[FRA's LGBTI survey dataset now available](#)

The dataset contains a wealth of information from nearly 140,000 respondents. For the first time, it includes experiences of intersex people and young LGBTI people aged 15 to 17.

The dataset provides invaluable information on how the situation developed since FRA's [LGBT survey](#) from 2012.

The survey asked respondents about a wide range of issues. These include experiences of discrimination, harassment or violence; rights awareness; openness about LGBTI identity; experiences at work and in education; life satisfaction; same-sex partnership and parenting; socio-economic and living conditions; health and wellbeing; and housing issues.

The dataset covers 27 EU Member States, plus the United Kingdom, and the candidate countries of North Macedonia and Serbia.

Researchers can carry out their own detailed analysis of the survey results. Academia can also use the data for teaching.

Interested researchers can request access to the dataset. The access is subject to agreement by FRA.

The dataset is stored with the [GESIS Data Archive](#), a certified trusted digital repository.

The GESIS Data Archive contains a description of the dataset and accompanying documents.

The [Technical Report](#) that accompanies the survey provides detailed information on how FRA collected the data. The survey [questionnaire](#) is also available online.

The agency's [own analysis of the survey data](#) and [country data](#) are also available on the FRA website.

FRA's [own data explorer](#) also provides access to the data, broken down by target group.

For more information, please contact [statistics&surveys@fra.europa.eu.](#)

[Press release – EU4Health: MEPs reach deal with Council on 2021-2027 EU health programme](#)

On Monday evening, Parliament negotiators agreed on a deal with member states to significantly step up the EU's action in the health sector through a dedicated 5.1 billion EUR "[EU4Health Programme](#)" as part of the [EU's recently agreed long-term budget](#).

The new programme will support actions in areas where the EU's contribution will clearly be valuable, invest in health promotion and disease prevention measures and prepare European health systems to face future health threats.

Addressing cross-border health threats

Supporting member states in developing quality healthcare standards at national level will be one of the programme's specific objectives. By making health systems more resilient, EU4Health will prepare the EU more thoroughly for major cross-border health threats. This should enable the EU to face not only future epidemics, but also long-term challenges such as an ageing population and health inequalities.

The new European Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority will be created to support a better EU-level response to cross-border health threats. It will also be eligible for funding through EU4Health.

As a well-informed public is vital in preventing and responding to diseases, the programme also supports communication activities to promote disease prevention and a healthy lifestyle and to counter misinformation.

Better availability of affordable medicines and medical devices

The COVID-19 crisis has highlighted many weaknesses in national health systems including their dependence on non-EU countries to supply medicines, medical devices as well as personal protective equipment. The programme will therefore support actions, which foster the production, procurement and management of such crisis-relevant products in the EU in order to make them more available and affordable. Actions to develop medicinal products and medical devices that are less harmful for the environment are also eligible.

Up to 20 % of the total budget shall be reserved for health promotion and disease prevention by addressing health risks such as the harmful use of alcohol and tobacco. Digitalising healthcare, including by supporting the creation of a European health data space, is also part of the deal.

Supporting actions to promote access to quality healthcare, including access to sexual and reproductive healthcare and the EU's fight against cancer is also a priority. In addition, it will be possible to support global health initiatives e.g. actions proposed by the WHO.

Quote

After the deal, Parliament's rapporteur [Cristian-Silviu Buşoi](#) (EPP, RO) said: "The COVID-19 crisis has exposed the need for well-defined and adequately-financed health instruments. We also need to boost innovation and invest more in health in general. It was crucial to increase funding for the EU4Health Programme from €1.7 billion to €5.1 billion in order to be able to deal with future pandemics and health threats, and to make our health systems more resilient. I am also happy that this deal will contribute to the establishment of a reserve of health crisis relevant products, such as essential medicines, vaccines and medical devices."

Next steps

The provisional deal still needs to be approved by Parliament as a whole as well as Council.

Background

The Commission has put forward a new stand-alone [EU4Health Programme](#) for 2021-2027 as part of the Recovery Plan. The Health Programme was previously under the initial EU long-term budget 2021-2027 as one element of the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+).

[Press release – Opening – December plenary session](#)

Symbolically opening the December part-session in Strasbourg, the official seat of the European Parliament, President Sassoli expressed his solidarity with the citizens of Strasbourg and the French authorities and committed to holding the Parliament's plenary sessions in the Strasbourg hemicycle again in the near future.

Former French president Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, who passed away on 2 December, was also an MEP and "a passionate European", said the president. The Parliament will hold a special ceremony in his honour in Strasbourg, on 2 February 2021 which will be attended by President Macron and other heads of state or government.

President Sassoli expressed his condolences to the victims of the terrorist attack on the City of Strasbourg on 11 December 2018, as well as to their families and their friends.

Outgoing MEPs

József Szájer (EPP, Hungary) as of 2 January 2021.

Changes to the agenda

The following proposed act is deemed adopted:

  • *Framework for the recovery and resolution of central counterparties.*

Tuesday

The following legislative files are added for adoption under Rule 63 (urgency procedure). Final votes are scheduled for Friday.

- *Common rules ensuring basic road freight and road passenger connectivity following the end of the transition period mentioned in the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union,*
- *Common rules ensuring basic air connectivity following the end of the transition period mentioned in the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union,*
- *Certain aspects of aviation safety with regard to the end of the transition period mentioned in the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union, and*
- *Fishing authorisations for Union fishing vessels in United Kingdom waters and fishing operations of United Kingdom fishing vessels in Union waters.*

Friday

The first voting session will be open from 09.30 to 10.45, with results announced at 13.00.

The second voting session will be open from 13.30 to 14.45, with results announced at 17.00.

The information concerning the distribution of votes is available on the website of the European Parliament under the section "[Priority information".](#)

The changes to the agenda with timing of votes can be found [here](#).

Requests by committees to start negotiations with Council and Commission

Decisions by committees to enter into inter-institutional negotiations (Rule 71) are published [on the plenary website](#).

If no request for a vote in Parliament on the decision to enter into negotiations is made by Tuesday 12.00 midnight, the committees may start negotiations.

Information on the extraordinary remote participation procedure is available [here](#).

[Press release – Digital Europe](#)

programme: MEPs strike deal with Council

The programme will fund the increase in the capacity of European supercomputing and data processing (€2.2billion), and make supercomputing more accessible and user-friendly in public health especially in health, the environment, security and industry, and in particular for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

It will strengthen and support artificial intelligence testing and experimentation in health and mobility sectors, and encourage member states to cooperate in this area, with the aim of setting up a European data space. Businesses and public administrations will also be able to use artificial intelligence more (€2 billion).

€1.6 billion are also dedicated to cybersecurity, to strengthen coordination between member states, boost Europe's capabilities and support the deployment of cyber-security technology, infrastructure and competence across the economy, through initiatives such as the EU [cybersecurity competence centre and network](). The programme will also help support the existing workforce to train in order to have the skills needed.

Quote

[Valter Flego]() (RE, HR), Rapporteur for the Digital Europe Programme said: "I am convinced that the deal we have sealed on the Digital Europe Programme (DEP) will serve to achieve one of the main EU priorities for the upcoming decade – assure a new generation of digital technologies. Although the Programme was not topped up in the final MFF agreement, it remains the most important tool to reach our goal of asserting Europe's digital sovereignty. With DEP as one of the EU's flagship programmes, Europe will be ready to speed up its digital transformation and become a global leader in the digital field."

Next steps

The informal agreement will be confirmed in a forthcoming meeting of the Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) committee.

Background

[The Digital Europe Programme](#) aims to build the EU's strategic digital capacity and deploy digital technologies more widely, so that they can be used by Europe's citizens, businesses and public administrations. More investments will be made in supercomputing, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, advanced digital skills, and ensure a wide use of digital capacity across the economy and society. Its goal is to boost Europe's competitiveness and the green transition towards [climate neutrality by 2050](#) as well as ensure technological sovereignty.

[Declaration by the High Representative on behalf of the European Union on the alignment of certain countries concerning restrictive measures against Syria](#)

On 6 November 2020, the Council adopted Decision (CFSP) 2020/1651[1] implementing Council Decision 2013/255/CFSP.

The Council added eight persons to the list of natural and legal persons, entities or bodies subject to restrictive measures in Annex I to Decision 2013/255/CFSP.

The Candidate Countries the Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania[2], and the EFTA countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia align themselves with this Council Decision.

They will ensure that their national policies conform to this Council Decision.

The European Union takes note of this commitment and welcomes it.

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[1] Published on 09.11.2020 in the Official Journal of the European Union no

[2] The Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.