



**MINISTRY OF HEALTH**  
**Palackého náměstí 375/4, 128 01 Prague 2**

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Prague, 24 August 2020

Ref. No.: MZDR 20599/2020-25/MIN/KAN

MZDRX01BIEKY

## **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 liquidate the risk of the occurrence of the COVID-19 disease caused by the new SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus:

### **I.**

Effective from 12:00 a.m. on 25 August 2020, it

#### **I. orders**

1. all persons who entered the Czech Republic from 12:00 a.m. on 25 August 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 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, immediately after entering the territory of the Czech Republic, to notify this fact, by telephone or other remote access, to the competent regional hygienic station according to the place of residence or declared stay and immediately 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 in transit via the Czech Republic for no more than 12 hours,
  - c) for diplomats and officials of international organizations registered with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, provided that their stay in the territory does not exceed 14 days;
  - d) for persons under 5 years of age;
3. regional hygienic stations, to impose the necessary quarantine measures on persons who report their entry into the Czech Republic pursuant to point 1.2, and even within 72 hours of entering the territory of the Czech Republic, do not submit the result of the RT-PCR test for the presence of SARS CoV-2 from the territory of the Czech Republic to the locally competent regional hygienic station, and if the test proved the presence of SARS CoV-2, to decide on isolation pursuant to Section 64(a) in connection 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 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, who are transiting via the Czech Republic for no more than 12 hours,
  - e) to family members pursuant to Section 15a(1) of Act No. 326/1999 Coll., on the Residency of Foreigners in the Czech Republic and on the amendment of certain laws, 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) diplomats and officials of international organizations 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) for foreigners who have a provable relationship with a citizen of the Czech Republic and provably 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 I.5, and such foreigner was issued confirmation by the Ministry of Foreign affairs allowing entry into the Czech Republic pursuant to this point;
5. to 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, including payment for healthcare, if not arranged otherwise,
  - c) return to their country of origin in the event of the loss of the purpose of residence in the Czech Republic;
6. to submit to all third-country nationals 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, a document pursuant to Section 31(3)(b) 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 amended, which contains the obligations of the entity pursuant to point I.5;
7. not to accept applications for visas and temporary and permanent stays 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 fulfilling the condition of reciprocity 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 Program and the Highly Qualified Staff Program, 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 programs 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) long-term residence permits for the purpose of scientific research and applications for residence permits for over 90 days for the spouses and minor children of scientific workers,
- 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 other educational activity, cultural, sports and working vacation,
- m) 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. 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. not to mark the visa in the travel document for foreigners according to point 1.7. l);
10. all persons referred to in point I.2., including persons referred to in point I.2. a) to c), the obligation to wear respiratory protective equipment for the period referred to in point II., or for a period of 14 days, in particular in the case of persons referred to in point I.2. a) if the period referred to in point II cannot be used;
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 spent more than 12 hours in the past 14 days in the territory of these countries, 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; 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 the amendment of certain laws, as amended, to undergo the collection of a biological sample in order to detect the presence of 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. all foreigners subject to point I.11, to undergo at their own expense a second RT-PCR test for the presence of SARS CoV-2 after 14 days from entering the Czech Republic, if the public health protection authority in individual personal cases has not decided about other quarantine measures in accordance with Act No. 258/2000 Coll. and on the duration of these measures; this does not apply to workers in international forwarding, if the reason for entry is substantiated by an appropriate document;

## **II. is prohibited**

for all persons according to point I.2, free movement on the territory of the whole Czech Republic for the period of stay in the territory of the Czech Republic, or until the submission of the RT-PCR test for SARS CoV-2 according to point I.3, or until the end of the quarantine measure, except for:

- a) journeys to employment and movement in the course of employment and journeys to perform business or another similar activity, including journeys to educational establishments and movement in the course of the performance of that activity; this does not apply to the persons referred to in point I/4,
- b) travel required to arrange essential life needs, to ensure childcare, to ensure pet care, to use the necessary financial and postal services, and the refuel.
- c) travel to healthcare facilities and social services facilities,
- d) travel to take care of urgent official matters,
- e) travelling back to one's dwelling,
- f) funerals;

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

For foreigners under point I.11, the said restriction of free movement applies until they receive the results of the second RT-PCR test for the presence of SARS COV-2 pursuant to point I.13.

## **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, 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 Amendments to Certain Acts, as 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;

**II.**

Effective from 12:00 a.m. on 25 August 2020, the protective measure of the Ministry of Health Ref. No. MZDR 20599/2020-23/MIN/KAN, of 20 August 2020 is repealed.

**III.**

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

**Adam Vojtěch, MHA**

Minister for Health

*Signed electronically*