

SPRING 2018 REFORM BAROMETER – AUSTRIA

European Semester - Overall assessment of 2017 cycle

	To what extent do you agree with these statements:		Detailed comments
1.	The National Reform Programme submitted by your Government (April 2017) is appropriate.	To a large extent	
2.	The Commission's country specific recommendations for your country are appropriate.	To a large extent	
3.	The Commission assessment of reform implementation the year before is appropriate.	To a large extent	
4.	The Commission assessment of excessive imbalances (in-depth review) is appropriate.	To a large extent	

Assessment of Country Specific recommendations 2017 in detail

		Q1: The recommendation is:	Q2: implementation on effort is:	Detailed comments
CSR 1a	Pursue its fiscal policy in line with the requirements of the preventive arm of the Stability and Growth Pact,	Extremely important	Mixed	Austria is currently in the preventive arm of the Stability and Growth Pact but council is concerned that AT might miss MTO
CSR 1b	which entails achieving its medium-term budgetary objective in 2018, taking into account the allowance linked to unusual events.	Important	Mixed	While the labour market performs better in Austria than in most Member States, challenges remain.
CSR 1c	Ensure the sustainability of the healthcare system and of the pension system.	Extremely important	Mixed	Ensure the sustainability of the healthcare system and of the pension system
CSR 1d	Rationalise and streamline competencies across the various layers of government and align their financing and spending responsibilities.	Extremely important	Mixed	Rationalise and streamline competencies across the various layers of government and align their financing and spending responsibilities.
CSR 2a	Improve labour market outcomes for women through, inter alia, the provision of full-time care services. Improve the educational achievements of disadvantaged young people, in particular those from a migrant background.	Extremely important	Mixed	Improve the educational achievements of disadvantaged young people, in particular those from a migrant background
CSR 2b	Foster investment in the services sector by reducing administrative and regulatory barriers, easing market entry and facilitating company growth.	Extremely important	Mixed	Foster investment in the services sector by reducing administrative and regulatory barriers, easing market entry and facilitating company growth.

Reform Progress in your Member State in 2017

How would you assess reform progress in 2017, for the following broad areas:

Taxation and Public Finances	Mixed
Business environment (regulation/access to markets)	Mixed
Labour market	Mixed
Innovation and skills	Satisfactory
Access to finance and Financial stability	Satisfactory

Reform priorities for 2018

	I. Policy Area	II. Concrete Recommendations	III. Are the proposed recommendations already in the agenda of your Government?
Priority 1	Consolidation of public expenditures		yes
Priority 2	Public sector efficiency		yes
Priority 3	Pension and health care reforms		yes
Priority 4	Quality of fiscal institutions and budgetary framework		yes
Priority 5	Business Environment - Regulatory barriers to entrepreneurship	In the service sector	Not yet clear