

Contribution to the Focus chapter of the Fundamental Rights Report 2022: Social rights and equality in light of the recovery from the COVID- 19 pandemic.

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Contents

1	Measures implemented to foster social rights and equal treatment in the recovery from the pandemic	3
2	Tools or mechanisms to monitor the effectiveness of national schemes to foster social rights and equal treatment in the recovery from the pandemic.....	8

1 Measures implemented to foster social rights and equal treatment in the recovery from the pandemic

Name of the measure in English	'My First Job'
Name of the measure in the national language(s)	"Minu esimene töökoht"
Reference document for the measure <i>Include an url, where available</i>	Estonian Recovery and Resilience Plan (<i>Taaste- ja vastupidavuskava</i>), 17 June 2021, https://rrf.ee/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/RRP-Taastekava-170621-VIISi.pdf
Social rights covered by the measure <i>Delete as appropriate</i> <i>Multiple answers possible, but preference should be given to measures that apply to one discrete right</i>	- Right to fair and just working conditions (Article 31)
Population group(s) covered by the measure <i>Delete as appropriate</i> <i>Multiple answers possible, but preference should be given to measures that apply to discrete population groups</i>	- Children and youth

Summary description of how the measure applies to the population group(s)	The objective of the 'My First Job' measure is to help young people with little work experience to get into and stay in employment. The measure consists of a wage subsidy paid to the employer of a young person and reimbursement of the training costs of a young person. A wage subsidy and training allowance (up to € 2500) is paid to an employer who employs a young person between 16 and 29 years old and registered as unemployed with no or only short-term work experience. The measure is integrated with other services, in particular with follow-up support to young people and employers beyond the start of the employment with the aim to prevent premature end of the employment relationship and to identify the training needs of the young person.
Summary description of how the measure will impact (positively or negatively) social rights and equal treatment in the recovery	The Estonian recovery and resilience plan outlines that young people are one of the groups most affected by the COVID-19 crisis in the labour market – youth unemployment increased to approximately 15% in 2020, from 8.5% in 2019. According to an impact study conducted by Praxis ¹ , the measure significantly increases the prospect of young people participating in the scheme to stay in stable employment. It is estimated that a total of 3178 young people will benefit from the programme in 2022-2025, therefore, the measure has the potential to reduce youth unemployment and social problems resulting from unemployment.
Summary description of the extent to which the measure foresees the provision of enabling social services	-
Entity or organisation responsible to implement the measure	Unemployment Insurance Fund (<i>Töötukassa</i>)

¹ Melesk, K., Koppel, K., Laurimäe, M., Nuiamäe, M., Jaanits, J., Beilmann, K. (2021), [Teenuse „Minu esimene töökoht“ mõju ja tõhususe hindamine](#), Centre for Policy Studies Praxis, Tallinn.

Duration of the measure	From January 2022 to December 2025
Budget allocated to implement the measure	€ 10 mln
Summary description of how any foreseen impact assessment of the measure will be carried out	<p>Past experience and a previous impact assessment was taken into account when designing the measure. A similar measure has been implemented since 2015, funded by the European Social Fund. An evaluation of the impact and effectiveness of the measure was completed in February 2021.² According to the assessment, 80% of young people who were employed through the 'My First Job' measure were in employment after six months, and 74% after 12 months. 12 months after the end of the measure, 65% of the young people who participated in the scheme were in employment. Based on the result of the impact assessment, an upgraded 'My first job' scheme will be created. For example, the upgraded scheme will be integrated with continuous support to the young person and the employer also after the start of the employment relationship.</p> <p>The implementation of the measure is measured by intermediate results and benchmarks. The first benchmark is finishing the creation of the updated version of the 'My First Job' scheme by the first quarter of 2022 at the latest. By the same time, the conditions for granting the support have to be submitted to the Minister of Health and Labor for approval. The target for the fourth quarter of 2025 is that 3178 young people (16–29) have participated in the scheme.</p>

Name of the measure in English	Capacity building for a multi-purpose medical helicopter
Name of the measure in the	Mitmeotstarbelise meditsiinikopteri võimekuse loomine

² Melesk, K., Koppel, K., Laurimäe, M., Nuiamäe, M., Jaanits, J., Beilmann, K. (2021), [Teenuse „Minu esimene töökoht“ mõju ja tõhususe hindamine](#), Centre for Policy Studies Praxis, Tallinn.

national language(s)	
Reference document for the measure <i>Include an url, where available</i>	Estonian Recovery and Resilience Plan (<i>Taaste- ja vastupidavuskava</i>), 17 June 2021, https://rrf.ee/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/RRP-Taastekava-170621-VIISi.pdf
Social rights covered by the measure <i>Delete as appropriate</i> <i>Multiple answers possible, but preference should be given to measures that apply to one discrete right</i>	- Right of access to preventive health care and to benefit from medical treatment (Article 35)
Population group(s) covered by the measure <i>Delete as appropriate</i> <i>Multiple answers possible, but preference should be given to measures that apply to discrete population groups</i>	- Others: Individuals from rural areas with poor access to health care facilities
Summary description of how the measure applies to the population group(s)	The objective of the measure is to ensure that rapid access to health care services is available for those who live in peripheral areas, especially on islands, through specialised helicopters. The investment consists of the purchase of two multifunctional medical helicopters, including ancillary equipment, maintenance supplies and initial training of personnel needed to operate the helicopters, as well as the construction of landing bases and landing sites at emergency medical centres.

Summary description of how the measure will impact (positively or negatively) social rights and equal treatment in the recovery	<p>According to the recovery and resilience plan, COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the economy have reduced the country's ability to make the necessary capital investments to health infrastructure. The availability of health care services in Estonia is uneven and varies greatly by region. This measure is intended to prevent the widening of inequalities in access to healthcare by ensuring rapid transport of critical patients from sparsely populated areas and islands to the appropriate health care facilities. Taking into account the experience of other countries, such as Finland, it is expected that the development and maintenance of medical helicopter capabilities will improve the situation.</p>
Summary description of the extent to which the measure foresees the provision of enabling social services	<p>-</p>
Entity or organisation responsible to implement the measure	<p>Police and Border Guard Board (<i>Politsei- ja Piirivalveamet</i>)</p>
Duration of the measure	<p>The acquiring process of the medical helicopters and the capacity building are expected to be finished by 30 June 2026.</p>
Budget allocated to implement the measure	<p>€ 46.3 mln</p>
Summary description of how any foreseen impact assessment of the measure will be carried out	<p>No specific impact assessment is included in the plan.</p>

2 Tools or mechanisms to monitor the effectiveness of national schemes to foster social rights and equal treatment in the recovery from the pandemic

Name of the monitoring tool or mechanism in English	Structural Funds Operating System SFOS
Name of the monitoring tool or mechanism in the national language(s)	Struktuurivahendite infosüsteem SFOS
Reference document for the monitoring tool or mechanism <i>Include an url, where available</i>	Estonian Recovery and Resilience Plan (<i>Taaste- ja vastupidavuskava</i>), 17 June 2021, https://rrf.ee/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/RRP-Taastekava-170621-VIISi.pdf
Organisation(s) involved in the monitoring tool or mechanism <i>Delete as appropriate</i> <i>Multiple answers possible</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National authorities: State Shared Service Centre (<i>Riigi Tugiteenuste Keskus</i>) and the Ministry of Finance (<i>Rahandusministeerium</i>)

<p>Summary description of how these organisation(s) are involved in the monitoring tool or mechanism</p>	<p>The State Shared Service Centre and the Ministry of Finance are responsible for monitoring the progress of the plan. The State Shared Service Centre is the Managing Authority, which will be the coordinating body responsible for the financial management of the plan and for the management and control system, including validation of all interim and final milestones and targets agreed in the plan and drawing up the management declaration accompanying payment requests. To this end, the single integrated information system SFOS will be used. The State Budget Department of the Ministry of Finance will hold the responsibility for planning, monitoring and evaluation in cooperation with the Managing Authority. The Financial Control Department of the Ministry of Finance is the audit authority, which will carry out regular audits of the management and control systems. It also prepares a summary of the audits carried out, which will precede the payment requests.</p>
<p>Summary description of the functioning of the tool or mechanism used to monitor the effectiveness of schemes adopted to foster social rights and equal treatment in the recovery</p>	<p>The Financial Control Department of the Ministry of Finance will prepare the audit strategy and carry out regular audits of the management and control systems and sample testing. In particular, the audits of the management and control system will assess that the monitoring and implementation arrangements provide complete and reliable data on the indicators defined in the recovery and resilience plan, and that the implementation system ensures that funds are managed in accordance with the rules. The State Shared Service Center assesses risks and can also order audits and carry out on-the-spot checks if necessary.</p> <p>The integrated information system SFOS collects the necessary information to monitor investments, including milestones, targets and results. The SFOS also records all the audits of projects and of management and control systems. The SFOS is accessible to all actors of the administration.</p>

<p>Summary description of the obligations, standards and benchmarks against which the effectiveness will be evaluated</p>	<p>According to the recovery and resilience plan, the Financial Control Department of the Ministry of Finance follows internationally accepted auditing standards (IIA) when conducting audits. No other UN or EU instruments are mentioned. Indicators and benchmarks vary by measure.</p>
<p>Summary description of what the tool or mechanism foresees when non-compliance with obligations and standards is identified, with a particular emphasis on enforcement and remedial action</p>	<p>The recovery and resilience plan states that irregularities detected during project implementation and accompanying financial corrections must be entered into the information system SFOS. The State Shared Service Centre, as the coordinating body, keeps records of the irregularities identified by the administration and the accompanying corrections, and carries out the necessary checks. The State Shared Service Centre plans necessary changes or additional inspections accordingly.</p>