



## ASSISTANCE TO LIBYA BASED ON MALTA'S PROPOSAL

The Maltese proposal to launch **an urgent humanitarian mission in Libya to fight human trafficking has been accepted by the European Union**. The assistance will consist of **funds which have been sourced from existing European Union finances** and which will be given to international entities already working in Libya **to see that such aid reaches those in need**. Agreement on the financial package was reached at the European Union's Foreign Affairs Council, after the **Maltese initiative for this call to be put on the agenda of the same Council**. Union foreign ministers agreed unanimously that **€35 million in assistance be provided to the Libyan coastguard in order to reduce human trafficking**. The humanitarian crisis in Libya is **becoming a security crisis for the EU because the impact of fighting and Covid-19 will lead to more refugees and immigrants becoming exploited by human traffickers**. This calls for a **European response and not that of a small, single country which always carried its burden**.

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**5,000 MORE JOBS SAVED**

**€4.3 million have been paid to those whose jobs were affected by the impact of Covid-19**. With the four benefits administered by the Ministry for the Family, Children's Rights and Social solidarity, **5,000 more jobs have been saved**. On average, these persons **have already received €760**. So far there have been **8,504 applications and 91% of these have been processed**. Among those paid today are **4,908 persons who received parental benefits, medical or disability benefits**, this while retaining their employment, as well as **147 other individuals who stopped their benefits and returned back to work**. Combined with the **77,000 jobs saved** by Malta Enterprise's schemes, so far **82,000 jobs have been saved**.



## MORE GOOD NEWS

**39 more persons have recovered from Covid-19.** 10 of these are over 60 years old, among whom are 3 over 80 years of age. This means that now **204 persons are free of the virus.** In the last 24 hours **641 tests were done, with only one person testing positive,** and despite this person having no symptoms, he was identified via random testing that the health authorities are doing regularly within the community. There are now **238 remaining active cases in the country.** The health authorities said that although local transmission seems to have gone down, the public **should continue observing social distancing measures and not needlessly leave their homes.** The strategy for the removal of measures against the spread, once it comes into being, must be done under monitoring, calmly, **and with caution to ensure that the spread does not reignite.**



## INSPECTIONS

**5 persons were fined €100 each during the continuous patrols that the Police are doing** to ensure that there are no groups of more than 3 persons in public places as per the legal notice issued by the government. **No one was found breaking obligatory quarantine during the 605 inspections carried out in the last 24 hours.** The appeal remains that everyone should be responsible and cooperate with the directives being issued by the authorities.



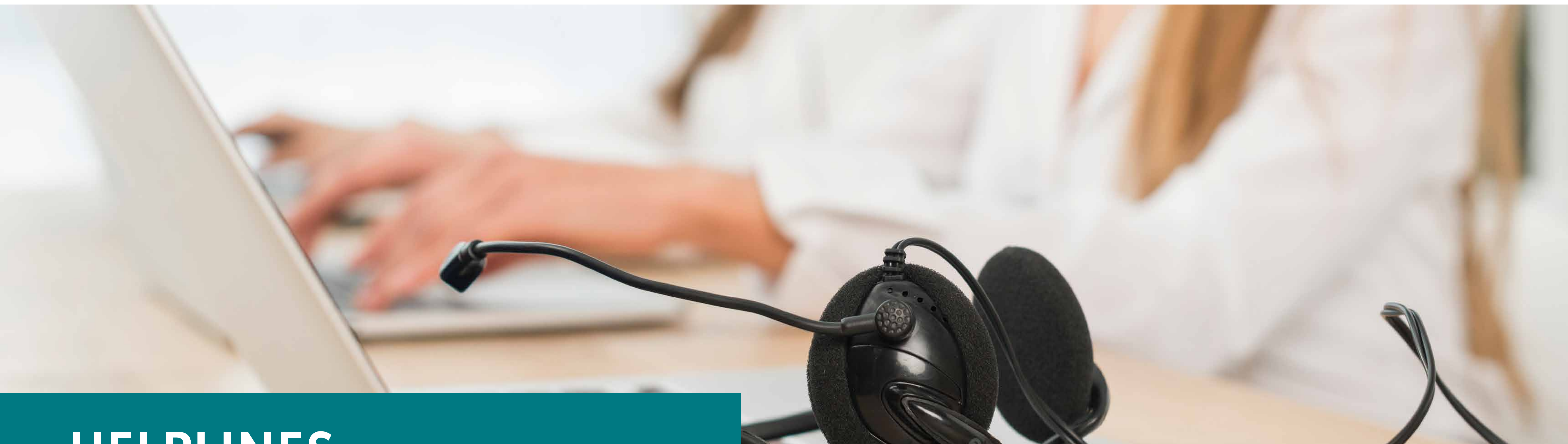
## €5.3 MILLION AGAINST COVID-19

Malta was given €5.3 million by the European Commission to be used as a **Fund for Research and Development against Covid-19**, which was created by the Maltese Council for Science and Technology. The fund will be **dedicated for Maltese companies and researchers** to do research about the virus, for the development of vaccines or medicine to cure patients affected by the virus, for medical apparatus, disinfectants, and studies about the spread, among others. **More information may be accessed from the MCST and Malta Enterprise websites.**



## FROM WINE TO SANITIZERS

**Marsovin, one of the main wine companies in Malta**, changed part of its production line for alcohol to **produce hand sanitizers**. With this innovation, the company also **ensured continuity in its business without laying off its employees**. The hand sanitizer bottles, **6,700 in all**, were given for free by Marsovin to be used in, among others, hospitals and health centres, and by the public.



## HELPLINES

**111** – For those who **experience symptoms of COVID-19** or those who require further **information**

**21411 411** – For those in **mandatory quarantine** who require food and medical provisions

**2294 4511/2294 4504** – To report **breaches of regulations** regarding public health and Covid-19 to the Police

**1770** – Helpline for **emotional support and mental wellbeing**

**1772** – For those who are **feeling lonely**

**2545 1111** – For **Mater Dei, Boffa Hospital, and Sir Anthony Mamo** healthcare workers

**2364 5002** – For **Primary Health Care, Gozo General Hospital, and Mount Carmel** employees

**1575** – For employees to ask about wages and employment conditions

**1576** – For employers to ask about wages and employment conditions

**153** – For those who require **information** about the measures of the **financial package** which are administered by the **Department of Social Security**

**144** – For those who require **information** about the measures of the **financial package** which are administered by **Malta Enterprise**

**2204 2200** – For Maltese residents who are **stranded in another country and wish to return to Malta**

**2204 2800** – For **foreign** citizens **who wish to be repatriated**

**80074313/79307307** – For those who have **difficulties regarding blood donation**

**2598 1000** – For those who have **queries about the educational sector**

**2169 2447** – For **hoteliers and tourists** who have queries about the announced measures

**2590 3030** – For elderly **people without means of assistance** who require medicine, ready meals, or food products (fruit and vegetables)

**2546 9111** – For those who work in the gaming industry.