



Country Specific Recommendations - Poland

- 1. Submit the medium-term fiscal-structural plan in a timely manner / reducing the general government deficit to 3% of GDP; Improving the efficiency of public spending; Ensuring the adequacy of future pension benefits and the sustainability of the pension system.
- 2. Strengthen administrative capacity to manage the recovery and resilience plan; accelerate investments and maintain momentum in the implementation of reforms.
- 3. Take steps to increase the labour market participation of disadvantaged groups, including by improving the quality of and access to formal home- and community-based long-term care.
- 4. Accelerate the **phasing-out of fossil fuels** in the district **heating sector** / Improve policies related to the **protection and sustainable use of water resources**.



- The Commission's recommendations for Poland are generally seen as **positive**, as they accurately diagnose the **main challenges**.
- There is **not enough information on the consultations carried out**. It is also not easy to identify **where** the recommendations are **published**.

No real feeling of influencing the **final content on the Commission's recommendations for Poland**. The deadlines set for responding within the **consultations are short**, there is an impression that the consultations are only organised as a formality.

➤ NGOs should have greater representation in social dialogue because providing services of general interest (especially in social services) and working conditions in NGOs need improvement;



- The partnership principle model has been proven and should be implemented in many fields (including drafting the recommendations), not only in funds.
- The potential of NGOs is not acknowledged. Because of their non-profit orientation, they often provide a cheaper set of services than companies. This is significant in providing services of general interest. The green transition, just transition and improved competitiveness will not happen without the involvement of NGOs.
- The recommendations are right to mention improving competitiveness. However, market overregulation is currently a problem.
- There are no specific recommendations on how to protect our economy's competitiveness from non-EU countries.
- > Poland needs a horizontal industrial strategy.



- There are financial concerns regarding the recommendations (reducing the general government deficit to 3% of GDP; Improving the efficiency of public spending). In such difficult times, when great spending is needed for things such as defence, energy transition, health (ongoing as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic), and salary budgets are increasing, it is not certain whether meeting the requirements of fiscal consolidation is justified.
- Implementing the recommendations on increasing participation of disadvantaged groups and the issue of access to public services and long-term care requires close cooperation between different ministers and public and private entities, including social economy and adequate job protection.



➤ Negative assessment of the adopted act on the **newly created Fiscal Council** (the solution is a response to EU legislation that obliges EU countries to have independent fiscal institutions). In the opinion of social partners **it limits the role** of the **Social Dialogue Council** in **consulting on the state budget**

The Commission assumes that the reforms are being carried out correctly, without asking for the opinion of the NRRP monitoring committee. There are concerns about the quality of the implemented reforms as they were rushed. The previous administration left behind the problem that there is less time to distribute NRRP funds than there should be.



- The recommendations do not take sufficient account of challenges posed by the increase in poverty, the ageing population and energy poverty. Greater investment in insulation of buildings and development of alternative forms of housing for people at risk of climate poverty is needed.
- > Investments in infrastructure public, private and social one is needed.
- > CSOs articulate scepticism about simply translating cohesion policy into milestones and reforms

Thank you for your attention

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