Since the beginning of the pandemic, 92 inmates (0.8% of the average population) got infected, 32 are still Covid + 118 staff members got infected. 28 are still absent at work.

* During the epidemic, there were 6 cases reported in March-April 2020, all recovered. It is the first positive test since then.

As of 4th September 2020 the Northern Ireland Prison Service had ten staff and no prisoners test positive for COVID 19.

* As of 14 September 2020

To date, 13th of October 2020, 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.

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

4 confirmed C-19 infections among detainees within the prison administration and 1 confirmed C-19 infection with a detainee within forensic care.

Officers: 111 active cases and 224 under observation; Inmates: 106 active cases and 807 under observation

* 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

The numbers for Prison Administration of the Republic of Slovenia are following (13 October):

7 staff members positive on COVID-19,
5 inmates positive on COVID-19.

The numbers for Prison Administration of the Republic of Slovenia are following (13 October):

7 staff members positive on COVID-19,
5 inmates positive on COVID-19.

The figures in Catalan prisons since march 2020 are as follows:
•Inmates: 16 active positive cases and 172 already recovered (total 188)
•Staff: 36 active positive cases and 185 already recovered (total 221)

The figures in Catalan prisons since march 2020 are as follows:
•Inmates: 16 active positive cases and 172 already recovered (total 188)
•Staff: 36 active positive cases and 185 already recovered (total 221)

To date, 13th of October 2020.

The number of Covid-19 infected inmates in Bulgarian prisons and detention centres: 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.
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
The 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.

Cyprus
We never received petitions in the past 6 years.

Lithuania
The Lithuanian Prison Department has not yet received any petitions from Human Rights Organizations.

Netherlands
As of yet there have been no petitions from Human Rights Organization regarding the situation around C-19.

Slovakia
As of today, the Headquarters of the prison service has no records on a written submission, resp. a petition from any Human Rights Organization against the activities of individual prisons during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, we have records on several submissions from inmates and their relatives, in which these persons challenge or question the anti-epidemic measures taken by the prison service against COVID-19. According to our legislation, these submissions/petitions are forwarded for handling to individual prisons, against which they are directed.

Moreover, the Headquarters of the prison service is also aware that inmates and in some cases their relatives, send their submissions to the Public Defender of Rights. Then the Public Defender of Rights investigates these objections in the particular prison and the prison provides him/her the cooperation while doing so. It follows from the notifications sent on the results of the handling of these submissions by the Public Defender of Rights that in none of the cases was the violation of the rights of inmates or their relatives in the application of anti-epidemic measures against COVID-19 taken by the prison service.

Czech Republic
The Prison Service of the Czech Republic hasn’t received any petitions concerning the restrictions related to C19 pandemic from Human Rights Organizations so far. However, we do receive from these organizations letters or inquiries related to the C19 issue but the communication focuses more on actual measures taken, possible necessary limitations of the rights of inmates and compensations provided. In some cases they deal with individual complaints of particular inmates.

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.

Cyprus
We never received petitions in the past 6 years.

Lithuania
The Lithuanian Prison Department has not yet received any petitions from Human Rights Organizations.

Netherlands
As of yet there have been no petitions from Human Rights Organization regarding the situation around C-19.

Slovakia
As of today, the Headquarters of the prison service has no records on a written submission, resp. a petition from any Human Rights Organization against the activities of individual prisons during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, we have records on several submissions from inmates and their relatives, in which these persons challenge or question the anti-epidemic measures taken by the prison service against COVID-19. According to our legislation, these submissions/petitions are forwarded for handling to individual prisons, against which they are directed.

Moreover, the Headquarters of the prison service is also aware that inmates and in some cases their relatives, send their submissions to the Public Defender of Rights. Then the Public Defender of Rights investigates these objections in the particular prison and the prison provides him/her the cooperation while doing so. It follows from the notifications sent on the results of the handling of these submissions by the Public Defender of Rights that in none of the cases was the violation of the rights of inmates or their relatives in the application of anti-epidemic measures against COVID-19 taken by the prison service.

Czech Republic
The Prison Service of the Czech Republic hasn’t received any petitions concerning the restrictions related to C19 pandemic from Human Rights Organizations so far. However, we do receive from these organizations letters or inquiries related to the C19 issue but the communication focuses more on actual measures taken, possible necessary limitations of the rights of inmates and compensations provided. In some cases they deal with individual complaints of particular inmates.

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. 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.

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

Estonia
We are very careful regarding the people who enter our facilities: the staff, lawyers, other civil staff, welfare services, medical staff, schools teachers, visitors, police staff, ombudsperson office. It goes without saying that if they present symptoms or their body temperature is more than 37.5, are not allowed to enter our premises. Surely, we do not allow TV crews during COVID period.

Cyprus
The TV crews have to contact the prisons directly with the request to enter the prison. It is up to the prison director to make a decision whether to allow the crew in or not. During the lockdown no TV crews were not allowed into prisons, the permission may be given after very serious considerations. All precaution measures should be taken to minimize the risk of infection (sanitizing, face masks, social distancing, etc.).

Lithuania
We try to limit the in- and outflow of people in prison facilities as much as possible, so only the people who are strictly necessary for the functioning of the prison are allowed to enter the prison facility.

Netherlands
In connection with the current situation, the contact of inmates with civilians who are not close persons/relatives of inmates or their legal representatives is prevented within the anti-epidemic measures adopted in prisons. Thus, the prison service makes every effort to eliminate the spread of COVID-19 in prisons also by currently preventing the TV crews or individuals from media from entering their premises.

Slovakia
The TV crews have to contact the prisons directly with the request to enter the prison. It is up to the prison director to make a decision whether to allow the crew in or not. During the lockdown no TV crews were not allowed into prisons, the permission may be given after very serious considerations. All precaution measures should be taken to minimize the risk of infection (sanitizing, face masks, social distancing, etc.).

Czech Republic
Under current restrictions TV crews are generally not allowed to enter the prisons, however the final decision is upon the prison governor.

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.

Bulgaria
In the attached file you will find the information material, which has been created by Ministry of Health and Medical University of Sofia. 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.


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

Finland

As of yet there have been no petitions from Human Rights Organization regarding the situation around C-19.
Estonia

https://www.lriis.ee/en

Cyprus

I can provide materials with instructions for the inmates, visitors and staff but the instructions for the staff are only in Greek language.

No special information was prepared, the prisons used the information published on the web pages:
https://www.kriis.ee/en
https://www.terviseamet.ee/en/covid19
https://www.kriis.ee/en

Lithuania

The information that is given to the public regarding the situation inside a prison is dependent on that specific situation, so this differs per prison facility. General information that is accessible to the public can be found on the following website:
https://nvsc.lrv.lt/lt/naujienos/visuomenei
https://koronastop.lrv.lt/en/#news

Netherlands

In order to inform inmates, prison staff and others about COVID-19 situation (symptoms, how to decrease the risk of infection, washing hands procedure, etc.), the prison service uses information leaflets of the Public Health Authority that are available on its webpage (e.g. annex no.1). In addition, an internal regulation was elaborated that regulates the procedure for anti-epidemic measures in the prison service taken in connection with the second wave of the COVID-19 epidemic.

Moreover, in connection with restrictions on regular prison visits, an information leaflet was elaborated containing the information about video-visits (annex. no. 2).

Slovakia

We don’t have centralized materials that are provided to inmates, staff members or to the public. The measures adopted by Prison Service management (HQ) are communicated by the prisons individually.

Czech Republic

On 01-07-2020 the amendments to the Penal Sanctions Enforcement Code of the Republic of Lithuania were adopted as a result of COVID-19. The amendments empowered the Director General of the Prison Department, having notified the Minister of Justice, to restrict the inmates’ rights in case of the national emergency.

Have you had to make any law changes in your country to provide the prison service with an adequate legal basis to deal with the epidemic? If yes, what kind?

Estonia

https://www.lriis.ee/en

Cyprus

I can provide materials with instructions for the inmates, visitors and staff but the instructions for the staff are only in Greek language.

Lithuania

The information that is given to the public regarding the situation inside a prison is dependent on that specific situation, so this differs per prison facility. General information that is accessible to the public can be found on the following website:
https://nvsc.lrv.lt/lt/naujienos/visuomenei
https://koronastop.lrv.lt/en/#news

Netherlands

In order to inform inmates, prison staff and others about COVID-19 situation (symptoms, how to decrease the risk of infection, washing hands procedure, etc.), the prison service uses information leaflets of the Public Health Authority that are available on its webpage (e.g. annex no.1). In addition, an internal regulation was elaborated that regulates the procedure for anti-epidemic measures in the prison service taken in connection with the second wave of the COVID-19 epidemic.

Moreover, in connection with restrictions on regular prison visits, an information leaflet was elaborated containing the information about video-visits (annex. no. 2).

Slovakia

We don’t have centralized materials that are provided to inmates, staff members or to the public. The measures adopted by Prison Service management (HQ) are communicated by the prisons individually.

Czech Republic

On 01-07-2020 the amendments to the Penal Sanctions Enforcement Code of the Republic of Lithuania were adopted as a result of COVID-19. The amendments empowered the Director General of the Prison Department, having notified the Minister of Justice, to restrict the inmates’ rights in case of the national emergency.

In Bulgaria there are no legislation changes for providing the prison service with a legal basis to deal with the Covid-19 epidemic.