

COVID-19 Feedback Collection 19 May 2020





			Isolated / quarantine				
	Infected	Ch	•	•	Dead	64K	
	Prisoner	staff	Prisoner	Staff	Prisoner	Staff	
Slovenia	2	1	28	14			
Poland	2*	6	59	52			*pre-trial detainees that came to prison with COVID-19 infection
Slovakia	0	0	4	8			pre-trial detainees that came to prison with COVID-15 meetion
Belgium	14	61*		0			*25 of the 61 are recovered and back at work; **on average 50 per day in guarantine
Czech Republic	14	11**	3	8			* in pre-trial detention prison hospital; ** 10 of them recovered
Israel	1	1*	24	45			*6 staff members recovered
Spain	37*	76**	325	258	2	4	*75 total, 15 already recovered; ** 266 total, 186 already recovered
	16*	51**	525	250	Z	4	
Catalonia		51	20.20	0			*45 already recovered - total of 61; **24 already recovered, total of 75
Sweden	52*		20-30	0	4	2	*out of them 17 recovered from COVID-19 ** on sick leave for positive Covid-19, symptoms, and other illnesses (7% prison&probation)
Italy	132*	192**			1	2	* 2 of them are hospitalized; **184 of them penitentiary police / 8 administrative staff; 11 hospitalised
Austria*	0	7**	43	250			*tested negative staff 91 and inmates 42 **6 recovered
Norway	9*	10		69			*6 from prison, 3 from probation – 1 of the three is recovered
Netherlands	20*				1		*14 in prisons, of which 10 are recovered, 1 deceased and 1 released from prison; 6 in forensic care of which 5 are recovered
Hungary	0	1*	0	1*			*1 infected staff member that is in quarantine
Finland	0	0*	6	1			*5 already recovered
Lithuania	0	0	0	0			
Georgia	0	0	0	0			
Latvia	0	0	0	0			
Luxembourg	1	0	2*	0			*prisoners quarantined upon their arrival are not calculated. Every new detainee stays in isolation for 7 days before being transferred to regular sections.
Malta*	0	0	0	0			
Bulgaria	1*	0	0	0			*pre-trial detainee that went directly from court to civil hospital
Romania	0	9					
Estonia	0	2*	some	some			*1 of the two is recovered and back t work
Denmark	0*	0					*1 prisoner is recovered
Moldova	1	7	9	28	0	0	
Croatia	-	-					*one staff member was guarantined immediately after returning from travelling abroad and has been on sick-leave since then (never entered a prison), **all newly
	0	2*	138**	27	0	0	admitted prisoners are isolated for reasons of precaution
France	35	51	127	312	1	1	
Portugal	0	7	/	011	-	-	
Ireland	0*	, 45**	27***				*6 awaiting testing **another 30 awaiting testing ***288 cleared from isolation
licialiu	0	40	27				o awaiting testing another so awaiting testing 200 cleared non-solation

What regime changes have you had to make and have any of these affected prisoner wellbeing and prison safety? (e.g. changes in self-harm; violence, drug use; mental health problems; relationships between staff and prisoners)?

Sweden

Regime changes (a selection): No visits (applies to friends and relatives, not lawyers etc.), no leaves from prison, isolation of infected or suspected infected. Persons sentenced to prison that are not incarcerated are denied of entering any prison or remand prison to start serving time if they show symptoms of Covid-19. Basic training for staff is postponed and the staff is instead deployed to prisons and remand prisons. Precautionary measures have also been imposed within the Probation Service. Physical meetings between the Probation Officers and the clients are, to the extent possible, avoided and replaced by other means of communication, such as Skype or Facetime. The Probation Officers will no longer visit inmates at remand, prisons or treatment facilities. Compensatory measures: free of charge domestic phone calls for inmates and remand prisoners (to approved numbers). International calls were initially free of charge but are now half the normal price. In order to ensure children's need for contact with their parents, tests are initiated to enable and provide video calls.

Impact on prisoners: Only a few incidents that can be directly related to the regime changes, but overall great understanding among inmates and good relations between staff and inmates. Rates of self-harm are a bit lower for the period

(1st March to 12th May) 2020 compared to 2019. Rates of treats and violence towards staff, as well as rates of threats and violence among inmates, are a bit higher for the period (1st March to 12th May) 2020 compared to 2019. Rates of absconding from open regime prisons are a bit higher for the period (1st March to 12th May) 2020 compared to 2019.

- Spain It is difficult to evaluate the situation in this moment, because we are still dealing with it. Nevertheless, one of the main measures undertaken -the increased use of electronic monitoring has helped a lot in reducing the number of prisoners in closed regime and groups of inmates living together. Also, the use of mobile phones and video calls has been a significant change in our security regime. Maybe this changes have come to stay, but it is too early to know.
- Lithuania No family visits, no prison visits, no large-scale events, no prison leaves, restriction of unguarded inmates' movement outside prison, restriction or temporary cancelling of incoming parcels, no group sports activities in gyms, restriction or temporary cancelling of inmates visits to libraries or barber's, restriction of resocialization programs. The regime changes improved the safety in prison, the above-mentioned measures didn't affect inmates' wellbeing or mental health, on the other hand the regime changes are in place for 3 months only which is too short a period to see the outcomes.
- Latvia The Administration has developed the Guidelines on hygiene and anti-epidemic regime requirements in prisons in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 infection. An Action Plan has been introduced in all administration imprisonment places for the prevention of COVID-19 infection spread in prisons which determines the measures to be observed in case any prisoner has complaints about the acute upper respiratory disease. Prisoners, including the persons with disabilities, can receive high quality health care at any time of the day. During the working hours of the medical treatment institutions of Administration prisons, the outpatient health care is provided by the doctors of Administration prison Medical department and the inpatient health care – by the Olaine Prison (the Latvian Prison Hospital). In prisons, a prisoner informs the Medical department doctors about the complaints on the acute upper respiratory infection. The doctor shall immediately assess the health condition of the prisoner and, if necessary, isolate the prisoner in a cell-isolator. Further measures are taken by the doctor, either by prescribing further monitoring and treatment, taking the test for COVID-19 infection, or, in more severe cases, by calling an emergency team to hospitalize the sick prisoner. From the day the state of emergency is declared in the country, the Administration monitors acute upper respiratory diseases, as well as all detainees, who are placed in prisons, are isolated and their health is monitored for 14 days. A special attention is paid to elderly prisoners and those suffering from chronic diseases, especially, lung, cardiovascular and diabetic patients. Outside the working hours of the Administration medical institutions, a prisoner shall inform the supervisor of complaints related to acute upper respiratory infection, as well as of any acute illness. The supervisor shall inform the on-call assistant of the Head of the prison, who in turn shall call an ambulance. The Administration Medical units and Olaine Prison (Latvian Prison Hospital) have developed action plans for the institution's hygiene and antiepidemic regime, which include a section on action in case of an outbreak of COVID-19 infection in the prison, which also provides training for medical staff. The leading infectologists of the Latvian Center for Infectious Diseases work in the prisons, who consult the medical practitioners of the prisons. As a result, all doctors are trained to recognize the signs of COVID-19 infection. Information materials have been distributed in all prisons of the Administration, both among prisoners and in cells and common areas, on behavior during a pandemic of COVID-19 infection in order to protect themselves from COVID-19 infection. The text is in an understandable format, but not in all places of imprisonment in Braille or sign language. According to the Guidelines, in the prisons of the Administration, supervisors ensure that prisoners maintain a distance of two meters, disinfectants are available in all common areas, face masks are used by officials, staff and medical staff in contact with prisoners, in accordance with the recommendations of the Center for Disease Prevention and Control of Latvia. The number of prisoners is decreasing every year. There is no overcrowding in prisons, prisoners are placed in multiple-people cells. As already mentioned, an Action Plan has been developed in each of the prisons in case of a COVID-19 outbreak, and Olaine Prison (the Latvian Prison Hospital) is also ready to receive COVID-19 infected patients (prisoners). The 4th floor of the hospital has been completely vacated, 30 beds have been prepared for the reception of patients, of which 25 patients can be placed in wards, 5 - in intensive care wards. All 30 patients can be provided with medical oxygen for respiration, 3 patients can be provided with artificial lung ventilation. The hospital is provided with oxygen, necessary medical supplies and protective equipment. Visits to the imprisonment place for third parties are restricted, except for the provision of the basic functions of the Administration. Prisoners' meetings with relatives or other persons in person are restricted. In contrast, additional telephone and video calls are provided. Meetings with a lawyer are provided through a glass wall using a telephone handset. Similarly, meetings are held with the employees of the State Probation Service, when it is necessary to prepare an Evaluation Report for the court in case the convict claims for the conditional early release. Currently, there is no escorting of prisoners at the request of the processors, including for court hearings, as far as possible, court hearings are organized in videoconference mode. The transfer of prisoners between imprisonment places has been suspended, except for the transfer of prisoners to the Latvian Prison Hospital in Olaine Prison and the commencement of the sentence execution of convicts. Resocialisation measures for prisoners are implemented as far as possible, only individually

Overall, which approach/es do you think have been the most and least successful in managing Covid-19 in prisons and/or for supporting a) staff and b) prisoners and why?

- Sweden No visits and no leaves from prison are likely the decisions that have contributed to limiting the spread of Covid-19 in the prisons and remand prisons to the largest extent. a) Continuous information to staff regarding Covid-19, measures taken and why. b) Compensatory measures to ensure contact with families as well as good relations between staff and inmates, focus on dynamic security. Lithuania The first restrictions were introduced on 28 February 2020. The Lithuanian Prison Department considers all the measures implemented to be positive, safe and in due time to prevent COVID-19 in prisons (no cases of infection inside prisons).
- Latvia All previously established restrictions were introduced to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in prisons without causing inhuman or degrading treatment to prisoners. The main aim of the activities was to protect the health and safety of prisoners as much as possible, without forgetting the prison staff.

What are your plans for how you ease restrictions and move your prison into a programme of recovery?

- Sweden The Swedish Prison and Probation Service is still in the very early planning phase for the situation after Covid-19. However, the cessation of special measures related to the Covid-19 virus will happen gradually, and in line with national health policies.
- Lithuania The Lithuanian Prison Department is planning to gradually ease the restrictions but the final decision on the schedule has not been taken yet. Top priorities shall be the renewal of contactless family visits, resocialization programs and sports activities.
- Latvia Depending on the situation, the restrictions are being reviewed and reduced, for example, the ban on the implementation of resocialisation programmes has now been cancelled, provided that mutual distance with up to 25 participants can be respected. The processing of identity documents has been renewed.

How have things in your prisons changed as wider public lockdown restrictions are lifted? What's worked to manage or respond to that change?

Sweden Not applicable. The SPPS have stricter measures than the general society in Sweden, comparable to nursing homes etc.

Lithuania The prisons received more requests for family visits that are still not allowed.

Latvia The public opinion on the cancellation of restrictions on movement and gathering is quite positive. Prisoners and their relatives are also waiting for the cancellation of face-to-face meetings.

Are there any changes you have made as a result of COVID-19 that you intend to implement permanently? Why

Sweden It is too early to answer how the prison system will change as a consequence of the pandemic.

Lithuania The amendments to the Penal Sanctions Enforcement Code of the Republic of Lithuania were initiated as a result of COVID-19. Provided the amendments are approved the Director General of the Prison Department will be delegated the powers to restrict the inmates' rights in case of the national emergency.

Latvia To use more technologies for the remote organization of meetings, sessions etc. as much as possible. Thus, optimizing the work.