



**COVID-19
Feedback Collection
6 April 2020**



Supported by the Justice
Programme of the European Union

	Infected		Isolated / quarantine		Dead	
	Prisoner	Staff	Prisoner	Staff	Prisoner	Staff
Slovenia	1		1	28	14	
Poland	2		3	60	40	
Slovakia	1		0	Several	several	
Belgium	4		21			
Czech Republic	0		8	0	3	
Israel	0		5	0	0	
Spain	17		145	245	870	1 1
Catalonia	11		25	34	250	
Sweden	5		*	40	0	*10-13%, staff on sick leave (Covid-19 symptoms, confirmed Covid-19 and other illness) in prison and probation service
Italy	19		116			
Austria	1		6	213	31	
Hungary	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE		
Finland	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE		
Lithuania	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE		
Georgia	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE		
Latvia	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE		
Luxembourg	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE		
Malta	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE		
Bulgaria	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE		
Romania	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE		
Estonia	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE		

Do officers and civil servants use masks and gloves during service?

Spain In Spain there is general lack of material, but last week, inmates started to make masks and masks were also distributed among prison staff.

Lithuania Prison staff in direct contact with prison population must wear protective face masks and gloves. Others are recommended

Israel Prison guards and officers within the prisons use masks & gloves. We have no civil servants

Luxembourg Prison staff in direct contact with detainees must wear masks and gloves.

Estonia Prisons officers must wear a face mask and gloves when: in direct contact with a prisoner; searching a cell; performing admission procedures; searching and escorting prisoners (inside and outside the prison); working in the admission facilities (unless, communication is performed through glass); in prison kitchen at all times.

Belgium FFP1 masks are worn by all staff members (guards and administration). Gloves for serving food, fouilles, ... FFP2 masks and gloves are worn to have contact with prisoners in medical isolation.

Norway No, they do not unless they are in contact with inmates that are suspected infected or proven infected by test.

Bulgaria Personal equipment (masks and gloves) and disinfectants are provided for security and other prison staff. For medical staff working in prisons additional equipment is provided like special safety glasses and protective clothing.

Austria All staff members and inmates are to be equipped with the surgical masks available in the prisons according to the respective circumstances and possibilities and with explicit consideration to maintain a sufficiently large stock. As soon as possible, these masks are to be replaced by mouth-nose protection masks produced by the prisons. All staff members on duty should wear an appropriate mask as far as possible. One mask per day should be used, and two masks per day for particularly long and intensive (in terms of contacts) service. Inmates must always wear surgical masks or mouth-nose masks for a period of four weeks after being transferred from the access department when leaving their detention room. One mask per day is calculated. The sewn protective masks from our own production are to be reused after removal of the filter insert. The masks have to be changed daily and they can be boiled out. Each staff member have to be equipped with a set of five sewn protective masks. If the masks cleaning cannot be carried out in the Prison or externally, they are to be prepared privately for reuse. Stricter protective measures, e.g. in the isolated access departments, in the infirmaries and at the new admission, remain unaffected. - All Prisons are requested to restart or expand the production of sewn protective masks in their own facilities in accordance with the applicable standards and in consultation with the Budget- and Economic Department in the General Directorate and the prison doctors. - In addition, the Directorate-General has also notified the need for protective masks of various classes, gloves, protective suits, etc. for the prisons in the framework of the State crisis and disaster management (critical infrastructure). Other sources of supply were also requested for procurement.

Slovakia **Face masks:**The prison staff is obliged to use face masks during fulfilling the service tasks, especially when they are in contact with other persons. Each member of the prison staff received an appropriate number of reusable face masks provided by the Prison service. Their disinfection is carried out individually by prison staff. **Gloves:** It is up to the prison staff whether they decide to use them. Single-use gloves are available in all prisons. It is obligatory to wear the gloves during certain service activities (e.g. when serving food, measuring body temperature, changing laundry, when contacting inmate suspected of having COVID-19 etc.; medical prison staff should wear them always when performing their

	duties).
Poland	Inmates produce weekly about 150,000 protective masks, 2,500 protective suits, 9,000 protective aprons, and disinfectant. In the nearest future we want to increase the production of masks to 800,000 per month and the production of liquid for disinfection to 80,000 litres per month.
Latvia	Officers and civil servants working in imprisonment places use masks and gloves. The administration follows that, especially, the employees who contact with prisoners directly, wear the personal protection equipment. Medical personnel
Czech Republic	Both civil servants and officers use face masks all the time. Gloves are not mandatory. Medical personnel have "stronger" equipment for treating those potentially infected (plastic face shields produced by the Prison Service, FFP3 respirators, protective suits...However, we have no infected inmates so far). Personnel working at entry gates have to wear FFP3 respirators.
Catalonia	All prison staff directly dealing with inmates, wear masks. In addition, they will wear gloves, protection glasses or the entire PPE if the situation requires to do so and always when dealing with a person that has tested positive.
Sweden	Neither officers nor civil servants use masks and gloves during regular services. They do use such equipment if they are in contact with someone suspected or confirmed of being infected
Poland	As of 6 April officers who come into contact with prisoners shall wear protective masks.

Are COVID-19 tests performed in prison, i.e. is the sample taken by the prison health service?

Spain	Tests made are till now few and centralised by the Health Public Authority.
Lithuania	Tests are performed only in cases of medical indications, but not by the prison health service
Israel	Covid-19 tests were taken only for staff that were in touch or near confirmed cases.
Luxembourg	Tests are only being performed when the concerned person shows symptoms as defined by the Ministry of Health. In Luxembourg, we have a convention with the Centre Hospitalier de Luxembourg. Their medical staff decides about the necessity to make a test and if there are indicators, they perform a test.
Estonia	Prison medical department performs the tests and sends the samples to the National Laboratory for analysis.
Belgium	No, the private doctor of the staff can ask for tests. The tests for prisoners are taken by the own medical service of the prison.
Norway	Tests are done by the prison health service (employed by the local municipality – in Norway we have the "import model" of services to the prisons)
Bulgaria	In case of doubt about COVID-19 for an inmate/detainee assistance is sought from the Regional Health Inspectorate (RHI) and the Emergency Medical Service Centre (EMSC) to ensure collection, storage and transportation of material for virological examination. In exceptional cases, medical specialists in prisons also take material for a virological examination.
Slovakia	Do not have a uniform procedure for COVID-19 testing. Medical prison staff does not take samples for these tests. Some prisons carry out escorts of inmates to the relevant hospitals (infectious clinic) in order to get them tested. Some prisons use for testing a Mobile testing unit (means a mobile ambulance/ other vehicle adapted for taking samples; with trained staff; taking samples in different venues of the country), that can come to the prison and take samples directly from the inmate.
Latvia	In Latvia, the COVID-19 tests are performed by the Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (CDPC).
Czech Republic	The Czech Prison Service medical personnel do not perform COVID-19 tests. If tests are needed, we cooperate with a responsible regional body - a public health/hygienic authority is contacted which then ensures taking the samples in prisons (to avoid transfers/escorts of prisoners outside prison).
Catalonia	Tests are performed by health care staff working in prisons which belong to the Health Department, hence under the same criteria and sent to the same labs that the tests in the community hospitals.
Sweden	Yes, tests handled by healthcare staff are performed in prisons since 1 April.

Early release & intake of new prisoners

Israel	240 prisoners remainder serving time less than 1 month
Latvia	imposition of short term custodial sentences has stopped
Norway	applying early release measures to decrease prison crowding, 126 inmates were released, 10-20-30 days earlier, if security allows; decided on 16 March 2020 that early releases should be used as a means to reduce the number of inmates Norwegian prisons. The purpose of this measure is both to minimize the risk of infectious outbreaks in prisons, both among inmates and staff members, and also to enable all inmates as soon as possible to serve their sentence in single-bed cells. As of 27 March 2020, 28 inmates are still sharing cells. This is a significant reduction compared to 20. March 2020, when the number of inmates sharing cells was 147! Early release means that the convicted person is being released before the time when he/she normally would be released. Early release means that the release takes place 10, 20 or 30 days earlier than normal release, depending on the not considered the option of releasing inmates at this point
Estonia	no early release; temporary no intake of pre-trial detainees
Lithuania	no early release; temporary postponement of prison sentence execution for max 6 months sentences and conversion of sentences for unpaid fines until 20 June
Finland	provided security allows: early release for sentences left of max 6 month before release; temporary suspension of imprisonment for one month
Slovenia	provided security allows: temporary suspension of imprisonment for sentences up to three years
Austria	Prisoners can be conditionally (early) released from prison sentence execution after fulfilling the below mentioned conditions provided by Penal Code. Prisoners can file a request for conditional release; however, they are not entitled to it
Slovakia	– the court decides. Following conditions must be fulfilled: 1. condition of positive behaviour and favourable re-socialisation forecast = during prison sentence execution prisoner must prove his/her "improvement" by performing one's duties and one's behaviour and at the same time it can be expected that he/she will lead decent life in the future – the prison where the prisoner is placed expresses to fulfilment of this condition and setting the re-socialisation forecast; 2. time condition = depends on the type seriousness of the committed crime for which the prison sentence was imposed: a) one half of the imposed unconditional prison sentence – sentenced for a misdemeanour; b) two thirds of the imposed unconditional prison sentence – sentenced for a crime; c) three quarters of the imposed unconditional prison sentence – sentenced for a serious crime; d) 20 years of prison sentence execution – life sentence. As of 1 January 2015 the prisoner sentenced for a crime can be conditionally released also after serving one half of the imposed unconditional prison sentence. This applies only to prisoners who serve the prison sentence for first time and at the same time it is technically possible to monitor them electronically. The electronic monitoring can be a part of the control of every conditional release. Prisoners can be conditionally released from each prison sentence apart from that sentence from which he/she has already been conditionally released and he/she did not prove good during the trial period (e.g. he/she committed another during the unlawful act during the trial period set by the court). In relation to the COVID-19 epidemic, the courts limited the public trials or they are performed via videoconferences. However, at the moment Slovak Republic does not consider any special measures on conditional release.
Czech Republic	The Prison Service of the Czech Republic does not, at the moment, consider any such measure. There have been voices pleading the Ministry of Justice to release prisoners because of COVID-19 epidemic, through some form of a presidenti

Spain amnesty for example. However, both the Ministry of Justice and the President of the Czech Republic stated this is not something they would consider at the moment. Use a measure of temporary release with inmates in open regime, so that they could stay at their home under electronic control. These inmates selected were already in open regime, they have made a good use of it and have low risk of committing new crimes. Thanks to this measure, open regime facilities are not populated and isolation is easier.

Sweden No early release at this time.

Other measures

Catalonia A **helpline** has been put in place through which prison social workers are providing support to families and friends of inmates.

Czech Republic We have not noticed any incidents related to COVID-19 measures so far. On the contrary, the situation in prisons seems rather stable.

Austria With 01.04.2020 the regular **transport of inmates** with large-capacity buses has been stopped. Any Transfers must be reported in advanced to the Directorate General. Urgent, non-postponable transport will take place in small buses under application Hygiene and safety measures. **Additional order** to our heads of institutions for implementation as soon as possible: A group system already implemented. Staff from a common household may not be divided into different groups. The risk of infection is thus further minimised. In view of the increased hygiene measures, the prison management is requested to provide the inmates with more **hygiene articles** in simple design (primarily soaps).

Catalonia 11 inmates that have tested positive and 1 of them has already been discharged. These have been transferred either to the Prison Hospital of Terrassa or to Hospitals in the Community. **Units where the positive inmates were placed**, have been "confined" meaning that they cannot access to common areas outside the unit. In these "confined" units various measures have been implemented to flexibilise the daily activities and times they can get in and out their cells. Arts and handcrafts instructors are providing materials for these inmates to carry out activities within the unit. Individual sports routines have been provided. They can still access to the various means implemented to communicate with families (increased phone calls, jitsi conference calls or whasapp on smartphones)

Spain Measures introduced: Release from Probation to telematic control (if you need more information, let me know without any problem). Compensations. More telephone calls and distribution of cell phones between inmates so that they can make calls and video conferences with families. Inmates are producing masks and other clothes for sanitary workers. Apart from health measures that have been communicated (distribution of masks and isolation), we are trying to go on with the basic administrative activity. Trying to use this isolation time for the better, we have also distribute online Help courses among the staff . (these are new measures)

Poland As of 6 April there is also a total ban on prisoners going outside to work.

Poland **Visits** to all detention centres and prisons have been suspended since March 19. Since March 12, the temperature has been measured for all those entering prisons - people who have a fever are not allowed in. At the same time, the possibilities of telephone, correspondence and instant messaging have been increased in order to ensure **contact with detainees' relatives** . The prisoners also have greater access to television, radio and the press. Additional therapeutic, educational and cultural-educational **activities** have been introduced, individually and in small groups. The Penitentiary Service has kept prisoner transports and movements within the units to a minimum.