



COVID-19 Feedback Collection July 2020



Supported by the Justice
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	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	129*	**	20-30	0			*128 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	5	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

Which system have you implemented for inmates to make video calls with their relatives and friends during the Covid-19 situation (Skype, Skype business, jitsi, whatsapp, other)?

Austria	Beside the telephone solution for inmates we use mobile phones and started to implement Zoom on premise VC solution.
Ireland	IPS leveraged existing investment in unified communication infrastructure to provide the video conferencing facilities. It was necessary to deploy approx. 200 additional Cisco Video phones and introduced scheduling software (VQ Conference Manager) to enable staff create bookings. Family members can take the video call on most smart devices, once current version of Google Chrome is installed.
Finland	Finland is using Skype, no other systems are in use.
Slovakia	The video-visits are performed in the Skype communication program.
Sweden	Sweden is using Skype.
Moldova	Skype
Lithuania	The services of video calls were provided by the external provider CSC using special app.

Latvia In Latvian prisons the Skype system is used to provide prisoners with video calls with their family or relatives not only during the COVID-19, but also on a daily basis

Which kind of device and/or setting has been made available for their use (smartphones, tablets, computers, computer room, cabin)?

Austria	Smartphones, AiO Computers with Zoom on premise and "Zoom Rooms".
Ireland	Cisco CP-8945
Finland	Finland is using laptop-computers as chosen devices. Computers are staff-regulated and they are specific spaces in prisons where the use of these devices is only allowed. Computers have usb-blockage, closed keyboards (locked cover on top) and no mouse ability.
Slovakia	For video-visits, there are used tablets with mobile internet (i.e. tablets are not connected to the internet network of the prison service).
Sweden	Only IOS devices.
Moldova	Computer room/laptops
Lithuania	Computers. There are one or two specific rooms in every prison designated for video calls.
Estonia	In Estonia no systems were implemented for inmates to make video calls with their relatives and friends during the Covid-19 situation. All prison visits were resumed from 1.6.2020.
Latvia	Tablets are used in Latvian prisons for making video calls.

Before the actual video call takes place, are you doing any verification about the line or account in which the inmate's relative receives the video call?

Austria	The relatives have to apply via e-mail and after approval they get a link for the VC session.
Ireland	Family members must be on the allowed visitors list. Family member receives a web link to join the conference. Each conference is limited to two participants. In some cases there is only one person allowed on the visit. Staff do monitor area that the calls are been made from and there is CCTV is certain locations but not all. If a caller becomes irate or aggressive the officer supervising may intervene.
Finland	Some verification is done, but the possibility of misuse is always present. Connections are controlled by the staff and staff opens the line everytime, not the prisoner.
Slovakia	We do not verify the owner of the Skype account/ contact.
Sweden	The relative have to send the actual Skype-address.
Moldova	No verification is done
Lithuania	A day before a video call a prison staff member contacted an inmate's relative or family member on the line he/she'll be receiving a video call, informed about the app to be downloaded and agreed upon a call time. The video call was possible only to the number indicated in an inmate's request for video call.
Latvia	LPA has not introduced in practice a verification of the line or account in which the prisoner's relative receives a video call, prior to making the specific video call in prison.

For instance, in case of using whatsapp, are you verifying that the family member receiving the call is actually the holder of that telephone line? How do you check this?

Austria	The relatives have to apply via e-mail and after approval they get a link for the VC session.
Ireland	Family members must be on the allowed visitors list. Family member receives a web link to join the conference. Each conference is limited to two participants. In some cases there is only one person allowed on the visit. Staff do monitor area that the calls are been made from and there is CCTV is certain locations but not all. If a caller becomes irate or aggressive the officer supervising may intervene.
Finland	WhatsApp is not in use.
Slovakia	We do not verify the owner of the Skype account/ contact.
Sweden	The relative have to send the actual Skype-address.
Latvia	Whatsapp is not in use. Using the Skype system in prisons, it is not verified whether the prisoner's family member receiving the call is the actual holder of the telephone line. The administration representative makes sure that the video call system is working and the video call is connected between the applicant and the family member.

When using other platforms and sending the meeting link to the relative to their email, do you verify that the relative is the actual holder of that email account? How do you check this?

Austria	No, this is not possible.
Ireland	No, we would have no way of knowing this. It may be obvious that the person on the prisoners existing phone panel is the person whose name will also be in the email account in a lot of the cases.
Finland	Platforms that need a meeting link are not in use.
Slovakia	We do not verify the owner of the Skype account/ contact.
Sweden	Not in use.
Latvia	In Latvian prisons other platforms are not used, which would require that the relatives would be sent a link to a video call to their e-mails. Prisoners themselves inform their relatives about the upcoming video call in a timely manner by calling or sending a letter.

When using platforms such as Skype and making the call from user to user, how do you verify that the relative is the actual owner of that Skype account? How do you check this?

Austria	We are not allowing user to user video calls.
Ireland	As per above, the persons who is being called has to be already on the prisoners phone panel which is checked when the prisoner submits his phone panel.
Finland	Prisoner has to request the Skype-meeting with a formal written application, in which he/she gives the same information as within the normal visiting regulations. Such as name, address and also the purpose and grounds for the need of a Skype-meeting. Skype-meetings are optional, not a right of every prisoner. Prison staff opens the call with the information given by the prisoner in the application and confirms that the person on the other side is the correct one. This is done simply by asking, which is not the best option.
Slovakia	We do not verify the owner of the Skype account/ contact.
Sweden	The relative have to send the actual Skype-address. And the staff participate in the conference
Moldova	The relative have to send the actual Skype-address. And the staff is monitoring the conference
Latvia	When using the Skype system in prisons, it is not verified whether the prisoner's relative receiving the call is the actual owner of the telephone line. The administration representative makes sure that the video call system is working and the video call is connected between the applicant and the relative or family member.

Once the video call is already taking place, do you verify the identity of the relative who is on the receiver end? How?

Austria	The officer starts the video call and connects the relatives to the inmates. He can also interrupt the session and normally knows the persons involved.
Ireland	No unless a situation develops.
Finland	The video calls are always monitored by the staff. This monitoring can be done by visual means, physical presence with sound or without, dual-monitoring, videomonitoring and even recording the meeting. If the person changes in the screen or there is someone else in the background talking or anything similar happens, the calls is immediately ended by the staff.
Slovakia	An authorised prison officer determines on prescribed form (invitation to video-visit), to an inmate who requested for a video-visit with a civilian (relative, close persons), an exact date and time of the video-visit and identification of the specific Skype account of the prison, that can be contacted by the civilian in the determined time. The inmate sends the invitation to the video-visit with the marked data to this civilian by postal service. The invitation to the video-visit is also marked with the prison stamp and signature of the authorised person. The video-visit itself is initiated by a civilian (he/she contacts the Skype account of the prison) in determined time. Immediately after accepting the video-visit by the prison officer (the inmate is not touching the device), he asks the civilian to submit the invitation to the video-visit and reminds him/her or any other participating persons of the video-visit that the video-visit will be ended prematurely in case of breaking the rules,. When controlling the invitation to the video-visit, the prison officer can ask civilians for their identification by showing their IDs.
Sweden	See above answer
Moldova	See above answer
Lithuania	There is no practice of verifying the identity of the relative who are on the receiver end.
Latvia	In Latvian prisons, once the video call is already taking place, there is no practice of verifying the identity of relatives who are on the receiving end. The prison administration verifies the video call connection between the relative and the prisoner.

Do you keep a record of the date, time and receiver of every video call?

Austria	Yes we do.
Ireland	Logs are kept of every video call
Finland	Every Skype-meeting application is archived after decision. Every use of Skype-meeting is registered in the central Prisoner Information system with name, date, time and was it actualized or not.
Slovakia	In the information system, we keep similar data as during a standard (physical) visit – the date and time of the video-visit and the name of the civilian who was identified by the inmate as a “user” of the Skype account.
Sweden	Yes
Moldova	yes
Lithuania	The date, time and receiver of every video call are recorded and stored in the app.
Latvia	All video calls in each prison are recorded in the "Call List Register", which indicates a recipient (subscriber) of the video call, the date, time and information on whether the video call took place.

Is there the possibility of recording the video calls of an inmate in compliance with a court order?

Austria	Yes it is possible
Ireland	Technically yes, but not currently. Video visits treated as an in person visit supervised by staff. Business have not yet requested such a feature.
Finland	Yes there is and it does not require a separate court order. Skype-meetings are under the same principles as normal visits to prison and in Finland they are defined and controlled by the Prison Law which gives authority and legal options.
Slovakia	In case of certain inmates (e.g. accused who are placed in pre-trial detention in order to prevent from influencing the witnesses of criminal proceedings), a police officer, prosecutor or court can condition the execution of the video-visit by their presence (i.e. they can personally monitor the course of the video-visit). Recording of the video-visits is not directly possible in the Skype program.
Sweden	Not applicable

Moldova	Not applicable
Lithuania	Not applicable
Latvia	Currently, no information is available on the recording of video calls in prisons in compliance with a court order.

Any other relevant aspect you wish to share with regard to the introduction of video calls as a means for the communication among inmates and their families?

Austria	The system has proved very successful in the Austrian PS.
Ireland	Current system allows for calls to take place without staff or prisoners touching equipment and calls automatically terminate. Staff also have the ability to monitor the quality of the calls in real time and end the call remotely if required reducing the risk of confrontation or assaults
Finland	It is important to notice that we can as authorities only control that side of the call which is in the prison, but not the one in the civil world. This year Finland has noticed a couple of attempts to record the Skype call after the meeting is over. The present version of Skype gives the recording possibility to both sides of the call and if the call is not immediately ended after the meeting, there might be a possibility to photograph, video and record sound of staff members.
Latvia	At present, the LPA does not have any other important information to share regarding the introduction of video calls as a means of communication between prisoners and their families.

Is there a second wave in your countries as well? Are the facilities that re-opened (family visits, lawyers visits, treatment and education, production centers etc.) still on?

Netherlands	The downscaling of the C-19 measures within the Dutch custodial institutions agency is still going according to plan. No second wave of C-19 infections.
France	No second wave. Yes, we are on the third phase of reopening.
Latvia	Since 9 June 2020, the emergency situation in Latvia is cancelled, some precautionary measures in public places are still kept observed. At the moment, the second wave of COVID-19 infection may not be observed in Latvia. Short-term and long-term meetings are restarted. The implementation of interest and non-formal education programmes was started again from 10 June 2020. Also, the employees of state and local government institutions may attend prisons. Prisoners are now allowed to receive parcels and, inmates, serving their sentence in open prison, may receive guests. As from 1 August 2020, third parties will be able to attend prisons, and we shall restart the mental care and free time events with involvement of third parties.
Ireland	Ireland has not experienced a second wave of the virus yet. The Irish Prison Service is still in the planning stage for the easing of restrictions such as education and family visits, which are due to return on a reduced and screened basis on 20 July. Lawyers visiting rights have been unaffected during the pandemic.
England & Wales	At present, there has not been a 'second-wave' of Covid-19 in England and Wales. We are now looking to restart aspects of daily prison life, such as social and legal visits, education and employment, though we are unlikely to be able to lift restrictions across the estate in a uniform way, and so this next phase will involve a more localised approach. The National Framework for Prison Regimes and Services, which sets out the conditional roadmap for easing restrictions, is available on GOV.UK: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-national-framework-for-prison-regimes-and-services
Luxembourg	Currently we don't experience a second wave in Luxembourg. Although the number of infections increased over the last week, which was mainly due to the hosting of private parties. Other than that, the Government continues with the deconfinement strategy, sensibilisation campaigns and the large-scale testing program. Members of the prison staff receive an invitation to be tested on a voluntary basis every two weeks. The state of crisis ended on the 24 th June and has been replaced by the colloquially called "Covid-law". Within prisons we re-opened workshops, school as well as visits (with some restrictions). Detainees can currently receive visits from any person above the age of 10 (lawyers and therapists included). However, barrier gestures and other preventive measures are still being respected.
Finland	No, we don't have second wave of coronavirus in Finland. At the moment the situation is quite good and stable. Most of the coronavirus restrictions have been lifted and there has not been setbacks.
Cyprus	We don't have a second wave yet, and we gradually return to normality. We still maintain the alternative means of communication everyday - unlimited phone calls between 0800 - 2030 hours and video calls. The visits reopened but still are carried out with restrictions - there is a plexi glass separator, the number of visits has been reduced to two for every inmate (they used to have 10 visits in a month, before COVID period). The schools, sports, work and any other activity in prisons went back to normal. Still, preventive measures are maintained for all visitors (check for body temperature, any symptoms of fever or coughing, etc), staff, and any other person (including lawyers, other staff that work in prisons) before entrance. Furthermore the visitors that come from abroad must demonstrate a negative COVID test before entering prisons.
Slovakia	Currently, we do not face the second wave of the COVID-19. The numbers of positives cases vary but they are still on reasonable level posing no real threat right now. Yes, they are. We have lifted almost all of our previously imposed preventive measures related to COVID-19 and as the situation in Slovakia is favourable, we continue with the mitigation of restrictions.
Sweden	No, we are not experiencing a second wave of coronavirus yet. The SPSS have never stopped visits from lawyers and police, nor treatment programs, production centers or education etc. The SPSS have however stopped family visits and leaves from prison to curb the virus spreading in our facilities. We are now slowly opening up for visits and leaves again; starting with leaves from prison with accompanying staff and after summer the plan is to open up for family visits again, with various measures taken to reduce the risk of infection spreading.
Moldova	It is hard to say, we have approximately the same amount of infections daily since mid april
Lithuania	No, we don't have the second wave of the COVID-19 in Lithuania. We've lifted most of COVID-19 restrictions, currently re-start of long-term visits is under consideration.
Estonia	Estonia is not experiencing a second wave of coronavirus yet. All prisons in Estonia have resumed normal operations (incl. prison visits, education, production), while following hygiene and disinfection requirements, also social distancing when possible.

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.
England & Wales	We have no introduced technology as a replacement to rub down searches. We have introduced temporary 'non-contact' searching procedures to comply with social distancing requirements. However, should there be an operational need to conduct a close contact search, these are still taking place with the use of PPE. We are also encouraging the use of existing technology to mitigate the risk of any reduced physical searching.

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
England & Wales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrictions are being gradually lifted in prisons in England and Wales. • We have developed a conditional roadmap ("National Framework") which sets out the what the easing of restrictions in prisons will look like in practice, and how decisions will be made. This is available on GOV.UK: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-national-framework-for-prison-regimes-and-services • Individual prisons are currently undergoing assessments to confirm readiness to move to the next stage of the National Framework. • Over the coming weeks, we will look to restart aspects of daily prison life, such as social visits, education and employment – with adaptations where necessary to ensure safety. • It is too early to identify whether the Covid-19 restrictions themselves, and the gradual lifting of those restrictions has had an impact on the illicit economy and conveyance. However, some conveyance methods have seen a reduction whereas there has been a general increase in attempted throwovers.

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.
England & Wales	Offenders have adapted their tactics in response to the suspension of visits during lockdown. We are continuing to monitor and assess the use of all known route of conveyance into prisons, including staff corruption to understand how use of these has changed in response to Covid-19.

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 has 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.
England & Wales	As part of our efforts to increase headroom across the prison estate, we are installing c.1000 single-occupancy temporary accommodation units. Prisoners are individually risk assessed before they are accommodated in the temporary units.