



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
SECRETARIAT-GENERAL

Recovery & Resilience Task Force  
[REDACTED]

Brussels  
SG.RECOVER [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED],

I would like to thank you for your letter to President von der Leyen. She has asked me to reply on her behalf.

The objective of economic, social and territorial cohesion in the Member States is an important competence of the Union under the Treaties and around one third of the European budget has been allocated to that purpose since long time ago.

The country-specific recommendations of the Union to Italy have regularly recalled the importance of addressing regional disparities and underlined the risks that these further increase. The importance attached by the Commission to convergence between European regions is reflected in the allocation key of the Recovery and Resilience Facility and in the increased budget for Italy under the European cohesion policy under the new MFF 2021-2027. Moreover, social and territorial cohesion is one of the six pillars of the Recovery and Resilience Facility, for which the Council of the European Union, the European Parliament and the European Commission have reached a political agreement in December.

The Commission will assess the degree of contribution of Member States Recovery and Resilience plans to the six pillars, including social and territorial cohesion, and if these plans contain among others measures to enhance economic, social and territorial cohesion.

The points that you raise in your letter are part of the national debates on draft plans. The political agreement on the Recovery and Resilience Facility Regulation of 18 December 2020 requires Member States to provide a summary of the consultation process for the preparation and, where available, the implementation of the plan.

**Equita Territorial**  
[REDACTED]

This debate should be conducted in accordance with the national legal framework and should notably cover local and regional authorities, social partners, civil society organisations, youth organisations, and other relevant stakeholders. Member States should also indicate how the inputs of the stakeholders are reflected in the plan.

Yours sincerely,

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