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# **Imposition of temporary restrictions on crossing the state border in order to prevent a new outbreak of the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 causing the COVID-19 disease**

[RT III, 12.06.2020, 2 - entry into force 12.06.2020]

Passed 16.05.2020 No. 169

RT III, 17.05.2020, 2

Entry into force 18.05.2020

Amended by the following acts

Passed	Published	Entry into force
21.05.2020	RT III, 22.05.2020, 2	21.05.2020
28.05.2020	RT III, 28.05.2020, 1	01.06.2020
12.06.2020	RT III, 12.06.2020, 2	12.06.2020
06.07.2020	RT III, 06.07.2020, 1	06.07.2020
28.08.2020	RT III, 28.08.2020, 1	28.08.2020
11.09.2020	RT III, 14.09.2020, 2	14.09.2020
19.02.2021	RT III, 19.02.2021, 3	19.02.2021
17.06.2021	RT III, 17.06.2021, 1	21.06.2021
07.07.2021	RT III, 07.07.2021, 1	12.07.2021
15.07.2021	RT III, 16.07.2021, 3	19.07.2021
23.08.2021	RT III, 23.08.2021, 1	26.08.2021
15.10.2021	RT III, 15.10.2021, 1	18.10.2021

Under § 17 (1) 1) of the State Borders Act and § 28 (2) 3) and § 28 (3) and (6) of the Communicable Diseases Prevention and Control Act:

[RT III, 07.07.2021, 1 - entry into force 12.07.2021]

**1.** In connection with the worldwide pandemic spread of the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 causing COVID-19 and identification of the spread of the virus within Estonia and in order to prevent new mass infections, the crossing of the external border for the purpose of entering Estonia and, if the border control is temporarily reintroduced on the internal border, the crossing of the internal border are temporarily restricted.

**2.** Crossing of the state border for the purpose of entering Estonia is allowed for persons who have Estonian citizenship, Estonian residence permit or right of residence or whose permanent place of residence according to the population register is in Estonia.

**3.** Crossing of the state border for the purpose of entering Estonia is allowed for foreigners who are asymptomatic and who are employees of diplomatic missions or consular posts of foreign states in Estonia or their family members or foreigners arriving in Estonia in the framework of international military cooperation or members of a foreign delegation arriving in Estonia for an official meeting on the invitation of a state or local authority.

[RT III, 28.08.2020, 1 – entry into force 28.08.2020]

4. Crossing of the state border for the purpose of entering Estonia is allowed for foreigners who are asymptomatic and who are directly involved in transporting goods and raw products, including loading of goods or raw products.
5. Crossing of the state border for the purpose of entering Estonia is allowed for foreigners who are asymptomatic and who are providing health services or other services necessary for responding to an emergency.
6. Crossing of the state border for the purpose of entering Estonia is allowed for foreigners who are asymptomatic and who are directly involved in international carriage of goods and passengers, including a crew member and a ship's crew member servicing an international means of transport and a person performing repairs or warranty or maintenance work on such a means of transport.
7. Crossing of the state border for the purpose of entering Estonia is allowed for foreigners who are asymptomatic and who are servicing travel groups and who are directly involved in the provision of passenger transport services.
8. Crossing of the state border for the purpose of entering Estonia is allowed for foreigners who are asymptomatic and whose purpose for arriving in Estonia is related to ensuring the continuity of a vital service.
9. Crossing of the state border for the purpose of entering Estonia is allowed for foreigners who are asymptomatic and whose arrival in Estonia is related to the maintenance or repair of or warranty or information and communication technology work on equipment of a company operating in Estonia if this is necessary for ensuring the operation of the company.
10. Crossing of the state border for the purpose of entering Estonia is allowed for foreigners for immediate transit through the territory of Estonia for reaching their country of residence, provided they are asymptomatic.
- 10<sup>1</sup>. Crossing of the state border for the purpose of entering Estonia is allowed for asymptomatic nationals and residents and holders of a long-stay visa of the European Union, the European Economic Area, the Swiss Confederation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland or the Principality of Andorra, the Principality of Monaco, the Republic of San Marino and the Vatican City State (Holy See) and their asymptomatic family members.  
[RT III, 06.07.2020, 1 – entry into force 06.07.2020]
11. [Repealed – RT III, 14.09.2020, 2 – entry into force 14.09.2020]
12. [Repealed – RT III, 14.09.2020, 2 – entry into force 14.09.2020]
- 12<sup>1</sup>. Crossing of the state border for the purpose of entering Estonia is allowed for persons who are asymptomatic and who arrive in the Republic of Estonia from a Member State of the European Union or a Schengen Member State or the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.  
[RT III, 28.05.2020, 1 – entry into force 01.06.2020]
- 12<sup>2</sup>. Crossing of the state border for the purpose of entering Estonia is allowed for persons who are asymptomatic and who arrive from a country not listed in clauses 10<sup>1</sup> and 12<sup>1</sup> but published on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and who are said country's residents pursuant to the laws of said country.  
[RT III, 06.07.2020, 1 – entry into force 06.07.2020]
- 12<sup>3</sup>. Crossing of the state border for the purpose of entering Estonia is allowed for persons who are asymptomatic and who arrive from a third country not listed in clause 12<sup>2</sup> for the purpose of work or for the purpose of studies in an educational institution registered in Estonia.  
[RT III, 06.07.2020, 1 – entry into force 06.07.2020]
- 12<sup>4</sup>. The provisions of clause 12<sup>2</sup> are not applied if the country under whose laws the relevant person is deemed to be its resident or is deemed to stay there legally does not permit mutual movement of persons with the Republic of Estonia.  
[RT III, 06.07.2020, 1 – entry into force 06.07.2020]
- 12<sup>5</sup>. Crossing of the state border for the purpose of entering Estonia is allowed for asymptomatic family members of a person referred to in clause 12<sup>3</sup> if the person referred to in clause 12<sup>3</sup> takes up employment in a start-up company, as a top specialist or in a position in information and communication technology.  
[RT III, 19.02.2021, 3 – entry into force 19.02.2021]
- 12<sup>6</sup>. Crossing of the state border for the purpose of entering Estonia is allowed for persons who are asymptomatic and who arrive from a third country not listed in clause 12<sup>2</sup> and who  
1) have completed vaccination series for COVID-19, have developed full protection after the last dose of vaccine and no more than one year has passed since the last dose of vaccine;

2) have completed their vaccination series for COVID-19, have developed full protection and after the completion of the series have received an additional dose of vaccine and no more than one year has passed since the additional dose of vaccine.

Crossing of the state border for the purpose of entering Estonia together with a person referred to in this clause is allowed for persons under 18 years of age who have not completed vaccination series or who have not received an additional dose if the person referred to in this clause is the minor's legal representative or a person authorised to accompany the minor on the condition that up to 72 hours before arrival in Estonia a health care provider tested the minor with RT-PCR test for the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 causing COVID-19 or up to 48 hours before arrival in Estonia with a SARS-CoV-2 antigen RTD test approved by the European Union Health Security Committee, the results of which came back negative. The requirements for testing for the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 are not applied to persons under 12 years of age. The exception set out in this clause for persons under 18 years of age is not applied to groups of minors travelling together (for instance, sports and tourist groups). [RT III, 15.10.2021, 1 – entry into force 18.10.2021]

**12<sup>7</sup>.** The time when the full protection referred to in clause 12<sup>6</sup> is developed is, according to the manufacturers, 7 calendar days after the second dose of vaccine for Pfizer/BioNTech Vaccine Comirnaty, 14 calendar days after the second dose of vaccine for AstraZeneca Vaccine Vaxzevria and Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine, and 14 calendar days after one dose of vaccine for Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine. For other COVID-19 vaccines not mentioned in this clause, the specific manufacturer's instructions for full protection shall be followed. Full protection for recovered persons vaccinated with one dose is deemed to have been developed at the times stated in this clause.

[RT III, 23.08.2021, 1 – entry into force 26.08.2021]

**13.** By way of an exception, the Police and Border Guard Board may allow the state border to be crossed for the purpose of entering Estonia by a foreigner:

- 1) who is asymptomatic and whose direct blood relative in the ascending or descending line or spouse is an Estonian citizen or a person holding an Estonian residence permit or right of residence;
- 2) who is asymptomatic and whose entry in the country is justified under a special request.

**13<sup>1</sup>.** Crossing of the state border for the purpose of entering Estonia is allowed for persons referred to in clauses 12<sup>3</sup> (work or studies), 12<sup>5</sup> (family member) and 13 (by way of an exception) if up to 72 hours before arrival in Estonia a health care provider tested the relevant person with a RT-PCR test for SARS-CoV-2 causing COVID-19 or up to 48 hours before arrival in Estonia with a SARS-CoV-2 antigen RTD test approved by the European Union Health Security Committee, the results of which came back negative. The requirements for testing for the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 are not applied to persons under 12 years of age.

[RT III, 16.07.2021, 3 – entry into force 19.07.2021]

**14.** [Repealed – RT III, 12.06.2020, 2 – entry into force 12.06.2020]

**15.** [Repealed – RT III, 12.06.2020, 2 – entry into force 12.06.2020]

**15<sup>1</sup>.** [Repealed – RT III, 12.06.2020, 2 – entry into force 12.06.2020]

**16.** [Repealed – RT III, 12.06.2020, 2 – entry into force 12.06.2020]

**17.** [Omitted from this text.]

**17<sup>1</sup>.** The Ministry of Foreign Affairs publishes on its website a list of countries referred to in clause 12<sup>2</sup> along with the information referred to in clause 12<sup>4</sup>.

[RT III, 07.07.2021, 1 – entry into force 12.07.2021]

**18.** This Order takes effect on 18 May 2020.

This Order is issued considering the fact that under § 2 2) of the Communicable Diseases Prevention and Control Act COVID-19 corresponds to the signs of a new dangerous communicable disease because COVID-19 is a disease with a high level of infectiousness which spreads rapidly and extensively and which may be serious or life-threatening. There is also no effective treatment or it is not available and the spread of the disease may exceed the hospital treatment capacity.

For the protection of the life and health of people and overriding public interest, this Order establishes restrictions for preventing the spread of the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 causing COVID-19. The reasons and considerations are set out in the explanatory memorandum to the Order, which will be published on the website of the Government of the Republic.

This Order can be appealed against by filing a challenge pursuant to the procedure provided by the Administrative Procedure Act within 30 days as of the day the relevant person became or should have become

aware of the Order. This Order can also be appealed against by filing an action with the administrative court pursuant to the procedure provided for in the Code of Administrative Court Procedure within 30 days as of the day of announcement of this Order.

#### **Reasons for the amendments made by the Government of the Republic Order No. 359 of 15 October 2021**

This Order is issued considering the fact that under § 2(2) of the Communicable Diseases Prevention and Control Act COVID-19 corresponds to the signs of a new dangerous communicable disease because COVID-19 is a disease with a high level of infectiousness which spreads rapidly and extensively and which may be serious or life-threatening.

In the interests of preventing the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 causing COVID-19 from being imported to Estonia and reducing the risk of it spreading within the country, temporary restrictions have been imposed on the crossing of the state border under the State Borders Act. These restrictions on the crossing of the state border are necessary because the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 causing COVID-19 is still spreading globally and the infection rates are high in several countries and average in Estonia, and cases are still being imported from other countries to Estonia.

An exception is added to the Order whereby crossing of the state border for the purpose of entering Estonia is also allowed for persons who are asymptomatic and who arrive from a third country not listed in clause 12<sup>2</sup> and who have completed vaccination series for COVID-19, have developed full protection and after the completion of the vaccination series have received an additional dose of vaccine and no more than one year has passed since the additional dose of vaccine.

Additional doses of COVID-19 vaccine mean a dose of COVID-19 vaccine (extra dose or booster shot) administered after the completion of the initial vaccination series. People with severe immunodeficiency who do not develop adequate protection with two doses (or with one dose of the Janssen vaccine) will need an extra dose to complete the vaccination series. People who have completed their vaccination series and whose immunity has waned over time may require a booster shot after the passing of some time.

This Order can be appealed against by filing a challenge with the Government of the Republic pursuant to the procedure provided by the Administrative Procedure Act within 30 days as of the day the relevant person became or should have become aware of the Order. This Order can also be appealed against by filing an action with the administrative court pursuant to the procedure provided for in the Code of Administrative Court Procedure within 30 days as of the day of announcement of this Order.

The explanatory memorandum to the Order is available on the website [kriis.ee](http://kriis.ee).