

COVID-19 Feedback Collection 14 October 2020



	Infected Prisoner	Infected Staff	Dead Prisoner	Dead Staff	
Lithuania Belgium	0	0			No infected inmates or staff in the Lithuanian prison system. Since the beginning of the pandemic 92 inmates (0,8% of the average population) get infected. 32 are still Covid +
	32	118			118 staff members get infected. 28 Are still absent at work.
Finland	0	1			*During the epidemic, there were 6 cases reported in March-April 2020, all recovered. It is the first positive test since then.
Northern Ireland	0	0			* As of 4th September 2020 the Northern Ireland Prison Service had ten staff and no prisoners test positive for COVID 19.
Georgia	0	0			
Cyprus	0	0			
Hungary	0	6			
Slovakia	1	62			*14 September 2020
Latvia Poland	0	0			No infected prisoners and staff members in Latvia This is updated information about the situation in Poland (12th October) - current numbers: 19 infected inmates
					103 infected staff members (95 correctional officers, 8 civil employees)
	19	103			
Norway Czech Republic	0	1			* 13 staff members have been infected, of which 12 are recovered and 9 inmates/convicted persons have been infected, of which all 9 have recovered. 11 infected inmates (10 covicts and 1 pre-trial detainee) 114 staff members (71 uniformed staff members, 43 civilian employees)
en con	11	114 0			
Estonia Sweden	0	U			In Estonian prison system there are no infected inmates and no infected staff (as of 13.10.20 all 10 infected staff have already recovered). The Swedish numbers are as follow: Inmates: 2
					Staff: We do not have these statistics
	2	-			
Netherlands					* Current number 28 total confirmed C-19 infections among detainees within the prison administration; 6 total confirmed C-19 infections among detainees within forensic care; 3 total confirmed C19 infections among detainees within correctional institutions for juvenile offenders. Current number
	*	*			Current number 3 confirmed C-19 infection among detainees within the prison administration.
Spain					Among officers: 101 active cases and 144 under observation.
Spain	144	101			Among inmates: 144 active cases and 713 under observation.
Israel	12	0			Alliong Hilliates. 244 detre cases and 725 didet observation.
Italy	12	U			* INMATES
reary					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
1	6 3	1 0	4	2	
Luxembourg	3	U			To date, 13th of October 2020, the number of Covid-19 infected inmates in Bulgarian prisons and detention centres:
Bulgaria					There are 5 inmates and 1 detainee infected by Covid-19. All of them are recovered. 25 Staff members have been tested positive on Covid-19. 20 staff members are recovered.
					The number of Covid-19 infected inmates in Bulgarian prisons and detention centers: There are 1 inmate and 1 detainee infected by Covid-19. Staff members have been tested positive on Covid-19 - 2. 16
	6	25			staff members are recovered.
Spain - Catalonia					The figures in Catalan prisons since march 2020 are as follows: Inmates: 16 active positive cases and 172 already recovered (total 188)
	4.0	26			*Immates. 10 active positive cases and 172 an easy recovered (total 160) *Staff: 36 active positive cases and 185 already recovered (total 1221)
Austria	16 0	36 0			-Sum So write positive case and 100 an easy recover to (total 221)
Austria Slovenia	U	U			The numbers for Prison Administration of the Republic of Slovenia are following (13 October): 7 staff members positive on COVID-19,
	•	_			o immates positive on COVID-19.
Denmark Romania	0	7 0			* In Denmark, 3 inmates have tested positive. All three have recovered.
nonidilid		*			* In the Romanian prison system, since the beginning of the epidemic, there have been 148 cases reported among prison staff and 0 cases reported among prison population, until the 31st August.
	0	*			

Malta 1 prisoner still not recovered 11 Correctional Officers all recovered 1 Administration staff member still not recovered 1 Administration staff member still not recovered 3 3 30

Please use the link to view infection rates for HMPPS: https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/hm-prison-and-probation-service-covid-19-statistics

Due to the increasing numbers of positive C-19 cases all over Europe, do the visits still take place? If so: what kind of restrictions? (preventive measure, number of visitors, duration, ...)

Finland At the moment prison visit take place almost normally in Finnish prisons. The only restriction is that visitors must wear face masks. If the visitor does not have a mask the prison provides one. If the visitor refuses to wear a mask, she/he is not allowed to visit the prisoner.

prisoner.

Visits still take place in the Netherlands with restrictions. The restrictions being: health check at the entry of the prison and visits take place behind plexiglass.

The visits in prisons last 60 minutes, without a direct contact, only for adults. A visitor needs to register for a visit (specific time of the visit) by phone or e-mail at least one day before the visit.

Ine visits in prisons last our minutes, without a direct contact, only for adults. A visitor needs to register for a visit (specific time of the visit) by pnone or e-mail at least one day before the visit. In the red zones (parts of Poland where the number of infections) is higher than 12 infections per 10 000 inhabitiants) the visits in prisons are suspended.

Czech Republic Personal visits in prisons are facilitated with a Plexiglas only and number of visiting persons is limited to 2 (one adult plus one child), normally 4 persons would be allowed. Time is not restricted - 3 hours per month are kept but they have to be used on one occassion, not divided into 2 or even 3 visits as it used to be before the pandemic. Of course, all the hygienic neasures are applied - disinfection is available and compulsory to use at the prison entrances and in the meeting rooms, temperature is measured at prison entrances, no food or drinks are allowed during the visits, no physical contact, no goods/items can be brought to inmates by the family members.

In Spain we have visits with the measures provided by sanitary authorities, but depending on the situation and general measures applied in each geographical area of the country. Some areas are not as much affected as others. That is why there are different restrictions

between different prisons. The principle we try to follow is to apply similar restrictions to inmates and citizens outside prisons.

At the moment, due to "second wave" and quarantine throughout the nation, there are no visits in the prison facilities at the Israel Prison Service. We keep the videos phone calls so that the inmates can stay in touch with their famalies.

In Estonia starting form October long-term family visits are cancelled. Short-term visits in secured individual rooms where visitors and detainees are separated by glass continue as normal, while following all hygiene and disinfection requirements. Also, everyone entering a prison is checked with a no-touch thermometer and in case of cold-like symptoms is denied entry.

As from 8 October 2020, the Latvian Prison Administration has re-introduced restrictions to ensure epidemiological safety in prisons, except for:

- the state and local authority officials and employees who visit prisoners;
- third parties in order to ensure basic functions of the Administration.

The short-term visits may be organized through the Plexiglas and contacting by phone within the technical possibilities of the relevant prison. Family days and long-term meetings with relatives and other persons are cancelled.

Free time and mental care events with involvement of third parties are cancelled and not planned at the moment. Prisoners are prohibited to shortly leave the territory of the prison and receive parcels.

In mates who serve their sentence in open units of the prison, except the inmates who are employed by the company outside the prison territory, are prohibited to:

- leave the prison territory;
- welcome guests.

England & Wales

Netherlands Poland

Spain

Estonia

Latvia

Bulgaria

Slovakia

Spain - Catalonia

The performers of procedures must be informed about the quarantine dprisoners. The Centre for Disease Prevention and Control shall be informed about the release of a prisoner who has been placed in quarantine from detention or after serving a custodial sentence.

In the Italian prisons, visits from families are taking place.
Last 30 June 2020, after the restrictions of the previous months, the Prison Service Headquarters issued provisions regulating the access of family members to visits in prisons, based on the considerations made by the Technical Scientific Committee, a national body in charge of providing advice to the whole Government on the issues related to the SARS-COV-2 pandemic.

Today, the inmates can receive at least one visit per month, even of a longer duration than the usual (e.g. two or three hours instead of one), within the maximum limit provided for by the law according to the category which the inmates belong to.
The visits shall be carried out in the full and strict compliance with the healthcare and law provisions currently in force concerning hygiene and social distancing. In many prisons, glass or Plexiglas partitions were installed in the visits halls to that purpose.

Specific provisions were issued in each prison to regulate the access of visitors, in close cooperation with the Local Healthcare Service of the community.

The inmates still have the right to access video-calls with their relatives through Skype or other technical similar means.

Bulgarian prisons and detention centers are still open for visits. All visitors must respect the anti-epidemical rules, wearing a face mask and conduct obligatory thermometry.

Only the prison's hospitals and prisons groups, in which the inmates are under quarantine for 14 days, are closed for visits. There are no others restrictions for visits in prisons and detention centers. A virtual visit via Skype is an option for the inmates and detainees.

Following the conclusions from the meeting of the Central Crisis Staff of the Slovak Republic related to the spread of COVID-19, the prison visits were prohibited from 6 March to 30 June 2020. This general prohibition of the physical prison visits was lifted from 1 July with the approval of the Chief Health Officer of the Slovak Republic. The prison visits can be carried out only without any direct contact and under specified sanitary and organizational-technical measures, such as:

- maximum number of visitors: 3 persons including children:

- maximum length of the visit: 1 hour;

- using protective means (visiting groups are separated by barriers; inmates are separated from visitors by a transparent washable barrier, usually it is a Plexiglas);

- behaviour of visitors during the visit (keeping social distance; no physical contact, using face masks, etc.)

- measures carried out after each visit (disinfection of visiting room also using germicidal emitters at least for 20 minutes)

At present, the prohibition of physical prison visits is possible only upon the decision of the Regional Health Officer due an adverse epidemiological situation in particular region or due positive COVID-19 cases within the prison population in particular prison (such visits are currently forbidden in one prison).

As an alternative to physical visits, we introduced video-visits from 15 May 2020.

Sweden closed down all visits during the spring due to Covid-19. Since September 1st we are allowing visits at the open facilities. If everything works out according to plan prisons in all security levels will be open for visits again by November 16. Visitors can only meet their relatives from separate sides of a window. They can see and talk to each other but they are not able to touch.

Prisons placed in areas with a higher number of infections in the community, family visits have been suspended again and VCO, video calls and double time of phone calls are applied instead. Professionals and consulate representatives, when the VCO or video call does not suffice, will be able to visit inmates in a room with a glass partition. Measures such as temperature measurement, facemask and hydroalcoholic gel and 1,5 m distance are required.

In other prisons located in areas when the number of positive cases is not as high, family visits are still possible but only 50% of the family relatives will be able to visit each prisoner each time, always according to the schedule previously arranged and with all health security measures including temperature measurement, facemask and hydroalcoholic gel and 1,5 m distance.

As you may know, positive cases in Spain and in Catalonia, are rapidly increasing and the regulation of the visits is constantly being reviewed in order to adjust the protective measures for inmates in the prison, to the current risk of covid-19 outbreak in the

Do the Prison Authorities get petitions from Human Rights Organization about the way the prisons facilities are being managed during the Covid-19 pandemic? If so and there are petitions, what are the responses that are giving to the court and to the public?

Bulgaria Bulgarian Helsinki Committee is organizing the conduction of focus groups in the prison in the town of Belene. The focus groups are aimed at informing the staff and the inmates about the Covid-19 infection, the ways of spreading and prevention measures.

Finland The Criminal Sanctions Agency of Finland has not received petitions from Human Rights Organizations.

Estonia

Finland

England & Wales

Estonian Prison Service has not received petitions from Human Rights Organizations.

England & Wales

"We regularly receive a wide variety of correspondence from Human Rights Organisations and Further, we regularly consult with such organisations and invite input on prison policy and wider prison management. Inviting input and challenge from such organisations is valuable in our efforts to continuously improve the prison system. "This includes legal correspondence and on occasion such organisations bringing legal proceedings against the Secretary of State for Justice.

We respond to all correspondence fully and transparently, providing answers to any concerns and/or queries and informing such organisations and/or the public of ongoing work related to the specific area(s) they have raised. Legal proceedings often require full discourse of relevant materials, which we provide in line with our duty of candour; only redacting information that could provide a security concern to specific members of staff or prisoners i.e. names, addresses. When engaged in any legal proceedings, we instruct government lawyers on our behalf and comply with all legal proceeding stipulations, which will of course vary by country.

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In this time of the pandemic, do you allow TV crew (reporters and cameras) to enter the prison facilities though there is a risk of infection to inmates / staff or the TV crew?

Bulgaria From the beginning of the state of emergency in Bulgarian prison and detention centers TV crew (reporters and cameras) are not allowed to enter the prison facilities.

Finland During the pandemic time we have not been contacted by TV crews that would like to enter prison facilities. In case this would happen, we would carefully consider whether or not the visit is necessary. Therefore we do not have a procedural rule in this matter. Every

request is being handled individually, depending on the necessity of the occasion.

tonia As in Finland: During the pandemic time Estonian Prison Service has not been contacted by TV crews that would like to enter prison facilities. In case this would happen, we would carefully consider whether or not the visit is necessary. Therefore, we do not have a

 $procedural\ rule\ in\ this\ matter.\ Every\ request\ is\ being\ handled\ individually,\ depending\ on\ the\ necessity\ of\ the\ occasion.$

England & Wales HMPPS haven't stopped this nationally during the pandemic. However, especially now, a decision to let TV crews into prisons requires many approvals and consultations. It would perhaps have to be shown that there is a clear purpose/need and benefit from tv crews accessing the prison and that all precautions are taken to minimize the risk of transmission(use of face masks, maintaining social distancing, washing hands etc.). Thus, it is unlikely we receive TV crews at this time and alternative ways of engaging with media would be

suggested.

If it possible we would like to have some of your information materials that are giving within the prisons to staff and inmates and the information materials outside of the prisons – to the public and the families in regard the situation inside the prisons facilities.

You can find the necessary information (attachment) on the EuroPris website Covid-19 page under Bulgarian Prison Service's information page. The information material is a part of developed written regulations with general prevention measures and a protocol for

treatment of infected inmates and detainees, sent to all prisons and detention centers in Bulgaria.

The instructions material we have for our staff is written in Finnish. Information material for others is available in English on our website.

Frequently asked questions (FAQ): https://www.rikosseuraamus.fi/en/index/topical/corona.html

Coronavirus information for prisoners (in Finnish, English, Swedish, French, Russian and Arabic) in the prisoners' intranet Portti: https://rikosseuraamus.fi/fii/index/portti/terveysjahyvinvointi/korona.html

Press releases and news: https://www.rikosseuraamus.fi/en/index/topical/tiedotteet/2020.html

Estonia Estonian Prison Service has not produced additional information materials concerning Covid-19 pandemic, but we have directed people to use the Estonian Health Board web page that provides the latest information and advice, including the 24/7 hotline for

Coronavirus related issues: https://www.terviseamet.ee/en/covid19

https://www.kriis.ee/en

There 'e s a huge amount of communication that has gone out to staff and residents at various stages of the pandemic, here is a rolling update on HMPPS staff intranet.

I' we attached one of the regular updates that we've issued for residents and families. There is a lot of information for families and the public on gov. uk:

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-and-prisons

There is also a prison by prison summary, which I understand is being kept up-to-date as regimes may need to change to accommodate local restrictions:

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/prisons-in-england-and-wales