

## Ireland

### 1. National Recovery and Resilience Plans

<b>Question 1</b>	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way your country is implementing the national recovery and resilience plan?	Satisfied
<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?	Satisfied
<b>Question 3</b>	How effective do you think the European Commission is being in ensuring strong implementation of the reforms in the national recovery and resilience plans across the EU?	Somewhat confident

## 2. Assessment of Country Specific recommendations 2022 in detail

		Q1: The recommendation is:	Q2: implementation on effort is:	Detailed comments
CSR 1	In 2023, ensure that the growth of nationally-financed current expenditure is in line with an overall neutral policy stance, taking into account continued temporary and targeted support to households and firms most vulnerable to energy price hikes and to people fleeing Ukraine. Stand ready to adjust current spending to the evolving situation. Expand public investment for the green and digital transition and for energy security, including by making use of the RRF, RePowerEU and other EU funds. For the period beyond 2023, pursue a fiscal policy aimed at achieving prudent medium-term fiscal positions. Address the expected increase in age-related pension expenditure by ensuring the fiscal sustainability of the state pension system.	Helpful (but not a priority)	Satisfactory	
CSR 2	Proceed with the implementation of its recovery and resilience plan, in line with the milestones and targets included in the Council Implementing Decision of 8 September 2021. Submit the 2021-2027 cohesion policy programming documents with a view to finalising their negotiations with the Commission and subsequently starting their implementation.	Helpful (but not a priority)	Satisfactory	
CSR 3	Focus efforts on boosting the circular economy. In particular, develop both infrastructure and policies to prevent waste and increase reused and recycled content, and develop a more effective system for the separate collection of recyclable waste, including biodegradable waste. Promote safer and cleaner waste water circuits.	Important	Mixed	

		Q1: The recommendation is:	Q2: implementation on effort is:	Detailed comments
CSR 4	Reduce overall reliance on fossil fuels. Accelerate the deployment of renewable energy, in particular offshore wind, including by introducing reforms to improve the efficiency of the planning and permit system, particularly by reducing the duration of procedures. Upgrade energy infrastructure, including for storage. Ensure the fast implementation of deep building retrofits. Accelerate the electrification of transport, including by installing charging facilities.	Important	Unsatisfactory	

### 3. Reform Progress in your Member State in 2022

How would you assess reform progress in 2022, for the following broad areas:

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

Is there any example of an economic reform, specific to your country that BusinessEurope could highlight in its 2023 Reform Barometer?

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#### 4. Reform priorities for 2023

	I. Policy Area	II. Concrete Recommendations	III. Are the proposed recommendations already in the agenda of your Government?
<b>Priority 1</b>	Public investment	Higher education institutions have played a significant role in the economic and societal transformation of Ireland's economy over the past decades. The announcement of further investment of €307 million in core funding recognises the urgent funding crisis facing the sector and the necessity of investing in the quality and capacity of Ireland's education institutions to protect our international competitiveness offering. Government must begin to deliver on this multi-annual commitment in Budget 2023.	yes
<b>Priority 2</b>	R&D and Innovation	Increase public investment in research and innovation by 20% per annum to achieve €1.25bn by 2025 and to deliver on Ireland's ambition of becoming an international Innovation Leader with strong industry-academia collaboration.	no
<b>Priority 3</b>	Labour market mismatch and labour mobility	Ireland has the lowest offering of profit-sharing and share ownership schemes in Europe according to the 2019 European Company Survey. This is despite their well-understood benefits. Revenue approved share schemes must be offered on the same terms to all workers. This makes them inflexible to companies' reward structures. These schemes must be allowed to be linked to performance. The €12,700 limit on Revenue approved share options schemes should also be increased to €20,000 and indexed to wages having not been indexed since the early 2000s.	no

	I. Policy Area	II. Concrete Recommendations	III. Are the proposed recommendations already in the agenda of your Government?
<b>Priority 4</b>	Business Dynamics - Start-up conditions	We support the OECD recommendation to extend tax support through a form of SARP to new hires for SMEs and start-ups. Many companies have also raised the issue of base salaries being the only qualifying remuneration for the scheme. Often in roles such as sales, in smaller companies, and in start-ups a large proportion of pay can consist of bonuses, benefit-in-kind or share options. The qualifying conditions should be altered to include performance-related pay in a minimum basic salary for SMEs.	no
<b>Priority 5</b>	Wage bargaining and wage-setting policies	Several legislation-driven increases to labour costs are due to be implemented over the coming months and years, including the movement to a living wage, pension auto-enrollment and statutory sick pay. Ibec recommends a coordination process be put in place for the introduction of these additional costs to minimise labour market disruption and smooth cost increases for worst-impacted businesses.	no