



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



Supported by the Justice Programme of the European Union

	Infected Prisoner	Infected Staff	Dead Prisoner	Dead Staff	
Austria	0	0			
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.
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.
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	91	5			*2 of the 5 infected staff members are teachers from the secondary school that provide education in prison
Finland	0	2			Update to Finnish corona figures: - Prisoners: 0 (during the whole epidemic) - Staff: 2 prison guards (this autumn + 6 members of administrative staff last spring)
Georgia	0	0			
Hungary	0	6			* 14 September 2020
Ireland	8	76			Number in Custody: 3,764
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	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.
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)
Luxembourg	32	13			
Malta	1	1			1 prisoner still not recovered
Moldova	3	30			
Netherlands	31				13 confirmed C-19 infections among detainees within the prison administration. 4 confirmed C-19 infections among detainees within forensic care 4 confirmed C-19 infection among detainees within a correctional facility for juvenile offenders 10 confirmed C-19 infections among detainees within a detention centre. Total: 31 confirmed C-19 infections among detainees.
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.

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.
Poland	36	779			
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	165	151			Officers: 151 active cases and 293 under observation. Inmates: 165 active cases and 764 under observation.
Spain - Catalonia	25	46			Inmates: 25 active positive cases and 181 already recovered (total 206) Staff: 46 active positive cases and 192 already recovered (total 238)
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.
Did you organize training activities specifically related to COVID-19 management? If so, under which modality (in presence, remote, etc.)?					
Bulgaria	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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:</p> <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. <p>Focus on activities which keep your body and brain busy and in conscious</p>				
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.				
Finland	We have not organized training activities related to COVID-19. We have a wide range of written instructions for the management of COVID-19.				
France	<p>Outdoor walk are maintained but in small number.</p> <p>Outdoor sports activities or in the gymnasium are kept in small group.</p> <p>No more access to fitness and weight rooms.</p> <p>School for minors in small group are maintained. For adults, it's distancing school.</p> <p>No more professional training.</p> <p>No more cultural activities.</p> <p>The work in the general service is maintained as well as the workshops, in the respect of the sanitary rules.</p>				
Israel	<p>Regarding the question from Italy – we did not have any organized training or special activities related to Covid-19.</p> <p>We did post a lot of information for staff and inmates about the ways to behave in order to reduce the risk of getting sick such as: the impotence of wearing mask, keep distance, wash hands etc.</p> <p>We are doing inquiry and debriefing foe every case of inmate / staff infection and sharing the information and the conclusion through all the staff</p>				
Latvia	<p>In Latvian Prison Administration, training activities in presence related to COVID-19 management are not organized.</p> <p>Remotely, employees have been introduced with a special instruction on COVID-19 infection risks and relevant personal hygiene and preventive measures to be observed.</p> <p>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.</p>				
Netherlands	We are not organizing any training activities related to COVID-19.				

Northern Ireland	The only training Northern Ireland Prison Service has carried out in relation to COVID 19 is remote training to teams of track and trace officers at each establishment. NIPS have issued plenty of guidance, mostly based on World Health Organisation and Public Health Agency guidance. Provision of healthcare for those infected is a matter for our colleagues in the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust. We work closely with those colleagues as strategic and local levels to ensure that we do everything we can to keep infection rates down, and treat appropriately those who become infected.
Slovakia	No special training activity has been carried out. An internal regulation has been processed and is being updated according to the development of the epidemiologic situation. Several leaflets of the Central Health Office were distributed to all prisons
Spain-Catalonia	It has not been necessary.
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 convoyed 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.
Finland	No
France	Wearing a mask is compulsory for all inmates upon leaving the cell. Vulnerable or sick people must always wear a mask provided by the health unit.
Ireland	We have introduced the wearing of masks by prisoners on mandatory basis.
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: 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.
Belgium	In the Belgian prison system, wearing a mouth mask, together with good hand hygiene, remains the most important measure. This measure also applies to staff. This means that a mouth mask must be worn when social distance cannot be guaranteed, and that there is no unnecessary physical contact with people who do not belong to personal close contacts, except for carrying out professional tasks. Prisoners should always wear a mouth mask when leaving their cell. During the walk, detainees should wear a mouth mask when they are unable to maintain social distance, except when sporting, eating, drinking or smoking. Everyone - staff, prisoners and outside persons - should be actively addressed if they do not wear their mouth mask when and as they should. Of course, in the event of a clear breach of the rules and injunctions, disciplinary proceedings can always be initiated.
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.
The IPS would like to know if any jurisdiction has trialled the use of official mobile phones by prisoners in prisons to enhance communications with families and/or prisoner services?	
Czech Republic	In the Czech Republic communication through mobile phones for inmates and their families hasn't been introduced and currently there are not even any plans for this type of communication. We use prison phone call system and video visits.
Norway	Mobile phones are not in use in Norwegian prisons. Increased use of tablets (I-pads) has been introduced because of Covid-19.
Slovakia	In Slovakia, mobile phones are not in use in the prisons.
Finland	Mobile phones are not allowed in Finnish closed prisons. In open prisons (where we have about 1/3 prisoners) the inmates had already before the epidemic non-smartphones that are provided by the prison.

France	<p>Family visits are maintained, but in a more restrictive manner: visiting rooms must have protective devices. There is no longer access to family living units.</p> <p>The delivery of laundry by families remains possible but in compliance with sanitary rules. From 01 November, a telephone package of 30 euros is offered to inmates with a telephone account. Phone messaging will again be free.</p>
Netherlands	No phones are allowed inside of the prisons
Poland	In Poland, Prison Service does not provide mobile phones to inmates. Due to the pandemic, prisoners have the opportunity to call their families more often.
Israel	<p>Mobile phone at the Israeli Prisons are not allowed.</p> <p>To add to that I would like to say that there are many attempts from prisoners to try and smuggle cellphone to the prison facilities through visitation.</p>
Belgium	Mobile devices for telephony for prisoners are not allowed in Belgian prisons. The inmates can use normal fix telephones in the cell or video visit (WEBX) in secured conditions in the common areas.
Latvia	<p>According to Section 41 Part 6 of the Sentence Execution Code of Latvia, inmates serving their sentence in open prisons are also allowed, with the permission of the Head of the custodial institution, to keep personal computer equipment with Internet access, if it is necessary for the provision of education or employment of the inmate, and a personal mobile phone. Personal computer equipment and a mobile phone held by inmates are subject to inspection.</p> <p>An inmate can receive a mobile phone only by parcel or courier delivery. If there is a permission for the acceptance or replacement of the mobile phone, then, in the presence of an inmate, with assistance of Surveillance Section, the parcel is opened, the mobile phone is verified, registered and immediately issued. Mobile phones issued to inmates are registered in the Mobile Phone, Sim Card and Computer Register.</p> <p>If the phone does not have a permit or the inmate is at work, the mobile phone is kept in the Surveillance Section until issued. SIM cards can be purchased at the prison shop.</p> <p>Due to the pandemic, there are no significant changes, so far inmates rarely change phones and SIM cards practically not at all.</p> <p>Inmates keep their mobile phones with them and they are subject to inspection.</p> <p>Inmates in partly-closed prisons with the lowest or highest degree of serving the sentence have free access to payphones located in all units.</p>
Current and planned COVID-19 lockdown measures and regulations in prison services?	
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.</p> <p>Bellow 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.</p> <p>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>
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:</p> <p>Suspension of family visits since 23 October:</p> <p>Compensations related:</p> <p>Maximum use of video visits</p> <p>Extended time per a phone call – up to 30 min</p> <p>Increased amount for purchase in prison shop</p> <p>Extended time outside</p> <p>Extended activities of treatment programme</p> <p>Obligatory face masks anytime the prisoners are outside cell or bedroom</p> <p>Obligatory face masks for staff members any time they are outside their office</p> <p>Indoor sport activities in groups of max 10 prisoners</p> <p>Body temperature checks and hand disinfection on the entrances</p> <p>Video conferences with courts, attorneys, prosecuting authorities and probation if possible</p> <p>Limitation of entries of external workers (probation, NGOs, Churches,...)</p> <p>Limitation of transfers of prisoners</p> <p>Home office for all positions where possible (HQ+administration of prisons)</p> <p>Online learning for new recruits</p>

Estonia	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.
Spain	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.
Netherlands	As of yet there is no plan for a lockdown within the Dutch Custodial Institutions Agency.
Norway	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.