bnt attorneys in CEE

Fact Sheet COVID-19

Selected Governmental Measures in CEE

Last Update: 23 February 2021

	Cross-Border Travel Restrictions	Closure of Services and Establishments	Governmental Support
Belarus	Inbound: Persons arriving from COVID-19 infected countries, must go to 14 days self-isolation and cannot leave Belarus before the expiration of the self-isolation period. Exceptions for transit and certain groups of persons apply.	No restrictions	Authorities may grant extensions for payments of taxes, state duties and rental payments to the state due in the 2nd and 3rd quarter 2020. Payments must be fully made in the 4th quarter. Term for tax refunds shortened to 10 working days. Local authorities may temporarily lower local taxes. Increased monitoring of prices/ unfair competition.
Bulgaria	Inbound: By May 13th Bulgarian citizens, residents and their family members are allowed in the country but will be placed under quarantine for 14 days. Home-bound citizens/residents for restricted EEA-countries are allowed to travel transit. Outbound: No restrictions.	By May 13th visits to culture, food-serving and party locations as well as shopping malls (except for bank and insurance offices, drug stores and supermarkets placed there) are forbidden. Movement of people outside their homes and within the country limited. Food stores open only for people aged 60 or more until 10.30 in the morning.	Deadline for corporate tax return 2019 prolonged till June 30th Employers can force employees take yearly paid leave. Debt enforcement, statutory periods of limitation and interest-rate accumulation on defaulting debts frozen between March 13th and May 13th. Government subsidies of 60% of wages and socia contributions.
Czech Republic	Restrictions on travel to or from the Czech Republic are still in force but work for travel or other purposes further relaxed effective April 27. Travelers need to comply with several conditions depending on purpose and length of travel. 14 days quarantine may now be replaced by proof of negative test for COVID- 19. For full info refer to the <u>Ministry of Inferior Affairs</u> .	Closure of restaurants, hotels and limited number of services is planned to last till May 25th. Most shops are now opened.	Many types of support incl. tax reliefs, program for refunding of wages to employers, direct financial support to entrepreneurs or small businesses, loan security or interest free loans by state, export financing, moratorium on loan repayments or suspension of rents. For further info refer to <u>the Czech</u> <u>Government website</u> .
Estonia	Obligation of self-isolation for 10 days when arriving from a country with an infection rate of more than 150 per 100,000 in 14 days. Self-isolation can be shortened to 7 days by testing negatively for COVID-19 at the airport/port or by performing negative PCR test results made 72 hours before arrival and once again after 6 days from first test. Arrivals from the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland will have an isolation period of 10 days and testing obligation (except children under 12 years of age). Outbound: no restrictions	Mandatory restrictions: Catering, cultural and entertainment establishments must be closed from 22:00 (in some areas: 19.00) to 6 a.m. At other times, groups of up to 10 are allowed and distance of 2 meters must be kept to other persons/groups. Exceptions apply to culture venues with numbered seats. Masks are mandatory in public transport, all indoor public areas. Restriction to 50% capacity in indoor public spaces. Remote work is recommended.	No Covid-19 related measures.
Hungary	Inbound: Foreigners cannot enter to Hungary except from Slovakia, Czechia, and Poland from which countries one negative test and certification for hotel booking is required. Hungarians can only enter with 10 days quarantine obligation but can be released from quarantine after 2 negative tests. Certain exceptions for transport of goods and transit passenger traffic, commuters, business travellers, sport and cultural events, etc. Outbound: No restrictions	State of emergency since 4 November. Closure of restaurants, hotels, museums, clubs, fitness centres. Movement restriction from 8 pm till 5 am. Operation hours are limited. Masks are obligatory in closed public spaces.	Moratorium on loan repayments for 2021. Tax relief for businesses and households. No tourism tax until the end of 2020. Lower tax rate for employers on benefit-in- kind SZÉP voucher card, while higher limit for top-ups. Flexible options for employments (home office, working schedules. Special rules on on-line shareholder's meeting, authentication of corporate declarations. Additional powers to management. National security screening introduced for foreig investors.

This fact sheet lists selected regulation and is, by its nature, not complete and not to be understood as legal advice. If you need legal support, reach out to our COVID-19 task force (covid@bnt.eu) or your contact person of bnt attorneys in CEE. Everyone in our organization can direct you to competent local experts on site.

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Latvia	Inbound: 48 hours before arrival to Latvia an electronic questionnaire must be filled in on website covidpass.lv. 10-day self-isolation requirement refers to all EU and EEA countries with the two-week cumulative incidence over 50 cases per 100,000 residents. Outbound: International passenger carriage is banned to countries where the cumulative incidence rate is twice the average rate of the EU/EEA. As of 21 December, international passenger carriage is banned to/from UK	The use of face masks is mandatory in public spaces. All private (except within one household) and public events are banned. Restaurants and cafes provide only take away services. Work of shops and shopping centers is restricted until 11 January.	Companies with a strong drop in turnover (at least 20% in August, September and October) may apply for salary payments for idle employees.
Lithuania	Inbound: Self-isolation of 2 weeks and a negative COVID-19 test result when arriving from so-called affected countries (according to the data by country/region published by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control). Outbound: No restrictions.	All non-food shops must close. Services involving more than 15 minutes of physical contact are prohibited. Physical contact of people from more than one household is prohibited. It is prohibited to leave the house (with exceptions, e.g. food shopping). It is forbidden to leave the territory of the municipality of residence (with exceptions) until 28 February 2021. Non-essential travel within municipality is forbidden.	Introduction of a short-time working regime. Extension of state benefits for certain employees. Postponement of tax deadlines, possibility of tax loans and temporary suspension of the enforcement of tax arrears.
Poland	Borders reopened.	Services and establishments reopened.	Support includes in particular financing of employees' salaries, exemption from social security contributions, deferrals of loans in banks, state aid and guarantees for obtaining new financing and other subventions.
Romania	Inbound: home isolation/quarantine for persons coming from states displayed at page 17, Annex no. 2 of National Committee for Emergency Situations Decision no. 54/12.11.2020. Exceptions: students for exams, representatives of foreign companies having branches in Romania proving such quality etc. – not applicable for persons coming from Denmark. Outbound: No restriction.	State of alert. Restaurants, coffee shops and bars may carry out their activity mostly in terraces observing certain social distancing limitations and hygiene measures. Closure of certain indoor entertainment establishments. Schools and universities carry out their activity online. Movement restrictions between 11 p.m05 a.m. Certain cities and villages under lockdown.	Employers who resume their activity benefit from a settlement of 41.5% (up to 41.5% of the average gross salary) of the salary of employees who have had their employment contracts suspended. Work from home is mandatory where it may be applied. Days-off for parents to supervise their children.
Slovakia	 Inbound: All persons who have visited a country not listed as a "low-risk country" (the list can be found here) within the period of last 14 days, may enter the Slovak Republic but they are ordered certain obligations that differ from whether they visited: •EU country - a home isolation until they receive the negative RT-PCR test for COVID-19. In case of an asymptomatic course of isolation in home environment, they may leave home isolation by completing its 10th day; •Non-EU country - a home isolation until they receive the negative RT-PCR test for COVID-19. Outbound: No restrictions 	The most retails and services are open again in compliance with strict measures. Public gatherings are prohibited.	Subsidy to the employers who had to shut down their business - the employer pays wage compensation to the employees what is fully reimbursed by the state (up to EUR 1100,-/month). Employers' subsidy for job retention: a) the employer pays 80% of the employee's average salary what is fully reimbursed by the state (max. EUR 880,-/employee); or b) subsidy due to decline in turnover (180/300/420/540,- /employee). A special application is required. Social assistance package for employees

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