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Restrictions on the freedom of movement and on holding public meetings and public events as necessary for preventing the spread of the COVID-19 disease

Passed 16.05.2020 No. 172
RT III, 17.05.2020, 5
Entry into force 18.05.2020

Amended by the following acts

Passed	Published	Entry into force
21.05.2020	RT III, 22.05.2020, 3	21.05.2020, partially 01.06.2020
28.05.2020	RT III, 28.05.2020, 2	28.05.2020

Under § 28 (6) of the Communicable Diseases Prevention and Control Act and considering § 28 (5) 2) and 3) and § 28 (8) and (9) of the same, the following restrictions are imposed:

1. Movement in public places:

1) it is allowed to be and walk around in a public place in groups of up to two people, except for families who are and walk around together or if this cannot be reasonably ensured due to the nature of the relevant work or activity;

[RT III, 22.05.2020, 3 – entry into force 21.05.2020]

2) indoors (except in people's homes) and in a public place a distance of at least two metres must be kept with other persons, except for families who are and walk around together or if this cannot be reasonably ensured due to the nature of the relevant work or activity.

[RT III, 22.05.2020, 3 – entry into force 21.05.2020]

2. In sales areas, including in service providers' service points and catering establishments' seating areas (hereinafter *sales area*) and in public rooms of shopping centres it is allowed to walk around if the following requirements are met:

1) the requirements provided for in clause 1 are complied with and the possessor checks compliance therewith;

2) at least at the entrance to and exit from the sales area the possessor thereof has ensured the availability of disinfectants to employees and customers.

3. Until 31 May 2020 customers may be at catering establishments for the sole purpose of takeaway or provision of delivery and transport services from 22:00 until closing.

[RT III, 28.05.2020, 2 – entry into force 28.05.2020]

4. Customers are subject to a total restriction on the freedom of movement (visitation prohibition) in nightclubs, hookah cafés and adult clubs.

[RT III, 22.05.2020, 3 – entry into force 01.06.2020]

4¹. As of 1 June 2020 customers may go to casinos and slot machine halls if the following requirements are met:

1) the service provider ensures compliance with the requirements provided for in clause 1;

2) the service provider ensures up to 50% customer capacity of the place of provision of service but no more than 100 people;

[RT III, 28.05.2020, 2 – entry into force 28.05.2020]

3) the service provider ensures compliance with the disinfection requirements according to instructions from the Health Board.

[RT III, 22.05.2020, 3 – entry into force 21.05.2020]

5. Passengers are subject to a total restriction on the freedom of movement concerning going on a ferry sailing on the route Tallinn–Stockholm–Tallinn for the purpose of a pleasure trip.

6.Public meetings are allowed only if the following requirements are met:

- 1) the organiser of a meeting ensures compliance with the requirement set out in sub-clause 2) of clause 1;
 - 2) the organiser of an indoor meeting ensures up to 50% attendance capacity and the number of attendees up to 10 people, as of 1 June 2020 up to 50% attendance capacity and the number of attendees up to 100 people, and as of 1 July 2020 up to 50% attendance capacity and the number of attendees up to 500 people;
- [RT III, 28.05.2020, 2 – entry into force 28.05.2020]
- 3) the organiser of an outdoor meeting ensures the number of attendees up to 100 people and as of 1 July 2020 the number of attendees up to 1000 people.

7.Until 31 May 2020 customers are subject to a restriction on the freedom of movement (visitation prohibition) in public saunas, spas, swimming pools and waterparks. Engaging in sports or training in said places is subject to the requirements provided for in clauses 19 through 23.

8.As of 1 June 2020 customers may use public saunas, spas, swimming pools and water parks if the following requirements are met:

- 1) the service provider ensures compliance with the requirements set out in clause 1 or the scattering of people;
- 2) the service provider ensures up to 50% customer capacity of the place of provision of service;
- 3) the service provider ensures compliance with the disinfection requirements according to instructions from the Health Board.

Engaging in sports or training in said places is subject to the requirements provided for in clauses 19 through 23.

9.Until 31 May 2020 customers, except for customers for training purposes, are subject to a restriction on the freedom of movement (visitation prohibition) in places for the provision of entertainment services, including bowling alleys, billiard halls and children's playrooms.

10.As of 1 June 2020 customers may be in places for the provision of entertainment services, including bowling alleys, billiard halls and children's playrooms if the following requirements are met:

- 1) the service provider ensures up to 50% customer capacity;
- 2) the service provider ensures the availability of disinfectants;
- 3) the service provider ensures compliance with the disinfection requirements according to instructions from the Health Board.

11. Until 31 May 2020 public events are allowed if the spectators are in their car and the following requirements are met:

- 1) outside cars, the organiser of the event ensures compliance with the requirements provided for in clause 1;
- 2) the organiser of the event ensures that no one gets out of their car during the event without an urgent need;
- 3) upon organising the parking of cars the organiser of the event ensures an adequate distance between cars;
- 4) the organiser of the event ensures the availability of disinfectants, where necessary.

[RT III, 22.05.2020, 3 – entry into force 21.05.2020]

11¹. As of 1 June 2020 public events are allowed if the following requirements are met:

- 1) the organiser of the event ensures compliance with the requirements provided for in clause 1;
 - 2) the organiser of an indoor event ensures up to 50% attendance capacity but no more than 100 people;
- [RT III, 28.05.2020, 2 – entry into force 28.05.2020]
- 3) the organiser of an outdoor event ensures the number of attendees up to 100 people;
 - 4) sports activities, training sessions and sports and exercise events are subject to the provisions of clauses 21 through 23.

[RT III, 22.05.2020, 3 – entry into force 21.05.2020]

12. As of 1 July 2020 public events are allowed if the following requirements are met:

- 1) the organiser of the event ensures compliance with the requirements provided for in clause 1;
- 2) the organiser of an indoor event ensures up to 50% attendance capacity but no more than 500 people;
- 3) the organiser of an outdoor event ensures the number of attendees up to 1000 people;
- 4) sports activities, training sessions and sports and exercise events are subject to the provisions of clauses 21 through 23.

[RT III, 22.05.2020, 3 – entry into force 21.05.2020]

13.Public religious services and other public religious rites are allowed if the restrictions established in clause 1 are complied with and the availability of disinfectants is ensured.

14.In organising the activities of basic schools, upper secondary schools, vocational educational institutions and institutions of higher education, except in organising research and development activities in universities and research institutions, also in organising the activities of institutions providing refresher training, recreational activities and hobby education and the activities of youth centres the following must be complied with:

- 1) compliance with the requirements provided for in clause 1 is ensured;
- 2) there are up to ten persons in a study group, except for examinations;
- 3) when organising examinations, students taking an examination are scattered in the examination room;
- 4) movements of groups of students in the building of the relevant educational institution and in the territory used for the provision of education are scattered;
- 5) shared items in the building of the relevant educational institution and in the territory used for the provision of education are disinfected after use.

14¹. As of 1 June 2020, the requirements provided for in sub-clauses 1) through 4) of clause 11¹ are applied in basic schools, upper secondary schools, vocational educational institutions and institutions of higher education, except in organising research and development activities in universities and research institutions, and also in organising the activities of institutions providing refresher training and the activities of youth centres.
[RT III, 28.05.2020, 2 – entry into force 28.05.2020]

14². As of 1 July 2020, the requirements provided for in sub-clauses 1) through 4) of clause 12 are applied in basic schools, upper secondary schools, vocational educational institutions and institutions of higher education, except in organising research and development activities in universities and research institutions, and also in organising the activities of institutions providing refresher training and the activities of hobby schools, providers of hobby education and youth centres.
[RT III, 28.05.2020, 2 – entry into force 28.05.2020]

15. In institutions providing refresher training where training of drivers of power-driven vehicles, driver training and training of drivers carrying dangerous goods are organised, except if training of drivers of power-driven vehicles, driver training, training of drivers carrying dangerous goods or emergency vehicle driver training is provided to a serviceman or if emergency vehicle driver training is provided to a police officer, a rescue servant, an assistant police officer or a voluntary rescuer, such training shall be provided as follows:

- 1) only the instructor and learner are in the vehicle;
- 2) the availability of disinfectants must be ensured in the vehicle for driving practice;
- 3) [repealed – RT III, 22.05.2020, 3 – entry into force 21.05.2020]
- 4) after each driving lesson the organiser of the training organises the cleaning of the surfaces that the learner touched.

16. As of 1 June 2020 recreational activities and provision of hobby education, except for activities set out in clauses 19 through 23, shall be organised as follows:

- 1) compliance with the requirements provided for in clause 1 is ensured;
- 2) the organiser ensures up to 50% capacity indoors;
- 3) the organiser ensures the number of participants up to 100 people outdoors.

17. Until 11 June 2020 the activities of youth camps and student work camps are suspended for participants.

18. As of 12 June 2020 the activities of youth camps and student work camps shall take place as follows:

- 1) compliance with the requirements provided for in clause 1 is ensured;
- 2) youth camps and student work camps have up to 300 participants;
- 3) there are up to 20 persons in one group;
- 4) the organiser of the activity ensures the availability of disinfectants.

19. Until 31 May 2020 it is allowed to engage in sports, train and carry out sports and exercise events outdoors if compliance with the requirement provided for in clause 1 is ensured and if there are up to 10 participants in a group and the organiser of the activity ensures the availability of disinfectants. This restriction does not apply to sports teams if requirements arising from the international competition rules for the sport are complied with, or to training of candidates for Estonian adult sports teams and championship league teams.

20. As of 1 June 2020 it is allowed to engage in sports, train and carry out sports and exercise events outdoors if compliance with the requirement provided for in clause 1 is ensured and if there are up to 100 participants and the organiser of the activity ensures the availability of disinfectants. This restriction does not apply to sports teams if requirements arising from the international competition rules for the sport are complied with, or to training of candidates for Estonian adult sports teams and championship league teams.

21. Until 30 June 2020 sports competitions are allowed if the organiser ensures compliance with the following requirements:

- 1) the organiser of the event ensures compliance with the requirements provided for in clause 1;
- 2) indoor sports competitions have no spectators and there are no more than 100 participants;
- 3) the organiser of an outdoor event ensures that the number of participants, including spectators is up to 100 people;
- 4) the organiser of the event ensures the availability of disinfectants.

[RT III, 28.05.2020, 2 – entry into force 28.05.2020]

21¹. As of 1 July 2020 sports competitions are allowed if the organiser ensures compliance with the following requirements:

- 1) the organiser of the event ensures compliance with the requirements provided for in clause 1;
- 2) the organiser of an indoor event ensures up to 50% attendance capacity but no more than 500 people;
- 3) the organiser of an outdoor event ensures the number of attendees up to 1000 people.

[RT III, 22.05.2020, 3 – entry into force 21.05.2020]

22. Until 31 May 2020 it is prohibited to engage in sports and train and carry out sports and exercise events in training groups indoors, unless the organiser ensures compliance with the requirement provided for in clause 1, up to 50% attendance capacity, the number of participants in a group up to 10 persons and the availability of disinfectants. The group requirements and capacity requirement do not apply to sports teams if requirements arising from the international competition rules for the sport are complied with, or to training of candidates for Estonian adult sports teams and championship league teams.

23. As of 1 June 2020 it is prohibited to engage in sports and train and carry out sports and exercise events, unless the organiser ensures compliance with the requirement provided for in clause 1 and up to 50% attendance capacity and the availability of disinfectants. The group requirements and capacity requirement do not apply to sports teams if requirements arising from the international competition rules for the sport are complied with, or to training of candidates for Estonian adult sports teams and championship league teams.

24. Visiting museums and exhibitions is allowed considering the following requirements:

- 1) the service provider ensures compliance with the requirement provided for in clause 1;
- 2) [repealed – RT III, 22.05.2020, 3 – entry into force 01.06.2020]
- 3) the service provider ensures the availability of disinfectants;
- 4) in rooms open for the public, the service provider has ensured wet cleaning of surfaces subject to frequent touching after every 2 to 4 hours;
- 5) interactive displays are closed or the service provider has ensured their wet cleaning after each use or the service provider has made disposable gloves available to the visitors and has ensured the safe handling thereof after use;
- 6) if possible, the service provider replaces physical information materials handed out free of charge with digital ones;
- 7) no creative work or workshops with shared means of work are organised or disinfection is ensured after each user.

25. Under § 44 (1) of the Communicable Diseases Prevention and Control Act, supervision over the requirements imposed by this Order is exercised by the Health Board. The Health Board may involve the Police and Border Guard Board in the supervision, adhering to the requirements and procedure for professional assistance provided for in the Administrative Cooperation Act.

26. The restrictions and measures established by this Order shall apply until the date specified in this Order or until this Order is changed or repealed and the need for these restrictions and measures shall be assessed no later than after every two weeks.

27. This Order shall be published by broadcasters, on the website of the Government of the Republic and in the official gazette Riigi Teataja.

28. 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 the COVID-19 disease caused by the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 corresponds to the signs of a new dangerous communicable disease because there is no effective treatment and the spread of the disease may exceed the hospital treatment capacity, and the requirements, measures and restrictions established by this Order clearly have a significant social and economic effect. The risk of the virus spreading is currently very high and therefore, in order to minimise the risk, it is proportional to restrict people's freedom of movement in the places referred to in the Order for the protection of the life and health of people and overriding public interest in order to prevent the spread of the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 causing the COVID-19 disease.

For the protection of the life and health of people and overriding public interest, including for the protection of the continuity of the state, this Order establishes requirements, measures and restrictions that are inevitably necessary for preventing the spread of the virus. 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.

Failure to duly comply with measures for preventing the spread of the virus will prompt the application of the administrative coercive measures set out in § 28 (2) or (3) of the Law Enforcement Act. The maximum amount of penalty payment is 9600 euros. This penalty payment, which serves the purpose of enforcing the requirements, measures and restrictions imposed by this Order and preventing the spread of the virus, may be imposed repeatedly.

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.