

SPRING 2019 REFORM BAROMETER – MALTA

European Semester - Overall assessment of 2018 cycle

	To what extent do you agree with these statements:		Detailed comments
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.	Yes, absolutely	
3.	The Commission assessment of reform implementation the year before is appropriate.	Yes, absolutely	
4.	The Commission assessment of excessive imbalances (in-depth review) is appropriate.	No reply	

Assessment of Country Specific recommendations 2018 in detail

		Q1: The recommendation is:	Q2: implementation on effort is:	Detailed comments
CSR 1	Strengthen the overall governance framework by enhancing the national supervision of internationally oriented financial businesses licensed in Malta, by ensuring the effective enforcement of the Anti-Money Laundering framework and by continuing to step up the fight against corruption.	Extremely important	Mixed	
CSR 2	Ensure the sustainability of the health care and the pension systems, including by increasing the statutory retirement age and by restricting early retirement.	Important	Mixed	

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)	Mixed
Labour market	Unsatisfactory
Innovation and skills	Unsatisfactory
Access to finance and Financial stability	Mixed

Reform priorities for 2019

	I. Policy Area	II. Concrete Recommendations	III. Are the proposed recommendations already in the agenda of your Government?
Priority 1	Labour market mismatch and labour mobility	Using the National Skills Council to create frequent dialogue between academia and industry for the purposes of skills forecasting and necessary adaptation of education.	National skills Council is established but grossly under-resourced
Priority 2	R&D and Innovation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research and Innovation deserves a dedicated Parliamentary Secretary closely linked to the industry sector instead of other unrelated areas; 2. Promotion of knowledge transfer between industry and academia through knowledge transfer partnerships (KTPs); 3. Assessment and forecasting of skills and human resources required by R&D firms and the subsequent modifications necessary to the education system; 4. Creation of inventive schemes and facilitation of visa application to allow more foreign researchers to conduct research in Malta; 5. Promotion and incentivisation of the concept of 'living labs' in Malta. 	---
Priority 3	Labour supply measures for specific groups (older workers, women...)	<p>Promotion of active ageing through fiscal incentives.</p> <p>Further extensions in child care facilities</p> <p>Tackling young adult NEETs</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>yes</p>
Priority 4	Pension and healthcare reforms	Introduction of schemes with incentives for employers and employees to take up voluntary occupational pensions.	yes
Priority 5	Public sector efficiency	<p>Manpower survey in order to identify areas of over or under employment across all public entities and departments.</p> <p>Fiscal incentives for public servants who shift back to the private sector so as to mitigate the serious labour shortages being faced across the board.</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p>