



**COVID-19
Feedback Collection
24 November 2020**



Supported by the Justice
Programme of the European Union

| | Infected Prisoner | Infected Staff | Dead Prisoner | Dead Staff | |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------|---|
| Austria | 19 | 67 | | | Austria had on 17.11.2020, 13.00h 19 inmates and 67 staff members who are COVID-19 positive. |
| Belgium | 290 | | | | Number of positive cases on COVID 19 since 16/11/2020 in the Belgian Prison Service: Since the pandemic, 290 detainees have tested positive for Covid19, of which 118 are still active positive Covid19 detainees. No information about the staff at this moment. |
| Bulgaria | 8 | 92 | | | In addition: 132 inmates have been tested with PCR tests. 8 of them have been tested positive on Covid-19. 3 of them have been already recovered. 2 of the rest 5 positive inmates are hospitalized patients in prison's hospitals; the other 2 are detainees and their measures have been changed from deprivation of liberty to the measure mandatory to sign in in front of police officer. the last one is a prisoner, which sentence has been suspended by the prosecutor after a proposal from the chief of the prison. In terms of staff members, 268 staff members have been tested with PCR tests. 92 of them have been tested positive on Covid-19. 41 have been already recovered. |
| Cyprus | 0 | 0 | | | No COVID infections in Cyprus prisons (inmates or staff). |
| Czech Republic | 13 | 143 | | | 11 infected inmates (10 convicts and 1 pre-trial detainee) 114 staff members (71 uniformed staff members, 43 civilian employees) |
| Denmark | 0 | 0 | | | * In Denmark, 3 inmates have tested positive. All three have recovered. |
| England and Wales | | | | | https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/hm-prison-and-probation-service-covid-19-statistics |
| Estonia | 214 | 31 | | | 128 infected prisoners recovered; 5 infected staff recovered. |
| Finland | 0 | 3 | | | Prisoners - Current cases: 0 (total cumulative number of cases during the epidemic: 1) Staff – Current cases: 3 (total cumulative number of cases during the epidemic : 11) |
| Georgia | 0 | 0 | | | |
| Hungary | 110 | 407 | | | as of 18 November 2020 |
| Ireland | 21 | 100 | | | Numbers in custody: 3,802 |
| Israel | 37 | 34 | | | |
| Italy | 6 | 1 | 4 | 2 | * 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 |
| Latvia | 69 | 36 | | | |
| Lithuania | 32 | 84 | | | Infected inmates: 32 Infected staff: 84 (both uniformed and civil) Infected probation staff: 4 |
| Luxembourg | | | | | On the 1st November, Luxembourg had counted 7 positive cases (since the beginning, not necessarily active cases) among detainees. We don't track the number of infected staff members so I would ask you to just mark that field with something like: N/A. |
| Malta | 1 | 1 | | | 1 prisoner still not recovered |
| Moldova | 3 | 30 | | | |
| Netherlands | 32 | | | | Current number as of the 18th of November 15 confirmed C-19 infections among detainees within the prison administration. 0 confirmed C-19 infections among detainees within forensic care 3 confirmed C-19 infection among detainees within a correctional facility for juvenile offenders 3 confirmed C-19 infections among detainees within detention centres. Total: 21 confirmed C-19 infections among detainees. |
| Northern Ireland | 5 | 43 | | | As of 17th November the cumulative totals for the Northern Ireland Prison Service from the start of the outbreak are 53 staff and 7 inmates. of 17th November the cumulative totals for the Northern Ireland Prison Service from the start of the outbreak are 53 staff and 7 inmates. |
| Norway | 17 | 35 | | | The latest statistics from the Norwegian Correctional Service are from 29 October. The numbers of inmates/convicted persons infected with Covid 19 are 17. Among staff members, 35 are infected with Covid 19. 16 staff members and 7 inmates/convicted persons have not recovered from Covid 19. |

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| Poland | 137 | 453 | | | |
| 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. |
| Slovakia | 92 | 131 | | | |
| 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. |
| Spain | 251 | 228 | | | Officers: 228 active cases. Inmates: 251 active cases and 360 under observation. |
| Spain - Catalonia | 83 | 25 | | | Currently in Catalonia the figures since march 2020 are as follows: •Inmates: 83 active positive cases and 260 already recovered (total 343) •Staff: 25 active positive cases and 330 already recovered (total 355) |
| Sweden | 0 | - | | | Since March we have had 160 infected inmates. All of whom are healthy now so as of today 2nd November we have 0 infected inmates. |
| Current and planned COVID-19 lockdown measures and regulations in prison services? | | | | | |
| Belgium | <p>The Belgian prison system has strengthened the following measures with effect from 30 October 2020: Fouilles - A check with the MDP during a movement to and from the walk is sufficient. Nothing else changes. The control of windows and bars is retained, as is the case for the celloules. If it is established or suspected that prohibited substances or objects are being brought in, regardless of the road along which they pass, an adequate response must be given. In the case of objects thrown on the walk from outside, the local police may be asked to patrol on a regular basis. The advisability of using a drug dog should be investigated. A mask and gloves must always be worn during the search. Alcohol gel must also be present in the vicinity of the search so that hand hygiene can be respected. Visit - Following the federal measures that have been imposed, external contacts will be limited as much as possible. All forms of visit will be suspended. As compensation for the cancellation of the visit, all inmates present receive extra telephone credit. You will receive more details about this later. Video calls are organised as much as possible. Treatment of clothing and objects of inmates It must remain possible to bring in and take out clothes. If it is possible to wash garments internally, the entry and exit can be limited. Incoming and outgoing mail - Incoming mail refers to all mail (regular mail, registered mail) reaching the prison from outside as well as internal correspondence between inmates in the facility. The measures do not apply to internal communication tools such as report slips. Leave incoming mail untouched in a ventilated room for 24 hours before begging internally. Outgoing mail will be handled as usual. Taking fingerprints of inmates The fingerprints for identification at registration and the photograph of the detainee must be taken. The taking of the 10 fingerprints for APFIS may be postponed until a6. Hearings on disciplinary matters Hearings for disciplinary files Lawyers must always be invited to the hearing. If lawyers themselves refuse to be present during the hearing, the hearing may take place without the presence of a lawyer. Of course, lawyers may not be denied access if they do offer to attend. Lawyers may, at their own request, participate by telephone in hearings for the handling of a disciplinary file. During the proceedings, the lawyer may be called to take part in the part that applies to him or her. Please keep a careful record of all the invitations if it concerns a situation of refusal by the lawyer. For detainees, the same instructions apply as for hearings to deal with a disciplinary file of inmates. Supplement: When dealing with a hearing of detainees, every effort must be made to ensure 1) that the lawyer is present or 2) that the detainee can call his lawyer before the hearing and that the lawyer can be reached by phone during the hearing. If the lawyer refuses to participate physically or by phone, a pro bono lawyer must be appointed. If this also fails, the hearing must still take place. The organisation of the hearings of the complaints committees is discussed between the central administration and the CTRG.fter the corona crisis. Access to the prison - Persons who have to speak to inmates for professional reasons are still admitted to prison for the time being. These are, in particular, members of the police, security and intelligence services, judicial authorities, lawyers, the judiciary, communities and health care workers. The premises must be cleaned between each visit, in accordance with the instructions concerning the maintenance of premises. As a minimum, urgent deliveries will continue. Planned works will continue as far as possible. All visits by groups have been cancelled. This concerns, for example, guided tours with students, choirs of the worship services, external sports teams, theatre performances, etc. Student work placements are cancelled unless the school allows this. Observation traineeships are suspended...All requests from the press/media must be submitted to the spokespersons.Changing the regime and activities of inmates. Activities - The 'open-door' regimes are allowed to continue as the detainees are part of the same bubble: - within the same compartment as the walk ; - a maximum of 2 detainees at the same time in 1 cell ; - provided they are required to wear a mouth mask. Furthermore, all regular organised group activities (training, culturally suspended except: Employment: domestic work, working in a cell, working in the studios (also these led by externals). Walk - With regard to the organisation of the walks, the following specific recommendations apply (in order of importance): - Stable compartments (as far as possible the same composition of groups of detainees; mix as few compartments / sections as possible); - Smaller groups; - Longer walking times (if compartmentalisation with smaller groups allows). Library - Books from the library can be kept in cells, but inmates cannot go to the library. - Individual worship in consulting rooms;- Individual discussions with the PSD and external partners; - Activities and therapeutic counselling organised by care equipment and external services in accordance with the instructions of the doctor responsible Individual training courses that take place in meeting rooms or classrooms. Cell mutations - Unnecessary cell mutations must be avoided so that detainees remain in the same stable group as far as possible. This measure should ensure that, in the case of a positive detainee, the risks of further infection are limited to this group as far as possible. Transfers between prisons - Prisoners transferred to another prison are placed in preventive quarantine on arrival and tested. Preventive quarantine is lifted as soon as the result of the test is known and negative. As the capacity of the COVID sections in Bruges and Lantin is limited, priority is given to symptomatic detainees. The central medical service is responsible for the placement policy. Methods of enforcement - Suspension of penalties (UV and PV) Execution of all decisions to award UV and PV shall be suspended. Prisoners in semi-freedom or restricted detention can still go on leave, but must be separated from other prisoners. The aim is to prevent contamination from the free society entering the prisons through convicts who enjoy sentences and who, in that context, regularly leave the prison and return to it. The Director may grant an exception where urgent and humanitarian circumstances justify it or if it seriously compromises probation.</p> | | | | |
| Bulgaria | <p>General Directorate Execution of Sentences (GDES) provides measures and instructions in the prisons, probation services and detention centers according to orders from Ministry of the Health and the Ministry of the Justice. Below you will find the imposed current measures in Bulgarian prison facilities by GDES.</p> <p>General Directorate Execution of Sentences has taken protocols which are based on orders from Ministry of Justice and Ministry of the Health in order to deal with the Covid-19. The protocols consist of measures and detailed described procedures which are sent to the prison facilities. The current measures, imposed in Bulgarian prisons and detention centers are as follow:</p> <p>General prevention measures in prisons and detention centers – maintenance of good sanitary hygienic condition and frequent ventilation of the air in all premises and regular disinfection of the surfaces.</p> <p>Prisons staff According to the instructions, which have been sent to all prisons and detention centers, all the prison staff with direct contact with the inmates are obligated to wear personal protective equipment. In the protocols the procedures with prison staff members, tested positive on Covid-19 or have being in a touch with someone who is infected, are detailed described.</p> <p>New arrivals are subject of medical examination and monitoring. All new arrivals are obligated to fill in a questionnaire regarding their health condition and questions about being in a contact with someone, tested positive on Covid-19, if known. When an inmate shows symptoms, compatible with COVID-19, the medical staff in the prison is organizing a testing at referent laboratory. Until the results come out, the inmate has to be isolated. All inmates who have been in a contact with the potential infected inmate are isolated. In case that the inmate is tested negative on Covid-19, the isolation is terminated and the inmate is placed under medical supervision for 14 days. An inmate who is tested positive on Covid-19 is isolated and the medical treatment is according to his health conditions and symptoms. In case of complicated infection, the prison chief could prepare a proposal to the prosecutor about suspension of the execution of the sentence because of medical reason.</p> | | | | |

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| Cyprus | <p>As regards the second wave of COVID:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the life in prisons as from 2nd of June 2020, is back to normality as regards prison schools, gyms, activities, works etc. - the visits are reduced in numbers from 10 to 5 and now 4, without physical contact (there is a plexi-glass separator). Visits from Limassol and Pafos are forbidden as there was a lockdown for these two cities. All visitors are allowed to have visits if they do not present any symptoms and the sign a relevant declaration that they did not have contact with a suspicious or positive COVID incident the past 14 days, and all are provided gloves and face masks. Visitors from abroad are allowed to have visits only if they present a negative COVID test and they do not stay in Limassol or Pafos. - A variety of means to contact their families in addition to the visits are available to all inmates, like SKYPE and access to unlimited phone calls from 0800 - 2030 hours. - All newcomers as from 8th of April they are placed in the quarantine unit only if they come to our facilities with a negative COVID test, and after 14 days and we repeat the COVID test before we place them in other units in the closed or open prisons. - Inmates of the open prison who visit their families every two months without escort, on their return they stay in the quarantine unit for 14 days. They are not allowed to enter the closed prisons in any way. Currently those who have families in Limassol and Pafos are not allowed a leave unless they wish to visit relatives in other cities. - Inmates of the Reintegration Center, continue working in the open society every day and on the weekends are allowed to visit their families according to the Law. Currently those who have families in Limassol and Pafos are not allowed a leave on the weekends unless they wish to visit relatives in other cities. - We often do RAPID COVID tests for the staff and for those who work in prisons from other services. - Everyday, we provide disposable personal protective equipment for the staff of every shift in the quarantine unit, in addition to the 2 personal face mask and the shield (with the logo of our prisons) that we gave for the staff and for those who work in our prisons from other services. -Everyday, we provide disposable personal protective equipment (head cap, face mask, gloves, robe, and shoe caps), for inmates who are transferred outside prisons to courts and hospitals. Unfortunately, the courts in Limassol and Pafos still operate. - Still zero COVID incidents for staff and inmates. |
| Czech Republic | <p>The country is currently in a kind of lockdown, however with number of exceptions. Schools, restaurants, bars, cafes, sport and cultural facilities are closed. Most of the shops are closed – apart of shops selling food, chemist’s and pharmacies. Hotels can provide accommodation for business travels only. People are recommended to leave homes only to go to work and shopping for food, leaving homes between 9pm and 5 am is forbidden unless you travel to work or to a hospital or back. The government urged state administration as well as private companies to apply home office for all staff members where it is possible.</p> <p>Measures related to prison service: Suspension of family visits since 23 October: Compensations related: Maximum use of video visits Extended time per a phone call – up to 30 min Increased amount for purchase in prison shop Extended time outside Extended activities of treatment programme Obligatory face masks anytime the prisoners are outside cell or bedroom Obligatory face masks for staff members any time they are outside their office Indoor sport activities in groups of max 10 prisoners Body temperature checks and hand disinfection on the entrances Video conferences with courts, attorneys, prosecuting authorities and probation if possible Limitation of entries of external workers (probation, NGOs, Churches,...) Limitation of transfers of prisoners Home office for all positions where possible (HQ+administration of prisons) Online learning for new recruits</p> |
| Estonia | <p>In Estonian prisons restrictive decisions are made case-by-case, depending on the regional situation of each prison and the active positive cases inside a prison. Long-term visits are suspended in all prisons. And, in all prisons there is an isolation unit for risk group prisoners (with a severe underlying medical condition, or having a serious disease or medical condition). In case a person is tested positive for C-19, everybody who has been in close contact will be tested, also when necessary a cohort testing of prisoners and prison officers will be carried out.</p> |
| Finland | <p>The only restrictive measure imposed in Finland so far during the second wave was denying visits and prison leaves over one weekend in one prison after one staff member had tested positive. There have not been any restrictive measures in other prisons. The Ministry of Justice is drafting a law that would allow prison directors to decide on suspending prison leaves, prison visits and activities on the grounds of an epidemic. Currently the legislation does not permit this kind of measures.</p> |
| Italy | <p>You may find the answer here --> https://www.europris.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Replies-to-questionnaires-from-EuroPris-mailing-list-Nov-2020.pdf</p> |
| Lithuania | <p>Art 119.2 of the Penitentiary Code of the Republic of Lithuania stipulates that “when a state of national emergency, quarantine or emergency situation is declared in the Republic of Lithuania or the parts thereof, the Director General of the Prison Department or the authorized official has the right, after notifying the Minister of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania, to issue a temporary order, valid no longer than until the state of national emergency, quarantine or emergency situation is revoked, to suspend or restrict:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) prison leaves; 2) posting of inmates’ letters and delivery of incoming letters or handed-over items to inmates; 3) third persons’ entrance to the penitentiary establishments; 4) purchase of personal items for inmates; 5) cultural, sports or other crowded/mass events at the penitentiary establishments; 6) implementation of other rights which, pursuant to the legislation of the Republic of Lithuania, may be temporarily restricted during a state of national emergency, quarantine or emergency situation.” <p>Long-term visits (up to 24 hrs) were suspended in all the Lithuanian penitentiary establishments since spring 2020. On 29 October short-term visits were suspended. Inmates were offered three additional video visits or telephone calls to compensate short-term visits. Since 30-10-2020 all leaves were suspended for all categories of inmates. Entrance of the community, NGO or religious representatives to the establishments is decided on a case-by-case basis by the director of the correctional establishment.</p> |
| Spain | <p>On behalf of Spanish Prison Service (central administration), restrictive decisions are taken case by case, depending on the geographical situation of each prison and also the active positive cases inside the penitentiary center.</p> |
| Netherlands | <p>As of yet there is no plan for a lockdown within the Dutch Custodial Institutions Agency.</p> |
| Norway | <p>There is no planned lockdown in the Norwegian Correctional Service. The different restrictions which have been imposed during the Corona pandemic, have been manifested in circulars issued by the Directorate of Norwegian Correctional Service. The circulars have been revised and evaluated on a regular basis, according to the development of the pandemic in the society. In March many restrictions were enforced, after which they have been gradually eased. Currently, with rising infection rates, different restrictions are being enforced again. This is, however, currently dealt with on a local level. No lockdown is planned at the moment, but this might be subject to change.</p> |