



The EU adopts its 2022 Work Programme

The European Commission adopted its 2022 Work Programme in October 2021. It sets out the next steps in its 'transformative agenda' towards a post-COVID-19 Europe that is greener, fairer, more digital and more resilient. The Work Programme contains 42 new policy initiatives across all six headline ambitions of President **von der Leyen**'s Political Guidelines. It also reflects the lessons learnt from the unprecedented crisis caused by the pandemic, while paying particular attention to the young generation based on a proposal to make 2022, the European Year of Youth.

Maroš Šefčovič, Vice-President in charge of Interinstitutional Relations and Foresight, said: *"It is not enough just to recover from a crisis of this magnitude. Rather, we need to emerge stronger and more resilient. In that spirit, we put forward our work programme for 2022. It underlines our determination to bounce forward from the pandemic, while seizing the opportunities offered by the twin green and digital transitions"*.

One of the headline ambitions in the programme is making Europe fit for the digital age. With the pandemic serving as a catalyst for the accelerating digitalisation of the world, the European Commission is gearing to continue on its path to the digital decade to deliver on the EU's digital transformation by 2030. Some of the

areas of focus are the development a **European Cyber Resilience Act** to establish common cybersecurity standards and measures to facilitate the uptake of **digital skills in schools and higher education**. These are also areas of interest for CARIFORUM States and of particular importance to service suppliers.

Every year, the European Commission adopts a Work Programme setting out the list of actions it will take in the coming year. The Work Programme informs the public and the co-legislators of political commitments to present new initiatives, withdraw pending proposals and review existing EU legislation. The Commission's 2022 Work Programme is developed in collaboration with the European Parliament, EU Member States and the EU consultative bodies.

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