

## COVID-19 EU Briefing 22 July 2021

### Recovery

#### COVID-19 Vaccine

- Two doses of BioNTech-Pfizer or Oxford-AstraZeneca's COVID-19 vaccine are highly effective against the delta variant, a [study published](#) in the New England Journal of Medicine has found. The BioNTech-Pfizer shots were 88% effective at preventing symptomatic disease, as compared to 93.7% against the alpha variant. Two shots of AstraZeneca vaccine were 67% effective against the delta variant, up from 60% originally reported, and 74.5% effective against the alpha variant.
- The WTO Secretariat [has issued](#) an [indicative list](#) of trade-related bottlenecks and trade-facilitating measures on critical products to combat COVID-19, including inputs used in vaccine manufacturing, vaccine distribution and approval, therapeutics and pharmaceuticals, diagnostics and medical devices.

### Member States

#### France

- People in France [will be required](#) to show proof of their COVID-19 vaccination or negative test before entering cultural venues and tourist sites including the Eiffel Tower, cinemas, museums and sports matches as the country faces surging cases numbers.
- The health pass, is being rolled out at a limited number of locations. It will be extended to a wide array of public venues from the start of August, including long-distance trains, bars, restaurants.

#### Spain

- The Spanish parliament [has approved](#) a government decree that ends the obligation to wear face masks outdoors when distancing is practicable.

#### Portugal

- Portugal aims to vaccinate 570,000 12-17-year-olds between 14 August to 19 September, Prime Minister Antonio Costa [announced](#) on Wednesday.

*Source: DeHavillandEU*