The G7 Research Group presents the

2021 G7 Cornwall Summit Interim Compliance Report

14 June 2021 to 1 February 2022

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20 March 2022

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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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“We agree to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19, ensuring that countries are able to effectively address the indirect impacts on physical and mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic.”

*G7 Carbis Bay Health Declaration*

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**Background**

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic as a global health crisis and the need for a coordinated global response was first introduced at the 2020 US Virtual Summit. At the Summit, G7 leaders emphasized their commitment to coordinating on necessary public health measures, supporting the economy and global trade, and cooperating in sharing knowledge and data for further research and technology. The leaders affirmed full backing of the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the global alliance Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness and Innovation (CEPI) to manufacture and equitably distribute treatments and vaccines for COVID-19. The Summit set the stage for a strong recovery and began the process of restoring economic confidence through monetary and fiscal actions in support of the workers, companies, and sectors impacted. The leaders called upon the G20 to follow suit in these endeavors.

On 19 February 2021, at the G7 leaders’ virtual meeting hosted by the United Kingdom, the G7 leaders met to coordinate efforts “to beat COVID-19 and build back better.” The G7 leaders discussed working with the WHO to accelerate COVID-19 vaccine development and deployment and improve information sharing in the wake of new COVID-19 variants. They also reaffirmed support for COVAX, co-led by CEPI, Gavi, and WHO, in its efforts to ensure equitable vaccine access across the world. The G7 leaders recognized the unprecedented economic support which had been allocated in response to COVID-19, totalling USD6 trillion, and remained committed to further action to ensure a “strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive recovery.” They also made clear ambitions to promote economic resiliency for the future through climate action, clean energy job transitions, and advocating for a fairer, more digital, and mutually beneficial global economy.

On 13 June 2021, at the Cornwall Summit, the G7 leaders agreed to intensify international efforts to boost the international supply of COVID-19 tools to end the pandemic and minimize the rise of new variants.

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G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to distribute safe vaccines to as many people as possible across the world, acknowledging the two billion vaccine doses already provided and pledging another billion over the next year. They also called to advance recovery plans beyond the USD12 trillion to date by creating jobs, investing in infrastructure, and encouraging innovation in a manner that “no place or person, irrespective of age, ethnicity or gender is left behind.” The leaders also recognized the continued work of the G7 Panel on Economic Resilience in addressing the inequalities, market imbalances, and distortions exacerbated by COVID-19, particularly in the context of other key risks like climate change. To this end, G7 leaders also discussed the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on women and girls and reaffirmed their commitment to future plans and policies under the following three priorities: educating girls, empowering women and ending violence against women and girls. The statement from the summit also described the impacts of COVID-19 on the poorest countries who are also most burdened by conflict, climate change, socio-economic shocks, and a lack of resources. To ensure no country is left behind, the leaders reaffirmed their commitment to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 and considered future policy recommendations from the Financing for Development in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond Initiative.

Commitment Features

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders committed to “support a robust global recovery from COVID-19, ensuring that countries are able to effectively address the indirect impacts on physical and mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic.” The G7 Carbis Bay Health Declaration makes note of the “disproportionate impact on women and girls and on vulnerable and marginalised populations,” and calls for international collaboration between “multilateral institutions, governments and the private sector” to achieve its commitment to remedying indirect impacts in all three spheres (physical health, mental health and wider socio-economic consequences).

“Support” is understood to mean “the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity.”

“Robust” is understood to describe strong, decisive, inclusive action.

“Recovery” is understood to describe “the act [or] process … of recovering” from a crisis, in this instance, the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Indirect impacts” is understood to describe results or effects “happening not as the main… result” of the COVID-19 pandemic, but “in addition” to it. As part of this commitment, G7 members must take actions mitigating negative indirect impacts in three spheres: physical health, mental health, and wider socio-economic consequences.

“Physical health” is understood to describe “a state of physical … well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.” The commitment seeks to address the COVID-19 pandemic’s impact on physical

health beyond the diagnosis and initial treatment of COVID-19. The long-term effects of COVID-19, and
effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on equitable provision of quality health-care beyond the treatment of
COVID-19 are examined as part of this commitment.

“Mental health” is understood to describe “a state of well-being in which an individual realizes [their] own
abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and is able to make a contribution to
[their] community.” The commitment seeks to address the mental health crisis driven by the COVID-19
pandemic. Individual experiences with isolation and loneliness, grief and trauma, economic uncertainty and
precarity, inaccessibility of mental health supports, and fears for one’s physical and mental wellbeing and that
of their loved ones are significant psychosocial factors of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Soecio-economic consequences” is understood to describe a broad “combination of social and economic
factors” influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic. This commitment seeks to address the exacerbation of
global poverty, inequality, and societal divisions by the COVID-19 pandemic, with particular attention to how
these factors disproportionately impact already marginalized groups.

“Pandemic” is understood to refer to the COVID-19 crisis.

This commitment has a depth component examining the strength of actions taken by each G7 member. A
G7 member must take strong action in multiple spheres to achieve full compliance.

Strong domestic actions may include, but are not limited to policy action; domestic legislation designed to
safeguard citizens from the socio-economic consequences of COVID-19 or to expand the provision of
physical and mental health care; increased funding toward physical and mental health care (particularly with
respect to disabled and immunocompromised people, and those from marginalized groups); establishment of
a committee, task force, or other institutional mechanism to examine the indirect impacts of COVID-19;
funding of research into the indirect impacts of COVID-19; or increased funding and benefits for
unemployed or underemployed people. Weak actions on the domestic level include verbal reaffirmation
of the commitment or attending meetings that discuss the long-term impacts of COVID-19.

Strong international actions include the provision of international financial support (either directly or through
international institutions), or participating in, voting, joining, or financing organizations addressing the
indirect physical, mental, and socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Weak actions at the
international level include verbal reaffirmation of the commitment or attending meetings that discuss the long-term impacts of COVID-19.

To achieve full compliance, the G7 member must take strong actions in at least two spheres and less than
strong action in one sphere to support a robust global recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic: physical
health, mental health, and wider socio-economic consequences. Taking strong action in each of the three
spheres will also fulfill compliance.

For a score of partial compliance, the G7 member must take strong action in at least one sphere to support a
robust global recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic: physical health, mental health, and/or wider socio-

424 G7 Carbis Bay Health Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021.
http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-carbis-bay-health-declaration.html
425 Mental Health: strengthening our response, World Health Organization (Geneva) 30 March 2018. Access Date: 26 September
426 Mental health and COVID-19, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen) n.d. Access Date: 26
technical-guidance/mental-health-and-covid-19
427 Socioeconomic, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) 18 February 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. https://www.merriam-
webster.com/dictionary/socioeconomic
428 G7 Carbis Bay Health Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021.
http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-carbis-bay-health-declaration.html
economic consequences. Even if a G7 member takes less than strong action in two spheres in addition to taking strong action in one of the aforementioned spheres, they will still only receive partial compliance.

For a score of non-compliance, the G7 member has completed fewer than the aforementioned criteria.

### Scoring Guidelines

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-1</td>
<td>The G7 member has NOT taken strong steps to support a robust global recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic in ANY of the following three spheres: physical health, mental health, OR wider socio-economic consequences, OR the G7 member has taken weak steps in only ONE of the three spheres.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>The G7 member has taken strong steps to support a robust global recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic in at least ONE of the following three spheres: physical health, mental health, OR wider socio-economic consequences, OR the G7 member has taken strong steps in ONE sphere and weak steps in the other TWO spheres.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+1</td>
<td>The G7 member has taken strong steps to support a robust global recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic in ALL of the following three spheres: physical health, mental health, AND wider socio-economic consequences, OR the G7 member has taken strong steps in at least TWO spheres and weak steps in ONE other sphere.</td>
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### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 and effectively address the indirect impacts on physical and mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic.

On 14 June 2021, Member of Parliament for Charlottetown Sean Casey reported Canada invested CAD4.1 million to support infrastructure maintenance to health facilities on the frontline of the COVID-19 pandemic in Prince Edward Island.\(^\text{429}\) This infrastructure investment supports health facilities and the post-pandemic physical health of individuals in Prince Edward Island.

On 14 June 2021, Minister Catherine McKenna announced Canada invested CAD4 million toward the construction of a new youth clubhouse in Ontario through the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure plan.\(^\text{430}\) A new youth clubhouse in Ontario will support the mental health of youth and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 15 June 2021, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau committed to work with President of the European Council Charles Michel and President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen to “help strengthen a post-pandemic recovery of businesses.”\(^\text{431}\) Prime Minister Trudeau with President Michel and President von der Leyen advanced the Authorized Economic Operator Mutual Recognition Agreement to facilitate the flow of trade between Canada and the European Union, benefitting socio-economic recovery.

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Prime Minister Trudeau also launched a new bilateral Dialogue on Health to enhance cooperation on priority health commitments, including mental health, between Canada and the European Union.432

On 15 June 2021, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities Catherine McKenna reported Canada contributed CAD22.2 million through the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream of the Investing in Canada plan to fund municipal infrastructure in response to the impacts of COVID-19 in Ontario.433 Municipal infrastructure investments will protect the health and well-being of residents and support post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 15 June 2021, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Chrystia Freeland met with the Minister of Families Children and Social Development, Ahmed Hussen, to affirm mutual priorities which include reducing the cost of living and increasing access to affordable housing.434 Reducing the cost of living and increasing access to affordable housing will benefit the mental health of individuals and enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 16 June 2021, Minister of Indigenous Services Marc Miller declared Canada renewed the Indigenous Community Business Fund and allocated CAD117 million to provide “non-repayable financial contributions to Indigenous microbusinesses and community- or collectively owned businesses.”435 This initiative will support post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 17 June 2021, Minister McKenna declared Canada will invest in projects to “improve people’s quality of life now and following the pandemic.”436 Minister McKenna highlighted Canada will allocate CAD10,000 toward the Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum, CAD28,000 toward the launch a mobile library branch, CAD13,000 toward adaptation of community spaces to allow social-distancing, CAD24,000 to “promote the participation and inclusion of seniors and persons with disabilities in outdoor nature activities” and CAD11,000 to fund virtual concerts from the Gallery of Players of Niagara. These investments will benefit the mental health of individuals and enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 21 June 2021, Minister of International Trade, Export Promotion, Small Business and Economic Development Mary Ng declared Canada will invest CAD33 million toward Shop Local to promote local businesses and benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Canada. Minister Ng emphasised CAD9 million of this investment will be allocated for Ontario.

432 Prime Minister concludes productive Canada-European Union Summit, Prime Minister of Canada (Brussels) 15 June 2021.


On 21 June 2021, Member of Parliament for Kings Kody Blois announced Canada invested CAD1.1 million in the construction of a new facility for the Flower Cart Group, who provide vocational service to adults with intellectual disabilities.\cite{443} A new facility for the Flower Cart Group will help them to implement projects to support individuals with disabilities. Increasing access to support for individuals with disabilities benefits the mental and physical health of individuals and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 23 June 2021, Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages Minister Mélanie Joly declared Canada will invest CAD500 million over two years through the new Canada Community Revitalization Fund to finance projects that promote post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.\cite{449}

On 23 June 2021, Minister Joly announced Canada invested CAD593,880 to support the Centre d’innovation en microélectronique du Québec and benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.\cite{440} The Centre d’innovation en microélectronique du Québec will use funds to mentor “businesses through their applied research and innovation projects in microelectronics.”

On 23 June 2021, Minister Ng reaffirmed Canada’s commitment to collaborating with partners to achieve global post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.\cite{441} Minister Ng highlighted increased collaboration between Canada and Infrastructure Asia will enhance global post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 23 June 2021, Minister and Special Representative for the Prairies Jim Carr announced Canada invested CAD44.3 million to support 23 green and recreation infrastructure projects across the province.\cite{442} The institution of 23 green and recreation infrastructure projects across the province will support the physical and mental health of individuals and benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 24 June 2021, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages Larry Bagnell reaffirmed Canada’s support for local business and reported Canada will allocate CAD1.65 million to increase local shopping in Yukon, Nunavut and the Northwest Territories and CAD7.2 million to Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.\cite{443} Additionally, Minister Carr highlighted how the promotion of local shopping will benefit the post-pandemic reopening of business and socio-economic recovery for Canada.

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On 24 June 2021, Minister of Digital Government Joyce Murray announced Canada will contribute CAD5.5 million from the initial CAD33 million investment toward Shop Local to help British Columbia to promote local shopping.\(^{444}\) Minister Murray emphasised how the promotion of local shopping will benefit businesses and Canada’s post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 25 June 2021, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard Bernadette Jordan affirmed Canada’s commitment to support local businesses and declared Canada will allocate CAD2.7 million towards Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to assist local businesses.\(^{445}\) Minister Jordan highlighted how this investment will benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 28 June 2021, Minister of Canadian Heritage Steven Guilbeault declared Canada will allocate CAD300 million over two years to the Recovery Fund for Arts, Culture, Heritage and Sport Sectors.\(^{446}\) Minister Guilbeault highlighted Canada will allocate CAD200 million over two years toward the Reopening Fund. Minister Guilbeault indicated Canada will also invest CAD200 million over two years towards the Major Festivals and Events Support Initiative. These initiatives will benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 29 June 2021, Minister of Diversity and Inclusion and Youth Bardish Chagger announced investment of CAD40.9 million toward municipal infrastructure to respond to the impacts of COVID-19 in Southwestern, Midwestern and Central Ontario.\(^{447}\) This initiative will benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Canada.

On 29 June 2021, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Marie-Claude Bibeau announced Canada contributed CAD150,000 to support new research at the Ontario Crops Research Centre.\(^{448}\) New research will support Canada’s agricultural sector and benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 29 June 2021, Minister of Health Patty Hajdu and Minister Miller announced Canada will allocate CAD126.7 million over three years to increase access to health services and “culturally relevant mental health and wellness” programs.\(^{449}\) Increasing access to health services and “culturally relevant mental health and wellness” programs will support the mental and physical health of Indigenous communities.


On 30 June 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau reported the allocation of CAD180 million to advance gender equality internationally.\textsuperscript{450} Priorities of this initiative include creating a post-pandemic global socio-economic recovery “that creates jobs and opportunity for women and girls.” Prime Minister Trudeau contributed an additional CAD100 million to support women and girls in low and middle income “participate in the economy, in education, and in public life.” Canada will also join the Global Alliance for Care to assist women participate in international post-pandemic socio-economic recovery. Canada will allocate CAD10 million towards UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme initiatives to strengthen rights of women and girls internationally and support their mental and physical health, and CAD18.45 million to projects that “address inequality and discrimination faced by LGBTQ2 communities.”

On 30 June 2021, Minister Freeland declared the federal passage of Bill C-30.\textsuperscript{451} Bill C-30 extends the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy program, the Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy program, and Lockdown Support program until September 25, 2021. Bill C-30 expands eligibility requirements for the Canada Recovery Benefit program and the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit program. Bill C-30 will institute a new Canada Recovery Hiring Program and increase Old Age Security (OAS) by 10 per cent for seniors aged 75 and older. Bill C-30 will strengthen the Canada Workers Benefit program and deepen the benefits distributed through Employment Insurance sickness program and instituted a new federal minimum hourly wage of CAD15. To address immediate health care system pressures indirectly caused by COVID-19, Bill C-30 allocates an additional CAD4 billion to Canadian provinces and territories. Through these initiatives, Bill C-30 supports benefits post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 2 July 2021, Minister Freeland met with the United States Treasury Secretary, Janet Yellen, to discuss mutual priorities which include “post-pandemic recovery, including support for workers and businesses, and ensuring the recovery is inclusive and equitable.”\textsuperscript{452} These priorities will benefit mental health for individuals and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Canada and the United States.

On 3 July 2021, Minister of Foreign Affairs Marc Garneau met with the new Government of Israel to reaffirm mutual priorities, including post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.\textsuperscript{453} Minister Garneau announced Canada has allocated an additional CAD3 million every year to advance mutual priorities through the Canada-Israel Agreement on Bilateral Cooperation in Industrial Research and Development.

On 7 July 2021, Minister McKenna reported Canada invested CAD144.3 toward 209 infrastructure projects to modernize health, social services and long-term care facilities in Quebec.\textsuperscript{454} Financial support for health, social services and long-term care infrastructure will support the mental and physical health of individuals and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.


On 9 July 2021, Minister Bibeau declared Canada will allocate an additional CAD10 million towards the Local Food Infrastructure Fund. The Local Food Infrastructure Fund will address pandemic-related food security pressures which will benefit Canada’s post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 9 July 2021, Minister Bibeau and Quebec’s Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Andrée Laforest confirmed Canada invested CAD13.7 million to modernise health, social services and post-secondary education establishments in Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean. Modernising health, social services and post-secondary education establishments benefits mental and physical health of individuals and supports post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 9 July 2021, Minister of Middle Class Prosperity Mona Fortier announced investment of CAD3.1 million for municipal infrastructure in Ottawa to respond to the impacts of COVID-19. Additional municipal infrastructure investment will support the post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 12 July 2021, Minister Joly announced Canada’s allocation of CAD500 million to invest in a new Tourism Relief Fund. The new Tourism Relief Fund will contribute toward post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada. Out of the CAD500 million contribution, at least CAD50 million will fund Indigenous tourism projects.

On 12 July 2021, Minister Bibeau declared Canada will allocate CAD2.5 million to support non-profit projects that “facilitate access to safe and nutritious food for at-risk populations and strengthen the local food system” in Montreal. This contribution will support mental health for individuals and benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Canada.

On 13 July 2021, Minister Joly announced Canada will allocate CAD700 million to initiate the Jobs and Growth Fund. The Jobs and Growth Fund will create jobs and benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 15 July 2021, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry François-Philippe Champagne confirmed Canada will invest CAD39.6 million to support 236 researchers complete projects about the post-pandemic


opio-Id crisis and health of individuals in Africa among other topics. These projects will support the mental and physical health of individuals in Canada and abroad.

On 22 July 2021, Minister Freeland declared Canada allocated CAD48.5 million from the Tourism Relief Fund to provide direct support to tourism businesses and organisations in Atlantic Canada. This initiative will support post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 26 July 2021, Minister Hajdu announced Canada and Nunavut signed the Canada-Nunavut Bilateral Agreement for Pan-Canadian Virtual Care Priorities in Response to COVID-19. Through the Canada-Nunavut Bilateral Agreement for Pan-Canadian Virtual Care Priorities in Response to COVID-19, the federal government allocates CAD3.1 million to support virtual health services in Nunavut. Additional virtual services will support the physical health of individuals in Nunavut.

On 29 July 2021, Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Rural Economic Development Maryam Monsef declared Canada will invest CAD100 million to implement 237 projects through the Feminist Response and Recovery Fund. Minister Monsef highlighted how this initiative will help promote an “inclusive recovery from the social and economic impacts of the pandemic.”

On 30 July 2021, Minister Freeland announced an extension of the eligibility requirements for key employment benefit programs including: the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy program, the Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy and Lockdown Support program, the Canada Recovery Benefit program, the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit program, and the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit program. Extending eligibility for these programs benefits mental health of individuals and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Canada.

On 2 August 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau met with the President of the United States of America Joe Biden to reaffirm mutual priorities, including the post-pandemic socio-economic recovery, with particular attention towards women. Investments in physical and human infrastructure will help achieve their mutual goal of post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 6 August 2021, Minister Hajdu declared Canada, Newfoundland and Labrador signed the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Bilateral Agreement for Pan-Canadian Virtual Care Priorities in Response to

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On 13 August 2021, Minister Gould reported Canada has allocated CAD155 million to support the distribution of emergency food provisions to countries in need through organisations including: the World Food Programme, UNICEF, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs’ Country-Based Pooled Funds and the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.\footnote{Canada announces emergency support to respond to global food crises, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/08/canada-announces-emergency-support-to-respond-to-global-food-crisis.html} Increased funding to provide emergency food provisions will support the mental and physical health of individuals internationally.


On 17 October 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau affirmed Canada’s commitment to support small businesses owners to address the negative impacts of COVID-19 on their businesses.\(^{478}\) This initiative will contribute to post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 30 October 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau met with Prime Minister of the United Kingdom Boris Johnson.\(^{479}\) In this meeting, Prime Minister Trudeau and Prime Minister Johnson reaffirmed their commitment to cooperate on mutual priorities of post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 30 October 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau highlighted Canada will contribute CAD3.7 billion from Canada’s allocated International Monetary Fund Special Drawing Rights to help address post-pandemic socio-economic and health concerns for countries seeking support.\(^{480}\) From this CAD3.7 billion contribution, CAD982 million will be allocated towards the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust. Through these measures, Canada supports the global socio-economic recovery from COVID-19.

On 31 October 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau met with Prime Minister of Spain, Pedro Sánchez, to discuss mutual priorities which include post-pandemic socio-economic recovery prioritising “the needs of vulnerable and low- and middle-income countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.”\(^{481}\) Leaders committed to advancing post-pandemic socio-economic recovery by enhancing cooperation through international forums.

On 18 November 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau met with the United States President Biden to affirm mutual priorities which include increasing employment rates and achieving post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.\(^{482}\) Prime Minister Trudeau and President Biden committed to strengthening the medical supply chain internationally.

On 23 November 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau verbally reaffirmed Canada’s commitment to support a stronger domestic health care system by prioritising the medical procedures delayed due to COVID-19, “strengthening long-term care and improving access to mental health and addiction treatment.”\(^{483}\) These initiatives will allow Canada to benefit from domestic post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 29 November 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau met with Nunavut Premier P.J. Akeeagok to discuss mutual priorities particularly on strengthening housing and mental health support in Nunavut.\(^{484}\) Strengthening housing and mental health support will benefit the mental and physical health of individuals in Nunavut.

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On 1 December 2021, Member of Parliament Sean Casey reported Canada will invest CAD50,000 toward the Prince Edward Island Arts Guild.485 The Prince Edward Island Arts Guild will use this investment to support workers in the local cultural sector in Prince Edward Island. This initiative will benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 6 December 2021, Minister of International Development Harjit Sajjan declared Canada will allocate CAD75 million over the next three years to help address the global food crisis exacerbated as an indirect result of COVID-19.486 Increased funding to address food insecurity benefits the mental and physical health of individuals and international post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 7 December 2021, Minister Sajjan stated Canada will contribute CAD195 million toward projects that support emergency food service programs.487 Minister Sajjan highlighted Canada will also contribute CAD50 million toward the Global Financing Facility to “restore and sustain primary health care, including nutrition services, for the most vulnerable.” These initiatives will support mental and physical health for individuals and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 9 December 2021, Minister of Health Jean-Yves Duclos announced Canada has allocated CAD13.7 million towards 89 new research projects on COVID-19.488 These new research projects will deepen incites on the direct and indirect impacts of COVID-19 particularly for children, youth and families.

On 13 December 2021, Minister Ng reported the Government of Canada allocated CAD5 million towards the Black Entrepreneurship Knowledge Hub to support the “long-term success of Black entrepreneurs and business owners” and address “systemic barriers, many of which have been greatly increased by the pandemic.”489 This investment will enhance the mental health of Black entrepreneurs and business owners and benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 14 December 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau met with Nunavut Premier Akeeagok to reaffirm mutual priorities which include the increased institution of affordable housing and additional support for elder care in Nunavut.490 Increased access to affordable housing and additional support for elder care will benefit the mental and physical health of individuals and enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.
On 14 December 2021, Minister Freeland announced Canada will allocate CAD60 million to support workers in the live performance sector. She verbally reaffirmed Canada’s commitment to continue implementing “targeted support programs” to benefit individuals and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 16 December 2021, Minister Duclos announced Canada and Québec signed the Canada-Québec Bilateral Agreement for Pan-Canadian Virtual Care Priorities in Response to COVID-19. Through the Canada-Québec Bilateral Agreement for Pan-Canadian Virtual Care Priorities in Response to COVID-19, Canada allocates CAD28 million to support Québec institute virtual health services. Additional virtual services will support the physical health of individuals in Québec.

On 17 December 2021, Minister Freeland commended the Royal Assent in Parliament of Bill C-2. Deputy Prime Minister Freeland highlighted Bill C-2 will support the Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit program, the Local Lockdown Program, the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit program, the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit program, the Tourism and Hospitality Recovery Program, the Hardest-Hit Business Recovery Program and the Canada Recovery Hiring Program. The contribution of additional funds for these programs will support the mental health of workers and their families while benefiting post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 17 December 2021, the Government of Canada announced the federal minimum wage will be raised to CAD15 per hour on 29 December 2021. A federal minimum wage will support workers and their families recover from the indirect impacts of COVID-19. A federal minimum wage will help reduce poverty and enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 22 December 2021, Minister Bibeau announced Canada has allocated an additional CAD30 million to support the Emergency Food Security Fund. The Emergency Food Security Fund provides necessary resources to ensure food banks and local food organisations can fulfill the post-pandemic increased demand. These funds will benefit the mental and physical health of individuals and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 30 December 2021, Minister of National Revenue Diane Lebouthillier announced Canada will expand eligibility of the Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit program. The Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit program provides workers who are prevented from working due to the extended COVID-19 lockdown with CAD300 per week. The Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit program will now apply to workers affected by

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increased capacity restrictions. Expanding eligibility for the Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit program will benefit the physical and mental health of workers and enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Canada.

On 14 January 2022, Minister Duclos declared Canada is establishing a new Centre for Research on Pandemic Preparedness and Health Emergencies. To support the operation of the Centre Canada has committed CAD18.5 million every year. The Centre for Research on Pandemic Preparedness and Health Emergencies will produce research regarding direct and indirect impacts of COVID-19 to benefit the mental and physical health of individuals and enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Canada.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19, ensuring that countries are able to effectively address the indirect impacts on physical and mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic. Canada has taken strong action to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 by allocating funds and establishing programs to support mental and physical health for individuals in Canada and internationally. Canada has taken strong action to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 by enacting domestic legislation, implementing strategic infrastructure projects, increasing funding toward employment projects and programs to enhance socio-economic recovery.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Natasha Vosky

France: 0

France has partially complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 and effectively address the indirect impacts on physical health, mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic.

On 27 September 2021, Minister of the Economy Bruno Le Maire introduced the launch of a EUR3 billion transition fund. The stated purpose of the fund is to support medium and large companies (beyond the financial sector) affected by the COVID-19 pandemic by providing loans and quasi-equity instruments.

On 28 September 2021, President Emmanuel Macron announced psychological consultations will be reimbursed by Health Insurance “up to [EUR40] for the first session and [EUR20] for subsequent sessions, from the age of 3 by 2022.” Additionally, the initiative will create 800 new positions and distribute EUR80 million to centers for psychiatric care. This will help citizens access mental health resources.

On 5 October 2021, Minister for Solidarity and Health Olivier Véran and Minister for European and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian held the “Mind Our Rights, Now!” summit in Paris. The global summit


included international organisations, health professionals, academics, high-level policy makers and civil society actors all seeking to strengthen international mental health support.

On 8 November 2021, President Macron announced the investment of EUR400 million to support athletes and sporting industries negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.\(^\text{501}\) The investment aims to support part and full-time staff, players, sports organizations, clubs/arenas and event organizers who were left effectively unemployed due to the cancelling of many events. This will help remedy the economic consequences of the pandemic and aid the sporting industry in its recovery.

On 18 November 2021, the Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Recovery introduced “rent and rental charges” aid for businesses.\(^\text{502}\) This aid targets retail businesses and services affected by COVID-19 restrictions in early 2021, particularly those whose losses were not fully covered by the solidarity fund or by other financial assistance mechanisms.

France has partially complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. France has taken strong action to support those whose mental health has negatively been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and in remedying the negative socioeconomic consequences by supporting businesses and workers in impacted sectors. However, France has failed to take strong or partial action with respect to the indirect impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on physical health.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Ga Vin Park*

**Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 and effectively address the indirect impacts on physical health, mental health and the broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic.

On 14 June 2021, Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development Gerd Müller met with Togo’s Foreign Minister Robert Dussey, Prime Minister Victoire Tomégah Dogbé and President Faure Gnassingbé to sign an agreement for a reform partnership between the two countries.\(^\text{503}\) Minister Müller stated that the partnership will boost sustainable industrial development, foster good governance and strengthen Togo’s health system to promote economic growth and help Togo emerge from the COVID-19 crisis.

On 17 June 2021, Minister of State at the Federal Foreign Office Niels Annen recognized the harsh socio-economic situation of the majority of Venezuelan refugees because of the ongoing political crisis and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the job market.\(^\text{504}\) Upon the recognition of this humanitarian crisis, Germany pledged EUR35.4 million for humanitarian assistance and EUR23.6 million for development funding.

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On 23 June 2021, the federal government adopted the draft for the 2022 federal budget and fiscal plan to 2025.\textsuperscript{505} The budget includes a “broad-based investment initiative” totalling EUR51.8 billion in “investment spending” to counter the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The government also included EUR10 billion in “precautionary funding” to cover any unanticipated pandemic related costs and EUR7 billion for “business assistance programmes.”

On 12 July 2021, Minister Müller stated that Germany is in close contact with Namibian authorities to organize “fast assistance” in the fight against and recovery from the COVID-19 crisis.\textsuperscript{506} Germany is preparing to deliver “support goods” worth more than EUR11 million, including 50 ventilators, hospital beds, test kits, protective clothing, masks and vaccines.

On 4 August 2021, during an international donor’s conference organised by France and the United Nations, Minister of Foreign Affairs Heiko Maas pledged EUR40 million in support for Lebanon.\textsuperscript{507} EUR13 million from the total will go to humanitarian assistance programs, EUR7 million to stabilization, crisis prevention and peace building measures and EUR20 million to help Lebanon tackle the COVID-19 pandemic and recover from the consequences of the 2020 Beirut explosion.

On 27 August 2021, Chancellor Angela Merkel emphasized the importance of collaboration between international organizations to promote fair global economic recovery.\textsuperscript{508} Chancellor Merkel highlighted fair vaccine distribution, specific interest protections and debt moratoriums for developing and emerging countries in need as potential avenues for international collaboration.

On 25 October 2021, Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy Peter Altmaier announced that the government is providing up to EUR600 million to assist in the recovery of live in-person trade fairs.\textsuperscript{509} The government also allocated an amount of up to EUR20 million in subsidies to help and encourage small and medium-sized businesses to attend trade fairs.

On 15 November 2021, Chancellor Merkel stressed the importance of cooperation and networking in science, in politics and between science and politics, funding of the World Health Organization and the consolidation of trust to “successfully counter the horrors of pandemics.”\textsuperscript{510}

On 2 December 2021, the government extended the “temporary aid programme for companies” until March 2022.\textsuperscript{511} The “Temporary Aid Programme IV” will support self-employed individuals and business owners with EUR1,500 per month. The government will also provide an “additional equity injection” to businesses affected by lockdowns and closures, including the cancellation of Christmas markets.


On 10 January 2022, Finance Minister Christian Lindner stated that he wants the EU to implement the EUR750 billion debt-financed euro recovery fund “Next Generation EU” and stressed the new coalition government’s desire to play a “constructive role” in the debate on how to develop further the EU’s fiscal rules through the Stability and Growth Pact. The recovery fund and the development of the fiscal rules will help the EU focus on recovery from the pandemic and aim to promote growth and maintain debt sustainability.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic in the spheres of physical health and wider socio-economic consequences through its consistent promotion of fair economic recovery, vaccine distribution and the extension of financial aid programmes. Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

**Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 and effectively address the indirect impacts on physical health, mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic.

On 15 June 2021, Minister for Youth Policies Fabiana Dadone met with Slovenia’s Minister of Science and Sports Education to discuss objectives of the future Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the European Union. Minister Dadone emphasised how the COVID-19 pandemic aggravated inequalities for young people. Therefore, Minister Dadone recommended the future Slovenian Presidency should focus on the removal of administrative barriers faced by programs like Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps to facilitate the mobility of young people and the movement of volunteers within the European Union.

On 15 June 2021, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Marina Sereni met with Executive Director of the Global Fund Peter Sands to discuss mutual priorities. Vice Minister Sereni affirmed mutual priorities include combating the indirect health impacts caused by COVID-19 “which has caused a setback in the fight against HIV, tuberculosis and malaria.” Vice Minister Sereni emphasised Italy’s commitment to continue cooperating at the multilateral level to enhance post-pandemic health and socio-economic recovery internationally.

On 18 June 2021, during the Spain-Italy Dialogue Forum Prime Minister Mario Draghi reaffirmed Italy’s commitment to post-pandemic socio-economic recovery and the creation of jobs through instituting environmentally sustainable initiatives. In line with Italy’s commitments, Prime Minister Draghi announced Italy in partnership with the European Commission will allocate EUR75 billion from Next Generation EU to institute post-pandemic socio-economic goals. Draghi emphasised opportunities will be created for women,

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youth and those who have lost their jobs during the pandemic which will enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 21 June 2021, Prime Minister Draghi acknowledged the COVID-19 pandemic served to intensify gender inequality. To help promote gender equality and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery, Prime Minister Draghi announced Italy will aim to contribute EUR7 billion to these goals until 2026.

On 22 June 2021, Prime Minister Draghi met with President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen to announce the approval of Italy’s National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) as a part of Next Generation EU. Italy in partnership with the European Commission will allocate funds through Next Generation EU to implement measures and programs to support mental health, physical health and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery among other priorities, including EUR300 million Next Generation EU funds to train the youth for future careers in the audiovisual sector.

On 23 June 2021, Minister of Foreign Affairs Luigi Di Maio announced that Italy in partnership with the European Commission will allocate EUR1.2 billion through Next Generation EU towards Italy’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs to support Small and Medium Enterprises and other initiatives which enhance global post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 25 June 2021, Prime Minister Draghi affirmed Italy’s support for the institution of Green Pass, the common COVID-19 certificate among European Union member states. Prime Minister Draghi outlined that Green Pass will help drive post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Italy and throughout the European Union.

On 28 June 2021, Prime Minister Draghi with the United States Secretary of State Antony Blinken reaffirmed Italy and the United States’ corresponding priorities to achieve mutual post-pandemic socio-economic recovery. Prime Minister Draghi highlighted Italy and the United States will build on their cooperative relationship into the future to achieve the goal of mutual post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 29 June 2021, Prime Minister Draghi and Minister of Labour and Social Policies Andrea Orlando announced a joint agreement to increase post-pandemic employment was signed by Italy and organisations respectively representing Italian trade unions, industry, cooperatives and Small and Medium Enterprises: Cgil, Cisl, Uil, Confindustria, Alleanza delle Cooperative and Confapi. Prime Minister Draghi affirmed Italy’s commitment to institute “social safety nets, as well as the launch of active policies and permanent training processes” to boost employment rates in Italy which will serve post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

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On 30 June 2021, Minister for Parliamentary Relations Federico D’Incà announced Italy’s ‘Complementary Fund’ Decree which established a national plan for implementing complementary investments to Next Generation EU. The National Plan for complementary investments to Next Generation EU will allow Italy to expand on their partnership with the European Commission and allocate an additional 30.6 billion euros from 2021 to 2026 for Italy’s domestic priorities including post-pandemic socio-economic recovery and supporting physical and mental health resources in Italy.

On 30 June 2021, Minister Franceschini announced the allocation of EUR50 million from the Fund for emergencies for businesses and cultural institutions “to support non-state museums damaged by the forced closures.” This investment benefits post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Italy.

On 30 June 2021, Prime Minister Draghi met with Secretary General of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Mathias Cormann to affirm mutual priorities of bilateral cooperation. Prime Minister Draghi and Secretary-General Cormann discussed the Italian G20 Presidency emphasising their commitment to collaborate on post-pandemic global socio-economic recovery.

On 1 July 2021, Prime Minister Draghi affirmed the goal of maintaining expansionary fiscal policy to enhance economic growth for Italy. Prime Minister Draghi highlighted enhanced economic growth will allow Italy to institute increased socio-economic benefits particularly for marginalised groups. Prime Minister Draghi announced Italy will decrease barriers of participation in the labour market for young people and women by enhancing “technical and vocational training institutes and strengthening their connections with the employment market.” Decreased barriers of participation in the labour market for young people and women will benefit Italy’s post-pandemic socio-economic recovery. Prime Minister Draghi acknowledged the need for Italy to institute more nursing schools and improve infrastructure supporting the elderly which will benefit Italy’s post-pandemic socio-economic growth.

On 2 July 2021, Minister of Culture Dario Franceschini announced Italy will allocate EUR20 million to help exhibition organisers recover from extended closures faced as a result of COVID-19. This initiative will support post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Italy.

On 9 July 2021, Governor of the Bank of Italy Ignazio Visco and Minister for Economy and Finance Daniele Franco verbally reaffirmed Italy’s commitment to “address the adverse consequences of COVID-19, especially on the most impacted, such as women, youth and informal and low-skilled workers” internationally. Governor Visco and Minister Franco emphasised Italy will continue to work with others to achieve global post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.


On 22 July 2021, Minister D’Incà declared Italy's institution of the “Sostegni Bis” decree.\(^{528}\) Minister D’Incà outlined the Sostegni Bis decree benefits post-pandemic recovery for “businesses, work, young people, health and local services” in Italy. The Sostegni Bis decree provides funding for the health sector to recover from the strain COVID-19 caused on health resources. Italy will allocate EUR400 million to enhance the biomedical sector and provide tax credits up to EUR11 million for private businesses who invest in health related research. Emergency income provisions are also included to help individuals recover from the pandemic which will enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Italy.

On 29 July 2021, Prime Minister Draghi announced that Italy in partnership with the European Commission will allocate EUR7 billion to support Italy's travel and tourism industry through Next Generation EU.\(^{529}\) Prime Minister Draghi declared this investment in the domestic travel and tourism industry will enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery by increasing employment rates in Italy.

On 29 July 2021, Vice Minister Sereni announced the allocation of EUR25 million over the next five years toward the Global Partnership for Education.\(^{530}\) Vice Minister Sereni highlighted Italy’s investment in the Global Partnership for Education will enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery internationally.

On 5 August 2021, Minister Franceschini declared Italy will allocate EUR5 million to help businesses and cultural institutions that suffered financial losses due to government mandated closures as a result of COVID-19.\(^{531}\) This contribution will help businesses and cultural institutions recover from the losses they faced and benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Italy.

On 6 August 2021, Minister Franceschini announced Italy has contributed EUR5 million through the entertainment, cinema and audiovisual emergency fund to support Italian businesses in the audiovisual and entertainment sectors recover from pandemic related impacts.\(^{532}\) This investment enhances post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Italy.

On 17 August 2021, Minister Bianchi met with Minister Franco to sign a decree which allocated EUR350 million to support a safe transition back to school after COVID-19 mandated closures.\(^{533}\) This decree supports the mental health of students and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Italy.

On 1 October 2021, Minister Patuanelli announced Italy in partnership with the European Commission will allocate EUR1.6 billion to help businesses from the agricultural, food and forestry sectors in Italy recover


\(^{532}\) Covid, MiC: 5 million euros in communication to support the reopening of cinemas and theaters in safety, Ministry of Culture (Rome) 6 August 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 January 2022. https://cultura.gov.it/comunicato/21116

from COVID-19 related impacts.\textsuperscript{534} This initiative will contribute to post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Italy.

On 7 October 2021, Prime Minister Draghi chaired the first steering committee meeting for Italy’s NRRP which he established to help Italy and the European Commission allocate Italy’s Next Generation EU funds.\textsuperscript{535} Italy in partnership with the European Commission is allocating EUR17 billion as a part of Next Generation EU to assist post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Italy by strengthening domestic physical and digital infrastructure and enhancing skills of the youth and women. Of this EUR17 billion investment, Italy will allocate EUR3 billion to institute new nursing schools, EUR700 million for existing public infrastructure projects, EUR900 million to institute educational reforms, EUR800 million to implement new school infrastructure and EUR9 billion to develop research and enhance existing research partnerships. Prime Minister Draghi affirmed these Next Generation EU investments will strengthen Italy’s innovation capacity and boost post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 7 October 2021, the Minister for Regional Affairs and Autonomies Mariastella Gelmini announced that Italy, in partnership with the European Commission, allocated funds through Next Generation EU to initiate the new Employability Guarantee Program in Italy.\textsuperscript{536} The Employability Guarantee Program will support individuals maintain employment and benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Italy.

On 26 October 2021, Minister of Health Roberto Speranza and Minister Daniele Franco declared Italy acknowledged the ongoing direct and indirect impacts of the pandemic at the G20 Joint Finance and Health Ministers’ Meeting.\textsuperscript{537} Minister Franco and Minister Speranza verbally reaffirmed Italy’s commitment to continue cooperating with other G20 members to achieve global post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 29 October 2021, Prime Minister Draghi met with the Secretary General of the United Nations Antonio Guterres to discuss mutual priorities.\textsuperscript{538} Prime Minister Draghi reaffirmed mutual priorities including cooperation during Italy’s G20 Presidency and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery “with special attention to the most vulnerable Countries.”

On 11 November 2021, Minister Di Maio declared that Italy, in partnership with the European Commission, will allocate EUR800 million in subsidised funding and non-repayable grants through Next Generation EU to support Small and Medium Enterprises in Italy.\textsuperscript{539} Support for Small and Medium Enterprises will benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Italy.

\textsuperscript{534} Irrigation infrastructures: the first list of projects eligible for PNRR funds approved. 1.6 billion euros of investments, Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies (Rome) 1 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 January 2022. https://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/17398
On 18 November 2021, Minister Colao established a platform called PA Digital 2026 which allows administrations to apply for digital Next Generation EU funds, report on projects and receive assistance. PA Digital 2026 will ensure Next Generation EU funds contributed by Italy in partnership with the European Commission are allocated according to established plans and requirements.

On 25 November 2021, Prime Minister Draghi met with the President of the Chadian Transitional Military Council, Mahamat Idriss Déby Itno. Prime Minister Draghi highlighted priorities discussed in the meeting centred around post-pandemic “socio-economic development of Chad and of the entire region.”

On 30 November 2021, Minister Bianchi confirmed Italy in partnership with the European Commission will allocate EUR5.2 billion through Next Generation EU to build new nursery schools and preschools, innovative schools, canteens, and gyms. Investing in school infrastructure will support education for youth and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Italy.

On 9 December 2021, Prime Minister Draghi declared that Italy in partnership with the European Commission will allocate EUR235 billion from Next Generation EU funds in part to “reverse long-standing inequalities” created by the pandemic. Prime Minister Draghi reaffirmed Italy’s commitment to protect human rights for the most vulnerable and marginalised groups. Italy in partnership with the European Commission will build “better services for Italian citizens, from healthcare to schooling” through Next Generation EU funds. Prime Minister Draghi reaffirmed that Italy’s National Action Plan includes priorities of gender equality and socio-economic prosperity. Prime Minister Draghi reiterated Italy’s mission to combat all forms of discrimination.

On 10 December 2021, Minister Orlando declared Italy in partnership with the European Commission will support Italy’s adoption of the National New Skills Plan through Next Generation EU funds. The adoption of the National New Skills Plan will help youth gain experience and benefit Italy’s post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 13 December 2021, Prime Minister Draghi acknowledged COVID-19 intensified the difficulties faced by individuals with disabilities. Italy in partnership with the European Commission allocated EUR6 billion to enhance measures of accessibility in Italy. Prime Minister Draghi announced Italy will simplify the Italian disability assessment system to account for principles of the United Nations convention and Italy will establish a “national authority tasked specifically to protect and promote the rights of people with disabilities.”

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On 14 December 2021, Minister Colao announced that Italy, in partnership with the European Commission, are allocating funds toward the Digital Civil Service’s implementation of 45 youth projects as a part of Next Generation EU.\(^{546}\) These funds will support 1,007 youth volunteers participating in the Digital Civil Service to gain skills favourable for digital transformation and their future careers which will enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Italy.

On 23 December 2021, Minister D’Incà declared Italy’s institution of the ‘Recovery’ Decree.\(^{547}\) Minister D’Incà highlighted Italy’s ‘Recovery’ Decree establishing measures to guarantee Italy’s rapid implementation of Next Generation EU funds in partnership with the European Commission. Italy’s ‘Recovery’ Decree includes guarantees for Italy’s tourism sector and applies economic measures to support businesses and encourage investment to assist Italy’s post-pandemic socio-economic recovery. Italy’s ‘Recovery’ Decree establishes the National Strategic Pole to bridge the gap in Italy’s technological transition by preparing youth and adults with necessary digital skills to benefit employment rates and support Italy’s post-pandemic socio-economic recovery. Italy’s ‘Recovery’ Decree institutes Special Economic Zones to provide additional financial support to benefit businesses and enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Italy.\(^{548}\)

On 30 December 2021, the Government of Italy declared its allocation of EUR500,000 to finance psychological assistance projects.\(^{549}\) Increased investment toward the implementation of psychological assistance projects supports the mental health of individuals in Italy.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19, ensuring that countries are able to effectively address the indirect impacts on physical and mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic. Italy has taken strong action to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 by increasing funding for targeted programs to support the physical and mental health of individuals. Additionally, Italy has taken strong action to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 by increasing investments toward economic, infrastructure and employment projects and programs to enhance broader socio-economic post-pandemic recovery.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

**Analyst: Natasha Vosky**

### Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 and effectively address the indirect impacts on physical and mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic.

On 17 August 2021, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida stated that the government will disburse an additional JPY300 billion to prefectures and municipal governments to assist businesses.\(^{550}\) This financial support will help diminish the negative economic consequences stemming from the pandemic on businesses.

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On 14 October 2021, Prime Minister Kishida issued a statement announcing increased and prolonged funds for “push-mode” benefits, the Sustainability Subsidy program and Employment Adjustment Subsidies.\textsuperscript{551} These programs would expand financial support to those experiencing economic hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 8 November 2021, the Government of Japan created the New Form of Capitalism Realization Headquarters within the Cabinet as a council to discuss and implement regulations and subsidies to promote economic stability in a world coexisting with COVID-19.\textsuperscript{552} This will help to diminish the economic consequences due to COVID.

On 6 December 2021, the Government of Japan released a statement of intent to raise salaries of frontline workers in the areas of medical nursing, nursing care, child care and preschool education in order to recognize valued labour through the pandemic. Starting in February 2022, the government intends to increase those salaries by three per cent.\textsuperscript{553}

On 7 December 2021, Prime Minister Kishida acknowledged the effect of COVID-19 on food insecurity. Prime Minister Kishida also pledged to promote and fund JPY300 billion over three years to the global cause of improved nutrition.\textsuperscript{554}

On 28 December 2021, the Ministry of Loneliness acknowledged the mental health challenges of a large population that is physically or socially isolated.\textsuperscript{555} The Ministry stated in tandem with several non-profit organizations that they will work toward an environment where it is easier to raise concerns via hotlines, education to destigmatize mental illness and a communicative outreach program for those in need.

Japan has partially complied with acknowledging and remedying the indirect socio-economic and mental-health-related impacts of COVID-19 by providing financial benefits to citizens and sectors facing economic hardship due to the pandemic and by working with non-profit groups to increase access to mental health resources. However, Japan has failed to take any action on issues of physical health related to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

\textit{Analyst: Erica Matsui}

**United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 and effectively address the indirect impacts on physical and mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic.
On 27 October 2021, the Office of the Secretary of State for Wales and Her Majesty’s Treasury announced the Autumn Budget 2021 would offer the Welsh Government a GBP18 billion per year in addition to “UK-wide support” received to assist local communities and businesses. The additional funding will support post-pandemic recovery, specifically through targeted funding in Wales to support “road and infrastructure improvements, investment in local communities and funding for businesses.”

On 30 October 2021, Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau met with Prime Minister Boris Johnson. In this meeting, Prime Minister Trudeau and Prime Minister Johnson reaffirmed their commitment to cooperate on mutual priorities of post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 26 November 2021, the Department of Health and Social Care introduced a grant of GBP5 million to support suicide prevention services in response to increased demand during the pandemic, especially people with “pre-existing mental illness” and younger population seeking for help. The fund will be directed to voluntary, community and social enterprise organizations and allow them to expand ongoing programs and provide additional services.

On 16 December 2021, the Department for Education reintroduced the COVID-19 workforce fund to help colleges and institutions with staffing and financial challenges resulting from workforce absences. The fund’s stated purpose is to cover the cost for bringing part-time employees and educators to manage absences and further support their wellbeing and workload.

On 29 December 2021, Minister for Care Gilian Keegan announced an additional GBP60 million in funding to support the adult social care sector. This initiative includes more investment in personal protective equipment, testing and improved ventilation to protect workers, residents and their families.

On 7 January 2022, the Treasury delivered over GBP700 million in funding to local councils to support businesses most affected by the Omicron variant. Businesses in the hospitality, leisure, and accommodation sectors that are highly affected by the pandemic are able to apply for grants up to GBP6,000. Additional financial support will help keep businesses open and secure jobs against further challenges due to the Omicron variant of COVID-19.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to support a robust global socio-economic, physical, and mental health recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The United Kingdom has made efforts to support local communities and businesses.

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to recognize the challenges of vulnerable populations and has offered financial support to local communities, businesses, and education, social and healthcare sectors.

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

**United States: +1**

United States has fully complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 and effectively address the indirect impacts on physical and mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic.

On 25 June 2021, the fifth COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force was held by Dr. Marcella Nunez-Smith. This meeting addressed the impact of long-COVID and access to personal protective equipment, testing and therapeutics. The task force voted to create inclusive disability policies to recognize long-COVID as a health condition, create a national coordination of research standards, execute a national communication and education campaign to educate the public on long-COVID, maintain an adequate stockpile of PPE and create data transparency.

On 28 June 2021, Prime Minister of Italy Mario Draghi, in cooperation with the United States Secretary of State Antony Blinken, reaffirmed Italy and the United States’ corresponding priorities to achieve mutual post-pandemic socio-economic recovery. Prime Minister Draghi highlighted Italy and the United States will build on their cooperative relationship into the future to achieve the goal of mutual post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 2 July 2021, Deputy Prime Minister of Canada Chrystia Freeland met with the United States Treasury Secretary, Janet Yellen, to discuss mutual priorities which include “post-pandemic recovery, including support for workers and businesses, and ensuring the recovery is inclusive and equitable.” These priorities will benefit mental health for individuals and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Canada and the United States.

On 13 July 2021, the Department of Health and Human Services provided USD398 million to fund the Small Rural Hospital Improvement program. This provided funding to 1,540 small rural hospitals to do COVID-19 testing and prevention. The purpose of this action is to close the equity gap felt by Americas in rural communities where access to healthcare poses additional barriers and is under undue strain due to the pandemic.

On 22 July 2021, the Department of Health and Human Services announced an investment of more than USD1.6 billion from the American Rescue Plan to support COVID-19 testing and mitigation measures in

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high-risk congregate settings and vulnerable communities. Specifically increasing testing and mitigation resources for people with mental health and substance abuse disorders, people experiencing homelessness or residents of congregate settings, local prison populations and local domestic violence shelters and tribal shelters.

On 28 July 2021, the Department of Education provided nearly USD600 million to the American Rescue Plan Act’s Homeless Children and Youth program. This will help students who are experiencing homelessness as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 29 July 2021, the Department of Education announced USD3.2 billion in additional emergency grants under the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund to support students who attend over 1,800 institutions of higher education and provide resources to help these institutions recover from the impacts of the pandemic.

On 2 August 2021, Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau met with President Joe Biden, to reaffirm mutual priorities, including the post-pandemic socio-economic recovery, with particular attention towards women. Investments in physical and human infrastructure will help achieve their mutual goal of post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 16 August 2021, the Department of Education and Department of Labor launched an initiative to connect unemployed Americans with postsecondary education, particularly those who lost their job during the pandemic. This initiative aims to help unemployed Americans seek educational opportunities or training that will lead to good jobs.

On 31 August 2021, Deputy Secretary of Commerce Don Graves acknowledged how COVID-19 has impacted the tourism in Alaska and the economic impact of this. To support Alaska, the Department of Commerce has met with airline industry executives to discuss challenges and concerns, lead coordination between the cruise industry and the CDC and held discussions with the Department of Homeland Security and working groups to revamp international travel.

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On 30 September 2021, COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force Chair Dr. Nunez-Smith held the seventh public meeting of the task force. This meeting was held to vote on recommendations on ways to mitigate health inequities caused or exacerbated by COVID-19. The Task Force suggested five actions for the Biden-Harris Administration: invest in community-led interventions, create a data ecosystem that promotes equity-driven decisions, increase accountability for health equity outcomes, invest in a representative health care workforce and increase equitable access to quality health and coordinate the implementation of the COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force’s recommendations from a permanent health equity infrastructure in the White House.

On 13 October 2021, the Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights and the Department of Justice issued a joint fact sheet to support students with mental health disabilities during COVID-19. The Office for Civil Rights also released a letter to educators emphasizing schools’ obligation to students with mental disabilities.

On 4 November 2021, the Economic Development Administration awarded USD1 million America Rescue Plan grants to 30 states and territories. This grant aims to bolster economic recovery from the pandemic and help local economies be resilient to future economic shocks.

On 18 November 2021, Prime Justin Trudeau met with President Biden to affirm mutual priorities which include increasing employment rates and achieving post-pandemic socio-economic recovery. Prime Minister Trudeau and President Biden committed to strengthening the medical supply chain internationally.

On 7 December 2021, Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy issued a Surgeon General’s Advisory underscoring the urgency of addressing the youth mental health crisis. This advisory highlights the unprecedented impacts of COVID-19 on youth mental health and outlines paths to addressing the youth mental health crisis at various levels of governance.

On 21 December 2021, Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo announced the Economic Development Administration will award American Rescue Plan statewide planning grants to five territories. The initiative aims to support communities in accelerating their economic recovery from COVID-19.

The United States has taken strong domestic and international action to address the indirect impacts of COVID-19 through providing local and international funding to strengthen physical and mental healthcare systems and support marginalized peoples disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 and effectively address the indirect impacts on physical and mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic.

On 15 June 2021, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau committed to work with President of the European Council Charles Michel and President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen to enhance their engagement under the Canada-EU Digital Dialogue and the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence to “help strengthen a post-pandemic recovery of businesses.” Prime Minister Trudeau with President Michel and President von der Leyen advanced the Authorized Economic Operator Mutual Recognition Agreement to facilitate the flow of trade between Canada and the European Union, benefitting socio-economic recovery. Prime Minister Trudeau also launched a new bilateral Dialogue on Health to enhance cooperation on priority health commitments, including mental health, between Canada and the European Union.

On 22 June 2021, Italy’s Prime Minister Mario Draghi met with President von der Leyen to announce the approval of Italy’s National Recovery and Resilience Plan as a part of Next Generation EU. Italy in partnership with the European Commission will allocate funds through Next Generation EU to implement measures and programs to support mental health, physical health and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery among other priorities, including EUR300 million Next Generation EU funds to train the youth for future careers in the audiovisual sector.

On 23 June 2021, Italy’s Minister of Foreign Affairs Luigi Di Maio announced that Italy, in partnership with the European Commission, will allocate EUR1.2 billion through Next Generation EU towards Italy’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs to support Small and Medium Enterprises and other initiatives which enhance global post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 14 July 2021, Members of the European Parliament voted to condemn the increase in intimate partner violence amid the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects on women and children since the pandemic. They called on their member states to provide victims with safety and economic independence, develop “mandatory-targeted training for professionals dealing with cases of gender-based violence, child abuse and domestic violence” and to consider the interest of the child when making custody arrangements.

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On 22 July 2021, Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Stella Kyriakides reaffirmed the impact of the pandemic on mental health and the European Commission’s commitment to taking concrete steps in dealing with mental health.583

On 29 July 2021, the European Union and its Member States pledged EUR1.7 billion to the Global Partnership for Education at the Global Education Summit in London.584 This contribution will support children in 90 countries whose education has been negatively impacted by COVID-19.

On 29 July 2021, Prime Minister Draghi announced that Italy in partnership with the European Commission will allocate EUR7 billion to support Italy’s travel and tourism industry through Next Generation EU.585 Prime Minister Draghi declared this investment in the domestic travel and tourism industry will enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery by increasing employment rates in Italy.

On 11 October 2021, Members of the European Parliament Budget Committee demanded that the European Union budget for 2022 include investments to boost recovery from COVID-19 and “[lay] the foundations for a more resilient EU.”586

On 29 November 2021, representatives of the Council and the European Parliament agreed on the renewal of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) mandate.587 The ECDC will be assigned to establish a European Union Health Task Force to help with local responses to disease outbreaks, provide European Union and the European Commission with expertise and develop digital epidemiological surveillance platforms.

On 9 December 2021, Prime Minister Draghi declared that Italy, in partnership with the European Commission, will allocate EUR235 billion from Next Generation EU funds in part to “reverse long-standing inequalities” created by the pandemic.588 Prime Minister Draghi reaffirmed Italy’s commitment to protect human rights for the most vulnerable and marginalised groups. Italy in partnership with the European Commission will build “better services for Italian citizens, from healthcare to schooling” through Next Generation EU funds. Prime Minister Draghi reaffirmed that Italy’s National Action Plan includes priorities of gender equality and socio-economic prosperity. Prime Minister Draghi reiterated Italy’s mission to combat all forms of discrimination.

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On 14 December 2021, the European Parliament finalized the decision to hold the European Year of Youth in 2022. The initiative will include youth-focused activities that aim to bring a positive outlook for the European youth who were negatively impacted by COVID-19. The European Parliament plans to prioritize youth issues in policymaking during the European Year of Youth.

The European Union has taken strong local and international action to address the indirect impacts of COVID-19 on mental and physical health and socioeconomically by providing monetary aid to partner countries as well as through the creation of the ECDC to improve response to outbreaks.

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

**Analyst: Amelia Marlowe**

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