



**COVID-19
Feedback Collection
23 October 2020**



Supported by the Justice Programme of the European Union

	Infected Prisoner	Infected Staff	Dead Prisoner	Dead Staff	
Lithuania	2	14			Infected inmates – 2 (1 in an open prison, 1 in a correction house) Infected staff – 14 (7 prison officers, 2 probation officers, 5 administrative staff at the Headquarters)
Belgium	32	118			Since the beginning of the pandemic 92 inmates (0,8% of the average population) get infected. 32 are still Covid + 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			No COVID infections in Cyprus prisons (inmates or staff).
Hungary	0	6			* 14 September 2020
Slovakia	2	73			To date, 13th of October 2020,
Latvia	0	0			No infected inmates and no infected staff in Latvia. 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.
Slovenia	0	0			
Poland	16	360			The visits are suspended in red zones of Poland. In yellow zones the visits are organised in a full sanitary regime, once a month 60 minutes, only adults. The situation is very difficult in Poland, it is possible that soon the whole area of Poland will be in a red zone. We are waiting for the statement of the Prime Minister. I will keep you informed.
Norway	17	33			As of 22 October in total 33 staff members and 17 inmates/convicted persons have tested positive for Covid-19. 19 staff members and 7 inmates/convicted persons have still not recovered. Visits are in general allowed, except for overnight visits. Prison facilities with cases of infection of Covid-19 are closed for visits, but this is dealt with locally.
Czech Republic	13	143			11 infected inmates (10 convicts and 1 pre-trial detainee) 143 staff members (71 uniformed staff members, 43 civilian employees)
Estonia	0	0			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).
Sweden	2	-			The Swedish numbers are as follow: Inmates: 2 Staff we do not have these statistics
Netherlands	4	*			4 confirmed C-19 infections among detainees within the prison administration and 1 confirmed C-19 infection with a detainee within forensic care.
Spain	106	111			Officers: 111 active cases and 224 under observation; Inmates: 106 active cases and 807 under observation
Israel	12	0			
Italy	6	1	4	2	* INMATES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 (one) staff member infected as of 12 August 2020 317 staff members recovered 2 staff members dead
Luxembourg	3	0			

Bulgaria	6	25			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. 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 staff members are recovered.
Spain - Catalonia	25	46			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Inmates: 25 active positive cases and 181 already recovered (total 206) •Staff: 46 active positive cases and 192 already recovered (total 238)
Austria	0	0			
Slovenia	0	7			The numbers for Prison Administration of the Republic of Slovenia are following (13 October): 7 staff members positive on COVID-19, 0 inmates positive on COVID-19.
Denmark	0	0			* In Denmark, 3 inmates have tested positive. All three have recovered.
Romania	0	*			* 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.
Malta	1	1			1 prisoner still not recovered
Moldova	3	30			
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	Estonian Prison Service 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.				
Spain-Catalonia	<p>The Secretariat for Criminal Sanctions, Rehabilitation and Victim Support is under the supervision of the Ombudsman of Spain (Defensor del Pueblo) and that of Catalonia (Síndic de Greuges) who are regularly making inquiries on how the prison administration works with regard to the rights of inmates. Hence within their standard action, they are regularly making inquiries on different aspects concerning the Covid-19 measures implemented in prisons in the wake of the pandemic (reduced or suspended family visits replaced by VCO or video calls and double phone call, no possibility to mix with inmates from other units, quarantines, reduced leaves, shifts by staff, quarantines, provision of protective equipment etc...). Political parties through parliamentary questions, are also monitoring the action of the government including the appropriateness of the measures to prevent the spread of Covid-19 in the prison system.</p> <p>In addition, the inquiries on different aspects related to the Covid-19 measures implemented in prisons by other local, Spanish and international prisoners' support or human rights' organizations. Inquiries on how the prisons are being managed during the pandemic from academics and other NGO's are also answered. When preparing the answers to all types of the inquiries, the Secretariat, as any other public administration, is binded by the principle of transparency, hence it has the duty to provide truthful information.</p>				
Ireland	No the Irish Prison Service has not received any petitions from Human Rights Organization regarding the way prison facilities are being managed during the covid 19 pandemic.				
Slovakia	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>				
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.				
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				

Estonia	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.
Cyprus	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+, are not allowed to enter our premises. Surely, we do not allow TV crews during COVID period
Lithuania	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.).
Spain-Catalonia	In the framework of the Covid-19 preventive measures in the most restrictive periods, external agencies, consulates, religious representatives amongst others, were not allowed into the prisons and media were considered "external agencies". When some of the restrictions have been lifted, under certain circumstances, some external agencies have been allowed into the prison including TV crew.
Netherlands	We try to limit the in- and outflow of people in prison facilities as much as possible, so only the people that are strictly necessary for the functioning of the prison are allowed to enter the prison facility.
Ireland	No TV crew are permitted to enter any of our Prisons.
Slovakia	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 its premises.
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.
Finland	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/fi/index/portti/terveysjahyvivointi/korona.html Press releases and news: https://www.rikosseuraamus.fi/en/index/topical/tiedotteet/2020.html
Ireland	I have attached some of the information booklets that have been made available to prisoner and their families during the covid pandemic. I hope you find these useful.
Spain-Catalonia	Inmates were provided information by the prison staff and in particular by social educators, who organised meetings of small groups of 10 within the same unit, to inform about the measures and health safety, answer questions and address concerns. Infographics about health safety measures, changes in prison leaves, family visits and other aspects, were posted on different areas of the prison for inmates to read (see attachments 1, 2 and 3). As the measures have been changing in order to adjust to the actual pandemic evolution, social educators continue to do this information work at the beginning of the regular activities. With regard to staff, letters were sent to all of them in order to inform and thank for the effort. Infographics were posted on different areas about personal self-care and guidelines to inform inmates and what to do in case of needing personal support (see attachments 4 and 5). In order to reach out to the inmates' families, since the beginning infographics and short informative videos are being posted on the Department of Justice website, twitter and Facebook in order to clarify the information on the measures. Some of the infographics that had been published are uploaded as attachments here https://www.europris.org/directorate-general-of-prison-services-catalonia-es/ . A FAQ's section is available on the Department of Justice website and updated regularly in order to provide families more detailed information. In addition, a helpline has been set up since March, through which prison social workers continue to provide support to and answering questions from families and friends of inmates.
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
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	No special information was prepared, the prisons used the information published on the web pages: https://npsc.lrv.lt/lt/naujienos/visuomenei https://sam.lrv.lt/lt/news/previnciniai-veiksmiai-del-naujojo-koronaviruso-informacija-nuolat-papildoma/koronavirusas/informacija-visuomenei https://koronastop.lrv.lt/en/#news
Netherlands	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://dji.nl/over-dji/coronavirus/index.aspx .

Slovakia	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).
Czech Republic	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.
New Arrivals	
Cyprus	All the newcomers come with a negative covid test and they are placed in a quarantine unit for 14 days and we repeat the test. If it is negative the inmate is placed in the closed prison - if a positive test appears the inmate will be transferred to a special hospital for treatment or if there are no symptoms the inmate is transferred to a special place outside prisons. This procedure for the repetition of the COVID test started since the 10th of April as it was our suggestion since the 16th of March.
On what legislation are the restrictions imposed on prisoners (such as denying all prison leaves, prohibiting prison visits and limiting activities) based on (e.g. communicable diseases prevention / health care legislation or prison legislation) in your country? (A brief description will be adequate, not need to go to details.)	
Lithuania	In Lithuania the restrictions placed on prisoners are based on the Orders of the Director General of the Prison Department, issued in compliance with the Government Resolutions and the decrees of the State Commander of National Emergency Operations
Bulgaria	In Bulgaria all the restrictions for the prisoners such as temporary denying prison leaves, temporary suspension for prison visits and the limitation of activities and instructions for maintenance of good sanitary hygienic condition and frequent ventilation of the air in all premises, regular disinfection of the surface are based on an order from the Ministry of Health for prevention of infection diseases.
Spain	Dealing with inmate's rights restrictions and the pandemic, the principle is to follow the same rules as the ones for the rest of the society. Both, health care laws and penitentiary normative are taken into account in establishing the limits.
Israel	As of March 20, due to the Corona virus we had to take immediate actions in order to reduce the risk of the Corona virus from entering our facilities and to disconnect physical contact between inmates and visitors from the community. Due to the fact that there are some rights that should be given to inmates and detainees by law, we had to make Legislative Amendments especially regarding taking detainees to court and giving them the right to see their lawyers in prison for professional consult. Since the state was in emergency situation we used the Emergency Regulation which are part of the law. Through that the detainees court hearing was through videos and technological system. This also gave us the possibility to block the entrance of visitors and lawyers to the facilities. But we could have used the Emergency Regulation for 3 months only
Spain-Catalonia	Under the state of alarm, the Central Estate Government is allowed to restrict rights such as circulation and mobility of citizens and following from that, the minimum restrictions on inmates' rights that are necessary in order to prevent the spread of Covid-19 were imposed. Since June 2020, the state of alarm ceased and according to public health laws, the Health Departments of the 17 autonomous communities in Spain are allowed to impose restrictive measures to citizens' rights on health emergency's grounds provided that the Superior Court of Justice of that autonomous community, confirms that the health emergency situation actually justifies such degree of rights' restrictions. The restrictive measures imposed on inmates in Catalonia are a joint decision by the Health and Justice Ministries in the framework of restrictions imposed in the community validated by the Superior Court of Justice of Catalonia.
Czech Republic	The Prison Service of the Czech Republic cannot limit prisoner rights on its own. The limitations currently applied (and applied during the Spring) were issued by the Government. The Czech Government decides about such limitations of prisoner rights on the grounds of active State of Emergency (in force in Spring and now again) or based on the Protection of Public Health Act (this was the case between the State(s) of Emergency in Spring and the current one).
Latvia	To ensure the epidemiological safety in prisons, restrictions on prisoners shall be imposed in accordance with the order of the Head of the Latvian Prison Administration.
Netherlands	The mandate given to the prison director gives him the freedom to impose certain restrictions to keep order, peace and safety in the prison. The basic rights, stated in the penal principle law, are guaranteed.

Estonia	<p>Restrictions imposed on prisoners are mostly described in Imprisonment Act (regulates procedure for and organisation of execution of imprisonment, detention and custody pending trial; English: https://www.riigiteataja.ee/en/eli/513052020005/consolide).</p> <p>if the law doesn't provide a legal bases for a specific restriction or in a particular situation, in prisons we use one general provision and present our argumentation in a decision (written document). The general legal provision says the following: "Respect of human dignity and compliance with rights (1) Prisoners, detained persons or persons in custody are treated in a manner that respects their human dignity and ensures that their serving of the sentence or being held in custody does not cause them more suffering or inconvenience than that inevitable in association with detention in prisons or houses of detention. (2) Liberties of prisoners, detained persons or persons in custody shall be subject to the restrictions provided by law. <u>Unless the law provides a specific restriction, a prison, the Ministry of Justice or a house of detention may apply only such restrictions which are necessary for reasons of security of the prison or house of detention.</u> The restrictions shall comply with their objective of application and the principles of human dignity and may not distort the nature of the other rights and liberties provided by law."</p> <p>In the emergency situation (when the emergency situation is declared) The Government of the Republic may impose by an order restrictions on the freedom of movement under the Emergency Act. They can also impose restrictions on the freedom of movement concerning prisons. For example, the long term and short term visits of prisoners in this spring were prohibited by the order of The Government of the Republic. Other restrictions concerning prisoners were imposed by prison governors under the Imprisonment Act using legal provision that was mentioned earlier. Was this provision enough as a legal basis and were the restrictions legal, can review the</p>
Sweden	<p>We have based the restrictions on the Act on imprisonment (fängelselagen [2010:610]) and the Act on detention (häkteslagen [2010:611]). In for example chapter 7 section 1 in the Act of imprisonment it is regulated that a prisoners visits may be refused if it (1) may jeopardise security in a way that cannot be dealt with by a control measure in accordance with Section 2 or 3, (2) may counteract the prisoner's adjustment in the community, or (3) may be harmful in some other way for the prisoner or another person.</p>
Slovakia	<p>In compliance with the Constitutional Act no. 227/2002 Coll. on Security in the State in Times of War, Hostilities, State of Emergency and Emergency as amended, Government of the Slovak Republic can declare also the state of emergency and emergency. The Government has already repeatedly made us of this lawful authorisation due to the epidemiologic situation. At the moment, in Slovakia the state of emergency has been declared from 1 October 2020.</p> <p>The state of emergency can be declared only on condition that life and health of persons has been or will be endangered, also regarding the pandemics outbreak. During this state, the state can in compliance with the above mentioned constitutional act, limit the fundamental rights and freedoms to the extent and time necessary. The maximum duration of the state of emergency is 90 days. At the moment, this state in Slovakia has been declared for 45 days.</p> <p>Particular legislation: The generally binding legal regulations governing the health care, mainly the Act no. 355/2007 Coll. on Protection, Support and Development of Public Health as amended: § 48 par. 4 letter n): "In case of public health threats, the public health authority or regional health authority order measures that are: forced isolation of persons ill with a communicable disease or persons suspected of a communicable disease or quarantine of persons suspected of a communicable disease who refuse the ordered measures according to § 12 par. 2 letter f)".</p> <p>Concerning inmates, their duties relating the obligation to tolerate the acts of medical searches, hygienic and anti-epidemic measures and the like, are governed also by the following generally binding legal regulations: the Act on Pre-trial Detention no. 221/2006 Coll. as amended and the Act no. 475/2005 Coll. on Prison Sentence Execution as amended.</p>
<p>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?</p>	
Lithuania	<p>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.</p>
Bulgaria	<p>In Bulgaria there are no legislation changes for providing the prison service with a legal basis to deal with the Covid-19 epidemic.</p>
Spain	<p>On behalf of Spanish Prison Service (Central Administration), no specific normative change has taken place</p>
Israel	<p>In June, after 3 months, we continued the situation described above by using Time Provisions that we were done by the authority of the Justice Minister and the Internal Security Minister - instead of the Emergency Regulation. Both ministers declared on partial restriction on bringing the inmates and detainees to court. Some are going physically to court and some are having court hearing through technological devices. As of now, legally we are working according to that. In regard to benefits that inmates have which are not obligatory by law (such as visitation, vacations etc.),our Commissioner has the authority to decide on that according to the state situation with the Corona and the limitation that are imposed on the general population</p>
Czech Republic	<p>During the State(s) of Emergency, prison visits (were) are cancelled altogether. In between (May-October), the visits were allowed with fewer visitors per inmate, however, the Protection of Public Health Act had to be amended in May in order to extend its competencies and allow wider range of restrictions that could be applied on its basis.</p>

Latvia	No law changes have been made. LPA regularly follows the epidemiological safety measures established in the country, in accordance with which the preventive safety measures are introduced for staff and prisoners.
Estonia	The only law change that we made was that we added additional legal bases into Imprisonment Act, which gives the prison service the right to impose on a person a prohibition on stay in prison when resolving of all events which directly endanger the general security of a prison or the application of imprisonment.
Slovakia	In connection with the epidemiologic situation (COVID-19), several generally binding legal regulations and amendments have been adopted (e.g. amendments of the Act on Protection, Support and Development of Public Health). Several internal norms within the Corps of Prison and Court Guard have been adopted as well.
Did you organize training activities specifically related to COVID-19 management? If so, under which modality (in presence, remote, etc.)?	
Czech Republic	So far the Prison Service of the Czech Republic hasn't prepared and particular training related to Covid-19 pandemic issues.
Estonia	Estonian Prison Service did not organize any special training courses related to COVID-19. Prisons held meetings for C-19 action planning and lessons learned analysis. And prison medical department instructed prison staff how to use PPE.
Latvia	In Latvian Prison Administration, training activities in presence related to COVID-19 management are not organized. Remotely, employees have been introduced with a special instruction on COVID-19 infection risks and relevant personal hygiene and preventive measures to be observed. Also, staff follows the Administration Order "On Ensuring Epidemiological Safety in Imprisonment Places of the Latvian Prison Administration" issued on 14 October 2020 by the Head of Administration, and the state recommendations on epidemiological safety.
Spain-Catalonia	It has not been necessary.
Netherlands	We are not organizing any training activities related to COVID-19.
Bulgaria	General Directorate Execution of Sentences organized the conduction of staff trainings in order to support the mental and psychosocial well-done of the prisons staff during the Covid-19 pandemic. The trainings have been managed by psychologist, social worker and a member from the medical staff in the form of explanatory conversations. The trainings were conducted in small groups in all prisons, in presence, respecting all ant epidemic measures. The role of the medical staff in the training is to clarify and present to the prison staff the nature of decease, the ways of spreading, the symptoms and the prevention measures of Covid-19. The role of the psychologist in these explanatory conversations is to show to the staff how to protect their mental health in extreme situations. The psychologists provide main points, as follow: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease to the minimum the level of watching television, reading and listening to news about the spreading of the decease. All these will help you to decrease the stress level. Trust only reliable sources, such as web site of World Health Organization or Regional Health Inspectorates. • Take care of yourselves and support people around you; • Respect the work of your colleagues; • Take care of your health. It is as important as taking care of your mental health. • Think about your skills and strategies, which have been useful in the past. Use them now to control your feelings during the Covid-19 pandemic. • Try to live healthy with appropriate diet, enough sleeping, physical activities and social contact with the members of you family at home, with your friends by social medias, telephone and mails. • If you feel that the bad mood is more than usual, get in touch with medical staff or phycologist
Have you introduced the wearing of masks by prisoners in your jurisdiction on a mandatory basis?	
Bulgaria	In Bulgarian prisons and detention centers the inmates are obligated to wear face masks only when they are conveyed and attend to group indoor activities, respecting the social distance. This regulations is based on an order from Ministry of the Health. No security issues have been found because of prisoners wearing face masks and their faces are covered. According to the instructions, which have been sent to all prisons and detention centers, based on the order from Ministry of Justice, all the prison staff with direct contact with the inmates are obligated to wear personal protective equipment.
United Kingdom	Yes, we have both mandatory face masks and face coverings for prisoners.
Czech Republic	Prisoners are obliged to wear face masks any time they leave their cell or bedroom.
Spain-Catalonia	Inmates must wear face masks everywhere in the prison except when they are in their cells or if they are practicing sports outdoors with the following requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only sports not entailing close personal contact can be practiced • Groups of inmates belonging to the same unit at the same time, never mixing people from different units • Must wear masks when walking towards the outdoor sport location and can only take it out when the sports activity starts.
Netherlands	At the moment, employees of the Custodial Institutions Agency use medical masks in specific situations in the institution, such as during a search and when contacting a person with a suspected infection. The use of masks by detainees is currently not allowed, except for transport. The current, national guideline is that the wearing of non-medical mouth masks is urgently recommended in public indoor areas. Despite the fact that the facilities of the Custodial Institutions Agency do not formally belong to a public space, it has decided to urgently advise the use of non-medical face masks by employees and visitors of correctional facilities for specific situations. This concerns the wearing of masks at places that could be crowded within the institutions (such as the entrance) and when employees come into close contact with groups of detainees, for example during recreation.
Estonia	Estonian Prison Service has made the wearing of masks by prisoners mandatory only in certain situations.

Latvia	In Latvia, there is no special law governing the cases in which prisoners must wear masks. The use of face masks for all members of society is determined by Clause 6.3.2 of the Cabinet Regulation No. 360 - as from 14 October to 6 November 2020, there is an obligation to use mouth and nose shields in cultural and exhibition venues, selling markets, public transport and places of religious activity, if no event is held in these places.
Lithuania	Masks are not mandatory for inmates and pre-trial detainees placed in the same section or cell inside a penitentiary establishment.
Norway	No, masks are used only in cases when inmates are infected by Covid-19 or if there is a suspicion of inmates being infected.
What circumstances are prisoners required to wear masks?	
United Kingdom	Prisoners have to wear face masks (FRSMs) when in certain high risk situations, e.g. they are symptomatic/positive and have to move around the establishment or they are attending an external escort. Prisoners have to wear 3ply face coverings in three nationally mandated scenarios: When going through Prison Receptions For first 14 days after they have entered custody or have been transferred from another prison that is classified as high risk(e.g. this prison is an outbreak site). When they are attending healthcare treatment/departments <u>Locally, establishments may also mandate the use of face coverings in specific areas/scenarios through local risk assessments.</u>
Estonia	a) In case of suspected fever, cough or other symptoms of virus prisoners are required to wear a mask when outside their cell. b) When a convicted person arriving at a prison to serve his/her sentence is suspected fever, cough or other symptoms of virus. c) During an escort outside a prison.
Latvia	Prisoners wear masks for 14 days while in quarantine.
Lithuania	Masks are mandatory for inmates leaving their accommodation as set forth in the decisions of the Minister of Health - the State Commander of National Emergency Operations, which are binding on all residents of the Republic of Lithuania
Northern Ireland	The first is if they have tested Covid positive and are being moved from their residential area to an area of isolation. The second is when they are being taken outside to somewhere a mask is required, a hospital for example.
Norway	Prisoners are only required to wear masks if they are infected by Covid 19, or if there is a suspicion that they might be infected.
If yes, are there any security issues regarding the possible identification of prisoners wearing a face covering or mask?	
United Kingdom	The use of face coverings will now make it more difficult to routinely confirm the identity of a prisoner and careful consideration must be given as to how staff can verify a prisoner's identity. There are a number of situations where a prisoner will need to be identified, prior to a task or a movement taking place: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll check • Prior to unlock • Prior to return to cell / locking up • Prior to activity movement • Upon entry to new activity area • At any other time the prison determines a need to confirm identification
Czech Republic	We haven't experienced any particular issues of this type. There are certain situations when identification of a prisoner has to be checked, in these cases prisoners are asked to remove their mask for the respective moment.
Estonia	In the situations where a prisoner is required to wear a mask, he/she is always escorted by a prison officer.
Lithuania	We haven't faced any security issues yet. In case of necessity a prison officer may ask an inmate to take off a mask for a moment.
How have these security issues been addressed?	
United Kingdom	Staff should be aware that the use of face masks will require a prisoner's identity to be checked more thoroughly. This will require prisoners to safely remove their mask in order for staff to confirm their identification. Establishments must set out a safe method to carry out this task, in line with current EDM and SOPs.
Have you introduced the wearing of masks by prison staff?	
United Kingdom	Yes, staff are mandated to wear them in certain areas and can choose to wear them or not in all other areas.

Czech Republic	Staff members are obliged to wear face masks in all indoor premises of the prison (apart their own office if they are there alone) and in all outdoor prison premises unless they keep distance of 2 metres from other persons.
Estonia	Prison staff may wear a mask when coming into contact with a person who is not prison staff, and during escorting a prisoner outside the prison. Prison staff is required to wear a mask: a) during escorting a prisoner to a hospital; b) in the medical isolation unit.
Spain-Catalonia	Staff must wear face masks during all their working hours in the prison. Regular citizens in the community, must wear masks everywhere except when they are at home and when practicing sport.
Latvia	Prison officials must wear face masks when in contact with prisoners who are in quarantine for 14 days and at any imprisonment place where, in contact with a third party, a distance of two meters cannot be ensured.
Northern Ireland	Staff have been issued with masks which are only to be worn in areas where social distancing is not possible.
Lithuania	All incoming staff and third persons are obliged to wear a mouth-nose-cover (a face mask, a respirator, other PPE). Mouth-nose-covers (a face mask, a respirator, other PPE) are recommended for indoor meetings of staff. Staff in direct contact with inmates (with less than 1 m distance) are obliged to wear a mouth-nose-protection (a face mask, a respirator, other PPE). Staff managing visitors are obliged to wear a mouth-nose-cover (a face mask, a respirator, other PPE).
Norway	Masks are used by prison staff if they are near inmates that have been infected by Covid-19, or if there is a suspicion that inmates might be infected. Prison staff with symptoms of Covid-19 are required to stay home.
Are you permitting prisoners to wear face masks in common recreation areas including indoor recreation areas and outdoor exercise yards.	
United Kingdom	Nationally, we don't. However, locally, establishments could choose to mandate coverings in those areas-this will depend on the local risk assessment.
Czech Republic	Yes, we do.
Estonia	There are no infected prisoners or prison staff in Estonian prisons at the moment, and no prisoner has requested to wear a face mask in common recreation areas.
Lithuania	Yes, we do.
Norway	Yes, prisoners are allowed to wear face masks in common recreation areas inside and outside.