

Coronavirus pandemic in the EU – Fundamental Rights Implications

Country: Greece

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1 Measures taken by government/public authorities

1.1 Emergency laws/states of emergency

In **Greece**, measures taken by the government against the negative impact of Coronavirus COVID-19 continued throughout May 2020 with a focus on gradually lifting stay at home orders, allowing businesses and schools to reopen and assuring the respect of health and safety for all.

In **Greece**, according to the Gradual De-escalation of Restrictive Measures Scheme (*Σχέδιο σταδιακής αποκλιμάκωσης περιοριστικών μέτρων*) issued on 28 April, the 4th of May was the first day of the gradual restart.¹ On 1 May 2020, another Act of Legislative Content was issued to extend financial relief measures for businesses and workers, provide for social distancing measures, health and safety precautions and enforcement clauses.² The financial measures included tax payment extension, debt repayment in installments, protection of indebted house-owners from enforcement proceedings, possibility to extend the suspension of work contracts of up to 60% of the staff in each undertaking until 31 May 2020 guaranteeing the compensation of the workers affected by the state. Employees whose work contracts resume cannot be made redundant within a period of 45 days from the day the restart work.³ The fines to be imposed in case of breach of any health and safety rules range from €150-5,000 for individuals and €1,000-100,000 for businesses.⁴

In **Greece**, a number of businesses which had fully or partly suspended their operations reopened on 11 May 2020, namely retail stores selling electronic devices, hardware, jewellery, sports apparel, furniture, clothing, household equipment and cosmetics.⁵ On 18 May 2020 beauty salons, nutrition centres and professional activities related to animals were allowed to restart.⁶

In **Greece**, 53 Bar Associations lodged a complaint to the European Committee of Social Rights reacting to the reportedly derogatory treatment of the Greek state towards lawyers in the time of COVID-19.⁷ According to the complaint, the measures adopted in favour of lawyers by the Greek state were not in line with the duty of non-discrimination pursuant to the European Social Charter as lawyers did not benefit equally from relief measures and rent discounts in comparison to other self-employed professionals.

¹ Greece, "Gradual plan of de-escalation of the restrictive measures" (*Σχέδιο σταδιακής αποκλιμάκωσης περιοριστικών μέτρων*), 28 April 2020, available in Greek at <https://bit.ly/2zFhPQn>

² Greece, Act of Legislative Content, "Further measures in response to the continuing consequences of the coronavirus pandemic and the return to social and financial stability" (*Περαιτέρω μέτρα για την αντιμετώπιση των συνεχιζόμενων συνεπειών της πανδημίας του κορωνοϊού COVID-19 και την επάνοδο στην κοινωνική και οικονομική κανονικότητα*), O.G. A' No 90/01-05-2020, available in Greek at <http://www.dsnet.gr/Epikairothta/Nomothesia/PNP01-05-2020.htm>

³ *Ibid*, Art. 10 para. 5

⁴ *Ibid*, Art. 44 para. 2

⁵ Greece, Ministry of Development and Investments, "Clarifications by the Deputy Minister of Development and Investments Mr Nikos Papathanassis on the financial activities resuming on 11 May" (*Διευκρινίσεις από τον Υφυπουργό κ. Νίκο Παπαθανάση για τις οικονομικές δραστηριότητες που επαναλειτουργούν στις 11 Μαΐου*), press release, 8-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://bit.ly/2XOOWtA>

⁶ Greece, Ministry of Development and Investments, "Restoration of financial activity from Monday 18 May", (*Επαναφορά της οικονομικής δραστηριότητας από Δευτέρα 18 Μαΐου*), press release, 16-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://bit.ly/2XIE1bB>

⁷ Greece, E-lawyer, "Lawyers complain to the European Committee of Social Rights" (*Οι δικηγόροι προσφεύγουν στην Ευρωπαϊκή Επιτροπή Κοινωνικών Δικαιωμάτων*), 30-5-2020, available in Greek at http://elawyer.blogspot.com/2020/05/blog-post_30.html

1.2 Measures affecting the general population

1.2.1 Social distancing

In **Greece**, while stay at home orders were lifted and a special permit was no longer needed as of 4 May 2020, movement was restricted to the district of residence of each individual until 18 May 2020.⁸ After lifting all movement restriction within the Greek territory, the Greek government encouraged the general public to apply personal protection measures through media campaigns under the new title “*We stay safe*”⁹. The General Secretary of Civil Protection announced that using face masks in means of public transport, hospitals and elevators is mandatory whereas use of face masks in other closed spaces is strongly recommended. Workers in supermarkets, salons, cafe-bars and restaurants must wear face masks at all times.¹⁰

In **Greece**, according to the General Secretariat for Family Policy and Gender Equality (*Γενική Γραμματεία Οικογενειακής Πολιτικής και Ισότητας των Φύλων*), incidents of domestic abuse increased significantly during quarantine.¹¹ The incidents reported to the SOS 15900 hotline in March 2020 were 325. The number of calls tripled in April amounting to 1,070. Emergency calls were treated with priority and 15 victims were urgently removed from their house and placed in protective facilities.

In Greece, all religious temples and worship centres reopened to the general public on 12 May 2020. The operation of worship spaces is subject to prevention measures provided by the Ministry of Education and Religious affairs which are to be followed until 7 June 2020:¹²

- one person per each 10 square metres;
- all persons must keep 1.5 metre distance;
- free antiseptics and tissue must be provided by the temple staff;
- if a temple is larger than 500 square metres then the maximum number of attendants remains 50;
- if the attendants must take off their shoes then they must put them in air safe bags;
- meal preparation and consumption for Iftar is not allowed - packaged meals can be distributed.

It is noted that no special reference is made to the bread distributed in Orthodox churches during mass (antidoron).

⁸ Greece, Joint Ministerial Decision, Ministries of Citizen Protection-Health-Interior, “Imposition of the temporary restriction[...]until 18.5.2020 at 6:00 am” (*Επιβολή του μέτρου του εν μέρει προσωρινού περιορισμού[...] 18.5.2020 και ώρα 06:00.*), No D1a/GP.oik. 27818, O.G B’ 1648//3-5-2020

⁹ The logo of the new campaign is available on the website of the National Public Health Organization <https://eody.gov.gr/en/>

¹⁰ Greece, General Secretariat for Civil Protection, press release, 2-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://www.civilprotection.gr/el/enimerosi-apo-ton-yfypoyrgo-politikis-prostasias-kai-diaheirisis-kriseon-niko-hardalia-ton-ekprosopo>

¹¹ Greece, General Secretariat for gender Equality, “Significant increase in incidents of domestic violence during quarantine” (*Σημαντική αύξηση των περιστατικών ενδοοικογενειακής βίας τις μέρες της καραντίνας*) , press release, 5-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://www.ypakp.gr/uploads/docs/12359.pdf>

¹² Greece, Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, Ministerial Decision, Imposition of temporary measures in religious worship spaces for the protection of public health against coronavirus COVID-19” (*Επιβολή προσωρινών μέτρων στους θρησκευτικούς χώρους λατρείας για την προστασία της δημόσιας υγείας έναντι του κορωνοϊού COVID-19, για το χρονικό διάστημα από 17.5.2020 έως και 5.6.2020.*), No D1a/GP.oik. 29519 O.G B’ 1816/12.05.2020 available in Greek at [http://www.dsanet.gr/Epikairothta/Nomothesia/apof29519%20\(1816\).htm](http://www.dsanet.gr/Epikairothta/Nomothesia/apof29519%20(1816).htm)

In **Greece**, organised beaches opened on 16 May 2020 according to the press release of the General Secretariat for Civil Protection.¹³ The opening of organised beaches to the general public required special precaution measures such as: documentation of the number of persons attending, number of attendants cannot exceed 40 per 1,000 square metres, minimum distance between umbrellas must be 4 metres, alcoholic drinks are not allowed, only pre-cooked and packaged foods must be served and the chairs must be thoroughly cleaned by the staff if the organised beach.

In **Greece**, physical distancing measures adopted on 8 May 2020 included restricting the number of passengers in private cars to three including the driver, unless the passengers are children. Larger vehicles can carry four passengers including the driver.¹⁴ The previous regulation allowed up to two passengers per car.

In **Greece**, busses and trains are allowed to fill up to 50% of their passenger capacity until 31 May 2020 when the measures will be revisited. Use of face masks is mandatory for staff and passengers at all times during this period. Children under the age of three years must not wear a mask and the same applies to persons with respiratory impediments.¹⁵ Air transport is also subject to similar measures while boarding will have to be conducted in small groups. All passengers must be given antiseptics and other personal protection equipment.¹⁶

Enforcement and penalties

Even though all movement was allowed in **Greece** within one's residential area until 18 May 2020, violent incidents by the Hellenic Police have been reported in the news.¹⁷ In concrete, incidents of police violence are reported in the area of Kypseli in Athens taking the form of physical violence, use of chemicals and imposing blackouts in the public area of the square as a response to overcrowding.¹⁸ Two individuals reported being attacked by police officers while walking on the street near their house in Kypseli.¹⁹ The Ministry of Citizen Protection issued a press release on 10 May 2020 regarding the

¹³ Greece, General Secretariat for Civil Protection, "Organised beaches will open-Controls in Larissa are now complete-Tracing on Lesbos is ongoing." (Ανοίγουν οι οργανωμένες παραλίες - Ολοκληρώθηκαν οι έλεγχοι στη Λάρισσα - Συνεχίζεται η ιχνηλάτηση στη Λέσβο), press release, 13-5-2020, available in Greek at https://www.civilprotection.gr/sites/default/gscp_uploads/file_attach/files/3_0.pdf

¹⁴ Greece, Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure, "Joint Ministerial Decision on the amendment of protection measures in private and public cars" (ΚΥΑ για τροποποίηση των μέτρων προστασίας σε επιβατηγά οχήματα δημόσιας και ιδιωτικής χρήσης.), press release, 8-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://bit.ly/2Bve3u5>

¹⁵ Greece, National Public Health Organization, 2020, "COVID-19- Guidelines for the use of mask by the public" (COVID-19 – Οδηγίες για τη χρήση μάσκας από το κοινό), available in Greek at <https://eody.gov.gr/covid-19-odigies-gia-ti-chrisi-maskas-apo-to-koino/>

¹⁶ Greece, General Secretariat for Civil Protection, press release, 17-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://www.civilprotection.gr/el/enimerosi-apo-ton-yfypoyrgo-politikis-prostasias-kai-diaheirisis-kriseon-n-hardalia-ton-yppopterarho>

¹⁷ Greece, The Press Project, "The Ministry of Citizen Protection is turning a blind eye on the police violence in Kypseli and discovered 'set-up' plan against police officers" (Το ΠΡΟΠΟ έκλεισε τα μάτια στην αστυνομική βία στην Κυψέλη και ανακάλυψε σενάρια «παγίδευσης» των αστυνομικών.), 10-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://thepressproject.gr/to-propo-eklise-ta-matia-stin-astynomiki-via-stin-kypseli-ke-anakalypse-senaria-pagidefsis-ton-astynomikon/>

¹⁸ Greece, TVXS, "Witness statements and videos; Kypseli under police violence and arbitrariness" (Μαρτυρίες και βίντεο: Κυψέλη... αστυνομικής βίας και αυθαιρεσίας), 10-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://tvxs.gr/news/ellada/martyries-kai-binteo-kypseli-astynomikis-bias-kai-aythairesias>

¹⁹ Greece, EfSyn, "Revealing witness statement to EfSyn newspaper; Illegal and unjustified violence in Kypseli" (Αποκαλυπτική μαρτυρία στην «Εφ.Συν.»: Παράνομη και αδικαιολόγητη βία στην Κυψέλη), 11-5-2020, available in Greek at https://www.efsyn.gr/ellada/koinonia/242750_apokalyptiki-martyria-stin-efsyn-paranomi-kai-adikaiologiti-bia-stin-kypseli

incident explaining that the police forces arrived at the area after receiving a call from a civilian who alleged to be under life threat. The Ministry of Citizen Protection confirmed that there was no police intervention intending to disperse the crowd of 200 persons gathered in the square and that any reaction from the police was a response to attacks against the police officers once they arrived at the square.²⁰

Any breach of social distancing measures provided for in the Act of Legislative Content issued on 1 May 2020 are subject to fines ranging from €150-5,000 for individuals and €1,000-100,000 for businesses.²¹ The competent authorities to impose such fines are, depending on the subject of the violation, the Hellenic Labour Inspectorate (*Σώμα Επιθεώρησης Εργασίας*), Local administration bodies (*Οργανισμοί Τοπικής Αυτοδιοίκησης*), the Hellenic Police (*Ελληνική Αστυνομία*), Municipality Police (*Δημοτική Αστυνομία*), the Coast Guard (*Λιμενικό Σώμα*), the General Secretariat for Consumers' Protection (*Γενική Γραμματεία Προστασίας του καταναλωτή*) and the National Authority for Transparency (*Εθνική Αρχή Διαφάνειας*).

1.2.2 Education

In Greece, pursuant to the Joint Ministerial Decision issued on 5 May 2020, some educational institutions gradually reopen from 11 May 2020 while kindergartens and day care institutions remain closed until 31 May 2020. More specifically:²²

- Language schools, tutoring centres and senior high schools open for senior high school third grade students on 11 May 2020;
- first and second grade students of senior high school as well as all three grades' students of junior high school and students in second chance schools return to classes on 18 May 2020;
- universities reopen only for the purposes of clinical courses and exams requiring physical presence on 18 May 2020.

Universities are afforded with flexibility with regard to the extension of the spring semester and to the organisation of exams guaranteeing the health and safety of students and staff.²³ University restaurants offering discounted or free meals to disadvantaged students also reopen on 18 May 2020 for the students who have to physically attend classes or exams.

²⁰ Greece, Ministry of Citizen Protection, "10-5-2020: Announcement regarding the incidents in St. George square in Kypseli on Saturday 9 May" (*10-05-2020: Ανακοίνωση σχετικά με τα γεγονότα στην πλατεία Αγίου Γεωργίου στην Κυψέλη, το Σάββατο 9 Μαΐου*), press release, 10-5-2020, available in Greek at http://www.mopocp.gov.gr/index.php?option=ozo_content&lang=&perform=view&id=7094&Itemid=699

²¹ Greece, Act of Legislative Content, "Further measures in response to the continuing consequences of the coronavirus pandemic and the return to social and financial stability" (*Περαιτέρω μέτρα για την αντιμετώπιση των συνεχιζόμενων συνεπειών της πανδημίας του κορωνοϊού COVID-19 και την επάνοδο στην κοινωνική και οικονομική κανονικότητα*), O.G. A' No 90/01-05-2020, Art. 44 para. 2, available in Greek at <http://www.dsanet.gr/Epikairothta/Nomothesia/PNP01-05-2020.htm>

²² Greece, Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs-Development and Investments-Citizen Protection-Labor and Social Affairs-Health-Culture and Sports-Interior, Joint Ministerial Decision, "Extension of [...] reopening of certain educational institutions." (*Παράταση ισχύος [...]επανεναρξη λειτουργίας συγκεκριμένων εκπαιδευτικών δομών.*), No D1a/GP.oik. 28237 O.G. B' 1699/5-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://bit.ly/2TVYYYL>

²³ Greece, Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, "21-05-20 Ministerial Decision on the reopening of Higher Education Institutions- Completion of spring semester and exams will be assured" (*21-05-20 Υπουργική Απόφαση για την επαναλειτουργία των ΑΕΙ - Απρόσκοπτη η ολοκλήρωση του εαρινού εξαμήνου και η διεξαγωγή των εξετάσεων στα ΑΕΙ*), press release, available in Greek at <https://www.minedu.gov.gr/rss/45062-21-05-20-ypourgiki-apofasi-gia-tin-epanaleitourgia-ton-aei-4>

Kindergartens and day care institutions reopen on 1 June 2020. The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs issued a press release describing the steps to be followed upon reopening of preschool educational units. The measures focus on:²⁴

- avoiding crowded classrooms and the use of common dining tables ;
- the division of children into small groups.

A detailed circular was issued with guidelines for teachers and parents of children attending preschool focussing on:²⁵

- educating children to apply protection measures;
- regular temperature taking of children before attending school;
- self-quarantine in case of close contact with potentially infected individuals;
- change of duties for staff at high risk in case of infection ;
- flexible arriving times for children;
- distance keeping through marking lines on the ground;
- allowing entry only to caretakers, necessary staff and children;
- transport of children to and from school should be conducted with a private vehicle where possible;
- staff must have regular meetings with caretakers and provide detailed guidance on the measures;
- each unit must document any potential symptoms expressed by children or staff;

As far as secondary education is concerned, the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs issued detailed guidelines addressed to principals and headmasters of schools regarding the measures to be taken to protect students and staff from potential infection from coronavirus COVID-19.²⁶ More specifically the headmaster in cooperation with the rest of the teaching staff:

- must monitor any COVID-19 related symptoms manifested by students and staff;
- must supervise the application of hygiene measures and report any deviation to the competent authorities;
- must take care of the psychological support of both the students and the staff by deploying specialised experts where necessary;
- must make sure there are antiseptics, soaps and tissue in classrooms and toilets;
- must procure face masks and gloves for emergencies;
- must make sure the desks are placed as far from each other as possible; the distance must be at least 1.5 metre;
- must ensure the teachers' room also allows for staff to be seated in 1.5 metre distances;
- avoid organising team sports training;

²⁴ Greece, Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, "Conditions of operation of public and private kindergartens and day care institutions from Monday 1 June 2020" (Προδιαγραφές για τη λειτουργία από Δευτέρα 1η Ιουνίου των ιδιωτικών και δημόσιων βρεφονηπιακών σταθμών.), press release, 29-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://www.ypakp.gr/uploads/docs/12384.pdf>

²⁵ Greece, Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, "Reopening of day care and preschool institutions[...]" (Επαναλειτουργία Μονάδων Φροντίδας, Προσχολικής Αγωγής και Διαπαιδαγώγησης[...]) circular, No GPD11/oik. 20799/711, 29-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://diavgeia.gov.gr/doc/%CE%A8%CE%9F%CE%97746%CE%9C%CE%A4%CE%9B%CE%9A-%CE%95%CE%97%CE%9C?inline=true>

²⁶ Greece, Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, 2020, Guidelines, "Guidelines and measures for the reopening of school units of Secondary Education" (Οδηγίες και μέτρα για την επανέναρξη λειτουργίας των σχολικών μονάδων Δευτεροβάθμιας Εκπαίδευσης), available in Greek at <https://www.minedu.gov.gr/rss/44823-06-05-20-odigies-gia-tin-epanaleitourgia-ton-sxolikon-monadon>

- dedicate the first days of school on information sharing and finding common ground among teachers, students, caretakers in order to ensure the alignment with the measures;
- pursue the stable use of a classroom by the same students and staff for each class in order to limit contact;
- take measures to prohibit entry of visitors to the schools;
- each group of students must have different intermission times to avoid overcrowding in the school yard;
- educate students on personal hygiene protection measures;

The guidelines of the Ministry of Education and Religious affairs make reference to the importance of preventing stigmatisation of students wearing or not wearing face masks. Detailed guidance is provided to teachers on how to speak to their adolescent students about COVID-19²⁷, how to help them release stress and become empowered²⁸. A guide targeted to students is also developed by the Ministry on how to protect themselves and their school.²⁹

In **Greece**, a protocol for managing potential infections within the school environment is designed by the National Public Health Organisation and is distributed to regional school coordinators by the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs.³⁰ The protocol includes the steps to be taken and by whom:

- each school unit should appoint a person responsible for managing the suspicious case and one substitute;
- the responsible officer will be the point of reference for the rest of school staff;
- in the event a student manifests suspicious symptoms he/she must immediately wear a face mask and be placed in a room dedicated to that incident;
- his/her caretakers are called to pick the student up wearing a face mask too;
- a medical evaluation must be requested and if the medical opinion is that the student's symptoms are compatible to COVID-19 infection then a test must be conducted;
- while waiting for the results, the student must not leave his/her home;
- if the test is positive for COVID-19 infection:
 - the school unit is immediately informed, the officer serving as the point of reference is contacted by the National Public Health Organisation in order to facilitate the tracing procedure ;
 - the surfaces and space the positive student must be decontaminated
 - the classmates of the student must stay at home and if they do not manifest any symptoms they can return to school in 10 days

²⁷ Greece, Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, 2020, Guidelines, "How I should speak to teenagers about COVID-19" (Πώς θα πρέπει να μιλάω στους έφηβους για τον COVID-19), available in Greek at <https://www.minedu.gov.gr/rss/44823-06-05-20-odigies-gia-tin-epanaleitourgia-ton-sxolikon-monadon>

²⁸ Greece, Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, 2020, Guidelines, "Advice to teaching staff for the empowerment and stress-relief of the teenage students" (Συμβουλές προς εκπαιδευτικούς για την ενδυνάμωση και αποφόρτιση των εφήβων), available in Greek at <https://www.minedu.gov.gr/rss/44823-06-05-20-odigies-gia-tin-epanaleitourgia-ton-sxolikon-monadon>

²⁹ Greece, Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, 2020, Guidelines, "What I must know to protect myself and my school", (Τί πρέπει να γνωρίζω για να προστατεύσω τον εαυτό μου και το σχολείο μου), available in Greek at <https://www.minedu.gov.gr/rss/44823-06-05-20-odigies-gia-tin-epanaleitourgia-ton-sxolikon-monadon>

³⁰ Greece, National Public Health Organisation, 2020, Guidelines, "Management of suspicious infection in the school unit" (Διαχείριση ύποπτου κρούσματος στην εκπαιδευτική μονάδα), available in Greek at <https://www.minedu.gov.gr/rss/44868-08-05-2020-egkyklios-diavivasi-odigion-epitropis-gia-diaxeirisi-ypoptou-kroysmatos-stin-ekpaideftiki-monada-2>

-the positive student can return to school three days after all symptoms have disappeared but no earlier than 10 days;

- if the test is negative for COVID-19 infection:

-the student can return to school three days after all symptoms recede.

In **Greece**, the state continued accepting donations of electronic devices for students who do not have access to any. On 7 May 2020, the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs published on its website that schools have received three waves of private donations reaching € 3,125,000.³¹ Electronic devices received will be the property of every school and will be made available to disadvantaged students and teaching staff both for the needs of distance learning and for the digital reform of public school.

In **Greece**, the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs issued a decision on 15 May 2020 stipulating the details on how school lessons will be transmitted on live streaming for students who are not able to attend school once it reopens or for students whose schools are closed for health and safety reasons.³² This Ministerial Decision was issued pursuant to a law issued on 12 May 2020.³³ The Hellenic Data Protection Authority issued a press release confirming the legality of this new provision on distance learning since the purpose of data processing is access to education for all and all data and metadata will be deleted.³⁴ The Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs consulted the Data Protection Authority prior to the adoption of the law. The Hellenic Data Protection Authority underlined that the implementation of this provision requires prior impact assessment due to its high risk to personal data of students and teachers. However, as is stressed in legal blog entries³⁵, the recommendations of the Hellenic Data Protection Authority were not published prior to the adoption of the law despite the transparency obligations laid down in law No 3861/2010 on transparency through internet publication of laws.³⁶ Further, both the legal provision and the following Ministerial Decision refer to “metadata that may be produced” which seems to not meet the clarity standards laid down in the Commission Recommendation of April 2020³⁷. The head of Education Division of SYRIZA (opposition party in the Greek parliament), Mr Filis, submitted a USB disk to the Greek Parliament on 29 May 2020 denouncing the practice of distance learning via live streaming due to its

³¹ Greece, Ministry of Education and Religious affairs, “07-05-2020 Third delivery of technological equipment for students and teachers” (07-05-20 Τρίτη αποστολή τεχνολογικού εξοπλισμού στα σχολεία μας από δωρεές, για χρήση από μαθητές και εκπαιδευτικούς), press release, available in Greek at <https://bit.ly/2XUlnFH>

³² Greece, Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, Ministerial Decision, “Live distance learning” (Σύγχρονη εξ’αποστάσεως εκπαίδευση), No 57233/Y1, O.G B’ 1859/15-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://bit.ly/2ZXZucz>

³³ Greece, Law, “Improvement of migration legislation and amendment of the provisions of laws No 4636/2019 (A’169), 4375/2016 (A’51), 4251/2014 (A’80) and other provisions” (Βελτίωση της μεταναστευτικής νομοθεσίας, τροποποίηση διατάξεων των νόμων 4636/2019 (Α’ 169), 4375/2016 (Α’ 51), 4251/2014 (Α’ 80) και άλλες διατάξεις), No 4686/2020, O.G A’ 96/12-4-2020, Art. 63 available in Greek at <https://www.e-nomothesia.gr/kat-allodapoi/nomos-4686-2020-phek-96a-12-5-2020.html>

³⁴ Greece, Hellenic Data Protection Authority, “Teleconference of the President of the Authority with [...] upon their request”, (Πραγματοποίηση τηλεδιασκέψεων του Προέδρου της Αρχής [...] κατόπιν σχετικών αιτημάτων τους press release, 12-5-2020), available in Greek at <https://bit.ly/2U0f43z>

³⁵ Greece, E-lawyer, “Omissions of the Hellenic Data Protection Authority during the evaluation of distance learning” (Παραλείψεις της Αρχής Προστασίας Δεδομένων κατά το έλεγχο της τηλεδιδασκαλίας), 12-5-2020, available in Greek at http://elawyer.blogspot.com/2020/05/blog-post_12.html

³⁶ Greece, Law, “Enhancement of transparency via the mandatory publication of laws [...] ‘Diavgeia Programme’ and other provisions” (Ενίσχυση της διαφάνειας με την υποχρεωτική ανάρτηση νόμων [...] “Πρόγραμμα Διαύγεια” και άλλες διατάξεις), No 3861/2010, O.G A’ 112/13-7-2010, Art. 2 para. 21, available in Greek at <https://bit.ly/2U34ZCO>

³⁷ European Commission, “Commission Recommendation of 8.4.2020 on a common Union toolbox for the use of technology and data to combat and exit from the COVID-19 crisis, in particular concerning mobile applications and the use of anonymised mobility data”, p.2 para. 8, available at https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/recommendation_on_apps_for_contact_tracing_4.pdf

high risk from a data protection perspective. The Data Protection Officer of the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs commented on the issue confirming that no personal data of students or teaching staff were found in the USB disk and thus the complaint was unfounded.³⁸

In Greece, the school year for secondary education will end on 12 June 2020 pursuant to the Ministerial Decision issued on 7 May 2020³⁹ while primary schools and kindergarten will end classes on 26 June 2020 instead of 15 June as usual according to the interview of the Minister of Education and Religious Affairs.⁴⁰ According to the same interview, the Minister of Education and Religious Affairs commented that reopening schools is a way to support disadvantaged children as schools promote the amplification of social injustices and discrimination.

In Greece, final exams of secondary education, “panhellenic exams”, will start on 15 June 2020.⁴¹ The learning material on which the students will be examined is reduced to correspond to the content covered before and after the lockdown.⁴² It is noted that 2020 university admission rates will remain the same as 2019.⁴³

1.2.3 Work

Focus on:

- *Steps for specific sectors/the general population to return to work and measures to protect employees in the workplace (physical distancing, health and hygiene, shift patterns, etc.)*
- *People in precarious work*

In **Greece**, according to the guidelines provided by the Deputy Minister of Development and Investments, all retail shops and other businesses reopening on 11 May 2020 must follow protective measures for staff and customers at all times. These measures include⁴⁴:

- allowing at most 4 persons at the same time in shops with a surface up to 20 square metres;
- shops with a surface 20-100 square metres may allow entry to 4 persons plus 1 person per each 10 square metres;
- shops with a surface over 100 square metres can allow 12 persons plus 1 person per each 15 square metres;

³⁸ Greece, Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, “Announcement of the DPO” (Ανακοίνωση από την DPO), press release, 29-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://www.minedu.gov.gr/ypapegan/anakoinoseis/45176-2020-05-30-anakoinosi-apo-tin-dpo>

³⁹ Greece, Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, Ministerial Decision, “End of classes for the school year 2019-2020” (Λήξη μαθημάτων διδακτικού έτους 2019-2020.), No 53488/GD4, O.G B’ 1764/8-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://bit.ly/3gQzciy>

⁴⁰ Greece, Eidisis.Gr, “End of classes for primary schools” (Πότε κλείνουν τα δημοτικά), available in Greek at <https://www.eidiseis.gr/ellada/item/45750-pote-kleinoun-ta-dimotika-sxoleia>

⁴¹ Greece, Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, “30-04-2020-Panhellenic Exams’ schedule for general and vocational senior high schools 2020” (30-04-2020 Πρόγραμμα πανελλαδικών εξετάσεων ΓΕΛ και ΕΠΑΛ 2020), press release, 30-4-2020, available in Greek at <https://bit.ly/3dHUz3s>

⁴² Greece, Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, “09-04-2020-Adjustment of the exam material of the panhellenic exams of 2020” (09-04-2020 Αναπροσαρμογή εξεταστέας ύλης πανελλαδικών εξετάσεων 2020), press release, 09-04-2020, available in Greek at <https://www.minedu.gov.gr/rss/44624-09-04-2020-anaprosarmogi-eksetasteas-ylis-panelladikon-eksetaseon-2021>

⁴³ Greece, Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, “14-05-20 Admission rates to higher education institutions remain the same as last year” (14-05-20 Ίδιος με πέρυσι ο αριθμός εισακτέων στην τριτοβάθμια εκπαίδευση), press release, 14-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://www.minedu.gov.gr/lykeio-2/sxolika-nea-lykeio/44949-14-05-20-idios-me-perysi-o-arithmos-eisakteon-stin-tritovathmia-ekpaidefsi-4>

⁴⁴ Greece, Ministry of Development and Investments, “Restoration of financial activity from Monday 18 May”, (Επαναφορά της οικονομικής δραστηριότητας από Δευτέρα 18 Μαΐου), press release, 16-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://bit.ly/2XIE1bB>

- shops with a surface over 300 square metres on different floors there is a cap of one person per square metre on each floor;
- the use of face masks is strongly advised for staff and customers;
- persons in shops must keep 1.5 metre of distance;
- the use of elevators must be avoided;
- shops must open at 10 am except for retail shops selling construction materials which will open at 7 am.

In **Greece**, malls reopened on 18 May 2020 while restaurants, cafes and bars opened on 25 May 2020. Detailed precaution measures were announced by the Deputy Minister of Development and Investments in his announcement of 17 May 2020.⁴⁵

Measures in restaurants and cafe bars are summarised as follows according to the relevant circular⁴⁶:

- one customer per 2 square metres of free space;
- tables must be placed in 1.7 metre distance from each other;
- maximum number of adults per table is 6;
- staff are obliged to wear face masks or other face covers and customers are also strongly advised to use protective masks.

Protective measures to be applied in malls , discount outlets, are along the same lines as follows:

- one customer allowed per 20 square metres at all times ;
- opening time is 10 am instead of 9 am ;
- all persons within the mall must keep 1.5 metre distance ;
- use of face masks is mandatory both for staff and for customers in the shops while it is recommended in the common areas of the malls

The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs has increased health and safety controls aiming to secure that all COVID-19 related measures are respected in the workplace. In support of this intensification, the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs developed “Artemis” scheme for the implementation of regular controls aiming to secure businesses’ engagement with health, safety and employment related measures.⁴⁷ During the period 15 March to 5 May 2020, the Labour Inspectorate conducted 3,211 controls in businesses regarding health and safety measures and 1,111 for the legality of work contracts. Its findings showed 67 violations with regards to suspension of work contracts and 16 incidents of uninsured workers. These violations are not analysed further. It is deducted that the 67 violations specifically relate to COVID-19 measures related to suspension of work contracts applied exceptionally during the lockdown. In Greece, the Labour Inspectorate is competent to impose fines

⁴⁵ Greece, Ministry of Development and Investments, “Announcement by the Deputy Minister of Development and Investments, Mr Nikos Papathanassis on financial activities restarting on 18 & 25 May respectively” (Ανακοίνωση από τον ΥφΥΠΑΝΕ κ. Νίκο Παπαθανάση για τις οικονομικές δραστηριότητες που επαναλειτουργούν στις 18 & 25 Μαΐου αντίστοιχα), press release, 17-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://bit.ly/2MoJulk>

⁴⁶ Greece, Ministry of Development and Investments, General Secretariat for Consumers’ Protection, “Clarification to the terms and rulers of operation[...]” (Διευκρινίσεις για τους όρους και τους κανόνες λειτουργίας καταστημάτων υγειονομικού ενδιαφέροντος), circular, No 52159/25-5-2020, available in Greek at <http://www.mindev.gov.gr/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/%CE%94%CE%99%CE%95%CE%A5%CE%9A%CE%A1%CE%99%CE%9D%CE%99%CE%A3%CE%95%CE%99%CE%A3.pdf>

⁴⁷ Greece, Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, “The Labour Inspectorate stands with the workers[...]” (Το Σ.Ε.Π.Ε δίπλα στους εργαζομένους [...]), press release, 18-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://www.ypakp.gr/uploads/docs/12372.pdf>

and prosecute the subjects of the violations it identifies. It can also bring cases of employment law violations before the competent courts.⁴⁸

In **Greece**, due to the heavy dependence of the national economy on tourism, the Ministry of Finance announced a special support mechanism for workers and businesses in the air transport sector⁴⁹ and extended the possibility of suspension of work contracts followed by state compensation for workers and businesses in the tourism industry for June 2020.⁵⁰ The support mechanism for aviation included:

- the possibility of temporary suspension of employment contracts in the aviation industry until July 2020 while work contracts in other sectors can only be suspended until 31 May 2020 ;
- workers whose contracts are suspended will receive a special compensation including social insurance costs for July as they did for April and May;
- 40% rent discounts for businesses and employees of the aviation sector until August 2020;
- establishment of new income tax rate 15% for aviation staff -in line with marine staff -leading to the aviation companies saving up to € 7.7 million per year ;
- VAT discount on air tickets-from 24% to 13% until 31 October 2020.

The support measures for special categories of workers significantly affected by the negative impact of coronavirus adopted on 22 April 2020⁵¹ included mine workers, forest workers, tobacco leaf collectors, shoe makers, cinema and theatre cashiers, cinema and television technicians, musicians, dancers and actors, touristic and catering employees. Those who could benefit from the financial support were the ones who were employed during the previous year and received a special seasonal benefit, while no provision was made for those who were not working in 2019 and are currently unemployed. Pursuant to the new Ministerial Decision issued on 15 May 2020, the support measures were extended to other categories as well with primary focus on art workers.⁵² Art workers who were working during February and March 2020 but their contract ended either abruptly or normally during that time are now entitled to receive the special purpose compensation of € 800. The same applies even for art workers whose contracts were of short duration namely one or two days.

In **Greece**, the Collective labour Agreements were extended until 30 June 2020⁵³, despite the request of the General Confederation of Greek Workers to extend them until 30 September 2020. The General

⁴⁸ Greece, Labour Inspectorate, 2020, "Labour Inspectorate Competency" (Αρμοδιότητες (Σ.Ε.Π.Ε.)), available in Greek at <https://www.sepenet.gr/liferayportal/42>

⁴⁹ Greece, "Joint Press Release of the Ministries of Finance, Labor & Social Affairs and Infrastructure & Transport -Support framework for the aviation sector (Κοινό Δελτίο Τύπου των Υπουργείων Οικονομικών, Εργασίας & Κοινωνικών Υποθέσεων και Υποδομών & Μεταφορών Πλαίσιο στήριξης του τομέα των αερομεταφορών) , press release, 25-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://bit.ly/3crb8PC>

⁵⁰ Greece, Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, "Announcement of support measures for June 2020", press release, 20-5-2020, available at <https://www.ypakp.gr/uploads/docs/12375.pdf>

⁵¹ Greece, Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, Joint Ministerial Decision, "Support measures for special categories of workers significantly affected by the negative impact of coronavirus COVID-10" (Μέτρα στήριξης εργαζομένων ειδικών κατηγοριών, οι οποίοι πλήττονται σημαντικά λόγω των αρνητικών συνεπειών της εμφάνισης κορωνοϊού COVID), No 16073/287 , O.G B' 1547/22-4-2020 available in Greek at <https://bit.ly/3fiMN12>

⁵² Greece, Ministries of Finances-Labor and Social Affairs, Joint Ministerial Decision, "Amendment of No 16073/287/22-4-2020 'Support measures for special categories of workers significantly affected by the negative impact of coronavirus COVID-19' B' 1547 and B' 1841", (Τροποποίηση της με αριθμ. οικ. 16073/287/ 22-4-2020 «Μέτρα στήριξης εργαζομένων ειδικών κατηγοριών, οι οποίοι πλήττονται σημαντικά λόγω των αρνητικών συνεπειών της εμφάνισης κορωνοϊού COVID-19»)(B' 1547 και B' 1841), No οικ. 18657/370, O.G B' 1863/15-5-2020, available in Greek at [http://www.dsanet.gr/Epikairothta/Nomothesia/YA%2018657%20\(1863\).htm](http://www.dsanet.gr/Epikairothta/Nomothesia/YA%2018657%20(1863).htm)

⁵³ Greece, Act of Legislative Content, "Further measures in response to the continuing consequences of the coronavirus pandemic and the return to social and financial stability"(Περαιτέρω μέτρα για την αντιμετώπιση των συνεχιζόμενων συνεπειών της πανδημίας του κορωνοϊού COVID-19 και την επάνοδο στην κοινωνική και

Confederation of Greek Workers also makes reference to the problematic non-inclusion of certain categories of workers in the support mechanism. Forest workers who applied for the unemployment benefit in 2019 instead of the seasonal benefit -as they had to choose between the two- could not be included in the COVID-19 support mechanism.⁵⁴ According to the General Confederation of Greek Workers, technical workers working within the public sector with private law contracts were also not included in the support mechanism.⁵⁵ It is noted that household staff and trainee lawyers still have not received any kind of financial support.

1.2.4 Access to justice

In **Greece**, the suspension of operation of civil, criminal, administrative courts and Prosecution Offices was renewed until 31 May 2020 according to a Joint Ministerial Decision issued on 15 May 2020.⁵⁶ Pursuant to the same Joint Ministerial Decision the secretariats of the courts resume work. All deadlines and limitation periods were suspended and proceedings were adjourned. Exceptionally, courts remain in operation for the following proceedings:

- petition and granting of temporary orders ;
- petition and granting of provisional relief measures;
- trials of detained misdemeanour defendants caught in the act;
- selection of members of the jury ;
- trials of felony defendants under pre-trial custody who have served time close to the maximum time allowed in pre-trial custody ;
- trials of felonies bound to become time-barred ;
- publication of judgments

On 28 May 2020, the suspension of criminal trials with the same exceptions as before for the period 1 June until 21 June 2020 was ordered.⁵⁷ Civil and administrative courts resume operations on 1 June 2020 and measures are taken to tackle backlog and manage caseload.⁵⁸ These measures include:

- further extension of deadlines of lodging petitions for legal remedies;
- cases which started during the suspension period but were adjourned due to other reasons will be prioritised;
- possibility to subpoena parties to the next session of an adjourned trial via email;
- possibility to lodge release requests and other petitions via email;
- possibility to receive copy of files via email;

οικονομική κανονικότητα), O.G A' No 90/01-05-2020, Art. 15, available in Greek at <http://www.dsnet.gr/Epikairothta/Nomothesia/PNP01-05-2020.htm>

⁵⁴ Greece, General Confederation of Greek Workers, "Inclusion of forest workers in the support mechanism is necessary" (ΑΠΑΡΑΙΤΗΤΗ Η ΕΝΤΑΞΗ ΚΑΙ ΤΩΝ ΔΑΣΕΡΓΑΤΩΝ – ΥΛΟΤΟΜΩΝ ΣΤΑ ΜΕΤΡΑ ΣΤΗΡΙΞΗΣ), press release, 14-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://gsee.gr/?p=36960>

⁵⁵ Greece, General Confederation of Greek Workers, "We demand the 800 euro compensation for technical workers working with private law contracts in the public sector" (ΝΑ ΚΑΤΑΒΛΗΘΕΙ ΤΟ ΕΠΙΔΟΜΑ ΤΩΝ 800 ΕΥΡΩ ΚΑΙ ΣΤΟΥΣ ΕΡΓΑΤΟΤΕΧΝΙΤΕΣ/ ΕΡΓΑΤΕΣ ΙΔΙΩΤΙΚΟΥ ΔΙΚΑΙΟΥ ΠΟΥ ΑΠΑΣΧΟΛΟΥΝΤΑΙ ΣΕ ΦΟΡΕΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΔΗΜΟΣΙΟΥ), press release, 13-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://gsee.gr/?p=36956>

⁵⁶ Greece, Ministries of National Defence-Health-Justice, Joint Ministerial Decision, "Imposition of the measure of temporary suspension of the function of all Courts of Justice and Prosecution Offices [...] from 16.5.2020 until 31.5.2020" ("Επιβολή του μέτρου της προσωρινής αναστολής λειτουργίας όλων των Δικαστηρίων και Εισαγγελιών [...] για το χρονικό διάστημα από 16.5.2020 έως και 31.5.2020."), No D1a/G.P. οικ. 30340, O.G B' 1857/15-5-2020, available in Greek at [http://www.dsnet.gr/Epikairothta/Nomothesia/YA30340%20\(1857\).htm](http://www.dsnet.gr/Epikairothta/Nomothesia/YA30340%20(1857).htm)

⁵⁷ <https://www.e-nomothesia.gr/kat-ygeia/astheneies/koine-upourgike-apophase-d1a-gp-oik-33202-2020.html>

⁵⁸ Greece, Law No 4690, O.G A' 104/30-5-2020, Articles 33,74, 75 , available in Greek at <https://collab.lawspot.gr/sites/default/files/mashup/feka/2020/fek-104-2020.pdf>

- lawyers are given the authority to take sworn witness statements until 31 October 2020;
- enforcement proceedings are suspended until 32 July 2020.

In Greece, safety measures are adopted for staff and attendants of the courts to prevent the spread of Coronavirus COVID-19 once courts reopen on 1 June 2020.⁵⁹

- strong recommendation for the use of a non-medical mask or face protection shield by prosecutors, judges, secretaries, lawyers and parties;
- supply of an alcoholic antiseptic solution in all areas ;
- keeping a distance of 1.5 metre between individuals;
- setting a maximum of 20-25 persons in small court rooms and maintaining the same proportion for larger court rooms.

1.2.5 Freedom of movement

According to the aviation guidelines of Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure flights remain limited or fully suspended in the following cases:⁶⁰

- passenger flights to and from Italy, Spain, UK and the Netherlands continue to be suspended until 31 May 2020 at 23:59 ;
- the temporary suspension of passenger flights to and from Albania and North Macedonia continues until 14 June 2020 at 23:59 ;
- suspension of flights to and from Turkey is extended until 14 June at 23:59
- any arrivals or departures must take place at the 'Eleftherios Venizelos' airport of Athens until 31 May 2020 at 23:59;
- non EU citizens are banned from entering the Greek territory until 31 May 2020 at 23:59 with the exception of: family members of EU/EEA citizens, medical staff, researchers, third country nationals legally residing in Greece or the EU and their family members, diplomats and workers carrying essential goods.

All passengers arriving in Greece are obliged to self-isolate for 14 days for infection prevention reasons until 31 May 2020 irrespective of test result.⁶¹ The following passengers are excluded from the quarantine measure:

- passengers in transit;
- flight crew;
- passengers on state flights;
- passengers on sanitary flights ;
- passengers on humanitarian flights ;

⁵⁹ Greece, Ministries of Citizen Protection-Development and Investments-Interior-Justice-National Defence-Labor and Social Affairs, Joint Ministerial Decision, "Rules relating to physical distances in the courts and prosecution offices of the country [...]" (Κανόνες τήρησης αποστάσεων στα δικαστήρια και τις εισαγγελίες της χώρας [...]), No D1a/GP.oik. 33202/2020, O.G B' 2033/28-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://www.e-nomothesia.gr/kat-ygeia/astheneies/koine-upourgike-apophase-d1a-gp-oik-33202-2020.html>

⁶⁰ Greece, Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure, Civil Aviation Authority, "Aviation guidelines (NOTAMS):Extension of suspension of flights abroad [...]" (Αεροπορικές Οδηγίες (NOTAMS):Επεκτείνεται η αναστολή πτήσεων εξωτερικού [...]), press release, 15-5-2020, available in Greek at <http://www.ypa.gr/news/8ema-aeroporikes-odhgies-notams-epekteinetai-h-anastolh-pthswn>

⁶¹ Greece, Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure, Civil Aviation Authority, "Extension of mandatory quarantine is imposed on all passengers entering Greece until 31 May 2020" (Παρατείνεται έως τέλος Μαΐου η υποχρεωτική καραντίνα 14 ημερών όλων των επιβατών που εισέρχονται στην Ελλάδα), press release, 18-5-2020, available in Greek at <http://www.ypa.gr/news/parateinetai-ews-telos-maiou-h-ypoxrewtikh-karantina-14-hmerwn-olwn-twn-epibatwn-poy-eisxontai-sthn-ellada>

- passengers on emergency flights;
- passengers on military flights
- passengers on cargo flights;
- passengers on Frontex flights;

In Greece, a draft law amending the existing International Protection and Migration laws was introduced for public consultation in the Greek Parliament on 10 April. The suggested amendments triggered a response on 5 May 2020 by 20 NGOs working on the field who criticised the draft law. The comments made by the organisations in their press release denounced the draft law for the following reasons:

- it provides for the use of detention of asylum seekers as primary resort;
- abolishes the possibility to prioritise the examination of applications by vulnerable asylum seekers, even if they are in detention;
- it abolishes the direct referral to the humanitarian residence permit procedure for people who are refused refugee status in the second degree but are too vulnerable to be returned.⁶²

The final amendments to the International Protection and Migration laws passed on 12 May 2020.⁶³ The new law took some of the remarks made by the organisations into consideration:

- the direct referral to the humanitarian residence permit procedure in the second degree was maintained;
- detained asylum seekers' cases will be prioritised.

The new law also provides for the following additions and amendments to the existing migration legislation:

- a Special Secretariat for Unaccompanied Minors is established;⁶⁴
- the registration of asylum applications shall be conducted by the Reception and Identification Service while this was only performed by the Regional Asylum Offices or the Autonomous Asylum Offices;⁶⁵
- the service of decisions to the applicants is now made possible through post, email or mobile apps operated by the Asylum Service⁶⁶.

⁶² Greece, Refugee Support Aegean, "20 organisations and legal practitioners call against the clauses endangering the basic rights of asylum seekers" (20 Οργανώσεις και νομικοί ζητούν να καταψηφιστούν διατάξεις που θέτουν σε κίνδυνο βασικά δικαιώματα των αιτούντων διεθνή προστασία), 7-5-2020, press release, available in Greek at <https://bit.ly/2UI7v7D>

⁶³ Greece, Law , "Improvement to the migration legislation, amendment of clauses of law No 4636/2019, 4375/2016, 4251/2014 and other provisions"(Βελτίωση της μεταναστευτικής νομοθεσίας, τροποποίηση διατάξεων των νόμων 4636/2019 (Α' 169), 4375/2016 (Α' 51), 4251/2014 (Α' 80) και άλλες διατάξεις.), No 4686, O.G A'96/12-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RuRFbsVsT8GnXuLedRzf0RMGFNHden8B/view>

⁶⁴ Ibid, Art. 1 para. 4

⁶⁵ Ibid, Art. 5

⁶⁶ Ibid, Art. 14

1.3 Impact of measures on particular groups

1. Roma

In Greece, the Roma population has been particularly affected by the COVID-19. The General Secretariat for Civil Protection confirmed that 30 persons residing in the Roma camp in Nea Smyrni area in Larissa tested positive for Coronavirus COVID-19.⁶⁷ It is noted that this area had already been under a state of emergency including a complete lockdown of residents and a complete ban of movement outside of the camp for 14 days when 20 persons were tested positive for Coronavirus COVID-19 on 9 April 2020. The Roma camp in question was once again placed under strict restrictions to tackle the negative impact of the spread of the virus within this population:

- curfew imposition from 22:00 to 06:00 effective from 15 May 2020 for 14 days. Movement at these times is allowed only for serious health emergencies;
- prohibition of gathering of more than ten people at one place and strict supervision of the measure application ;
- mandatory use of a mask for everyone in the camp ;
- the persons working in the outdoor markets will be able to leave the area of Nea Smyrni for work if they test negative in two consecutive virus tests within the span of five days;
- the Regional Administration of Thessaly will distribute 1,500 fabric masks and antiseptics to each family residing in the Roma camp;
- mobile medical units will continue tracing the positive cases and running new tests in the area.

The Ellan Passe-Panhellenic Confederation of Greek Roma (Ελλάν Πασσέ- Πανελλαδική Συνομοσπονδία Ελλήνων Ρομά) issued a press release on 15 May 2020 expressing their concerns on the information provided by the General Secretariat for Civil Protection on seven of the 35 confirmed cases of COVID-19. More specifically, the Ellan Passe received contradictory information about seven alleged cases of coronavirus COVID-10 by a local representative in Thessaly region. The Ellan Passe has requested the intervention of the competent prosecution offices in order for the tests to be run again⁶⁸.

2. Refugees

In Greece, asylum applications were suspended for March 2020. From April 2020, asylum applications resumed normally. Regional Asylum Offices suspended their operations until 15 May 2020 in response to the pandemic.⁶⁹ The Asylum Offices resumed operations on 18 May 2020 but as the Ministry of Asylum and Migration announced, measures will be taken to avoid overcrowding:

- certain applications such as change of address, expedition requests, information requests et al. will only be available via email and ;

⁶⁷ Greece, General Secretariat for Civil Protection, "35 positive cases out of 637 samples tested in Nea Smyrni, Larissa-Enhanced supervision of the area is applied by the General Secretariat for Civil Protection" (35 κρούσματα σε σύνολο 637 δειγμάτων στη Νέα Σμύρνη Λάρισας - Σε κατάσταση ενισχυμένης επιτήρησης η περιοχή με απόφαση της Γενικής Γραμματείας Πολιτικής Προστασίας), press release, 15 May 2020, <https://www.civilprotection.gr/el/simantika-themata/35-kroysmata-se-synolo-637-deigmaton-sti-nea-smyrni-larissas-se-katastasi>

⁶⁸ Greece, Ellan Passe-Panhellenic Confederation of Greek Roma , "Ellan Passe calls for the intervention of the Prosecutor of First Instance of Larissa to order the repetition of medical tests on the 35 confirmed cases of coronavirus in N. Smyrni" (Η ΕΛΛΑΝ ΠΑΣΣΕ ζητά παρέμβαση του κ. Εισαγγελέα Πρωτοδικών Λάρισας για τον επανέλεγχο των 35 φερόμενων ως νέων κρουσμάτων κορωνοϊού στη Ν. Σμύρνη), press release, 15-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://ellan-passe.blogspot.com/2020/05/35.html>

⁶⁹ Greece, Ministries of Health-Interior-Migration and Asylum, Joint Ministerial Decision, "Extension of Joint Ministerial Decision No 12687/16-3-2020" ("Παράταση ισχύος των διατάξεων της αριθμ.12687/16.3.2020 κοινής υπουργικής απόφασης"), No 3332, O.G B 1297/10-4-2020 , available in Greek at <https://www.e-nomothesia.gr/kat-ygeia/astheneies/koine-upourgike-apophase-3332-2020.html>

- the asylum seekers' cards which expired during the period 13 March-31 May 2020 are given a 6-month extension pursuant to a Ministerial Decision⁷⁰ so that physical renewal of large numbers of cards is avoided ;⁷¹
- applicants of international protection whose interview did not take place due to COVID-19 protection measures will be informed of their new interview date, at the latest when they renew their card in the Asylum Service offices.⁷²

In Greece, 150 cases of Coronavirus COVID-19 infections were confirmed in April in Kranidi Hotel refugee hosting facility run by IOM.⁷³ Three more persons were found positive in Kranidi Hotel according to the announcement of the Ministry of Asylum and Migration. The Ministries of Citizen Protection and Asylum and Migration ordered a full lock down of the facility for 15 days.⁷⁴

In Greece, all preventive measures taken in refugee camps ,refugee hosting facilities and Reception Identification Centres are renewed until 7 June 2020.⁷⁵ In concrete, the measures include:

- restriction of movement within Reception and Identification Centres for residents;
- residents can move outside only between 7:00 and 19:00 to cover basic needs;
- staff is obliged to practise protective personal hygiene measures;
- special medical units are established within the camps.

In **Greece**, Amnesty international raises concerns for the new draft law on asylum and is calling the Greek state to not adopt measures allowing the automatic detention of asylum seekers as such a practise ,especially in the time of a pandemic, will put refugees' health at risk .⁷⁶ The European Council on Refugees and Exiles also criticised the Greek government for the use of detention especially on children seeking asylum and denounced the situation in the recently opened asylum offices as chaotic in its press release of 22 May 2020.⁷⁷ The Guardian also wrote about how social distancing in the Greek refugee camps is impossible and how the extension of lock down for refugees is met with dismay by

⁷⁰ Greece, Ministry of Asylum and Migration, Ministerial Decision, "Amendment of [...] Extension of Residence Permits [...]" (Τροποποίηση της [...]«Παράταση ισχύος Αδειών Διαμονής[...]»), No TT 9028/2020 O.G B' 154/15-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gFzcd2V2f7uDF8cDSSI-eKe8irWNOw-G/view>

⁷¹ Greece, Ministry of Asylum and Migration, 2020, "Service guidance at the Asylum Service for the general public from 18-5-2020 until 29-5-2020" (Εξυπηρέτηση Κοινού από την Υπηρεσία Ασύλου από 18.5.2020-29.5.2020), press release, available in Greek at <https://bit.ly/2U0RzY4>

⁷² Greece, Ministry of Asylum and Migration, "Provision of Services from 1.6.2020 (June 1, 2020)", press release, 28-5-2020, available in English at <http://asylo.gov.gr/en/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Announcement-5-28-20201.pdf>

⁷³ Greece, Minister of Migration and Asylum, "Letter to Mr Juan Fernando López Aguilar" ("Επιστολή προς τον κο Juan Fernando López Aguilar"), letter, 27 April 2020, available in Greek at <https://bit.ly/3dpHY4o>

⁷⁴ Greece, Ministry of Asylum and Migration, facebook post, 26-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://www.facebook.com/migrationgovgr.info/posts/1628336290653803>

⁷⁵ Greece, Ministries of Citizen Protection-Asylum and Migration, Joint Ministerial Decision, "Extension of D1a/GP.oik20030/21/3/2020 (B'985) Joint Ministerial Decision of [...] until 7.6.2020" ,(Παράταση ισχύος της υπ' αρ. Δ1α/ΓΠ.οικ.20030/21.3.2020 (B' 985) [...] έως και τις 7.6.2020.), No D1a/GP.oik. 31689, O.G 1972/21-5-2020, available in Greek at https://drive.google.com/file/d/1AUWu3aJwI0UurzQ00aSMSNher4vwoz_C/view

⁷⁶ Greece, Greek Department of Amnesty International, "Greece: the position of the government is irresponsible with regards to the systematic detention of asylum seekers and migrants during a pandemic" (ΕΛΛΑΔΑ: ΑΝΕΥΘΥΝΗ Η ΣΤΑΣΗ ΤΗΣ ΚΥΒΕΡΝΗΣΗΣ ΓΙΑ ΣΥΣΤΗΜΑΤΙΚΗ ΚΡΑΤΗΣΗ ΤΩΝ ΑΙΤΟΥΝΤΩΝ/ΟΥΣΩΝ ΑΣΥΛΟ ΚΑΙ ΤΩΝ ΜΕΤΑΝΑΣΤΩΝ/ΣΤΡΙΩΝ ΣΕ ΣΥΝΘΗΚΕΣ ΠΑΝΔΗΜΙΑΣ), press release, 7 May 2020, available in Greek at <https://www.amnesty.gr/news/press/article/23301/ellada-aneythyni-i-stasi-tis-kyvernisis-gia-systimatiki-kratise-ton>

⁷⁷ ECRE, "Greece: Chaotic Resumption of Procedures, Hundreds of Children Detained, Crack-Down on NGOs, New Evidence of Push-backs to Turkey", press release, 22 May 2020, available in English at <https://bit.ly/3gYf8L8>

the refugee community in juxtaposition with Greece's preparations to accept tourists for the summer.⁷⁸

3. Detainees

In **Greece**, no alternative measures to detention have been announced or adopted by the Greek Ministry of Citizen Protection who is competent for detention facilities. The Ministry of Citizen Protection has not announced any initiatives or plans to decongest prisons in any way either. According to interviews of the General Secretary of Anti-Criminal Policy decongesting will be facilitated via placing 200 detainees into the special wing established in Korydallos prison for COVID-19 patients and that no release scheme was deemed necessary.⁷⁹ The General Secretary of Anti-Criminal Policy also announced that restriction measures will be lifted in prisons on 18 May 2020 and stressed that no COVID-19 infections were found in detention centres or prisons. More specifically:

- visitation is resumed;
- detainees will be allowed to accept food and clothes from outside of the facilities;
- the third grade of the in-prison senior high school started on 11 May 2020 together with the rest of senior high schools in Greece;
- the rest of the grades of in-prison senior and junior high school will reopen on 18 May 2020;
- educational and cultural events in the prisons will resume on 29 May 2020

In **Greece**, a detained person sent a letter to various blogs describing his experience in Chania prison in Crete.⁸⁰ The prisoner expresses his fear and explains that doctors are not available in the facility, rooms of 30 persons' capacity usually contain 60-70 persons and that four detainees have died within the last month. The Ministry of Citizen Protection has not commented on the letter.

While there is no particular report from the Greek Ombudsman or the National Human Rights Commission about the conditions within prisons during the reporting period, it is noted that the case of a hunger striker in detention has drawn the attention of the Greek National Human Rights Commission and the media. The case is that of Vassilis Dimakis, a detained person who was unjustifiably ordered to be transferred from Korydallos to Grevena prison despite the fact that he was a student at the University of Athens. Finally the transfer was revoked, but Vassilis Dimakis was not returned to the division he belonged to but was temporarily placed to a different one due to the 14-day mandatory quarantine imposed to the detainees transferred from other units as a measure against the spread of COVID-19 in prisons. This temporary move however exceeded 14 days and did not allow him to attend his e-classes which resulted in another hunger and thirst strike. The Greek National Human Rights Commission issued multiple press releases requesting the Greek state to restore Mr Dimakis' right to education.⁸¹ The Ministry of Citizen Protection issued a press release on

⁷⁸ The Guardian, "Greece ready to welcome tourists as refugees stay locked down in Lesbos", article, 27 May 2020, available in English at <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2020/may/27/greece-ready-to-welcome-tourists-as-refugees-stay-locked-down-in-lesbos-coronavirus?fbclid=IwAR01UvI3LN23YOIRXtic1geTlf81hohmo7bN4HLk9-mfzILDVeYZOfeyb6s>

⁷⁹ Greece, Athenian-Macedonian News Agency, "Lift of measures in prisons from 18 May 2020. Detention Centre in Drama is being delivered." (*Άρση μέτρων από αύριο στις φυλακές. Παραδίδεται τον Ιούνιο το Κατάστημα Κράτησης Δράμας.*), 17-5-2020, available in Greek at <https://www.amna.gr/home/article/458271/Arsi-metron-apo-aurio-stis-fulakes-Paradidetai-ton-Iounio-to-Katastima-Kratisis-Dramas>

⁸⁰ Greece, Detainees' rights initiative, "Doctor: The forgotten word in Chania prison", (*ΓΙΑΤΡΟΣ: Η ΞΕΧΑΣΜΕΝΗ ΛΕΞΗ ΣΤΙΣ ΦΥΛΑΚΕΣ ΧΑΝΙΩΝ*), 31-5-2020, available in Greek at <http://www.tokeli.gr/2020/05/blog-post-31.html>

⁸¹ Greece, Greek National Human Rights Commission, "Urgent Announcement" (Κατεπείγουσα Δήλωση), press release, 25-5-2020, available in Greek at http://www.nchr.gr/images/pdf/nea_epikairothta/deltia_tupou/Katepeigousa%20Dilosi%20EEDA%20gia%20V.Dimaki_25.5.2020.pdf

25 May 2020 explaining that Mr Dimakis was informed of his rights and had unhindered access to his education but nevertheless refused to lodge the applications needed to gain access to electronic equipment.⁸² The Ministry of Citizen Protection finally ordered the transfer of Mr Dimakis to the prison he requested, Korydallos I.⁸³

2. Impact on fundamental rights of older people

Please provide information under each title / sub-title; and indicate n/a when no information available.

2.1. Data/statistics

In Greece, older people are the main population group impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The official data on COVID-19 reports a total of 2918 incidents and 179 deaths until 01 June 2020.

2.1.1. Share of persons 60+ in the total number of persons in the community infected, recovered and died in relation to COVID-19.

- Infected by COVID-19
- Recovered from COVID-19
- Died in relation to COVID-19

The median age of all incidents is 48 years (span from 0 to 102 years), while the median age of deaths is 76 years (span 35 - 102 years). The disaggregation by age of (a) those infected, (b) those who died and (c) patients currently hospitalized is presented in the table below⁸⁴:

Total	Total COVID-19 incidents	Deaths of patients with COVID -19	Hospitalised patients
0-17 years	159 (5,8%)	0	0
18-39 years	845 (31.1%)	3 (1.7%)	0
40-64 years	1139 (41.9%)	39 (21.8%)	5 (41.7%)
65 and older	576 (21.2%)	137 (76.5%)	7 (58.3%)
Men			
0-17 years	78 (5.2%)	0	0
18-39 years	455 (30.4%)	3 (2.4%)	0

⁸² Greece, Ministry of Citizen Protection, "25-05-2020: Press Release about detainee Vassilis Dimakis" (25-05-2020: Δελτίο Τύπου σχετικά με τον κρατούμενο Βασίλη Δημάκη), press release, 25-5-2020, available in Greek at http://www.mopocp.gov.gr/index.php?option=ozo_content&lang=&perform=view&id=7098&Itemid=699

⁸³ Greece, Ministry of Citizen Protection, "27-05-2020: Press Release about detainee Vassilis Dimakis" (27-05-2020: Δελτίο Τύπου σχετικά με τον κρατούμενο Βασίλη Δημάκη), press release, 27-5-2020, available in Greek at http://www.mopocp.gov.gr/index.php?option=ozo_content&lang=&perform=view&id=7102&Itemid=699

⁸⁴ Greece, EODY, Daily epidemiological surveillance report on COVID-19. Data until 01 June 2020, time 15:00 (Ημερήσια έκθεση επιδημιολογικής επιτήρησης λοίμωξης από το νέο κορωνοϊό (COVID-19), 01.06.2020, <https://eody.gov.gr/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/covid-gr-daily-report-20200601.pdf>

40-64 years	635 (42.4%)	30 (24%)	3 (33.3%)
65 and older	330 (22%)	92 (73.6%)	6 (66.7%)
Women			
0-17 years	81 (6.6%)	0	0
18-39 years	390 (31.9%)	0	0
40-64 years	504 (41.3%)	9 (16.7%)	2 (66.7%)
65 and older	246 (20.1%)	45 (83.3%)	1 (33.3%)

2.1.2. Share of persons 60+ in the total number of persons in institutional settings infected, recovered and died in relation to COVID-19.

- Infected by COVID-19
- Recovered from COVID-19
- Died in relation to COVID-19

The official statistics do not report whether COVID-related incidents and deaths took place at care homes or in the community. According to media reports⁸⁵ and the inspections conducted by the National Public Health Organisation (*Εθνικός Οργανισμός Δημόσιας Υγείας, ΕΟΔΥ*) in 240 care structures, the transmission of the virus in care homes has been very limited and there are no reported deaths. The Head of the Region of Attika publicly commented that he took pride in the fact that there were no human losses in old people's care homes⁸⁶.

2.1.3. Number and type of institutions affected

The few incidents reported concerned a small number of care homes for the elderly and some private health providers. For example, on the 12th April 2020, a National Public Health Organisation unit inspected an old people's home in Attika following reports on a confirmed incident⁸⁷. However, no official data or statistics are available on the number any type of institutions affected.

⁸⁵ Greece, Kathimerini, Few incidents in special institutions (Λίγα κρούσματα σε ειδικές δομές), 22.05.2020, <https://www.kathimerini.gr/1079279/article/epikairothta/ellada/liga-kroysmata-se-eidikes-domes> 22.05.2020

⁸⁶ Greece, Capital.gr, Region of Atika: No loss of life from the coronavirus in old people's home and elderly care units (Περιφέρεια Αττικής: Καμία απώλεια ζωής από τον κορονοϊό σε γηροκομεία και Μονάδες Φροντίδας Ηλικιωμένων), 7/5/2020, <https://www.capital.gr/epikairotita/3451771/perifereia-attikis-kamia-apoleia-zois-apo-ton-koronoio-se-girokeimeia-kai-monades-frontidas-ilikiomenon>.

⁸⁷ Greece, EODY, EODY Unit in an old people's home in Attika to inspect for COVID-19 (Κλιμάκιο του ΕΟΔΥ σε δομή ηλικιωμένων της Αττικής για τον έλεγχο για covid- 19) Press release, 12.04.2020, <https://eody.gov.gr/klimakio-toy-eody-se-domi-ilikiomenon-tis-attikis-gia-ton-elegcho-gia-covid-19/>; [EODY, Visit from the President of EODY and Prof. Sotiris Tsiodras at an old people's home in Attika](https://eody.gov.gr/episepsi-apo-ton-proedro-toy-eody-kai-ton-kathigiti-sotiri-tsiodra-se-girokeimeio-tis-attikis/) (Επίσκεψη από τον Πρόεδρο του ΕΟΔΥ και τον καθηγητή Σωτήρη Τσιόδρα σε γηροκομείο της Αττικής), Press Release, 13.04.2020, <https://eody.gov.gr/episepsi-apo-ton-proedro-toy-eody-kai-ton-kathigiti-sotiri-tsiodra-se-girokeimeio-tis-attikis/>

2.1.4. Do official statistics on mortality rates from COVID-19 include deaths of older persons in care homes? Has there been any critique of data collection with respect to care homes?

The official statistics do not report whether COVID-related incidents and deaths took place at care homes or in the community. According to media reports⁸⁸ and the inspections conducted by the National Public Health Organisation (*Εθνικός Οργανισμός Δημόσιας Υγείας, ΕΟΔΥ*) in 240 care structures, there has been a very limited transmission of the virus in care homes and no reported deaths. No critique has been voiced with regard to data collection in relation to care homes.

2.1.5. Independent studies published on the situation of older persons with respect to the impact of and responses to COVID-19

Please reference up to three studies and provide brief information on their focus.

No independent studies on older people and the impact of COVID-related measures have been identified, following desktop research and communication with stakeholders.

2.2. COVID-19 measures targeting older people

Please indicate the age group/s concerned; e.g. 60+, 65+, 70+ etc.

Please consult and refer in particular to measures related to existing or planned national exit strategies (policies/measures).

Please report on developments for the reference period 1 May – 31 May (inclusive) and on any changes/revisions of measures reported in the 1st and 2nd bulletin regarding older people.

On the 15th May 2020, a decision was issued determined the groups vulnerable to COVID 19 infection. These include people aged over 65 years⁸⁹.

2.2.1. National guidelines/protocols in response to COVID-19 addressing older people

In Greece, the protection of older and vulnerable people has been an overarching principle in the measures adopted in response to the epidemic. However, the restrictive measures and the de-escalation measures currently in force do not include measures targeting older people in specific. The Minister of the State, Prof. Gerapetritis, while announcing the plan on the de-escalation measures, explicitly mentioned that there will be no 'age racism' and that only strong recommendations will be addressed to vulnerable groups⁹⁰.

- in residential care homes (including protective equipment, visits etc.)

In Greece, guidelines for residential care homes were issued on the 23rd March by the Public Health Organisation (*Εθνικός Οργανισμός Δημόσιας Υγείας -ΕΟΔΥ*). The Guidance concerned chronic

⁸⁸ Greece, Kathimerini, Few incidents in special institutions (Λίγα κρούσματα σε ειδικές δομές), 22.05.2020, <https://www.kathimerini.gr/1079279/article/epikairothta/ellada/liga-kroysmata-se-eidikes-domes> 22.05.2020

⁸⁹ ΑΠΟΦΑΣΕΙΣ Αριθμ. ΔΙΔΑΔ/Φ.64/346/9011 Καθορισμός ομάδων αυξημένου κινδύνου για σοβαρή λοίμωξη COVID 19., <https://eody.gov.gr/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/fek-1856-2020.pdf>

⁹⁰ Greece, Lifo.gr, Gerapetritis on the suspension of measures: the plans for the abolition of the SMS, schools and movement (Γεραπετρίτης για άρση των μέτρων: Τα σχέδια για την κατάργηση του SMS, τα σχολεία και τις μετακινήσεις), 24.04.2020, <https://www.lifo.gr/now/greece/279629/gerapetritis-gia-arsi-ton-metron-ta-sxedia-gia-tin-katargisi-toy-sms-ta-sxoleia-kai-tis-metakiniseis>

patients' institutions (*Ιδρύματα Χρονίως Πασχόντων*) and hospitality units for the elderly (*Μονάδες Φιλοξενίας Ηλικιωμένων*). The guidance provides detailed measures that cover residents, guests and workers⁹¹. On 7th April 2020 by the Ministry of Health (*Υπουργείο Υγείας*) issued a circular on 'Prevention measures against the transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in Elderly Care Units (*Μονάδες Φροντίδας Ηλικιωμένων*)'⁹².

The Guidance by the Public Health Organisation (*Εθνικός Οργανισμός Δημόσιας Υγείας -ΕΟΔΥ*) (and largely repeated in the circular of the Ministry) includes the following measures:

Guidelines for medical personnel/staff /external associates

- All health personnel is on stand-by and must check their temperature before checking in for work
- Personnel and external associates must wear a face mask throughout their presence in the facility
- Personnel should be removed from work if they have any COVID-related symptoms or in case of contact with a confirmed incident. Removal from work will depend on the results of clinical test and the guidance for the management of the epidemic issued by EODY (the Public Health Organisation)
- Training and proper use of personal protective equipment with emphasis on the use and disposal of face masks, high respiratory protection masks FFP2, FFP3, protective robes, gloves, eye protection and compliance with measures for cleaning, disinfection of rooms and surfaces and safe management of infectious waste.

Guidelines for Guests

A note should be placed at the entrance of the facility regarding the ban of visits. Visits are allowed only for patients/residents in premortal condition and strictly by one person for humanitarian reasons. In this case guests must:

- Abstain from visiting, if they have COVID compatible symptoms
- wash their hands and respect measures of respiratory hygiene
- Wear a face mask

In all other cases, patients are informed on the health of the residents/patients by phone, email, sms etc

Guidelines for Patients/ residents

- Residents/patients need to be assessed for COVID-related symptoms before admission to the unit
- Daily active supervision of patients/residents for COVID compatible symptoms twice per day
- For patients/residents with respiratory symptoms all measures to prevent transmission must be applied:
 - Seclusion in a single en-suite room
 - Strict limitation of movement, and when movement is necessary use of a face mask
 - Proper use of personal protective equipment by the staff caring for a patient
 - Application of prevention measures, prevention of contact and prevention for droplets in cases of respiratory infection from unknown factors. Further, use of aerogenous precautionary measures in cases of infection from pathogen transmitted by air

⁹¹ Greece, EODY, Guidelines for chronic patients' institutions and hospitality units for the elderly (Οδηγίες για Ιδρύματα Χρονίως Πασχόντων και Μονάδες Φιλοξενίας Ηλικιωμένων), 24.03.2020, <https://eody.gov.gr/odigies-gia-idrymata-chronios-paschonton-kai-monades-filoxenias-ilikiomenon/>

⁹² Greece, Ministry of Health, Circular 'Prevention measures from the spreading of coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 in Units for the Care of the Elderly' (Εγκύκλιος «Μέτρα πρόληψης κατά της διασποράς του κορονοϊού SARS-CoV-2 στις Μονάδες Φροντίδας Ηλικιωμένων») 7 /4/2020, <https://www.crete.gov.gr/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/metra-prolipsis-stis-monades-frontidas-ilikiomenon.pdf>

- Availability in every room of antiseptic solutions, liquid soap and hand towels, foot operated bins and tissues
- Hand hygiene
- Respiratory hygiene and use of face mask, if tolerated by the patient
- Cleaning and decontamination of all rooms and surfaces
- Suspension of all non necessary activity like exercise, group activities etc
- Avoidance of meals in dining rooms and serving of dinner in rooms
- Avoidance of non necessary personal care activities (hair cutting, shaving etc)
- Suspension of non urgent and unnecessary visits by external medical doctors
- In case where a patient with a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infection needs to be transferred to another health service provider, National Center for Emergency Assistance (*Εθνικό Κέντρο Έμμεσης Βοήθειας – ΕΚΑΒ*), EODY (the Public Health Organisation) and the reception facility are informed in order to adopt all necessary measures
- In case of death of a patient with a suspect or confirmed COVID-19 infection the guidance form EODY (the Public Health Organisation) are to be followed with regard to the management of the deceased.

Guidelines for administrative support / competencies

- Existence of all necessary infrastructure for hand and respiratory hygiene from residents/patients, staff and guests
 - Antiseptic solutions
 - Liquid soap in every basin and hand towels
 - Foot-operated closed bins
 - Tissues
- Sufficiency in personal protective equipment for staff and training for proper use
 - Masks (FFP2, FFP3), gloves, waterproof robes with long sleeves, face shields, broad spectrum eye glasses
 - Uploading of printed guidelines for 5 basic steps of hand hygiene and the proper steps for application and removal of personal protective equipment
 - Placement of the protective equipment packs before entry to the patients room for use of the staff
 - Closed bin inside the room and before the exit in order to throw away personal protective equipment
- In case of hospitalization of a confirmed COVID-19 incident it is recommended to mobilise exclusive staff in every shift for care
- Provision for smooth operation in case of absence of core staff
- Monitoring of evolving epidemiological data and updating of measures

Immediate reporting of suspect of confirmed incidents to EODY.

- in the community in general

In **Greece**, guidelines in response to the epidemic for vulnerable groups in the community were first issued on 29.02.2020⁹³. These guidelines identified older people and people with chronic underlying conditions as high risk groups for infection and recommended the systematic application of preventive measures, with a particular focus on:

- Avoidance of contact with persons with symptoms of respiratory infections
- Avoidance of unnecessary travel, especially in regions or countries with a confirmed transmission rate of the virus in the community
- Hand hygiene and avoidance of contact between the hands and the face

⁹³ Greece, EODY, Infection from the new coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 - Guidelines for vulnerable groups (Λοίμωξη από το νέο κορωνοϊό SARS-CoV-2 – Οδηγίες για ευπαθείς ομάδες), 29.02.2020, <https://eody.gov.gr/loi-moxi-apo-to-neo-koronoio-covid-19-odigies-gia-eypatheis-omades/>

- Compliance with pharmaceutical treatment and the guidance of their doctors
- Contact with the doctor in case of symptoms of respiratory infection for medical assessment
- Avoidance of visit to hospitalised patients
- Avoidance of visits to health services without serious reason.

In the period from 1-31st May the de-escalation measures were adopted and gradually entered into force. The Government plan for the gradual de-escalation of restrictive measures announced on 28th April 2020 mentions the protection of vulnerable groups as one of its main principles. It refers both to the responsibility of the community to protect people over 70 years of age who are vulnerable to COVID-19 but also to their personal obligation to protect themselves. Older people are subject to the same general measures that apply to the rest of the population and a strong recommendation for them to continue staying at home⁹⁴.

2.2.2. National guidelines/protocols on patient triage that apply age as the main and decisive criterion

No national guidelines-protocols on patient triage in response to the COVID epidemic have been issued by the National Public Health Organisation or the Bioethics Committee⁹⁵.

2.2.3. Targeted testing of residents and staff in residential care homes

In Greece, a testing plan by Mobile Units of National Public Health Organisation was announced on 4/5/2020. The testings were aimed at tracking and controlling potential COVID-19 incidents. The strategic planning was done by the National Public Health Organisation, focused on closed structures and prioritised vulnerable population groups. Mobile Units were mobilized in selected parts of the country and conducted COVID-19 tests⁹⁶.

From the 14.04.2020 to the 16.04.2020 all staff and residents of closed welfare units under the Social Welfare Center of Attika were inspected for COVID-19. The National Public Health Organisation mobile units conducted more than 1000 tests⁹⁷.

⁹⁴ Greece, Hellenic Government, Gradual de-escalation plan of restrictive measures. Security bridge to a new daily life (Σχέδιο σταδιακής αποκλιμάκωσης περιοριστικών μέτρων Γέφυρα ασφάλειας για μια νέα καθημερινότητα) 28.04.2020, https://www.in.gr/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/%CE%A3%CF%87%CE%B5%CE%B4%CE%B9%CE%BF-%CF%83%CF%84%CE%B1%CE%B4%CE%B9%CE%B1%CE%BA%CE%B7%CC%81%CF%82-%CE%B1%CF%80%CE%BF%CE%BA%CE%BB%CE%B9%CE%BC%CE%B1%CC%81%CE%BA%CF%89%CF%83%CE%B7%CF%82-%CE%93%CE%B5%CC%81%CF%86%CF%85%CF%81%CE%B1-%CE%91%CF%83%CF%86%CE%B1%CE%BB%CE%B5%CE%B9%CC%81%CE%B1%CF%82_28_04_2020.pdf; Hellenic Government, Announcement of the Government plan for the gradual suspension of restrictive measures (Ανακοινώσεις του σχεδίου της κυβέρνησης για τη σταδιακή άρση των περιοριστικών μέτρων), 29.04.2020, <https://government.gov.gr/anakinosi-tou-schediou-tis-kivernisi-gia-ti-stadiaki-arsi-ton-perioristikon-metron/>

⁹⁵ Consultation with expert members of the Bioethics Committee.

⁹⁶ Greece, EODY, Initiation of the implementation of the Mobile Unit Programme in the Greek territory (Εναρξη υλοποίησης Προγράμματος των Κινητών Ομάδων του ΕΟΔΥ στην ελληνική επικράτεια) Press release, 04.05.2020, <https://eody.gov.gr/enarxi-ylopoiisi-programmatos-ton-kiniton-omadon-toy-eody-stin-elliniki-epikrateia/>

⁹⁷ Greece, EODY, Inspections for SARS-CoV-2 of staff and residents in closed welfare structures in Attika completed (Ολοκληρώθηκε ο έλεγχος για τον ιό SARS-CoV-2, των εργαζομένων και όλων των τροφίμων κλειστών προνοιακών δομών της Αττικής), Press release, 17.04.2020, <https://eody.gov.gr/oloklirothike-o->

- Is this laid down in a targeted policy/measure or done on an ad-hoc basis when a case has been detected?

In Greece, a comprehensive inspection plan for care homes was not initially announced as part of the measures to respond to COVID-19. The first inspections took place on an ad hoc basis, following reports on COVID incidents in care homes. For example, on the 12th April 2020, a National Public Health Organisation unit inspected an old people's home in Attika following reports on a confirmed incident⁹⁸. This triggered however, a more comprehensive inspection programme executed by mobile units of the National Public Health Organisation. Testing of all staff and residents of closed residential units in Attika were announced on 17.04.2020⁹⁹.

Additional inspections were conducted by the National Transparency Authority (*Εθνική Αρχή Διαφάνειας*). These inspections concerned compliance with the restrictive measures and not testing. These inspections included specific facilities, for example, the private clinic Taxiarchai¹⁰⁰. It also included a more comprehensive inspections programme.

On the 23rd March 2020 the National Transparency Authority (*Εθνική Αρχή Διαφάνειας*) announced inspections to control compliance with the restrictive measures legislated in March 2020. The operational plan from 24/3-27/3 included 9 units of inspectors-controllers operating in 9 municipalities of Athens and 2 units in the municipality of Thessaloniki¹⁰¹. Further inspections were conducted from 27.04.2020 to 14.05.2020 in the Regions of Attika, Central Macedonia, western Greece, Ipiros, Thessaly, Peloponnese and Crete with a focus on compliance with provisions of operation and the application of COVID- related protective measures in a random sampling of providers. The inspections conducted included among others¹⁰²:

- Inspections in Elderly Care Units, welfare structures and private clinics¹⁰³

[elegchos-gia-ton-io-sars-cov-2-ton-ergazomenon-kai-olon-ton-trofimon-kleiston-pronoiakon-domon-tis-attikis/?print=print](https://eody.gov.gr/episkepsi-apo-ton-proedro-toy-eody-kai-ton-kathigiti-sotiri-tsiodra-se-girokeio-tis-attikis/?print=print)

⁹⁸ Greece, EODY, EODY Unit in an old people's home in Attika to inspect for COVID-19 (Κλιμάκιο του ΕΟΔΥ σε δομή ηλικιωμένων της Αττικής για τον έλεγχο για covid- 19) Press release, 12.04.2020, <https://eody.gov.gr/klimakio-toy-eody-se-domi-ilikiomenon-tis-attikis-gia-ton-elegcho-gia-covid-19/>; EODY, Visit from the President of EODY and Prof. Sotiris Tsiodras at an old people's home in Attika (Επίσκεψη από τον Πρόεδρο του ΕΟΔΥ και τον καθηγητή Σωτήρη Τσιόδρα σε γηροκομείο της Αττικής), Press Release, 13.04.2020, <https://eody.gov.gr/episkepsi-apo-ton-proedro-toy-eody-kai-ton-kathigiti-sotiri-tsiodra-se-girokeio-tis-attikis/>

⁹⁹ Greece, EODY, Testing for SARS-CoV-2 of staff and residents in closed welfare units in Attika completed (Ολοκληρώθηκε ο έλεγχος για τον ιό SARS-CoV-2, των εργαζομένων και όλων των τροφίμων κλειστών προνοιακών δομών της Αττικής), Press Release, 17.04.2020, <https://eody.gov.gr/oloklirothike-o-elegchos-gia-ton-io-sars-cov-2-ton-ergazomenon-kai-olon-ton-trofimon-kleiston-pronoiakon-domon-tis-attikis/>.

¹⁰⁰ Greece, EODY, Inspection at the private clinic Taxiarchai (έλεγχος στην Ιδιωτική Κλινική " Ταξιάρχαι"), Press Release, 24.04.2020, <https://aead.gr/press/press-releases/elegchos-sthn-idiotikh-kliniki-taxiarxe>

¹⁰¹ Greece, National Transparency Authority (Εθνική Αρχή Διαφάνειας), The National Transparency Authority in inspections on compliance with measures for the limitation of spread of coronavirus CoVID-19 (Η Εθνική Αρχή Διαφάνειας στους ελέγχους για την τήρηση των μέτρων για τον περιορισμό της διάδοσης του κορωνοϊού COVID-19), Press release, 23.03.2020, <https://aead.gr/press/press-releases/ead-eleghoi-tisis-metron-periorismou-covid19>

¹⁰² Greece, National Transparency Authority (Εθνική Αρχή Διαφάνειας), Collection of press releases, publications, manuals and material on the new coronavirus COVID-19 (Συλλογή δελτίων τύπου, δημοσιευμάτων, εγχειριδίων και λοιπού υλικού σχετικών με το νέο κορωνοϊό Covid-19), <https://aead.gr/component/tags/tag/%CE%AD%CE%BB%CE%B5%CE%B3%CF%87%CE%BF%CE%B9?start=20>

¹⁰³ Greece, National Transparency Authority (Εθνική Αρχή Διαφάνειας), Inspections of NTA in Units for the Care of the Elderly, Welfare Structures and private clinics (Έλεγχοι της ΕΑΔ σε Μονάδες Φροντίδας Ηλικιωμένων,

From the 27-30th April 2020 inspections in 10 Elderly Care Units and welfare structures were conducted and 5 private clinics in Athens and Thessaloniki. These were to be followed by further inspections in 85 providers of health and welfare services, aiming at a total of 100 controls that covers in total: 22 private clinics, 17 private clinics with Artificial Kidney Units, 21 welfare structures and 40 Elderly Care Units.

- Inspections in private providers of health and welfare¹⁰⁴

The National Transparency Authority (*Εθνική Αρχή Διαφάνειας*) inspected: 23 private clinics (without Artificial Kidney Units); 13 private clinics with Artificial Kidney Units; 2 Units for Chronic Amodialysis; 34 care units for old people and 18 welfare institutions.

- Data/statistics on testing & frequency of testing – institutions, residents, staff

In Greece, according to the National Public Health Organisation on 31.05.2020 180.518 clinical tests had been checked¹⁰⁵. No disaggregated data is available in relation to the tests conducted in care or other residential units¹⁰⁶.

On May 17th 2020 the NTA released the findings from the 1st wave of controls in private health and care providers in relation to compliance with restrictive measures (but not testing). The main findings concerning welfare and elderly people's homes (34 care units and 18 welfare units) revealed the following:

- 7 facilities (13,46%) did not check the temperature of staff upon arrival
- 19 facilities (36,54%) had not uploaded printed guidelines for hand hygiene
- 6 facilities (11,54%) did not have antiseptic solutions available
- 7 facilities (13,46%) had no sign concerning the ban of visits
- 8 facilities (15,38%) did not respect social distancing rules
- 3 facilities (5,77%) did not have a seclusion chamber
- 5 facilities (9,62%) had no procedure for daily monitoring of residents for suspect symptoms
- 25 facilities (48,08%) had a procedure for emergency removal of staff in case of suspect symptoms
- 9 facilities (17,31%) did not have COVID diagnostic tests
- 39 facilities (75,00%) had no death incident to report and 10 facilities (19,23%) had a procedure for complying with the related guidelines. 3 facilities (5,77%) had no related procedure.
- 51 facilities (98,08%) had procured personal protection equipment and materials for hand and respiratory hygiene and respected the guidelines for personal hygiene and the clearing of surfaces and spaces

Προνοιακές Δομές και Ιδιωτικές Κλινικές), Press release, 04.04.2020, <https://aead.gr/press/press-releases/elegxoi-ths-ead-se-monades-frodithas-ilikiomenwn-proniakes-domes-kai-idiotikes-klinikes>

¹⁰⁴ Greece, National Transparency Authority (Εθνική Αρχή Διαφάνειας), Inspections from NTA in private health and welfare providers (Ελεγχοί της ΕΑΔ σε Ιδιωτικούς Φορείς Υγείας και Πρόνοιας), Press release, 17.05.2020, <https://aead.gr/press/press-releases/elegxoi-ths-ead-se-idiotikous-foreis-ygeias-kai-pronoias>

¹⁰⁵ Greece, EODY, Announcement on the evolution of COVID-19 in our country (Ανακοίνωση για την εξέλιξη της νόσου COVID-19 στη χώρα μας), Press Release, 31.05.2020, https://eody.gov.gr/0531_briefing_covid19/

¹⁰⁶ Information confirmed by an EODY expert.

- 50 facilities (96,15%) had trained their staff in the proper use of protective equipment

With regard to the procedures:

- On recording of suspect of confirmed incidents: 36 (69,23%) facilities had no incident and in 16 (30,77) facilities there was a reporting procedure
- For immediate reporting of incidents : in 34 (65,38%) facilities there was no incident and in 18 (34,62%) facilities there was a procedure for reporting
- For management of an incident of suspect symptoms: 22 (42,31%) facilities had no incidents and 30 (57,69%) facilities had a relevant procedure
- For management of an incident of acute respiratory infection: 24 (46,15%) facilities had no incidents and 28 (53,85%) facilities had a related procedure.

The National Transparency Authority (*Εθνική Αρχή Διαφάνειας*) conducted since the 24th March controls on compliance with COVID related measures in the community (but not testing). On 26 May 2020 it issued a press release on the results of compliance checks with the provisions for the gradual relaxation of restrictions and the avoidance of transmission of SARS COV-2. According to these, in the period from 15.05.2020-22.05.2020 controls were conducted in 15 municipalities of the Regions of Attika, Western Greece and Peloponnese. The controls show an overall high compliance rate by citizens and businesses alike. Controls included a total of 634 points including shops, malls, beauty salons, super markets, cafes, restaurants, banks, private study schools, pharmacies, medical private practice, churches, take away-delivery providers, public services, parks, playgrounds, bus and train stops. Fines for non-compliance raised to the amount of 1.200€.¹⁰⁷

2.2.4. Restrictions/bans on visits to residential care settings, and any (conditional) lifting of these restrictions

Please report on the conditions applied.

In Greece, on 14/3/2020 the Ministry of Health issued recommendations for the avoidance of visits in Rehabilitation Centers, Elderly Care Units and Day Care Units. For the protection of population groups in risk of infection from COVID-19 it was recommended to avoid visits to Rehabilitation Centers, Elderly Care Units and Day Care Units. When the presence of an escort was deemed necessary it should be restricted to one person and they should strictly respect all preventive measures of personal hygiene. Visits from persons with symptoms of respiratory infection were prohibited. The units mentioned must keep a book of visitors that records on a daily basis the name of visitors, the name of the resident who receives the visit, arrival and departure time and a contact number¹⁰⁸. The protection measures have not been explicitly lifted with the de-escalation measures announced and hence remain in force.

¹⁰⁷ Greece, National Transparency Authority (Εθνική Αρχή Διαφάνειας), Inspections from NTA for the control of compliance with the provisions on the gradual suspension of restrictions for the prevention of the spread of SARS COV2 (Έλεγχοι της ΕΑΔ συμμόρφωσης με τις διατάξεις για τη σταδιακή άρση των περιορισμών για την αποφυγή διασποράς του SARS COV2), press release, 26.05.2020, <https://ead.gr/press/press-releases/elegxoi-ths-ead-simorfosis-me-tis-diatakseis-gia-th-stadiaki-arsh-periorismwn-gia-thn-apofugh-diasporas-tou-sars-cov2>

¹⁰⁸ Greece, Ministry of Health (Ministry of Health), Εγκύκλιος «Συστάσεις για την αποφυγή επισκεπτηρίων σε Κέντρα Φυσικής Ιατρικής Αποκατάστασης, Μονάδες Φροντίδας Ηλικιωμένων και Μονάδες Ημερήσιας Νοσηλείας», <https://www.moh.gov.gr/articles/health/dieythynsh-dhmosias-ygieinhs/metra-prolhpshts-enanti-koronoioy-sars-cov-2/7020-apofygh-episkepthriwn-se-kentra-fysikhs-iatrikhs-apokatastashs-monades-frontidas-hlikiwmenwn-kai-monades-hmerhsias-noshleias>

2.2.5. Restrictive measures for older people living in the community

Please report on any restrictions for older people after gradual lifting of confinement measures (e.g. use of public services, work, and participation in voluntary and social activities).

The Government plan for the gradual de-escalation of restrictive measures announced on 28th April 2020 mentions the protection of vulnerable groups as one of its main principles. It refers to the responsibility of the community to protect people vulnerable to COVID-19 and their personal obligation to protect themselves. Older people are subject to the same restrictions as the rest of the population with a strong recommendation for them to continue to stay at home¹⁰⁹.

2.2.6. Access to healthcare for older people for conditions unrelated to COVID-19

Please report on measures targeted at older people living in the community and in institutional care settings (e.g. home-based visits, mobile health care, other hospital treatment).

In Greece, guidance on access to health services was issued on 17th April 2020¹¹⁰. The guidance includes measures to limit the transmission of the virus (postponement of planned medical consultations, consultations through telephone where possible, reduction of incoming patients and visits, timely assessment of incoming patients for respiratory infections, measures of respiratory hygiene); measures for isolation of patients with symptoms (care in single rooms etc) and measures for the protection of staff (hygiene, use of protective equipment etc).

The recommendations focus on:

- a) measures before arrival to the health service (assessment of the risk of COVID infection, protective measures);
- b) measures upon arrival at the health service (reduction of the number of incoming patients, protective hygiene measures);
- c) measures for the control of infections (hygiene, use of protective equipment etc);
- d) measures for the hospitalization of patients with a possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection (hospitalization in single room, use of face masks for contact with medical staff, isolation chambers, limitation of movement, information of other units on the possible infection etc),
- e) protection during medical treatments (use of face masks, eye protection, use of gloves);
- f) measures for visits (limitation of visits, control of visitors, personal hygiene measures etc);

¹⁰⁹ Greece, Hellenic Government, Gradual de-escalation plan of restrictive measures. Security bridge to a new daily life (Σχέδιο σταδιακής αποκλιμάκωσης περιοριστικών μέτρων Γέφυρα ασφάλειας για μια νέα καθημερινότητα) 28.04.2020, <https://www.in.gr/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/%CE%A3%CF%87%CE%B5%CE%B4%CE%B9%CE%BF-%CF%83%CF%84%CE%B1%CE%B4%CE%B9%CE%B1%CE%BA%CE%B7%CC%81%CF%82-%CE%B1%CF%80%CE%BF%CE%BA%CE%BB%CE%B9%CE%BC%CE%B1%CC%81%CE%BA%CF%89%CF%83%CE%B7%CF%82-%CE%93%CE%B5%CC%81%CF%86%CF%85%CF%81%CE%B1-%CE%91%CF%83%CF%86%CE%B1%CE%BB%CE%B5%CE%B9%CC%81%CE%B1%CF%82-28-04-2020.pdf>; Hellenic Government, Announcement of the Government plan for the gradual suspension of restrictive measures (Ανακοινώσεις του σχεδίου της κυβέρνησης για τη σταδιακή άρση των περιοριστικών μέτρων), 29.04.2020, <https://government.gov.gr/anakinesis-tou-schediou-tis-kivernisis-gia-ti-stadiaki-arsi-ton-perioristikon-metron/>

¹¹⁰ Greece, EODY, COVID-19 – Guidelines for Places of Health Service provisions (COVID-19 – Οδηγίες για Χώρους Παροχής Υπηρεσιών Υγείας), 17.04.2020, <https://eody.gov.gr/covid-19-odigies-gia-choroys-parochis-ypiresion-ygeias/>

g) personal protective equipment (use of face masks, eye protection, use of robe and gloves).

Guidance for doctors in private practice were issued on 13 March 2020¹¹¹. The guidance instructs doctors to wear a face mask and indicates ways for them to manage and report suspect incidents. Preventive measures for community-based mental health units were issued on 19 March 2020¹¹².

2.2.7. Support measures and promising practices targeting older people, including access to goods and services online and offline, social/psychological support, and use of digital tools and technology

Please also report on any targeted measures for people with dementia.

In Greece, on 18th March 2020 the Minister of Interior issued a circular addressed to the 332 municipalities and 13 regions specifying the support measures to be offered by social and welfare structures operating at municipal level¹¹³. The circular provides that in all municipalities existing social services provide the following services: a) mapping of citizens that cannot or are not allowed to move from home and cannot respond to their needs 2) mapping of poor and financially vulnerable citizens that cannot move and cannot respond to their needs 3) pharmaceutical and basic needs 4) care for the basic needs of poor and financially vulnerable citizens 5) support to health services operating within the municipality 6) help line and website allowing citizens to report requests for assistance 7) management of requests for documents issued by the Citizen Service Centers 8) any other support related to measures for the prevention of COVID-19¹¹⁴.

Help at Home (*Βοήθεια στο σπίτι*) is a programme operated by municipalities that was adjusted to the needs for response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The programme addresses elderly or lonely people and people with disabilities who require assistance with daily activities. As part of the COVID response the programme was extended to provide assistance to any citizen in need of food, pharmaceuticals or other types of assistance for basic needs¹¹⁵.

The Municipality of Athens launched the additional programme 'Help at Home plus'. The programme responds to requests by vulnerable groups, older and lonely citizens and provides assistance to basic needs. Support at home is provided by social workers and nurses following a request by phone at 1595

¹¹¹ Greece, EODY, COVID-19 – Guidelines for practitioners in private practice (COVID-19 – Οδηγίες για ιδιώτες ιατρούς), 13.03.2020, <https://eody.gov.gr/covid-19-odigies-gia-idiotes-iatroys/>

¹¹² Greece, Ministry of Health, Prevention measures for the protection of public health and response to incidents of patients infected with coronavirus in mental health units (Μέτρα Πρόληψης για την προστασία της δημόσιας υγείας και αντιμετώπισης κρουσμάτων ασθενών με κοροναϊό στις Μονάδες Ψυχικές Υγείας της χώρας), 19.06.2020, <https://www.crete.gov.gr/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/metra-prolipsis-gia-tin-prostasia-tis-dimosias-ygeias-kai-antimetopisis-kroysmaton-asthenon-me-koronoio-stis-monades-psychikis-ygeias-tis-choras-1.pdf>

¹¹³ Greece, Ministry of Interior, Circular 'Support of municipal social welfare structures - Work of the staff of local government organizations and their legal persons during the measures to prevent the spread of coronavirus –COVID -19 (Ενίσχυση δημοτικών δομών κοινωνικής πολιτικής και αλληλεγγύης - Απασχόληση προσωπικού ΟΤΑ και νομικών προσώπων αυτών κατά τη διάρκεια λήψης μέτρων αποφυγής και περιορισμού της διάδοσης του κορονοϊού - COVID 19), 17.03.2020, <https://www.ypes.gr/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/egk18659-17032020.pdf>

¹¹⁴ Greece, ONMED.gr, Coronavirus: enhancement of the programme 'Help at Home' (Κορονοϊός: Ενισχύεται το πρόγραμμα «Βοήθεια στο σπίτι»), 17.03.2020, <https://www.onmed.gr/ygeia-eidhseis/story/382659/koronoios-enisxeytai-to-programma-voitheia-sto-spiti>

¹¹⁵ Greece, CNN Greece, Coronavirus – 'Help at Home': door to door assistance to those in need (Κορωνοϊός - «Βοήθεια στο Σπίτι»: Πόρτα-πόρτα η παροχή βοήθειας σε όσους το έχουν ανάγκη), 10.04.2020, <https://www.cnn.gr/news/ellada/story/214813/koronoios-voitheia-sto-spiti-porta-porta-i-paroxi-voitheias-se-osoys-to-exovn-anagki>

or 210-5277000. The support team visits the beneficiary to provide basic (food and medicines) and other services, (psychological support, nursing support, family help)¹¹⁶.

Several promising practices were identified for the provision of support to elderly people in the context of the COVID -19 response. One reported practice by the Medecins du Monde is titled «60+»¹¹⁷ and is privately funded. It offers home-based care to 800 elderly and lonely people in Attika and Central Macedonia. Phase 1 of the action included awareness raising, sensitization and prevention of the target group (60+elderly and lonely people including people with mild dementia). A second step of the programme included the distribution of personal hygiene equipment and food. A third pilot step, currently being implemented, offered to 10 selected beneficiaries tablets that enabled their participation in online social activities. The project reports a positive progress and might be extended to more beneficiaries and more locations¹¹⁸.

Several banks adopted measures to help vulnerable older people to make use of e-banking. For example, Eurobank issues e-banking codes without requiring a visit to the bank, allowing in this way older people to conduct online transactions from home¹¹⁹.

With regard to people with dementia, some awareness and sensitization activities were identified. Eginitio hospital issued guidance on how to support people with dementia or mild mental disorder and their carers¹²⁰. Alzheimer Hellas issued a special online journal issue dedicated to COVID and dementia. The aim of the special issue was to promote prevention, spread information on dementia-related topics and the impact of the virus, support people with dementia and their families, disseminate knowledge to other health care providers and respond to common questions from people with dementia and their carers.¹²¹ The psychiatric Clinic and Psychogeriatric Unit of the Medical School of the University of Athens, issued guidelines for the support and care of the elderly¹²².

¹¹⁶ Greece, City of Athens, Start of the Programme 'Help at Home Plus' at the Municipality of Athens ([Ξεκινά το πρόγραμμα «Βοήθεια στο Σπίτι Plus» από τον Δήμο Αθηναίων](http://www.cityofathens.gr/node/34691)), Press release, 31.03.2020, <http://www.cityofathens.gr/node/34691>

¹¹⁷ Medecins du Monde, Urgent Intervention to vulnerable people 60+ (Επείγουσα παρέμβαση σε ευάλωτα άτομα 60+), press release, 09-04-2020, <https://mdmgreece.gr/epigousa-parembasi-se-evalota-atoma-60/>; <https://mdmgreece.gr/app/uploads/2020/04/%CE%94%CE%95%CE%9B%CE%A4%CE%99%CE%9F%CE%A5-%CE%A4%CE%A5%CE%A0%CE%9F%CE%A5-%CE%95%CE%A0%CE%95%CE%99%CE%93%CE%9F%CE%A5%CE%A3%CE%91-%CE%A0%CE%91%CE%A1%CE%95%CE%9C%CE%92%CE%91%CE%A3%CE%97-%CE%A3%CE%95-%CE%95%CE%A5%CE%91%CE%9B%CE%A9%CE%A4%CE%91-%CE%91%CE%A4%CE%9F%CE%9C%CE%91-60-1.pdf>

¹¹⁸ Consultation with MDM experts.

¹¹⁹ Eurobank, Priority to older and vulnerable citizens (Προτεραιότητα στους ηλικιωμένους και ευάλωτους συμπολίτες μας), <https://www.eurobank.gr/el/covid-19/prostateuoume-ilikiomenous-eualotous-sumpolites>

¹²⁰ Aiginitio Hospital, Coronavirus: Guidance for the support of people with dementia or mild mental disorder and their carers (Κορωνοϊός: ΟΔΗΓΙΕΣ ΓΙΑ ΤΗΝ ΥΠΟΣΤΗΡΙΞΗ ΤΩΝ ΑΤΟΜΩΝ ΜΕ ΑΝΟΙΑ Η ΗΠΙΑ ΝΟΗΤΙΚΗ ΔΙΑΤΑΡΑΧΗ ΚΑΙ ΤΩΝ ΦΡΟΝΤΙΣΤΩΝ ΤΟΥΣ), <https://eginitio.uoa.gr/fileadmin/depts/uoa.gr/eginitio/uploads/Coronavirus/COVID-19-DEMENTIA.pdf>

¹²¹ Alzheimer Hellas, Coronavir and dementia (Κορωνοϊός και άνοια), special Issue, April 2020, <https://www.alz.co.uk/sites/default/files/pdfs/-%CE%BA%CE%B1%CE%B9-%CE%91%CC%81%CE%BD%CE%BF%CE%B9%CE%B1.pdf>

¹²² Greece, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Medical School, 1st Psychiatric Clinic, The COVID-19 epidemic is a severe condition of pressure for elder people (Η Επιδημία του COVID-19 είναι σοβαρή ψυχοπιεστική συνθήκη για την Τρίτη ηλικία), <https://www.crete.gov.gr/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/odigos-gia-toys-ilikiomenoys-1.pdf>

2.2.8. Consultation of older people's organisations and/or other civil society organisations in the design, implementation and review of COVID-19-related measures

No information was identified in relation to consultation with older people's organization and other civil society organisations in the design, implementation and review of COVID-19 – related measures.