

EU cooperation and solidarity: the most effective strategy to tackle COVID-19

As the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic continues, the EU institutions and the Member States are taking unprecedented measures to protect citizens and safeguard the economy. The EU's initiatives to coordinate efforts across Europe are critical to a successful response. Only with cooperation and solidarity can we overcome an emergency of the scale of COVID-19.



How EU action is making a real difference



By proposing its Green Lane scheme, the EU has **reduced disruptions to border crossings** within the EU for freight carrying medical supplies. Waiting time for essential goods for border checks within the Single Market has been reduced to 15 minutes.



Thanks to joint procurement procedures, the EU has created a **common stockpile of essential medical supplies**, to meet Member States' ongoing needs.



By setting up a clearing house, the EU is able to swiftly **match private sector proposals for supply of equipment with Member State demand**.



By temporarily relaxing state aid rules and waiving debt and budgetary requirements, the EU has empowered Member States to take **extraordinary fiscal measures to save their companies and support the livelihood of their citizens**.



In a true spirit of solidarity, **Member States are helping each other** by dispatching medical personnel, treating patients from other countries and providing medical supplies to the regions that are affected the most.

There are many more examples of EU action: learn more about the EU response on our [COVID-19 portal](#).