

France : la BEI et le Département de Seine-et-Marne signent un nouveau contrat de financement pour les collèges



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- Un apport de 140 millions d'euros de la BEI pour 19 établissements du département
- L'application de normes environnementales plus élevées que celles de la réglementation actuelle pour la majorité de ces projets

La Banque européenne d'investissement accorde un prêt de 140 millions d'euros pour l'extension, la rénovation et la construction de 19 établissements du Département de Seine-et-Marne. L'opération comporte un volet environnemental significatif puisque plus de la moitié des projets seront réalisés selon des normes plus ambitieuses que la réglementation thermique actuelle.

Après la signature, en juillet 2015, d'un contrat de financement de 100 millions d'euros, le Département de Seine-et-Marne a décidé de mettre en place un nouveau contrat de financement pluriannuel avec la BEI, dans le cadre de la poursuite de son plan d'investissement pour les collèges.

Le Département de Seine et Marne est le département qui, après l'Essonne, connaît la plus importante croissance démographique en Île-de-France. Les établissements du premier cycle secondaire, dont le Département est en charge, enregistrent ainsi l'arrivée de plus de mille collégiens

supplémentaires par an. Au-delà des capacités additionnelles nécessaires auxquelles répondent l'extension d'établissements existants et la construction de nouveaux collèges, les investissements du Département sont également guidés par les mises aux normes en termes d'accessibilité, le soutien à différents dispositifs pédagogiques à destination des élèves en difficulté, et l'amélioration de l'efficacité énergétique.

Parmi l'ensemble des projets figurant dans le plan du Département, la BEI en a retenu 19 dont le coût total éligible s'élève à 303 millions d'euros. Il s'agit dans le détail de 7 constructions de collèges, de 10 opérations d'extension et de rénovation lourde ou partielle de collèges existants, et de 2 opérations de rénovation d'autres infrastructures culturelles et éducatives existantes.

À la fin de la période de réalisation du projet, plus de 13 000 collégiens, soit plus de 15% de l'effectif scolarisé dans les collèges publics du département bénéficieront d'infrastructures neuves ou rénovées.

*« L'investissement dans l'éducation figure parmi les premières priorités de la Banque européenne d'investissement, car ses retombées sur l'économie et nos sociétés sont inestimables, déclare **Ambroise Fayolle**, Vice-Président de la BEI. Nous sommes très fiers de la confiance que nous accorde le Département de Seine-et-Marne en nous permettant de l'accompagner pour la seconde fois dans la construction et la rénovation de ses équipements éducatifs. »*

Pour **Patrick Septiers**, Président du Département de Seine-et-Marne, « cette politique d'investissement ambitieuse menée par le Département permet d'offrir aux collégiens et aux équipes éducatives un cadre de travail propice à l'épanouissement et à la réussite de chacun. Le Département a fait le choix de mener une politique de sectorisation efficiente et d'investir massivement pour construire de nouveaux collèges dans les secteurs marqués par un afflux démographique important et pour réhabiliter et entretenir les établissements existants. La signature de ce nouveau contrat avec la BEI nous garantit des conditions de financement optimales pour mener à bien nos investissements dans l'éducation. »

À propos du [Département de Seine-et-Marne](#)

Afin d'offrir des conditions d'enseignement de qualité aux plus de 82 000 collégiens de son territoire, le Département de Seine-et-Marne mène une politique éducative volontariste et ambitieuse, attentive aux besoins des élèves et des équipes pédagogique. Mailler le territoire en équipements structurants, mettre en place de nouveaux outils pédagogiques, assurer la sécurité des personnes sont autant de chantiers menés par la collectivité pour favoriser la qualité de vie au sein des 145 collèges seine-et-marnais (128 collèges publics et 17 collèges privés). Dans la continuité de sa politique de construction et de réhabilitation, le Département mène également une politique d'investissement forte pour assurer le renouvellement régulier du mobilier des collèges, pour rénover les infrastructures informatiques ou encore pour assurer la sécurité des collèges.

**Seizure of €14 million worth of
contraband cigarette leads to 13
arrests in Danish-Dutch sting**



The timely exchange of intelligence via Europol between the Danish, Dutch and Polish investigators was essential in the success of the investigation carried in the framework of the European Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats (EMPACT).

A first action took place on 2 March in Denmark which saw illegal factory dismantled in the municipality of Vamdrup. This is the first case of an illegal factory being dismantled in the country. Thirteen individuals of Polish and Ukrainian nationality were arrested and 11 million cigarettes seized, alongside 11 tonnes of raw tobacco and a full production line. Forensic analysis is still ongoing in order to quantify the factory's exact production capacity, which is presumably of several million cigarettes per week.

The value of the seized tobacco products on the illegal market in the United Kingdom is believed to be in the region of €13 million.

The action in Denmark led to another one in the Netherlands that same week. Investigators of the Dutch Fiscal Information and Investigation Service (FIOD) searched the premises of a warehouse in Ospel. Eight pallets of contraband cigarettes stored in maritime containers were seized, worth close to €1 million in the destination market.

The cigarettes produced in Denmark were sent to the Netherlands via lorries and remained there for a while, stored in maritime containers, before being shipped to the United Kingdom.

Europol's Analysis Project SMOKE supported this case by facilitating the exchange of information between the different countries involved and by analysing the operational data to identify the main targets. The investigation is still ongoing to try to find potential links to other European countries.

The following law enforcement authorities took part in this sting:

Denmark: Special Investigation West (Særlig Efterforskning Vest), National Police (Dansk Politi)

The Netherlands: Fiscal Information and Investigation Service (FIOD)

Poland: Border Guard (Straż Graniczna)

[**Press release – EU-wide survey shows Europeans support the Conference on the Future of Europe**](#)



The European Parliament and the European Commission are today releasing the first-ever Eurobarometer survey conducted jointly for the two institutions. The [Special Eurobarometer survey on the Future of Europe](#) was carried out between 22 October and 20 November 2020 in the 27 EU Member States.

The survey, released ahead of the signing of the Joint Declaration on the Conference on the Future of Europe, reveals that the vast majority (92%) across all Member States demand that citizens' voices are 'taken more into account in decisions relating to the future of Europe'.

The Conference on the Future of Europe aims to do precisely that: It will create a new public forum for an open, inclusive, transparent and structured debate with Europeans around the issues that matter to them and affect their everyday lives.

1. The Conference on the Future of Europe

Three-quarters of Europeans consider that the Conference on the Future of Europe will have a positive impact on democracy within the EU: 76% agree that it represents significant progress for democracy within the EU (25% 'totally agree' and 51% 'tend to agree'), with a clear majority supporting this view in every EU Member State.

Respondents thought that people from all walks of life should be actively involved (51%); with 47% saying young people should have an important role; as well as national governments (42%) and academics, experts, intellectuals and scientists (40%).

Just over half of Europeans (51%) would like to get involved themselves, with Irish respondents being the most enthusiastic (81%) followed by Belgians (64%), Luxembourgers (63%) and Slovenians (63%).

2. Citizens' Voice in the EU

While voting in European elections is clearly regarded (by 55% of

respondents) as the most effective way of ensuring voices are heard by decision-makers at EU level, there is very strong support for EU citizens having a greater say in decisions relating to the future of Europe. Of the 92% believing that EU citizens' voices should be taken more into account, 55% 'totally agree', 37% 'tend to agree'. Only 6% disagree with the statement.

3. The Future of Europe

Six in ten Europeans agree that the Coronavirus crisis has made them reflect on the future of the European Union (19% 'totally agree' and 41% 'tend to agree') while 39% disagree with this (23% 'tend to disagree' and 16% 'totally disagree').

Respondents were asked to choose developments they wanted to see for the future of Europe: Having comparable living standards (35%) and stronger solidarity among Member States (30%) are the two developments most cited. Europeans also prioritise the development of a common health policy (25%) and comparable education standards (22%).

4. Assets and challenges

Europeans consider that the EU's respect for democracy, human rights and the rule of law (32%) and its economic, industrial and trading power (30%) are its main assets. The EU's respect for democracy, human rights and the rule of law is ranked as the most important (or joint most important) asset in 14 countries, and this viewpoint is especially prominent in Sweden where 58% see this as a key asset. The EU's economic, industrial and trading power is ranked as the most important (or joint most important) asset in nine countries, led by Finland (45%) and Estonia (44%).

Climate change is clearly regarded as the main global challenge affecting the future of the EU, with 45% of Europeans selecting this as the main challenge. The second and third most mentioned issues, cited by similar proportions of Europeans, are terrorism (38%) and health-related risks (37%). Forced migration and displacement is the fourth most mentioned challenge, by just over a quarter of Europeans (27%).

Background

This Special Eurobarometer survey n° 500 "Future of Europe" (EB94.1) was carried out between 22 October and 20 November 2020 in the 27 EU Member States and was commissioned jointly by the European Commission and the European Parliament. The survey was conducted face-to-face and completed with online interviews where necessary as a result of the pandemic. Some 27,034 interviews were conducted in total.

[Press release – Parliament names two of its buildings after Clara Campoamor and Sophie Scholl](#)



A building located at Rue Montoyer 63 will be named after Clara CAMPOAMOR, a Spanish lawyer and politician, who worked to further women's rights and combat discrimination on the grounds of gender. Her commitment contributed to enshrine women's suffrage in the Spanish Constitution of 1931.

A building located at Rue Wiertz 30-50 will be named after Sophie SCHOLL, a German student and anti-Nazi political activist. She was a member of the White Rose group, a pacifist resistance group led by students at the University of Munich. She was detained for treason when she was found distributing anti-Nazi leaflets, sentenced to death and executed by guillotine.

The Bureau, comprising the President, Vice-Presidents and Quaestors, also decided to rename meeting room SPINELLI 1G2 after the late Manolis GLEZOS, a Greek politician and Member of the European Parliament from 1 July 2014 to 8 July 2015 and from 24 July 1984 to 25 January 1985. He was a major figure in the national resistance against fascism.

[Press release – EP Today](#)



Live coverage of debates and votes can be found on [Parliament's webstreaming](#) and on [EbS+](#).

For detailed information on the session, please also see our [newsletter](#).

All information regarding plenary, including speakers' lists, can be found [here](#).

InvestEU programme for strategic and innovative investments

At 9.00, Parliament will debate with Commissioner Gentiloni the new InvestEU programme, which is expected to mobilise €400 billion in public and private investments, guarantee simplified access to financing and provide help for SMEs that have been negatively affected by the economic crisis caused by the pandemic. The vote will take place at 13.00, with results announced at 19.00.

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EU4Health programme

From around 10.00, MEPs will debate the €5.1 billion EU4Health programme for 2021-2027 with Commissioner Kyriakides. The programme aims to make EU health systems more resilient, address cross-border health threats, and make medicines and medical devices more available, accessible and affordable. The vote will take place at 13.00, with results announced at 19.00.

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In brief:

Situation in Georgia/Syrian conflict. From around 16.30, MEPs will discuss

the current political situation in Georgia and the conflict in Syria and its aftermath with EU Foreign Policy Chief Josep Borrell. A resolution on Syria will be put to the vote on Thursday.

New EU Fisheries rules. At 15.00, MEPs will debate with Commissioner Sinkevičius their position for upcoming negotiations on controversial rules to monitor the respect for fishing quota in the EU for the next fifteen years. The vote will take place on Wednesday.

European Ombudsman's activities in 2019. From around 15.45, Parliament will discuss the annual report on the body's main activities throughout 2019 with European Ombudsman Emily O'Reilly. The vote will take place on Wednesday, with results announced on Thursday morning.

Votes

The first voting session takes place from 13.00 to 14.15. MEPs will vote on amendments to different reports and cast their final votes on

- the InvestEU Programme and
- the EU4Health Programme.

Results will be announced at 19.00.

During the second voting session from 19.55 to 21.10, MEPs will vote on amendments to Fisheries Control and the Ombudsman's activities in 2019. Results will be announced on Wednesday at 9.00.