

COVID-19 EU Briefing 08 September 2021

Recovery

Vaccines:

- A Chinese study looking at [mixing](#) COVID-19 vaccines showed that receiving a booster shot of CanSino Biologics' vaccine after one or two doses of Sinovac Biotech's vaccine produced a much stronger antibody response than using the Sinovac shot as a booster.
- AstraZeneca Chief Executive Pascal Soriot [said](#) booster COVID vaccine doses may not be needed for everyone in Britain and rushing into a nationwide rollout of third doses risks piling extra pressure on the NHS.

Member States

European Union

- The European Union [is likely](#) to remove Japan and five other countries from its list of safe travel destinations, meaning visitors or people returning from those countries could face tighter controls such as COVID-19 tests or quarantine.

Belgium

- From 1 October, a pass will be [required](#) for over-16s to enter bars, restaurants and discos, which has much lower vaccination rates than the rest of the country. For entry to hospitals, nursing homes and big events, the rule will apply to over-12s.

Czech Republic

- Czech healthcare workers have [thrown](#) away more than 14,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine in the past month as interest in the vaccine has continued to dwindle with patients preferring the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine.

Finland

- Finland has [launched](#) a hybrid strategy that aims to have all restrictions lifted once 80% of the population is fully vaccinated. Restaurants and bars will still have to close up shop at 11pm and attendance at some sports events remains limited.

Spain

- Spain's healthcare regulator [approved](#) a third dose of COVID-19 vaccines for people with severely compromised immune systems who are likely to have weaker protection from the conventional two-dose inoculation schemes. The booster shot should be administered 28 days after the previous one in some cases, and preferably the same type of vaccine

Sweden

- Sweden will [remove](#) most curbs and limits on public venues such as restaurants, theatres and stadiums on Sept. 29, along with a recommendation to work from home.

Source: DeHavillandEU