

## Minutes of the EVP videoconference with the national members of BusinessEurope 01/04/2020

EVP presented the measures the Commission has already taken or would take the next day.

Participants asked questions and commented. They agreed on the following points:

1. Overall support and recognition of quick action by the Commission
2. Lack of liquidity for SMEs remains a problem, notwithstanding national and european initiatives
3. Single market very important. Thank commission for green lane initiative and for guidelines on free movement of people. However insistence that have to go back ASAP to open borders
4. EU should remain open for business; No to protectionism
5. EU should review entry into force of (already approved) legislation that increases costs to business: examples given on cleaner cars, posting of workers, mobility package... and slow down new costly initiatives

Points of disagreement concerned the need to intervene with ESM or coronabonds or other, along known national lines. DE said we mobilised everything we could, that is good and enough.

IT, PT said that in exceptional circumstances you need exceptional responses and that if everyone goes it alone, the difference in fiscal space will lead to an unequal impact.

On this point  concluded that BusinessEurope line is no mutualisation of debt but yes to some kind of instrument, eg via ESM , which would allow use of OMT.