Who’s Helping the Western Balkans with COVID-19?

The European Union, the United States, China, Russia, and others have sent aid to the six non-EU Western Balkan states to help with their responses to the coronavirus pandemic. An initial EU aid package sent 38 million euros to address immediate medical needs and 374 million euros for short and medium-term social and economic recovery. Since then, the EU has made over 3.3 billion euros available to the region to help with COVID-19 and the postpandemic recovery, cementing them as the region’s top supporter during this crisis. This B|Visual shows who’s giving what kinds of aid to whom in the Western Balkans.

Types of Aid

- **Money:** Financial aid
- **Messaging:** Help with public awareness and information campaigns
- **Medical:** Equipment like ventilators, test kits, masks, and gloves
- **(Wo) Manpower:** Doctors, nurses, and scientists

**A Helping Hand**

Serbia and Albania have also sent aid to Italy, showing they are willing and able to lend a hand to their EU neighbors as well.

**From Russia With Love**

Russian aid to Bosnia and Herzegovina was flown direct to Banja Luka for use by the authorities in Republika Srpska.

Sources:
- [https://www.politico.eu/article/4-takeaways-from-eus-virtual-balkan-summit/](https://www.politico.eu/article/4-takeaways-from-eus-virtual-balkan-summit/)
- [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/europe/2020-04/19/c_138990481.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/europe/2020-04/19/c_138990481.htm)