

COVID – 19 – TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS ON THE BORDER GATES IN EUROPE

Last updated: 12.00 – 19.03.2020 **NEW in Red**

Temporary exceptions granted by Member States due to the COVID-19 outbreak – Further clarifications needed – Austria, Czech Republic

Austria – Level of risk 2. There are restrictions for the haulers coming from Italy. There are lines of vehicles as the border gates. The Authorities may enter in force further restrictions. Temperature measurement.

Albania – Level of risk 1. There are no special restrictions for the transport.

Belgium - Level of risk 1. There are no special restrictions for the transport.

Tolerance for drivers which will apply from 19.03 to 31.03!

Art. 6(2): replacement of the maximum weekly driving limit of 56 hours with one of 60 hours;

- **Art. 6(3):** replacement of the maximum fortnightly driving limit of 90 hours with one of 96 hours;

- **Art. 8(6):** postponement of a weekly rest period beyond six-24 hours period.

Bulgaria – Level of risk 2. State of Emergency. There are no special restrictions for the transport. The drivers coming from Italy or other risk zones should remain in 14 days quarantine.

Tolerance for drivers which will apply from 19.03 to 13.04!

Art. 6(1): replacement of the maximum daily driving limit of 9 hours with one of 11 hours;

- **Art. 7:** replacement of the minimum daily breaks requirements by imposing a break of 45 minutes after 5 and a half hours;

- **Art. 8(6):** reduction of the regular weekly rest period from 45 hours to 24 hours.

Danmark - Level of risk 2. There are no special restrictions for the transport

Tolerance for drivers which will apply from 13.03 to 22.03!

Art. 8(6): postponement of the requirement for a weekly rest period during the specified period

France – Level of Risk 2. No special restrictions for transport. Transit is open.

Some problems on places of unloading.

The tunnel is still running with delays.

Germany - Level of risk 2. There are no special restrictions for the transport.

Germany allows the transport flow on Sundays. There will not have any restrictions until 30 May 2020. Some arias like Baden, Sacsonia have dedicated to do so until 05.04.2020.

Greece - Level of risk 2. There are no special restrictions for the transport. Ferries are still operating.

Customs office of Evzoni at the Greek-North Macedonian (Evzoni-Bogorodica) border crossing point, has announced that as of Monday 16.03.20 the movement of trucks (in both directions entry/exit) will not be allowed from 22:00 until 06:00am.

The measure will be valid until further notice, due to the extraordinary measures taken by the Greek government against COVID-19.

NEW Goods transport:

- Ferry routes to/from Italy operate normally for the movement of goods

Georgia – Level of risk 3. There are special restrictions for transport.

NEW RESTRICTION

As part of coronavirus (COVID-19) preventive measures, the Government of Georgia made a decision to impose restrictions on the entry of foreign nationals. The restrictions will become effective from 18 March 2020, 00:00 and will remain in force for two weeks.

The restrictions will apply to any foreign national except:

- Representatives of diplomatic missions and international organizations accredited to Georgia and their family members;
- Mixed families where one of the spouses or their under-age child is a citizen of Georgia;
- Persons arriving in Georgia as part of humanitarian mission – if trip of such mission (doctors, volunteers) to Georgia becomes a necessity;
- Individuals who have been granted the status of stateless person by respective authorities of Georgia
- Individuals holding status-neutral travel documents;
- Individuals having a refugee status in Georgia;
- The issue of official delegations will be decided on a case-to-case basis.

Spain – Level of risk 2. There are no special restrictions for the transport. It is possible the situation to be changed in the next days depending of the spread of the virus.

New!!! Exemption of Regulation 561/2006

Tolerance for drivers which will apply from 14.03 to 28.03!

- **Art. 6(1)**: lifting the daily driving time limit

- **Art. 8(6)**: provisions on weekly rest periods

Italy - Level of risk 3. There are no special restrictions for the transport. There is possibility for restrictions in other countries for transports from Northern Italy. For some cases health certificate is needed.

Ireland - Level of risk 2. There are no special restrictions for the transport. It is possible the situation to be changed in the next days depending of the spread of the virus.

Tolerance for drivers which will apply from 18.03 to 16.04!

Art. 6(3): the fortnightly driving limit is lifted from 90 hours to 112 hours.

- **Art. (6)**: at least two reduced weekly rest periods in any two consecutive weeks. No requirement for compensation or for a regular weekly rest period to be taken.

No postponement of the requirement to start a weekly rest period after six-24 hours periods.

Lithuania - Level of risk 2. There are no special restrictions for the transport.

Republic Northern Macedonia - Level of risk 2. There are no special restrictions for the transport. There is chance the situation to be changed in the next few hours. There are possible some restrictions for transport undertakings coming from the risk zone.

In Macedonia according to the government's recommendation all those coming from critical places are subject to a 14-day quarantine. There is no complete closing of the borders at the moment, but that option is not excluded.

BORDER CROSSING STATUS INFORMATION

→ Concerning the situation with the emergence of the Covid-19 virus, we inform that all border crossings in the Republic of North Macedonia are closed for the crossing of passengers and vehicles, except the Bogorodica (with Greece), Kafasan (with Albania), Tabanovce (with Serbia), Deve Bair (with Bulgaria) and Blace (with Kosovo). There are no restrictions for the freight

Macedonia – Closing of all border crossing points

To limit the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), we inform of the Decision of the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia, that all border crossings in the Republic of

Northern Macedonia are closed for foreign nationals, passengers and vehicles, except for entry and transit of freight vehicles, as well as for representatives of the diplomatic corps in the country, and other persons for whom the Ministry of the Interior will grant permission upon prior opinion by the Main Coordination Crisis Staff confirming that there is a special state or economic interest. The goods vehicles and persons exempted from the restriction will be allowed to enter the Republic of North Macedonia under special protection conditions in accordance with the protocol of the Ministry of Health.

Skopje International Airport will be also closed and the border crossing at this airport, except for military, state, humanitarian, hospital, cargo and non-passenger aircraft positioning aircraft, with prior notice to TAV Macedonia DOOEL Airport and AD M-NAV Skopje to issue a NOTAM recommendation on the same.

Poland - Level of risk 2. There are no special restrictions for the transport. Level of self-control high. There are lines of truck on the border with Ukraine.

As a rule - there are not significant restrictions related to international transport meaning:

- foreigners - international drivers driving a truck may enter Polish territory and travel. If they are passengers in buses they will not enter the border (without work permit).

- (!) Polish law allowing - upon discretionary decision - cancelling the quarantine or limiting its length.

The state sanitary inspector competent for the place of residence or stay in which the obligatory quarantine is to take place, referred to in the provisions issued on the basis of Article 34 (5) of the Act of 5 December 2008 on preventing and combating infections and diseases infectious to humans, or another state sanitary inspector authorized by the Chief Sanitary Inspector, in justified cases decides to shorten or release from the obligation to undergo the quarantine.

Huge traffic jams at the borders with Germany and Czech Republic. Delays from 15 to 20 hours.

Tolerance for drivers which will apply from 19.03 to 13.04!

- Art. 6(1): replacement of the maximum daily driving limit of 9 hours with one of 11 hours;

- Art. 6(2): replacement of the maximum weekly driving limit of 56 hours with one of 60 hours;

- Art. 6(3): replacement of the maximum fortnightly driving limit of 90 hours with one of 96 hours;

- Art. 7: replacement of the minimum daily breaks requirements by imposing a break of 45 minutes after 5 and a half hours.

Romania - Level of risk 2. There are no special restrictions for the transport. All transportations from North Italy are not allowed. 14 days for quarantine period.

Template for Member States to notify their derogation from driving and rest times pursuant to Art. 14(2) of Regulation 561/2006

In response to the extraordinary crisis situation due to the pandemic of COVID-19 (Coronavirus), ROMANIA has agreed to a temporary and limited relaxation of the enforcement of driving and rest times for the drivers of vehicles transporting GOODS. This relaxation is granted pursuant to Article 14(2) of Regulation (EC) No 561/2006 and the purpose of this document is to notify the Commission accordingly.

This temporary relaxation applies from 18.03.2020 and will run until 16.04.2020. It will apply to those drivers involved in DOMESTICALLY/ INTERNATIONALLY transports.

ROMANIA has made it clear that driver and road safety must not be compromised. Drivers should not be expected to drive whilst tired - employers remain responsible for the health and safety of their employees and other road users.

For the above-mentioned category of drivers, the following provisions will be temporarily relaxed as follows:

- Derogation to Article 6(1) of Regulation 561/2006: replacement of the maximum daily driving limit of 9 hours with one of 11 hours;
- Derogation to Article 7 of Regulation 561/2006: replacement of the minimum daily breaks requirements by imposing a break of 45 minutes after 5 and a half hours
- Derogation to Article 8(1) of Regulation 561/2006: Reduction of the daily rest requirements from 11 to 9 hours;
- Derogation to Article 8(6) of Regulation 561/2006: postponement of a weekly rest period beyond six-24 hours period.

The temporary relaxation of the rules described above reflects the exceptional circumstances stemming from the COVID-19 outbreak. ROMANIA wishes to emphasise that, as a general rule, we expect business to plan for and manage the risks of disruption to supply chains.

Slovenia - Level of risk 2. There are no special restrictions for the transport. The border gates are closed only for the transport underrating entering from Italy. 18 hours of delay on the border gates with Croatia. That is why the Border gates is closed.

New: Slovenia restricted transit of heavy vehicles from Italy to Slovenia. Traffic is allowed only if the final destination is Slovenia or if trucks are loaded with postage, medicine equipment or pharmaceutical products and humanitarian help. Italy is planning to close borders also from Slovenia to Italy.

Slavakia - Level of risk 2. There are no special restrictions for the transport. Border closed for passengers only.

Serbia - Level of risk 2. There are no special restrictions for the transport. Transit is open.

There are no restrictions for the transport but transit is limited with period of 12h for exit!

Transport is open. All roads freight transport (bilateral, transit, third country) is exempted now. Freight and domestic drivers do not have quarantine obligations.

Quarantine is suspended.

Turkey - Level of risk 2. There are no special restrictions for the transport. Line of transport undertaking on the Bulgarian – Turkish Border Gates.

From 16.03.2020 Iran – Turkey Border Gates is Closed. There is no truck pass. Drivers stop in the Buffer zone between Iraq and Turkey.

Many restrictions for all truck coming from Germany, France, Spain, Norway, Denmark, Belgium, Austria, Sweden and The Netherlands. They cannot enter on the territory of Republic of Turkey. 14 days in quarantine is required.

Hungary - Level of risk 2. There are no special restrictions for the transport. There are chances situation to be changed in the next few hours. Some transport undertaking coming from Italy are stopped.

Buses transporting passengers from the territory of the Italian Republic, China, Korea, Iran, and Israel (from 14th of March), and in passenger traffic (by car) non-Hungarian citizens cannot enter Hungary.

Hungarian nationals coming from these countries are subject to 14 days' domestic quarantine upon entry (including Hungarian truck drivers), foreign nationals are not allowed to enter from these countries.

However, foreign drivers traveling in freight traffic may enter. In their case, the exact procedure is not known yet, and the Hungarian Operational Staff has not yet answered the question of whether they are subject to health checks or are subject to health restrictions such as those traveling by passenger cars or the Hungarian truck drivers. In our experience, they may have a health check at the border (checking their fever).

Therefore, no restriction on the transport of goods (interesting: the foreign carriers are allowed in transit, even if they are coming from or thru Italy).

2. The usual truck bans on Saturday from 22:00 to Sunday 22:00 has been suspended for the duration of the emergency. 3. Border controls at the Slovenian-Austrian border have also been reintroduced.

Border crossing points in operation and recommended transit routes (AT, SLO)

<http://www.police.hu/hu/hirek-es-informaciok/legfrissebb-hireink/hatarrendeszet/mukodohataratkelohelyek-es-tranzitutvonalak>

Border Information(No info in the english version of the page I suggest google translate, it works fine):

http://www.police.hu/hu/hirek-es-informaciok/hatarinfo?field_hat_rszakasz_value=osztrak+hatarszakasz

Closed border crossings:

• Hungarian - Romanian border Turnu, Sacuieni, Salonta and Valea lui Mihai crossings • on the Hungarian - Serbian border: Hadikfalva, Bajmok, Ásotthalom, Horgos highway, Tiszasziget, Kübekháza.

Restrictions on the Hungarian - Slovakian border:

• In Nógrád county, only freight traffic and citizens with Slovak address can enter the Slovakian territory on main road 2 at Parassapuszta, on road 22 at Balassagyarmat and on road 21 at Somoskőújfalu. • In Pest County, vehicles are turned back from the 12111 road coming from the Hungarian-Slovakian border. • In Komárom-Esztergom county, at Komárom only Slovakian citizens are allowed on the main road 13 • In Győr-Moson-Sopron County, access to the M15 motorway at Rajka is restricted to Slovak nationals by private car. Targeted freight transportation is allowed after the random screening. However, transit traffic is denied and reversed. • On the main road 14 at Vámócsabad, at the first return option, the Slovakian police stops everyone, according to their on-site officers only people who look healthy and EU citizens are allowed to return to Slovakia after questioning, and everyone else is turned back. No distinction is made in terms of freight or passenger traffic, the procedure is the same. • On the main road No 15 at Rajka, only freight traffic, and citizens with Slovak address can enter Slovak territory. • In Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County, in consultation with the Slovak side, the small borders are physically closed.

Ukraine - Level of risk 3. There are special restrictions for the transport. Only 49 Border gates are open.

United Kingdom - Level of risk 3. There are special restrictions for the transport.

Tolerance for drivers which will apply from 18.03 to 16.04!

Delivery of food, non-food (personal care and household paper and cleaning) and over the counter pharmaceuticals when undertaking the following journeys in England, Scotland and Wales:

- Distribution centre to stores (or fulfilment centre)
- From manufacturer or supplier to distribution centre (including backhaul collections)
- From manufacturer or supplier to store (or fulfilment centre)

Art. 6(1): replacement of the maximum daily driving limit of 9 hours with one of 11 hours;

OR

- Art 8(6): Postponement of the requirement to start a weekly rest period after six-24 hours' periods, for after seven 24 hours' period; although two regular weekly rest periods or a regular and a reduced weekly rest period will still be required within a fortnight;

- Art. 6(2): replacement of the maximum weekly driving limit of 56 hours with one of 60 hours;

- Art. 6(3): replacement of the maximum

Croatia - Level of risk 4. There are special restrictions for the transport. All foreign drivers who entering Croatia and are coming from Italy, China, South Korea, Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, Malaysia, **Bahrein**, Iran, Germany, France, Switzerland, Spain, Austria, UK, the Netherlands, Sweden and the Bela Krajina region (Slovenia) **except for drivers in transit** will be sent to mandatory quarantine in Croatia for the period of next 14 days. Foreign drivers are warned that they can turn back and return to country they came from if they don't want to be put in croatian quarantine. Transit is exempt from this restrictions. Please be aware of long waiting times at border crossings. As of today procedures regarding issuing quarantine documentation will be quicker and hopefully this will help to reduce waiting time. The list of above mentioned countries will be updated.

NEW Transit is allowed through Croatia, transit corridors apply.

Drivers of vehicles owned by foreign companies who return to their country immediately after unloading are not subject to health surveillance measures.

Drivers of vehicles owned by foreign companies who do not return to their country immediately after unloading are subject to health surveillance measures - they will be placed in a quarantine during the time they are waiting to return to their country.

Companies to which goods are shipped by foreign suppliers must (not transport companies, only companies to which goods are shipped)

a) send an email to stozercz@mup.hr announcing arrival of foreign drivers and following information: company name, name and surname of the driver,

identification number, from which country the goods are brought, the border crossing point they use, the place of unloading, the place of quarantine.

b) announce specific information regarding these foreign drivers by email stozercz@mup.hr (the number of these drivers, their identification information- name, surname, identification number, vehicle registration number, place of arrival - county of destination), all for the purpose of placing these drivers in quarantine

organized by county civil protection centers

c) such above mentioned companies are required to inform their foreign suppliers of the quarantine location for the foreign drivers and they must immediately

inform the relevant county civil protection center using phone number 112 of the placement of foreign drivers in quarantine.

Czech Republic - Level of risk 2. There are no special restrictions for the transport. Border closed for passenger only.

Latest development in the Czech Republic in relation to spread of COVID-19. As you might know, the Czech authorities have declared state of emergency as of 12 March 2020, 14:00 and have adopted series of measures concerning the international bus transport, international rail passenger transport, and international inland waterways passenger transport. This includes also some temporary measures which will come to end on 16th March (0:00) when the general prohibition to travel to and from the Czech Republic will start to apply.

The temporary measures concerning international passenger transport are following:

- As of 14th March (0:00), all international bus regular services with vehicles with a capacity exceeding 9 passengers and all international railway and international inland waterways (limitedly on Elbe river on Czech-German border) passenger transport to and from the Czech Republic are prohibited.
- International special / occasional bus transport (exceeding 9 passengers) is allowed to be operated for the purpose to transport citizens of the Czech Republic and foreigners with temporary residence exceeding 90 days or with permanent residence in the Czech Republic from abroad to the Czech Republic.
- Similarly, foreigners will be allowed to leave the Czech Republic using special / occasional international road passenger transport with vehicles with a capacity exceeding 9 passengers.
- Carriers operating in international road and rail passenger transport and residing both in the Czech Republic and abroad are allowed to transport empty buses, trains, and watercrafts without passengers into/out of the Czech Republic.

Operation of international road haulage and rail freight transport remain without restrictions for now but there are designated border crossing points with Germany (7 points) and Austria (4 points) where the vehicles can enter or leave the Czech Republic.

Montenegro - There are special restrictions for the transport. All foreign drivers form risk zones who are trying to enter Montenegro except for drivers in transit will be sent to mandatory quarantine in Croatia for the period of next 14 days.