



Prague, 2 October 2020

Ref. No.: MZDR 20599/2020-32/MIN/KAN

PROTECTIVE MEASURE

The Ministry of Health, as the competent administrative authority, pursuant to Section 80(1)(h) 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 Protective Measure, proceeding pursuant to Section 68(1) of Act No. 258/2000 Coll., in order to protect against the occurrence of the COVID-19 disease caused by the new SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus:

I.

Effective from 12:00 a.m. on 5 October 2020,

I. it orders

1. all persons who entered the Czech Republic from 12:00 a.m. on 5 October 2020,
 - a) to report the incidence of any symptoms of an early infectious disease (in particular elevated temperature, cough, shortness of breath, digestive problems, loss of smell, overall weakness or other symptoms) immediately, via telephone or any other means of remote access, to the healthcare provider with whom they are registered in the discipline of general medicine or general pediatric medicine or, if they are not registered with any provider, to any provider in the discipline of general medicine or general pediatric medicine,
 - b) to undergo examinations for symptoms of an infectious disease when crossing the state border, and if the symptoms of an infectious disease are detected, to provide the necessary cooperation to healthcare workers in conducting the taking of a biological sample in order to determine the presence of the COVID-19 disease;
2. all persons who have stayed for more than 12 hours in the last 14 days in the territory of countries that are not on the list of countries with a low risk of COVID-19 contagion according to point III.1, to report this fact to the competent regional public health authority according to the place of residence or declared stay before entering the territory of the Czech Republic by filling in the electronic Arrival Form specified in point III.4 by means of remote access, present a document on completion of the electronic Arrival Form (declaration) upon request in the event of a border or residence check and, within 5 days of entering the territory of the Czech Republic, to undergo an RT-PCR test for the presence of SARS CoV-2 at their own expense, unless the public health protection authority has decided on other quarantine measures in individual cases in accordance with Act No. 258/2000 Coll. and on the duration of these measures; this does not apply:
 - a) for international transport workers, if the reason for entry is substantiated by an appropriate document,

- b) for citizens of the European Union and foreigners with a long-term or permanent residency permit in the European Union, who are transiting via the Czech Republic for no more than 12 hours,
 - c) for accredited members of diplomatic missions in the Czech Republic, including private service members, holders of diplomatic passports travelling to the Czech Republic for service purposes and official of international organisations registered with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, if their stay in the country does not exceed 14 days;
 - d) for persons under 5 years of age;
 - e) for citizens of the Czech Republic, European Union citizens and their family members with residency in the Czech Republic and for foreigners with a permit to stay for 90 days issued by the Czech Republic, who stayed only on the regions specified in the list pursuant to point III.1 as part of a vacation with a tour operator or through a travel agency;
3. regional public health authorities to impose the necessary quarantine measures on persons who report their entry into the Czech Republic pursuant to point 1.2, and who, even within 7 days of entering the territory of the Czech Republic, have not submitted the result of an RT-PCR test for the presence of SARS CoV-2 from the territory of the Czech Republic to the locally-competent regional public health authority, and if the test proved the presence of SARS CoV-2, to decide on isolation pursuant to Section 64(a) in conjunction with Section 2(6) and (7) of Act No. 258/2000 Coll., on the Protection of Public Health and on the Amendment of Certain Related Acts, as amended;
4. a ban on entry into the territory of the Czech Republic for all third-country nationals who are not on the list of countries with a low risk of COVID-19 pursuant to point III.1 and for citizens of third countries who have a temporary or permanent residence in these third countries; this does not apply:
- a) for foreigners with a long-term or permanent residence permit in countries with a low risk of COVID-19 contagion according to point III.1,
 - b) for holders of a valid long-term visa, long-term, temporary or permanent residence permit for the territory of the Czech Republic issued by the Czech Republic,
 - c) for foreigners who were issued a short-stay visa by the Czech Republic after 11 May 2020,
 - d) for foreigners with a long-term or permanent residency permit in the European Union,
 - e) for family members pursuant to Section 15a(1) of Act No. 326/1999 Coll., on the Residency of Foreigners in the Czech Republic and on Amendment of Certain Acts, as amended, of citizens of the Czech Republic or citizens of the European Union with a domicile in the Czech Republic,
 - f) if the entry of these foreigners is in the interest of the Czech Republic, if the reason for entry is documented by an appropriate document,

- g) for international transport workers, if the reason for entry is substantiated by an appropriate document,
 - h) for accredited members of diplomatic missions in the Czech Republic, including private service members, holders of diplomatic passports travelling to the Czech Republic for up to 14 days for service purposes and official of international organisations registered with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
 - i) in urgent emergency situations (the need to provide planned health services, fulfillment of a duty imposed by a court, travel on the basis of a summons by a state authority, enforcement of a court decision, official proceedings, necessary care for close family members who are unable to take care of themselves, the exercise of the right of care or contact with a minor, other humanitarian situations) if the reason for entry is substantiated by an appropriate document;
 - j) to foreigners who have a provable relationship with a citizen of the Czech Republic or with a citizen of the European Union with temporary residence in excess of 90 days or permanent residence in the Czech Republic and demonstrably live in a common household with them, whereas the Czech citizen in an affidavit on their partnership has accepted the obligations set forth in point 5, and such a foreigner was issued confirmation by the Ministry of Foreign affairs allowing entry into the Czech Republic pursuant to this point;
5. all entities that accept foreigners in the territory for the purpose of economic activity or educational activities that entered the territory of the Czech Republic after 1 July 2020, to ensure the following for these foreigners:
- a) accommodation for the entire period of their stay in the Czech Republic, including the place where the quarantine measure will be carried out in the event of its order by the public health protection authority,
 - b) healthcare or a registered healthcare service provider for the entire duration of their stay in the Czech Republic,
 - c) payment for healthcare, if not arranged otherwise; this does not apply to foreigners with a long-term residency permit,
 - d) return to their country of origin in the event of the loss of the purpose of residence in the Czech Republic; this does not apply to foreigners with a long-term residency permit;
6. all third-country nationals to submit a document pursuant to Section 31(3)(b) of Act No. 326/1999 Coll., on the Stay of Foreigners in the Territory of the Czech Republic and on the amendment of certain acts, as amended, which contains the obligations of the entity pursuant to point I.5, to an application for a residence permit for the purpose of performing economic activity or educational activity, at the latest before the visa is marked on the travel document, at the relevant diplomatic mission of the Czech Republic;
7. applications for visas and temporary and permanent stays to not be accepted at diplomatic missions of the Czech Republic in countries that are not on the list of countries with a low risk of COVID-19 contagion according to point III., with the exception of applications for:

- a) short-stay visas for the purpose of seasonal employment or for the purpose of employment if the foreigner is employed in food production, health care or social services, or short-stay visas for the purpose of employment, if they are filed in Ukraine by Ukrainian nationals, provided they do not exceed the maximum number of such applications stipulated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs upon discussion with the Ministry of Health,
- b) short-stay visas for scientific, key and highly qualified staff, provided that the conditions set out in the Key and Scientific Staff Programme and the Highly Qualified Staff Programme, and critical infrastructure service staff are met,
- c) short-stay visa due to a reason according to point I.4 e) to i),
- d) long-term visas for the purpose of seasonal employment,
- e) extraordinary work visas,
- f) temporary residence, if they are submitted by foreigners included in government programmes in order to achieve an economic or other significant benefit for the Czech Republic,
- g) permanent residence, if they are submitted by foreigners included in the government program according to Government Resolution No. 1014/2014,
- h) a blue card, long-term residence permit for the purpose of scientific research and applications for residence permits for over 90 days for the spouses and minor children of scientific workers or persons applying for a blue card,
- i) long-term visas and long-term residency permits for the purpose of study,
- j) long-term or permanent residence permits for the purpose of joint family cohabitation in the country and applications for long-term visas for family purposes, in the case of spouses or minor children of a foreigner with a long-term or permanent residence permit in the Czech Republic,
- k) issuing of long-term visas for the purpose of picking up a residence permit in the Czech Republic;
- l) long-term visas for the purpose of culture, sports or a working holiday,
- m) a residency permit, if the entry of these foreigners is in the interest of the Czech Republic, if the interest of the Czech Republic is substantiated by an appropriate document,

these exceptions apply only for visa and temporary residence applications at the diplomatic missions of the Czech Republic in countries whose measures implemented in reaction to the COVID-19 pandemic allow the acceptance of such applications; the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will publish a list of these countries via means enabling remote access;

8. to interrupt all procedures regarding residence permit applications for over 90 days filed at the diplomatic missions of the Czech Republic, except for procedures about applications submitted at the diplomatic missions of the Czech Republic in countries whose measures implemented in reaction to the COVID-19 pandemic allow the performance of steps within the procedure; the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will publish a list of these countries via means enabling remote access;

9. the diplomatic missions of the Czech Republic to indicate a visa in the travel document only in the case of a request which can be accepted pursuant to point I.7; this also applies to requests accepted before the effective date of this measure;
10. that all the persons specified in point I.2, including the persons under point I.2 (a) through (c) and (e), are obliged to wear protective respiratory equipment for the period specified in point II, or for a period of 10 days; this particularly concerns the persons under point I.2 (a), if the period under point II cannot be applied;
11. the employers and end users of workers, who are citizens of countries which are not on the list with a low risk of COVID-19 incidence or are citizens of the identified countries pursuant to point III.1 who have spent more than 12 hours in the past 14 days in the territory of these countries and are not participants in a vacation pursuant to point 1.2(e), to restrict the access of these persons to all facilities and workplaces of the given employer, if these persons do not simultaneously submit to the employer or end user for which they perform work the negative result of a RT-PCR test for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 from the Czech Republic, or pursuant to point III.5; the same obligations applies to educational institutions with respect to students and teachers;
12. foreigners detained pursuant to Section 27 of Act No. 273/2008 Coll., on the Police of the Czech Republic, or pursuant to Act No. 326/1999 Coll., on the Residence of Foreign Nationals in the Territory of the Czech Republic and on Amendment of Certain Acts, as amended, to undergo the collection of a biological sample in order to detect the presence of the COVID-19 disease and to provide the healthcare staff with the necessary cooperation when taking this sample at the testing location of the healthcare services provider or foreigner detention facility;
13. international bus and airline carriers, who transport passengers from third countries or parts thereof, which are not specified in the list of countries or parts thereof with a low risk of COVID-19 contagion pursuant to point III.1, to not allow passengers who are obliged to fill in the electronic Arrival Form pursuant to point I.2 to travel unless they present a document proving completion of the electronic Arrival Form (declaration);

II. prohibits

all persons pursuant to point I.2, including all the persons under point I.2(a) through (c) and (e), to move freely throughout the territory of the entire Czech Republic for the period of their stay in the territory of the Czech Republic, or for a period of 10 days, or until the end of the quarantine measure, except for:

- a) travel to work and movement in the course of work and travel to perform business or another similar activities, including travel to educational establishments and movement in the course of the performance of that activity; this does not apply if this concerns the procedure pursuant to point I.11,
- b) travel required to arrange essential life needs, to ensure child care, to ensure pet care, to use the necessary financial and postal services, and to refuel,
- c) travel to healthcare facilities and social services facilities,
- d) travel to take care of urgent official matters,
- e) travel back to one's home;

f) funerals;

This prohibition does not apply to persons under 5 years of age.

For foreigners pursuant to point I.11, the specified restriction on free movement applies for a period of 10 days.

III. stipulates

1. that the list of countries or parts thereof with a low risk of COVID-19 contagion, including identification of the countries for the purposes of point I.11 and regions for the purposes of point I.2(e), is determined by a notice published on the website of the Ministry of Health;
2. that a citizen of a third country is a foreigner, except for a citizen of the European Union and a foreigner within the meaning of Section 1 (3) of Act No. 326/1999 Coll., on the Residence of Foreign Nationals in the Territory of the Czech Republic and on the amendment of certain acts, as later amended;
3. that in the case of a change of the entity for whom the foreigner performs economic activity or educational activity, made pursuant to the legal regulations of the Czech Republic, the last entity bears the obligations under point I.5;
4. that the electronic Arrival Form is available on the website www.prijezdovyformular.cz; personal details processed beyond the framework of Section 79 (1) of Act No. 258/2000 Coll. are the passport number, nationality, e-mail address and telephone number;
5. that citizens of the European Union, including citizens of the Czech Republic and citizens of third countries with a long-term or permanent residence permit in any of the member states of the European Union, may meet the obligation to undergo an RT-PCR test for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 at their own expense in accordance with point I.2 by presenting a negative result of an RT-PCR test for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 that was performed in a member state of the European Union and which is no more than 72 hours old; the result of the test is presented immediately upon entering the territory of the Czech Republic to the regional public health authority with local jurisdiction in relation to point I.3.;
6. that for the purpose of this extraordinary measure, apart from the member countries of the European Union, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Swiss Confederation, the Kingdom of Norway, the Republic of Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Principality of Andorra, the Principality of Monaco, the Republic of San Marino and the Vatican City State shall also be understood to be member states of the European Union.

II.

Effective from 12:00 a.m. on 5 October 2020, the protective measure of the Ministry of Health Ref. No. MZDR 20599/2020-30/MIN/KAN, of 18 September 2020, is repealed.

III

This protective measure comes into effect on the date of its issue.

Roman Prymula, CSc.
Minister of Health