

Issue N. 8

# **EUROPE DIRECT** Weekly Guidelines for the EUROPE DIRECT centres

### Video message from Sixtine Bouygues Deputy Director-General DG COMM



Sixtine Bouygues, Deputy Director-General DG COMM

#### TO KEEP YOU IN THE BIG PICTURE

A union of values more than ever. The EU stresses its commitment to fundamental values: Commission President <u>speaks</u> out against the Hungarian law discriminating against people based on their sexual orientation and underlines that the law goes against the fundamental values of the European Union.

**Speaking with one voice: European Council Meeting conclusions:** The meeting held on 24-25 June saw the release of a number of important conclusions on **COVID-19** and **migration**. On COVID-19, the European Council welcomed the progress made and discussed the initial lessons that can be learned from the pandemic. On migration, the Council focused heavily on mutually beneficial partnership and cooperation with countries of origin in an effort to prevent loss of life and reduce pressure on European borders. Check out the <u>conclusions</u>.



Your NextGenerationEU plan has been approved: Green light for Recovery and Resilience plans: The Commission adopted another row of positive assessments of the plans submitted by Germany, Italy, Belgium, France, Slovakia and Latvia. This record number of positive assessments is yet another important step towards the disbursing of loans and grants under the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF). Find out more about the <u>RRF</u>.



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**NextGenerationEU continued: Updates on the corporate campaign:** The NextGenEU campaign for citizens kicked off on June 16, as President von der Leyen began her country visits across the Union to endorse national recovery and resilience plans. Digital billboards were launched in the capitals and larger cities of the countries visited, and in Greece, the Commission team even managed to project the <u>#NextGenEU logo on the ancient Agora in Athens</u>. A manifesto movie launched on social media and <u>YouTube</u> has, so far, received over 13 million views on YouTube alone. Over 400 social media posts on NextGenEU and the President's visits have been posted on the Commission's Social Media Network. The <u>NextGenEU</u> website received almost 90,000 unique visitors between 21 and 27 June.

To the moon and beyond: Launch of the European Space Program: On 22 June, the EU celebrated a <u>milestone</u> in its ambitious space program. In his speech, Commissioner Breton underlined the EU's ambition to stay a leader in the field. Referring back to the success stories of Copernicus and Galileo, he showed how the EU aims to strengthen its autonomy in space policy.



## CALL TO ACTION THIS WEEK ...



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**Follow the Climate Pact Day of Action on 29 June**. You have the opportunity to learn about how the Climate Pact is taking shape, connect with people taking action and hear different examples of how everyone can contribute to tackling climate change. You can follow the event <u>live online</u>.

Be sure to **keep updating your audiences on the NextGenEU corporate campaign**. Don't miss the opportunity to share the achievements linked to the campaign.

## Looking ahead

**30/06 College:** A long-term Vision for the EU's Rural Areas by 2040; Proposal for a Directive on consumer credits; Proposal for a Regulation on general product safety; Communication on the European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) "End the Cage Age"; President von der Leyen participates in the Generation Equality Forum.

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