

EU solidarity of over 110 million and that is not all

Since the beginning of the pandemic, the European Union has helped Montenegro with €113 million, but it still stands firmly with our country in the fight against COVID-19, the EU Delegation told the RTCG Portal.



The EU Delegation informed the RTCG Portal that the Union has acted quickly and decisively since the beginning of the pandemic, mobilizing a very significant package of non-refundable financial support worth €53 million and €60 million in macro-financial assistance to Montenegro.

"We have donated 100 hospital medical ventilators, 10 modern digital X-ray devices and over two million pieces of personal protective equipment. In addition, the EU and its member states have donated hundreds of thousands of pieces of personal protective equipment through the Civil Protection Mechanism," the Delegation said.

According to them, EU funds will also be used for the construction of two new hospital wings in Podgorica and the renovation of a dozen laboratories.

The Ministry of Health informed us that they have assurances that, in the coming period, the EU will support the implementation of planned activities and innovative programs, which will be carried out at all healthcare levels, in order to fight the coronavirus as efficiently as possible.

Montenegro received first vaccines from the Covax system on March 28 - 24,000 doses of AstraZeneca vaccine.

Vladimír Bilčík Member of the European Parliament

"I would like to recall that the EU granted €53 million to Montenegro for the procurement of urgent medical equipment and for assisting sectors most seriously affected by COVID-19. Further macro-financial assistance of up to €60 million is available to help Montenegro limit the negative socio-economic consequences of the pandemic. EU's solidarity is translated through support to the healthcare system and, in the recent week, in vaccine procurement via the COVAX system. Montenegro will receive a total of 248.800 doses of vaccines via COVAX."

"Montenegro is an EU candidate country, so of course we are concerned with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Montenegro's economy. We in the European Parliament encourage the authorities to make the best use of EU assistance in order to mitigate the impact of the crisis and stand ready to further support Montenegro in the upcoming months."

Professor at the Faculty of Economics Danijela Jacimovic told the RTCG Portal that the coronavirus pandemic significantly affected the European economy, but thanks to the extremely strong and multiple response of economic policy to the crisis, as she states, more devastating economic effects on the EU were prevented.



Danijela Jacimovic

"Still, there has been a significant 7% drop in real GDP in 2020, its biggest decline since World War II, according to a report by the International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook. The same report predicts that 2021 could be a year of recovery with a growth of 4.7% ", Jaćimović says in a statement for the RTCG Portal.

Maja LALIC BURZANOVIC

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