



# EUROPEAN SEMESTER 2020

The country reports assess Member States' progress in implementing country-specific recommendations (CSRs), the tailored policy guidance the Commission provides each year. The following provides a selective overview of Member States' progress with the implementation of country-specific recommendations.

 **Belgium** has made limited progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

	Focus investment-related economic policy on sustainable transport	SOME PROGRESS
	Address skills mismatches	LIMITED PROGRESS
	Pursuing the envisaged pension reforms	LIMITED PROGRESS
	Coordinate fiscal policies of all levels of government	NO PROGRESS

 **Bulgaria** has made some progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

	Upgrade the state-owned enterprise corporate governance by adopting and putting into effect the forthcoming legislation	SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS
	Ensure the stability of the banking sector by reinforcing supervision	SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS
	Ensure effective supervision and the enforcement of the anti-money laundering framework	LIMITED PROGRESS
	Focus investment-related economic policy on research and innovation	LIMITED PROGRESS

 **Czechia** has made limited progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

	Supporting more quality-based competition in public procurement	SOME PROGRESS
	Removing the barriers hampering the development of a fully functioning innovation ecosystem	SOME PROGRESS
	Adopting pending anti-corruption measures	LIMITED PROGRESS
	Improving long-term fiscal sustainability of the pension and health-care systems	NO PROGRESS

 **Denmark** has made some progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

	New legislative measures on the anti-money laundering framework	<b>SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS</b>
	Focus investment-related economic policy on education and skills	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
	Focus investment-related economic policy on sustainable transport to tackle road congestion	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
	Focus investment-related economic policy on research and innovation to broaden the innovation based and include more companies	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS</b>

 **Germany** has made limited progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

	Achieving a sustained upward trend in public and private investment	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
	Strengthening the conditions to support wage growth	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
	Improving investment in sustainable transport, energy networks and affordable housing	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS</b>
	Strengthening competition in business services and regulated professions	<b>NO PROGRESS</b>

 **Estonia** has made some progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

	Address skill shortages and foster innovation by improving the capacity and labour market relevance of the education and training system	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
	Take measures to reduce the gender pay gap, including by improving wage transparency	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
	Ensure effective supervision and the enforcement of the anti-money laundering framework	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS</b>
	Focus investment-related economic policies on sustainable transport and energy infrastructure, including interconnections, on fostering research and innovation, and on resource and energy efficiency, taking into account regional disparities	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS</b>

 **Ireland** has made some progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

	Increase access to affordable and quality childcare	<b>SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS</b>
	Focus investment-related economic policy on low carbon and energy transition, the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
	Continue to address features of the tax system that may facilitate aggressive tax planning, and focus in particular on outbound payments	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS</b>
	Addressing the expected increase in age-related expenditure, by making the healthcare system more cost-effective and by fully implementing pension reform plans	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS</b>

 **Greece** has made some progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

	Focus investment-related economic policy on environmental protection, energy efficiency, as well as on renewable energy, and interconnection projects	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
	Investment-related economic policy on digital technologies	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
	Focus investment-related economic policy on sustainable transport and logistics	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS</b>
	Focus investment-related economic policy on education, skills, and employability	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS</b>

 **Spain** has made limited progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

 Reinforce the capacity of employment and social services	SOME PROGRESS
 Energy efficiency	SOME PROGRESS
 Strengthen the fiscal framework	NO PROGRESS
 Preserve the sustainability of the pension system	NO PROGRESS

 **France** has made some progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

 Implementing the measures to foster the growth of firms	SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS
 Addressing skills shortages and mismatches	SOME PROGRESS
 Fostering integration in the labour market and ensuring equal opportunities	LIMITED PROGRESS
 Achieving expenditure savings and efficiency gains, including by further implementing 'Public Action 2020'	NO PROGRESS

 **Croatia** has made limited progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

 Urban and railway transport	SOME PROGRESS
 Reduce court proceedings and improving electronic communication in courts	SOME PROGRESS
 Harmonise wage-setting frameworks in the public sector	LIMITED PROGRESS
 Enhance the prevention and sanctioning of corruption	LIMITED PROGRESS

 **Italy** has made some progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

 Fight tax evasion, especially in the form of omitted invoicing, including by strengthening the compulsory use of e-payments, including through lower legal thresholds for cash payments	SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS
 Ensure that active labour market and social policies are effectively integrated and reach out notably to young people and vulnerable groups	SOME PROGRESS
 Implement fully past pension reforms to reduce the share of old-age pensions in public spending and create space for other social and growth-enhancing spending	NO PROGRESS
 Address restrictions to competition, particularly in the retail sector and in business services, also through a new annual competition law	NO PROGRESS

 **Cyprus** has made limited progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

 Facilitate the reduction of non-performing loans including by setting up an effective governance structure for the state-owned asset management company	SOME PROGRESS
 Focus investment-related economic policy on energy efficiency and renewable energy	SOME PROGRESS
 Take measures to ensure reliable and swift systems for the issuance and transfer of title deeds and immovable property rights	LIMITED PROGRESS
 Resume the implementation of privatisation projects	NO PROGRESS

 **Latvia** has made some progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

 Ensure effective supervision and the enforcement of the anti-money laundering framework	<b>SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS</b>
 Address social exclusion notably by improving the adequacy of minimum income benefits, minimum old-age pensions and income support for persons with disabilities	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
 Increasing the accessibility, quality and cost-effectiveness of the healthcare system	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
 The provision of affordable housing	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS</b>

 **Lithuania** has made limited progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

 Improve tax compliance	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
 Address income inequality, poverty and social exclusion, including by improving the design of the tax and benefit system	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
 Improve quality and efficiency at all education and training levels, including adult learning	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS</b>
 Stimulate productivity growth by improving the efficiency of public investment	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS</b>

 **Luxembourg** has made limited progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

 Focus economic policy related to investment on fostering digitalisation and innovation	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
 Focus economic policy related to investment on stimulating skills development	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
 Increase the employment rate of older workers by enhancing their employment opportunities and employability	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS</b>
 Improve the long-term sustainability of the pension system, including by further limiting early retirement	<b>NO PROGRESS</b>

 **Hungary** has made limited progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

 Focus investment-related economic policy on transport infrastructure	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
 Continue the labour market integration of the most vulnerable groups, in particular through upskilling	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS</b>
 Improve competition and regulatory predictability in the services sector	<b>NO PROGRESS</b>
 Improve the adequacy of social assistance and unemployment benefits	<b>NO PROGRESS</b>

 **Malta** has made limited progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

 Continue the ongoing progress made on strengthening the anti-money-laundering framework, in particular with regard to enforcements	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
 Focus investment-related economic policy on inclusive education and training	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
 Strengthen the overall governance framework, including by continuing efforts to detect and prosecute corruption	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS</b>
 Ensure the fiscal sustainability of the healthcare and pension systems, including by restricting early retirement and adjusting the statutory retirement age in view of expected gains in life expectancy	<b>NO PROGRESS</b>

 **Netherlands** has made some progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

	Address transport bottlenecks	SOME PROGRESS
	Ensure that the second pillar of the pension system is more transparent, inter-generationally fairer and more resilient to shocks	SOME PROGRESS
	Tackle bogus self-employment	LIMITED PROGRESS
	Focus investment-related economic policy on research and development	LIMITED PROGRESS

 **Austria** has made some progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

	Shift taxes away from labour to sources less detrimental to inclusive and sustainable growth	SOME PROGRESS
	Ensure the sustainability of the health-care system	SOME PROGRESS
	Simplify and rationalise fiscal relations and responsibilities across layers of government	LIMITED PROGRESS
	Improve labour market outcomes of the low-skilled	NO PROGRESS

 **Poland** has made limited progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

	Strengthening the innovative capacity of the economy, including by supporting research institutions and their closer collaboration with business	SOME PROGRESS
	Take steps to increase labour force participation, including by improving access to childcare and long-term care, and removing obstacles to more permanent types of employment	LIMITED PROGRESS
	Ensure the adequacy of future pension benefits and the sustainability of the pension system by taking measures to increase the effective retirement age and by reforming the preferential pension schemes	NO PROGRESS
	Improve the regulatory environment, in particular by strengthening the role of consultations of social partners and public consultations in the legislative process	NO PROGRESS

 **Portugal** has made limited progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

	Adopt measures to address labour market segmentation	SOME PROGRESS
	Focus investment-related economic policy on low carbon and energy transition and extending energy interconnections, taking into account regional disparities	SOME PROGRESS
	Improve the effectiveness and adequacy of the social safety net	LIMITED PROGRESS
	Develop a roadmap to reduce restrictions in highly regulated professions	NO PROGRESS

 **Romania** has made limited progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

	Safeguard financial stability and the robustness of the banking sector	SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS
	Ensure the long-term viability of the second pillar pension funds	SOME PROGRESS
	Improve skills, including digital, notably by increasing the labour market relevance of vocational education & training and higher education	NO PROGRESS
	Complete the minimum inclusion income reform	NO PROGRESS

 **Slovenia** has made limited progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

	Increase the employability of low-skilled and older workers by improving labour market relevance of education and training, lifelong learning and activation measures, including through better digital literacy	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
	Improve competition, professionalisation and independent oversight in public procurement	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
	Focus investment-related economic policy on low carbon and energy transition	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS</b>
	Adopt and implement reforms in long-term care that ensure quality, accessibility and long-term fiscal sustainability	<b>NO PROGRESS</b>

 **Slovakia** has made some progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

	Focusing investment-related economic policy on energy efficiency	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
	Improving the effectiveness of the justice system, in particular as regards quality and efficiency	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
	Focusing investment-related economic policy on research and innovation and digital infrastructure	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS</b>
	Increasing efforts to detect and prosecute corruption	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS</b>

 **Finland** has made limited progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

	Enhance skills and active inclusion, notably through well-integrated services for the unemployed and the inactive	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
	Strengthening the monitoring of the household debt	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
	Focus investment-related economic policy on research and innovation	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS</b>
	Reducing inactivity and unemployment traps	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS</b>

 **Sweden** has made some progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

	Legislative measures on the anti-money laundering framework	<b>SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS</b>
	Investment-related economic policy on research and innovation	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
	Limiting mortgage interest tax deductibility or increasing recurrent property taxes	<b>NO PROGRESS</b>
	Flexibility in the rental market and revisiting the capital gains tax	<b>NO PROGRESS</b>

 **United Kingdom** has made some progress in addressing the 2019 country-specific recommendations

	Focus investment-related economic policy on supporting research and innovation	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
	Focus investment-related economic policy on boosting house supply	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
	Focus investment-related economic policy on sustainable transport	<b>SOME PROGRESS</b>
	Focus investment-related economic policy on training and improving skills	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS</b>