

**SPRING 2019 REFORM BAROMETER – AUSTRIA**

**European Semester - Overall assessment of 2018 cycle**

	<b>To what extent do you agree with these statements:</b>		<b>Detailed comments</b>
1.	The National Reform Programme submitted by your Government (March 2018) 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 some extent	
4.	The Commission assessment of excessive imbalances (in-depth review) is appropriate.	To some extent	

**Assessment of Country Specific recommendations 2018 in detail**

		Q1: The recommendation is:	Q2: implementation on effort is:	Detailed comments
CSR 1	Achieve the medium-term budgetary objective in 2019, taking into account the allowance linked to unusual events for which a temporary deviation is granted. Ensure the sustainability of the health and long-term care and the pension systems, including by increasing the statutory retirement age and by restricting early retirement. Make public services more efficient, including through aligning financing and spending responsibilities.	Important	Mixed	Generally budget consolidation on track, but Govt is not inclined to enhance the sustainability of the old age pension system
CSR 2	Reduce the tax wedge, especially for low-income earners, by shifting the tax burden to sources of revenue less detrimental to growth. Improve labour market outcomes of womens. Improve basic skills for disadvantaged young people and people with a migrant background. Support productivity growth by stimulating digitalisation of business and company growth and by reducing regulatory barriers in the service sector.	Important	Mixed	Some efforts have been made during the course of 2018

## Reform Progress in your Member State in 2018

How would you assess reform progress in 2018, for the following broad areas:

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

## Reform priorities for 2019

	I. Policy Area	II. Concrete Recommendations	III. Are the proposed recommendations already in the agenda of your Government?
Priority 1	Tax Reforms	CIT- rate to be reduced to a competitive level	yes
Priority 2	Pension and health care reforms	Sustainability of the old age pension system	no
Priority 3	Public Sector Efficiency		yes
Priority 4	Labour market mismatch and labour mobility		no
Priority 5	Making work-pay: interplay of tax and benefit system		yes