

Information about certain measures taken by governments in the Kinstellar jurisdictions in relation to the COVID-19 situation

This table reflects the situation on 27 March 2020

South Eastern Europe

	Bulgaria	Romania	Serbia	Turkey
1. Travel Restrictions				
1.1 Incoming	Closed borders for foreigners from third countries and the following EU Member States and members of the Schengen area: Italy, Spain, France, United Kingdom and Northern Ireland, Germany, Switzerland and the Netherlands. Mandatory quarantine for Bulgarian citizens arriving from the mentioned Member States, as well as Iran, Bangladesh, India, Maldives, South Korea, Nepal, Sri Lanka, China.	Not allowed to fly from Spain, Italy, France and Germany to Romania. Mandatory self-isolation at home or quarantine, as the case may be, for all persons entering Romania. Prohibition of foreign citizens and stateless persons to enter Romania, with several exceptions.	State of emergency in place – entry prohibited to all foreign citizens with the exception of diplomats accredited in Serbia and foreigners with residence permits. All the persons to whom the entry is allowed are subjected to the 14-day mandatory quarantine, unless they are arriving from Italy, Switzerland, Iran, Romania, Spain, Germany, France, Austria, Slovenia and Greece, when the quarantine is 28 days.	No entry from 20 countries No flight to 68 countries Land borders closed with Bulgaria, Greece, Iran, Georgia, Azerbaijan and Iraq. Passenger sea crossings between Greece and Turkey are also closed.
1.2 Outgoing	All training and business trips are prohibited. Traveling outside Bulgaria is not prohibited, but the government advises citizens to withhold traveling to the above-mentioned countries, unless necessary. Citizens who decide to travel outside Bulgaria must conclude health insurance.	No flights allowed to Spain, Italy, France and Germany.	Travel for medical staff to main COVID affected areas	N/A

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2. Other Restrictions				
2.1 Free Movement	<p>Restricted to going to work, visiting grocery shops, pharmacies, banks and insurance offices.</p> <p>Travelling to and from district cities is made via checkpoints and is allowed only in respect of commuting to work, going home or due to medical reasons (all to be evidenced by respective documents).</p> <p>The city of Bansko and separate neighborhoods in a few cities are in full mandatory quarantine with prohibition for entering and leaving.</p>	<p>Limitation and prohibition of movement of persons outside their house, except for urgent matters, such as food supply, work, medical issues etc., urgency that needs to be confirmed by an affidavit/employer certificate (measure applicable 24/7); Stricter measures for persons older than 65 years.</p> <p>Gradual prohibition of road, rail, maritime, river or air traffic on different routes and the subway; Prohibited access of maritime and fluvio-maritime vessels on ports located in the maritime Danube, until the 14-day quarantine period from the last port of call located in a red/yellow area has passed.</p>	<p>Curfew for all citizens except limited categories (e.g. police, authorised night shift staff) from 8 pm until 5 am. Senior citizens (i.e. 65ys+ and 70ys+ in villages up to 5,000 inhabitants) are prohibited to leave their homes at all times, although it appears that they will be allowed in due course to go to selected supermarkets for few hours very early on Sundays.</p>	<p>Citizens at the age of 65 and older (except government officials and healthcare personnel) and who have low immune system and chronic lung disease, asthma, COPD, cardiovascular disease, kidney, hypertension and liver disease and those who use medicine that disrupt the immune system are not allowed outside and if they violate so, an administrative fine shall be applied. The rest of the citizens are encouraged to stay inside.</p> <p>A mandatory quarantine for 14 days is applied to the citizens who came from abroad.</p> <p>All public transportation vehicles will temporarily accept 50% of the passenger carrying capacity stated in their license.</p>

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2.2 Closures (public places, shops etc.)	<p>As of 13 March 2020, all public places such as schools, universities, kindergartens, shopping centres, restaurants, night clubs, etc. are closed.</p> <p>Exception is made for food stores, pharmacies, bank and insurance offices. Prohibition of eating food at dining areas and stores of gas stations has been introduced.</p> <p>Prohibition of all public events, gatherings and activities has been introduced. Prohibition of visits to public parks, gardens and playgrounds.</p>	<p>Closure of schools/universities, hotels/restaurants/ coffeeshops, museums, clubs, casinos, shopping centres, dental offices.</p> <p>Suspension of cultural, scientific, artistic, religious, sports, entertainment or gambling, spa treatment and personal care activities, held in confined spaces.</p>	<p>No public gatherings in open spaces are allowed. Also, all indoor gatherings prohibited unless they are of special importance for the work of state bodies or services.</p>	<p>All public places such as schools, universities, education services, restaurants, sports, entertainment places, theatres, cinemas etc. and retail facilities closed with the exception of groceries, pharmacies and selected vital supplies and services.</p> <p>The highest number of customers in the supermarkets will be one tenth of the total area served directly to the customer and the working hours of the supermarkets are shortened.</p> <p>Many banks changed their opening and closing hours of their branches as 12:00-17:00</p> <p>All meetings or events (scientific, cultural, artistic etc.) which will be organized in open or closed areas at national and international level are postponed until the end of April.</p>
3. Measures affecting certain industry sectors				
3.1 Any general import/ export restrictions	No restrictions except for certain types of medical products (see 3.4 below).	No restrictions except for certain types of medical products (see 3.4 below).	Certain types of goods cannot be exported, e.g. sunflower oil and medicines,	N/A

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3.2 Commercial landlords/ tenant	All premises falling in the scope of the adopted restriction for visits (see 2.2 above).		No measures yet in place.	The Directorate General of Land and Cadastre will not take any requests other than sale, mortgage and title deed transactions without citizen requests until 04.05.2020.
3.3 Banks	<p>During the state of emergency no default interest and penalties will be due on late payments. Other non-monetary consequences of delayed payments such as acceleration or appropriation are also suspended.</p> <p>The Bulgarian National Bank has adopted measures for supporting the liquidity of the bank system, including mandatory capitalisation of the profit for 2019 (i.e. no distribution of dividends) and reduction of foreign exposures or the commercial banks.</p>		Loan and leasing repayment moratorium in place for 90 days and/or not less than the duration of the state of emergency.	<p>The 90-day delay period that causes the loans to be classified as non-performing loans shall be extended up to 180 days for First and Second Group loans until 31.12.2020.</p> <p>For the loans that continue to be classified in the Second Group despite the 90-days delay, banks can continue to set aside their own risk models in calculating the expected credit loss within the scope of Financial Reporting Standards of Turkey and there will be no additional provisioning obligations.</p> <p>Loans that are classified as receivables due to restructuring and whose principal / interest payments are delayed more than 30 days within one year of monitoring period or are restricted once more during this monitoring period shall not</p>

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				<p>have to be classified in the third group.</p> <p>The 90-day delay specified in the article stipulating a special provision of 20% of the receivables is 180 days for leasing and factoring companies; for financial leasing companies, it shall be increased to 240 days.</p>
3.4 Pharma and medical devices	During the state of emergency, the parallel export of medicinal products, export of quinine-based medicines is prohibited. Prohibition on the export of available protective gear and disinfectants.	Prohibition of export of medical devices and sanitary materials that ensure the prevention and treatment of COVID-19 associated diseases/ drugs for distribution outside the territory of Romania.	No export of medicines.	<p>Surgical masks such as N95, FFP2 and FFP3 have been using by the health personnel who works in risky areas are only be provided in the pharmacies in return for a prescription.</p> <p>The customs duty on the import of ethyl alcohol used in the production of cologne and disinfectants and additional customs duties used in medical masks and respirators have been set to zero.</p>
3.5 Other	Only as described above - leisure industry due to mandatory shutdown. Aviation sector due to restriction of international travel. Public sector due to suspension of work of administration, courts, public enforcement agents etc.	N/A	N/A	Law on Amendments of Certain Laws has been approved and published in the Official Gazette on March 26, 2020. Under the Law, the following measures will be provided:

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) all judicial and administrative periods have been suspended as of April 30, 2020; (ii) all enforcement and bankruptcy proceedings (excluding those related to child support payment) are suspended until the end of April; (iii) a minimum wage support will be provided to the employees who lost their jobs; (iv) if the lease fees of the workplaces from March 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020 are not paid, termination and eviction of the lease agreement may not be requested; (v) health insurance premiums should be completed to 30 days for certain employees stated in the Law; and (vi) in case the delayed payment of check debts is paid or restructured until 31 December 2020, it will not be taken into account by credit institutions and financial institutions.

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4. Subsidies and financial support available from governmental side				
4.1 General for businesses and employers	<p>The approved Law on measures and actions during the state of emergency introduces provision of subsidy for payment of remunerations in the amount of 60% of the employees' remuneration that will apply to certain employers meeting criteria to be determined by the government. The law also provides for simplified procedure for granting support from European funds.</p> <p>BGN 500 million have been provided to the Bulgarian Development Bank which will be used in support of SMEs in difficulty due to COVID-19 either through equity investment (with buy-back option) or through guarantees to commercial banks that will provide cheaper financing.</p>	<p>The Romanian state is payment the indemnity for technical unemployment, within the limit of 75% of the gross salary, but not more than 75% of the average gross salary.</p> <p>Increase the limits for guaranteeing loans for SMEs, through the National Credit Guarantee Fund for SMEs, with RON 5 billion in a first phase.</p> <p>The Ministry of Public Finance will subsidize 100% of the interest on guaranteed loans to SMEs starting from the moment the loan is granted until 31 March 2021 and afterwards only if certain conditions are met.</p> <p>SMEs obtaining the Emergency Situation Certificate are entitled to defer the payment of the utility services and the payment of the rent for the premises that represent their main or secondary registered offices. This facility is also applicable to other categories directly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic (e.g. lawyers).</p>	Some draft measures considered by the Government.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Postponement in loans for min. 3 months for companies with disrupted that cash flow Stock financing support for Exporters. Tax statements re. deductions at source (e.g. Withholding) will be postponed for 3 months. <p>Temporary income support (via Short-time Working Allowance given to employer) will be provided to workers in workplaces that halted their activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three public banks postpone the loan debts and provide extra loans for the employers in order to provide for paying the salaries of the employees.

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		SMEs holding the Emergency Situation Certificate are entitled to invoke the force majeure in relation with their other ongoing agreements, if such companies prove (based on supporting documents or by any mean, including electronic means) their attempt to renegotiate such agreements so that to be adapted in accordance with the exceptional conditions caused by the state of emergency.		
4.2 To specific sectors	Special measures adopted by the Bulgarian National Bank for the normal functioning of the bank system (see 3.3 above). Public discussions on adopting financial measures for the health care sector. Simplified procurement procedure have been adopted for this purpose.		Some sectors may be given special support (e.g. hospitality).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ April, May and June 2020 VAT, withholdings and social security premium payments postponed for 6 months in Retail, Shopping Mall, Iron and Steel, Automotive, Logistics, Transportation, Cinema and Theatre, Accommodation, Catering, Textile and Garment and Event-Organization sectors. ■ The VAT rate will be decreased from 18 percent to 1 percent in domestic air transportation for 3 months. ■ Accommodation Tax (City Tax) for hotels will not be until November.

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4.3 To employees and individuals	Public discussions are being held.	Days off for parents caring for children due to school closures - one of the parents is entitled to days off from work in the event that schools are closed. These employees will benefit of an allowance of 75% of their salary for a working day, without exceeding 75% of the gross average salary. The allowance for each day of leave is paid by the employer and re-reimbursed by the State-controlled Guarantee Fund for Unpaid Salaries.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remote work or flexible work opportunities may be provided to the employees in public sector provided that a minimum number of employees are working Social credit packages with low interest rates Min. down payment for mortgages will be lowered to 10% from 20%. Continue of min wage support
5. Measures taken by central banks				
5.1 Steps taken with regard to interest rate (most recent and expected)	No default interest or penalty shall be due for late payments during the state of emergency.	N/A	No charging of interest while loan repayment moratorium is in place.	N/A
5.2 Steps taken or expected with regard to local currency	No steps taken so far: the Bulgarian National Bank declared that it will apply measures (not specified) for ensuring the normal functioning of the currency board and to adopt additional if necessary.	N/A	N/A	Turkish lira currency swap auctions, with a maturity of 1 year, which depends on quantity auction method will be conducted and the banks will be provided with Turkish lira liquidity against US dollars, euros and gold.

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5.3 Use of foreign currency reserves	The action plan does not provide such measures at the current moment.	N/A	N/A	The companies may apply to intermediary banks and exchange their current bills for a bill with an up-to- 90-day-longer maturity, without making any repayment. FX reserve requirement ratios may be decreased by 500 basis points in all liability types and maturity brackets for the banks of which the real credit growth conditions are met.
5.4 Other important steps	No other steps.	N/A	N/A	The banks will be provided with as much liquidity as they need within standing facilities.
6. Other				
6.1 Trustworthy English language sources	Bulgarian National Bank (http://www.bnb.bg/?toLang= EN) Ministry of Foreign Affairs (https://www.mfa.bg/en/)	N/A	N/A	https://www.tccb.gov.tr/en/ https://www.saglik.gov.tr/Genel/Man setHaberList.aspx https://www.tcmb.gov.tr/wps/wcm/connect/en/tcmb+en
6.2 Other	All employers are obliged to facilitate work from home for all employees for whose work places such work can be organised. Employers have several other options: (i) to discontinue the work operation of the undertaking or a part thereof; (ii) to introduce	N/A	All employers are obliged to facilitate work from home for all employees for whose work places such work can be organized. All schools, universities and kindergartens are closed down (long-distance learning in place).	Government offices are obliged to facilitate work from home where possible while maintaining the continuity of the services. For government officials who are not suitable for working from home will be considered on paid leave.

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	<p>reduced working hours; (iii) to send employees on up to one half of their annual paid leave.</p> <p>All procedural deadlines in the court, arbitration and enforcement proceedings, as well as limitation periods and deadlines for implementation of instructions given by administrative authorities, have been suspended. Certain tax deadlines have been extended. Notary proceedings are limited to urgent cases</p>			<p>Long distance learning is in place for education.</p>