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Corporate content on communication for outreach networks

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To keep you in the big picture

Interim evaluation of the InvestEU Programme

The Commission presented yesterday [the interim evaluation](#) of **InvestEU**, the EU flagship investment programme designed to **facilitate better access to finance** for companies across Europe **in support of common priorities**. It notably finds that, halfway through its lifetime, InvestEU has already unlocked €218 billion in additional investments, with 90% of the EU guarantee allocated. The Programme consists of three components: the [InvestEU Fund](#), the [InvestEU Portal](#), and the [InvestEU Advisory Hub](#). InvestEU has provided robust support to the EU economy through a broad range of financial and advisory solutions across all main EU policy areas, such as investments in renewable energy production, clean industrial manufacturing and competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises. It has also shown flexibility in response to various crises, addressing emerging policy priorities and investment needs. Launched in 2021, InvestEU unifies 14 formerly independently managed EU financial instruments and advisory initiatives into a single, cohesive programme to give an additional boost to investment, innovation and job creation in Europe. By 2028, it aims to trigger more than €372 billion in additional public and private investment using an EU budget guarantee of €26.2 billion to help finance the green, digital and social transition. This guarantee backs the investments of InvestEU Implementing Partners such as the European Investment Bank Group and other international and national public banks, increasing their risk-bearing capacity.

Commission encourages Member States to implement equality strategies

Last week, the Commission adopted three reports on key strategies aimed at **ending discrimination** and building a [Union of Equality](#): the [EU Anti-racism Action Plan 2020-2025](#), the [EU Roma Strategic Framework 2020-2030](#) and the [LGBTIQ Equality Strategy 2020-2025](#). The reports highlight progress in setting up national anti-racism action plans, strengthened support for Roma communities and a decrease in LGBTIQ discrimination. However, racism and hatred towards the LGBTIQ people have increased. Member States are encouraged to adopt and deliver on national strategies and action plans to foster inclusion, tackle structural discrimination, and increase funding and administrative resources. Furthermore, the reports found that Member States must step up their collection of data, as well as adopt ambitious targets to measure their progress on Roma inclusion, which is still deemed insufficient.

European's attitudes towards energy policies

A [survey](#) published last week shows that European **citizens support the energy policy pursued by the EU in the last five years**. Looking ahead, they express their strong backing for more EU-wide coordination, and even more efforts at EU and national level to make energy prices more affordable, as we pursue the clean energy transition and ensure our energy independence. A large majority of respondents (77%) say the European Union should have a stronger coordination role on energy matters, depending on different circumstances. 79% of people surveyed agree that our climate targets will spur new jobs and attract investments in the clean energy sector. 76% believe our policies will reduce dependence on energy imports, and 69% think they will ensure reduced energy bills for households and businesses. To ensure that these targets are met, 62% said that Europe should diversify its energy sources, including by investing in renewables, and 54% said that we should save energy wherever possible. Follow the [press release](#).

Europeans believe they need more information to prepare for emergencies, a recent Eurobarometer survey shows

The Commission has published the [results](#) of an **opinion survey showing that the majority of EU citizens believe need more information to prepare for disasters and emergencies**. Furthermore, the responses reveal citizens feel mostly exposed to risks linked to the impact of climate change but also security and social risks. At EU level, almost two-third of respondents said that they need more information to prepare for disasters and emergencies. More than one-third of citizens said they have difficulties to find relevant information from public authorities and emergency services. The survey also shows that almost four in ten people do not have the time or financial resources to prepare for disasters or emergencies. EU citizens also confirmed they trust emergency services to handle disaster situations and provide information and alerts. At the same time, they say that better preparation will increase their individual resilience. Regarding the role of communities, the survey reveals that people largely rely on family members and friends to cope with a disaster, even more than on emergency services, NGOs, and local authorities or government agencies. Almost two-thirds of EU citizens state that they have never engaged in voluntary work to support emergency organisations or community-based initiatives to increase disaster resilience, while only 7% of them is currently engaged in the same type of work. Find out [more](#).