European Commission - Press release





The European Commission issues a positive assessment of Greece's €3.13 billion payment request under NextGenerationEU *

Brussels, 19 March 2025

The Commission has issued today a positive preliminary assessment of Greece's request for €3.13 billion under NextGenerationEU, the centrepiece of Europe's recovery efforts to build a greener, more digital, and competitive Union.

This payment marks the fifth instalment in Greece's recovery and resilience <u>plan</u>. The Commission's preliminary assessment confirms that Greece has met the required milestones and targets for this payment, financed under the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) of NextGenerationEU.

This request follows **14 reforms**, such as speeding up justice, improving VAT refunds, enhancing the effectiveness of public procurement, expanding broadband connection, improving waste and water management, and increasing mental healthcare facilities. It also includes **17 investments** in affordable and energy efficient housing, electricity networks, urban regeneration, green industry sites, reforestation and firefighting, and wastewater projects.

Flagship measures in this payment request include:

- **Upgrading Greece's electricity network:** investments will strengthen the grid, boost substation capacity for more renewable energy, reduce congestion, and support clean energy investment, fostering a sustainable and resilient system.
- **Simplifying and digitalising the public sector:** key measures include expanding e-services for driver's license renewal, court decisions, digital signatures, and document circulation, along with digitising public sector archives, and a unified IT platform for tax services. Additionally, judicial reforms will streamline the process by consolidating smaller-claim courts into existing first-instance courts.

Next steps

The Commission has sent its preliminary assessment to the <u>Economic and Financial Committee</u>, which has four weeks to provide its opinion. If positive, the Commission will adopt a payment decision for the €3.13 billion disbursement to Greece.

Background

The Greek recovery and resilience plan includes diverse investments and reforms (more information on the Greek plan, including a map of projects financed by the Recovery and Resilience Facility in Greece are available here), financed by €18.2 billion in grants and €17.7 billion in loans. The payment request endorsed today follows Greece's fourth-payment request for grants approved on 4 September 2024 and paid out on 16 October 2024.

This payment request will bring the funds paid to Greece under the Recovery and Resilience Facility to €21.33 billion or 58.3% of the plan's total, including €3.96 billion and €158 million from REPowerEU.

For more information

- You can explore an <u>interactive map</u> of RRF-financed reforms and investments to see how they are being deployed locally.
- Open data on the RRF can be accessed on the <u>Recovery and Resilience Scoreboard</u>, which tracks its implementation and progress.
- The text of the Commission's preliminary assessment offers details on the milestones and targets preliminarily assessed as satisfactorily fulfilled.

• The Recovery and Resilience Facility <u>Regulation</u> sets out the framework and objectives of the RRF.

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