



European Semester

An overview

Secretariat-General



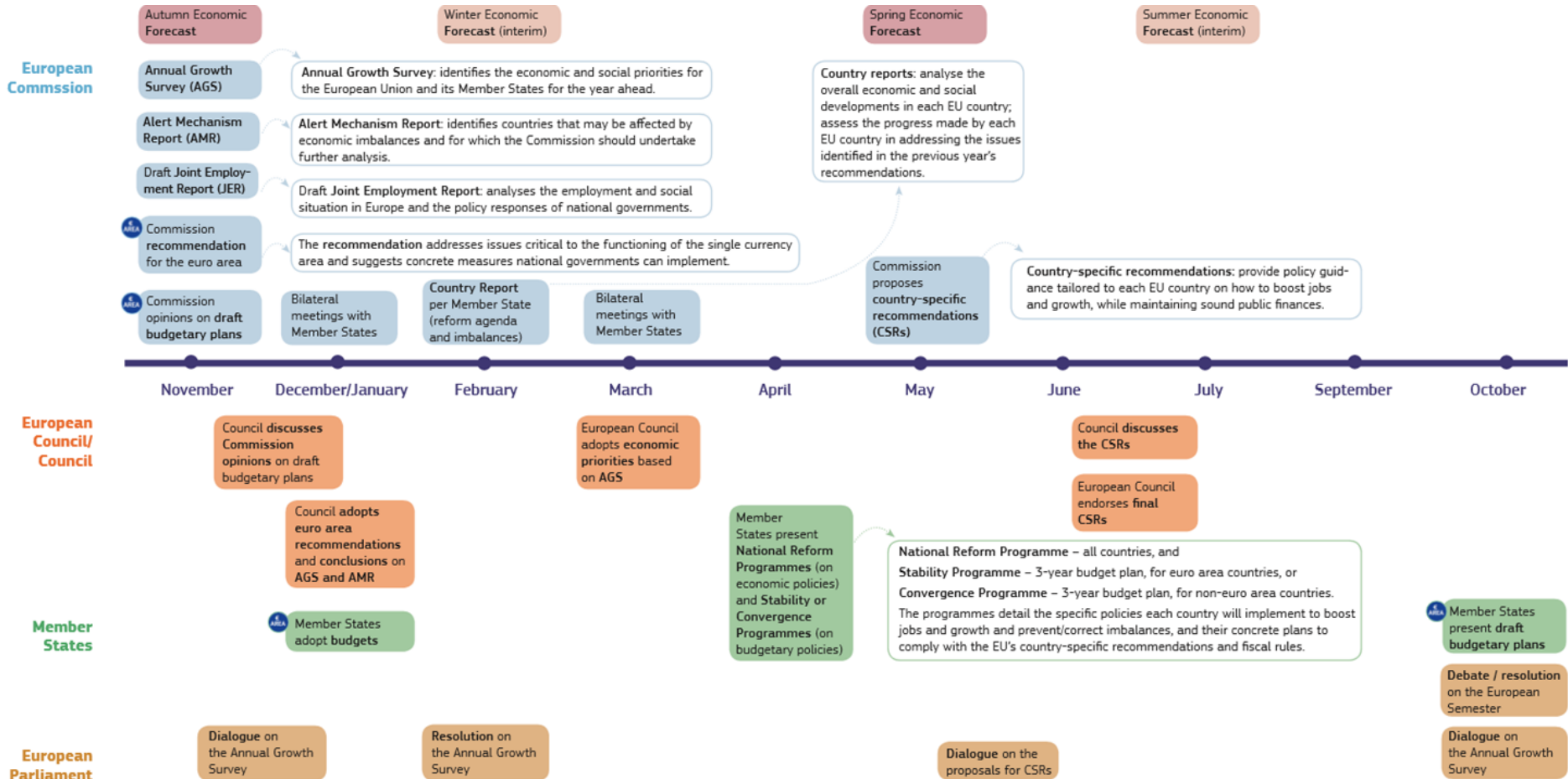
Outline

- **Overall Semester process**
- **Examples of health in main Semester documents**
- **Current challenges for the Semester**



European Commission

Timeline





2019 milestones

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 21 November 2018 | Autumn package (AGS) |
| 5-14 December 2018 | Bilateral meetings with MS |
| 27 February 2019 | Winter package (Country reports) |
| 18-22 March 2019 | Bilateral meetings with MS |
| 5 June 2019 | Spring package (CSRs) |

Employment Guideline 8:

"Member States should ensure timely access to affordable preventive and curative health care and long-term care of good quality, while safeguarding sustainability over the long run"



*Key Messages of **Joint Employment Report**,
March 2019:*

"Improving access to quality healthcare and long-term care, together with increasing their effectiveness, is a guiding principle for reforms in Member States."

"...in a number of Member States reforms of healthcare systems focus on improving their effectiveness by better coordination, in particular with social services, and a stronger role assigned to primary care and prevention."

Social scoreboard: self-reported unmet need for medical care

"Estonia, Greece, Italy, Poland and Romania face a critical situation in terms of self-reported unmet need for medical care (no "best performers" identified through the methodology)"



AGS Council Conclusions (EPSCO, March 2019):

11: "...In addition, increased effectiveness and access to preventive actions, as well as quality curative healthcare, are key premises for a healthy and active population, thus contributing to improve social wellbeing and economic prosperity."

AGS Council Conclusions:

12. "Dealing with the impact of the ageing of European societies requires sustained efforts to ensure...investment in quality services (especially to ensure access to health and long-term care), as well as improved policies for prevention, rehabilitation and independent living"



Challenges for 2019

- **Links to EU funds**

- *European Semester documents to focus on **investment needs at national level** to guide programming decisions for **structural funds***

- *COM proposal for **Reform Support Programme***

- **Ensuring a renewed focus on long-term growth**

- *Shift in priorities since inception of Semester to reforms which are **forward-looking** and focus on **sustainable, inclusive, long-term growth**.*

- **Increasing impacts and national ownership, beyond expert circles**

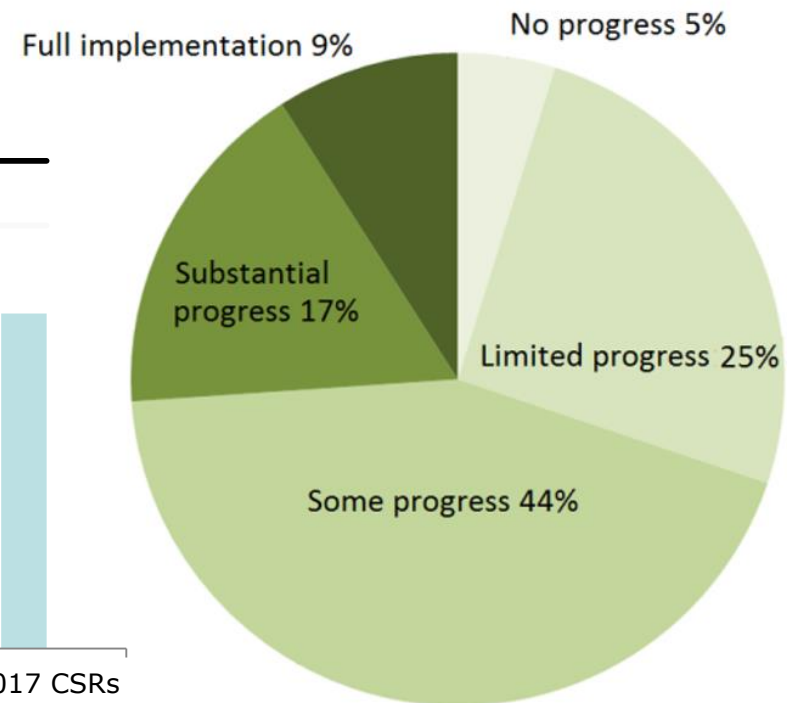
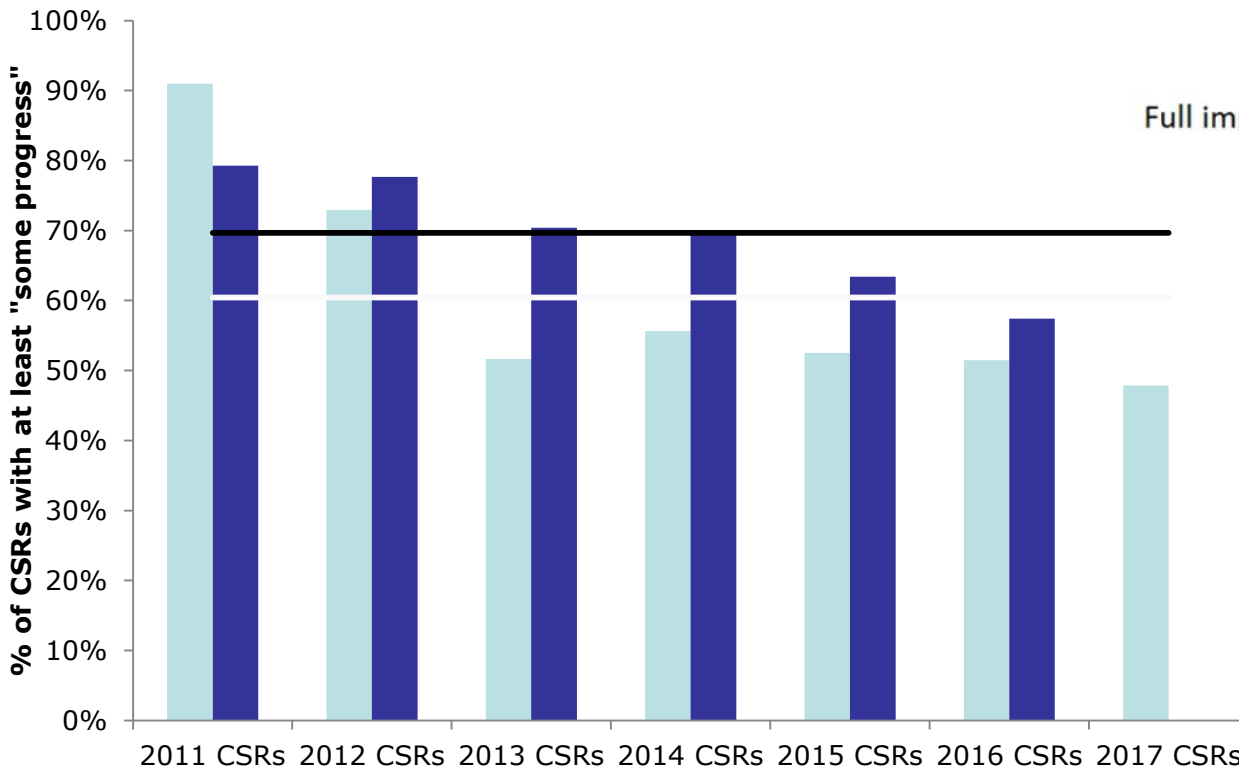
- *Recent improvements include **greater opportunities for dialogue with national stakeholders***

- *Yet European Semester **falls short of expectations** in terms of impacts on the ground*

Multiannual perspective of the CSRs implementation

Annual assessment versus implementation to date:

Current level of implementation of 2011-2017 CSRs:



Source: Commission

- Annual CSR assessment
- Multiannual CSR assessment to date
- Average of annual assessment
- Average of multiannual assessment