

# COVID-19 Feedback Collection 13 August 2020



### What is the number of COVID-19 infected inmates in your countries?

Lithuania At the moment there are no COVID-19 cases in prisons.

Belgium In Belgium we have still 4 inmates and 6 staff members who are infected by COVID-19. Since the beginning of the pandemic 35 inmates tested positive and 82 staff members.

Finland In Finland there were no COVID-19 infected inmates during the whole epidemic.

Northern Ireland No prisoners have tested positive for COVID-19 in Northern Ireland Prison Service establishments.

Georgia At the moment there are no COVID-19 cases in prisons.

Cyprus At the moment in the Cyprus Prisons there are no COVID incidents - neither for inmates nor for staff.

Hungary Hungarian prisons continue to remain infection-free.

Slovakia Slovak prisons remain infection-free.

Latvia At the moment there are no COVID-19 cases in prisons - neither for inmates nor for staff.

Slovenia At the moment there are no COVID-19 cases in prisons - neither for inmates nor for staff.

Poland At the moment there are no COVID-19 cases in prisons.

Norwat In the Norwegian correctional service, one staff member of one prison was reported infected on 07 August. No inmates are infected as of today.

Czech Republic In the Czech Republic – no positive cases among inmates. There were two positive cases but they have recovered already.

Estonia In Estonian prisons there are no C19 infected inmates at the moment.

Sweden In the Swedish Prison and Probation Service we had in total of 130 cases of infected inmates, all of them are recovered now. No inmates are infected as of 12 August 2020.

Cumulative number

16 total confirmed C-19 infections within the prison administration:

6 total confirmed C-19 infections within forensic care;

3 total confirmed C19 infections within correctional institutions for juvenile offenders.

Current number

Netherlands

 ${\it 1}\, {\it confirmed}\, {\it C-19}\, in fection\, within\, {\it a}\, correctional\, institution\, for\, juvenile\, of fenders.$ 

Spain In Spanish General Administration, we have currently 11 inmates with positive.

Israel At the Israel Prison Service there are 12 infected prisoners.

INMATES

6 inmates infected as of 12 August 2020

243 recovered inmates

- 30 COVID-positive inmates released and/or transferred to their home under the measure of "house arrest"
- 4 inmates dead (of whom 2 died after being released from prison to "house arrest")

#### PENITENTIARY ADMINISTRATION STAFF

- 1 (one) staff member infected as of 12 August 2020
- · 317 staff members recovered
- 2 staff members dead

What is your testing policy and why? (who, when, where and why?) What is your long-term (up to 24 hrs) family visit policy?

## Are there any special restriction for detainees in Detention Centres during the pandemic?

Northern Ireland g

We have moved to a landing based regime in all of our prisons and this has been in place since late March 2020. This restricts prisoner movement within the prison to the landing, but allows activity, association with social distancing applied, to go ahead and outside exercise for small groups with social distancing. Prisoners who start to show symptoms that may be COVID-19 are moved to the isolation area for a period of 10 days and tested for COVID-19. If a negative test is received, the prisoner remains in the isolation area for the full period.

Austria

Luxembourg

Finland

Italy

Austrian Prison Service operates only regional court prisons and penitentiaries. Detention centers - in particular for illegal immigrants and refugees - are operated under the authority of the Ministry of Interior.

As of today, the remaining restrictions concern visits, contact sports and rules in workshops. Visitors under the age of 10 are for example not admissible for visits. In workshops detainees have to respect the distancing rules.

Lithuania Conjugal visits and visits with physical contact are not allowed. Family visits are allowed without physical contact. The events inside the facilities are restricted.

Latvia At the moment, no special restrictions are determined for detainees.

The procedure of admission and course of the restriction of personal liberty is according to anti-epidemic measures the same for pre-trial detainees and convicts.

a) Admission of the inmate - the body temperature is measured and in case it is over 37.0 °C, such inmate is isolated. Medical examination shall be performed as soon as possible after the admission. In case the inmate is foreigner or was transferred from abroad, he/she shall be accommodated separately from the others at least for 14 days; after 14 days the inmate is tested for antibodies against COVID-19.

b) Execution of pre-trial detention – all legal rights of pre-trial detainees were observed also during anti-epidemic measures, but some of them were exercised differently – in particular the prison visits. Contact prison visits are still not performed. Instead of them, each inmate can receive

contactless visit or realize video-visit.

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The strictess anti-epidemic measures (restrictions) that had been in place during the State of Emergency in Slovakia: general prohibition of any prison visit; inmates could work only within prisons; contact with external environment was minimized (e.g. education); contact between inmates

Slovakia was also minimized (e.g. during walks; cultural and awareness-raising activities for all inmates of prison was not organised, etc.).

Finland does not have a separate Detention Centers to hold only detainees, but there are certain prisons which mainly only hold remand prisoners. The concept of detainees is used only in the Police force and they have their own housing units. The same COVID-19 restrictions in the prison

system apply to the remand prisoners as to already convicted prisoners, no differences in practice.

Is the detention center open for new detainees to arrive? Upon arrival do you preform tests?

\* Every new prisoner coming from the outside is being held in quarantine for 14 days and tested.

\* The doctor of the prison decide if the prisoner who has symptoms has to be tested.

\* Prisoners who has been exposed to a an infected prisoner or staff member have to stay in quarantine and can be tested.

We continue to take new committals into our prisons. All prisoners who are newly committed to prison during the pandemic must complete the full

Northern Ireland isolation period

Belgium

Finland

Slovakia

Finland

Luxembourg C-19 has no influence on the arrival of new detainees. New arrivals are however being isolated from the other detainees. They undergo a first test upon their arrival and a second test after 5 days. Overall, they spend 7 days in quarantine before being transferred to regular sections.

Lithuania New inmates spend 14 days in quarantine where they have tests done.

Latvia We register new detainees according with the standard procedure. No tests are performed upon their arrival, only if detainees have specific symptoms or they are convoyed from the COVID-19 listed countries.

Admission of inmates is carried out standardly (standardly was also carried out during the State of Emergency). The only area where restrictions were adopted during the State of Emergency, on the basis of an agreement with the Police Force, was the area of admission and transfer of convicts

Slovakia for the execution of criminal judgments of foreign courts.

 $Finl and has already dismantled all the COVID-19\ restrictions in the prison system. Finl and did not resort into temporarily increasing the prison place capacity but instead halted and slowed down the flow of new prisoners to the prison system. The sentences given by the courts were not a prison place to the prison of the prison system. The sentences given by the courts were not a prison place to the prison of the prison system. The sentences given by the courts were not a prison place to the prison of the prison system. The sentences given by the courts were not a prison place to the prison of the prison system. The sentences given by the courts were not a prison place to the prison of the prison of the prison system. The sentences given by the courts were not a prison place to the prison of the pri$ 

straight implemented into practice (as in normal times) and the convicted citizen waited for their time to report to serve their sentence. This particular COVID-19 restriction has also ended and new prisoners are arriving to prison onwards from the middle of June.

Upon arrival the prisoners are always checked by the healthcare personnel, but they are not automatically tested for COVID-19. If the arriving prisoner has similar symptoms that of COVID-19, test is mandatory, done immediately and the prisoner is put to quarantine. The Prisoner Healthcare

Unit is preparing to start its own COVID-19 testing inside all the prisons.

#### Is the detention center open for volunteers? Lawyers? Parole officers? Citizens?

No. We took the decision to restrict people entering the prison to our staff and Prison Healthcare Staff in March 2020. We also removed physical visits to prisoners at that time and in early April introduced virtual visits using Zoom technology. Prisoners can contact family and legal

Northern Ireland representatives through telephone or Zoom. We started to reintroduce limited face to face visits from the 27 July 2020, but uptake has been low.

Luxembourg Lawyers, parole officers and visitors can access the prison with some limitations and they have to respect the social distancing rules.

Lithuania All the above-mentioned persons are allowed to prisons, only they have to wear face masks and respect social distance.

Latvia All the mentioned persons may visit Latvian prisons as from 1 August.

Yes. Within anti-epidemic measures all entering persons are obliged to: undergo contactless measurement of body temperature (the person is not allowed to enter if his/her temperature is over 37.0 °C, has symptoms of infectious disease or refuses to be measured); wear face mask during

their stay in prison; keep social distance from others at least of 2 metres.

Finland introduced temporary COVID-19 restrictions in the prison system, concerning the prison leaves and prison visits in the beginning of April 2020. Leaves and visits were totally banned, but lawyers, parole officers and other officials were allowed to continue their mandatory work and

visit prisoners if absolutely needed. Volunteers and normal citizens were not allowed to visit prison facilities. These restrictions were dismantled in all the prisons from the beginning of July.

### Are there Conjugal visits in these days?

Northern Ireland NIPS does not facilitate conjugal visits.

Luxembourg Regardless of Covid-19, there are no conjugal visits in Luxembourg. (cf. question from Lithuania)

Lithuania No

Latvia Yes, conjugal visits have been resumed

Slovakia Conjugal (intimate) visits are not carried out in Slovakia. We have only standard prison visits of close persons (at least 2 hours/month) with presence of the prison staff. Their procedure during the State of Emergency is stated above.

Finland Because Finland has already dismantled all the temporary COVID-19 restrictions in the prison system, the prison leaves and prison visits are operating normally, including conjugal visits in prisons. The restrictions were dismantled in all the prisons from the beginning of July.

### How does the staff work?

We have put robust cleaning regimes in place, with temporary handwashing stations in each establishment. Good hand and respiratory hygiene is promoted, hand sanitizer is widely available and social distancing is applied where we can. Personal Protective Equipment is available for use when appropriate, for example, in the isolation areas. We continue to facilitate our staff to self-isolate if they become symptomatic, or if a member of their household becomes symptomatic, or if they are identified as a close contact of someone who is COVID-19 positive. Staff are offered testing and we also facilitate testing for their family/household. Even with a negative result, staff are required to complete the requisite isolation period. This has been very important in keeping COVID-19 out of our prisons.

Northern Ireland

Lithuania

Slovakia

Our staff works on their regular schedule.

Latvia The daily work is ensured observing the instructions of the Latvian Centre for Disease Prevention and Control.

Prison staff had worked and work in the standard regime, with the exception that they must wear face masks in the prison (upper airways and mouth must be covered). There are also exception to this rule: movement outdoors with social distance at least of 2 metres; performance of work

activities where they are alone or with permanent co-workers with keeping a social distance of at least 2 meters; permitted medical relief.

COVID-19 restriction and countermeasures (targeted hand washing, disinfective liquids etc.) are still in place concerning personnel. Staff-healthcare are doing excessive testing and quarantine is mandatory if relative symptoms emerge. Staff works in prisons as they worked before COVID-19,

Finland the inner core and aims of the work has not changed.

Our staff works on their regular schedule.