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The G7 Research Group presents the

2020 G7 USA Virtual Summit Interim Compliance Report

17 March 2020 to 25 February 2021

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“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

G7 summits are a moment for people to judge whether aspirational intent is met by concrete commitments. The G7 Research Group provides a report card on the implementation of G7 and G20 commitments. It is a good moment for the public to interact with leaders and say, you took a leadership position on these issues — a year later, or three years later, what have you accomplished?

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme,
in G7 Canada: The 2018 Charlevoix Summit



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1. Health: Public Health Measures

“We are committed to marshalling the full power of our governments to: Coordinate on necessary public health measures to protect people at risk from COVID-19”

G7 Leaders’ Statement

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+1.00 (100%)	

Background

The G7 leaders first made a statement on health at the 1978 Bonn Summit.¹ The statement was given orally regarding the impact of drugs on health.² At the 1984 London Summit, the Summit Chair Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher delivered an oral statement on health.³ Prime Minister Thatcher’s health statement focused on cancer.⁴

At the 1987 Venice Summit, the G7 leaders made a statement on AIDS.⁵ The statement identifies AIDS as “one of the biggest health problems in the world.”⁶ They identified that “national efforts need to be intensified and more effective by international cooperation and concerted campaigns to prevent AIDS from spreading further.”⁷ The G7 leaders identified public education strategy on the seriousness of the AIDS epidemic as a strategy for combat and prevention.⁸

A decade later, at the 1998 Denver Summit, health came back on the summit agenda.⁹ The focus was on the health of aging populations.¹⁰ The G8 leaders identified increased life expectancy and improved health among

¹ 1978 Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 July 1978. Access Date: 9 February 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1978bonn/communique.html>.

² 1978 Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 July 1978. Access Date: 9 February 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1978bonn/communique.html>.

³ The London Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 1984. Access Date: 9 February 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1984london/communique.html>.

⁴ The London Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 1984. Access Date: 9 February 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1984london/communique.html>.

⁵ Chairman’s Statement on AIDS, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 1987. Access Date: 9 February 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1987venice/aids.html>.

⁶ Chairman’s Statement on AIDS, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 1987. Access Date: 9 February 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1987venice/aids.html>.

⁷ Chairman’s Statement on AIDS, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 1987. Access Date: 9 February 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1987venice/aids.html>.

⁸ Chairman’s Statement on AIDS, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 1987. Access Date: 9 February 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1987venice/aids.html>.

⁹ Communique, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 June 1997. Access Date: 9 February 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1997denver/g8final.htm>.

¹⁰ Communique, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 June 1997. Access Date: 9 February 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1997denver/g8final.htm>.

the elderly as major achievements of the century in health.¹¹ The leaders agreed to promote active aging by strengthening pensions, health and long-term care systems.¹²

At the 1998 Birmingham Summit, the G8 leaders agreed to mutual cooperation on infectious and parasitic diseases, and to support the efforts of the World Health Organization (WHO's in those respective areas.¹³ At the 1999 Koln Summit, the G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to the World Health Organization on infectious and parasitic diseases.¹⁴ In addition, the G8 leaders committed to adding malaria, polio and tuberculosis and drug-resistant forms to their priority national and international efforts on health.¹⁵

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, health was a key issue on the agenda.¹⁶ The G8 leaders agreed to strengthen health delivery systems to reach beyond traditional approaches.¹⁷

At the 2001 Genoa Summit, the G8 leaders affirmed that “strong national health systems will continue to play a key role in the delivery of effective prevention, treatment and care in providing access to essential health services.”¹⁸ The G8 leaders committed to initiatives to promote health, education and good security.¹⁹

At the 2003 G8 Evian Summit, the G8 leaders released “Health: A G8 Action Plan.”²⁰ The action plan had six main pillars: fighting HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria; strengthening health systems; access to medicines; fighting diseases mostly affecting developing countries, eradicating polio, and confronting the threat of severe, acute respiratory syndrome.²¹ The G8 leaders committed to working in partnership with developing countries, the private sector, multilateral organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to assist in achieving these goals.²²

At the 2007 G8 Heiligendamm Summit, the G8 leaders committed to “Improving health systems, fighting HIV/ AIDS, TB and Malaria.”²³ The G8 leaders recognize that “the access to quality health services remains

¹¹ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 June 1997. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1997denver/g8final.htm>.

¹² Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 June 1997. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1997denver/g8final.htm>.

¹³ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>.

¹⁴ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>.

¹⁵ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>.

¹⁶ G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>.

¹⁷ G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>.

¹⁸ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2001. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/finalcommunique.html>.

¹⁹ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2001. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/finalcommunique.html>.

²⁰ Health: A G8 Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2 June 2003. Access Date: 9 February 2021. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/health_en.html.

²¹ Health: A G8 Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2 June 2003. Access Date: 9 February 2021. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/health_en.html.

²² Health: A G8 Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2 June 2003. Access Date: 9 February 2021. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/health_en.html.

²³ Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2007. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heilgendamm/g8-2007-summary.html>.

a critical challenge in many African countries.”²⁴ Finally, the G8 leaders committed the sustainable and equitable financing of health systems.²⁵

At the 2008 G8 Toyako-Hokkaido Summit, the G8 leaders made numerous commitments on health and health related issues.²⁶ The G8 leaders identified that their actions have raised international awareness on HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care.²⁷ The G8 leaders committed to “strengthening health systems including social health protection.”²⁸ The G8 leaders supported African partners commitment to “ensure that by 2015 all children have access to basic health care.”²⁹

At the 2010 G8 Muskoka Summit, the G8 leaders made numerous health commitments aligned with the Millennium Development Goal 5.³⁰ Additionally, the G8 leaders developed a Joint Action Plan to Improve the Health of Women and Children.³¹

At the 2015 G7 Elmau Summit, the G7 leaders made commitments on three main areas of health: Ebola, antimicrobial resistance and neglected tropical diseases.³² The G7 leaders identified “the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being.”³³ On Ebola, the G7 leaders committed to preventing future outbreaks from becoming epidemics by assisting countries to implement the WHO’s International Health Regulations.³⁴ On antimicrobial resistance, the G7 leaders strongly committed to the One Health approach.³⁵ Finally, on neglected tropical diseases, the G7 leaders committed to “the fight against neglected tropical diseases.”³⁶

Health stayed on the forefront of the G7 Agenda at the G7 Ise-Shima Summit.³⁷ The G7 leaders created the “G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health.”³⁸ The Vision committed to four main areas of health: reinforcing

²⁴ Chair’s Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2007. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-summary.html>.

²⁵ Chair’s Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2007. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-summary.html>.

²⁶ G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>.

²⁷ G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>.

²⁸ G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>.

²⁹ G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>.

³⁰ Muskoka Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2010. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>.

³¹ Muskoka Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2010. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>.

³² Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

³³ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

³⁴ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

³⁵ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

³⁶ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

³⁷ G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/health.html>.

³⁸ G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/health.html>.

the global health architecture, attaining universal health coverage with strong health systems, antimicrobial resistance, and research and development innovation.³⁹

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, the G7 leaders committed to “advancing global health security and pursuing policies that advance physical and mental health.”⁴⁰ Additionally, the G7 leaders committed to “strengthening health systems.”⁴¹

On 16 March 2020, the G7 leaders met virtually to discuss the COVID-19 pandemic, and to form a global response.⁴² At the time, they expected to meet again in three months, under the U.S. presidency, at their regularly scheduled summit on 10-12 June 2020, which was later postponed indefinitely. At the Virtual Summit, the G7 leaders “acknowledge[d] that the COVID-19 pandemic is a human tragedy and a global health crisis.”⁴³ The main focus of the G7 response to COVID-19 was to accelerate the response to COVID-19, address the economic impact of the outbreak, and restore and expand growth.⁴⁴

Commitment Features

The G7 leaders committed “to marshalling the full power of our governments to: Coordinate on necessary public health measures to protect people at risk from COVID-19.”⁴⁵ In this commitment, the main target is for the G7 members to “coordinate on necessary public health measures” through domestic and international action.⁴⁶

“Marshalling” is understood as organizing and directing in an effective manner. Therefore, actions must demonstrate a commitment to the aim of encouraging the aforementioned targets. “Full power” is understood as the fullest extent to which governments are capable of implementing a certain process. Therefore, providing funding is understood as the fullest extent to which governments can act because it demonstrates a purposeful commitment to achieving cooperation in the target areas.

“Coordinate” can be understood to mean organizing all different COVID-19 responses by each G7 member to work effectively together. Therefore, action by the G7 member would be to ensure that pandemic responses are coordinated and synchronous to other members, governments, NGOs and international organizations. “Necessary” can be understood to mean essential or needed. “Necessary public health measures” can be understood to mean essential or needed action or measures with regards to public health. Therefore, it can be interpreted that the necessary public health measures are imperative for the response to COVID-19. “At Risk” can be interpreted to be any person who is capable of contracting and falling ill from COVID-19.

For full compliance or a score of +1, a G7 member must take steps to coordinate on necessary public health measures at the national and international level. National action can be allocated money for public health

³⁹ G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/health.html>.

⁴⁰ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>.

⁴¹ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>.

⁴² G7 Leaders’ Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2020usa/covid-200316.html>.

⁴³ G7 Leaders’ Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2020usa/covid-200316.html>.

⁴⁴ G7 Leaders’ Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2020usa/covid-200316.html>.

⁴⁵ G7 Leaders’ Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2020usa/covid-200316.html>.

⁴⁶ G7 Leaders’ Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 9 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2020usa/covid-200316.html>.

entities, allocated personnel in areas directly responding to COVID-19, the creation and launch of a new program for coordinated COVID-19 action. Relaunching an existing program with a new framework specifically for the response to the COVID-19 pandemic would also be an action for compliance. Finally, other domestic action can include legislative changes or policy and judicial enforcement of measures. International action can include international legislation such as sponsoring, signing or ratifying an international treaty. Other international action can be international finance or resource support, or joining, participating in international organization. The last example of international action can be border opening or closures. For any of these actions to count towards compliance, they have to be achieved through a coordinated effort.

If a G7 member takes action in coordinated national action through any of the aforementioned national examples and does not take any action through coordinated international action, the G7 member will be awarded a score of 0, or partial compliance. A score of partial 0 or partial compliance will also be awarded if a G7 member takes action in any of the aforementioned international examples without taking any action through coordinated national action.

If none of the aforementioned criteria is achieved, the G7 member will be awarded a score of -1, or non-compliance.

Scoring Metric

-1	G7 member does not take any steps towards coordinated national action for necessary public health measures or take any steps towards coordinated international action for necessary public health measures.
0	G7 member takes action to EITHER coordinate national action for necessary public health measures OR coordinate international action for necessary public health measures.
+1	G7 member takes steps for BOTH coordinated national action for necessary public health measures AND coordinated international action for necessary public health measures.

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Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to marshal the full power of its government to coordinate necessary public health measures to protect people at risk from COVID-19.

On 21 March 2020, the Canadian Government placed a temporary restriction on all discretionary travel at the Canada-U.S. border.⁴⁷ The Canada-U.S. border closure was extended until 21 March 2021.⁴⁸ The Canadian Government also required that all persons entering Canada must quarantine themselves for 14 days upon arrival.⁴⁹ Non-Canadian citizens displaying symptoms of COVID-19 would not be permitted to enter Canada.⁵⁰

⁴⁷ Travel Restriction to Canada remains in place for September long weekend, Canada Border Services Agency (Ottawa) 31 August 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/border-services-agency/news/2020/08/travel-restrictions-to-canada-remain-in-place-for-september-long-weekend.html>.

⁴⁸ Canada-U.S. border closure to be extended until Mar. 21, Blair says, Global News (Toronto) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://globalnews.ca/news/7652286/canada-us-border-closure-march-extension/>.

⁴⁹ Travel Restriction to Canada remains in place for September long weekend, Canada Border Services Agency (Ottawa) 31 August 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/border-services-agency/news/2020/08/travel-restrictions-to-canada-remain-in-place-for-september-long-weekend.html>.

⁵⁰ Travel Restriction to Canada remains in place for September long weekend, Canada Border Services Agency (Ottawa) 31 August 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/border-services-agency/news/2020/08/travel-restrictions-to-canada-remain-in-place-for-september-long-weekend.html>.

On 31 March 2020, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced the government's partnership with Canadian industries to fight COVID-19.⁵¹ Under Canada's Plan to Mobilize Industry to fight COVID-19, the government would be able to increase its "ability to respond to the outbreak with necessary medical equipment and supplies."⁵² Moreover, the Canadian Government announced that it would invest CAD2 billion to purchase diagnostic tests, ventilators and protective personal equipment, which include masks, face shields, gowns and hand sanitizer.⁵³ The Canadian Government has also entered an agreement with Canadian companies Thornhill Medical, Medicom, and Spartan Bioscience to purchase and increase manufacturing capabilities for necessary medical equipment.⁵⁴

On 20 April 2020, the Canadian Government responded to Quebec's Request for Assistance by sending in the Canadian Armed Force to provide care in the province's long-term care facilities who were struck by COVID-19 outbreaks.⁵⁵

On 31 August 2020, Prime Minister Trudeau announced that the government would procure millions of doses of COVID-19 vaccines from Johnson & Johnson and Novavax in addition to the already established agreements reached with Pfizer and Moderna.⁵⁶

On 23 October 2020, Prime Minister Trudeau announced that the government would invest up to CAD173 million in the Strategic Innovation Fund for a Quebec City-based biotechnology company, Medicago, to further support the government's response to COVID-19.⁵⁷

On 23 December 2020, Bill Blair, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, and Patty Hajdu, Minister of Health, announced that the Canadian Government would provide CAD70 million to the Red Cross for their ongoing COVID-19 response.⁵⁸ The Canadian Government had initially provided the Red Cross with CAD100 million in May 2020.⁵⁹

⁵¹ Prime Minister announces new partnerships with Canadian industries to fight COVID-19, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 31 March 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021.

<https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/03/31/prime-minister-announces-new-partnerships-canadian-industries-fight>.

⁵² Prime Minister announces new partnerships with Canadian industries to fight COVID-19, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 31 March 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/03/31/prime-minister-announces-new-partnerships-canadian-industries-fight>.

⁵³ Prime Minister announces new partnerships with Canadian industries to fight COVID-19, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 31 March 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/03/31/prime-minister-announces-new-partnerships-canadian-industries-fight>.

⁵⁴ Prime Minister announces new partnerships with Canadian industries to fight COVID-19, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 31 March 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/03/31/prime-minister-announces-new-partnerships-canadian-industries-fight>.

⁵⁵ Government of Canada continues federal support to Quebec COVID-19 response through partnership with Canadian Red Cross, Public Safety Canada (Ottawa) 26 June 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2020/06/goc-continues-fed-supt-to-quebec-covid-19-response-through-partnership-with-canadian-red-cross.html>.

⁵⁶ New measures to ensure the supply of future vaccines and therapies against COVID-19, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (Montréal) 31 August 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/08/31/new-measures-ensure-supply-future-vaccines-and-therapies-against>

⁵⁷ Prime Minister announces funding to advance the development of Canadian COVID-19 vaccine technologies, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 23 October 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/10/23/prime-minister-announces-funding-advance-development-canadian-covid>.

⁵⁸ Government of Canada provides \$70 million in additional funding to Red Cross for ongoing COVID-19 response, Public Safety Canada (Ottawa) 23 December 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2020/12/government-of-canada-provides-70-million-in-additional-funding-to-the-red-cross-for-ongoing-covid-19-response.html>.

⁵⁹ Government of Canada provides \$70 million in additional funding to Red Cross for ongoing COVID-19 response, Public Safety Canada (Ottawa) 23 December 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2020/12/government-of-canada-provides-70-million-in-additional-funding-to-the-red-cross-for-ongoing-covid-19-response.html>.

On 22 January 2021, Minister Blair, Minister Hajdu and Minister of Public Services and Procurement Canada Anita Anand said that the Canadian Government would further assist Ontario with its COVID-19 response by providing the province with two federal mobile health units.⁶⁰

On 2 February 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau announced the government's investment in the production of COVID-19 vaccines in Canada.⁶¹

On 25 February 2021, Canada committed USD59 million to the Access to COVID-19 Tool Accelerator with the World Health Organization.⁶²

Canada remains committed to marshal the full power of its government to coordinate on necessary public health measures to protect people at risk from COVID-19.

Thus, Canada has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Ceylan Borgers

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to marshal the full power of its government to coordinate necessary public health measures to protect people at risk from COVID-19.

On 17 March 2020, President Emmanuel Macron announced a 15-day nation-wide lockdown effective to curb the rising COVID-19 cases in the country.⁶³ A number of measures were introduced, including the suspension of the second round of municipal elections, the deployment of 100,000 officers to enforce the lockdown, the deployment of the French army to help transport the ill and the building of a field hospital in the Alsace region.⁶⁴ In addition, Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire announced a EUR45 billion for crisis measures to help companies affected by the pandemic.⁶⁵ This was in addition to the EUR300 billion of bank loans President Macron guaranteed to companies impacted by the pandemic.⁶⁶ Residents were ordered to remain home unless they needed to buy groceries, go to work, exercise or access medical care.⁶⁷ France, along

⁶⁰ Government of Canada provides mobile Health Unites to assist Ontario with COVID-19 response, Public Safety Canada (Ottawa) 22 January 2021. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2021/01/government-of-canada-provides-mobile-health-units-to-assist-ontario-with-covid-19-response.html>

⁶¹ New support to produce COVID-19 vaccines and treatments in Canada, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 2 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/02/02/new-support-produce-covid-19-vaccines-and-treatments-canada>.

⁶² G7 leaders commit US\$ 4.3 billion to finance global equitable access to tests, treatments and vaccines in 2021, World Health Organization (Geneva) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.who.int/news/item/19-02-2021-g7-leaders-commit-us-4.3-billion-to-finance-global-equitable-access-to-tests-treatments-and-vaccines-in-2021>,

⁶³ Macron announces 15-day lockdown in French 'war' on coronavirus, France 24 (Paris) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/20200316-live-france-s-macron-addresses-nation-amid-worsening-coronavirus-outbreak>.

⁶⁴ Macron announces 15-day lockdown in French 'war' on coronavirus, France 24 16 March 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/20200316-live-france-s-macron-addresses-nation-amid-worsening-coronavirus-outbreak>.

⁶⁵ France rolls out initial €45 billion package to help struggling companies, France 24 (Paris) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/20200317-france-rolls-out-initial-%E2%82%AC45-billion-package-to-help-struggling-companies>.

⁶⁶ Ania Nussbaum and William Horobin. France to Guarantee \$335 Billion of Bank Loans, Macron Says, Bloomberg (New York City) 16 March, 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-03-16/france-to-put-all-reforms-on-hold-to-focus-on-virus-macron-says>.

⁶⁷ Macron announces 15-day lockdown in French 'war' on coronavirus, France 24 (Paris) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/20200316-live-france-s-macron-addresses-nation-amid-worsening-coronavirus-outbreak>.

with other European leaders, agreed to close the external European Union border for 30 days to slow the spread but allowed for movement within the EU.⁶⁸

On 23 March 2020, Prime Minister Édouard Philippe announced the new restriction that all French residents and citizens are required to carry a “nouvelle attestation de déplacement dérogatoire,” a certificate justifying their outside presence for essential purposes.⁶⁹ Police would be enforcing this law across the country and anyone found without the notification could be fined anywhere from EUR135 to EUR1,500.⁷⁰

On 25 March 2020, President Macron promised a massive investment plan for public hospitals and the launch of “Operation Resilience” in which the army will be deployed to help with logistics and medical support for the general population.⁷¹

On 27 March 2020, the French Development Agency (AFD) and the National Institute for Health and Medical Research (INSERM) announced their intentions to support health initiatives in Francophone Africa.⁷² The EUR1.5 million initiative, financially supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, seeks to achieve four goals including the training and reinforcement of national public health institutes: training and reinforcing capacities of giving laboratory hospitals; training and reinforcing capacities of infectious disease departments in five university hospitals; and supporting training in social sciences and analysis to aid decision-makers.⁷³ Domestically, Prime Minister Philippe announced an extension of the lockdown until 15 April to help hospitals manage the treatment of patients in hospital.⁷⁴

On 30 March 2020, France dedicated approximately EUR7 billion towards a “solidarity fund” which allowed small companies impacted by COVID-19 to receive payments to offset the negative financial impact of the virus on their business.⁷⁵ Payments, which were exempt from income tax, started at EUR1,500 per entity and

⁶⁸ Silvia Amaro and Dan Mangan. European Union will close external borders for 30 days to slow coronavirus pandemic, CNBC News17 (Englewood Cliffs) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.cnbc.com/2020/03/17/coronavirus-european-union-leaders-agree-to-close-borders.html>.

⁶⁹ Confinement. The new exceptional travel certificate is available, Ouest France 24 (Paris) 23 March 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.ouest-france.fr/sante/virus/coronavirus/confinement-la-nouvelle-attestation-de-deplacement-derogatoire-est-disponible-6790808>.

⁷⁰ Confinement. The new exceptional travel certificate is available, Ouest France 24 (Paris) 23 March 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.ouest-france.fr/sante/virus/coronavirus/confinement-la-nouvelle-attestation-de-deplacement-derogatoire-est-disponible-6790808>.

⁷¹ 20 Macron launches army Operation Resilience to support the fight against coronavirus, France 24 (Paris) 25 March 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/200325-macron-launches-army-operation-resilience-to-support-fight-against-coronavirus>.

⁷² Coronavirus: AFD and INSERM Implement a Support Mechanism of 1.5 million Euros for French-Speaking Africa, French Development Agency (Paris) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. https://www.afd.fr/fr/actualites/coronavirus-afd-et-inserm-mettent-en-oeuvre-un-dispositif-de-soutien-pour-l-afrique-francophone?origin=/fr/actualites?field_region_country_target_id=231.

⁷³ Coronavirus: AFD and INSERM Implement a Support Mechanism of 1.5 million Euros for French-Speaking Africa, French Development Agency (Paris) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 20 February, 2021. https://www.afd.fr/fr/actualites/coronavirus-afd-et-inserm-mettent-en-oeuvre-un-dispositif-de-soutien-pour-l-afrique-francophone?origin=/fr/actualites?field_region_country_target_id=231.

⁷⁴ French PM extends coronavirus lockdown until April 15, France 24 (Paris) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/20200327-french-pm-extends-coronavirus-lockdown-by-two-weeks-until-april-15>.

⁷⁵ Decree n ° 2020-371 of March 30, 2020 relating to the solidarity fund intended for companies particularly affected by the economic, financial and social consequences of the spread of the covid-19 epidemic and the measures taken to limit this spread, Legifrance (Paris) 31 March 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/loda/id/JORFTEXT000041768315/>.

could be increased from EUR2,000 to EUR5,000 if the company could prove significant financial difficulties.⁷⁶

On 13 April 2020, President Macron announced the extension of the nation-wide lockdown from 15 April to 11 May 2020.⁷⁷

On 14 April 2020, President Macron, with other European and African world leaders, co-signed an op-ed in the Financial Times calling for a debt moratorium and to offer both health and economic assistance to help African countries in the wake of the COVID-19 outbreak.⁷⁸

On 15 April 2020, the Paris Club, a coalition of creditor countries including France, announced their intention to temporarily suspend debt service payments for the poorest countries in the world.⁷⁹ This was done as a supportive measure to combat the adverse socio-economic effects of COVID-19 on poorer nations.⁸⁰ On the same day, the French government announced it would increase its rescue package for companies from EUR45 billion to EUR110 billion with eligible aid for smaller companies increasing to as much as EUR5,000.⁸¹

On 16 April 2020, Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister of Foreign Affairs, along with 23 other ministers signed the “Joint Declaration of the Alliance for Multilateralism,” committing their nations to providing resources to support global health organizations such as GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance, and called for other governments, organizations and the private sector to do the same.⁸² These nations are all part of the Alliance for Multilateralism, an alliance founded by both foreign ministers from Germany and France in April 2019.⁸³ The alliance seeks to support and promote the values of the United Nations to increase international cooperation, an aspect they emphasized is essential to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.⁸⁴

⁷⁶ Decree n° 2020-371 of March 30, 2020 relating to the solidarity fund intended for companies particularly affected by the economic, financial and social consequences of the spread of the covid-19 epidemic and the measures taken to limit this spread, Legifrance (Paris) 31 March 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/loda/id/JORFTEXT000041768315/>.

⁷⁷ France's Macron extends coronavirus lockdown until May 11, Reuters (London) 13 April 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-france-idUSKCN21V1UO>.

⁷⁸ Only victory in Africa can end the pandemic everywhere - World leaders call for an urgent debt moratorium and unprecedented health and economic aid packages, European Council (Brussels) 15 April 2020. Access Date: February 21, 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/04/15/only-victory-in-africa-can-end-the-pandemic-everywhere/#:~:text=In%20fact%2C%20only%20a%20global,this%20pandemic%20to%20an%20end.text=For%20Africa's%20part%2C%20governments%2C%20medics,the%20co%2Dordinated%20continental%20response>.

⁷⁹ Debt Suspension Initiative for the Poorest Countries – Addendum (*), Club de Paris/The Paris Club (Paris) 15 April 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://clubdeparis.org/en/communications/press-release/debt-suspension-initiative-for-the-poorest-countries-addendum-15-04>.

⁸⁰ Debt Suspension Initiative for the Poorest Countries – Addendum (*), Club de Paris/The Paris Club (Paris) 15 April 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://clubdeparis.org/en/communications/press-release/debt-suspension-initiative-for-the-poorest-countries-addendum-15-04>.

⁸¹ France boosts Covid-19 economic rescue package to €110 billion, France 24 (Paris) 15 April 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/20200415-france-boosts-covid-19-economic-rescue-package-to-%E2%82%AC110-billion>.

⁸² COVID-19 - Joint Declaration of the Alliance for Multilateralism, Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/multilateralism-a-principle-of-action-for-france/alliance-for-multilateralism/news-about-the-alliance-for-multilateralism/article/covid-19-joint-declaration-of-the-alliance-for-multilateralism-16-apr-2020>.

⁸³ Alliance for Multilateralism, Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 16 November 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/multilateralism-a-principle-of-action-for-france/alliance-for-multilateralism/>.

⁸⁴ COVID-19 - Joint Declaration of the Alliance for Multilateralism, Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/multilateralism-a-principle-of-action-for-france/alliance-for-multilateralism/news-about-the-alliance-for-multilateralism/article/covid-19-joint-declaration-of-the-alliance-for-multilateralism-16-apr-2020>.

On 24 April 2020, President Macron, together with the President of the European Commission, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Director General of the World Health Organization (WHO) launched the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator during an online event.⁸⁵ The ACT-Accelerator is a global collaboration between governments, businesses, philanthropists, scientists, civil society and global health organizations who support the development and distribution of test and vaccines needed to control the COVID-19 disease and restore economic/societal function globally.⁸⁶ There are four main pillars to the initiative: supporting health systems, tests and diagnostic, access to treatments and access to vaccines.⁸⁷ France has pledged EUR510 million towards the initiative.⁸⁸

On 24 April 2020, Secretary of State for the Economy Agnès Pannier-Runacher confirmed that the French government was set to produce EUR25 million washable masks by the end of April and that face mask distribution to French residents would begin on May 4.⁸⁹ This would be in coordination with the local mayors of each city and done in conjunction with the easing of restrictions later in the month.⁹⁰ In coordination with health experts and the case numbers in various regions, the country was split into two “zones” of restrictions; the “red zone” in Paris and north-eastern regions of France and the “green zone” in other regions of the country.⁹¹ Businesses and primary schools were to open in both zones, but cafes restaurants and secondary schools were permitted to open in June in the green zones, while red zones had to wait.⁹² The ban on journeys more than 100 km outside of one’s residence would also end in June.⁹³ Masks were made mandatory on all public transit and shop owners could ask that they be worn in stores.⁹⁴

On 27 April 2020, France announced they would provide a support package of EUR7 billion in collaboration with the Dutch government for the airline Air France, while the Dutch were prepared to offer between EUR2 billion to EUR4 billion in aid for the Air France-KLM Group.⁹⁵ In a joint editorial published in *Le Journal du Dimanche*, French President Emmanuel Macron along with German Chancellor Angela Merkel,

⁸⁵The ACT-A initiative a united and coordinated response to the COVID-19 crisis, l'Élysée du France (Paris) 12 February 2021. Access Date: 20 February 2021. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2021/02/12/initiative-act-a-une-reponse-solidaire-et-coordonnee-a-la-crise-de-la-covid-19>.

⁸⁶ What is the ACT-Accelerator? World Health Organization (WHO). 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. <https://www.who.int/initiatives/act-accelerator/about>.

⁸⁷ The ACT-A initiative: a united and coordinated response to the COVID-19 crisis, l'Élysée du France (Paris) 12 February 2021. Access Date: 20 February 2021. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2021/02/12/initiative-act-a-une-reponse-solidaire-et-coordonnee-a-la-crise-de-la-covid-19>.

⁸⁸ Global health – Participation of Clément Beaune in the first council meeting of the initiative Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A), Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 10 September 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/coming-to-france/coronavirus-advice-for-foreign-nationals-in-france/coronavirus-statements/article/global-health-participation-of-clement-beaune-in-the-first-council-meeting-of>.

⁸⁹ France: Face masks to be distributed from May 4, The Connexion (Monaco) 24 April 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/Face-mask-distribution-for-covid-19-protection-to-start-on-May-4-says-government-minister>.

⁹⁰ France: Face masks to be distributed from May 4, The Connexion (Monaco) 24 April 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/Face-mask-distribution-for-covid-19-protection-to-start-on-May-4-says-government-minister>.

⁹¹ Coronavirus: Paris restrictions to stay as France reopens, BBC News (London) 7 May 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-52579482>.

⁹² Coronavirus: Paris restrictions to stay as France reopens, BBC News (London) 7 May 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-52579482>.

⁹³ Global report: France to ease Covid-19 travel restrictions and open restaurants, The Guardian (London) 28 May 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/may/28/global-report-france-eases-coronavirus-travel-restrictions>.

⁹⁴ Coronavirus: Paris restrictions to stay as France reopens, BBC News (London) 7 May 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-52579482>.

⁹⁵ Air France-KLM to receive up to \$12 billion in state aid to deal with Covid-19 blow out, CNBC News (Englewood Cliffs) 27 April 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.cnbc.com/2020/04/27/coronavirus-air-france-klm-to-receive-up-to-12-billion-in-state-aid.html>.

Norwegian Prime Minister Erna Solberg, Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte, EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and EU Council President Charles Michel launched a call to action to secure EUR7.5 million in funding to help the global pandemic response.⁹⁶

On 2 May 2020, Minister of Health Olivier Veran announced the government's intention to extend the state of emergency in France from 2 May 2020 until 24 July 2020.⁹⁷ The bill, which passed in the parliament and senate, included quarantine plans for persons coming from abroad. All those coming to France, including French citizens were to face a mandatory two-week quarantine when they arrived in the nation.⁹⁸

On 4 May 2020, during an online pledging conference, France contributed EUR500 million towards the EU's Coronavirus Global Response.⁹⁹ The money was to be channelled to global health organizations like GAVI, the Global Fund and Unitaid.¹⁰⁰

On 18 May 2020, the French Council of State, France's top court, ordered the government to reopen places of worship.¹⁰¹ The ban on gatherings in places of worship was introduced by Prime Minister Philippe on 11 May 2020. The court gave eight days for the ban to be lifted from its ruling on the 18 May 2020.¹⁰²

On 2 June 2020, restaurants and museums were allowed to re-open across most of France and the 100 km limit on travel was no longer in place, where France began a coordinated further re-opening.¹⁰³ In Paris, only outdoor dining was allowed.¹⁰⁴ A full reopening of the cafes and restaurants was in place on 15 June 2020 with Paris being moved into the green zone.¹⁰⁵ All schools across the country would be open for in-person learning, with social distancing measures in place.¹⁰⁶ Cinemas also reopened on 22 June 2020 with health measures in place.¹⁰⁷ The "StopCovid" app was all officially approved by parliament and French security

⁹⁶ EXCLUSIVE. Von der Leyen, Michel, Macron, Merkel, Conte, Solberg detail the Global Telethon against Covid. Le Journal du Dimanche (Paris) 1 May 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://www.lejdd.fr/Politique/exclusif-von-der-leyen-michel-macron-merkel-conte-solberg-detaillent-le-telethon-mondial-contre-le-covid-3965772>.

⁹⁷ France to extend coronavirus emergency for two months, Al Jazeera (Doha) 2 May 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/5/2/france-to-extend-coronavirus-emergency-for-two-months>.

⁹⁸ France to extend coronavirus emergency for two months, Al Jazeera (Doha) 2 May 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/5/2/france-to-extend-coronavirus-emergency-for-two-months>.

⁹⁹ Coronavirus: European Union raises more than 7 billion euros for a vaccine during a global telethon. Franceinfo (Paris) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 19 February 2021. https://www.francetvinfo.fr/sante/maladie/coronavirus/coronavirus-l-union-europeenne-leve-plus-de-7-milliards-d-euros-pour-un-vaccin-lors-d-un-telethon-mondial_3948685.html.

¹⁰⁰ The global response: Working together to help the world get better, European Commission (Geneva) 3 May 2020. Access Date: 19 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/AC_20_795

¹⁰¹ Gatherings in places of worships: the Council of State orders the Prime Minister to take less restrictive measures, Council of State (Paris) 18 May 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.conseil-etat.fr/actualites/actualites/rassemblements-dans-les-lieux-de-culte-le-conseil-d-etat-ordonne-au-premier-ministre-de-prendre-des-mesures-moins-contrainnantes>.

¹⁰² Gatherings in places of worships: the Council of State orders the Prime Minister to take less restrictive measures, Council of State (Paris) 18 May 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.conseil-etat.fr/actualites/actualites/rassemblements-dans-les-lieux-de-culte-le-conseil-d-etat-ordonne-au-premier-ministre-de-prendre-des-mesures-moins-contrainnantes>.

¹⁰³ French bars, restaurants and parks to reopen with restrictions from June 2, France 24 (Paris) 28 May 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/20200528-live-french-pm-philippe-unveils-second-phase-in-lifting-of-covid-19-lockdown>.

¹⁰⁴ French bars, restaurants and parks to reopen with restrictions from June 2, France 24 (Paris) 28 May 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/20200528-live-french-pm-philippe-unveils-second-phase-in-lifting-of-covid-19-lockdown>.

¹⁰⁵ France Announces Further Reopening Amid Declining Number Of Coronavirus Cases, NPR (Washington, D.C.) 15 June 2020. Access Date: 22 February, 2021. <https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/06/15/876953360/france-announces-further-reopening-amid-declining-number-of-coronavirus-cases>.

¹⁰⁶ France Announces Further Reopening Amid Declining Number Of Coronavirus Cases, NPR (Washington, D.C.) 15 June 2020. Access Date: 22 February, 2021. <https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/06/15/876953360/france-announces-further-reopening-amid-declining-number-of-coronavirus-cases>.

¹⁰⁷ Cinemas reopen across France after three-month Covid-19 closure, France 24 (Paris) 22 June 2020. Access Date: 22 February, 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/20200622-cinemas-reopen-across-france-after-three-month-covid-19-closure>.

experts and rolled out in France on June 2 2020. The contact-tracing app used Bluetooth to alert app users if they came in contact with someone who has COVID-19, and reported it on their app.¹⁰⁸

On 4 June 2020, during the Global Vaccine Summit in the United Kingdom France announced it was increasing its contribution to Gavi.¹⁰⁹ It pledged EUR350 million in additional contributions.¹¹⁰ EUR250 million was designated funding for Gavi's main programs for 2021-2025, and EUR100 million was allocated towards the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) Advance Market Commitment (AMC), which supports equitable distribution of a vaccine against the current COVID-19 outbreak.¹¹¹ Overall, representatives from 52 countries, including France pledged a total of USD8.8 billion for Gavi.¹¹²

On 8 June 2020, Muriel Pénicaud, Minister of Labour, announced the two-year extension of the “temporary unemployment scheme” which the state paid subsidies to companies (anywhere from 84 to 100 per cent of the costs depending on the scheme) to pay the salaries of those who could not work due to COVID-19.¹¹³ Any remaining costs not subsidized by the state for salaries would be financed by the company.¹¹⁴

On 9 June 2020, the government of France announced a EUR15 billion rescue package for the airline industry.¹¹⁵ In exchange for aid, companies would have to work to invest in more low-emission aircraft.¹¹⁶

On 1 July 2020, France, in coordination with other member states in the EU opened the border to internationals.¹¹⁷ Incoming travellers were asked to voluntarily quarantine for two weeks on arrival.¹¹⁸

On 14 July 2020, Prime Minister Jean Castex agreed to give EUR7.5 billion in raises for healthcare workers, after seven weeks of negotiations between the government and unions.¹¹⁹ This comes to a raise of about EUR183 per month for healthcare workers.¹²⁰

¹⁰⁸ France rolls out Covid-19 tracing app amid privacy debate, France 24 (Paris) 2 June 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/20200602-france-rolls-out-covid-19-tracing-app-amid-privacy-debate>.

¹⁰⁹ Message from President Emmanuel Macron at the World Immunization Summit, l'Élysée du France (Paris) 4 June 2020. Access Date: 19 February 2021. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2020/06/04/message-du-president-emmanuel-macron-lors-du-sommet-mondial-sur-la-vaccination-2020-alliance-du-vaccin-gavi>.

¹¹⁰ Message from President Emmanuel Macron at the World Immunization Summit, l'Élysée du France (Paris) 4 June 2020. Access Date: 19 February 2021. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2020/06/04/message-du-president-emmanuel-macron-lors-du-sommet-mondial-sur-la-vaccination-2020-alliance-du-vaccin-gavi>.

¹¹¹ Gavi Donor Profiles: France, GAVI, The Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 4 June 2020. Access Date: 19 February 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/investing-gavi/funding/donor-profiles/france>.

¹¹² World leaders make historic commitments to provide equal access to vaccines for all, GAVI, The Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 4 June 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/world-leaders-make-historic-commitments-provide-equal-access-vaccines-all>.

¹¹³ France to extend crisis jobs scheme for up to two years, Financial Times (London) 8 June 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.ft.com/content/63b33ede-4463-4342-845a-26cf85a91d3d>.

¹¹⁴ France to extend crisis jobs scheme for up to two years, Financial Times (London) 8 June 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.ft.com/content/63b33ede-4463-4342-845a-26cf85a91d3d>.

¹¹⁵ France announces billions in aid to aviation industry, CBC News (Toronto) 9 June 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/france-aviation-industry-aid-1.5604190>.

¹¹⁶ France announces billions in aid to aviation industry, CBC News (Toronto) 9 June 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/france-aviation-industry-aid-1.5604190>.

¹¹⁷ France to open non-EU borders from July 1, The Connexion (Monaco) 14 June 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/France-to-open-non-EU-borders-from-July-1-and-Europe-tomorrow-June-15-but-restrictions-on-UK-still-apply>.

¹¹⁸ France to open non-EU borders from July 1, The Connexion (Monaco) 14 June 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/France-to-open-non-EU-borders-from-July-1-and-Europe-tomorrow-June-15-but-restrictions-on-UK-still-apply>.

¹¹⁹ French Health Care Workers Given A Raise, Honored On Bastille Day, NPR (Washington, D.C.) 14 July 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/07/14/890721869/french-health-care-workers-given-a-raise-honored-on-bastille-day>.

On 20 July 2020, masks were made mandatory in all indoor public spaces across France.¹²¹ Authorities would be enforcing the new policy across the region, with a EUR135 fine for all those who do not wear a mask.¹²² Prefectures across France were empowered with the ability to decide how broad the mask law should be in their regions.¹²³ Prime Minister Castex announced that travelers arriving from outside the EU in 16 where the virus is “circulating very strongly” would be subject to mandatory testing at all points of entry to France from 1 August 2020, unless they could provide a negative polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test 72 hours within their departure.¹²⁴

On 28 August 2020, Prime Minister Castex initially announced the change that masks would be mandatory in Paris.¹²⁵ Paris had previously initiated a partial requirement for masks in places such as tourist areas.¹²⁶

On 1 September 2020, France, in coordination with other EU members, joined the COVAX facility.¹²⁷ Led by GAVI, WHO and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, COVAX helps buy and distribute COVID-19 vaccines around the world in an equitable manner.¹²⁸

On 3 September 2020, France unveiled its EUR100 billion Economic Recovery Plan.¹²⁹ It contained significant investments including a EUR30 billion investment for green transitions, EUR34 billion in support to improve competitiveness of the French economy and EUR36 billion investment in supporting youth looking for jobs and those in vulnerable groups.¹³⁰

On 24 September 2020, President Macron announced regional restrictions in certain regions, including the closure of all bars and restaurants in Marseille and shorter opening hours for businesses in other cities.¹³¹ The move was met with backlash from restaurant and bar owners in Marseille who took to the streets to protest, arguing that the move might force owners to permanently close.¹³²

¹²⁰ French Health Care Workers Given A Raise, Honored On Bastille Day, NPR (Washington, D.C.) 14 July 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/07/14/890721869/french-health-care-workers-given-a-raise-honored-on-bastille-day>.

¹²¹ Coronavirus: Masks mandatory in France amid fresh outbreaks, BBC News (London) 20 July 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-53471497>.

¹²² Coronavirus: Masks mandatory in France amid fresh outbreaks, BBC News (London) 20 July 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-53471497>.

¹²³ Coronavirus: Masks mandatory in France amid fresh outbreaks, BBC News (London) 20 July 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-53471497>.

¹²⁴ France makes Covid-19 test obligatory for travellers from 16 countries, France 24 (Paris) 1 August 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/20200801-france-begins-requiring-coronavirus-test-for-certain-travelers>

¹²⁵ Face masks mandated throughout Paris, under-11s and people exercising exempt, France 24 (Paris) 28 August 2020. Access Date: 23 February, 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/20200828-face-masks-compulsory-throughout-paris-from-8-am-local-time>.

¹²⁶ Face masks mandated throughout Paris, under-11s and people exercising exempt, France 24 (Paris) 28 August 2020. Access Date: 23 February, 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/20200828-face-masks-compulsory-throughout-paris-from-8-am-local-time>.

¹²⁷ Commission joins the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access Facility (COVAX), European Commission (Brussels) 1 September 2020, Access Date: 20 February 2021. <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/worldwide/north-america/commission-joins-covid-19-vaccine-global-access-facility-covax>.

¹²⁸ Dr Seth Berkley, COVAX Explained, GAVI, The Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 3 September 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/vaccineswork/covax-explained>.

¹²⁹ Launch of the French recovery plan, Ministry for the Economy and Finance (Paris) 15 September 2020. Access Date: 23 February, 2021. <https://www.tresor.economie.gouv.fr/Articles/2020/09/15/launch-of-the-french-recovery-plan>.

¹³⁰ Launch of the French recovery plan, Ministry for the Economy and Finance (Paris) 15 September 2020. Access Date: 23 February, 2021. <https://www.tresor.economie.gouv.fr/Articles/2020/09/15/launch-of-the-french-recovery-plan>.

¹³¹ Coronavirus digest: France imposes restrictions after record cases, DW News (Berlin) 24 September 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.dw.com/en/coronavirus-digest-france-imposes-restrictions-after-record-cases/a-55046847>.

¹³² Coronavirus digest: France imposes restrictions after record cases, DW News (Berlin) 24 September 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.dw.com/en/coronavirus-digest-france-imposes-restrictions-after-record-cases/a-55046847>

On 13 October 2020, the French government contributed EUR10 million to Unitaïd's work in the Therapeutics Partnership of the ACT-Accelerator.¹³³ Unitaïd is a global health agency in partnership with the WHO which seeks to find solutions to treat, diagnose and prevent diseases in low to middle-income countries.¹³⁴

On 24 October 2020, Prime Minister Castex announced a 9 P.M. to 6 A.M. curfew to 38 departments across France starting.¹³⁵ This was in addition a nightly curfew imposed in Paris and eight other cities — Aix-Marseille, Lyon, Saint-Étienne, Toulouse, Lille, Montpellier, Rouen and Grenoble — on 17 October 2020.¹³⁶ In addition to municipal police forces, 12,000 police officers and gendarmes were deployed to enforce the curfews.¹³⁷ Anyone caught breaking curfew could face fines from EUR135 to EUR3,750 for repeat offenders.¹³⁸

On 30 October 2020, France entered a second lockdown to slow the spread of COVID-19.¹³⁹ As part of the lockdown, regional travel was banned within the nation and police were advised to enforce this policy.¹⁴⁰ External borders to the EU including France were closed, but internal EU borders remained open.¹⁴¹ Those which French nationality or residency could cross international borders to return home, and essential workers were exempted from the ban.¹⁴² All non-essential businesses were closed, declarations were reinstated to leave the home, but schools remained open.¹⁴³ Public services remained open and private gatherings were banned.¹⁴⁴ An additional EUR15 billion in government economic support was announced for businesses impacted by the lockdown including EUR7 billion invested into the furlough scheme, EUR6 billion for the Solidarity Fund, EUR1 billion for social security charges and EUR1 billion for rent support.¹⁴⁵

¹³³ France gives extra US\$11 million to support Unitaïd work on COVID-19 therapies, Unitaïd (Geneva) 13 October 2020, Access Date: 19 February 2021. <https://unitaid.org/news-blog/france-gives-extra-us11-million-to-support-unitaid-work-on-covid-19-therapies/#en>.

¹³⁴ About us: Unitaïd, Unitaïd (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 19 February 2021. <https://unitaid.org/about-us/#en>

¹³⁵ French PM Castex extends Covid-19 curfew to 38 more departments as cases surge, France 24 (Paris) 22 October 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/europe/20201022-french-pm-castex-announces-new-coronavirus-measures-as-cases-surge>.

¹³⁶ French PM Castex extends Covid-19 curfew to 38 more departments as cases surge, France 24 (Paris) 22 October 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/europe/20201022-french-pm-castex-announces-new-coronavirus-measures-as-cases-surge>.

¹³⁷ French PM Castex extends Covid-19 curfew to 38 more departments as cases surge, France 24 (Paris) 22 October 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/europe/20201022-french-pm-castex-announces-new-coronavirus-measures-as-cases-surge>.

¹³⁸ French PM Castex extends Covid-19 curfew to 38 more departments as cases surge, France 24 (Paris) 22 October 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/europe/20201022-french-pm-castex-announces-new-coronavirus-measures-as-cases-surge>.

¹³⁹ Coronavirus: France announces second lockdown, DW News (Berlin) 28 October 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://www.dw.com/en/coronavirus-france-announces-second-lockdown/a-55426861>.

¹⁴⁰ Coronavirus: France announces second lockdown, DW News (Berlin) 28 October 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://www.dw.com/en/coronavirus-france-announces-second-lockdown/a-55426861>.

¹⁴¹ France second lockdown: What travel is allowed?, The Connexion (Monaco) 29 October 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/France-second-lockdown-What-travel-is-allowed-regionally-and-internationally>.

¹⁴² France second lockdown: What travel is allowed?, The Connexion (Monaco) 29 October 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/France-second-lockdown-What-travel-is-allowed-regionally-and-internationally>.

¹⁴³ France imposes four-week national lockdown to combat coronavirus, The Guardian (London) 28 October 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/oct/28/france-expected-to-impose-four-week-national-lockdown-covid>.

¹⁴⁴ France imposes four-week national lockdown to combat coronavirus, The Guardian (London) 28 October 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/oct/28/france-expected-to-impose-four-week-national-lockdown-covid>.

¹⁴⁵ France announces support for businesses during new Covid-19 lockdown, France 24 (Paris) 30 October 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/tv-shows/business-daily/20201030-france-announces-support-for-businesses-during-new-covid-19-lockdown>.

On 28 November 2020, France began easing COVID-19 restrictions across the country. From 28 November, non-essential businesses could open with strict health restrictions in place and residents could leave their home to exercise for up to an hour within a 20-km radius of their home.¹⁴⁶ Religious places could open but with a limit of 30 people in attendance, a law that France's top court ordered a government review on just a day later, 29 November 2020.¹⁴⁷

On 10 December 2020, Prime Minister Jean Castex announced that "home visits" would be provided to those who are staying because they tested positive for COVID-19.¹⁴⁸ The team will consist of healthcare workers and other professionals that will offer support and advice. These visits would include shopping, food, childcare, and the possibility of being rehoused.¹⁴⁹

On 15 December 2020, France transitioned from a lockdown to a nation-wide 9 P.M. to 6 A.M. curfew enforced by all levels of authorities. Museums, cinemas, theatres and other cultural venues remained closed, and restaurants and bars would remain closed until January.¹⁵⁰ Curfew would only be waived for Christmas Eve, and people would be allowed to travel across the country without a declaration.¹⁵¹

On 20 December 2020, France closed its borders with the United Kingdom for 48 hours over concerns about the spread of the COVID-19 variant found in the UK.¹⁵² After negotiations between officials, the border was partially reopened on 22 December 2020 to truck drivers and French/EU citizens travelling for essential reasons only, who presented a negative COVID-19 test less than 72 hours old.¹⁵³

On 27 December 2020, France began its vaccination campaign focusing its efforts on coordinating vaccine inoculation for the elderly living in care homes across the country.¹⁵⁴

On 11 January 2021, the French Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation together with the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs launched the PREZODE (PREventing ZOonotic Diseases Emergence) initiative, which aims to "identify and prevent" potential zoonotic diseases and pandemics.¹⁵⁵ The initiative aims to utilize different research centers from France, Germany, and the Netherlands.

¹⁴⁶ France Loosens COVID-19 Restrictions, But Bars, Restaurants Will Remain Shut, NPR (Washington, D.C.) 25 November 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/11/25/938738191/france-loosens-covid-19-restrictions-but-bars-restaurants-will-remain-shut>.

¹⁴⁷ France's top court orders review of Covid-19 restrictions on church attendance, France 24 (Paris) 29 November 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/france/20201129-france-must-review-covid-19-restrictions-on-church-attendance-top-court-rules>.

¹⁴⁸ France Covid-19: Self-isolation recommended but not forced, The Connexion (Monaco) 11 December 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/France-Covid-19-Self-isolation-recommended-but-not-forced-as-new-home-visits-introduced>.

¹⁴⁹ France Covid-19: Self-isolation recommended but not forced, The Connexion (Monaco) 11 December 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/France-Covid-19-Self-isolation-recommended-but-not-forced-as-new-home-visits-introduced>.

¹⁵⁰ Covid-19: France moves to night-time curfew from 15 December, BBC News (London) 10 December 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-55266332>.

¹⁵¹ Covid-19: France moves to night-time curfew from 15 December, BBC News (London) 10 December 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-55266332>.

¹⁵² Covid-19: French PM says border with UK to stay shut, vows to speed up vaccines, France 24 (Paris) 7 January 2021. Access Date: 20 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/france/20210107-covid-19-french-pm-announces-closure-of-border-with-uk-vows-speedy-approval-of-more-vaccines>.

¹⁵³ France reopens border with UK after virus closure, Financial Times (London) 23 December 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. <https://www.ft.com/content/e2d2e680-752a-44a5-b014-60cd837532e7>.

¹⁵⁴ France criticised for slow start to Covid-19 vaccinations, France 24 (Paris) 30 December 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/france/20201230-france-criticised-for-slow-start-to-covid-19-vaccinations>.

¹⁵⁵ One Planet Summit: launch of PREZODE, a first-ever international initiative to prevent future pandemics, French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (Paris) 11 January 2021. Access Date: 19 February 2021. <https://www.cirad.fr/en/news/all-news-items/press-releases/2021/prezode-preventing-pandemics>.

On 16 January 2021, France extended its enforced nationwide lockdown from 6 P.M. to 6 A.M. due to rising cases and deaths in France.¹⁵⁶ In addition, new restrictions were added for both international and EU travelers. In mid-January, France announced that international travelers coming from outside the EU needed to provide a negative PCR test within 72 hours of departure to enter the country.¹⁵⁷ This was extended to include arrivals from EU countries on 31 January 2021.¹⁵⁸

On 31 January 2021, France once again closed its borders to those arriving from non-EU countries to avoid another lockdown within the country.¹⁵⁹ Those arriving within the EU and certain neighbouring states including Andorra, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, the Vatican, and Switzerland would have to present a negative PCR test to enter the country.¹⁶⁰ The ban did not apply to essential workers such as truck drivers, health workers, cross-border workers and diplomats.¹⁶¹

On 11 February 2021, France deployed 20 police officers to the French overseas territory of Mayotte to enforce the lockdown and to help combat violent crimes in the region.¹⁶²

On 19 February 2021, France, along with other G7 members raised their total commitment to the COVAX initiative to USD7.5 billion.¹⁶³ Funds will go towards both the COVAX initiative and the ACT-Accelerator.¹⁶⁴

On 22 February 2021, France imposed a regional lockdown for the next two weekends in the Alpes-Maritimes regions to curb the surge of COVID-19 cases in the area.¹⁶⁵

France has fully complied with its commitment to coordinate on necessary public health measures to protect people at risk of COVID-19, both at the international and national levels.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sylvia Lorico

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to marshal the full power of its government to coordinate necessary public health measures to protect people at risk from COVID-19.

¹⁵⁶ France goes under nationwide 6pm curfew as Covid-19 death toll surpasses 70,000, France 24 (Paris) 16 January 2021. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/europe/20210116-france-set-for-nationwide-6pm-curfew-in-effort-to-stem-covid-19>.

¹⁵⁷ France imposes new border controls in effort to curb Covid-19, France 24 (Paris) 24 January 2021. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/europe/20210124-france-imposes-new-border-controls-in-effort-to-curb-spread-of-covid-19>.

¹⁵⁸ France imposes new border controls in effort to curb Covid-19, France 24 (Paris) 24 January 2021. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/europe/20210124-france-imposes-new-border-controls-in-effort-to-curb-spread-of-covid-19>.

¹⁵⁹ France to avoid new lockdown but close borders to non-EU countries, France 24 (Paris) 29 January 2021. Access Date: 20 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/france/20210129-france-to-avoid-new-lockdown-but-close-borders-to-non-eu-countries>.

¹⁶⁰ Covid-19: France closes borders to most non-EU travel, BBC News (London) 31 January 2021. Access Date: 20 February 2021. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-55863069>.

¹⁶¹ France tightens border restrictions to curb spread of Covid-19 variants, France 24 (Paris) 1 February 2021. Access Date: 20 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/france/20210201-france-tightens-border-restrictions-to-curb-spread-of-covid-variants>.

¹⁶² France to send more police to Mayotte amid crime wave, rising Covid-19 cases, France 24 (Paris) 11 February 2021. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/france/20210211-france-to-send-more-police-to-mayotte-amid-crime-wave-rising-covid-19-cases>.

¹⁶³ Joint Statement of G7 Leaders, G7 Information Centre 19 February 2021. Access Date: 19 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210219-leaders.html>.

¹⁶⁴ Joint Statement of G7 Leaders, G7 Information Centre 19 February 2021. Access Date: 19 February 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210219-leaders.html>.

¹⁶⁵ COVID-19: France imposes weekend lockdown on southeastern region, Euronews (Lyon) 22 February 2021. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.euronews.com/2021/02/22/covid-19-france-imposes-weekend-lockdown-on-southeastern-region>.

On 22 March 2020, Chancellor Angela Merkel announced with cooperation from federal states the implementation of nation-wide restrictions on gatherings of over two individuals who do not live together.¹⁶⁶ Each couple must ensure a minimum distance of 1.5 metres during their interactions.¹⁶⁷ Unlike other nations within the European Union, Germany did not impose a curfew.¹⁶⁸

On 10 April 2020, Germany announced further international traveller restrictions, requiring all travellers, quarantine.¹⁶⁹

On 20 April 2020, Germany relaxed lockdown measures, and this included a reduction in social distancing requirements.¹⁷⁰ Germany continued to relax lockdown measures throughout May, with schools reopening on 4 May and reduced border restrictions on 16 May.¹⁷¹ Despite the easing, Germany implemented an “emergency brake” precaution set to kick in and halt re-openings in individual states if cases exceed 50 new infections per 100,000 people over seven days.¹⁷²

On 3 June 2020, Germany approved an additional EUR130 billion stimulus package to help tackle the COVID-19 Pandemic on-top of the March EUR750 billion rescue package.¹⁷³

On 27 June 2020, at the Global Citizen #GlobalGoalUnite For Our Future Summit, Chancellor Merkel announced Germany’s pledge to help finance EUR150 million to Global Fund’s COVID-19 Response initiatives.¹⁷⁴

On 9 December 2020, Chancellor Merkel expressed in Germany’s federal parliament that regardless of their want to return to regular cultural activities, “if the price we [Germans] pay is 590 deaths a day, then that is unacceptable in my view.”¹⁷⁵

As of 16 December 2020, Germany reinstated lockdown measures. These measures resulted in the closure of schools, non-essential businesses, but it allowed for the visitation of four close family members per

¹⁶⁶ Emerging COVID-19 success story: Germany’s strong enabling environment, Our World in Data (Oxford) 30 June 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://ourworldindata.org/covid-exemplar-germany>.

¹⁶⁷ Emerging COVID-19 success story: Germany’s strong enabling environment, Our World in Data (Oxford) 30 June 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://ourworldindata.org/covid-exemplar-germany>.

¹⁶⁸ Emerging COVID-19 success story: Germany’s strong enabling environment, Our World in Data (Oxford) 30 June 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://ourworldindata.org/covid-exemplar-germany>.

¹⁶⁹ Emerging COVID-19 success story: Germany’s strong enabling environment, Our World in Data (Oxford) 30 June 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://ourworldindata.org/covid-exemplar-germany>.

¹⁷⁰ Policy Tracker, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.). Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.imf.org/en/Topics/imf-and-covid19/Policy-Responses-to-COVID-19#G>.

¹⁷¹ Policy Tracker, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.). Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.imf.org/en/Topics/imf-and-covid19/Policy-Responses-to-COVID-19#G>.

¹⁷² Policy Tracker, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.). Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.imf.org/en/Topics/imf-and-covid19/Policy-Responses-to-COVID-19#G>.

¹⁷³ German coalition parties agree 130 billion euro stimulus package, Reuters (Berlin) 3 June 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-germany-stimulus-idUSKBN23A26W>.

¹⁷⁴ Germany Pledges €150 Million to Global Fund COVID-19 Response at Global Citizen Summit, The Global Fund (Geneva) 30 June 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/video/2020-06-30-germany-pledges-150-million-to-global-fund-covid-19-response-at-global-citizen-summit/>.

¹⁷⁵ Canadian federalism has created an uneven COVID-19 response, but in Germany a tradition of legal and political co-operation has proven useful, Institute for Research on Public Policy (Montreal) 21 December 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://policyoptions.irpp.org/magazines/december-2020/how-germanys-federation-co-ordinated-a-pandemic-response/>.

household around Christmas.¹⁷⁶ Originally slated to expire on 10 January 2021, Chancellor Merkel and German state premiers agreed to extend measures until 14 February 2020.¹⁷⁷

On 1 January 2021, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its tolls on at-risk populations, Germany's supplementary child benefit program received an increase in funding, resulting in benefit payments going up from EUR185 to EUR205.¹⁷⁸

On 14 January 2020, Germany began requiring registration and negative COVID-19 test results within 48 hours from travellers who plan to enter the country and come from high-risk areas.¹⁷⁹ High-risk areas encompass any region that experiences significantly higher incidence rates than Germany.¹⁸⁰ German Federal Health Minister Jens Spahn emphasized the need for these additional requirements as the global community continues to identify new COVID-19 variants, stating, "Mutations of the virus are an additional threat to our health. We must prevent them from spreading in Germany as far as possible."¹⁸¹

On 17 February 2021, Minister Spahn announced the total vaccination of 4,422,007 individuals, with roughly 700,000 nursing home workers and residents.¹⁸² Minister Spahn reiterated his confidence in ensuring the safety of nursing home occupants, despite the refusal of vaccinations by some.¹⁸³

On 19 February 2021, Germany announced an additional EUR1.5 billion in funding to global COVID-19 vaccination efforts, increasing Germany's total financial commitment to EUR2.1 billion.¹⁸⁴ Finance Minister Olaf Scholz announced that Germany would direct the funding to the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access facility, World Health Organization and other international entities.¹⁸⁵

Although Germany relaxed COVID-19 measures before the most recent 16 December, 2020 lockdown, Germany reinstated lockdowns with its domestic governments' coordination, increased social program funding and relief for its populous, and has committed to funding international initiatives aimed at addressing and resolving the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ali Nadhum

¹⁷⁶ Covid-19: Germany introduces new restrictions amid rise in cases, British Broadcasting Corporation (London) 16 December 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-55324422>.

¹⁷⁷ The precautionary principle takes precedence for us, Bundesregierung (Berlin) 19 January 2021. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/decision-of-federal-and-state-governments-1841104>.

¹⁷⁸ What the German government is doing for children during the pandemic, Bundesregierung (Berlin) 20 November 2020. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/universal-children-s-day-1818286>.

¹⁷⁹ These rules apply to travellers arriving in Germany from risk areas in other countries, Bundesregierung (Berlin) 25 January 2021. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/immigration-regulations-1845898>.

¹⁸⁰ These rules apply to travellers arriving in Germany from risk areas in other countries, Bundesregierung (Berlin) 25 January 2021. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/immigration-regulations-1845898>.

¹⁸¹ These rules apply to travellers arriving in Germany from risk areas in other countries, Bundesregierung (Berlin) 25 January 2021. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/immigration-regulations-1845898>.

¹⁸² The vaccination campaign gathers speed, Bundesregierung (Berlin) 18 February 2021. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/covid-19-vaccination-1854914>.

¹⁸³ The vaccination campaign gathers speed, Bundesregierung (Berlin) 18 February 2021. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/covid-19-vaccination-1854914>.

¹⁸⁴ Germany pledges additional 1.5 billion euros for COVAX and WHO, Reuters (Berlin) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-germany-covax-idUSKBN2AJ1SA>.

¹⁸⁵ Germany pledges additional 1.5 billion euros for COVAX and WHO, Reuters (Berlin) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-germany-covax-idUSKBN2AJ1SA>.

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to marshal the full power of its government to: coordinate necessary public health measures to protect people at risk from COVID-19.

On 11 March 2020, the President Mario Draghi declared that the COVID-19 epidemic has surpassed all expectations and uniformity was necessary in the national response in order to succeed at a domestic and international level.¹⁸⁶ A new decree was passed where urgent measures were taken to contain the disease throughout the national territory.¹⁸⁷ The retail business was suspended except for the food industry and in those establishments personal safety distance must be maintained.¹⁸⁸ All personal services were suspended.¹⁸⁹ Other services such as banking, finance and insurance will remain open as long as their activities run in accordance with the established health standards.¹⁹⁰

On 17 March 2020, Italy passed the Decree-Law, no. 18, called “Cure Italy” introduced urgent measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19.¹⁹¹ These measures focused on the expansion of social safety nets in order to aid employers who suspended their business on account of the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁹² The decree reduced working hours, granted leaves for one parent and regulated the conditions of self-employment by granting an allowance of EUR600.¹⁹³

On 22 March 2020, the government of Italy ordered the closure of all non-essential businesses until 3 April 2020.¹⁹⁴ Only the businesses that were identified as essential to the country’s supply chain were allowed to function.¹⁹⁵ These businesses included supermarkets, banking services and several public services such as transport.

On 1 April 2020, Italy and the United States joined to launch “Italy Stay Strong,” a fundraising campaign to assist Italy with the damages caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁹⁶ The embassy of Italy in Washington joined with the Italian Scientists and Scholars in North America Foundation and with the administration of

¹⁸⁶ Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy (Rome) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. https://www.venice.coe.int/files/EmergencyPowersObservatory/attachments/ITA_DPCM_11_03_20_en.pdf.

¹⁸⁷ Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy (Rome) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. https://www.venice.coe.int/files/EmergencyPowersObservatory/attachments/ITA_DPCM_11_03_20_en.pdf.

¹⁸⁸ Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy (Rome) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. https://www.venice.coe.int/files/EmergencyPowersObservatory/attachments/ITA_DPCM_11_03_20_en.pdf.

¹⁸⁹ Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy (Rome) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. https://www.venice.coe.int/files/EmergencyPowersObservatory/attachments/ITA_DPCM_11_03_20_en.pdf.

¹⁹⁰ Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy (Rome) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. https://www.venice.coe.int/files/EmergencyPowersObservatory/attachments/ITA_DPCM_11_03_20_en.pdf.

¹⁹¹ Covid-19 ‘Cure Italy’ Decree, KPMG (Italy) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://assets.kpmg/content/dam/kpmg/us/pdf/2020/03/tnf-italy-mar20-2020.pdf>.

¹⁹² Covid-19 ‘Cure Italy’ Decree, KPMG (Italy) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://assets.kpmg/content/dam/kpmg/us/pdf/2020/03/tnf-italy-mar20-2020.pdf>.

¹⁹³ Covid-19 ‘Cure Italy’ Decree, KPMG (Italy) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://assets.kpmg/content/dam/kpmg/us/pdf/2020/03/tnf-italy-mar20-2020.pdf>.

¹⁹⁴ Further implementing provisions of the decree-law 23 February 2020, n. 6, containing urgent measures regarding the containment and management of the epidemiological emergency from COVID-19, applicable throughout the national territory Ministry of Health (Rome) 22 March 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. <http://www.trovanorme.salute.gov.it/norme/dettaglioAtto?id=73729>.

¹⁹⁵ Further implementing provisions of the decree-law 23 February 2020, n. 6, containing urgent measures regarding the containment and management of the epidemiological emergency from COVID-19, applicable throughout the national territory Ministry of Health (Rome) 22 March 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. <http://www.trovanorme.salute.gov.it/norme/dettaglioAtto?id=73729>.

¹⁹⁶ The Embassy of Italy has launched in partnership with the Italian Scientist and Scholars in North America Foundation (ISSNAF) a fundraising campaign for the Covid-19, The Embassy of Italy in Washington (Washington, D.C.) 1 April 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. https://ambwashingtondc.esteri.it/ambasciata_washington/en/sala-stampa/dall_ambasciata/italystaystrong-l-ambasciata-d.html.

the American government in order to deliver the funds to three Italian research institutes that have been researching the disease.¹⁹⁷

On 19 May 2020, Italy passed the “Relaunch decree,” no. 34, urged new measures to support healthcare.¹⁹⁸ It added further measures regarding health to be urgently implemented in order to combat the COVID-19 emergency.¹⁹⁹ These measures included wage-funds, extensions of long-term contracts and bonuses up to EUR1,000.²⁰⁰ The aforementioned measures were in an effort to aid citizens and businesses affected by the pandemic and to deter the population from risking themselves.²⁰¹

On 14 January 2021, the Ministry of Health passed a decree which classified regions and provinces into four areas, each with their corresponding level of epidemiological risk.²⁰² This was part of risk scenarios and planning for the transition into the winter months.²⁰³ The red area referred to the regions with the highest levels of risk and maximum security.²⁰⁴ The orange area also included regions with high levels of risk but with less applied restrictions.²⁰⁵ The yellow area included zones where general restrictions applied and the white area was free of restrictions.²⁰⁶

Through issuing several decrees to coordinate on necessary public health measures at a national and international level, Italy remains committed to the coordination for COVID-19 action.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1

Analyst: Sara Teme

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to marshal the full power of its government to coordinate necessary public health measures to protect people at risk from COVID-19.

On 18 March 2020, Japan announced that all travellers coming from 30 European countries (including Britain and some nations outside the Schengen bloc) were to self-quarantine for 14 days upon arrival in Japan.²⁰⁷

¹⁹⁷ The Embassy of Italy has launched in partnership with the Italian Scientist and Scholars in North America Foundation (ISSNAF) a fundraising campaign for the Covid-19, The Embassy of Italy in Washington (Washington, D.C.) 1 April 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. https://ambwashingtondc.esteri.it/ambasciata_washington/en/sala-stampa/dall_ambasciata/italystaystrong-l-ambasciata-d.html.

¹⁹⁸ Italy government and institution measures in response to COVID-19, KPMG (Italy) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://home.kpmg/xx/en/home/insights/2020/04/italy-government-and-institution-measures-in-response-to-covid.html>.

¹⁹⁹ Italy government and institution measures in response to COVID-19, KPMG (Italy) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://home.kpmg/xx/en/home/insights/2020/04/italy-government-and-institution-measures-in-response-to-covid.html>.

²⁰⁰ Italy government and institution measures in response to COVID-19, KPMG (Italy) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://home.kpmg/xx/en/home/insights/2020/04/italy-government-and-institution-measures-in-response-to-covid.html>.

²⁰¹ Italy government and institution measures in response to COVID-19, KPMG (Italy) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://home.kpmg/xx/en/home/insights/2020/04/italy-government-and-institution-measures-in-response-to-covid.html>.

²⁰² Further urgent provisions regarding the containment and prevention of the epidemiological emergency from COVID-19, Ministry of Health (Rome) 14 January 2021. Access Date: 20 February 2021. <https://www.trovanorme.salute.gov.it/norme/dettaglioAtto?id=78456>.

²⁰³ Further urgent provisions regarding the containment and prevention of the epidemiological emergency from COVID-19, Ministry of Health (Rome) 14 January 2021. Access Date: 20 February 2021. <https://www.trovanorme.salute.gov.it/norme/dettaglioAtto?id=78456>.

²⁰⁴ Further urgent provisions regarding the containment and prevention of the epidemiological emergency from COVID-19, Ministry of Health (Rome) 14 January 2021. Access Date: 20 February 2021. <https://www.trovanorme.salute.gov.it/norme/dettaglioAtto?id=78456>.

²⁰⁵ Further urgent provisions regarding the containment and prevention of the epidemiological emergency from COVID-19, Ministry of Health (Rome) 14 January 2021. Access Date: 20 February 2021. <https://www.trovanorme.salute.gov.it/norme/dettaglioAtto?id=78456>.

²⁰⁶ Further urgent provisions regarding the containment and prevention of the epidemiological emergency from COVID-19, Ministry of Health (Rome) 14 January 2021. Access Date: 20 February 2021. <https://www.trovanorme.salute.gov.it/norme/dettaglioAtto?id=78456>.

²⁰⁷ Japan to ask visitors from Europe to self-quarantine for 14 days, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2020/03/13aafdde89c1-japan-mulls-entry-ban-from-iceland-northern-italy-spain-switzerland.html>.

On 24 March 2020, Japan temporarily banned foreign travellers from 18 European countries and Iran to limit the spread of COVID-19.²⁰⁸

On 30 March 2020, Japan contributed USD7 million to the United Nations World Food Programme to support the COVID-19 response in Iran.²⁰⁹ The funds will be used to support healthcare works in Iran and aid the refugee community in the country.²¹⁰

On 3 April 2020, Japan temporarily banned entry to foreign national travelling from 73 different countries, including much of Europe, countries in the Americas and Africa after consultations with the government task force for COVID-19 response.²¹¹

On 7 April 2020, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe declared a state of emergency in Tokyo and six other prefectures, accounting for almost half the population.²¹² The declaration allows prefecture governors to ask that people stay home and businesses close.²¹³ Furthermore, the Abe government announced JPY108 trillion economic package that will be expected to pay out JPY300,000 to each household with severe income loss due to COVID-19 and will include JPY26 trillion to cover delays in taxes and social welfare.²¹⁴ The state of emergency was expanded to include all 47 of Japan's prefectures until 6 May 2020.²¹⁵ The health ministry also asked prefectural governments to secure facilities or hotels to transfer patients with mild symptoms from hospitals, since it wanted to prioritize hospital treatment for those with severe symptoms.²¹⁶ Later in April, it was announced that the government secured roughly 210,000 hotel rooms nationwide to accommodate transfers, as well as the intention to distribute 120,000 face masks to hospital staff.²¹⁷

On 17 April 2020, the World Bank announced that it would activate the Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility (PEF) insurance for countries of the International Development Associations in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.²¹⁸ The PEF has two aspects: a “cash window” to provide financial support to

²⁰⁸ Japan to ask visitors from Europe to self-quarantine for 14 days, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2020/03/13aafdde89c1-japan-mulls-entry-ban-from-iceland-northern-italy-spain-switzerland.html>.

²⁰⁹ WFP Iran receives historical contribution from Japan to support coronavirus response, United Nations World Food Programme (Rome) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://www.wfp.org/news/wfp-iran-receives-historical-contribution-japan-support-coronavirus-response>.

²¹⁰ WFP Iran receives historical contribution from Japan to support coronavirus response, United Nations World Food Programme (Rome) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://www.wfp.org/news/wfp-iran-receives-historical-contribution-japan-support-coronavirus-response>.

²¹¹ Japan to expand entry ban to 73 countries, regions amid virus spread, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 1 April 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2020/04/5176f48c552d-japan-to-expand-entry-ban-to-73-countries-regions-amid-virus-spread.html>.

²¹² Japan declares coronavirus emergency and approves a near \$1 trillion stimulus package, CNBC News (Englewood Cliffs) 7 April 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.cnbc.com/2020/04/07/japan-declares-coronavirus-emergency-and-approves-a-near-1-trillion-stimulus-package.html>.

²¹³ Japan declares coronavirus emergency and approves a near \$1 trillion stimulus package, CNBC News (Englewood Cliffs) 7 April 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.cnbc.com/2020/04/07/japan-declares-coronavirus-emergency-and-approves-a-near-1-trillion-stimulus-package.html>.

²¹⁴ Japan preparing to declare state of emergency to COVID-19 fight, CBC News (Englewood Cliffs) 6 April 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/japan-covid-19-emergency-1.5523049>.

²¹⁵ Japan Declares Nationwide State Of Emergency As Coronavirus Spreads, NPR (Washington, D.C.) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/04/16/835925031/japans-declares-nationwide-state-of-emergency-as-coronavirus-spreads>.

²¹⁶ Tokyo reports 83 new coronavirus infections, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 7 April 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2020/04/d2f0c6649e4f-tokyo-to-confirm-83-new-coronavirus-infections.html>.

²¹⁷ Over 210,000 hotel rooms secured to treat coronavirus patients in Japan, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 19 April 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2020/04/07fb9ed5cdf2-over-210000-hotel-rooms-secured-to-treat-coronavirus-patients.html>.

²¹⁸ Fact Sheet: Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility, The World Bank (Washington, D.C.) 27 April 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/pandemics/brief/fact-sheet-pandemic-emergency-financing-facility>.

countries in need and an “insurance window” for countries to buy insurance against worst case scenarios.²¹⁹ Premiums are paid by the donor countries of Japan, Australia, and Germany.²²⁰ As of 30 September 2020, all the USD195.84 million in COVID-19 insurance payout was transferred to support COVID-19 strategies in 64 countries.²²¹

On 14 May, the state of emergency was lifted for 39 prefectures except in eight urban prefectures including Toyko and Osaka.²²² On 21 May, the state of emergency ended in the Osaka, Hyogo and Kyoto prefectures.²²³ On 25 May, the remaining prefectures of Tokyo, Kanagawa, Chiba, Saitama and Hokkaido saw their state of emergencies lifted.²²⁴

On 16 May 2020, the Japanese Permanent Mission to the United Nations held an online conference focusing on the need for universal health coverage in the wake of the pandemic.²²⁵ The conference was joined by policy experts from the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, and UN Ambassadors from more than 100 countries.²²⁶

On 27 May 2020, the Japanese government approved a JPY117 trillion-yen relief package to help protect from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.²²⁷ The package included rent subsidies for individuals and small-medium businesses hit by the pandemic.²²⁸ The government will also pay an addition JPY200,000 to each of its front-line medical workers to support their work during the pandemic.²²⁹

On 4 June 2020, Japan pledged an additional JPY33 billion in support for GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance for the period of 2021–2025 during the Global Vaccine Summit.²³⁰ Prime Minister Abe emphasized the hope that Japanese companies would help support the development of affordable vaccines for developing countries,

²¹⁹ Fact Sheet: Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility, The World Bank (Washington, D.C.) 27 April 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/pandemics/brief/fact-sheet-pandemic-emergency-financing-facility>.

²²⁰ Fact Sheet: Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility, The World Bank (Washington, D.C.) 27 April 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/pandemics/brief/fact-sheet-pandemic-emergency-financing-facility>.

²²¹ Fact Sheet: Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility, The World Bank (Washington, D.C.) 27 April 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/pandemics/brief/fact-sheet-pandemic-emergency-financing-facility>.

²²² Japan lifts coronavirus emergency outside Tokyo, Osaka regions, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 14 May 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2020/05/8128172584ce-japan-may-lift-coronavirus-emergency-in-kyoto-38-other-prefectures.html>.

²²³ Kansai sees end to virus state of emergency, but Tokyo area must wait, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 21 May 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/05/21/national/coronavirus-emergency-lifted-kansai/>.

²²⁴ Japan lifts coronavirus emergency in Tokyo, all other remaining areas, CBC News (Toronto) 25 May 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/japan-coronavirus-stimulus-1.5583000>.

²²⁵ WHO New Coronavirus: It is necessary for everyone to receive medical care to suppress it, Japan Broadcasting Corporation (Tokyo), Published 16 May 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://www3.nhk.or.jp/news/html/20200516/k10012432671000.html>.

²²⁶ WHO New Coronavirus: It is necessary for everyone to receive medical care to suppress it, Japan Broadcasting Corporation (Tokyo), Published 16 May 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://www3.nhk.or.jp/news/html/20200516/k10012432671000.html>.

²²⁷ Japan's economy just got another \$1 trillion shot in the arm, CNN Business (Atlanta) 27 May 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.cnn.com/2020/05/27/economy/japan-economic-stimulus-coronavirus/index.html>.

²²⁸ Japan's economy just got another \$1 trillion shot in the arm, CNN Business (Atlanta) 27 May 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.cnn.com/2020/05/27/economy/japan-economic-stimulus-coronavirus/index.html>.

²²⁹ Japan's economy just got another \$1 trillion shot in the arm, CNN Business (Atlanta) 27 May 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.cnn.com/2020/05/27/economy/japan-economic-stimulus-coronavirus/index.html>.

²³⁰ Prime Minister announces contribution of 33 billion yen to the spread of vaccines.” The Sankei News. Publish 4 June, 2020. Access date 21 February 22, 2021. <https://www.sankei.com/life/news/200604/lif2006040070-n1.html>.

and stressed the importance of international cooperation to combat the virus.²³¹ Overall, representatives from 52 countries, including France pledged a total of USD8.8 billion for GAVI.²³²

On June 5, 2020 it committed JPY1.5 billion for health and medical equipment in Laos.²³³ On the same day, the Japanese government announced another JPY2 billion in grant aid to support Myanmar's need for healthcare and medical equipment.²³⁴ Later on June 17 2020, Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced JPY1 billion in support for healthcare and medical equipment for Mongolia, as well as an additional JPY249 million for human resource development.²³⁵ Japan has supported numerous countries with grant aid during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 8 July 2020, Japan provided grant aid of USD7 million for health and medical equipment in Sri Lanka.²³⁶ Japan also announced JPY2 billion in grant aid and an official development assistance (ODA) loan of JPY50 million to support Indonesia's response to the COVID-19 outbreak on 20 July 2020.²³⁷ Then on 22 July 2020, Japan announced it would provide JPY900 million in grant aid for health and medical equipment in Peru.²³⁸ Later on 27 July 2020, Japan announced another JPY400 million in grant aid for health and medical system development in Jordan.²³⁹

On 22 July 2020, Prime Minister Abe announced the "Go to Travel" campaign, a JPY1.35 trillion campaign to promote domestic travel to any destination (except Tokyo) with up to 50 per cent discounts through vouchers and deals with companies in the tourism industry.²⁴⁰ The campaign was met with mixed receptions from governors. The governor of Osaka called for a "re-think" of the campaign while governors of the Shimane and Wakayama prefectures supported the decision.²⁴¹

On 6 August 2020, Japan announced it would provide JPY9.1 billion in official development assistance loans for water and sewage development in Paraguay, as well as an additional grant amount of JPY300 million

²³¹ Holding of Global Vaccine Summit 2020 (Gavi Vaccine Alliance Third Capital Increase Meeting), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 5 June 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/ic/ghp/page4_005161.html.

²³² World leaders make historic commitments to provide equal access to vaccines for all, GAVI, The Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 4 June 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/world-leaders-make-historic-commitments-provide-equal-access-vaccines-all>.

²³³ Exchange of letters on grant aid for health and medical equipment development to the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 5 June 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/press4_008469.html.

²³⁴ Exchange of letters on grant aid for health and medical equipment development to the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 5 June 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/press4_008469.html.

²³⁵ Signing of two grant aids related to infectious disease control, health and medical system development support, and human resource development support for Mongolia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 17 June 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/press4_008495.html.

²³⁶ Support for infectious disease control and health / medical system development for Sri Lanka (grant aid), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 8 July 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/press4_008562.html.

²³⁷ Signing of exchange letter regarding grant aid for infectious disease control and support for health and medical system development for Indonesia and yen loan for response to the crisis of new coronavirus infectious disease, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 20 July 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/press4_008600.html.

²³⁸ Support for infectious disease control and health / medical system development for the Republic of Peru (grant aid), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 22 July 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/press4_008606.html.

²³⁹ Support for infectious disease control and health / medical system development for the Republic of Peru (grant aid), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 22 July 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/press4_008606.html.

²⁴⁰ Japan's controversial Go To Travel campaign kicks off as criticism and concerns grow, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 22 July 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/07/22/national/japan-go-to-travel-campaign-criticism-coronavirus/>.

²⁴¹ Japan's controversial Go To Travel campaign kicks off as criticism and concerns grow, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 22 July 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/07/22/national/japan-go-to-travel-campaign-criticism-coronavirus/>.

towards the nation's COVID-19 response.²⁴² Additionally, on 11 August 2020 the nation announced another grant of JPY700 million towards infectious disease control and medical systems in Ecuador.²⁴³

On 29 August 2020 the Labour Ministry announced the extension of a special measure under the government's employment adjustment subsidy to the end of the year.²⁴⁴ The upper limit for government subsidies to support businesses trying to pay workers on leave was increased from JPY8,370 to JPY15,000 per day per employee.²⁴⁵

On 1 September 2020, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare announced it would be participating in the WHO's COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) facility.²⁴⁶ Led by GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance, WHO and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, COVAX helps buy and distribute COVID-19 vaccines around the world.²⁴⁷ The ministry noted that COVAX would be one of the sources where Japan could obtain COVID-19 vaccines.²⁴⁸ On the same date, Japan then signed two loans. One was a loan agreement with India to provide an ODA loan of up to JPY50 billion to support India's COVID-19 response.²⁴⁹ The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) also signed a JPY30 billion concessional loan to the Myanmar government to help with economic recovery due to COVID-19.²⁵⁰

On 9 September 2020, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs provided JPY500 million in grant aid to support health and medical systems in Chile.²⁵¹

On 15 September 2020, Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare Katsunobu Kato announced that Japan would be participating in the COVAX facility to secure COVID-19 vaccines for those in Japan.²⁵² Japan will contribute JPY17.2 billion in advanced payments and if vaccine development is successful, it will be allowed to purchase vaccines for 25 million people.²⁵³

²⁴² Support for water and sewage development for the Republic of Paraguay (yen loan) and support for infectious disease control and health / medical system development (grant aid), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 6 August 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/press4_008661.html.

²⁴³ Support for water and sewage development for the Republic of Paraguay (yen loan) and support for infectious disease control and health / medical system development (grant aid), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 6 August 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/press4_008661.html.

²⁴⁴ Japan to extend special measure for job adjustment subsidies, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 29 August 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/08/29/business/economy-business/japan-jobs-subsidies>.

²⁴⁵ Japan to extend special measure for job adjustment subsidies. The Japan Times, Published 29 August, 2020, Access Date: 25 February, 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/08/29/business/economy-business/japan-jobs-subsidies>].

²⁴⁶ Summary of Minister Kato's interview." Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Published 1 September, 2020, Access Date: 22 February 22, 2021. https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/kaiken/daijin/0000194708_00272.html.

²⁴⁷ Dr Seth Berkley. "COVAX Explained." GAVI, The Vaccine Alliance. Published 3 September, 2020, Access Date: 22 February, 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/vaccineswork/covax-explained>.

²⁴⁸ Framework for joint purchase of new corona vaccine Japan also intends to participate Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare, NHK Japan Broadcasting Corporation (Tokyo) 1 September 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www3.nhk.or.jp/news/html/20200901/k10012594481000.html>.

²⁴⁹ Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with India: Contributing to COVID-19 Crisis Response in India through providing budgetary support, Japan International Cooperation Agency. 1 September 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2020/20200901_31_en.html.

²⁵⁰ JICA gives Myanmar \$280M loan for budget support, Myanmar Times (Yangon) 2 September 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://www.mmtimes.com/news/jica-gives-myanmar-280m-loan-budget-support.html>.

²⁵¹ Support for infectious disease control and health / medical system development for the Republic of Chile (grant aid), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 9 September 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/press4_008737.html.

²⁵² Participate in the international group purchasing framework (COVAX facility) for new coronavirus infection vaccines, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo) 15 September 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_13597.html.

²⁵³ Formal participation in international joint purchase of vaccines Advance payment 17.2 billion yen, MHLW Digital (Tokyo) 15 September 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. <https://www.asahi.com/articles/ASN9H66FLN9HULBJ00X.html>.

On October 8, 2020, at the Group of Friends of Universal Health Coverage Ministerial Meeting Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi announced that Japan would contribute more than USD130 million to the Gavi COVAX Advance Market Commitment (COVAX AMC).²⁵⁴ COVAX AMC is part of the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator and ensures that 92 middle- to low-income countries get the same access to vaccines as those in higher-income nations.²⁵⁵

On 30 October 2020, the Japanese government announced a new revised policy for travellers coming to Japan, effective in November.²⁵⁶ Business travelers and returnees who are Japanese nationals or foreign residents with valid permits would be exempt from the 14-day quarantine policy imposed by the Japanese government.²⁵⁷ In addition, Japan also announced it would relax required testing upon arrival for travelers from Australia, Brunei, China, Hong Kong, Macau, New Zealand, Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam, provided they observe a 14-day quarantine and do not take public transport.²⁵⁸ The move comes after negotiations with countries such as Australia to mutually ease travel restrictions and the lowering of travel advisories by the Foreign Ministry to Level 2, out of a scale of 4.^{259,260}

On 5 November 2020, JICA signed a loan agreement with the Government of Mongolia to provide a loan of up to JPY25 billion to help Mongolia combat the COVID-19 pandemic.²⁶¹

On 12 November 2020, Japan announced its intent to cooperate with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.²⁶² It also pledged an additional USD1 million towards the COVID-19 ASEAN Response Fund to support the region.²⁶³

On 21 November 2020, the Education Ministry announced it would work with embassies and support groups for foreign nationals to create a list of unauthorized schools and send information about COVID-19 to them in multiple languages including English and Portuguese.²⁶⁴ Unauthorized foreign schools in Japan are schools

²⁵⁴ Minister MOTEGI Toshimitsu co-hosted Ministerial Meeting of Group of Friends of Universal Health Coverage (UHC), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 8 October 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002929.html.

²⁵⁵ Minister MOTEGI Toshimitsu co-hosted Ministerial Meeting of Group of Friends of Universal Health Coverage (UHC), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 8 October 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002929.html.

²⁵⁶ Japan to ease entry rules for business travelers and returnees, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 30 October 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/10/30/national/japan-exempt-returning-residents-quarantine/>.

²⁵⁷ Japan to ease entry rules for business travelers and returnees, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 30 October 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/10/30/national/japan-exempt-returning-residents-quarantine/>.

²⁵⁸ Japan to ease entry rules for business travelers and returnees, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 30 October 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/10/30/national/japan-exempt-returning-residents-quarantine/>.

²⁵⁹ Japan and Australia to promote talks on easing mutual travel curbs, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 7 October 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/10/07/national/japan-australia-mutual-travel-curbs/>.

²⁶⁰ Japan and Australia to promote talks on easing mutual travel curbs, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 7 October 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/10/07/national/japan-australia-mutual-travel-curbs/>.

²⁶¹ Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with Mongolia: Contributing to COVID-19 crisis response in Mongolia through providing budgetary support, Japan International Cooperation Agency. 5 November 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2020/20201105_30.html.

²⁶² 23rd Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/a_o/rp/page3e_001075.html.

²⁶³ 23rd Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/a_o/rp/page3e_001075.html.

²⁶⁴ Japan to help schools for foreign nationals with multilingual virus info, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 22 November 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/11/22/national/japan-schools-foreign-nationals-multilingual-coronavirus-info/>.

that have not registered with the Ministry of Education.²⁶⁵ The move is being done as these schools could be left out from forms of official support due to their status, which posed a possibility of virus clusters.²⁶⁶

On 24 November 2020, Japan announced the suspension of the “Go to Travel” campaign in Sapporo and Osaka after an increase of infections in the area.²⁶⁷ The announcement was made after Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga announced on 21 November 2020 that areas hardest hit by new infections would be removed from the campaign pending consultation with the governors.²⁶⁸ A draft proposal submitted by the National Governors Association submitted on 23 November 2020 urged the central government to consider a more flexible approach towards removals of regions from the travel campaign.²⁶⁹

On 2 December 2020, the Japanese government announced that coronavirus vaccines would be given to all residents for free following the passage of a bill in both houses of parliament.²⁷⁰ A budget of JPY671.4 billion was set aside to cover the cost of the vaccines and compensate suppliers if side effects occurred.²⁷¹ The government would work on encouraging all residents to get the vaccine and coordinating with suppliers.²⁷²

On 3 December 2020, JICA provided a USD200 million ODA loan to Morocco.²⁷³ Co-financed by the African Development Bank, the loan aims to strengthen Morocco’s healthcare system and help achieve economic stabilization.²⁷⁴ Near the end of 2020, Japan continued to aid the COVID-19 response developing nations.

On 27 December 2020, Japan temporarily banned foreign nationals from entering the country from 28 December 2020 into January 2021.²⁷⁵ Japanese citizens and foreign residents could enter but they would be

²⁶⁵ Japan to help schools for foreign nationals with multilingual virus info, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 22 November 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/11/22/national/japan-schools-foreign-nationals-multilingual-coronavirus-info/>.

²⁶⁶ Japan to help schools for foreign nationals with multilingual virus info, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 22 November 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/11/22/national/japan-schools-foreign-nationals-multilingual-coronavirus-info/>.

²⁶⁷ Sapporo and Osaka suspended as Go To Travel destinations, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 24 November 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/11/24/national/social-issues/sapporo-osaka-suspended-go-travel-destinations/>.

²⁶⁸ Sapporo and Osaka suspended as Go To Travel destinations, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 24 November 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/11/24/national/social-issues/sapporo-osaka-suspended-go-travel-destinations/>.

²⁶⁹ Sapporo and Osaka suspended as Go To Travel destinations, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 24 November 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/11/24/national/social-issues/sapporo-osaka-suspended-go-travel-destinations/>.

²⁷⁰ Japan residents to get free Covid-19 vaccine, France 24 (Paris) 2 December 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20201202-japan-residents-to-get-free-covid-19-vaccine>.

²⁷¹ Japan gov’t OKs bill to offer free coronavirus vaccines, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 27 October 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2020/10/707f1661dff4-japan-govt-oks-bill-to-offer-free-coronavirus-vaccines.html>.

²⁷² Japan gov’t OKs bill to offer free coronavirus vaccines, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 27 October 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2020/10/707f1661dff4-japan-govt-oks-bill-to-offer-free-coronavirus-vaccines.html>.

²⁷³ Signing of Dollar-Denominated Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with Morocco: Contributing to COVID-19 crisis response in Morocco through providing budget support, Japan International Cooperation Agency. 3 December 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2020/20201204_41_en.html.

²⁷⁴ Signing of Dollar-Denominated Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with Morocco: Contributing to COVID-19 crisis response in Morocco through providing budget support, Japan International Cooperation Agency. 3 December 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2020/20201204_41_en.html.

²⁷⁵ Japan will ban entry to foreign nationals after Covid-19 variant detected in country, CNN (Atlanta) 27 December 2020. Access Date: 25 February, 2021. <https://www.cnn.com/2020/12/26/asia/japan-ban-foreign-nationals-intl/index.html>.

required to self-quarantine for 14 days and have to submit a negative polymerase chain reaction test 72 hours before arrival in the country.²⁷⁶

On 8 January 2021, Prime Minister Suga announced a state of emergency in Tokyo after warnings that Tokyo's hospitals would not be able to cope with an influx of COVID-19 patients.²⁷⁷ Schools and non-essential businesses will remain open, but restaurants and bars will be asked to stop serving alcohol at 7 P.M. and close at 8 P.M.²⁷⁸ People were encouraged to stop non-essential outings after 8 P.M.²⁷⁹ Japanese authorities lack the legal powers to enforce virus prevention measures but were planning on passing legislation imposing fines later in the year.²⁸⁰

On 12 January 2021, Japan provided a USD275 million loan to India for the COVID-19 Crisis Response Support Loan for Social Protection.²⁸¹ The loan seeks to help "support poor and vulnerable communities" and develop policies in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis.²⁸²

On 13 January 2021, Japan expanded its state of emergency to 47 prefectures across the country.²⁸³ New restrictions included widening the ban on foreign visitors by suspending a program that allowed business visits from 11 countries and regions.²⁸⁴ Only existing residences could enter the country.²⁸⁵

On 22 January 2020, during the 17th Asia Cooperation Dialogue Ministerial Meeting between 35 countries, Japan's Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs Konosuke Kokuba affirmed Japanese support to counter the pandemic's effects on low-income countries stating the government would implement the COVID-19 Crisis Response Emergency Support Loan with funds up to JPY500 billion over two years.²⁸⁶

On 26 January 2021, State Minister of Foreign Affairs Uto Takahashi announced that Japan would provide USD10 million for the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.²⁸⁷

On 29 January 2021, JICA provided a USD289 million loan for the COVID-19 response in Papua New Guinea.²⁸⁸

²⁷⁶ Japan will ban entry to foreign nationals after Covid-19 variant detected in country, CNN (Atlanta) 27 December 2020. Access Date: 25 February, 2021. <https://www.cnn.com/2020/12/26/asia/japan-ban-foreign-nationals-intl/index.html>.

²⁷⁷ Japan's PM declares state of emergency in Tokyo amid Covid crisis, The Guardian (London) 7 January 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/jan/07/japans-pm-declares-state-of-emergency-in-tokyo-amid-covid-crisis>.

²⁷⁸ Japan's PM declares state of emergency in Tokyo amid Covid crisis, The Guardian (London) 7 January 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/jan/07/japans-pm-declares-state-of-emergency-in-tokyo-amid-covid-crisis>.

²⁷⁹ Japan's PM declares state of emergency in Tokyo amid Covid crisis, The Guardian (London) 7 January 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/jan/07/japans-pm-declares-state-of-emergency-in-tokyo-amid-covid-crisis>.

²⁸⁰ Japan's PM declares state of emergency in Tokyo amid Covid crisis, The Guardian (London) 7 January 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/jan/07/japans-pm-declares-state-of-emergency-in-tokyo-amid-covid-crisis>.

²⁸¹ Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with India: Budgetary support to contribute to COVID-19 Crisis Response in India by supporting the livelihood of poor and vulnerable communities, Japan International Cooperation Agency. 12 January 2021. Access Date: 21 February 2021. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2020/20210112_30.html.

²⁸² Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with India: Budgetary support to contribute to COVID-19 Crisis Response in India by supporting the livelihood of poor and vulnerable communities, Japan International Cooperation Agency. 12 January 2021. Access Date: 21 February 2021. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2020/20210112_30.html.

²⁸³ State of Emergency Declared to Prevent Spread of the Novel Coronavirus, Cabinet Secretariat of Japan (Tokyo) 13 January 2021. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://corona.go.jp/en/>.

²⁸⁴ Japan expands virus emergency, tightens border restrictions, CTV News (Toronto) 13 January 2021. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/coronavirus/japan-expands-virus-emergency-tightens-border-restrictions-1.5264785>.

²⁸⁵ Japan expands virus emergency, tightens border restrictions, CTV News (Toronto) 13 January 2021. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/coronavirus/japan-expands-virus-emergency-tightens-border-restrictions-1.5264785>.

²⁸⁶ Holding of the 17th Meeting of Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) (Results), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 22 January 2021. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/a_o/rp/page3_003000.html#.

²⁸⁷ Video message by State Minister for Foreign Affairs UTO at the High-level Replenishment Conference for the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 27 January 2021. Access Date: 21 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000160.html.

On 3 February 2020, the National Diet, Japan's bicameral legislature, passed two new bills that help authorities enforce violations of COVID-19 guidelines.²⁸⁹ In areas under a state of emergency, businesses who do not comply with shut down orders or orders to shorten their hours would face a fine of JPY300,000²⁹⁰ The legislation also lets authorities inspect businesses during a Stage 3 alert to ensure compliance to shortened hours and those that refuse now face a JPY200,000 fine.²⁹¹ These revisions were deemed necessary since prior to the new laws, demands on businesses to close were essentially voluntary, and authorities had no legal way to punish rulebreakers even under a state of emergency.²⁹²

On 9 February 2021, during the ACT-Accelerator Facilitation Council meeting, Toshimitsu Motegi, Minister of Foreign Affairs, announced an addition USD70 million in funding towards COVAX AMC.²⁹³ COVAX AMC is a financial tool which aims to support low and middle-income countries access to COVID-19 vaccines.²⁹⁴ This brought Japan's total commitment to USD200 million since it initially pledged funds in October 2020.²⁹⁵

On 17 February 2021, Japan received its initial imported vaccine doses and began its rollout plan.²⁹⁶ The coordinated plan includes the inoculation of front-line medical workers, followed by the inoculation of people aged 65 and older beginning in April.²⁹⁷ Then those with underlying health conditions, caregivers at facilities will be next, before the general population.²⁹⁸ Distribution of vaccines will be based on population in prefectures and foreign nationals living in Japan are expected to receive the vaccine around the same time as other Japanese citizens, depending on their groups.²⁹⁹ Provision of interpretation in six languages is being developed to ensure efficiency in campaigns.³⁰⁰

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to coordinate on necessary public health measures to protect people at risk of COVID-19, both at the international and national levels.

²⁸⁸ Emergency support for the new coronavirus crisis in Papua New Guinea independent country (yen loan), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 29 January 2021. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/press6_000737.html.

²⁸⁹ Japan's new virus law: Fines for noncompliance and support for hard-hit firms, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 4 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2021/02/04/national/new-virus-law-explainer/>.

²⁹⁰ Japan's new virus law: Fines for noncompliance and support for hard-hit firms, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 4 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2021/02/04/national/new-virus-law-explainer/>.

²⁹¹ Japan's new virus law: Fines for noncompliance and support for hard-hit firms, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 4 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2021/02/04/national/new-virus-law-explainer/>.

²⁹² Japan's new virus law: Fines for noncompliance and support for hard-hit firms, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 4 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2021/02/04/national/new-virus-law-explainer/>.

²⁹³ Video message of Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi at the 4th meeting of the ACT Accelerator Facilitation Council (Steering Board), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 February 2021. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002974.html#.

²⁹⁴ Video message of Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi at the 4th meeting of the ACT Accelerator Facilitation Council (Steering Board), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 February 2021. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002974.html#.

²⁹⁵ Video message of Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi at the 4th meeting of the ACT Accelerator Facilitation Council (Steering Board), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 February 2021. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002974.html#.

²⁹⁶ Japan launches COVID-19 vaccination rollout with eye on Olympics, CBC News (Toronto) 17 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.cbc.ca/sports/olympics/japan-begins-covid-19-vaccinations-with-eye-on-olympics-1.5916825>.

²⁹⁷ Japan launches COVID-19 vaccination rollout with eye on Olympics, CBC News (Toronto) 17 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.cbc.ca/sports/olympics/japan-begins-covid-19-vaccinations-with-eye-on-olympics-1.5916825>.

²⁹⁸ Japan to distribute COVID-19 vaccines for older people based on population, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 23 February 2021. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2021/02/23/national/kono-coronavirus-vaccines/>.

²⁹⁹ Japan to distribute COVID-19 vaccines for older people based on population, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 23 February 2021. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2021/02/23/national/kono-coronavirus-vaccines/>.

³⁰⁰ Japan to distribute COVID-19 vaccines for older people based on population, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 23 February 2021. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2021/02/23/national/kono-coronavirus-vaccines/>.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sylvia Lorico

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to marshal the full power of its government to coordinate necessary public health measures to protect people at risk from COVID-19.

On 17 March 2020, Foreign Secretary Dominic Saab gave an announcement advising individuals against all non-essential international travel.³⁰¹

On 17 March 2020, the British government introduced an emergency bill to strengthen their response to COVID-19.³⁰² The emergency bill includes an increase in support from the National Health Service.³⁰³

On 19 March 2020, the British government announced GBP2.9 billion in funding to strengthen the care for the vulnerable.³⁰⁴ GBP1.6 billion will be allocated to local authorities to help with their COVID-19 response and GBP1.3 billion will be used to facilitate the National Health Service discharge process so patients that no longer need urgent treatment can return home.³⁰⁵ By enhancing the National Health Service discharge process, over 15,000 hospital beds would be made available for COVID-19 patients.³⁰⁶

On 10 April 2020, the British government announced a plan to improve the distribution of personal protective equipment throughout the United Kingdom.³⁰⁷

On 12 April 2020, it was announced that the United Kingdom would contribute GBP200 million to support international organisations and national charities to help reduce the spread of COVID-19.³⁰⁸

On 15 April 2020, the British government announced that it would offer COVID-19 tests to all care home residents and social care staff.³⁰⁹

³⁰¹ Travel Advice against all non-essential travel: Foreign Secretary's statement, 17 March 2020, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/travel-advice-foreign-secretary-statement-17-march-2020>.

³⁰² Emergency bill to strengthen coronavirus (COVID-19) response plans, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/emergency-bill-to-strengthen-coronavirus-covid-19-response-plans>.

³⁰³ Emergency bill to strengthen coronavirus (COVID-19) response plans, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/emergency-bill-to-strengthen-coronavirus-covid-19-response-plans>.

³⁰⁴ £2.9 billion funding to strengthen care for the vulnerable, Department of Health and Social Care and Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (London) 19 March 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/2-9-billion-funding-to-strengthen-care-for-the-vulnerable>.

³⁰⁵ £2.9 billion funding to strengthen care for the vulnerable, Department of Health and Social Care and Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (London) 19 March 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/2-9-billion-funding-to-strengthen-care-for-the-vulnerable>.

³⁰⁶ £2.9 billion funding to strengthen care for the vulnerable, Department of Health and Social Care and Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (London) 19 March 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/2-9-billion-funding-to-strengthen-care-for-the-vulnerable>.

³⁰⁷ Government sets out plan for national effort on PPE, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 10 April 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-sets-out-plan-for-national-effort-on-ppe>.

³⁰⁸ UK leads global fight to prevent second wave of coronavirus, Department for International Development and the Rt Hon Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP (London) 12 April 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leads-global-fight-to-prevent-second-wave-of-coronavirus>.

³⁰⁹ Government to offer testing for "everyone who needs one" in social care settings, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 15 April 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-offer-testing-for-everyone-who-needs-one-in-social-care-settings>.

On 15 May 2020, the British government confirmed that it would allocate an extra GBP35 million to support Wales with its fight against COVID-19.³¹⁰ The following day, it was announced that the British government would also provide an additional GBP58 million to Scotland with its fight against COVID-19.³¹¹

On 20 May 2020, the United Kingdom announced that it would invest GBP20 million to help with the African Union's fight against COVID-19.³¹²

On 5 September 2020, the British government announced that it will be investing GBP7.2 million in 20 COVID-19 research programs across the United Kingdom, including the universities of Edinburgh and Strathclyde.³¹³ The research programs will help provide developing countries who have been hit hard by COVID-19 with sustainable solutions to handle COVID-19.³¹⁴

On 16 November 2020, the British government announced that it secured five million doses of the Moderna vaccine.³¹⁵

On 2 December 2020, Prime Minister Boris Johnson gave a speech stating that the United Kingdom had secured over 350 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines from seven different vaccine candidates.³¹⁶

On 14 December 2020, it was announced that the United Kingdom would commit GBP1 million, through the World Health Organization, to support Egypt's fight against COVID-19.³¹⁷

On 15 February 2021, the British government announced that as of 15 February 2021, people travelling to the United Kingdom from a country on its travel ban list will need to quarantine in a government-approved facility for 10 days.³¹⁸

On 17 February 2021, Foreign Secretary Raab called for a ceasefire in conflict zones so that people living in areas of conflict could receive the COVID-19 vaccine.³¹⁹

³¹⁰ Extra £35 million for Wales in fight against coronavirus, Office of the Secretary of State for Wales and The Rt Hon Simon Hart MP (London) 15 May 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/extra-35m-for-wales-in-fight-against-coronavirus>.

³¹¹ Additional £58 million to help Scotland tackle coronavirus, Office of the Secretary of State for Scotland and The Rt Hon Alister Jack MP (London) 16 May 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/additional-58-million-to-help-scotland-tackle-coronavirus>.

³¹² UK to work with African Union to slow spread of coronavirus in Africa, Department for International Development and the Rt Hon Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP (London) 20 May 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-work-with-african-union-to-slow-spread-of-coronavirus-in-africa>.

³¹³ UK Government to fund international Covid-19 studies in Scotland, Office of the Secretary of State for Scotland, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP, and Iain Stewart MP (London) 5 September 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-to-fund-international-covid-19-studies-in-scotland>.

³¹⁴ UK Government to fund international Covid-19 studies in Scotland, Office of the Secretary of State for Scotland, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP, and Iain Stewart MP (London) 5 September 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-to-fund-international-covid-19-studies-in-scotland>.

³¹⁵ Government secures 5 million doses of Moderna vaccine, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, Department of Health and Social Care, The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP, and The Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP (London) 16 November 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-secures-5-million-doses-of-moderna-vaccine>.

³¹⁶ Prime Minister's statement on coronavirus (COVID-19): 2 December 2020, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street and The Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP (London) 2 December 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/prime-ministers-statement-on-coronavirus-covid-19-2-december-2020>.

³¹⁷ WHO and UK commit £1m to support Egypt in against COVID-19, British Embassy Cairo (Cairo) 14 December 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/who-and-uk-commit-1m-to-support-egypt-in-against-covid-19>.

³¹⁸ Government confirms mandatory hotel quarantine to be introduced from 15 February, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 5 February 2021. Access Date: 26 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-confirms-mandatory-hotel-quarantine-to-be-introduced-from-15-february>.

The United Kingdom remains committed to marshal the full power of its government to coordinate on necessary public health measures to protect people at risk from COVID-19.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ceylan Borgers

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to marshal the full power of its government to coordinate necessary public health measures to protect people at risk from COVID-19.

On 18 March 2020, President Donald Trump authorized the release of USD200 billion in financial support to the virus response initiative.³²⁰ These initiatives included vaccine development, paid sick leave, and testing support, amongst other programs.³²¹

On 27 March 2020, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act passed through Congress and became law successfully, delivering USD2.3 trillion in COVID-19 relief to households, businesses, and delivered a one-time cheque of USD1,200 to U.S. residents.³²²

On 3 April 2020, President Trump invoked the Defense Production Act to prevent surgical mask and glove exports; however, he ensured to reaffirm his commitment to providing the necessary equipment to struggling nations, saying, “If they have long-term orders and they’re in there and they want to get certain things, I’ve let them go out, in certain instances, because I think it’s only fair.”³²³

On 24 April 2020, President Trump completed the signing of the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and Health Care Enhancement Act, providing further support to small businesses and hospitals under-stress from the pandemic. PPP provided USD321 billion in funding with USD60 billion set aside for small businesses and USD50 billion for Disaster Loan Programs.³²⁴ The three aforementioned legislations remained the only form of significant support for American families until December 2020.³²⁵

³¹⁹ UK calls for ceasefires to vaccinate people against COVID-19, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office and The Rt Hon Dominic Raab MP (London) 17 February 2021. Access Date: 26 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-calls-for-ceasefires-to-vaccinate-people-against-covid-19>.

³²⁰ Comparing U.S., Japanese, and German Fiscal Responses to Covid-19, Center for Strategic & International Studies (Washington, D.C.) 28 October 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.csis.org/analysis/comparing-us-japanese-and-german-fiscal-responses-covid-19>.

³²¹ Comparing U.S., Japanese, and German Fiscal Responses to Covid-19, Center for Strategic & International Studies (Washington, D.C.) 28 October 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.csis.org/analysis/comparing-us-japanese-and-german-fiscal-responses-covid-19>.

³²² Comparing U.S., Japanese, and German Fiscal Responses to Covid-19, Center for Strategic & International Studies (Washington, D.C.) 28 October 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.csis.org/analysis/comparing-us-japanese-and-german-fiscal-responses-covid-19>.

³²³ Trump invokes Defense Production Act to prevent export of surgical masks, gloves, The Hill (Washington D.C.) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/491137-trump-invokes-defense-production-act-to-prevent-export-of-surgical?rl=1>.

³²⁴ Summary of the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act (COVID 3.5), American Medical Association (Chicago) 24 April 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.ama-assn.org/delivering-care/public-health/summary-paycheck-protection-program-and-health-care-enhancement-act>.

³²⁵ Comparing U.S., Japanese, and German Fiscal Responses to Covid-19, Center for Strategic & International Studies (Washington, D.C.) 28 October 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.csis.org/analysis/comparing-us-japanese-and-german-fiscal-responses-covid-19>

On 6 July 2020, the U.S. informed the United Nations Secretary-General of its intent to withdraw from the World Health Organization (WHO).³²⁶

On 18 September 2020, in defiance of Canadian Public Safety Minister Bill Blair's extension of border closures on non-essential land travel, President Trump announced that the U.S. was "looking at the border with Canada. Canada would like it opened and, you know, we want to get back to normal business."³²⁷

On 7 December 2020, President Trump signed an executive order to ensure the U.S. priority access to COVID-19 vaccinations, and only when the vaccine companies fulfil the needs of the U.S. can vaccinations be shipped readily to other nations.³²⁸

On 22 December 2020, President Trump threatened to veto the senate-proposed USD892 billion COVID-19 relief package, a successor to the original CARES Act with the delivery of another round of one-time cheques; however, this time of a value of only USD600.³²⁹ Despite these threats, on 27 December 2020, then-President Trump signed the new COVID-19 relief package.³³⁰

On 22 January 2021, President Joseph Biden said, "[t]he American people are hurting and they can't afford to wait. They need help right now" in response to the delays of the most recent COVID-19³³¹ stimulus packages. As a result, President Biden announced two executive orders to increase the speed and reliability of COVID-19 relief by the Treasury Department of cheques issued in the original CARES Act.³³²

On 19 February 2021, in coordination with Canadian Minister Blair, the U.S. extended land border restrictions on non-essential travel.³³³ Before this extension, on 26 January 2021, the U.S. began requiring negative COVID-19 tests from international air travellers within three days of travel.³³⁴ These restrictions do not extend to land border crossings.³³⁵ Furthermore, during his first Group of Seven meeting, President Biden committed a total of USD4 billion to the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access facility. The U.S. will

³²⁶ Trump Sets Date To End WHO Membership Over Its Handling Of Virus, National Public Radio (Washington D.C.) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2020/07/07/888186158/trump-sets-date-to-end-who-membership-over-its-handling-of-virus>.

³²⁷ Canada-U.S. border closure extended but Trump, Trudeau far apart on next steps, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (Toronto) 18 October 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/trudeau-trump-canada-u-s-border-closure-1.5765323>.

³²⁸ Order aims to ensure vaccines procured by U.S. government given to Americans first, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (Toronto) 8 December 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/vaccine-trump-executive-order-1.5832293>.

³²⁹ Trump threatens to not sign COVID-19 bill, wants bigger stimulus checks, Reuters (Washington, D.C) 22 December 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-usa-trump-idUSKBN28X01V>.

³³⁰ Covid vaccines and \$600 payments: key provisions in the US stimulus bill, Reuters (New York) 28 December 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2020/dec/28/us-stimulus-coronavirus-relief-package-bill>.

³³¹ Biden to sign orders speeding delivery of U.S. coronavirus stimulus cheques, food aid, Global News (Washington, D.C.) 22 January 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://globalnews.ca/news/7594238/us-biden-coronavirus-stimulus-checks/>.

³³² Biden to sign orders speeding delivery of U.S. coronavirus stimulus cheques, food aid, Global News (Washington, D.C.) 22 January 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://globalnews.ca/news/7594238/us-biden-coronavirus-stimulus-checks/>.

³³³ U.S. extends travel restrictions at land borders with Canada, Mexico through March 21, Reuters (Washington, D.C) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-usa-borders/u-s-extends-travel-restrictions-at-land-borders-with-canada-mexico-through-march-21-idUSKBN2AJ22P>.

³³⁴ U.S. extends travel restrictions at land borders with Canada, Mexico through March 21, Reuters (Washington, D.C) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-usa-borders/u-s-extends-travel-restrictions-at-land-borders-with-canada-mexico-through-march-21-idUSKBN2AJ22P>.

³³⁵ U.S. extends travel restrictions at land borders with Canada, Mexico through March 21, Reuters (Washington, D.C) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-usa-borders/u-s-extends-travel-restrictions-at-land-borders-with-canada-mexico-through-march-21-idUSKBN2AJ22P>.

deliver the first USD2 billion to the vaccine alliance Gavi and the WHO.³³⁶ The U.S. plans to distribute the remaining USD2 billion throughout two-years.³³⁷

As of 24 February 2021, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), under President Biden's authority, restricted business loan applications to businesses with less than 20 employees for 14 days.³³⁸ These 14 days provide small businesses with the opportunity to have exclusive support from SBA while also allowing enough time for larger businesses to apply for PPP loans before the 31 March 2021 deadline.³³⁹

The U.S. financial support of vaccine alliances, coordination of border closures, and on-going support for increased domestic social support for the most at-risk warrants full compliance.

Thus, the United States of America receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ali Nadhum

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to marshal the full power of its government to: coordinate necessary public health measures to protect people at risk from COVID-19.

On 17 March 2020, the European Union launched a team of experts that would research COVID-19.³⁴⁰ The team was made up of virologists and epidemiologists from its member states.³⁴¹ Its goal would be to formulate, based on science and risk measuring procedures, the guidelines that the EU would implement.³⁴²

On 14 April 2020, the EU gave EUR2.7 billion from the EU budget to support the EU healthcare sector.³⁴³ It activated the Emergency Support instrument in order to support the healthcare systems of its member states in the struggle against COVID-19.³⁴⁴ The money was immediately provided where it was most needed.³⁴⁵

³³⁶ Why Biden's pledge of \$4 billion to help vaccinate the world isn't enough, Vox (Washington, D.C.) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.vox.com/22291086/biden-covax-united-states-covid-19-vaccinations-world-g7>.

³³⁷ Why Biden's pledge of \$4 billion to help vaccinate the world isn't enough, Vox (Washington, D.C.) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.vox.com/22291086/biden-covax-united-states-covid-19-vaccinations-world-g7>.

³³⁸ Coronavirus (COVID-19): Small Business Guidance & Loan Resources, U.S. Small Business Administration (Washington, D.C.) 22 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.sba.gov/page/coronavirus-covid-19-small-business-guidance-loan-resources#section-header-3>.

³³⁹ Coronavirus (COVID-19): Small Business Guidance & Loan Resources, U.S. Small Business Administration (Washington, D.C.) 22 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.sba.gov/page/coronavirus-covid-19-small-business-guidance-loan-resources#section-header-3>.

³⁴⁰ Statement by European Commission President Ursula Von Der Leyen on the latest measures to address the Coronavirus, European Commission (Brussels) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://audiovisual.ec.europa.eu/en/topnews/M-004585>.

³⁴¹ Statement by European Commission President Ursula Von Der Leyen on the latest measures to address the Coronavirus, European Commission (Brussels) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://audiovisual.ec.europa.eu/en/topnews/M-004585>.

³⁴² Statement by European Commission President Ursula Von Der Leyen on the latest measures to address the Coronavirus, European Commission (Brussels) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://audiovisual.ec.europa.eu/en/topnews/M-004585>.

³⁴³ EUR 2.7 billion from the EU budget to support the EU healthcare sector, European Commission (Brussels) 14 April 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/timeline-eu-action_en.

³⁴⁴ EUR 2.7 billion from the EU budget to support the EU healthcare sector, European Commission (Brussels) 14 April 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/timeline-eu-action_en.

³⁴⁵ EUR 2.7 billion from the EU budget to support the EU healthcare sector, European Commission (Brussels) 14 April 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/timeline-eu-action_en.

On 4 May 2020, the EU Commission raised EUR7.4 billion for the Coronavirus Global Response event.³⁴⁶ Of that sum, EUR1.4 billion were donated by the Commission itself.³⁴⁷ The World Health Organization and other health organizations launched this cause to develop access to safe and effective diagnostics and vaccines against the coronavirus.³⁴⁸ The aim of the campaign was to increase access to COVID-29 tools.³⁴⁹ The EU proposed a collaborative and solid framework to ensure that the money is put to good use.³⁵⁰

On 17 June 2020, the EU presented a strategy to speed up the process of COVID-19 vaccine development and manufacturing.³⁵¹ The vaccine is considered to be the best long-term solution to the pandemic.³⁵² The President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, states that this European strategy aimed to accelerate the vaccine development so that a deployable version would be ready in 12 to 18 months.³⁵³ The members of the EU have already participated in the formation of a vaccine alliance with Italy and France.³⁵⁴

On 21 December 2020, the EU Commission authorized the first safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine.³⁵⁵ The Commission granted a conditional marketing authorization for the vaccine developed by BioNTech and Pfizer.³⁵⁶ The member states and the European Medicines agency also endorsed the vaccine after a positive scientific recommendation.³⁵⁷

On 19 February 2021, the European Union announced that it would double its financial contribution to the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) facility, which aimed to deliver the distribution of two billion COVID-19 vaccine by the end of 2021.³⁵⁸ The EU will add EUR500 million which would make its total donation go up to EUR1 billion. Ursula von der Leyen, stated at the G7 Virtual Summit that an additional EUR100 million will also be provided to aid the vaccination in Africa.³⁵⁹

The European Union has taken the necessary measure to mobilize all its available resources to help its member states coordinate their national responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. It has done so by creating

³⁴⁶ Coronavirus Global Response: EUR 7.4 billion raised for universal access to vaccines, European Commission (Brussels) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_797.

³⁴⁷ Coronavirus Global Response: EUR 7.4 billion raised for universal access to vaccines, European Commission (Brussels) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_797.

³⁴⁸ Coronavirus Global Response: EUR 7.4 billion raised for universal access to vaccines, European Commission (Brussels) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_797.

³⁴⁹ Coronavirus Global Response: EUR 7.4 billion raised for universal access to vaccines, European Commission (Brussels) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_797.

³⁵⁰ Coronavirus Global Response: EUR 7.4 billion raised for universal access to vaccines, European Commission (Brussels) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_797.

³⁵¹ Coronavirus: Commission unveils EU vaccines Strategy, European Commission (Brussels) 12 June 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_1103.

³⁵² Coronavirus: Commission unveils EU vaccines Strategy, European Commission (Brussels) 12 June 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_1103.

³⁵³ Coronavirus: Commission unveils EU vaccines Strategy, European Commission (Brussels) 12 June 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_1103.

³⁵⁴ Coronavirus: Commission unveils EU vaccines Strategy, European Commission (Brussels) 12 June 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_1103.

³⁵⁵ European Commission authorises first safe and effective vaccine against COVID-19, European Commission (Brussels) 21 December 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://audiovisual.ec.europa.eu/en/topnews/M-006027>.

³⁵⁶ European Commission authorises first safe and effective vaccine against COVID-19, European Commission (Brussels) 21 December 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://audiovisual.ec.europa.eu/en/topnews/M-006027>.

³⁵⁷ European Commission authorises first safe and effective vaccine against COVID-19, European Commission (Brussels) 21 December 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://audiovisual.ec.europa.eu/en/topnews/M-006027>.

³⁵⁸ G7 backs Gavi's COVAX Advance Market Commitment to boost COVID-19 vaccines in world's poorest countries, Gavi: the Vaccine Alliance (Brussels) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/g7-backs-gavis-covax-amc-boost-covid-19-vaccines-worlds-poorest-countries>.

³⁵⁹ G7 backs Gavi's COVAX Advance Market Commitment to boost COVID-19 vaccines in world's poorest countries, Gavi: the Vaccine Alliance (Brussels) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/g7-backs-gavis-covax-amc-boost-covid-19-vaccines-worlds-poorest-countries>.

and launching new programs for action and through allocating money for public health entities such as COVAX.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

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