

# NEWSLETTER - 2



Dear Members of the EOI,  
now we can start with Newsletters.  
This first newsletter is only a test.  
Please test also to use particularly the  
weblinks. If you have not a direct use,  
please let me know.

Josef Siegele, Secretary General EOI

‘Whatever it takes’ to give EU  
the health competence

Eurogroup's chief pledged on Monday (16 March) to do “whatever it takes” to fight coronavirus and protect the EU economy from another recession. It’s still early, let's get there first, but after the crisis is over, citizens should rightly ask for “whatever it takes” to give the EU the competence of health, which currently lies in the hands of national governments.

EURACTIV has learned that the European Commission has been warning the member states since early February to brace for a coronavirus pandemic. EU capitals knew since the very beginning where the whole situation was heading.

Member states were also aware of the fact that alone, they would never be able to slow down the spread of the virus.

Instead, they opted to close their borders and put restrictions on personal protective equipment exports. In the meantime, many member states did not share with the Commission – when they were explicitly asked - information about the stockpile of masks, as if it were a national security matter.

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The result? We now have a pandemic on our hands and they still haven't fully coordinated their actions.

When Italy implored its EU partners to send masks, no EU member responded. This will definitely haunt Italians for a long time. Time heals all wounds but memories stay.

A message from ESA: Sunlight and Sunbeds – Natural and Artificial UV-Radiation. The European Sunlight Association (ESA) – the umbrella association of European national indoor tanning associations and equipment manufacturers – published a White Book summarizing the current scientific data regarding health benefits of moderate sun exposure.

### The Roundup

Europe's tourism industry is bracing itself for an economic impact that could potentially push several countries into recession, as a result of the ongoing coronavirus crisis on the continent.

Europe's football governing body UEFA decided to delay the Euro 2020 tournament one year, as the coronavirus outbreak forced the organisation's hand after threatening to play havoc with the sporting calendar.

Coronavirus could potentially cause approximately 510,000 deaths in the UK and 2.2 million in the US if left unchecked, according to new findings published by Imperial College London's COVID-19 response team.

The European Court of Auditors (ECA) has launched a probe into the resilience of the bloc's attempts to stifle fake news that can 'cause public harm,' the institution announced.

The European Commission should consider reshaping the current legislative framework on organ donation and transplantation, according to a leading MEP in the field.

On the day that France's President Macron announced sweeping plans to go into a 15-day period of enforced lockdown, concerns also arose as to the potential increase in cases of gender-based domestic violence, following a previous surge in China under similar conditions.

Views are the author's.


Edited by Zoran Radosavljevic

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