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COVID-19: RESTRICTIONS ON INTERNATIONAL PASSENGER CARRIAGE, TOURISM AND TRAVEL

REF: AIP GEN 1.2, GEN 1.3 and GEN 1.4

From 10 June 2020, the Cabinet of Ministers regulation No. 360 of 9 June 2020 "Epidemiological Safety Measures to Limit the Spread of Covid-19 Infection" shall be applied in the Republic of Latvia, which prescribes restrictions on international passenger carriage, tourism and travel.

International passenger carriage through airports shall not be operated from/to the countries published on the website of the Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (hereinafter referred to as the Centre) <https://www.spkc.gov.lv/lv/valstu-saslimstibas-raditaji-ar-covid-19-0/> (the list is available in the document "List of countries and recommendations for travellers") where Covid-19 infection is known to pose a serious risk to public health, i.e. European Union and European Economic Area states where the Covid-19 cumulative incidence rate for the last 14 days exceeds 25 per 100 000 inhabitants. The requirement does not apply to:

1. Passenger carriage by state aircraft and military transport;
2. Passenger carriage (not more than five passengers) by private air transport and business flights;
3. Non-scheduled passenger carriage when passengers cross the territory of the Republic of Latvia in transit;
4. Non-scheduled passenger services, which are specially organized for the carriage of workers for the performance of their work duties;
5. Carriage of workers performed on the basis of a list of workers submitted to the carrier by the respective employer;
6. Non-scheduled passenger carriage for repatriation initiated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

As of 10 June 2020, the movement of persons and vehicles through the external border crossing points of the European Union from/to the countries published on the Centre's website where the spread of Covid-19 infection may pose a serious risk to public health (other than cargo transport) is prohibited.

This prohibition does not apply to:

1. Nationals of the Republic of Latvia and their family members whose permanent residence is abroad, as well as to foreigners who, when crossing the territory of the Republic of Latvia in transit, return to the country of their permanent residence;
2. Nationals of the European Union, the European Economic Area and Switzerland and their family members, as well as persons who permanently reside in these countries, to return to their country of residence, including the Republic of Latvia, when crossing the territory of the Republic of Latvia in transit;
3. Employees and passengers of cargo and passenger carriage service providers, crews of cargo or technical flights who enter or leave the Republic of Latvia while performing their work duties;
4. Passenger carriage by state aircraft and military transport;

5. Passenger carriage (not more than five passengers) by private vehicles and business flights;
6. Non-scheduled passenger carriage when passengers cross the territory of the Republic of Latvia in transit;
7. Foreigners who have confirmed the need for entry into Latvia for the fulfilment of the obligations of merchants has been confirmed by the Investment and Development Agency of Latvia;
8. Foreign diplomats and their family members who cross the territory of the Republic of Latvia in transit for the performance of official functions, as well as holders of Latvian diplomatic passports, officials of the diplomatic and consular service, employees and their family members who return from their country of service or who have to enter their country of service;
9. Nationals of the Republic of Latvia who are members of Latvian official delegations or who have to get to their place of work within the framework of the intergovernmental project.

Prior to the arrival in the Republic of Latvia, a person who enters the country by using the services of international carriers must confirm in writing that upon arrival in Latvia, the epidemiological safety measures established in the country to limit the spread of Covid-19 infection will be observed.

In the statement the person must indicate his or her name, surname, personal identification code, contact telephone number and the address of the actual place of residence where the person can be reached, as well as the countries and dates of departure in which the person has stayed during the last 14 days before the arrival in the Republic of Latvia.

The relevant carrier is responsible for handing over the completed statement as soon as possible:

1. to the State Border Guard, if in the statement it is indicated that a person has stayed in the country which is published on the website of the Centre and which is subject to special precautionary and restrictive measures;
2. to the Centre if in the statement it is indicated that a person has stayed only in the country which is not subject to precautionary and restrictive measures.

Persons who have stayed in the country that according to the list of countries published on the website of the Centre, has been recognized as being subject to the special precautionary and restrictive measures and who arrive in the Republic of Latvia, must ensure self-isolation.

The statement form is available on the website of the Ministry of Transport <https://www.sam.gov.lv/en/article/questionnaire-be-filled-persons-entering-latvia-using-services-international-carriers>.

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