

# EUROPE DIRECT

*Weekly Guidelines for the EUROPE DIRECT centres*

[Video message from Alessandro Giordani, Head of unit C.4](#)

## TO KEEP YOU IN THE BIG PICTURE

**Fair share:** The Commission has welcomed a global agreement endorsed by G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors on 10 July, which will result in the **world's largest companies having to pay tax wherever they conduct business**. At the same time, a global minimum effective tax rate of at least 15% will help curb aggressive tax planning and stop the corporate tax "race to the bottom." European Commissioner for Economy **Paolo Gentiloni** said: "...we have until October to finalise this agreement. I am optimistic that we will be able in that time also to reach a consensus among all European Union Member States on this crucial issue." [More](#).



EU 2021, Source: EC AV Service, **Paolo Gentiloni**, 12/07/21, P-051542/00-13, Photographer: Claudio Centonze

**It's all about values:** In a recent resolution, Parliament "condemns in the strongest possible terms" **the recent anti-LGBTIQ legislation and denounces the dismantling of democracy and the rule of law in Hungary**". MEPs call on the Commission to launch an accelerated infringement procedure and to use all tools in the Court of Justice, such as interim measures and penalties for non-compliance if necessary. Follow the [story](#).

**Growing strong (and counting):** The Summer 2021 interim [Economic Forecast](#) projects that the economy in the EU and the euro area is set to expand by 4.8% this year and 4.5% in 2022. **The European economy is forecast to rebound faster than previously expected**, as activity in the first quarter of the year exceeded expectations and the improved health situation prompted a swifter easing of pandemic control restrictions in the second quarter. More [here](#).

**People's climate:** The latest Eurobarometer survey on Climate Change reveals that **climate change is now considered the single most serious global problem by Europeans**. In spite of the COVID-19 pandemic, Europeans remain very concerned about climate change and support action across the EU to tackle it. On the survey [page](#) you will find much more. Linked to this, **tomorrow the Commission will adopt the big and long-awaited package on the Green Deal**.

**Your plans have been approved:** The Commission has given **green light to the recovery and resilience plans of Cyprus and Croatia**. This is an important step towards the EU disbursing a total of €1.2 billion in grants and loans to [Cyprus](#) and €6.3 billion in grants and loans to [Croatia](#) under the Recovery and Resilience Facility, and a good piece to promote for our centres in the two countries.



EU 2021, Source: EC AV Service, **Ursula von der Leyen, on the left, and Andrej Plenkovic, Croatian Prime Minister in Zagreb, 08/07/21, P-051524/00-05, Photographer: Denis Lovrovic**



EU 2021, Source: EC AV Service, **Nicos Anastasiades, President of Cyprus, on the right, and Ursula von der Leyen, 08/07/21, P-051508/00-10, Photographer: Iakovos Hatzistavrou**

## CALL TO ACTION THIS WEEK ...

**Strong growth in the EU** – the Summer 2021 [Economic Forecast](#) is something we have to be proud of and something **we need you to share with your audiences**. People have to know that the economy is set to grow and that this growth is slated to continue. The **NextGenerationEU** disbursements will play a decisive role in this, so make sure **you continue promoting it**.

You have the big picture on the **latest Eurobarometer on Climate Change**, now it is time to **tell the story** by using the [survey results](#) for your continued work on the European Green Deal. **Watch out for the upcoming Green Deal legislative package** on 14 July. Quick refresher: the package is set to overhaul the EU's climate policy set-up and put the EU on track to deliver on its 2030 climate target of 55%. We have more on this in the “Looking ahead” section below.

## Conference on the Future of Europe: Your role

We kindly ask you to report in English by Wednesday, 14 July 12.00 to [Natalja.Montefusco@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Natalja.Montefusco@ec.europa.eu) the CoFE events which you are planning to organise between 15 July and 15 September along these criteria:

- participation of Commissioners, Heads of Representations and Heads of EPLOs, prominent members on national/regional authorities, MEPs, MPs, CoR or EESC;
- trans-border nature i.e. organised by the centres in two or more MS;
- organised by known think tanks, academia etc., having a big impact and reach.

Please provide a detailed description of the events, including date, title, format, number and type of participants, main partners and speakers.

## Looking ahead

**Wednesday 14/07. College:** EU forest strategy; **Watch out for the Green Deal package**



**Enjoy the summer break ! We'll be back in the first week of September.**