EXTRAORDINARY MEASURE

Pursuant to Section 80(1)(g) of Act No. 258/2000 Coll., on Public Health Protection and amendments to certain related acts, as amended (hereinafter referred to as “Act No. 258/2000 Coll.”), orders this extraordinary measure, proceeding pursuant to Section 69(1)(i) and (2) of Act No. 258/2000 Coll., in order to protect the population and prevent the occurrence and spread of the COVID-19 disease caused by the new SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus:

I.

1. The personal presence of pupils and students at elementary, secondary and higher college education at schools and educational facilities pursuant to Act No. 561/2004 Coll., on Preschool, Elementary, Secondary, Higher College and other Education (the Schools Act), as amended, and at events organised by these schools, is prohibited.

2. The personal presence of students at lessons and examinations during university studies pursuant to Act No. 111/1998, on Higher Education Institutions and on the amendment to other acts (the Higher Education Act), as amended, is prohibited. The prohibition of the personal presence of students pursuant to the first sentence does not apply to individual visits to libraries and study halls in order to collect or hand in study literature, or the personal presence of students in the final year of study:
   - at consultations or examinations in the presence of at most 5 persons,
   - during laboratory, experimental or artistic work, in particular for the purpose of performing the final theses within bachelor's, master's or doctorate degrees in the presence of at most 5 persons,
   - at clinical and practical lessons and practice.

The student will participate in the specified forms of study, examinations or other activities at universities only if the following conditions are met:
   - they have no acute health problems suggesting a viral infectious disease (e.g. fever, cough, shortness of breath, sudden loss of taste and smell, etc.),
   - they disinfect their hands at the entrance to the examination room, whereas the disinfectant product will be supplied by the university,
   - they are not under quarantine at the given time,
   - they provide a written affidavit on the non-existence of symptoms of a viral infectious disease during the prior two weeks.
3. The personal presence of pupils in elementary artistic education at elementary art schools and language educational at language schools with the right to conduct state language examinations pursuant to Act No. 561/2004 Coll., on Preschool, Elementary, Secondary, Higher College and other Education (the Schools Act), as amended, and at events organised by these schools, is prohibited.

4. The personal presence of persons for education in one-year foreign language courses with daily lessons at institutions registered in the list of educational institutions providing one-year foreign language courses with daily lessons pursuant to Act No. 117/1995 Coll., on state social support, as amended, is prohibited.

5. The presence of children, pupils, students and other participants in non-formal education at school facilities for non-formal education, at competitions and showcases organised for children, pupils and students of schools and school facilities pursuant to Act No. 561/2004 Coll., on Preschool, Elementary, Secondary, Higher College and other Education (the Schools Act), as amended, and at events organised by these schools, is prohibited.

6. This extraordinary measure is issued with effect from 0:00 a.m. on 20 April 2020 until the end of the state of emergency.

II.

This extraordinary measure takes effect on the date of its issue.

Rationale:

The Extraordinary Measure has been issued in connection with the development of the epidemiological situation in terms of the occurrence of the COVID-19 disease, caused by the novel coronavirus designated as SARS-CoV-2 in Europe. Given the current spread of the COVID-19 disease in the Czech Republic and in most countries around the world, it is necessary to prevent the further spread of the COVID-19 disease, which the World Health Organisation declared a pandemic on 11 March 2020.

Since 1 March 2020, when the COVID-19 disease was first proven in a patient in the Czech Republic, the number of cases has grown to 5,991 (as at 12 April 2020). The daily increase in the number of patients newly proven to have the COVID-19 disease oscillated around 200 in recent days.

This measure is an important prerequisite for preventing the spread of the COVID-19 disease caused by the novel SARS-CoV2 coronavirus in the Czech Republic. The coronavirus is transmitted from person to person in close contact. It is known as a droplet infection which is airborne. Most frequently, it affects the mucous membranes of the upper and lower respiratory track and the conjunctives. The incubation period is two to fourteen days. The most common ways for the virus to enter the human body are the mucous membranes, meaning the mouth, nose and also the eyes. These places are an open door for the virus.
The aim of this measure is to cancel studies with a personal presence at all types of schools, so as to prevent contact with other persons and maximally limit the community transmission of the COVID-19 disease. However, given the progressive development of the epidemic, it is appropriate to allow the partial renewal of certain parts of study at universities, in particular for students in the final years of study.

Mgr. et Mgr. Adam Vojtěch, MHA

Minister of Health

Signed electronically