

COVID-19 EU Briefing 09 June 2021

Recovery

COVID-19 Vaccine

- The European Medicines Agency (EMA) does not expect to make a decision on the approval of German biotech group **CureVac's COVID-19 vaccine** before August, an official at Germany's health ministry familiar with the matter told [Reuters](#).
- **Pfizer** has [announced](#) it will begin testing its vaccine in a larger group of children (4,500) under twelve years old. This new study will enrol children at dozens of sites across the US, Finland, Poland and Spain.
- The European Medicines Agency [announced](#) that it has started evaluating an application to extend the use of the **COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna** to include young people aged 12 to 17. EMA will communicate the outcome of its evaluation, which is expected in July unless supplementary information is needed.

2022 Draft Budget

- The European Commission [presented](#) its annual EU budget of €167.8bn for 2022. €118.4bn in grants from NextGenerationEU under the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) to mitigate the economic and social impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

COVID Certificate

- The European Parliament plenary [passed](#) the **new EU digital COVID Certificate Regulations**. The system will apply from 1 July 2021 and be in place for 12 months. The certificate will not be a precondition for free movement and will not be considered a travel document.
- The European Commission is in talks with the US and UK on the recognition of the COVID-19 travel certificate, the European Commissioner for Justice has [announced](#).
- Didier Reynders said on Monday: "We are very advanced at the European level and maybe the same type of certificate in the UK and the US", he said, noting that "the types of proof of vaccination or recovery and the tests still have to be defined".

EU post pandemic plans

- European Council President Charles Michel will call leaders to start thinking beyond COVID. According to a document outlining the "first indications" of what he intends to raise and include in the conclusions of the next ordinary EU summit at the end of the month, obtained by [Politico](#), the European Council "will discuss the initial lessons that can be learned from the pandemic and give orientations for future work in order to further improve the EU's preparedness and response capability."

Member States:

Spain

- Spain's health ministry is in favour of gradually [lifting](#) restrictions for the hotel, restaurant and cafes sector and is considering the reopening of nightlife activities for medium-risk regions for COVID-19.
- Spanish Health Minister Carolina Darias on Tuesday proposed softening the health strategy adopted last week, after opposition from several Spanish regions.

Portugal

- Portugal will [allow](#) vaccinated U.S. tourists into the country. Tourists from the United States wanting to travel to Portugal should have received final doses of one of the vaccines approved by the European Medicines Agency at least 14 days before their trip.

France

- From today French people will be [allowed](#) back into restaurants and bars while foreign travellers with a COVID passport can visit the country. Any event with more than 1,000 people will require a health pass.
- The night-time curfew is now at 23:00.
- Cafés and restaurants can welcome customers indoors at 50% capacity with a maximum of 6 people per table. Terraces can be filled at 100% capacity, also with a maximum of six people per table.
- Capacity at museums and other cultural venues including cinemas and theatres is increased with events of up to 5,000 people allowed.
- All foreign tourists from non-red list countries with health passes can enter the country.

International

- The US Government has moved towards [relaxing](#) COVID travel bans. The White House said on Tuesday that it was establishing policy teams of officials from five different parts of the US government to help decide when and how to allow entry to non-citizens from most of Europe

Source: DeHavillandEU