



**COVID-19
Feedback Collection
1 July 2020**



Supported by the Justice
Programme of the European Union

	Infected		Isolated / quarantine		Dead		
	Prisoner	Staff	Prisoner	Staff	Prisoner	Staff	
Slovenia	2	1	28	14			
Poland	6	7	59	52			
Slovakia	0*	0	6	2			*1 positive tested prisoner has recovered
Belgium	14	61*	50**				*25 of the 61 are recovered and back at work; **on average 50 per day in quarantine
Czech Republic	1*	2**	3	8			*in pre-trial detention prison hospital; ** 11 recovered
Israel	0	7*	7	56			*6 all recovered
Spain	72*	17**	101	112	2	4	*84 total, 16 already recovered; ** 278 total, 257 already recovered
Catalonia	4*	33**					*89 recovered; **128 already recovered
Sweden	125*	**	20-30	0			*107 recovered fully
Italy	132*	192**			1	2	* 2 of them are hospitalized; **184 of them penitentiary police / 8 administrative staff; 11 hospitalised
Austria	2*	7**	0	0			*2 already recovered, **7 already recovered, 481 inmates and 91 staff tested negative
Norway	0*	1**		69			*9 prisoners have recovered; ** 10 staff members have recovered
Netherlands	20*				1		*14 in prisons, of which 11 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	0	0	0	0			
Romania	0	9					
Estonia	0	4	some	some			
Denmark	0*	0					*1 prisoner is recovered
Moldova	1	7	9	28	0	0	
Croatia	0	2*	138**	27	0	0	*one staff member was quarantined immediately after returning from travelling abroad and has been on sick-leave since then (never entered a prison), **all newly admitted prisoners are isolated for reasons of precaution
France	35	51	127	312	1	1	
Portugal	0	7					
Ireland	0*	47**	15***				*10 awaiting testing (results) **337 cleared from isolation

Have you introduced technology as a replacement for rub down searches. If yes, what technology? How effective it is estimated to be? Could this become a replacement for close searching in the longer term?

Estonia	Estonian Prison Service has not replaced rub down searches.
Netherlands	No technology is introduced to replace rub-down searches
Latvia	Latvian Prison Administration have not introduced new technological solutions regarding searches.
Slovakia	No new technological solutions regarding searches have been introduced.
Austria	In reference to searches, no new technological or technical solutions have been introduced by the Austrian Prison Administration.
Ireland	The Irish Prison Service have not introduced any technology to replace rub down searched
Finland	Finland has not introduced new technology as a replacement for common rub down searches. General guidelines concerning COVID-19 and person-to-person searches has restricted the volume of rub down searches in practise, for example by banning the visits to prison by general public for the time being.
Lithuania	No new technology as a replacement for rub down searches was introduced due to COVID-19.
Romania	As for introducing technology as a replacement for rub down searches, mention must be made that the Romanian prison system has used supporting technical means for performing searches: X-ray devices for scanning luggage, portable metal detection devices and walkthrough metal detector gates. It must also be stated that the number of prohibited objects discovered after establishing the state of emergency is highly reduced, as compared to the number of items

discovered from the beginning of the year to the moment of enforcing the special measures. This is due particularly to the decrease in the number of activities performed outside the detention rooms and the reduction in the number of prisoners simultaneously participating in activities. Thus, in the period 01-15.03.2020, a number of 237 mobile phones, 248 SIM cards and 71 cases of substances suspected to be drugs were discovered throughout the Romanian prison system, while a number of 96 mobile phones, 72 SIM cards and 34 cases of prohibited substances were discovered during 16.03-31.05.2020.

Catalonia As a way to ensure that the safety distance is kept among individuals, rub down searches have been replaced by electronic means which prove to be effective. Is not yet possible to say whether these will be the only means used after Covid-19.

Have you begun to lift COVID-19 restrictions? What impact has this had on the illicit economy / conveyance?

Estonia	All prisons in Estonia have resumed normal operations, while following hygiene and disinfection requirements, also social distancing when possible.
Netherlands	The Netherlands has begun to lift COVID-19 restrictions, no general statement can be made about the impact on the illicit economy/ conveyance
Latvia	According with LPA Director General Order No.123 (signed on 9th June 2020) there are carried out measures to soften the restrictions for COVID-19 spread, e.g. sub-section 1.3. states that short-term visits will be reopened from 25th June 2020; sub-section 1.4. states that long-term visits will be reopened from 1st July 2020. This have had no impact on illicit economy / conveyance.
Slovakia	Yes, the restrictions are gradually lifted.
Austria	The gradual lifting of the restrictions, which started on June 15th, has had no impact so far on the illicit economy/conveyance.
Ireland	The Irish Prison Service has begun the risk assessment stage to look at unwinding measures introduced during COVID-19
Finland	Finland has begun to dismantle the COVID-19 restrictions in the prison system. The idea is to first open the actions inside the prison (for example the use of sauna, participation in work-activity and free-time activity, the use of library) mainly concerning prisoners and after that slowly move on to the connections outside the prison (for example leaves and prison visits). The impacts on illicit economy / conveyance in a larger scale are hard to define from the prison system / environment.
Lithuania	The restrictions are gradually lifted: since 17 June short-term contactless visits are re-opened, social rehabilitation programs in small groups, cultural and sports events, especially in the open air, are being organized. The restrictions had no impact on the illicit economy/ conveyance.
Romania	Concerning the plans to relax the restrictions within the prisons subordinated to NAP, a Plan of Measures for the Prison System, after ceasing the state of emergency has been drawn up and as a result, several measures of gradual relaxation have been taken. Some of these measures are: 1)Lifting the suspension of the right to visit and intimate visit. The visits and the intimate visits are organized with additional measures of prevention and protection against the SARS-Cov-2 virus (e.g. the spaces for granting the right to visit are equipped with virucidal disinfection solutions; all the spaces of the visit sector are disinfected before and after each visit series. A minimum 20-minute ventilation of the spaces where the visits are organized will be performed between the series of visitors. Visiting persons are subject to epidemiological triage and fill in the Coronavirus Questionnaire, etc.). 2) Gradually starting to grant the permission to leave the prison. 3) Gradually starting to transfer inmates between prisons, respecting the measures for preventing the spread of SARS-CoV-2 (e.g. limiting the occupancy of transporting vehicles, as far as possible, to 50% of the capacity of seats allocated to prisoners; Overall, during the emergency/alert state, there was a decrease in the cases of introducing forbidden objects and substances in the prison environment. (65 cases - February, 39 cases - March, 42 cases - April, 30 cases - May). This positive evolution in terms of detention security may be a consequence of two situations: limiting prisoners' contact with the outside of the detention place: ceasing the activity of the external working sites, suspending the rights to packages and visits, and limiting people's freedom of movement at national level by establishing a state of emergency/alert throughout Romania. As a result, relatives could no longer go to the vicinity of the detention places in order to facilitate the grasp of prohibited objects by prisoners. However, when analysing these statistical data, the following must be taken into account: a) the specific character of the missions performed during this period by the prison officers. Controlling and checking the places where prisoners have access to have no longer registered the same frequency. b) the priority of the prison administrations was to limit the effects of the spread of SARS CoV-2 virus infection.

Catalonia A gradual plan to lift Covid-19 is in place and was uploaded in the dedicated EuroPris page here. We are not in the position to assess the impact on the illicit economy / conveyance

Have you seen an increase in staff corruption cases since lockdown?

Estonia	Lockdown has not increased staff corruption.
Netherlands	No general statement can be made about staff corruption
Latvia	There have not been any staff corruption cases.
Slovakia	No increase has been observed.
Austria	Since lockdown, no staff corruption cases were reported to the General Directorate
Ireland	No
Finland	There has been no increase or significant change in the staff corruption cases inside the prison system, during the lockdown. This is affected most certainly by the fact that Finland is considered generally to be one of them least corrupted countries in the world.
Lithuania	No staff corruption cases have been noticed.
Romania	The analysis of the data available at the level of the National Administration of Penitentiaries has shown a single case of corruption among the staff during the restrictions imposed by the states of emergency and alert and it occurred at Constanța Poarta Albă Prison. By comparison, between January and June last year, there were 3 cases of corruption among the employees of the entire prison system: Arad Prison, Bacău Prison and Tulcea Prison. In conclusion, we cannot support the hypothesis that the number of corruption cases has increased during the period of restrictions caused by Coronavirus.

Catalonia To our knowledge, there has not been an increase in staff corruption cases since the lockdown.

What is the estimated average spend (per person) on the management of individuals, in custody or under licence, that present a risk or vulnerability relating to extremism and radicalisation?

Latvia	The cost per person for such individuals is equal to other persons in imprisonment (the costs do not change).
Slovakia	We don't file separately the cost of inmates who present a risk of vulnerability or radicalisation.
Austria	No data is available on the additional costs for inmates that present a risk or vulnerability relating to extremism and radicalisation to meet their special needs (in terms of care, treatment and security in prison).
Ireland	No spend in this regard

Finland	There are 7 persons out of 2000 people working in the prison-system, who are working especially towards identifying, allocating and preventing extremism and radicalisation. There are in total of 60 individuals nationwide in custody or under licence from the population of 2901 prisoners and 3171 under licence (statistics 1.6.2020) that are classified as a person of risk or vulnerability relating to extremism and radicalisation. The total costs or estimated average spend are extremely hard to calculate, but the issue is not a big problem in prisons and in society in Finland and consequently there is only one person convicted of terrorist-offences throughout the Finnish history.
Lithuania	n/a
Romania	The competences of NPA exclusively aim at pre-trial detainees or convicted persons in custody. The management of radicalised persons and of those who pose a risk or vulnerability in terms of extremism and radicalisation does not require the allocation of additional funds as compared to the general prison population. In the Romanian prison system there are no dedicated de-radicalization/disengagement programmes, radicalized or vulnerable prisoners are included in specific programmes, depending on the needs identified by the applied specialist evaluations. The management of these persons is performed by the prison system specialists.
Catalonia	It is not possible to estimate the specific cost spent in the management and treatment of a group of inmates with specific needs related to their type of vulnerability or type of crime.

Have you taken any measures to temporarily increase prison capacity due to COVID e.g. temporary accommodation? What security threats have these measures created and how have they been dealt with?

Estonia	There has been no need to increase prison capacity, as Estonian prison density per 100 places is 77,5 (SPACE I, 2019).
Netherlands	No measures are taken to temporarily increase prison capacity
Latvia	The measures to reduce COVID-19 spread in imprisonment places have not caused any security threats.
Slovakia	Adjustment of accommodation capacities (reduction of the accommodation area per inmate) is implemented for the time inevitably needed in case it is necessary due to the number of inmates, regardless of COVID-19.
Austria	There was no need to increase prison capacity in the Austrian PS because of COVID-19 due to successful administrative measures to reduce the number of inmates (e.g. the postponement of the start of prison sentences). The measures to prevent the spread of the pandemic have not resulted in any specific security threats.
Ireland	No measures introduced to increase prison capacity – however the Irish Prison Service has reduced the prison population by approx. 12% to assist in effective infection control measures.
Finland	Finland did not resort to temporarily increasing the prison capacity but instead halted and slowed down the flow of new prisoners to the prison system. The sentences given by the courts were not straight implemented into practice (as in normal times) and the convicted citizen now wait for their time to report to serve their sentence. This particular COVID-19 restriction is now in the verge of decommissioning. Because of the different choice of methods, as explained above, there has not been any situations of overcrowdedness inside the prisons. The COVID-19 restrictions have affected the normal prison life and made it a bit tense and volatile, but larger security issues and actions (like rioting) within the prison population have not appeared.
Lithuania	No measures to temporarily increase prison capacity due to COVID were taken. From 16 March till 16 June the implementation of the sentence of arrest (short-term imprisonment calculated in days) was suspended thus saving places for isolation of newly accepted inmates. No security threats appeared due to the measures implemented.
Romania	Taking into account the dynamic evolution of the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, as well as the need to have an active role in anticipating the actions necessary to fight against the expansion of its effects, the National Administration of Penitentiaries has identified new quarantine/monitoring/respiratory isolation spaces for inmates. In this context, quarantine/monitoring/respiratory isolation spaces have been organised step by step and the rest of the units have exceeded their legal accommodation capacity in order to limit the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus.
Catalonia	There is no overcrowding in Catalan prisons as these are at 89,7% of their capacity (SPACE II, 2019). However, since the start of the covid-19 crisis, measures have been implemented in order to ease prison occupancy with two main goals: allow for more space among inmates within a prison wing or unit and being able to reserve and adapt certain wings or parts of wings of prison establishments where to place inmates that have tested positive or suspected inmates in medical isolation. As explained in previous emails, since the start of the health crisis, 1.330 new inmates have been progressed to 3rd grade and granted art. 86.4 of the Prison Regulations so that they live in their homes or in supervised apartments without having to spend the night in the prison while being monitored (before the outbreak there were 325 inmates under art. 86.4 and now 1.655 in total). These inmates are not necessarily released in the sense of having completed their sentence, they are completing their sentence out of prison under close supervision.

Recent updates

Poland	By decision of the Ministry of Justice and the Prison Service, taking into account the current epidemiological situation, first of all, i.e. from 1 July 2020, <u>it is planned</u> to restore the possibility of performing work in prisons and production halls in the area or in the immediate vicinity of penitentiary units and to implement professional training for small groups of convicts. Then, in agreement with the employers, external employment will be reinstated, while maintaining the sanitary regime. The last stage will be the restoration of visits to inmates with their relatives. Dates for lifting further restrictions will be given in the near future.
Spain	The main principle consists in recovering the ordinary activity, faster or slower, depending on the specific situation and spaces of each prison. Mainly: we recover transfers between prisons, inmates with leaves do not have to make a quarantine period and communications are progressively restarted. (document containing information in Spanish will be uploaded on the EuroPris webpage)