



Communication Department

PRESS RELEASE

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The Banco de España, the Banco de Portugal and the European Investment Bank organise the conference “Financing Corporates: Lessons from the COVID-19 Crisis and Challenges Ahead”

The Banco de España, the Banco de Portugal and the European Investment Bank (EIB) have organised jointly today, at the Banco de España’s headquarters in Madrid, the conference “Financing corporates: lessons from the COVID-19 crisis and challenges ahead”.

Elisa Ferreira, European Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms, gave the opening address on the challenges associated with the three most important crises of the last decade and the need to consider the asymmetric impact of each policy decision across and within countries. Ricardo Santos, of the economics department of the EIB, then presented the main results for Spain and Portugal of the annual EIB Group Survey on Investment and Investment Finance (EIBIS). The EIBIS, conducted in 2021 for the sixth year, provides information that sheds light on the investment dynamics and requirements of businesses in EU countries. The results of the survey are available at: www.eib.org.

Afterwards, a session was devoted to a discussion of the effectiveness of the policies implemented to support businesses during the COVID-19 crisis. Representatives of the organising institutions participated in this session. The following session, with speakers from various private and public-sector entities, focused on corporates’ financing requirements, to support economic recovery and address structural challenges such as digitalisation and the green transition.

The conference closed with a roundtable discussion between the Governor of the Banco de España, Pablo Hernández de Cos, the Head of the Governor’s Office at the Banco de Portugal, Alvaro Novo, and EIB Vice-President, Ricardo Mourinho Félix. The main theme of this discussion was the role of the European Next Generation EU programme and of structural reforms in the growth of European economies.

The conference programme and some of the presentations may be consulted [here](#).

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