aimed at gathering information on how national parliaments are dealing with the Next Generation (NGEU) programmes, in particular, the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) and its implementation through the National Recovery and Resilience Plans (NRRPs). It is an initiative of the European Parliament services, building on a collaboration with the ECPRD Area of Interest "Economic and Budgetary Affairs" and previous work carried by COSAC.

Correspondents are requested to reply by **17 March 2022**. However, since the questionnaire is conceived as the basis of a "continuous survey", answers could be updated whenever there is something new or on the request of any interested Parliament/Chamber.

The replies will be made available for analyses, and the outcomes will be incorporated in publications (policy briefings, databases, background notes) and seminars. The data will be stored securely on the EP server. For more details about the data protection policy please click here: <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/cmsdata/244920/EGOV-Privacy%20Statement.pdf>

For further information or clarification, please contact:

- Paola Bonacci (bonacci_p@camera.it)
- Wolfgang Lehofer (Wolfgang.Lehofer@europarl.europa.eu)

Section 1

1. Name of the correspondent at the ECBRD contact point:

2. Country

3. Parliament/Chamber:

4. Email address

Section 2

Procedural and organizational aspects

5. Has your Parliament/Chamber set up a specific body/Committee devoted to the RRF/NGEU and the RRF?

- YES
 NO

6. If yes, please specify the characteristics of this body/committee (composition, procedures, timing...)

7. If no, which Committee(s) are the main actors in monitoring the Government activities related to the RRF?

8. Is there an established practice of your Government in presenting to your Parliament/Chamber the progress on implementing the RRP?

- Yes
 No

9. If yes, have specific procedures been established for this or is the information flow part of the standard

legislative and budgetary procedures?

10. If no, how is your Parliament going to scrutinize the implementation process, including budget allocation and spending as set out in your RRP?

11. Is there a legal obligation or practice for your Government to submit the Government's payment requests and the related assessments by the Commission?

- YES
 NO

12. Is your Parliament/Chamber informed by your Government about any risks of not achieving the milestones and targets as set out in your RRP?

- YES
 NO

13. Has the Government provided information on the implementation of RRFs of other EU Member States?

- YES
 NO

14. Does your Parliament involve or plan to involve/consult stakeholders as part of the parliamentary scrutiny process of the RRF implementation?

- YES
 NO

15. If yes, please specify or provide examples:

- consultations with social partners
 consultations with representatives of the regional and local levels
 interactions with the independent fiscal institution/the national productivity board
 other

16. Which major policy decisions have been taken by your Parliament/Chamber in the context of implementing the RRF? Please list some of the major decisions and specify the type of acts (resolution, law, others)

17. Is the Government informing your Parliament/Chamber on any coordination between national actions taken under the RRP and other EU budgetary programmes (e.g. structural funds)?

- YES
 NO

18. If yes, please specify or provide examples:

Section 3

Thematic issues related to the RRF process and the European Semester

19. Does your Government provide specific information to your Parliament/Chamber on the achievement of milestones and targets contributing to the implementation of the 2019 and 2020 country specific recommendations?

- YES
 NO

20. Has the Government (Euro Area Member States only) informed your Parliament about the Commission's opinion on your 2022 Draft Budgetary Plan (as submitted to the Commission and Eurogroup in Autumn 2021) with particular regard to RRF implications?

- YES
 NO

21. Does your Parliament/Chamber monitor or intend to monitor the progress in the actual achievement of RRP implementation, notably of quantitative targets (e. g. concerning the destination of a minimum predetermined amount of resources to climate action and digital transition) as well as some other priorities (e.g. gender quality, inclusion and equal opportunities, youth etc.) ?

- YES
 NO

22. If yes, please give more details and explain how this monitoring is implemented (through thematic analyses or numerical indicators provided by the Government, public hearings, studies promoted by the Parliament, others)

23. Does your Parliament/Chamber intend to monitor and/or scrutinize progress made in financing and realizing one or more projects included in your RRP?

- YES
 NO

24. is the monitoring/scrutiny:

- extended to the projects which are implemented at a regional and/or local level
 extended to projects directly managed by private entities or public-private partnerships
 other