



TRANSITION PLAN IMPLEMENTED IN PRISONS BY THE SECRETARIAT OF CRIMINAL SANCTIONS, REHABILITATION AND VICTIM SUPPORT - MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, GOVERNMENT OF CATALONIA

The Spanish government is implementing a phased approach to ease the lockdown which is applicable to all autonomous communities including Catalonia. It foresees 5 stages and at every stage a set of the restrictions imposed since 14 march (when the state of alarm was first declared) is lifted.

The **transition throughout the stages is taking place unevenly across the country** because it depends on how well a given health care administrative region (health services areas in which every autonomous community is divided into) scores on different aspects. The criteria that every health care region must meet in order to move on to the next stage have to do with the degree of preparedness of its hospitals for a new outbreak as well as the infection rates in that very region.

The **lifting of measures in Catalan prisons** and educative juvenile justice centres, will also be done by stages in accordance with the stage reached by the health care region where each prison is located. Nevertheless, depending on how the number of Covid-19 positive cases among inmates and staff evolves, health authorities might decide that a given prison cannot move on to the stage reached by its health care region. Currently, massive PCR testing is being conducted in prison staff and it will be conducted in inmates as well.

To date (20/05/20), some prisons are on stage 0 and others on stage 1.

The transition plan devised for prisons and educative juvenile justice centres is very detailed and complex. In what follows only some of the relevant measures applicable to prisons on the 3 first stages are described.

Prisons in a health care region still on **stage 0**, the following activities will be resumed:

- Prison leaves which inmates that have been granted art.100.2 and 3rd grade, are entitled to
- Extraordinary prison leaves (hospital visits to relatives in a severe medical condition, births, funerals, etc...)
- Gyms only for low contact sports activities, compulsory use of towels and gloves by inmates, disinfection after every session
- Hairdressing saloons, only by appointment, one inmate at the time, wearing facemasks, no mixing among inmates of different units, thorough cleaning of utensils after each use

On **stage 1** the following will be resumed:

- Family visits on a glass partition room and complying with health safety standards: visitors' temperature will be measured upon arrival at the prison, 2 meters' distance, visitors must wear facemasks and gloves, disinfection of the visiting room after every visit*
- Reception of parcels for inmates
- Transfers of inmates among prisons within Catalonia without placing them in quarantine upon arrival
- In-person social support services to families of inmates when necessary (in addition to the helpline that will continue to operate)

On **stage 2** the following will be resumed:

- Family visits and conjugal visits on regular rooms*
- Activities carried out by volunteers, religious representatives and community agencies inside prisons
- Activities in indoor sports courts and pitches

On **stage 3** the following will be resumed:

- All kinds of regular and scheduled prison leaves
- Regular activity in swimming pools and libraries
- Regular shifts of treatment and rehabilitation staff

*Videocalls will continue for inmates whose families cannot visit them in person.

Once completed the 3 stages and provided that all requirements are met, prisons will be able to move on to the “new normality” stage.