

**Statement from Members of the Tourism Task Force of the European Parliament on
the adoption of the EU Digital COVID certificate**

Members of the European Parliament's Tourism Task Force (TTF) welcome the adoption of the EU Digital COVID Certificate, which will facilitate the reopening of travel and tourism within the EU and support millions of jobs and SMEs.

This development comes after repeated calls from the EP and the TTF, since the beginning of the pandemic, for measures aiming at greater coordination and deeper cooperation among Member States with a leading EU role.

Specifically, in its resolution on "Transport and Tourism in 2020 and beyond" in June 2020, the EP called for "temporary, proportionate and non-discriminatory measures", in line with scientific evidence, to facilitate safe transit and country-to-country movements", and highlighted "the importance of ensuring mutual recognition of the measures agreed at EU level for the resumption of EU and international travel". The EP also called for health screening measures as well as standards and detailed protocols. In a statement on 12 October 2020 on the occasion of the Tourism Convention, the TTF Members reiterated the need for EU-level coordination in lifting travel restrictions, hygiene and health protocols including an EU-wide testing protocol. Lastly, in October 2020 the EU Strategy on Sustainable Tourism, adopted last March, called for a common vaccination certificate as well as a common and non-discriminatory EU Health Safety Protocol for testing before departure. The TTF Members have repeatedly raised these issues and put pressure on the Commission in the presence of Commissioner Breton in our committee. We consider that the EU Digital COVID certificate is a clear answer to all these requests, and we expect it to be an effective and efficient response to get the transport and tourism sectors back on track. The certificate must comply with Union's data protection legislation.

The TTF Members will continue to work for the continued support of the travel and tourism sector because the pandemic and its consequences are far from over. Strong cooperation to this end between the European Institutions and the Member States is essential for the recovery and the resilience of this sector, and the adoption of the EU Digital COVID Certificate Regulations is a decisive step forward. However, the TTF Members will continue their efforts to keep monitoring the evolution of travel restrictions imposed by the Member States, and shall denounce any disproportionate or unilateral measure.

Tourism Task Force Members:

Karima Delli (Chairwoman, Greens/EFA)
Cláudia Monteiro de Aguiar (Steering Group Member, EPP)
István Ujhelyi (Steering Group Member, S&D)
José Ramón Bauzá (Steering Group Member, Renew)

El bieta Łukacijewska (EPP)
Barbara Thaler (EPP)
Elissavet Vozemberg-Vrionidi (EPP)
Giuseppe Ferrandino (S&D)
Josianne Cutajar (S&D)
Isabel Garcia Muñoz (S&D)
Massimo Casanova (ID)
Tilly Metz (Greens/EFA)
Anna Deparnay-Grunenberg (Greens/EFA)
Carlo Fidanza (ECR)
Elena Kountoura (The Left)
Mario Furore (NI)