



European
Commission

The EU's response to the coronavirus pandemic in the Eastern Partnership

#strongertogether



March 2020
#Coronavirus

As part of its global response to the coronavirus outbreak, the European Commission is mobilising an emergency support package for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine:



€140 million
for immediate needs



**Up to
€700 million**

for the short and medium term to
support the social and economic
recovery of the region

Responding to immediate needs:



**Support to the health sector
(€30 million)**

- Working with the WHO to supply medical devices and personal equipment such as ventilators, laboratory kits, masks, goggles, gowns, and safety suits.
- Training medical and laboratory staff, and raising awareness across the six countries.



**Support for the most vulnerable
groups in society (€11.3 million)**

- Grants of up to €60,000 to civil society organisations to respond to immediate needs, such as supporting local schools with distance learning – already available through the EU's regional "Rapid Response Mechanism".
- Launch of the "Eastern Partnership Solidarity Programme" to target the most affected parts of the populations, with sub-grants to smaller, local organisations.

Limiting the social and economic impact:

Working closely with International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and financing institutions from EU Member States to provide a coordinated European response as **TEAM EUROPE**:

New **€100 million**
support programme to
help **SMEs**, including self-
employed and others to **easily
access credit** and **boost
their businesses** after
the crisis.

€200 million
of existing **credit lines**
and grants to **SMEs** in
local currency through the
EU4Business Initiative.

€500 million
available for the EU's
Neighbourhood through
the EU's major de-risking
instrument, the **European
Fund for Sustainable
Development** (EFSD) to
rapidly provide liquidity
across the region.

? What is the EU already doing for the Eastern Partnership to face the coronavirus emergency?

Armenia

- Over 3000 vulnerable households, with elderly people and people with disabilities and large families in Shirak, Tavush and Lori regions will receive humanitarian aid packages thanks to the support of the European Union.

Azerbaijan

- With EU funds the Ganja Vocational Education and Training school will purchase equipment machinery to produce masks for the Ganja area.



Belarus

- Thanks to EU cross border cooperation projects linking communities in Belarus, Ukraine and Poland, emergency medical services such as ambulances and respirators are available in the hospitals to help doctors fight against the coronavirus pandemic.



Georgia

- A Georgian producer of medical textiles has produced 40,000 medical gowns within a week after he was able to purchase 12 additional sewing machines thanks to a micro-grant provided by the EU.



Republic of Moldova

- EU projects in Moldova are already working to provide protection sets such as gloves and masks for vulnerable people and medical staff, as well as sterilizers for equipment across the country.

Ukraine

- EU supports the building of community resilience through assistance to vulnerable people, transition to online education, fighting disinformation and strengthening cultural diversity and creativity online.

