

Finland

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

Question 1	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
Question 2	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the involvement of social partners in the implementation so far of your national recovery and resilience plan?	Satisfied
Question 3	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
Question 4	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)	Fair
Question 5	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)	Fair
Question 6	To what extent has the COVID-19 pandemic and recession led to scarring i.e. permanent structural damage to your national economy?	To a small extent
Question 7	To what extent has the COVID-19 pandemic and recession led to scarring i.e. permanent structural damage to the EU27 economy?	To a small extent
Question 8	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 1 % 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. Address shortages of health workers to strengthen the resilience of the health system and improve access to social and health services.	Important	Mixed	Government's fiscal policy has been appropriate during the pandemic but more efficient measures should be taken in order to achieve fiscal consolidation in medium term and debt sustainability in long term. In the recent months, restrictions because of the COVID situation have been excessive when compared to peer countries. Capacity of medical services and their possibilities to respond to exceptional situations should be assessed after the pandemic. A better cooperation between public and private service providers is essential to ensure a functioning health care even in special circumstances.
CSR 2	Strengthen measures to support employment and bolster active labour market policies.	Extremely important	Unsatisfactory	Finnish government's target for employment rate is very ambitious. Labour market situation has improved in line with the economic recovery but the government's own policy measures have been unsatisfactory. Especially the initial target to balance public finance by employment measures will not be achieved.

		Q1: The recommendation is:	Q2: implementation on effort is:	Detailed comments
CSR 3	Take measures to provide liquidity to the real economy, in particular to small and medium-sized enterprises. 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 clean and efficient production and use of energy, sustainable and efficient infrastructure as well as research and innovation.	Important	Mixed	Finnish government's target for employment rate is ambitious and EK supports fully the (rest missing)
CSR 4	Ensure effective supervision and enforcement of the anti-money laundering framework.	Irrelevant	Mixed	The recommendation seems rather irrelevant when compared to others. Of course a good cooperation between authorities is essential and the situation can be further improved but money laundering doesn't seem to be a major issue in Finland.

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

How would you assess reform progress in 2020 & 2021, 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	---

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

4. Reform priorities for 2022

	I. Policy Area	II. Concrete Recommendations	III. Are the proposed recommendations already in the agenda of your Government?
Priority 1	Making work-pay: interplay of tax and benefit system	---	---
Priority 2	Tax reforms	---	---
Priority 3	R&D and Innovation	---	---
Priority 4	Labour supply measures for specific groups (older workers, women...)	---	---
Priority 5	Consolidation of public expenditures	---	---