

## Joint Procurement Agreement

### 1.1 The Joint Procurement Agreement - Legal Basis & Objectives

The Joint Procurement Agreement (JPA) was approved by the Commission on 10 April 2014, and has, as of March 2020, been signed by 26 EU countries, the UK and Norway. The JPA aims to enable equitable access to and balanced prices of specific medical countermeasures for serious cross-border threats to health, while improving security of supply and, importantly, to prevent unnecessary competition among Member States in accessing limited medical countermeasures, such as pandemic vaccines, antivirals and protective and medical equipment.

### 1.2 Practical modalities on the JPA

The JPA requires the participation of at least four Member States and the Commission to be launched. The process is supervised by two types of Steering Committees (a permanent one and Specific Procurement Procedure Steering Committees (SPPSC)). The Commission provides the secretariat and Chair of the committee.

Each Contracting Party participating in the Joint Procurement procedure details its procurement needs to the Commission within a timeframe specified by the Commission after approval of the SPPSC.

The Commission can launch four types of procedures. In the context of COVID-19, the **negotiated procedure** is being used. This means that anyone may ask to participate, but only those who are pre-selected will be invited to submit initial tenders and to negotiate. Once the tender is awarded, participating Member States receive the total quantity of the ordered or reserved measures. However, the rate of delivery depends on the production capacity of the manufacturers and the applicable allocation criteria. The final allocation of available amounts of medical countermeasures is allocated by the Specific Steering Committee. For the incoming tenders, it would be important that all participating Member States prepared the administrative work needed in order so that deliveries can be ensured as fast as possible.

### 1.3 Ongoing Joint Procurements related to COVID-19

To this date, four joint procurements related to COVID-19 have been launched:

Tender	Items covered	Publication date	Ddl for offers	≠ participating MS	≠ Invited companies
PPE1	Gloves and gowns	28/02/2020	9/03/2020	20	16
PPE2	Eye and respiratory protection	17/03/2020	23/03/2020	25	28
3	Ventilators	17/03/2020	26/03/2020	25	17
4	Laboratory equipment	19/03/2020	30/03/2020	19	56

### 1.4 Future Joint Procurements in the context of COVID-19

Further joint procurements can be launched at any time if the need arises, such as for medicines. Similarly, additional calls can be launched for Member States who have not joined ongoing Joint Procurements but wish to benefit from the service.