## 'What's up Brand? Corporate image design' Conference

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'What's up Brand? Corporate image design' Conference



On 29-30 June 2020, the Patent Office of the Republic of Poland (<u>UPRP</u>) is hosting the online conference 'What's up Brand? Corporate image design'.

A wide range of international experts from the design field will be sharing their views and experiences on how to get noticed with a product design in a rapidly evolving and competitive world, using new technologies to advantage. The conference will also include topics such as the legal protection of brand image rights and non conventional trade marks, and the legal challenges concerning the protection of the creative sectors. Other panels will focus on brand promotion through art, user experience and communication strategies.

All the sessions will be broadcasted live with simultaneous translation into English and Polish. **Participation is free of charge and no registration is necessary**. All practical information and relevant details are available on the <u>conference website</u>.

The conference is co-organised by the EUIPO, the World Intellectual Property Office (WIPO) and the Warsaw Stock Exchange (GPW).

For further information, please visit the conference website.

# New Eurosystem repo facility to provide euro liquidity to non-euro area central banks



### PRESS RELEASE

#### 25 June 2020

- Eurosystem repo facility for central banks (EUREP) introduced as precautionary backstop to address pandemic-related euro liquidity needs outside euro area
- EUREP to allow broad set of central banks to borrow euro against eurodenominated debt issued by euro area central governments and supranational institutions
- New facility to be available until June 2021

In response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis, the Governing Council of the European Central Bank (ECB) decided to set up a new backstop facility, called the Eurosystem repo facility for central banks (EUREP), to provide precautionary euro repo lines to central banks outside the euro area. EUREP addresses possible euro liquidity needs in case of market dysfunction resulting from the COVID-19 shock that might adversely impact the smooth transmission of ECB monetary policy.

Under EUREP, the Eurosystem will provide euro liquidity to a broad set of central banks outside the euro area against adequate collateral, consisting of euro-denominated marketable debt securities issued by euro area central governments and supranational institutions.

EUREP complements the ECB's bilateral swap and repo lines and reflects the

importance of the euro in global financial markets.

EUREP will be available until the end of June 2021.

For media queries, please contact <a>Eva Taylor</a>, tel.: +49 69 1344 7162.

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Eurosystem repo facility for central banks — FAQ

### **Speaking engagements**

Media contacts

## Press release - MEPs approve €585 million to support refugees from Syria



The <u>draft report</u> by <u>Monika Hohlmeier</u> (EPP, DE) recommending the approval of the <u>draft amending budget</u> was adopted on Wednesday with 33 votes to 4 and 3 abstentions.

€485 million are earmarked to fund the continuation of the two main EU humanitarian support actions in Turkey, the <u>Emergency Social Safety Net</u> (ESSN) and the <u>Conditional Cash Transfer for Education</u> (CCTE).

Host communities and refugees (Syrian refugees and Palestinian refugees from Syria) in Jordan and Lebanon are supported with a total of €100 million. This money will be used to fund projects giving access to education, to support livelihoods and for the provision of health, sanitation, water and waste services, as well as social protection.

Detailed information is available in the <u>Commission's proposal</u> and in the Committee's <u>draft report</u>.

### Next steps

The draft report still needs the approval of the full house at an upcoming plenary session.

# Press release - MEPs demand unprecedented support measures for EU firms and workers



Member states need to take radical measures to cushion the employment and social shock caused by the pandemic, says the resolution on the <u>EU Employment Guidelines</u>, drafted by <u>José Gusmão</u> (GUE/NGL, PT) and adopted on Wednesday by the Employment and Social Affairs Committee. The text calls on the Commission to revise the Employment Guidelines to take account of the consequences of the pandemic and better respond to future crises.

Measures proposed by MEPs include wage subsidies, income support, extending unemployment benefit schemes and paid sick leave as well as carers' leave and arrangements to work from home. The fight against youth unemployment,

homelessness and poverty must be prioritised through a reinforced <u>Youth Guarantee</u>, a strong <u>Child Guarantee</u> for tackling child poverty and the <u>Housing First</u> approach, they say.

### Support labour mobility and financial assistance for EU firms

The text asks that only companies that are not registered in tax havens, that respect the applicable collective agreements and that do not pay dividends or bonuses can apply for financial assistance from the <u>SURE</u> mechanism for short-time work, and welcomes a proposal for a European permanent unemployment reinsurance scheme, expected towards the end of 2020. MEPs consider that the length of time that the 'General escape clause' will apply, which gives member states fiscal flexibility during severe economic shocks, has to "reflect the dimension and duration of the COVID-19- crisis".

To create new job opportunities, MEPs propose that member states support fair labour mobility throughout Europe and further strengthen the <a href="ERASMUS+">ERASMUS+</a> mobility programme. Public services should be digitalised more quickly, particularly those linked to the <a href="coordination of social security systems">coordination of social security systems</a>.

The report was adopted with 46 votes in favour, 5 votes against and 3 abstentions.

### **Next Steps**

The full house is expected to vote during the September plenary session on the draft report adopted in committee today.

### **Background**

The Employment Guidelines (<u>Article 148 of the TFEU</u>) present strategic objectives for national employment policies and policy priorities in the fields of employment, education and social inclusion. The Council will adopt the act after consulting the European Parliament. The Guidelines serve as a basis for <u>country-specific recommendations</u> in the different areas concerned.

The European Commission presented this year's revision of the Employment Guidelines in February 2020, before the COVID-19 outbreak, in order to integrate the four dimensions of the <u>Annual Strategy for Sustainable Growth</u> (ASGS) and, in particular, the dimension of environmental sustainability, to reflect the vision of a <u>strong social Europe for just transitions</u> and to take into account the <u>UN Sustainable Development Goals</u> (SDGs).

### <u>Conference on the Future of Europe —</u>

### **Council agrees its position**



Member states want the Conference on the Future of Europe to get citizens involved in a wide-ranging debate on Europe's future in the coming decade and beyond, including in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Meeting at the level of ambassadors today, they agreed the Council's position on the arrangements for the conference, which paves the way for the opening of discussions on this topic with the Commission and the European Parliament.

In its mandate, the Council takes the view that the conference should be launched as soon as the epidemiological conditions allow for it. It should focus on how to develop EU policies over the medium and long term in order to tackle more effectively the challenges facing Europe, including the economic repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic and lessons learned from the crisis.

The Council also stresses the need to involve a wide range of citizens and stakeholders in the process. It suggests building on the citizens' dialogues and consultations which have taken place across Europe and which have fed into the development of the EU's Strategic Agenda for 2019-2024.

Member States want to encourage the active participation of citizens in the Conference on the Future of Europe, which has become all the more relevant following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. We need an open and inclusive debate across Europe about the future priorities of the EU and concrete solutions on how to emerge stronger and more resilient from the current crisis. This broad dialogue with citizens and various other stakeholders will help guide the way ahead, contributing to a joint vision of the direction the EU should take in the next decade and beyond.

Andreja Metelko-Zgombić, Croatian State Secretary for European Affairs

Some of the Council's proposals for the organisation of the conference include focussing discussions around a set of topics, broad enough to provide sufficient scope for all participants to provide input. The conference would also address cross-cutting issues related to the way the EU delivers on its policy objectives.

The effective involvement of citizens and stakeholders should be ensured through debates, including at national and regional level, and through multilingual internet platforms and citizens' panels in member states and at European level. Digital engagement efforts and activities would be of key importance, especially in the event of restrictions related to COVID-19, while physical participation and face-to-face exchanges should remain an essential part of the conference, according to the Council's mandate.

As regards governance, the Council wants to ensure an equal role for the three EU institutions, respect for each institution's prerogatives and the close association of national parliaments. It suggests that the conference could be placed under the authority of an eminent European personality, selected by the three EU institutions, as its independent and single chair.

The Council also considers that the EU framework offers potential to allow challenges to be addressed in an effective manner and notes that the conference does not fall under Article 48 of the Treaty on the European Union, which lays down the procedures for treaty amendments. It takes the view that the outcome of the conference should be reflected in a report to the European Council in 2022, to be followed up effectively by the EU institutions in the light of the guidance received from the EU leaders.