

COVID-19 EU Briefing 31 July 2020

Synopsis

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Transport

- **Euractiv** [reported](#) that the **Spanish Government** have made a €185m investment to boost its aerospace sector and minimise job cuts by Airbus.
- The €185 million investment plan will be financed by the European Union and it will run between 2020 and 2023, the statement added.
- Madrid also agreed to back Airbus in talks to help convince the United States to lift sanctions on the company.

COVID-19 Banking Impact

- The **EBA** has [published](#) its [quarterly Risk Dashboard](#) together with the results of the Risk Assessment Questionnaire (RAQ). The data shows that the impact of COVID-19 was mainly reflected in a contraction of banks’ capital ratios and profitability, the cost of risk increased, whereas non-performing loans (NPL) ratios remained stable.

COVID-19 Scams

- The **European Commission and the Consumer Protection Cooperation Network** (CPC Network) have [published](#) the results of the second high-level screenings on coronavirus scams.

Key points:

- Among 73 checks of major platforms, one-third (23 checks) found a significant number of dubious offers and advertisements.
- Meanwhile, Google has reported blocking or removing over 200 million COVID-19 related ads globally over the past months.
- EBay has reported blocking or removing more than 31 million listings that violated their Covid-19 policies.
- Amazon reported a 95% decrease in the weekly number of new product listings attempting to make coronavirus-related claims as compared to the March average

Member States

Malta

- **Politico** reported Maltese government said it will launch a tender for a “ship aimed at keeping migrants in quarantine on board the vessel” in the future, after the recent arrival on the island of dozens of migrants rescued at sea who tested positive for the coronavirus.

The Netherlands

- Facemasks are to be [made](#) compulsory across busy areas of Amsterdam and Rotterdam from Wednesday August 5th. This week the government made the decision not to enforce nationwide mask wearing requirements but leave it up to local officials.

Belgium

- There has been an [increase](#) from 4 to 10 in Brussels municipalities that have exceeded the alarm threshold for new infections of Covid-19. The threshold is 20 cases per 100,000 inhabitants in a 7-day period.

France

- The French economy [contracted](#) by an unprecedented 13.8% in Q2 2020. INSEE attributed the performance to the shut-down of non-essential activities.

Source: DeHavilland EU