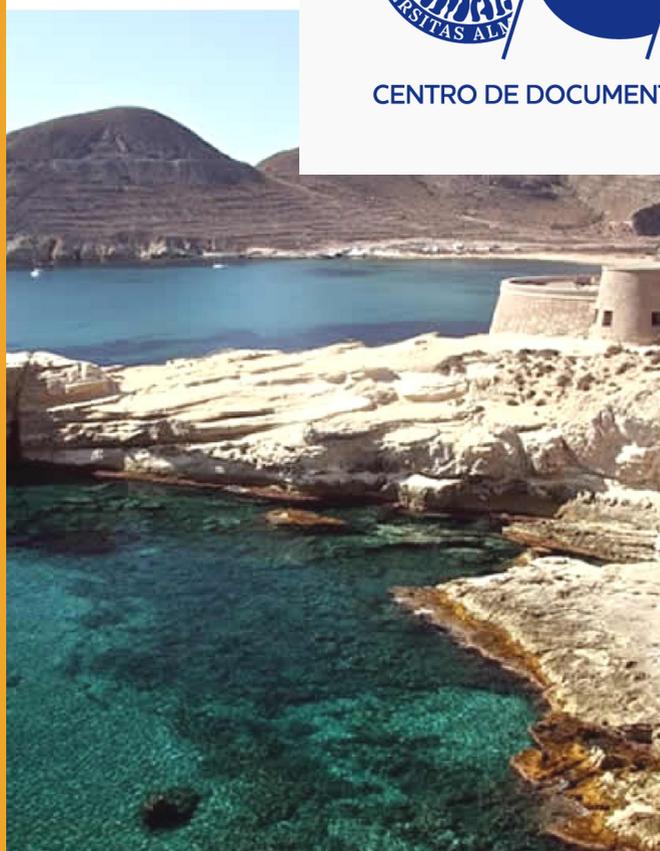


# INFORMATIVE BULLETIN



**APRIL 2019**  
**SINGLE MARKET IN THE EU**  
**Nº6**

# INTERACTIVE INDEX

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"PEACE AND  
DIVERSITY DEPEND  
ON EVERYONE"

# EMPLOYMENT IN EU REGIONS: EMPLOYMENT GREW IN 9 OUT OF 10 EU REGIONS IN 2017



In 2017, 253 of the EU regions (90%) saw their employment grow. In 26 other regions, the number of persons employed decreased and in a further 2 employment remained stable.

Growth in employment varied widely across the EU regions and within countries. The highest employment growth rates were recorded in Mayotte in France (+7.7%), Malta, Algarve in Portugal and Central Bohemia in Czechia (all +5.3%), followed by Herefordshire, Worcestershire & Warwickshire in the United Kingdom (+4.7%), SouthCentral in Bulgaria and Lisbon Metropolitan Area in Portugal (both +4.1%).

At the opposite end of the scale, the biggest decreases in employment were registered in Basilicata in Italy (-2.7%), Cumbria in the United Kingdom (-2.4%), Central and Western Region in Lithuania (-2.1%), South Yorkshire in the United Kingdom (-2.0%) and Liguria in Italy (-1.9%). In the EU as a whole, employment grew by 1.6% in 2017

Largest employment growth in Mayotte in France

In 19 EU regions, the employment growth exceeded 3%. Three each of these regions were located in Spain, Portugal and the United Kingdom, two in Romania and one each in Bulgaria, Czechia, France, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Malta, Slovenia and Slovakia.

In 25 EU regions, the number of employed people decreased in 2017. In nine of these regions, the number of employed fell by more than 1%. Five of these regions were located in the United Kingdom, two in Italy and one in Lithuania and Poland.

ACCESS THE COMPLETE NEWS:



# EUROPEAN SEMESTER 2019: WHAT IS IN THE WINTER PACKAGE?



## What are the Country Reports?

Country Reports are analytical documents that provide an overview of the economic and social challenges in Member States, as well as their policies. The reports are a tool under the European Semester, the EU's framework for economic and social policy coordination, to monitor reform implementation and identify issues to be addressed by Member States. For those Member States for which the Commission's Alert Mechanism Report in November identified the need for an in-depth review, Country Reports include an analysis into whether the countries are experiencing macroeconomic imbalances and, if they are, to what extent.

The Country Reports will serve as the basis for discussion with Member States of their national policy choices ahead of their national programmes in April, and will lead to the formulation in late spring of annual Country-Specific Recommendations.

## ¿What are the next steps in the European Semester?

The Council is expected to discuss the Country Reports together with the results of the in-depth reviews. In the coming months, the Commission will hold bilateral meetings with the Member States in light of the analysis of the respective reports. The Vice-Presidents, Commissioners and Commission services will visit Member States to meet governments, national parliaments, social partners and other stakeholders and discuss the findings of the reports. These visits will also include dedicated discussions of the annexes on how future EU Cohesion Policy funds could help address specific investment needs in the Member States.



ACCESS THE COMPLETE  
NEWS:



# ONLINE SHOPPING: COMMISSION AND CONSUMER PROTECTION AUTHORITIES CALL FOR CLEAR INFORMATION ON PRICES AND DISCOUNTS



Consumer websites screened across the EU show that many consumers face unclear information on prices and discounts when buying online.

The European Commission and national consumer protection authorities are publishing the results of an EU-wide screening of 560 e-commerce sites offering a variety of goods, services and digital content, such as clothing or footwear, computer software or entertainment tickets. Around 60% of these websites showed irregularities regarding the respect of EU consumer rules, predominately in relation to how prices and special offers are presented.

For more than 31% of the websites offering discounts, consumer authorities suspected that the special offers are not authentic or they found the way the discounted price was calculated unclear.

On 211 websites the final price at payment was higher than the initial price offered. 39% of those traders did not include proper information on extra unavoidable fees on delivery, payment methods, booking fees and other similar surcharges. EU consumer law obliges traders to present prices inclusive of all mandatory costs, and where such costs cannot be calculated in advance, their existence at least needs to be clearly presented to the consumer.

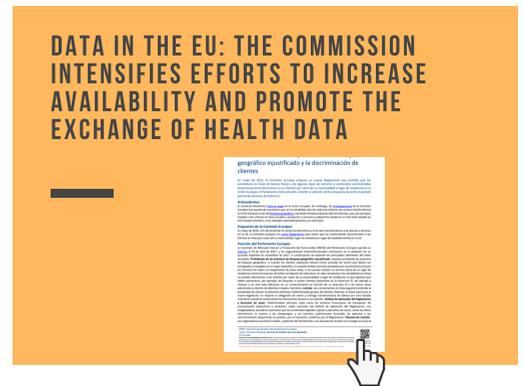
Next steps

Consumer protection (CPC) authorities will ensure full compliance of the traders concerned by activating their national enforcement procedures where necessary.

ACCESS THE COMPLETE NEWS:



# DIGITAL SINGLE MARKET: EU NEGOTIATORS AGREE ON NEW RULES FOR SHARING OF PUBLIC SECTOR DATA



Negotiators from the European Parliament, the Council of the EU and the Commission have reached an agreement on a revised directive that will facilitate the availability and re-use of public sector data.

Data is the fuel that drives the growth of many digital products and services. Making sure that high-quality, high-value data from publicly funded services is widely and freely available is a key factor in accelerating European innovation in highly competitive fields such as artificial intelligence requiring access to vast amounts of high-quality data.

In full compliance with the EU General Data Protection Regulation, the new Directive on Open Data and Public Sector Information (PSI) - which can be for example anything from anonymised personal data on household energy use to general information about national education or literacy levels - updates the framework setting out the conditions under which public sector data should be made available for re-use, with a particular focus on the increasing amounts of high-value data that is now available.

As part of the EU Open Data policy, rules are in place to encourage Member States to facilitate the re-use of data from the public sector with minimal or no legal, technical and financial constraints. But the digital world has changed dramatically since they were first introduced in 2003.

## Next Steps

The European Parliament and the Council of the EU will now need to formally adopt the revised rules. Member States will then have to implement them within two years before they become effective. The Commission will start working with the Member States on the identification of the high-value datasets which will be set out in an implementing act.

ACCESS THE COMPLETE NEWS:



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## EU TO SCRUTINISE FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT MORE CLOSELY



Parliament has agreed to set up an EU-level tool to screen foreign direct investment on grounds of security to protect strategic sectors.

The objective is to keep the door open to foreign capital, but ensuring that foreign direct investment (FDI) does not harm the strategic interests of the Union. The proposal seeks to protect key sectors such as water, transport, communications, energy, space and technology (from artificial intelligence to semiconductors and robotics).

The new provisions on how to screen, informally agreed between Parliament negotiators and EU ministers, were endorsed by 500 votes for, 49 against and 56 abstentions.

### Protecting strategic sectors

The new regulation protects critical infrastructure such as energy, transport, communications, data, space, and finance; and technologies, including semiconductors, artificial intelligence, and robotics. EP negotiators added sectors such as water, health, defence, media, biotechnology and food security.

### Better cooperation, more peer pressure

MEPs strengthened the cooperation mechanism to include exchange of information between EU member states, which can issue comments on FDI targeting other member states. The European Commission can ask for information and deliver its opinion to the country where the investment is planned, but the final decision remains with the country concerned.

### Background

Currently only 14 EU countries (Austria, Denmark, Germany, Finland, France, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain and the United Kingdom) have FDI screening mechanisms which differ widely in their scope and design. FDI has cross-border effects, which can now be addressed.

ACCESS THE COMPLETE NEWS:



## EUROPEAN UNION-UNITED STATES TRADE TALKS



The European Commission has published a report on the implementation of the 25 July 2018 Joint Statement agreed by Presidents Juncker and Trump.

In line with the Commission's commitment to transparency, the report provides a detailed overview on the state of play of the talks so far. The document was sent today to the European Parliament and Member States.

The Joint Statement launched a new phase in EU-U.S. trade relations, preventing an escalation in trade tensions and setting out a positive transatlantic trade agenda. The EU and the U.S. agreed to set up an Executive Working Group in order to take this work programme forward. On the EU side, the Executive Working Group is headed by Cecilia Malmström, the EU's Commissioner for Trade, and on the U.S. side the talks are led by U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer.

Commissioner Malmström and Ambassador Lighthizer launched talks in Brussels on 10 September 2018 and took part in further meetings in New York on 25 September and in Washington on 14 November and on 8 and 10 January 2019. A number of technical level meetings have also taken place since.

With the letter and the spirit of the Joint Statement in mind, the EU has proposed a number of both short-term and medium-term actions to take work forward. The main focus of the talks in the first few months has been exploring how to deliver results on regulatory issues. On the EU side, progress has also been made on facilitating imports of U.S. soya beans. Imports of U.S. soya beans by the European Union increased by 114% over the current market year (July-end January 2019), compared to the same period in the previous year. With a share of 77% of EU soya beans imports, the U.S. is now Europe's main supplier and the Commission just concluded that U.S. soya beans meet the technical requirements to be used in biofuels in the EU, a decision that will further expand its market opportunities in Europe.

ACCESS THE COMPLETE NEWS:



## COMMISSION REPORTS ON THE RISKS OF INVESTOR CITIZENSHIP AND RESIDENCE SCHEMES IN THE EU



For the first time, the Commission has presented a comprehensive report on investor citizenship and residence schemes operated by a number of EU Member States.

The report maps the existing practices and identifies certain risks such schemes imply for the EU, in particular, as regards security, money laundering, tax evasion and corruption. A lack of transparency in how the schemes are operated and a lack of cooperation among Member States further exacerbate these risks, the report finds.

in the EU, three Member States (Bulgaria, Cyprus and Malta) currently operate schemes that grant investors the nationality of these countries under conditions which are less strict than ordinary naturalisation regimes. In these three Member States, there is no obligation of physical residence for the individual, nor a requirement of other genuine connections with the country before obtaining citizenship.

These schemes are of common EU interest since every person that acquires the nationality of a Member State will simultaneously acquire Union citizenship. The decision by one Member State to grant citizenship in return for investment, automatically gives rights in relation to other Member States, in particular free movement and access to the EU internal market to exercise economic activities as well as a right to vote and be elected in European and local elections. In practice, these schemes are often advertised as a means of acquiring Union citizenship, together with all the rights and privileges associated with it.

The Commission's report has identified the following areas of concern:

- security;
- money laundering;
- tax evasion;
- transparency and information.

The report concludes that the lack of transparency in the management of the programs and the lack of cooperation between the Member States further aggravate these risks.

ACCESS THE COMPLETE NEWS:



COMMISSION REPORT ON CITIZENSHIP AND RESIDENCE PROGRAMS FOR INVESTORS IN THE EU



# 75 PARTNERS LAUNCH WTO TALKS ON E-COMMERCE



At the World Economic Forum in Davos, 76 partners - the European Union and 48 other members of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) - decided to start negotiations to put in place global rules on electronic commerce.

The last two decades have seen the exponential growth of domestic and cross-border electronic commerce. Despite this fast increase in electronic transactions, there are no specific multilateral rules in the WTO regulating this type of trade. Business and consumers instead have to rely on a patchwork of rules agreed by some countries in their bilateral or regional trade agreements.

WTO rules on e-commerce will aim to enhance opportunities and address challenges of e-commerce in both developed and developing countries. The negotiations should result in a multilateral legal framework that consumers and businesses, especially smaller ones, could rely on to make it easier and safer to buy, sell and do business online. The new rules would for instance:

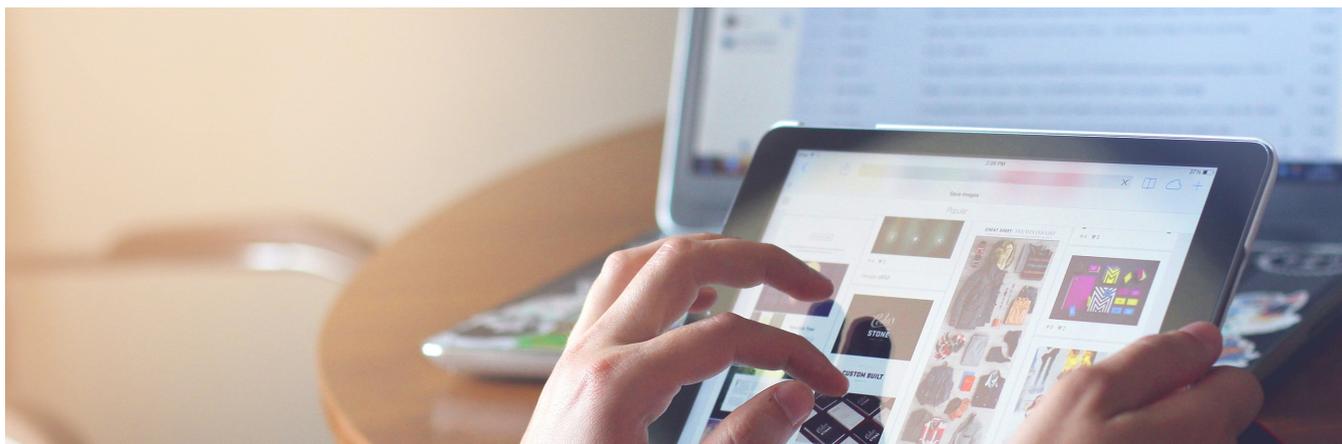
- improve consumers' trust in the on-line environment and combat spam;
- tackle barriers that prevent cross-border sales;
- guarantee validity of e-contracts and e-signatures;
- permanently ban customs duties on electronic transmissions;
- address forced data localisation requirements and forced disclosure of source code.

The launch of these negotiations shows the WTO stays in the centre of international rule making and continues to be a platform where groups of interested countries agree to work together to develop new rules in an open and inclusive manner. The negotiating process planned to start in March 2019 is open to other WTO members who may still be interested to join.

ACCESS THE COMPLETE NEWS:



## CROSS-BORDER E-COMMERCE: COMMISSION WELCOMES AGREEMENT ON PROPOSAL TO FACILITATE SALES OF GOODS AND SUPPLY OF DIGITAL CONTENT AND SERVICES IN THE EU



The European Parliament and the Council reached a provisional agreement on the European Commission's proposals of December 2015 regarding the online sales of goods and supply of digital content and services. In conjunction with the regulation to end unjustified geoblocking that entered into force in December 2018, the new agreement on digital contract rules is the latest achievement of the Digital Single Market Strategy, delivering concrete benefits to citizens and businesses.

Andrus Ansip, Vice-President for the Digital Single Market, and Věra Jourová, Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality welcomed the agreement with the following statement:

"As a consumer, one of the biggest benefits of the EU's Digital Single Market is that you are just one mouse click away from buying goods in any EU country without additional costs. For businesses, it means being able to offer products, services and digital content everywhere in the EU and having access to millions of potential customers.

This can only work well if we have EU-wide, clear, up to date and harmonised rules. With the agreement on our proposals for new rules on the supply of digital content and services, and on sales of goods, we are taking another step in that direction."

ACCESS THE COMPLETE NEWS:



### EU-JAPAN TRAINING PROGRAMS

The European Commission is encouraging European companies to enter the Japanese market. To this end, promotional activities have been implemented to encourage European exports to Japan and maximize business opportunities there.

During the World Class Manufacturing WMC (five days) managers and senior executives of the European Union will better improve how Japanese companies will eliminate the costs of their manufacture, and will constantly innovate using the manufacturing methods "KAIZEN" (continuous improvement), "JIT" (Just in Time), Practices "TQC" (Total quality control), TIE (Total industrial engineering), TPM (Total productive maintenance) and "TQM" (Total quality management), in order to transfer this knowledge to your Business

Deadlines:

March 21, 2019 (for the WMC from June 24 to 28, 2019)

July 4, 2019 (for the WMC from November 18 to November 22, 2019)

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

[WEBSITE](#)



**EU-Japan Centre**  
for Industrial Cooperation

日欧産業協力センター

### PAID INTERNSHIPS IN THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Twice a year, the European Economic and Social Committee organizes internships for university graduates. These training periods offer the opportunity to discover the functions and activities of the EESC and gain professional experience in a multicultural environment.

These periods of training in the service offer the opportunity to know the functions and activities of the EESC and acquire professional experience in a multicultural environment. They begin on February 16 and September 16 of each year and take place in the offices of the Committee in Brussels.

Who can apply: university graduates who are nationals of a Member State of the European Union.

Duration: 5 months

Paid internships: Yes, 1,190 euros per month

Start dates: February 16 and September 16

Place: Brussels (Belgium)



[WEBSITE :](#)

[Internship](#)



# COSME: COMPETITIVENESS PROGRAM



Aimed at promoting the competitiveness of companies and SMEs. It facilitates access to financing for entrepreneurs and small and medium enterprises to start operating, access financing and internationalize, as well as supporting the authorities to improve the business environment and facilitate the economic growth of the European Union. These funds are administered by the Intermediary Bodies of each country (in Spain, through the General Directorate of SME Industry - DGIPYME-), and these will be the ones that will offer the products to SMEs and entrepreneurs.

COSME has a budget of more than 1,300 million euros to finance these financial instruments that facilitate access to loans and capital financing for SMEs where the market gaps have been identified. It has a Loan Guarantee Mechanism, financing guarantees and counter-guarantees, for financial intermediaries to help them provide more loans and lease financing to SMEs.

As an entrepreneur, you can have great ideas and great ambitions, but without money you will not get very far. It's no secret: getting funds can be difficult. Given that small businesses are of vital importance to our economy, the European Union is facilitating access to finance, helping banks to secure credit and provide capital to companies in the growth phase.

This is just one of the many services offered by COSME, the EU program for the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises, aimed at helping entrepreneurs to create and grow their businesses.

TO ACCESS TO MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE FINANCING INSTRUMENTS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS OPERATING WITH COSME:

WEBSITE



# STATISTICS

APRIL 2019



**TRADE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS EU-JAPAN**

**BASIC FIGURES ON THE EU: THIRD QUARTER 2018**

**TRADE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS EU-US**



## ANNUAL GROWTH OF THE LABOR COSTS OF 2.3% IN THE EURO AREA

Labor costs per hour increased 2.3% in the euro area (EA19) and 2.8% in the EU28 in the fourth quarter of 2018, compared to the same quarter of the previous year.

[CLICK HERE](#)



**eurostat**



# INFOGRAPHICS

APRIL 2019

## EU-JAPAN - A BOOST FOR JOBS AND EXPORTS IN SPAIN

Infographics on how the European Union-Japan trade agreement affects Spain.



## THE EU AND JAPAN HAVE SIGNED A COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT

This infographic summarizes the main points of the trade agreement between the EU and Japan, which, having been signed in 2018, enters into force on February 1, 2019.



## EU BUDGET FOR 2019

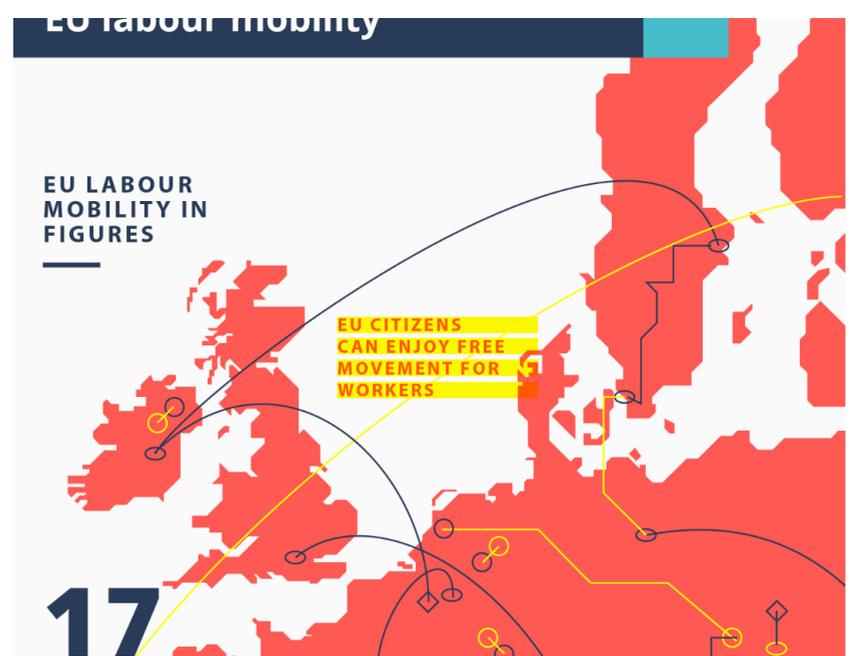


## EU LABOUR MOBILITY

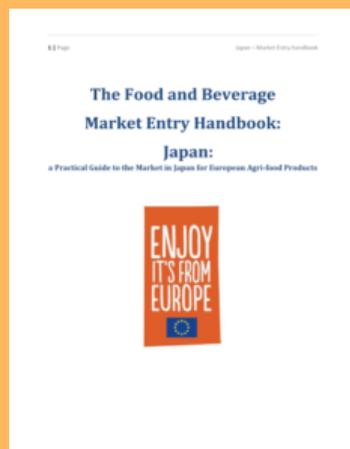
Infographic on labor mobility in the European Union, data and information on the authority that regulates it.

ACCESS TO INFOGRAPHICS

CLICK HERE



## TRADE AND INTERNATIONALIZATION



### THE FOOD AND BEVERAGE MARKET ENTRY HANDBOOK JAPAN : A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO THE MARKET IN JAPAN FOR EUROPEAN AGRI-FOOD PRODUCTS

**SUMMARY:** This manual aims to be a reference for those agri-food producers that plan to enter or are in the process of entering the Japanese market. This manual provides step-by-step guides on how to enter the agri-food market in Japan.

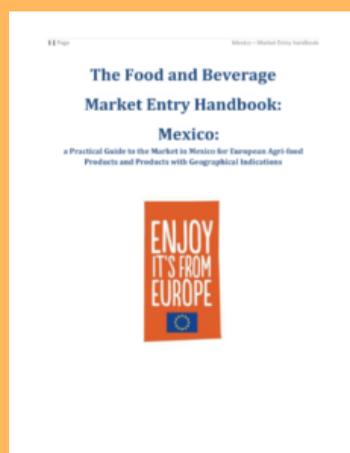
**Publication date:** 12-02-2019

**Author:** Executive Agency of Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food

**Link:** [CLICK HERE](#)

**Key words:** market access, sales authorization, consumer behavior, appellation of origin, agri-food industry, food industry, beverage industry, Japan, internal market, commercial policy, intellectual property

**ISBN/ISSN:** 978-92-9478-002-7



### THE FOOD AND BEVERAGE MARKET ENTRY HANDBOOK MEXICO : A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO THE MARKET IN MEXICO FOR EUROPEAN AGRI-FOOD PRODUCTS

**SUMMARY:** The purpose of this Manual is to serve as a reference for those agri-food producers that plan to enter the Mexican market or are in the process of entering it. This Manual provides step-by-step guides for entering the agri-food market in Mexico.

**Publication date:** 21-02-2019

**Author:** Executive Agency of Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food

**Link:** [CLICK HERE](#)

**Key words:** market access, sales authorization, consumer behavior, appellation of origin, agri-food industry, food industry, beverage industry, Mexico, internal market, commercial policy, intellectual property

**ISBN/ISSN:** 978-92-9478-006-5



### QUALITY REPORT ON EUROPEAN STATISTICS ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN GOODS: DATA 2010-11 : 2014 EDITION

**SUMMARY:** Quality report on European statistics on international merchandise trade: this report provides users with a tool to assess the quality of international trade in merchandise statistics published by Eurostat. The quality of the data can be evaluated by comparing it with the indicators that cover the following components: relevance, precision, punctuality and punctuality, accessibility and clarity, comparability and coherence.

**Publication date:** 14-02-2019

**Author:** Eurostat

**Link:** [CLICK HERE](#)

**Key words:** economic indicator, goods and services, international trade, trade statistics.

**ISBN/ISSN:** 978-92-76-00007-5 / 2529-3222

## WORK-LIFE BALANCE



### PARENTAL AND PATERNITY LEAVE: UPTAKE BY FATHERS

**SUMMARY:** In the context of the ongoing negotiations at EU level on the adoption of a work-life balance package for families and carers, the European Commission requested Eurofound to provide an update of the available data on paternity and parental leave for parents.

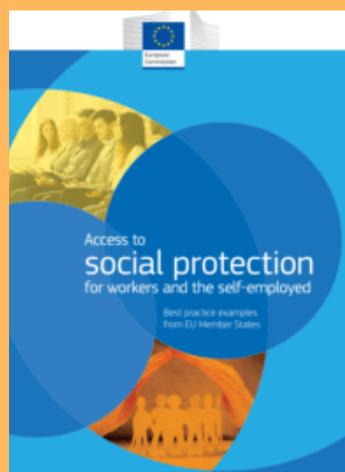
**Publication date:** 14-02-2019

**Author:** Eurofound

**Link:** [CLICK HERE](#)

**Key words:** working condition, balance between private life and working life, social statistics, family, child custody, research report, parental leave for men, license by legal guardian, data collection, parental responsibility

**ISBN/ISSN:** 978-92-897-1768-7



### ACCESS TO SOCIAL PROTECTION FOR WORKERS AND THE SELF-EMPLOYED

**SUMMARY:** This compilation of examples of best practices shows how the Member States of the European Union are improving access to social protection for workers and self-employed citizens.

**Publication date:** 25-01-2019

**Author:** Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (European Commission)

**Link:** [CLICK HERE](#)

**Key words:** employment policy, EU Member State, European social policy, labor market, self-employed worker, social rights, social security, social situation, tax incentive, employment contract, worker (EU)

**ISBN/ISSN:** 978-92-79-97230-0



### WORK-LIFE BALANCE FOR ALL: WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

**SUMMARY:** Less than two thirds of women aged 20 to 64 in the EU have jobs, compared to more than three-quarters of men. Women also spend an average of 22 hours per week in work and unpaid care, compared to less than 10 hours for men, and are about four times more likely than men to work part-time. These differences mean that the average wage gap by gender in the EU currently stands at around 16%, while the gender pension gap reaches 40%.

**Publication date:** 03-12-2018

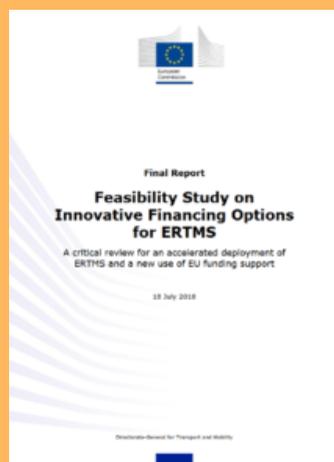
**Author:** Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (European Commission)

**Link:** [CLICK HERE](#)

**Key words:** organization of working time, equal treatment, flexible working hours, gender equality, labor flexibility, part-time employment, unpaid work, work-life balance, working conditions

**ISBN/ISSN:** 978-92-79-96896-9

## FINANCIAL AFFAIRS



### FEASIBILITY STUDY ON INNOVATIVE FINANCING OPTIONS FOR ERTMS

**SUMMARY:** This study provides a feasibility assessment and perspectives on innovative financing options for ERTMS at the time of an EU funding support strategy that evolves from traditional public subsidy schemes to more advanced financial instruments.

**Publication date:** 18-02-2019

**Author:** General Directorate of Mobility and Transport (European Commission)

**Link:** [CLICK HERE](#)

**Key words:** EU financing, feasibility study, financing method, Germany, harmonization of standards, Italy, rail network, rail transport, railway industry, signaling device

**ISBN/ISSN:** 978-92-79-99820-1



### DEBT SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENTS: THE STATE OF THE ART : BANKING UNION SCRUTINY

**SUMMARY:** The approach to debt sustainability assessments (DSA) has evolved substantially after the global crisis, with the aim of improving risk detection. This report explains why DSAs should include official support potentially available

**Publication date:** 06-02-2019

**Author:** Directorate General for Internal Policies of the Union (European Parliament)

**Link:** [CLICK HERE](#)

**Key words:** debt, economic cycle, economic indicator, euro zone, financial risk, macroeconomics, currency crisis, research report

**ISBN/ISSN:** 978-92-846-4280-9



### ANATOMY OF A SOVEREIGN DEBT CRISIS ANATOMY OF A SOVEREIGN DEBT CRISIS: STUDY

**SUMMARY:** The publication presents a single and complete data set of 19 daily macroeconomic indicators in real time for 11 countries in the euro zone, for the period from 5/11/2009 to 4/25/2013. We use this new data set to characterize the time-varying dependency of the cross-section of sovereign credit default swaps (CDS) spreads on country-specific macro indicators.

**Publication date:** 20-02-2019

**Author:** Joint Research Center (European Commission)

**Link:** [CLICK HERE](#)

**Key words:** debt, economic cycle, economic indicator, euro zone, financial risk, macroeconomics, currency crisis, research report

**ISBN/ISSN :** 978-92-76-00120-1 / 2467-2203

## EURO ZONE



### A FISCAL CAPACITY FOR THE EUROZONE: CONSTITUTIONAL PERSPECTIVES IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS

**SUMMARY:** This in-depth analysis considers from a constitutional perspective the introduction of a fiscal capacity for the Eurozone. After explaining the constitutional asymmetry of the Economic and Monetary Union and studying several recent proposals to establish a fiscal capacity.

**Publication date:** 19-02-2019

**Author:** Directorate General for Internal Policies of the Union (European Parliament)

**Link:** [CLICK HERE](#) 

**Key words:** budget control, economic and monetary union, economic governance (EU), economic policy, euro area, financial stability, fiscal policy, monetary policy

**ISBN/ISSN :** 978-92-846-4630-2



### TWENTY YEARS OF THE EURO: MONETARY DIALOGUE JANUARY 2019

**SUMMARY:** The first 20 years of the euro were very different from what had been anticipated. Deflation, instead of inflation, became a problem. The financial markets, which had been neglected, became a major source of instability. However, the euro area proved to be resilient and support for the euro is at record highs.

**Publication date:** 18-02-2019

**Author:** Centre for European Policy Studies

**Link:** [CLICK HERE](#) 

**Key words:** Economy, finance, Euro, single currency.



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY? THE EURO AT 20 : MONETARY DIALOGUE JANUARY 2019

**SUMMARY:** We analyze the first twenty years of the euro, both from an economic and institutional perspective. We find that, in particular, during the period following the financial crisis, the convergence measured by various indicators has not improved.

**Publication date:** 31-01-2019

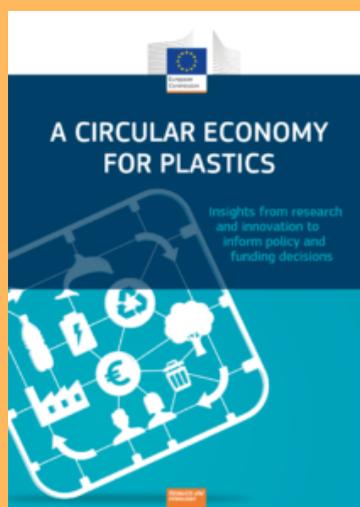
**Author:** Directorate General for Internal Policies of the Union (European Parliament)

**Link:** [CLICK HERE](#) 

**Key words:** Economic and monetary union, economic policy, EU banking union, euro, euro zone, European Central Bank, European stability mechanism, financial stability, monetary policy

**ISBN/ISSN :** 978-92-846-4512-1

## CIRCULAR ECONOMY



### A CIRCULAR ECONOMY FOR PLASTICS

**SUMMARY:** The current plastic system requires a fundamental change in which research and innovation, enabled and reinforced by policy formulation, play a crucial role. Advancing towards a circular economy, we can take advantage of the benefits of plastics, while achieving better economic, environmental and social results.

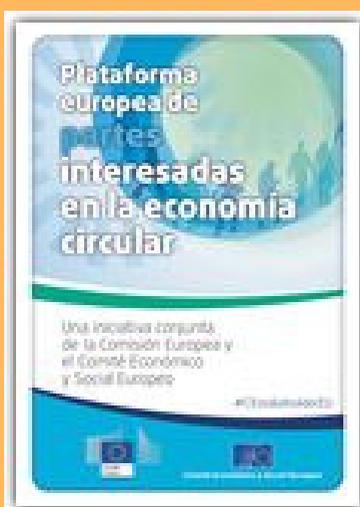
**Publication date:** 27-02-2019

**Author:** Directorate General for Research and Innovation (European Commission)

**Link:** [CLICK HERE](#)

**Key words:** circular economy, environmental impact, environmental protection, financing, health risk, innovation, packaging, plastics, pollution control measures, report, research and development, sustainable development, waste management, waste recycling

**ISBN/ISSN :** 978-92-79-98429-7



### EUROPEAN PLATFORM OF INTERESTED PARTIES IN THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY: A JOINT INITIATIVE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION AND ECOSOC

**SUMMARY:** The transition from a linear to a circular economic model is an essential contribution to the EU's efforts to develop a sustainable, low-carbon, resource-efficient, resilient and competitive economy. To accelerate the transition, the European Commission included in its 2015 Action Plan for the Circular Economy, actions to discuss with stakeholders through existing forums and support the exchange of good practices.

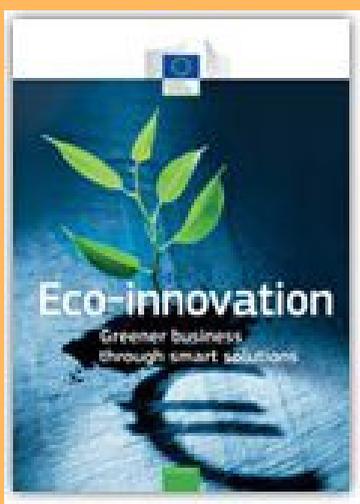
**Publication date:** 18-02-2019

**Author:** European Economic and Social Committee

**Link:** [CLICK HERE](#)

**Key words:** Circular economy, competitiveness, environmental protection, information exchange, website, sustainable development

**ISBN/ISSN :** 978-92-830-4252-5



### ECO-INNOVATION: GREENER BUSINESS THROUGH SMART SOLUTIONS

**SUMMARY:** Eco-innovation is important not only for companies in the green niche, but also to help the European economy in general become more competitive and resilient. The support of the eco-innovation initiative is helping local innovation to win a market in Europe. It is especially good to see the high level of participation of SMEs.

**Publication date:** 06-05-2013

**Author:** General Directorate for Enterprise and Industry (European Commission)

**Link:** [CLICK HERE](#)

**Key words:** Business activity, clean technology, environmental protection, innovation, recycled product, recycling technology

**ISBN/ISSN :** 978-92-9202-101-6

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