

ANNEX

Covid-19 update on borders, transport, tourism and quarantine

Key developments

- Member States started to lift restrictions on the borders with their respective neighbours, with some exceptions. (E.g. A pilot project of safe corridor allowing 5000 tourists to come to the Balearic Islands directly from EU Member States is also under consideration to help reactivating the tourist sector.)
- As for the quarantine measures, there are Member States that still maintain a 14-day self-isolation such as FI, PL or RO after arrival to the country.
- Some of the Member States lifted the 14-day self-isolation for a group of countries (neighbouring or other EU countries), such as AT, DE, EE, FR, HR, HU, LT, LV, NL, SI, SK.
- In ES, lifting the quarantine measures before the 1 July is taking shape.
- Greece shifted from a 14-day to a 7-day quarantine and in periods (until 15/6, between 15-30/6 and onwards). As of 1 July, only random tests will apply to incoming passengers.
- A system of "traveller declaration" is in place in CY and IE. In CY, self-isolation is still required, with the aim of lifting it on 20 June.
- On the contrary, in IE the self-isolation is not compulsory, but the declaration is compulsory until 18 June for the time being.
- Some of the Member States do not impose compulsory quarantine, such as DK, IT, LU, MT, PT, SE. In Portugal, exceptions are in place in Madeira and the Azores.

Details by individual Member States follow as reported by EC Representations.



Member State

Input from EC Representations in the Member States



Today (3 June), the Government announced that as of 4 June Austria is lifting its coronavirus-related border restrictions including quarantines for all neighbouring countries (Germany, Slovakia, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Switzerland, Liechtenstein) except of Italy.

Austria had initially agreed with Switzerland, Germany and Liechtenstein to reopen their shared borders only from 15 June, however, this will now come in effect already on 4 June due to the positive developments and also following Germany's announcement to lift the travel ban for all Member States.

The lifting of travel restrictions will include all corona-related border and health checks and thus represents a return to the pre-corona situation regarding these countries.

Despite heavy criticism by Italy, Austria claims that given the pandemic figures in Italy it was still premature to open the border to Italy. Health Minister Anschober (G/EFA), however, pointed out that Austria is still evaluating the proposal by northern **Italy to pursue a regional approach** that would allow people to travel to Austria from certain parts of Italy. Anschober added that the **technical realisation** of this proposal is however difficult.

As a contributing article in *Der Standard* has pointed out **South Tyrol is upset** about Chancellor Sebastian Kurz (ÖVP/EPP), who does not seem to have any perspective to open the border to Italy due to the number of coronavirus cases in the country. According to the commentary, South Tyrol has been hit hard by this rejection, given that Kurz and regional governor Arno Kompatscher (SVP/EPP) usually get along rather well, with the Chancellor being considered a "big" friend of the autonomous region. By opposing the EU aid package and insisting on loans instead of grants, Austria is harming Europe and Italy, which in turn has a negative impact on South Tyrol as well, the commentary concludes.



From June 8, trips in Belgium are allowed for one or more days.

From June 15, the borders will reopen for those traveling within the EU and the Schengen+ zone. Destination countries decide whether Belgians can enter or not.

On 29 May, federal Interior Minister De Crem (CD&V-EPP) announced that Belgians are allowed to leave the country to visit family or go shopping in neighbouring countries, with immediate effect.



The Government takes the position that restrictions on foreign travel should be lifted in stages, first at the level of neighbouring countries and regions, and gradually expanding geographically, respecting the principle of reciprocity. According to the position, there is still no single approach within the EU on the abolition of measures at EU internal borders, which leads to different regimes for the free movement of EU citizens, and to difficulties for both business visits and tourist travel.

With the improvement of the epidemiological situation in Europe and with the leading coordinating role of the Commission, Bulgaria could support the lifting of restrictions on non-essential travel across EU internal borders from 15 June. The removal of restrictions should be coordinated and should follow clear safety rules for passengers and staff and mandatory border checks - health screening, or other measures, according to criteria prepared by the health authorities.

With regard to external borders, the position states that this should only happen once we have removed the restrictions on internal borders and while ensuring a balance between health, economic and social considerations.

The decision to completely abolish measures at the external borders should be taken when free movement in the EU is fully restored and we are ready to face new waves of migration to the EU.

Only four of the more than 200 hotels in the Sunny Beach resort are opening from the first week of June. Hotel owners report that they have only Bulgarian visitors and no foreigners.

Public transport in Sofia has not recovered yet from the COVID-19 shock. According to the Sofia's mayor the public transportation systems suffers 35-40% drop in passengers compared to the pre-crisis levels.



CV

The government is continuing to organize flights to Greece for Cypriot students studying in Greek universities.

As announced by the government, international air travel will resume on 9 June 2020. Initially, all passengers will be required to undergo a COVID-19 test prior to their arrival. As of 20 June 2020, this measure will be lifted for a number of countries. All passengers will also be required to fill in a "COVID-19 traveler declaration" form, available at the website of the Cyprus Ministry of Foreign Affairs. For your ease of reference, we attach the *Note Verbale* addressed to the diplomatic missions and international organizations accredited to the Republic of Cyprus on this issue. A briefing will take place at the Foreign Ministry (by videoconference) on 5 June 2020.

Quarantine: Currently, passenger who test **negative** on arrival are asked to **self-isolate at home**. Announcing the re-opening of the airports on 9 June, the government also stated that the aim is to avoid quarantining arriving passengers. **Random testing** will be conducted and, if tourists are found positive to COVID-19, their **close contacts will be placed under quarantine**. The government has made available 500 rooms in quarantine-hotels for this purpose, and this number can quickly increased, if required.

Although the government had announced that the **crossing points** between the Republic of Cyprus and the Non-Government-Controlled Areas would re-open on 8 June, it now seems that this will not be the case: the announcement had been made following a telephone conversation between President Anastasiades and Turkish Cypriot leader Akinci. However, in the NGCAs, the "government" has since said that the decision to re-open the crossing points is in the hands of the "minister of health" and no such decision can be taken while there are still new cases in the Republic of Cyprus (the NGCAs have been reporting zero new cases for more than a month). The bicommunal technical committee met this week, but the Turkish Cypriot delegation said that they did not have the mandate to discuss the re-opening of the crossing points. These developments led to renewed protests in the NGCAs by Turkish Cypriots who work in the Republic of Cyprus. At its meeting on 3 June on further relaxation of restrictions (see above), the Cyprus government did not discuss the re-opening of the crossing points.

Concerning the conditions of living for **refugees and asylum seekers**, the Cyprus Ministry of Interior has asked the UNHCR for 500 Refugee Housing Units, for the Pournaras and Kofinou reception centres. It seems, however, that UNHCR is rather reluctant to do so, in order to avoid turning the centres into long-term accommodation for asylum seekers. Recently, the declaration (by the Ministry) of Pournaras as an "infected area" due to scabies led to tension both inside the centre and outside.

In the NGCAs, it was announced that Turkish Cypriots are allowed entry into the NGCAs as of 1 June but will be placed on a 14-day quarantine. Non-Turkish Cypriots (e.g., students, workers) will be allowed to return to the NGCAs as of 8 June and will also be placed on a 14-day quarantine.



As of 4 June, the free movement of persons between Czechia and Slovakia resumes. As of 15 June, Czechia eases travel bans and introduces "traffic light" border regime based on data from the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). Green countries (AT, BG, CY, DE, EE, EL, FI, HR, HU, LT, LU, LV, PL, RO, SI, SK and CH, IS, NO) are considered safe and no tests or quarantine will be required for foreigners traveling from there to Czechia or for Czechs coming back. Czechs will have to provide negative test upon return from red countries (only SE, UK), However, foreigners traveling from grange countries (BE, DK, ES, FR, IE, IT. MT. NL. PT) will still need to have negative test in order to enter the country. The Health Ministry will assess the epidemiologic situation of each country according to ECDC data. However, most EU countries still restrict entry, thus Czechs will be able to travel without any entry restriction only to EE, IT, LT, SE, UK and newly also from AT as announced just today by Foreign Minister Petricek (CSSD-S&D), who promised publically that he will ask the government to agree also to quicker opening to AT from the Czech side. He also said that the EU countries should discuss opening borders for third countries with favourable epidemiologic situation such as South Korea and Japan.

While the Government encourages Czechs to spend their holidays at home, travel agencies report steep increase in demand for tour packages (namely to BG, EL, HR, SK and Canary Islands). They began planning their summer offer eying countries that can be visited without restrictions and waiting for information on reopening Egypt, Tunisia and Turkey. As of 30 June to mid-September, train operator RegioJet will start to provide a direct train from Prague to Rijeka in Croatia enabling thus Czechs to reach their most favourite holiday destination.

CzechTourism Agency plans both a domestic and an international campaign to attract tourists. The international campaign (worth \in 13 m) will start as the borders reopen. At the same time, the Prague City Tourism report a huge interest of hotels in distributing vouchers to domestic and foreign tourists enabling free entry to some sightseeing venues. Prague will spend \in 4.6 m on the vouchers to be distributed as of 1 July.



DE

The German government decided on 3 June that travel restrictions for 31 European countries, including the 26 EU Member States should be lifted on and be replaced by individual travel recommendations ("Reisehinweise"). The final decision on the travel warning will be taken in coordination with the EU over the next two weeks. The lifting of travel restrictions will depend on infection rates and domestic policies of the countries in question and could be changed. However, Foreign minister Maas warned Germans against rushing to travel: "We will continue to coordinate closely within the EU and base our travel warnings on the situation on the ground. Of course, it also depends on the personal responsibility of each individual. Travel advisories are not necessarily an invitation to travel," he said. "For example, we do not recommend non-essential travel to the UK while they have a 14-day quarantine period in place. In addition, Schengen-area countries Spain and Norway will still have effective bans in place for Germans as both countries have not lifted their own entry bans". Maas confirmed that travel outside of the specified countries is not yet permitted, and Germany will wait for the EU to make a decision on this.

Currently, 14-day quarantine obligation applies to all travellers arriving to Germany from third countries

(all countries other than EU Member States, other than Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland and other than the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland). The quarantine obligation can be also re-introduced for the countries mentioned above, should the cumulative total of new infections in any of them exceed 50 cases per 100.000 population over the last seven days.



The Government's decision to open the border from 15 June only to visitors from Germany, Norway and Iceland continues to generate equal parts confusion and criticism. In a report submitted to the Government last Friday, Statens Serum Institut estimates, on the basis of known bookings of summer houses, that the decision may see between 350 and 1 400 infected tourists come to Denmark in the period June-August. A wider estimate, which takes account of the total number of tourists that visited Denmark last year, sets the numbers at between 700 and **2800.** By comparison, the total number of infections in Denmark to date is 11 771. It is unclear, however, to what extent the Government's decision has been taken on the basis on epidemiological advice, just as it is unclear whether permission to cross the border from the three selected countries will be granted on the basis of nationality or other factors, such as legal residence. In the early weeks of the lockdown, foreign spouses and partners of Danish citizens were banned from entering Denmark. Meanwhile, the Government's decision to maintain its travel advisory, which strongly discourages non-essential travel to any country in the world other than Germany, Norway and Iceland (from 15 June), will be tested to the full in the weeks and months to come. A closed Facebook group of 7 000 Danes who own secondary homes in Sweden has reportedly had to ban all corona-related discussions, as the debate about whether or not to travel to Sweden became too heated. According to reports, the vast majority of those taking part in the discussion were expressing their intention to ignore the Government's advisory and travel to Sweden. The Ascension Day holiday saw a tripling of traffic across the bridge to Sweden, causing the Government to repeat its advice not to travel. There is currently no compulsory quarantine requirement in force, but Danes returning from abroad are strongly advised to self-isolate for 14 days upon their return.



EE

Foreign Ministers of the Baltic States did not manage to convince Poland to join the free travel zone of the Baltic countries in their meeting of 2 June. Poland's Foreign Minister, Jacek Czaputowicz (PiS / ECR) told that he is inspired by the way the Baltic States have opened their borders, but the decision is yet to be taken. He also referred to the need to have coordinated approach on opening Schengen internal borders. Minister of Foreign Affairs, Urmas Reinsalu (Pro Patria / EPP) continues his efforts to negotiate a mutual opening also with Finland, but equally without any results.

The Baltic States have opened their borders without a quarantine as of 1 June for tourists coming from 22 EU and EEA countries that have 15 or fewer formally confirmed infected people per 100,000 inhabitants in the last 14 days. The list of countries is reviewed every Friday. Currently the borders are open for people coming from Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Switzerland provided they have stayed in these countries for 14 days immediately before arrival. People who come to Estonia from or through a country with a higher infection rate must remain in quarantine for two weeks. This means that a person may not leave their place of residence, except on the instruction of a healthcare professional or a police officer, in the event of an emergency endangering the life or health of a person, or to purchase food, basic supplies and medicines.

In May, 10,523 passengers passed through Tallinn Airport, which is 3.5% compared to May last year. The number of direct routes as well as the number of passengers has slowly started to recover and as of 1 June it is possible to fly to 10 foreign destinations from Tallinn airport: Helsinki, Riga, Amsterdam, Vilnius, Frankfurt, Copenhagen, Paris, Vienna, Oslo and Berlin.

According to the Estonian Association of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EVEA), the Government's EUR 25 mln support for tourism and related entrepreneurs through Enterprise Estonia was insufficient as the funds exhausted immediately after they opened for the enterprises. EVEA has urged the Government to urgently direct additional funds to support the entire sector and not only the fastest applicants through highly competitive tendering.



Overview of obligatory quarantine measures

- Greece abolished the obligatory 14-day quarantine for incoming flight passengers: it has been replaced with a 7-day quarantine for those who test negative. Those who test positive (all passengers must take the test upon arrival) will still have to be quarantined under supervision for 14 days. This setting will apply until 15 June.
- Between 15 and 30 June, this (7-day quarantine for those who test negative, 14-day quarantine for those testing positive) will be the rule only for incoming passengers from flights originating from an airport on the EASA affected area list (those arriving from an airport not in the EASA affected area list will only be subject to random tests).
- From 1 July onwards, international flights will be allowed into all airports in Greece and visitors will only be subject to random tests upon arrival. However, the government said it will announce additional restrictions regarding certain countries at a later date.

Following a cluster of 12 Covid-19 cases discovered in a flight coming from Doha on 1 June, Greece suspended all flights to and from Qatar until 15 June.

Hotels operating on a yearly basis were allowed to re-open on 1 June. However, according to data cited in the press, just 2 out of 10 did actually reopen. Some hotels will reopen in the run-up to 15 June (when Greece is to set start receiving tourists from abroad) while some hotel owners have a wait-and-see stance.



ES

As the de-escalation process advances in Spain, the idea of lifting the quarantine for any person entering in Spain before July 1 is taking shape. The Government would be considering this option, since also mobility between Spanish provinces could be authorised earlier than initially foreseen. A pilot project of safe corridor allowing 5000 tourists to come to the Balearic Islands directly from EU Member States is also under consideration to help reactivating the tourist sector.

The Ministry of Interior published an update of the statistics on irregular arrivals which show that there were 2.203 irregular migrants arrived from 15 March to 31 May, more than 40% of them during the second half of May (904). The main route during the last two weeks has been the Western Mediterranean route with 535 arrivals, but **there was a substantial number of arrivals in the Canary Islands (362).** During the state of alarm, arrivals in the Canary Islands represented 56% of the total of irregular arrivals. Overall, since the beginning of the year, there were 7.402 arrivals in Spain, compared to 10.383 during the same period in 2019 (-28.7%).

Minister for Inclusion, Social Security and Migration, M. Escrivá, has rejected on 2 June the affirmation by Vox that the minimum income decided by the Government would create a pull factor for irregular migration. He underlined that this income will not benefit to irregular migrants. On the other hand, he also specified that the Government could help the municipalities and autonomous regions, which would provide assistance to irregular migrants in precarious situation through their social protection programmes.

Minister Illa (Health) stated on 2 June at a press conference that the Ministries of Health, Interior and the State Secretariat for Migration are working on a protocol on the reception of irregular migrants arriving by sea during the COVID-19 pandemic with a view to ensure the implementation of the 14 days quarantine rule. The lack of a protocol has been criticised in different occasions by NGOs, as well as by police trade unions after migrants were tested positive in the Canary Islands mid-May. On 2 June, the regional Government of Castile Leon complained that it had not been informed by the central authorities of the transfer of 6 irregular migrants from Almeria (Andalusia) to NGO's managed

reception places in Soria (Castile). It is only when one of them was tested positive on 27 May that regional authorities learned that the migrants had actually arrived on 20 May in Almeria and had been transferred to Soria on 23 May. The decree approved by the Government on 12 May specified that from 15 May travellers from abroad will have to remain at their residence, limiting their movement to buying food pharmaceutical products or going to sanitary centres, with derogations in cases of force majeure or necessity. Travellers will have to wear a mask and could be submitted to monitoring measures by the sanitary authorities. In absence of further details on how these rules would be implemented, the implementation of these measures mainly depends so far on individual responsibility.



On 29 May, the Government decided that **domestic travelling is no longer discouraged**, but health and safety guidelines are to be observed when travelling.

According to a poll published on 2 June, more than 50 % of the Finns plan to make holiday travels within Finland this summer.

There have been no restrictions on hotels during the crisis, except for their bars and restaurants. However, many have anyway been closed in default of guests. The very few opened have seen an occupancy of maximum 5 %. The lift of the domestic travel ban will certainly partly help the **hotels** for the holiday season, but **foreign tourists** are very much needed, to come back to sustainable levels.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs does still not recommend going abroad, though it is not legally prohibited. Finnish citizens can always leave and enter Finland when they want. Voluntary 14 days quarantine like conditions is still requested of everyone entering Finland. This apply until further notice.

Foreign tourists are still not welcome, though some countries, for example Estonia and Sweden, welcome Finnish tourists.

Freight transports work normally well, but the Finnish Border Guard imposed in the beginning of the crisis very restrictive measures in the north on the border between Sweden and Finland. These measures were maybe illegal and are now under investigation.

The Government has now doubled the number of seasonal workers who will be allowed to come from abroad this summer. In all **9 000 seasonal workers will be permitted**. However, **14 days of quarantine like conditions** will apply upon arrival, and the employers will be responsible to secure this.



Information on the degree of openness of borders with neighbouring countries was lacking or misperceived following last Thursday's announcement of deconfinement measures.

- Cacophony this Pentecost weekend at the French-Belgian border where hundreds of motorists from Belgium were turned back by the French authorities. The lifting of the restrictions was announced prematurely and although the Belgian Minister of Home affairs, Peter De Crem affirms this was coordinated with the French authorities, no one at the border was aware of the change. The principle in France remained the prohibition of entry into the country except for compelling "family or professional reasons" until 2 June. Moreover, quarantine measures are applicable to travelers coming from Spain or UK on the basis of reciprocity.
- The reopening of Andorra's borders on 1 June has created an influx of thousands of French people in search of much cheaper tobacco and petrol. As a result, traffic jams of tens of kilometers in both directions.

EU or third-country nationals residing in a country in the European area are now entitled to work in France subject to a certificate of service provision contract. However, those whose stay exceeds 48 hours will be subject to a quarantine measure or equivalent at the employer's expense. For posted workers, these measures will have

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to be implemented in the country of origin following an instruction from Prime Minister Edouard Philippe.

Gradual but rapid return of rail and air traffic. The Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer, SNCF, will bring all the lines back into operation without the limitation of one seat out of two from mid-June. Occitania, the leading region for outdoor tourism, offers tickets from €1 to 2 on the trains and buses it manages all over its territory. As regards the Thalys between Brussels and Paris however, the back to normal is not yet for tomorrow. 20% of capacity is planned from 9th June and 50% from 12th July.

The promotion of the tourist season is in full swing. A perfume of liberty floats since the reopening of 300,000 restaurants and cafes, beaches, swimming pools and sports clubs among others since 2 June.



HR

Croatian Government has announced that it reached an agreement with 10 Member States in order to facilitate a return of tourists into Croatia.

Czech citizens will be allowed to travel to and from 19 countries, including Croatia, without restrictions.

The Czech transport company RegioJet plans to introduce a rail service connecting Prague and the northern Adriatic port of Rijeka directly.

The National Croatian Tourist Board (HTZ) has launched a large promotional campaign for seven European markets. The campaign "The Vacation You Deserve Is Closer Than You Think" will be presented on the Slovenian, Austrian, German, Hungarian, Czech, Slovak and Polish markets in each of their languages.

Spanish airlines Iberia and Vueling announced that as of July 1 they would be flying again from Madrid and Barcelona to Split and Dubrovnik. Iberia also used to fly from Madrid to Zagreb and Zadar, but it is still unknown whether they will be resumed. American business magazine Forbes featured a list of 20 European best destinations for post-coronavirus travel according to the European Best Destinations Organisation (EBD), which includes Zagreb, Rijeka and Cavtat.

The pressure of illegal migrants along the border between Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia is rising. Local reports indicate that Slovenian authorities positioned additional police forces along the border with Croatia, and authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina are reporting an increase in arrivals into the refugee camp on the border with Croatia.



A government decree (251/2020 (V.29.) makes it easier for HU nationals to return from Bulgaria as of 30 May. (HU nationals arriving from Bulgaria in order to perform official duties, to participate in the activities of international organisations, to engage in business or humanitarian activities or to visit relatives may enter HU without restrictions even if they cross the HU border from the direction of Romania. According to the Operational Task Force, unrestricted border crossing from Ukraine and Romania cannot be made possible yet, as it would be irresponsible to negotiate about the free crossing of the borders with countries where the status of the epidemic does not allow this. Quarantine rules continue to apply to Hungarians returning from Croatia as well.

Regarding summer travels within the country, the Operational Task Force warned everyone of observing the general protective regulations, including keeping a safe distance and wearing a face mask or scarf on public transport. At present, public transport schedules are designed to ensure that operations remain below full capacity.



The fact that Ireland has a Common Travel Area with the UK is a complicating factor as the Irish Government is anxious to ensure that there is free movement of people across the Ireland/Northern Ireland border. It is also the reason why the UK has exempted Irish travellers from the soon-to-be-introduced quarantine measures in the UK. Nevertheless, travellers from the UK (except from Northern Ireland) are obliged to comply with the Irish declaration rules.

The restriction on movement is having a severe impact on tourism. It is not foreseen that people can travel more than 20km from home until 20 July. **In addition, travellers arriving in Ireland are asked to self-isolate for a 14-day period.** Nevertheless, this 'quarantine' is not compulsory, but completing the form to declare where one will spend the 14 days is obligatory. The declaratory obligation is in place between May 28 and June 18. To note that whilst travellers from the UK are obliged to complete the form, travellers from Northern Ireland are not. The government advice to citizens continues to be to not make non-essential journeys outside of Ireland.

Asylum seekers are accommodated in 'direct provision centres'. There have been 'clusters' of the virus in some of these centres because of the close living and eating facilities which are available to residents.



Austria announced that it will not open borders to Italy due to the still high number of infected people in many regions. "Individualism violates the sense of community and damages Europe and the single market", Foreign Minister Luigi Di Maio said following Vienna's decision.

'Today is a very significant date, since as of today Italians are allowed to move freely throughout the country. This is also an important message of reassurance to the whole world. Italy is restarting and is preparing to return to normal', said Di Maio today. 'As of today access to Italy is allowed from anywhere' – clarified Sandra Zampa, Undersecretary for Health. 'Negotiations are ongoing concerning airports. There are no flights from China yet, but there are a few European flights. Controls and screening are in place at departure and arrival'.

Despite the closure of all ports in April, on May 24, 450 illegal migrants reached Agrigento hotspot in Sicily. According to data issued by the Minister of the Interior and updated to May 22, 4,445 migrants have arrived this year in Italy. In the same period of 2019, 1,361 arrivals were registered, while in 2018 they were about 10,693.



On 1 June, **borders have been reopened** to residents of countries where number of new COVID-19 cases has been **below 25 per 100,000 for the past two weeks**. Currently, there are 27 countries on the list (see below); the list will be updated every Monday. No more border checks on Lithuanian-Latvian border.

Arrivals **not allowed** from: Belgium, Portugal, Sweden, United Kingdom Arrivals **allowed**, but two-week **self-isolation mandatory**, from: Ireland, Malta, and Spain.

Arrivals **allowed**, no self-isolation needed, from: Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lichtenstein, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Switzerland.

On 2 June, Foreign Affairs Ministers of Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, and Poland met in Tallinn to discuss topical EU matters, security challenges, regional cooperation, and reopening of borders. The three Baltic States co-ordinated to apply the same approach towards lifting self-isolation requirement for arrivals from countries with low COVID-19 morbidity. Poland is considering to reopen its borders, citing the Baltic Travel Bubble among the three Baltic States as inspiration.



Since Friday, travellers landing at Findel airport have been receiving a voucher on arrival to be tested for infection with the coronavirus. The voucher is valid for several days and can be redeemed in a medical test laboratory in Luxembourg. Tests are also carried out at a test station at the airport. If the test is positive, the authorities in the home country are informed and those affected must go into quarantine. It is a pilot project scheduled to last for one month.

The border with Belgium opened last Saturday at 07.00 for shopping purposes and for visiting relatives, although the information arrived several hours late at the police stations who continued border controls in the morning. Today, Belgian Prime Minister Sophie Wilmès announced that the border with Luxembourg would fully open on 15 June.

Obligatory quarantine measures for incoming persons

The land borders have remained open from LU side during the entire period of the crisis and no quarantine measures had been taken. At the external border of the airport, EU directives were applicable. There have been no obligatory measures and no obligatory testing so far. The testing measure set in place now (as described above) are on a voluntary basis.



On 2 June, the Government decided that from 3 June, the list of countries from which the 14-day self-isolation does not have to be observed is expanded. Self-isolation is not required for Latvian citizens, permanent residents and foreigners arriving from EU/EEA countries and Switzerland if a 14-day cumulative number of COVID-19 cases does not exceed 15 people per 100,000 inhabitants. This also means that the self-isolation for the people who have arrived before 3 June from these countries can be stopped. If the number of cases is between 15.1 to 25 the self-isolation is required, above 25 cases no direct flights are allowed. That means that 14 days of self-isolation must still be respected when entering from Sweden, the United Kingdom, Portugal, Belgium, Malta, Ireland, Spain, as well as from non-EU or non-EEA countries, with exception of Switzerland. Self-isolation must also be observed if traveling in transit through these countries. The list of countries will be updated every Friday and harmonized with Estonia and Lithuania, it is available here https://spkc.gov.lv/lv/tavai-veselibai/aktualitate-par-jauno-koronavi/valstu-saslimstibas-raditaji-a/



Malta International Airport will re-open on 1 July with services to 19 destinations (Austria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Norway, Sardegna, Sicily, Slovakia, Switzerland). Incoming travelers from these destinations will not be swabbed, nor asked to quarantine but passengers had to guarantee that they were in the same 'safe' country for four weeks prior to travelling to Malta.

On Tuesday 2 June, migrants held at the Marsa initial reception centre demanded freedom in a protest against their detention. It is yet unclear what had sparked the protest.



On 3 June, the Government presented a set of new rules regarding tourism and travelling. As of 15 June, the Government will change its travel advice from "orange" to "yellow" for 12 EU Member States (including Germany, Belgium, Italy and Croatia). This means that non-essential travelling, such as holidays, will no longer be subject to a negative travel advice. Other Member States are likely to be labelled "yellow" throughout the summer. Exceptions are the UK and Sweden, which will keep the "orange" label. Prime Minister Rutte (VVD-RE) noted that other Member States may not welcome Dutch citizens. He stressed that travelling abroad is at one's own risk. People may not count on repatriation services in case of a corona outbreak while on holiday.

People from EU countries with a comparable health situation will be welcome again in the Netherlands as of 15 June. For high-risk countries, a two weeks quarantine period upon arrival (advice) remains in place.

Schiphol Airport is preparing for an increased number of flights as the two largest airlines at the airport, KLM and Easyjet announced to scale up/resume their activities. In July, KLM wants to carry out 25-30% of its flights compared to the pre-corona era.



PΙ

Border control at the internal border is extended until 12 June. Internal borders are crossed at designated places only. Controls at sea ports and airports are continued. Poland upholds the obligation to undergo a compulsory 14-day quarantine after entering Poland at all borders, with certain exceptions, i.e. those crossing the border for job-related, business or economic (earning) purposes, cross-border employees as well as those receiving education in Poland or a neighbouring country. The purpose of crossing the border has to be documented during the border checks. The last time Government's Spokesperson Müller mentioned the topic was at the end of May when claimed that even though leaving the country is possible, returning remains connected with the quarantine and the Government approaches the topic very cautiously hence encourages Poles to rather spend summer holidays in the country.

Non-EU borders waiting time: at the border with Ukraine: Korczowa 12h.

From 1 June, there are new rules regarding public transport: 1) number of passengers may not exceed the number of seats available in the vehicle; or 2) number of passengers may nor exceed half the number of all seats and half the number of standing places, as specified in the technical specification, at the same time leaving at least half of the unoccupied seats empty. This order applies to all domestic and international, public and non-public, commercial and non-commercial bus transport. The restrictions do not apply to special means of transport nor transport of persons with disabilities.



PT

Update on compulsory <u>quarantine</u> measures: PT does not impose compulsory quarantine measures to those arriving at airports - the exception being the Autonomous Region of Madeira, where the Regional Government has imposed a 14-day quarantine on all passengers arriving the island until the end of June. From the 1st of July onwards, the Regional Government will be requesting passengers to take a Covid-19 test upon arrival. The Regional Government of Azores lifted the quarantine on 16 May. All passengers arriving can either present a covid-19 test; undergo a test upon arrival; choose to self-isolate or return to their destination.

National authorities have opted by closing down the border with Spain, which will remain closed at least until the end of June, depending on how the situation in the neighbouring country evolves. Citizens who have tested positive for Covid-19, or who are a suspected case under vigilance, will have to observe a 14-day quarantine.

Air and land borders with Spain are officially closed until June 15 (the exception remains for cross-border and seasonal workers), although the Home Affairs Minister hinted that they are likely to remain closed until 1 July.

According to the Minister of Economy, the government's negotiations to build "air bridges" with Germany and the UK (the largest tourism markets for Portugal) to attract tourists during the summer holiday are "progressing well".

Police security forces are increasingly worried with the concentration of young people (groups over 10 people) at night. The government has already forbidden the sale of alcohol in petrol stations during the evening to discourage large groups from getting together.



- International flights, international railway and road transport of people by special and occasional operators were resumed on 1 June.
- Quarantine upon arrival to Romania: the 14-days quarantine/ self-isolation measures are maintained. Several categories of people are exempted from quarantine / isolation: drivers of goods vehicles with a capacity of more than 2.4 tons, members of the European Parliament, parliamentarians and staff belonging to the national defense system, public order and national security, pilots and aircrew, etc.
- Inside the country: as of 1 June it is possible to **move without restrictions** outside the locality or the metropolitan areas.
- Seasonal workers:
 - Romania's Foreign Minister Bogdan Aurescu met on Tuesday German ambassador in Bucharest Cord Meier-Klodt to discuss the situation of seasonal workers and the upcoming German presidency of the EU Council. According to a press statement released by the Foreign Ministry (MAE), an agreement was reached to treat with "utmost" priority, through concerted approaches, the issue of seasonal workers and Romanian residents in Germany.
 - Minister of Foreign Affairs Bogdan Aurescu had a meeting on Tuesday with the Ambassador of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to Romania, Andrew Noble. Amongst other bilateral issues, the situation of the Romanian **seasonal workers** who were already in the UK before the COVID-19 crisis underscoring how important it is to observe the social protection, safety and health requirements, especially in the context of the pandemic, and also the need for the British authorities to take the necessary measures in this respect.
 - Transportation of seasonal workers: as of 14 May international passenger transport is permitted, including charter flights, conditioned by working contract in the destination country, or those who can prove that lived legally or had an employment contract in that country.



There is a recommendation not to travel abroad before 15 July and a recommendation not to travel more than 1-2 hours by car domestically. The recommendation for domestic travels is likely to be revised in the coming days, in time for the summer vacations. According to the mobile phone data analysed by the Authority for Public Health, people respect the recommendations and the domestic traveling is still very limited.

Sweden has no quarantine obligations.



Quarantine rules when entering Slovenia

SI

As a general rule, since 26 May citizens of EU countries are allowed to enter without a mandatory 14-day quarantine to Slovenia if they have permanent or temporary residence in Slovenia, own property or vessel here, have booked accommodation, or fall under any of the 17 exceptions to the rule (mainly business, transit and educational reasons). As a derogation to this rule and based on technical bilateral agreements, people from Croatia and Hungary with arranged permanent or temporary residence in these countries, may enter Slovenia without restrictions, and will not be ordered to quarantine if they arrive from a Member State of the European Union or a Schengen Area country. If these persons arrive to Slovenia from a third country, they will be ordered to quarantine, subject to some exceptions laid down in the Government ordinance (business or transit). Citizens of the Republic of Slovenia may enter Slovenia without restrictions, provided they are coming from a Member State of the European Union, or a Schengen Area country. The Government is promptly updating the list of countries from which entry into Slovenia is permitted with no restrictions, taking into account the epidemiological situation and bilateral technical agreements with neighboring, EU Member States and/or Schengen Area countries or any general agreement adopted at the European Union level.

Quarantine upon entering Slovenia is mandatory for all persons arriving to Slovenia from a third country, i.e. irrespective of citizenship or place of residence, and subject to the exceptions laid down in the aforementioned ordinance (mainly business or transit).

Borders, transport and tourism

There are currently no restrictions for Slovenian citizens with a permanent residence in Slovenia for crossing the border with Croatia and Hungary, while Austria is to lift restrictions on 4 June. Restrictive measures are still in place on the border with Italy. Also the arrangement with Italy might change soon. In the light of Italy's intention to open its borders to EU citizens Slovenia's and Italian's Public Health Authorities discussed the covid-19 situation in both countries, exchanged information and discussed future steps. In general they have no major reservations regarding the opening of borders between the two countries, given that both Slovenia and Italy have a good epidemiological situation. However, the decision is to be made by the Slovenian and Italian governments. On 6 June, Italian Foreign Minister Luigi Di Maio is expected to visit Ljubljana.

To help tourism sector, the Government will adopt rules for the use of tourist vouchers this week to be available at the beginning of the summer school break (25 June). All Slovenians and residents of Slovenia are set to get €200 vouchers in electronic form (€50 vouchers for minors), which may be used to pay for accommodation and breakfast in hotels, self-catering units, camps, agritourism farms and other similar facilities in Slovenia only. While it was considered that the measure would need a formal EU approval, the European Commission stated after a preliminary consultation with the Slovene authorities that the vouchers do not fall under state aid rules. "Generally speaking, vouchers given by the State to individuals, which leave a large freedom to the recipient on how and when to use these vouchers, are unlikely to constitute State aid under EU rules".

On 29 May a Decree on quarantine requirement for people coming to Slovenia from third countries was amended in a way that Slovenian citizens and foreigners with a permanent or temporary residence in Slovenia were not be obliged to quarantine when entering Slovenia. Nevertheless, half of the first 24 passengers arriving from the third country to Ljubljana Airport on the very same day were ordered a 14-day quarantine based on the last minute orders of the Health Authority. The rules were very quickly amended due to an unforeseen situation (mass returns of workers from Bosnia and Herzegovina) and the authorities decided to re-impose the 14-days quarantine except in specified cases. The authorities warn that depending on the situation and data constraint rules for specific (micro)-situations could very quickly change.

As the number of people on the Balkans migration route had increased in the past two weeks after countries started lifting restrictions due to the coronavirus pandemic more than 1.000 additional police officers were dispatched to Slovenia's border with Croatia between 2 and 5 June to temporary tight border control. According to police data, there are more than 10.000 migrants in Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina who want to continue their journey to the EU.



SK

As from 3 June, visiting HU for no more than 48 hours will be possible without having to go to quarantine upon return to Slovakia (proof of residence will be required).

Foreign Minister Korčok (nominee of SAS/ECR) met with his Hungarian counterpart Szijjarto on 2 June. Korčok praised the efficient communication at the level of ministers and prime ministers of the two countries regarding the easing of restrictive measures against the novel coronavirus.

The **open border regime between Slovakia and the Czech Republic** without any restrictions will be resumed as of 4 June. PM Matovič (OĽaNo/EPP) confirmed this prior to his first official visit to Prague on 3 June.