



July 10th, 2020

INSULEUR BoD

Chairman: Joseph Borg,
President, Gozo Business
Chamber (Malta)

First Vice- President: Patrick
Vial- Collet, President,
Chamber of Commerce and
Industry of Guadeloupe
(France)

Second Vice-
President: Prof. Heri Bezić,
Ph.D, President of the
Croatian Chamber of
Economy - County Chamber
Rijeka(Croatia)

Third Vice-
President: Evangelos
Myrsinias, President
Chamber of Commerce of
Lesvos (Greece)

Fourth Vice-
President: Michael Galea,
Gozo Business Chamber
(Malta)

Treasurer: Nikolaos
Tsipiras, Chamber of
Commerce of Zakynthos
(Greece)

Secretary General: Antonio
Grimalt, Chamber of
Commerce of Mallorca
(Spain)

Μιχαήλ Λιβανού 52, 82100
Χίος, Τηλ.: 22710 41170, Fax.:
22710 41871

Michail Livanou 52, 82132
Chios, Greece,
tel.: 0030 2271 0 41170,
fax: 0030 2271 0 41871
e-mail:

insuleur.network@gmail.com,
website: www.insuleur.org

A FLEXIBLE, DIFFERENTIATED AND PERMANENT STATE AID REGIME FOR EU ISLANDS

In its July 6th, 2020 letters addressed to all 27 EU Heads of States and government of the European Council, and in view of the upcoming extraordinary #EUCO of 17-18 July on the Recovery Package and the MFF, the Network of Insular Chambers of the European Union-INSULEUR calls on Europe's leaders to match political statements about a "fair and inclusive recovery" promoting territorial cohesion with sufficient budgetary means and an appropriate policy/legislative framework, in order to address the major economic and social setbacks incurred by the EU islands during the current unprecedented crisis but also beyond it.

In particular, INSULEUR reiterates the need for the adoption of a specific strategy for EU islands in the State Aid Framework at EU / national / regional / local level. An urgent and immediate component of this framework should be a specific state aid regime for islands where insularity would be recognized as a permanent feature affecting negatively, directly and indirectly islands' economies. This framework would ensure the recovery and sustainable development of islands at *pari passu* with the mainland.

Joseph Borg, President of INSULEUR, highlighted among other that EU governments need to provide meaningful support to islands in their policies and national budgets by factoring a differentiated and permanent solution to islands' concerns and presented in this respect, and among other, proposals for:

- Diversifying island economies;
- Supporting islands with the migration influx;
- Ensuring flexibility in the State Aid regime (with a higher threshold for islands);
- Adopting a specific VAT regime for islands.