



Impact on freight and passenger transport of the global Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak

Albania

Updated on 14/03/20

As of 15 of March 2020, all Albanian terrestrial borders will be closed for any passengers transport. Goods transport will be allowed, subject to medical checks to drivers.

Please note that the border crossing Blato and Shepchishte-Trebishte (Debar) is already completely closed for any kind of traffic.

Source: ANALTIR

Austria

Updated on 12/03/20

- Restrictions

Austria has reintroduced temporary border control at the borders with Italy. The temperature of drivers and their activities of the last days are systematically checked (measure valid for the next 10 days).

Austria is also ceasing rail transport activities coming from Italy (valid until April 3rd). This measure does not apply to freight transport.

Updated on 16/03/20

- Relieves

Throughout Austria, the weekend traffic ban for heavy goods vehicles above 7.5 tonnes will be suspended until 3 April 2020 with immediate effect. This measure has been discussed and coordinated with Italy and Bavaria in order to avoid border waiting times to the best possible extent.

In addition, the government announced a temporary tolerance concerning the enforcement of driving and resting times for drivers in order to eliminate the bottlenecks caused by the current crisis. Measures lifted are the ones in articles 6 to 9 of the [EU Regulation No. 561/2006](#). This exception applies from 16/03/2020 to 14/04/2020.

Source: AISÖ

Azerbaijan

Updated on 10/03/20

Good transport operations between Azerbaijan and Iran is now normal. Accompanied road transport (complete truck combinations with driver) are allowed to cross the border.

Passenger transport is still restricted.

Source: IRU Istanbul office

Belarus

Updated on 13/03/20

All foreign and Belarusian citizens entering the territory of the Republic of Belarus through border crossing points are subject to a continuous primary sanitary and epidemiological control.

People arriving from countries with unfavourable epidemical situation (currently it is from China, Iran, Italy, South Korea, Singapore, Thailand and Japan) must be tested (the test result is available in 12 hours). In case of symptoms of a respiratory illness (fever over 37.1 ° C, coughing and others), people arriving from these countries are isolated and hospitalized.

There are currently no restrictions on the movement of vehicles, goods and passengers across the borders of the Republic of Belarus (except for the sanitary checks and the filling on an arrival form).

Hotline telephone number of the Republican Center for Hygiene of Epidemiology and Public Health: +375 (29) 156-85-65 (working days from 8:30 to 13:00 and from 13:30 to 18:00).

Source: BAMAP (from the Ministry of Health and the State Border Committee of Belarus)

Updated on 19/03/20

With effect from 19 March 00.00, drivers non-resident in the Republic of Belarus engaged in international transit operations through the territory of the Republic of Belarus can only use selected areas for rest, meals and refuelling vehicles. A detailed list with locations can be found on this [map](#).

Source: [Ministry of transport and communications of the Republic of Belarus](#)

Belgium

Updated on 19/03/20

- **Restrictions**

The Belgian government took additional measures on 17 March 2020 introducing further measures to encourage teleworking and closing all non-essential stores (only pharmacies, food stores and newspaper stores remain open) to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). Measures are valid until 5 April 2020. The objective is to limit public gathering. As far as public transport is concern, services function normally, but it is asked to limit journeys.

These measures have no consequences for international freight transport and drivers. However, a number of companies have been forced to close because they are unable to respect the social distancing rules or are short of material to continue the production process.

- **Relieves**

Minister of transport announced a temporary and complete tolerance concerning the enforcement of driving and rest times for drivers involved in the transportation of food, medication and other life essential goods to shops and pharmacies. This measure has been taken on the basis of article 14.2 of the [EU Regulation 561/2006](#) and applies from 14/03/2020 at 00:01 until 31/03/2020 at 23:59. More detailed information is available [here](#).

Sources: FEBETRA and Official News Agencies

Bulgaria

Updated on 19/03/20

- Restrictions

In a new order, from 00:00 on 20 March 2020 until 17 April 2020, the Minister of Health has temporarily prohibited entry into the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria of all third country (non-EU) nationals through all border crossing points by all means of transport. Transport personnel engaged in the transport of goods are excluded from the scope of this order.

The prohibition of entry of EU nationals from Italy, Spain, France, UK, Germany, Netherlands and Switzerland and the respective arrangements for drivers coming from these countries, previously announced, remains in force.

Bulgarian citizens, as well as persons with either long or permanent residence in Bulgaria, and their families, are exempt from this ban. They will be subject to a 14-day quarantine either at home or any other accommodation of their choice.

A special regime has been arranged for the truck drivers (official decree [here](#)):

- Bulgarian truck drivers are also subject to the 14-day quarantine, unless they are returning to one of the countries on the list. In this instance they must remain in quarantine until they leave;
- Non-Bulgarian drivers - citizens of the above countries or coming from them - can load and unload goods, but should then immediately leave the territory of Bulgaria. In the case of transit, the transit operation should be done within 24 hours;
- In addition, according to an additional order published by the Ministry of Health, entry and transit of trucks registered and coming from the Islamic Republic of Iran are temporarily forbidden.

- Relieves

The Bulgarian government granted temporary tolerance concerning the enforcement of driving and resting times for drivers under the [EU Regulation 561/2006](#) to the national and international transport of goods. This exception applies from 19/03/2020 00:00 to 16/04/2020 24.00. Measures lifted are the following:

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

Source: AEBTRI

China (People's Republic of)

Updated on 16/03/20

The epidemics control on domestic cases is stabilising in China, but the Government is maintaining stringent measures to avoid cases imported from foreign countries.

Overview of the situation at land borders:

- All borders from China side remain open for now, but Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan borders remain closed on their sides,
- At borders with Kazakhstan, from China side, no compulsory quarantine requirements on non-Chinese truck drivers entering into China, but regular business operations have been severely affected:

- Alashankou BCP has resumed TIR transport since February, the operations are normal,
 - The auxiliary services in Khorgos have shown signs of re-opening for business. However, due to the control measures applied in Kazakhstan, very few operations are taking place,
 - no operation is reported at Baketu BCP, as non-Chinese drivers are not willing to enter into China due to the control measures applied in Kazakhstan.
- At Erenhot, bordering Mongolia, freight operations are possible, but normal operations have been severely affected. Quarantine measures are compulsory for all those entering into China. Truck drivers are exempted from the quarantine control,
 - At Manzhouli, bordering Russia, freight operations are possible, but normal operations have been severely affected. Quarantine measures are compulsory for those entering into China from 34 countries. Russian drivers are exempted from the quarantine control.

Source: Chinese Customs

Croatia

Updated on 17/03/20

The Republic of Croatia has taken new measures on March 13th to limit the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the country. Foreign nationals coming from countries identified as particularly at risk will be put in a compulsory 14-day quarantine or will be required to get into a 14-day self-imposed isolation.

Special restrictions apply for transport operations: all foreign drivers coming from Italy, China, South Korea, Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, Malaysia, Bahrain, Iran, Germany, France, Switzerland, Spain, Austria, UK, the Netherlands, Sweden and the Bela Krajina region (Slovenia), except for drivers in transit, will be put in a compulsory 14-day quarantine in Croatia.

Foreign drivers are warned at borders that they can turn back to avoid the quarantine. Long waiting times are currently observed at borders. There are partial Serbia-Croatia border closures (see Serbia).

Sources: National Minister of Foreign Affairs and Association of Croatian Road Carriers

Czech Republic

Updated on 16/03/20

- **Restrictions**

The Government has announced a "state of emergency" with a set of bans and limitations, including (as of 14/03 0:00h):

- Foreigners coming from high risk countries (unless permanent residents) are temporarily banned to enter in the national territory. High risk countries are: Italy, France, Spain, Germany, Switzerland, Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands, Sweden, UK, Belgium, Austria, China and South Korea,
- Prohibition for Czech citizens and foreign permanent residents to travel to high risk countries,
- The international transport of passengers by bus is stopped from March 14th 00:00 a.m (exemption for foreigners being transported out of the Czech Republic and Czech citizens being brought home, or empty buses. This temporary exemption will stop come to end on

16th March (0:00) when the general prohibition to travel to and from the Czech Republic will start to apply),

- International freight transport is exempt of the restriction. However, only major border crossings with Austria (Dolní Dvořiště, České Velenice, Hatě Mikulov) and Germany (Strážný, Pomezí n.O., Rozvadov, Folmava, Žel. Ruda, Krásný Les, H.Sv. Šebestiána) will remain open.

- Relieves

Note that the Ministry of Transport, Czech Republic, has granted a general exemption from the driving restrictions on motorways and class I roads in the Czech Republic for trucks and combination vehicles with an MPW of over 7.5 tons and trucks and special vehicles with trailers, if an MPW of the motor vehicle exceeds 3.5 tons. The exemption is valid from 15:00 on 13 March 2020 for the time the state of emergency is in force, but not longer than one year.

In addition, the government announced on March 16th a temporary tolerance concerning the enforcement of driving and resting times for drivers involved in all transport of goods. Measures lifted are the ones in articles 6 to 9 of the [EU Regulation No. 561/2006](#). This exception applies from 16/03/2020 (00:00) for a period of 30 days.

Source: CESMAD BOHEMIA

Denmark

Updated on 14/03/20

- Restrictions

The Danish government has indicated on Friday 13th (evening) that the Danish borders will be closed for entry into Denmark unless a reasonable purpose can be demonstrated (note that tourism is not deemed legitimate). The new measure will be enforced from 14/3 at 12.00 and is in force up to and including April 13th.

Transport of goods will still be possible. All channels of freight transport by road, sea, rail and rail will be kept open without any other control than the normal customs/passport controls on random basis. However, international freight transport (including transit) by road should be operated through the following border crossing points: Frøslev, Sæd or Kruså. Please note that Kruså border crossing point is not accessible for vehicles above 3.5 tonnes. It is recommended for trucks to use Frøslev (E45) border crossing point. Border crossing at Padborg, as well as other smaller border crossing are closed. Freight operations can also be operated through the “blue border” (Øresundbridge and ferries).

- Relieves

National derogations from the weekly rest periods apply in Denmark from 10 to 22 March. Measures lifted are the ones in article 8.6 of the [EU Regulation No. 561/2006](#), but all other articles apply. Further information can be found [here](#).

Sources: ITD and DTL

Estonia

Updated on 18/03/20

The government has decided to restrict the crossing of the Schengen internal and external border temporarily, and to reintroduce border controls in order to contain the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Only citizens of Estonia and holders of Estonian residency permits (or rights of residence) can enter Estonia, as well as foreign citizens with family members living in the country.

International road freight is exempt.

Foreigners are allowed to transit Estonia if travelling to their home country as long as they are not showing symptoms of COVID-19.

At the border control, travel documents and medical symptoms will be checked.

There are no restrictions for exiting the country.

The border control was reintroduced on 17 March 2020. The temporary restriction of border crossing will be in force until further notice, and the situation will be reviewed every two weeks.

Source: ERAA

Finland

Updated on 19/03/20

The Finnish Government is restricting traffic at borders from 19 March 2020, 00:00. People returning to Finland will be subject to 14 days quarantine.

Inbound passenger transport operations are suspended, except for citizens and residents returning to Finland. Finnish citizens and residents must not travel abroad.

Necessary travel for work and to access other necessary services will be permitted across the northern and western borders. Freight and goods traffic will continue as usual. Updated situation at borders:

- Helsinki–Vantaa, Mariehamn and Turku airports will be kept open for goods and return traffic. Border guards may allow travel for work if there is a necessary and justified reason. Other airports will be closed to international traffic.
- At the international border crossing points of the eastern border, traffic and opening hours will be restricted.
- Passenger traffic via the *Vainikkala* border crossing point will be suspended.
- Road and rail transport:
 - o Imatra, Kuusamo, Niirala, Nuijamaa, Rajajooseppi, Salla, Vaalimaa and Vartius border crossing points are only for goods transport, and returning home to/from/via Finland for Finnish and other EU citizens as well as citizens of the Russian Federation.
 - o Inari, Parikkala and Vainikkala border crossing points are only for goods transport.
- At the border between Finland and Norway, Kilpisjärvi, Karigasniemi, Kivilompolo, Nuorgam, Näättäjä and Utsjoki will be kept open for goods and return traffic. In addition, necessary travel for work and other necessary traffic may be permitted. Crossing the border is not permitted elsewhere.
- At the Finnish–Swedish border, Karesuvanto, Kolari, Muonio, Pello, Tornio and Ylitornio will be kept open for goods and return traffic. In addition, necessary travel for work and other necessary traffic may be permitted. Crossing the border is not permitted elsewhere.

Although cross border commuting is not prevented, the reduction in air and sea traffic will make it significantly more difficult for foreign workers to enter Finland from abroad. In the case of EU citizens and people with a permanent residence permit in another EU country who are returning to their home country via Finland, such travel will be allowed, taking into account the person's state of health.

Detailed measures are available [here](#).

The Finnish government issued instructions to the border guards relating to which travel is allowed crossing the internal Schengen and the external borders. The following categories are distinguished: people returning Finland, people transiting through Finland on the way back to another country (Schengen, non-Schengen and third countries) and necessary cross-border work and other traffic. The latter two categories include workers (mobile and non-mobile) in the transport sector and workers commuting between two countries and are allowed to travel without restrictions. Detailed information relating to the travel conditions are available [here](#).

Source: FinMobility

France

Updated on 19/03/20

As from 17 March, 12:00, and for 15 days, new measures have entered into force to limit activities and public gatherings in order to limit the effect of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. A national lockdown has been declared. People are allowed out only for emergencies, to buy food or for work (a [written document](#) must justify any movement). Freight transport is exempt from the movement restrictions. However, truck drivers should have the following [document](#) with them.

Only the Schengen area borders are being closed for the next 30 days (external borders of the European Union).

Following considerable disruption on the road encountered by road freight transport and logistics operators following the announcement of the lockdown, the French Government have issued new measures to facilitate freight transport. These include guarantees for access for freight transport and logistics workers to their workplace and to loading and unloading places, extra protection for freight transport and logistics workers and a derogation to keep stores, restaurants and sanitary facilities open at services stations. The text of the announcement can be found [here](#).

Sources: French Government, FNTR and AFTRI

Germany

Updated on 18/03/20

- [Restrictions](#)

As of March 16th, 8:00, Germany is re-introducing temporary border controls at the borders with Austria, Switzerland, France, Luxemburg and Denmark.

Cross-border transport of goods and traffic by cross-border commuters will still be possible. However, travellers will be prohibited from entering / leaving via the above mentioned borders in the absence of a valid reason for their journey. This will also apply to persons displaying clinical symptoms. Occupational commuters are asked to carry relevant proof showing the necessity of their border-crossing. Controls will be implemented by the Federal police force.

- [Relieves](#)

The Federal Government of Germany has asked the Länder to suspend the weekend traffic bans of truck movements to ease the situation during the crisis. BGL is providing an overview of the situation in the different regions [here](#).

Sources: BGL (from [Federal Government](#)) and German Minister of Internal Affairs

Georgia

Updated on 19/03/20

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

The restrictions will apply to all foreign nationals, with the exception of:

- Representatives of diplomatic missions and international organisations accredited to Georgia, and their family members;
- Family members of Georgian citizens, despite their nationality (spouse, child or parent; relevant documents must be presented);
- Persons arriving in Georgia as part of a necessary humanitarian mission (ie. doctors, volunteers);
- Individuals who have been granted the status of stateless person by the respective authorities of Georgia;
- Individuals holding status-neutral travel documents;
- Individuals with a refugee status in Georgia;
- Official delegations - this will be decided on a case-by-case basis;
- Train and truck drivers involved in the transport of goods and services;
- Aircrew.

The Head of the Government of Georgia has noted that there are 4 areas of critical significance which must be managed effectively in order to combat the challenges faced.

One of these areas is logistics and stock management. In this regard, and in order to ensure the smooth running of freight road transport, trucks entering the country from areas designated by the WHO as a high-risk zone will have to comply with the following rules:

- the complete disinfection of the truck under the supervision of authorised customs personnel;
- the escort of trucks to their destination (in the case of transit);
- the replacement of the driver at the border crossing point:
 - the original driver (the person driving the vehicle to the customs border of Georgia) will either be subject to return (if he is a foreign citizen), or quarantined/admitted to the relevant medical institution depending on his clinical condition;
 - the truck driver taking over the operation should not be considered a risk to the spreading of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).
- the replacement of the truck and trailers, if deemed necessary.

Sources: GIRCA and [Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia](#)

Greece

Updated on 16/03/20

The Greek government has announced on March 15th the introduction of new extraordinary measures to limit the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Passenger transport:

- Greece has decided to close its borders with Albania and North Macedonia, stop flights to and from Spain and end passenger ship service to/from Italy. Note that Greek citizens and permanent residents will still be allowed to cross from Albania and North Macedonia,
- Cruise ships will no longer be allowed at Greek ports.

Goods transport:

- Goods transport is exempted from these measures,
- Ferry routes to/from Italy operate normally for the movement of goods

In addition, the Greek Government announced on March 16th that persons entering Greece from any other country must spend 14 days in mandatory quarantine. Truck drivers operating international freight transport are exempted from the 14-day quarantine provision.

Source: OFAE

Hungary

Updated on 18/03/20

Hungary has closed its internal and external borders with effect from 00:00 17 March. Hungarian citizens and close relatives travelling with them (including those not resident in Hungary) will still be allowed to enter the country.

MKFE has communicated its vision of the situation at border crossing points [here](#) (last update on 18/03 evening).

Source: MKFE

Ireland

Updated on 19/03/20

- Restrictions

The Irish Government have issued special advice about travelling, including restricting movements for 14 days on those entering Ireland who have been to affected areas. Freight transport is exempted. The government published a [guidance note](#) for supply chain workers. This document contains about one and half pages of useful guidelines for drivers.

To reduce the risk of infection, the ferry company Seatruck Ferries has temporarily stopped shipping any HGV drivers or any other passengers in their Irish Sea vessels. Accompanied road transport (complete truck combinations with driver) is then stopped until further notice, but the company will continue to carry unaccompanied semi-trailers, containers and swap bodies.

- Relieves

In response to the extraordinary crisis due to the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19), Ireland has agreed to a temporary and limited relaxation of the enforcement of driving and rest times rules for the drivers of vehicles engaged in domestic and international goods transport. This relaxation is granted pursuant to Article 14(2) of [Regulation \(EC\) No 561/2006](#) and applies from 18 March 2020 and will run until 16 April 2020, provided that road safety is not affected [impaired] when transport companies make use of these exemptions. 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 Art. 6(3): the fortnightly driving limit is lifted from 90 hours to 112 hours.
- Derogation to the Art. 8(6): in any two consecutive weeks a driver shall take at least two reduced weekly rest periods whilst maintaining the rule that a weekly rest period shall

start no later than at the end of six 24-hour periods from the end of the previous weekly rest period. There shall be no requirement for compensation or for a regular weekly rest period to be taken.

Source: IRHA

Italy

Updated on 19/03/20

- **Restrictions**

On 17 March, the government released a [new version of the certificate](#), by which the declarant also affirms that they are not quarantined. The State Police confirmed [the document cannot be presented digitally](#) (apps or pdfs), but has to be printed, signed and given to the police officer. Photocopies of a completed document are not accepted either.

On 18 March, the Transport Ministry [published a new decree](#): 14 days mandatory isolation for people entering the country. Such a decree does not apply to road transport workers delivering or transiting through Italy, provided they leave the country after 72 hours.

Concerning connections to Sardinia and Sicily, passenger transport has been heavily restricted:

- [Sicily](#): until 25 March, there are only 4 round trip trains a day running on the following lines: Messina-Villa San Giovanni, Messina-Reggio Calabria, Villa San Giovanni-Reggio Calabria. Categories allowed to move: police and armed forces, healthcare professionals, commuters, people moving for justified work reasons/serious health reasons/necessity. Freight transport operates normally.
- Sardinia: ([national decree](#) and [regional implementing act](#)) regular passenger transport is suspended until 25 March. People can still reach the island for justified work/health reasons or in case of return to their place of residence. People wanting to travel to and from Sardinia have to fill out the [online form](#) before travel. Air connection is guaranteed only on the Cagliari-Roma route; passengers have to be authorised by Sardinian regional authorities before boarding (same online form to be filled out at least 48 hours before departure). At boarding, passengers have to present a printed copy of the form together with their identity card and the filled out [self-certification](#). Freight transport can continue provided goods are unaccompanied. In case the container cannot be separated from the motor vehicle, the driver is allowed to board the vessel. Online form and self-certification have to be filled out.

- **Relieves**

The Italian Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport signed a decree suspending usual traffic bans for HGVs with a maximum total mass exceeding 7,5 tons, on extra-urban roads, on the days of 15 and 22 March 2020. Note that for vehicles performing international transport, the suspension of traffic restrictions is to be understood until further notice. The text of the decree is available [here](#).

Sources: Italian Ministry of transport, Ministry of Interior and Sardinia Region

Jordan

Updated on 15/03/20

The Kingdom of Jordan has taken measures to limit the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). Between the set of measures, it has been announced that:

- airlines are closing flights from and to Jordan as of March 17th,
- land borders with the West Bank, Syria, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia are closed for passengers transport. Goods are allowed to pass.

Source: RACJ

Kazakhstan

Updated on 18/03/20

Following a state of emergency declared in Kazakhstan, effective from 08.00, 16 March, the State Border Service has provided guideline for entities involved in import/export operation.

During the emergency period, crossing the states borders by drivers and vehicles engaged in international road transport operations will be allowed only if they meet the following conditions:

- international goods transport by road is performed in compliance with the quarantine and sanitary-epidemiological standards;
- drivers, regardless of citizenship, must use foreign passports to cross the state border;
- in case of arrival at the border crossing point for entry to the territory of Kazakhstan (including for transit) of drivers [from countries of categories 1a\) and 1b\)](#), as well as drivers of other countries who visited [countries in categories 1a\) and 1b\)](#) within [last 15 days](#), cargo will be allowed for entry only if a driver is replaced at the territory of the border crossing point in compliance with quarantine and sanitary-epidemiological standards or the truck(tractor) is replaced with a Kazakh one.

The border crossing points listed [here](#) have been specified for international road transport of goods.

Source: KAZATO (<https://www.kazato.kz/posts/chrezvychnoe-polozhenie-v-ps-knb-sdelali-zayavlenie>)

Latvia

Updated on 16/03/20

The Cabinet of Ministers published a decision stating that, with effect from March 17th, no passenger transport will be allowed through airports, ports, by bus and by rail (excluding carriage of passengers by official aircraft and military transport). The Ministry of Transport can make exceptions for some international passenger services based on a case-by-case basis.

No restrictions apply to the carriage of goods.

Source: LATVIJAS AUTO

Lithuania

Updated on 19/03/20

Coming into effect on 16 March, 00:00, the Lithuania Government has announced a two-week nationwide quarantine (third level of the national plan).

Lithuania reintroduced control of its borders with Poland and Latvia on 14 March. Foreign nationals will not be allowed to enter the country by any means of transport, unless they work and live permanently in Lithuania (a temporary corridor will be available for Latvian and Estonian citizens to reach their countries).

Goods transport is still allowed. However, foreigners are banned from entering the country, unless they are making necessary deliveries of goods to Lithuania.

The number of border crossing points to enter Lithuania have been reduced to the following:

Kalvarijos–Budzisko, Saločių–Grenstalės, Būtingės–Rucavos, Smėlynės–Medumės, Medininkų–Kamenyj Logo, Raigardo–Privalkos, Kybartų–Černyševskojės, Panemunės–Sovetsko, Kenos–Gudagojo, Šalčininkų–Benekainių, Mockavos-Trakiškių, Lazdijų–Ogrodnikų, Vilnius, Kaunas, Palanga, Šiauliai international airports, Vilnius railway station and Stasyulai railway border crossing points and Klaipeda seaport.

Border crossing for commercial and/or international freight transport is additionally carried out through Stasyulai-Benekainiai railway border crossing point and Pagėgiai-Sovetsk railway border crossing point, and facilitated transit of persons from the territory of the Russian Federation to the Kaliningrad region of the Russian Federation and back to the territory of the Russian Federation shall additionally pass through the Kena Railroad Border Inspection Post and the Kybartai Railway Border Inspection Post.

The number of local passengers on intercity buses and trains is restricted to maintain the necessary distance between passengers.

Source: LINA VA

The Netherlands

Updated on 19/03/20

Currently, the Netherlands is under a relatively relaxed Coronavirus (COVID-19) regime. Most people work from home. The government aims to have the number of infected people at the same time under control. Shops remain open although certain department stores have individually decided to close.

To enable an efficient loading and unloading procedure at shippers' premises, it is recommended that drivers take personal protection materials with them such as masks and gloves.

The associations are in communication with the government in order to safeguard restaurants and other facilities for drivers. The Ministry recommends that drivers take their meals at fuel stations. All other restaurants remain closed until at least 6 April.

There is an ongoing debate in the Dutch Parliament and it is possible that measures will become stricter in the coming days.

Sources: Evofenedex and TLN

North-Macedonia

Updated on 15/03/20

The Customs Authority of the Republic of North Macedonia published on March 14th an update on border crossings status:

- Foreign nationals coming from high and medium risk countries (according to the World Health Organisation list) are prohibited from entering the Republic of North Macedonia. There is no restriction for freight transport,
- However, all border crossing points in the Republic of North Macedonia are closed for passengers and vehicles, except the Bogorodica (border with Greece), Kafasan (border

with Albania), Tabanovce (border with Serbia), Deve Bair (border with Bulgaria) and Blace (border with Kosovo).

In addition, St. Apostle Paul Airport in Ohrid is closed and all flights from Istanbul to Skopje with Pegasus Airlines have been cancelled between 22.03.2020 and 02.04.2020.

Source: AMERIT

Norway

Updated on 15/03/20

- **Restrictions**

Everyone entering Norway by ferry, air, bus or private car, from countries other than Sweden and Finland, will be put in a compulsory 14-day quarantine (even if they are not experiencing any symptom of COVID-19). Tourists not willing to comply with this measure will have to return immediately.

International road freight is exempted. However, the exception does not apply to drivers and personnel employed by Norwegian companies, who have stayed in countries outside the Nordic countries for a period before returning to Norway (many companies work with foreign drivers working on turns).

- **Relieves**

The Norwegian Public Roads Administration is also granting, from March 13th and for 30 days, temporary exemptions on driving and resting time rules for freight operations involved in the transportation of food, medication and other life essential goods to shops and pharmacies. Measures lifted are the ones in articles 6 and 8 of the [EU Regulation No. 561/2006](#), but not the ones in article 7.

Source: NLF

Malta

Updated on 16/03/20

Persons entering Malta from any other country from 13:00CET on 13 March 2020 onwards must spend 14 days in mandatory quarantine.

Up to now, Roro vessels for goods transport are running normally to and from Malta. Maltese Government has announced that as from March 17th, quarantine is also obligatory for drivers arriving with their trucks in Malta. Hence, to avoid quarantine, transport companies should ship the trailer / container unaccompanied.

Sources: Ministry of Health and ATTO

Moldova

Updated on 18/03/20

In the Republic of Moldova, several state border crossing points are closed for an indefinite period. At present, only 17 border crossing points are operating normally:

At the border with Romania:

PTF Leușeni - Albița (road / international)
PTF Sculeni - Sculeni (road / international)
PTF Giurgiulești - Galați (road / international)
PTF Costești- Rock (road / international)

At the border with Ukraine:

PTF Otaci-Moghilev-Podolsk (road / international)
PTF Briceni-Rossoșanî (road / international)
PTF Criva-Mamalîga (road / international)
PTF Giurgiulești-Reni (road / international)
PTF Mirnoe-Tabaki (road / international)
PTF Palanca-Maiaki - Udobnoe (road / international)
PTF Tudora-Starokazacie (road / international)

Additionally, from 17 March 2020 at 00:00, it is prohibited to cross the Moldovan-Ukrainian state border, and from 17 March 17, 2020 at 20.00, foreign nationals are prohibited from entering the Republic of Moldova from Romania using state border crossing points open to traffic.

This restriction does not apply to foreign nationals and stateless persons domiciled or permanently / temporarily living in the Republic of Moldova, drivers and service personnel involved in the transport of freight, aircraft / ship crews and train crews. In addition, staff of diplomatic missions and consular offices based in the Republic of Moldova, and staff working at international organisations / missions and their family members are also exempted.

Source: AITA (from Customs Service of the Republic of Moldova)

Mongolia

Updated on 18/03/20

In relation to the prevention of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic, the Government of Mongolia is taking the following measures:

- The entry of foreign, third country citizens and stateless persons is prohibited, from 11 - 31 March, 2020;
- All international passenger air traffic and train movements are cancelled, from 10 to 28 March, 2020;
- All borders remain open for the flow of goods and truck drivers;
- National bus, air and rail transport is all operating normally.

Source: NARTAM

Morocco

Updated on 16/03/20

The country has taken strict measures to limit the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19). International passenger movement is under "full ban" (air, road and ferry), with no transport operations handled between Morocco and the following countries (except special operations to let passengers get back to their country of origin): Italy, Spain, France, Austria, Denmark, Greece, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, Turkey, Lebanon, Egypt, Bahrain, UAE, Oman, Jordan, Tunisia, Senegal, Mauritania, Niger, Mali, Chad, Canada and Brazil.

No limit to freight transport has been reported.

National passenger transport operations are maintained.

Sources: ASTIC and Moroccan Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Transport

Pakistan

Updated on 15/03/20

On 13th March 2020, the Ministry of Interior of Pakistan announced the complete sealing of the western border of the country with Afghanistan and Iran in order to prevent the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19). This measure is taken for an initial period of 14 days with effect from 16th March 2020.

Source: PNC-ICC

Poland

Updated on 19/03/20

- **Restrictions**

On 13 March, the Prime Minister of Poland announced a “state of emergency”. In addition to measures to limit public gatherings, the government announced that border controls will be temporarily restored from 15 March (00:00) for 10 days (renewable). During this period:

- Foreigners will not be allowed to enter Polish national territory. All air traffic and train movements coming from abroad will be temporarily suspended.
- Polish citizens and foreigners working in Poland that are returning from abroad must undergo a two week quarantine period.
- National bus, air and rail transport will operate normally.
- International road freight transport is not included in these restrictions. Borders remain open to the flow of goods and truck drivers operating international road freight will not have to comply with the two week quarantine period. The list of border crossing points open during this period is available [here](#).

Please also be informed that truck drivers entering Poland have to complete specific forms. Templates of these forms are available in English, Russian and Ukrainian [here](#). To accelerate the completion of the border checks, it is recommended to complete these forms before reaching the borders.

Health checks are also taking place at border crossing points. Drivers with a temperature of above 38 degrees will automatically undergo a medical examination and will not be able to continue driving.

Due to the volume of traffic, the waiting times at borders will be significantly longer. The updated border waiting times can be found here: www.granica.gov.pl.

- **Relieves**

The Polish Minister of Transport has introduced a temporary relaxation of the enforcement of driving and rest times for drivers performing international road transport of passengers and goods. This exception applies from 18/03/2020 to 16/04/2020. The relaxation concerns only international transport and covers EU-registered hauliers only (not applicable to Contracting Parties of the AETR Agreement). Measures lifted are the following:

- Daily vehicle transport time cannot exceed 11 hours.
- The weekly transport time of the vehicle cannot exceed 60 hours.
- The total transport time of the vehicle over a consecutive two week period may not exceed 96 hours.
- After a five and a half hour period of driving, the driver shall be entitled to a continuous break of at least forty-five minutes.

Due to the extended transport time of the vehicle, from 9 to 11 hours, no derogations will be applied on daily and weekly rest periods.

Source: ZMPD

Portugal

Updated on 17/03/20

The Council of Ministers approved on March 16th a set of measures to respond to the epidemiological situation of Coronavirus (COVID-19). As from March 16th 23:00 and until April 15th 12:00, Portugal is re-introducing border controls. The measure can be reassessed every 10 days.

Road traffic at internal land borders is stopped. International freight transport, cross-border commuters and emergency vehicles are exempted from this restriction. However, only major border crossings with Spain will remain open: Quintanilha, Tui, Vilar Formoso, Elvas, Castro Marim, Vila Verde de Raia (Chaves), Monfortinho (Castelo Branco), Marvão (Portalegre) and Vila Verde de Ficalho (Beja).

Updated on 18/03/20

The municipality of OVAR entered quarantine today (state of calamity). All commercial establishments and non-essential services are closed, and movement of people to and from the municipality of Ovar is limited. Road transport of goods is only allowed for the supply of supermarkets, pharmacies and gas stations.

Source: ANTRAM

Romania

Updated on 19/03/20

- Restrictions

The President of Romania declared on Monday 16 March 2020, a 30-day state of emergency to limit the spread of COVID-19. Additional measures have also been taken:

- All persons entering Romania from countries where there are at least 500 confirmed COVID-19 cases (based on the WHO list), will be placed under quarantine or self-isolation. According to Romanian Authorities, the red zones are: China - Hubei zone, Italy, Republic of Korea - Daegu City and Chengdu zone, Iran - persons coming from above mentioned regions will be put in quarantine for 14 days. Persons coming from the following countries (which register more than 500 confirmed COVID-19 cases) will spend 14 days of self-isolation at home: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Republic of Korea, Denmark, Switzerland, France, Germany, Japan, Great Britain, Malaysia, Norway, Netherlands, China, Spain, United States of America, Sweden.
- Restaurants, hotels, cafes and pubs are closed.
- All flights to and from Spain are suspended at all Romanian airports for a period of 14 days. This decision takes effect on 18.03.2020, 20:00 Romanian time.
- Romania's decision to suspend flights to and from Italy has been extended for a period of 14 days, from 23 March 2020.
- Road transport of passengers by regular services, special regular services and occasional services in international traffic for all journeys performed by transport operators to/from Italy from/to Romania from 10.03.2020 at 12:00 until 31.03.2020 at 12:00 (Romanian time) are suspended.

Exceptions:

- National transport of goods and passengers,
- International road freight transport,
- Drivers of goods vehicles over 3.5t who arrive from or have passed through "red zones" or "yellow zones" are not subject to quarantine or isolation measures if at the border crossing point they do not show symptoms associated with COVID-19. All persons entering Romania will have to fill in a form. Templates of these forms [are available in Romanian and English here](#).
- Drivers of goods vehicles over 3.5t are obligated, at border crossing points, to have on them and to wear personal means of protection such as disinfectant, gloves, face masks, and present documents attesting the route of travel to the destination.

The following border crossing points have been closed:

- Border crossing points with Hungary: Turnu, Săcuieni, Salonta and Valea lui Mihai.
- Border crossing point with Ukraine: Sighet.
- Border crossing points with Bulgaria: Negru Vodă, Lipnița, Dobromir, Zimnicea, Turnu Măgurele and Bechet.
- Border crossing points with Moldova: Rădăuți, Prut and Oancea.
- On Thursday 12 March 2020, the Serbian Authorities unilaterally closed the following border crossing points with Romania: Poștile de Fier 2, Moldova Nouă, Foeni, Lunga, Vâlcani, Drobeta Turnu Severin and Naidăș.

Due to the volume of traffic, the waiting times at borders will be significantly longer. The updated border waiting times [can be found here](#).

- Relieves

Romanian Authorities has introduced a temporary relaxation of the enforcement of driving and rest times for drivers performing domestic/international road transport of goods. This relaxation is granted pursuant to Article 14(2) of [Regulation \(EC\) No 561/2006](#). This exception applies from 18.03.2020 to 16.04.2020. Measures lifted are the following:

- 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 driving.
- Art. 8(1): reduction of the daily rest requirements from 11 to 9 hours.
- Art. 8(6): postponement of a weekly rest period beyond six-24 hour periods.

Source: UNTRR

Russia

Updated on 19/03/20

- Restrictions

The Russian federation is temporarily restricting the entry of foreign citizens and stateless persons, from 18 March 00:00 to 1 May 00:00 ([Governmental Decree No. 635-p of 16 March 2020](#)).

The entry restrictions will not apply to the following:

- vehicle drivers on international roads;
- crew members of aircrafts, ships/boats and international railway trains;
- members of official delegations;
- persons with diplomatic, service or ordinary private visas that were issued in connection with the death of a close relative;

- persons either permanently living in the Russian Federation or travelling through air border crossing points.

The current decree establishes a unified approach towards the border crossing of Russia and substitutes other legal acts adopted earlier in this regard.

- Relieves

The Prime Minister of the Russian Federation, Mikhail Mishustin, has announced that with effect from 20 March, 2020, all restrictions (including customs restrictions) on the supply of essential goods will be lifted for one month.

Mr Mishustin said, "We are introducing a "green corridor" for importers and large retail chains. A zero customs duty rate is set for the import of a number of goods, including medicines and medical devices".

Source: Russian Government (<http://government.ru/en/news/39172/> and <http://government.ru/news/39221/>)

Serbia

Updated on 14/03/20

In order to limit the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) into the territory of the Republic of Serbia, the Government has published a decree on March 11th. The decree temporarily bans the entry of people coming from areas with intensive transmission of the disease (epidemics hotbeds): Hubei Province in the People's Republic of China, the town Daegu and Province North Gyeongsang in the Republic of Korea, the Canton Ticino in the Swiss Confederation, the Republic of Italy and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

This measure shall not apply for transport of goods and persons who been granted the approval to enter the Republic of Serbia by the Ministry of Health. In addition, this measure shall not apply to truck drivers operating international road freight transport. Transit operations through the country should not extend 12 hours from the moment the truck entered the territory of the Republic of Serbia.

Please note that 44 borders are now temporarily closed (list [here](#)) and that international road freight operations should be redirected to the open borders.

Source: CCIS-AT

Slovenia

Updated on 15/03/20

Slovenia is blocking foreign trucks over 3.5t that need to transit the country. The only trucks allowed to cross the border are those having to unload goods in Slovenia (final destination), or if trucks are loaded with postage, medicine equipment or pharmaceutical products and humanitarian help.

Slovenian-Italian borders are also closed for passenger transport by train, and international occasional and regular bus services.

On March 14th, authorities of Slovenia and neighbouring countries agreed to create convoys of passengers and freight vehicles to solve the issue of long queue of vehicles being blocked at the borders. First convoys took place on Saturday and others are planned to take place to let buses with foreign nationals and trucks get back to their countries of origin. A political agreement have been

found with the authorities of Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey and Ukraine (available information [here](#)).

Within the country, transport of goods is allowed for: mail service, medical supplies, and philanthropic assistance.

Sources: GIZ Intertransport and Government of Slovenia

Slovakia

Updated on 13/03/20

An emergency plan entered into force on March 13th at 7:00AM. This plan from the Ministry of Interior states that:

- International buses are prohibited from entering/exiting the country,
- Freight transport will be allowed on national and international routes. Drivers must be equipped with protective equipment and only those drivers with a temporary/permanent residence permit will be allowed to travel,
- Secondary border crossings will be closed.

According to the additional clarification received by IRU's Member Association in Slovakia, CESMAD-Slovakia, all international drivers involved in international road freight transport are allowed to carry out their operations.

Please find [here](#) the whole text of the decision, including details regarding drivers' protection equipment and protective measures.

Source: CESMAD Slovakia

Spain

Updated on 18/03/20

- **Restrictions**

From March 15th (midnight) and for 15 days, the Spanish government declared a national lockdown. People are allowed out only for emergencies, to buy food or for work.

National transportation is substantially reduced for passenger transport, but freight transport is not affected by the measures. International freight transport is also guaranteed, but transport of life essential goods could be prioritised.

In addition to the above mentioned measures, the Spanish government announced that, as from March 17th 00:00, borders are closed for movement of persons. Are exempted Spanish citizens, Spanish residents, cross-border commuters and anyone justifying a case of Force majeure. As already stated, freight transport remain exempted to guarantee economic activity and supply chain.

- **Relieves**

Temporary tolerance concerning the enforcement of driving and rest times rules for drivers under the [EU Regulation 561/2006](#) have been granted for all the national territory of Spain on the March 17th. Measures lifted are the ones on art. 6.1 and 8.6 (daily driving times and weekly rest).

Driving restrictions have also been lifted by the competent authorities (Direction of Traffic for the Spanish territory except Catalonia and the Basque Country, Catalan Government and Basque Country Government). In all cases, the lifting does not apply to the mandatory itineraries for dangerous goods. More detailed information for [Spain](#), [Catalonia](#), and the [Basque Country](#).

Sources: CETM and ASTIC

Sweden

Updated on 16/03/20

- **Restrictions**

The Sweden government has taken measures introducing social distancing to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). Freight transport activities within, to and from Sweden are not impacted by these measures.

- **Relieves**

As of March 16th, the Swedish Transport Agency is granting a temporary tolerance concerning the enforcement of driving and resting times rules for freight operations according to [EU Regulation No. 561/2006](#). Exemptions in Sweden apply to daily rest time (minimum 9 hours), weekly rest time (minimum 24 hours) and driving time as long as breaks are taken after a maximum of 4,5 hours driving time. Exemptions are valid for 30 days and are valid for all types of transports (i.e. goods, bus and coach), provided that road safety is not affected [be impaired] when transport companies make use of these exemptions. More detailed information [here](#).

Sources: SA and Stoneridge Electronics

Switzerland

Updated on 16/03/20

At an extraordinary meeting today, 16 March 2020, the Federal Council took the decision to introduce more stringent measures to protect the public. It has declared that an 'extraordinary situation' now exists in Switzerland in terms of the Epidemics Act. All shops, restaurants, bars and entertainment and leisure facilities will remain closed until 19 April. Not affected by the new ruling are food stores and healthcare institutions. The Federal Council has also authorised the deployment of up to 8000 members of the armed forces to assist the cantons at hospitals and with logistics and security.

From March 17th 00:00, entry on the Swiss territory from Italy, France, Germany, and Austria is limited to Swiss citizens, Swiss residents and people entering for professional reasons. [International freight transport and transit is still allowed.](#)

Source: Swiss Federal Council

Tajikistan

Updated on 18/03/20

Since January 2020, the border between Tajikistan and China – Kulma-Karasu, has been completely closed.

From 11 March 2020, Tajikistan began closing its borders with Afghanistan. The last checkpoint on the border with Afghanistan (Nizhny-Pyanj) was closed on 16 March 2020. The borders with Afghanistan is closed just for passengers transport, but not for freight shipments.

According to official data, the spread of Coronavirus has not been detected in Tajikistan, and in this regard the borders between Tajikistan-Uzbekistan and Tajikistan-Kyrgyzstan are currently operating normally.

For more information please check the official website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan - <https://mfa.tj/>.

Source: ABBAT

Turkey

Updated on 19/03/20

All border gates have been closed to passengers from the following countries: Italy, Germany, France, Spain, Norway, Denmark, Belgium, Austria, Sweden, the Netherlands, China, Iran, Iraq, South Korea, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Japan, Singapore, Hong-Kong and Thailand.

Turkish truck drivers entering the country from any of the listed countries will be quarantined for 14 days at home. Non-Turkish truck drivers (if they are not citizens of the listed country) entering the country from any of the listed countries will be quarantined for 14 days at the border and will not be permitted to enter Turkey during the quarantine period. Truck drivers who are citizens of the listed countries will not be allowed by Turkish authorities to enter Turkey.

With effect from the 15 March, the Sarp/Sarpi border between Turkey and Georgia has been closed for all passenger transport; passengers will be redirected to other land borders between the two countries. No restrictions have been imposed on freight transport.

With effect from the 19 March, the following borders have been closed to passengers for both entry and exit: Ipsala, Pazarkule, Uzunköprü (railway) the border between Turkey, Greece and Kapıkule (road), Kapıkule (railway), Hamzabeyli, Dereköy border between Turkey and Bulgaria. There will be no restrictions for goods transportation.

Source: Ministry of Interior – Republic of Turkey

Turkmenistan

Updated on 17/03/20

According to a new measure, as of March 17th, people entering Turkmenistan via Uzbekistan, must present a health report. Entry into the territory will not be allowed without this health report.

More information [here](#).

Source: Turkish Embassy – Ashgabat / Turkmenistan

Ukraine

Updated on 14/03/20

The National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine, Oleksiy Danilov, announced on March 13th that the country will close its borders for foreigners (effective 15 March) for 14 days, with prolongation if necessary.

Border crossing points will remain open for freight transport (including transit). Temperature of drivers will be checked and they will be asked to wear masks, medical gloves, and have antiseptic

gel for hands sanitation. The list of Ukrainian border crossing points closed or restricted for movements can be found on the annexes to the [governmental decree](#).

Source: ASMAP UA

United Kingdom

Updated on 18/03/20

On March 17th, the government has taken new measures, which include advising British nationals against all non-essential international travel.

The advice against non-essential travel is not intended to apply to international and domestic freight transport. Thus, haulage continues under no extra restrictions in the UK officially.

A [guidance note](#) on Coronavirus (Covid-19) and freight transport has been published by the UK Department for Transport

Sources: RHA and FTA

Uzbekistan

Updated on 16/03/20

Starting from March 16th, Uzbekistan is suspending all air and road connections with third countries. Railway connections will be closed in 3 days.

According to the State Customs Committee of Uzbekistan, restrictions shall not apply to persons and vehicles engaged in goods transport by road, rail, sea, river, and air. However, and according to information collected on the field, delays at Kazakh-Uzbek borders are reported following the restrictive measures taken by the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Sources: [State Customs Committee of Uzbekistan](#)
<https://www.gazeta.uz/ru/2020/03/15/measures>