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Serbia in 'world first' as citizens offered €25 to have COVID vaccine

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By Euronews with agencies • Updated: 05/05/2021



Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic received a dose of the Chinese Sinopharm vaccine on April 6. - Copyright Serbian Presidential Press Service via AP (#)

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Serbia has promised to pay citizens the equivalent of €25 if they are vaccinated against COVID-19.

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https://www.euronews.com/2021/05/05/serbia-citizens-offered-e25-to-have-covid-vaccine

President Aleksandar Vucic said the initiative would reward citizens for their "responsibility" to get inoculated against the coronavirus.

Citizens over the age of 16 who have either already received one or two doses, or will be vaccinated with at least one dose by May 31 will receive a one-time payment of 3,000 dinars (€25). The amount equates to around 5% of the country's average monthly salary.

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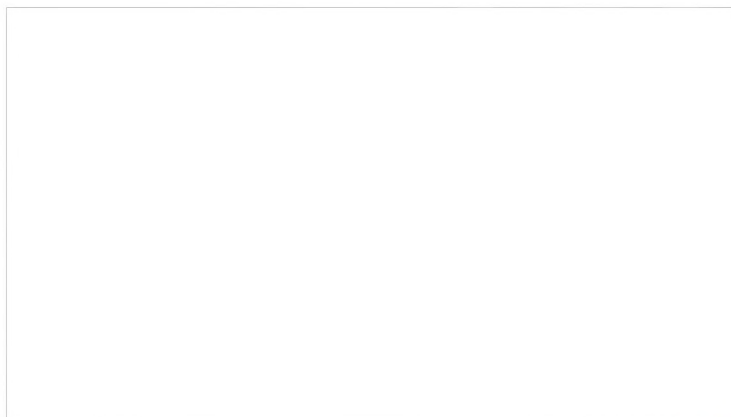
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"We have considered how to reward people who have shown responsibility and decided to grant additional financial support to those who have been vaccinated," the president told reporters in Belgrade.

Vucic added that it "irresponsible and selfish" not to be vaccinated, although he ruled out any imposing restrictions.



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But the president did announce that public sector employees who have not been vaccinated would no longer be eligible for sick pay if they contracted COVID-19.

The government initiative - believed to be the first of its kind in the world - is aiming to revive Serbia's immunisation campaign amid waning public interest and growing scepticism.



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In other countries, companies have offered incentives to their employees for taking a coronavirus vaccine.

