



EU SUPPORT FOR ITALY



Flexibility granted to Italy within the rules of the Stability and Growth Pact

In 2015, the Commission presented new guidance on the application of rules of the Stability and Growth Pact to strengthen the link between structural reforms, investment and fiscal responsibility in support of jobs and growth.

Italy has been the main beneficiary of this flexibility applied within the Stability and Growth Pact. This has allowed Italy to spend and invest about €30 billion, or about 1.8% of Gross Domestic Product, compared to what it could have done otherwise.

This flexibility was granted to support the introduction of structural reforms, facilitate investment and respond to security threats, the refugee crisis and natural disasters.

Year	Reason for granting flexibility	Flexibility granted	
2015	Cyclical conditions; migration crisis	0.28%	€5 billion
2016	Structural reforms; investment; migration crisis; security	0.83%	€14 billion
2017	Migration crisis; earthquakes	0.35%	€6 billion
2018	Margin of discretion	0.3%	€5 billion



Juncker Plan's European Fund for Strategic Investments

The European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) at the heart of the Juncker Plan is now set to trigger around €390 billion in investments across Europe, and benefit around 929,000 small businesses.

Total EFSI financing in Italy amounts to €9.7 billion as of March 2019 and is expected to trigger more than €63.3 billion in additional investments. This financing supports a range of investment projects which would not have been possible without the backing of the Juncker Plan. More than 286,122 small and medium-sized Italian businesses are expected to benefit from improved access to finance as a result of the Juncker Plan.



Italy is the second biggest beneficiary of the Juncker Plan in absolute terms.



European Structural and Investment Funds...

Italy is the second largest beneficiary of the European Structural and Investment Funds. For the whole period of 2014-2020, Italy has been allocated €44.7 billion in support. This represents an average of €735 in support from the EU budget for every Italian citizen.

These funds are invested to support jobs and growth, boost innovation, protect the environment and increase labour market participation.

For the next long-term EU budget, the Commission is proposing that Italy should receive €43.5 billion in Cohesion Policy funds. This is an increase of €8.5 billion in current prices, in the context of an overall reduction of the Cohesion budget.



Italy is by far the biggest beneficiary of the EU Solidarity Fund with €2.5 billion since the creation of the Fund.

- 2009 **L'Aquila** earthquake: €10 billion damage, €494 million aid.
- 2012 **Emilia Romagna** earthquake: €13 billion damage, €670 million aid.
- 2016/2017 **Central Italy** earthquake: €22 billion damage, €1.2 billion aid.
- The reconstruction of the Cathedral **San Benedetto di Norcia**, patron Saint of Europa, has become the symbol of European Solidarity.



...directly benefit the Italian people

Over the 2014-2020 period, Italy is set to receive around €2.5 billion under European Structural and Investment Funds for investments in network infrastructures, such as roads or rail.

Since 2014, Italy has received €1.6 billion for 67 transport projects under the Connecting Europe Facility. These projects mainly support the development of rail infrastructure.

EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL AND INVESTMENT FUNDS HELP ITALY IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

- A **planned increase of 1 961 859 households** with a Broadband connection.
- **253 km** of new tram/metro lines.
- **2 797 162 persons** to benefit from an **improved health service**.
- **101 622 enterprises** aided in one way or another, with **23 425 jobs** (Full time equivalent) created.
- **272 218 long-term unemployed** already involved in European Social Fund's actions.



Support for managing migration

Since the beginning of the migration crisis, the Commission has awarded more than €950 million to support migration and border management in Italy. This funding includes over €225 million in emergency support and €724 million allocated to Italy under the national programmes of the Asylum Migration and Integration Fund and the Internal Security Fund 2014-2020.