

[Press release – MEPs approve €6.2 billion to tackle crisis and speed up vaccine deployment](#)



Cohesion funds will be topped up with €5.1 billion to ensure that requests for reimbursements from member states for actions taken under the [Coronavirus Response Investment Initiative Plus](#) (CRII+) can be covered. The CRII+ was created to relax the cohesion spending rules to increase flexibility, whereas the [CRII](#) redirected unspent money from the EU budget to tackling the COVID-19 crisis.

The vaccine-related €1.1 billion will increase payments for the [Emergency Support Instrument](#) (ESI), a significant part of which is used to secure the production of vaccines in the EU and sufficient supplies for its member states. This is part of the European Commission's COVID-19 [vaccine strategy](#).

Parliament approved the proposal with 643 votes in favour, 29 against and 14 abstentions.

Background

Recognising the importance and urgency of the proposal that was tabled on 28 August, Parliament treated it under the urgent procedure ([Rule 163 of the Rules of Procedure](#)) without a report from the Committee on Budgets.