

On 6 November, the 31st meeting of the Health Security Committee and of the Early Warning and Response Authorities in the Member States was held by audio link under the coordination of the Commission and with the participation the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, the World Health Organisation and the Commission Delegation in Kiev. After an update of the pandemic situation in Ukraine and Bulgaria, the discussion focused on the response of the European Union to assist Ukraine and Bulgaria through the civil protection mechanism. During the meeting, Slovakia formally announced the recent decision to close 2 border points to pedestrian crossing and to implement medical control at 3 others main border points. In addition, a Bulgarian request for antivirals was raised and the Commission proposed a virtual stockpile to deal with future health threats to be discussed during the oncoming plenary meeting of the Health Security Committee on 12-13 November in Luxembourg. Finally, the importance was underlined of strengthening the way to convey messages through the media.