

COVID-19 Fact Sheet: Europe, the Caucasus, & Central Asia



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OVERVIEW AND OUTLOOK

As Europe progresses with reopening within and between many countries, COVID-19 outbreaks have remained stable overall. While Russia continues to see a gradual decline in daily new cases, concerns over the level of transmission continue in several Central Asian countries as well as in the Balkans. Most countries continue to opt for more localized measures to combat hotspots rather than introducing new nationwide restrictions. Following the European Union's announcement of the initial countries considered "safe" for travelers from the respective nations to enter the bloc, many EU members have nonetheless opted to set their own list of welcome visitors from third countries. As such, it is advised to check the evolving permissions on a country-by-country basis when planning or considering travel to the EU from a third country. Furthermore, it is recommended to continue monitoring developments in outbreaks as cross-border travel increases and associated restrictions could evolve quickly with any shifts in patterns of transmission.

EUROPE & CAUCASUS

In the Balkans, concerning increases in outbreaks are occurring in **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Romania, and Serbia.**

Moldova and Ukraine may be seeing initial success in suppressing spikes that appeared in June, though a long-term, sustained trend of decreasing new cases is not yet apparent.

Spain and Portugal have reopened their shared land border following the earlier reopening of cross-border travel by other means. Spain's labor ministry released data on July 2 indicating that the country had yet to regain many of the jobs lost during the shutdown, though at least a partial recovery of jobs may develop in the coming weeks as the tourism sector gradually restarts.

Switzerland announced that it will require travelers from 29 countries deemed to be high risk, including Brazil, Russia, Sweden, and the United States, to self-isolate for ten days, with the policy taking effect from July 6.

The **British** government is expected to announce in the coming days a rollback of the current quarantine policy for most travelers arriving from abroad. Reports suggest that Britons will be able to travel to more than 70 countries without having to quarantine upon return to the UK. The so-called traffic light system will designate countries as green, amber, or red, with amber and green countries exempt from quarantine requirements upon return. However, it remains to be seen whether the countries deemed sufficiently safe for inclusion will reciprocate in their requirements for UK travelers. Criticism continues in England over the government's allegedly slow response in making local outbreak data available to facilitate a swift response to potential emerging hotspots. Scotland will be starting its next phase on July 10, and the first minister said only some premises would have an easing of the two-meter distancing requirement. Face masks will be required in Scottish stores from July 10. In Wales, restaurants and pubs will be able to start outdoor services from July 13.

Georgia appears to have its outbreak still under control, while **Armenia** may be seeing a period of stabilization developing as daily new cases continue to climb in **Azerbaijan.**

CENTRAL ASIA

Multiple Central Asian countries, including **Kyrgyzstan** and **Tajikistan**, have been reporting abnormally high volumes of pneumonia cases for the summer months, drawing speculation as to the full extent of outbreaks. **Turkmenistan** continues to contend that it has not had any COVID-19 cases.

From July 5, **Kazakhstan** will start a "softer" lockdown for two weeks in response to a resurgence of cases following the lifting of the first iteration of a nationwide lockdown. The new lockdown will include the closure of some non-essential businesses, restrictions on public transit operating hours as well as inter-regional travel, and a prohibition on public gatherings. People will be able to leave residences for walks in groups of up to three, and restaurants can operate with outdoor seating. Officials noted that the measures could still be tightened or extended as the situation evolves. Limited air connections with other countries will continue to operate.

TABLE FOR REOPENING

Country	Lockdown/Curfew in Effect; Expiration	Business Reopening Status Open*/Closed/Phased	Compulsory Face Mask Use	Gov't Links
Albania	No Longer Mandatory	Phased	No	Link
Andorra	No Longer Mandatory	Phased	Yes	Link
Armenia	No Longer Mandatory	Phased	Yes	Link
Austria	No Longer Mandatory	Open	Yes	Link
Azerbaijan	Localized Restrictions; August 1	Phased	Yes	Link
Belarus	None	Open	No	Link
Belgium	No Longer Mandatory	Open	Yes	Link
Bosnia and Herzegovina	No Longer Mandatory	Phased	Yes	Link
Bulgaria	No Mandatory Restrictions	Open	Yes	Link
Croatia	Localized Restrictions	Open	Yes	Link
Cyprus	No Longer Mandatory	Open	Varies by Location	Link
Czech Republic	No Longer Mandatory	Open	Yes	Link
Denmark	No Longer Mandatory	Open	No	Link
Estonia	No Longer Mandatory	Open	No	Link
Finland	No Longer Mandatory	Open	No	Link
France	No Longer Mandatory	Open	Yes	Link
Georgia	No Longer Mandatory	Phased	Yes	Link
Germany	Localized Restrictions	Open	Yes	Link
Greece	No Longer Mandatory	Open	Yes	Link
Greenland	None	Open	No	Link
Hungary	No Longer Mandatory	Open	Yes	Link
Iceland	No Longer Mandatory	Open	No	Link
Ireland	No Longer Mandatory	Open	Yes	Link
Italy	No Longer Mandatory	Open	Varies by Location	Link
Kazakhstan	Localized Restrictions	Phased	Yes	Link
Kosovo	No Longer Mandatory	Phased	No	Link
Kyrgyzstan	Localized Restrictions	Phased	Yes	Link
Latvia	No Longer Mandatory	Open	No	Link
Lithuania	No Longer Mandatory	Open	Yes	Link
Liechtenstein	No Longer Mandatory	Open	No	Link
Luxembourg	No Longer Mandatory	Open	Yes	Link
Malta	None	Open	Yes	Link
Moldova	No Longer Mandatory	Open	Yes	Link
Monaco	No Longer Mandatory	Open	Yes	Link
Montenegro	No Longer Mandatory	Open	Yes	Link
Netherlands	No Longer Mandatory	Open	Yes	Link
North Macedonia	Localized Restrictions	Phased	Yes	Link

Norway	No Longer Mandatory	Open	No	Link
Poland	No Longer Mandatory	Open	Yes	Link
Portugal	Localized Restrictions	Open	Yes	Link
Romania	No Longer Mandatory	Phased	Yes	Link
Russia	No Longer Mandatory	Phased	Varies by Location	Link
San Marino	No Longer Mandatory	Open	Yes	Link
Serbia	No Longer Mandatory	Open	No	Link
Slovakia	No Longer Mandatory	Open	Yes	Link
Slovenia	No Longer Mandatory	Open	Yes	Link
Spain	Localized Restrictions	Open	Yes	Link
Sweden	None	Open	No	Link
Switzerland	No Longer Mandatory	Open	Yes (from July 6)	Link
Tajikistan	None	Closed/Essentials Only	Yes	Link
Turkmenistan	None (Claims No Cases)	Open	No	Link
Ukraine	Localized Restrictions	Open	Yes	Link
United Kingdom	Localized Restrictions	Phased	Varies by Location	Link
Uzbekistan	Localized Restrictions in Zones	Phased (red, yellow, green zones)	Yes	Link
Vatican	No Longer Mandatory	Open	Yes	Link

*Open status may nonetheless include limited restrictions, such as for gyms and cinemas, still in effect