



**COVID-19
Feedback Collection
9 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		* 23 inmates and 5 staff members have been tested
Belgium	7	32				
Czech Republic	0	8	8	54		
Israel	0	5	0	0		
Spain	25	181	389	810	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	37*	163**				* 9 of the 37 are hospitalized; ** 5 civilian/administrative and 158 penitentiary police officers
Austria	0	7	43	250		
Norway	2	7				
Netherlands	6					
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		*had suspected cases 5 staff and 3 prisoners, none of them confirmed after testing
Bulgaria	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE		
Romania	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE		
Estonia	0	1	0	0		

Have visits been shut down entirely?

(1) If no: Under which circumstances is it possible to visit a prisoner?

(2) If yes: What alternatives have been provided?

(3) If partially: Who is still allowed under which conditions (prevention measures) to visit a prisoner?

Poland	In Polish prisons the visits have been shut down entirely. The alternative - the possibilities of contact by telephone, mail and instant messaging have been increased in order to ensure contact with the detainees' relatives. Detainees also have greater access to television, radio and the press.
Austria	No reception of visits (family, friends, etc.). Privileged visits (lawyers, adult representatives, probationary services, etc.) are to be given the best possible preventive protection in all directions in accordance with the previous orders. The instructions are appropriate to the situation and must be communicated to inmates and visitors with a request for understanding. Attention must be paid to the inmates to ensure appropriate atmospheric balance by internal measures and possible benefits. Among other things, video telephony and extended telephone calls are now granted.
Ireland	The Irish Prison Service have ceased all family physical visits and provided video link visits to prisoners. Professional visits (solicitors/legal representatives) are still permitted if required.
Slovakia	In Slovakia, from 6 March 2020 all visits of inmates were suspended until further notice. This does not apply to service official acts of criminal proceedings authorities (e.g. prosecutions, courts, police force and the like) and advocates/lawyers. Compensation: Due to cancellation of visits, the Corps of Prison and Court Guard wants to support the contact of inmates with their close persons and that in the form of making more phone calls and correspondence. In Slovakia, the costs connected with making phone calls are borne by inmates. In the view of above mentioned and after intervention of the Corps, the operator (company) providing telephoning for inmates, decided to provide one-time credit in the amount of 2 € (approximately 20 minutes of calling) to all inmates recorded in system of the Corps. Provided credit is valid from 17 March 2020 and inmates can use it until the time when the visits can be again performed. In case that the inmate does not use this credit, the rest of it shall not be paid to the inmate after his release from prison.
Italy	Substitute visits with relatives or third parties, other than defence counsel, with remote talks through available tools in the prison such as skype, telephone calls, that can be authorised to exceed the previously set limits. Visit to penal institutions and meetings with defense counsel, the defense counsel visitor shall make use of an adequate protection device.
Belgium	From 13 March 2020 all visits of inmates were suspended until further notice. This does not apply to service official acts of criminal proceedings authorities (e.g. prosecutions, courts, police force and advocates/lawyers. Compensation: Due to cancellation of visits, Belgian Prison Service wants to support the contact of inmates with their family in the form of making more phone calls. Every inmate get 10 euro/week to make phone calls.
Latvia	Prisoners may be attended by lawyers, performers of procedures and employees of the State Probation Service. Visits are organized in a short-term meeting rooms with a protection glass. Other visits with third persons are not allowed.

	Prisoners may do additional phone calls and video calls.
Lithuania	The Lithuanian prisons are practically shut down. Defenders/ prosecutors/ pre-trial investigators are allowed to prisons in exceptional cases, the temperature is being measured at the gates, provided it's higher than normal - a person is not allowed inside. Pre-trial investigation proceedings are limited to minimum, unless they are inevitable. In case a contact interview or other procedural action is necessary these actions are carried out in specialized rooms keeping the obligatory 2m distance or in contactless visiting rooms.
Spain	Suspended all visits as general principle. As compensation measures, inmates have more telephone calls and mobile phones have been also distributed in order to facilitate contact with families. With lawyers, if possible, we are also implementing video conferences.
Estonia	In Estonia all visits to prisoners are suspended, except visits by criminal defence counsels, representatives who are advocates, ministers of religion, notary and consular officers of country of nationality to prisoners. In order to enable all prisoners phone calls, Estonian Prison Service loads extra talk-time to the calling cards of these prisoners who do not have sufficient funds to do it themselves.
Czech Republic	All family visits have been cancelled entirely since 14 March (for all groups of inmates). (2) - More time for telephone calls. - Video call visits (Skype) - Prisoners can receive one extra parcel with food and personal belongings above the legal limit (legal limit is 2 such parcels / year / up to 5kg each) - More outside time (walking yards), - A higher financial limit for prison-canteen purchases; (3) - Only prosecuting authorities can still visit prisoners. But they are encouraged by the Prison Service to do that only in exceptional cases and use other means of communication instead (telephone calls / video calls). Anybody who enters a prison facility has to wear a face mask and undergo a body temperature check.
Romania	Suspended visits in the penitentiary units (except for visits from lawyers, these are still permitted with a separation device, but we highly recommend using on-line conference calls instead); suspended permissions to leave the penitentiaries (as incentives); and suspended lucrative activities carried out by inmates outside detention places.

Is your prison service considering, given the current risk of COVID_19 infections, to limit the use of multi-person cells?

Austria	The necessity of multiple occupancy cannot be excluded. However, we try to avoid double or multiple occupancy, especially in the access/isolation departments.
Slovakia	At the moment in Slovakia we are not considering to limit the use of multi-person cells.
Belgium	At the moment in Belgium we are not considering to limit the use of multi-person cells.
Lithuania	The Lithuanian Prison Department is not yet considering to limit the use of multi-person cells, but in case of COVID-19 infection among prison population this option may be reviewed.
Estonia	In Estonia 28% of prisoners live in single-occupancy cells, all other prisoners live in double-occupancy cells. There are no cells for more than two people in Estonian prisons.
Italy	Prison governors are assigning to healthcare confinement the inmates who need to be isolated from the rest of prison population, therefore they place those prisoners in single cells in specific wings dedicated to healthcare confinement. Prison facilities in Italy cannot provide single cells accommodation to all inmates.
Czech Republic	No. At the moment, there are no capacities within our system to employ such a measure.

What are the working hours and shifts?

Romania	In the headquarters, we are working in two shifts in order to ensure that the morning shift does not come in contact with the afternoon shift; in the penitentiary units, we are working in 5 shifts, in order to relieve the pressure on the staff; staff psychologists are counseling and offering support to all employees in need.
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