

**Austria**

**1. Covid-19 Pandemic and National Recovery and Resilience Plans**

<b>Question 1</b>	Based on early indications, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way your country has started implementing the national recovery and resilience plan?	Neutral
<b>Question 2</b>	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the involvement of social partners in the implementation so far of your national recovery and resilience plan?	Neutral
<b>Question 3</b>	How confident are you that the European Commission will enforce strong implementation of the reforms in the national recovery and resilience plans across the EU?	Somewhat confident
<b>Question 4</b>	How do you judge the overall economic policy response in your country over the past 24 months to the COVID-19 recession? (e.g. furlough schemes, tax deferrals, state aid schemes)	Very Good
<b>Question 5</b>	How do you judge the overall economic policy response from the European Union over the past 24 months to the COVID-19 recession? (e.g. SURE, Recovery and Resilience Facility, single market)	Very Good
<b>Question 6</b>	To what extent has the COVID-19 pandemic and recession led to scarring i.e. permanent structural damage to your national economy?	To some extent
<b>Question 7</b>	To what extent has the COVID-19 pandemic and recession led to scarring i.e. permanent structural damage to the EU27 economy?	To some extent
<b>Question 8</b>	More specifically, how much lower do you expect GDP in your country to be in 2025 than would have been the case without the crisis?	GDP in 2025 expected to be _____ % lower than what would have been the case without the pandemic

**2. Assessment of Country Specific recommendations 2020-2021 in detail**

		Q1: The recommendation is:	Q2: implementation on effort is:	Detailed comments
CSR 1	In line with the general escape clause, take all necessary measures to effectively address the pandemic, sustain the economy and support the ensuing recovery. When economic conditions allow, pursue fiscal policies aimed at achieving prudent medium-term fiscal positions and ensuring debt sustainability, while enhancing investment. Improve the resilience of the health system by strengthening public health and primary care.	Extremely important	Satisfactory	
CSR 2	Ensure equal access to education and increased digital learning.	Important	Satisfactory	

		<b>Q1: The recommendation is:</b>	<b>Q2: implementation on effort is:</b>	<b>Detailed comments</b>
<b>CSR 3</b>	Ensure an effective implementation of liquidity and support measures, in particular for small and medium-sized enterprises, and reduce administrative and regulatory burden. Front-load mature public investment projects and promote private investment to foster the economic recovery. Focus investment on the green and digital transition, in particular on innovation, sustainable transport, clean and efficient production and use of energy.	Important	Satisfactory	
<b>CSR 4</b>	Make the tax mix more efficient and more supportive to inclusive and sustainable growth.	Extremely important	Mixed	

**3. Reform Progress in your Member State in 2020 & 2021**

How would you assess reform progress in 2020 & 2021, for the following broad areas:

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

Is there any example of an economic reform, specific to your country that BusinessEurope could highlight in its 2022 Reform Barometer?

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#### 4. Reform priorities for 2022

	I. Policy Area	II. Concrete Recommendations	III. Are the proposed recommendations already in the agenda of your Government?
<b>Priority 1</b>	Tax reforms	implementation of Co2-Tax, PIT and CIT-Rate reduction	Yes
<b>Priority 2</b>	Consolidation of public expenditures	reduction of Public debt-ratio	Yes
<b>Priority 3</b>	Public sector efficiency	better coordination between federal, state and council levels	Yes
<b>Priority 4</b>	Labour market mismatch and labour mobility	higher flexibility of the labour market required	No
<b>Priority 5</b>	Making work-pay: interplay of tax and benefit system		Yes

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