

## 16.04.2020 NALAS Covid-19 Weekly Update

### Background

As of February 2020, the Corona virus (Covid-19) has become a global threat. The countries of South-East Europe have reported infected cases and victims, taking various prevention and combating measures. This report summarises the situation in the NALAS Region, the official measures taken and the actions by NALAS LGAs, aiming to enable the Network have a coordinated approach in crisis management.

### Summary of the situation at 16 April 2020, 13 LGAs and NALAS Secretariat

#### *Situation and official government measures*

- Numbers of infected and deceased growing
- State of emergency everywhere, except Turkey and Montenegro; natural disaster in Albania, public health emergency in Kosovo
- Schools closed; distance learning introduced
- Curfews and limitations of movement in all countries. In Albania, curfew hours shortened.
- Most of the borders closed, flights cut off, entry restrictions
- Mass gatherings prohibited and events cancelled
- Work from home recommended
- Various sets of economy measures introduced in all economies to support recovery

#### *LGAs' actions*

- Offices closed, work from home
- Online meetings, remote work
- Activities adjusted to the new conditions
- LGAs and their bodies are active in information provision and exchange
- Support to members in dealing with the crisis
- Providing recommendations for dealing with Covid-19
- Providing legal advice on the new Government's orders related to Covid-19

- Support to municipalities in developing project proposals
- Liaising with national institutions to address LGs' interests
- Approaching donors and partners to mobilise support to LGs
- Organising webinars and online courses
- Serving as a resource to media on the local perspective in preventing and combating Covid-19

LGA	Situation with Covid-19	Key Government measures	Situation in the LGA	Key LGA's activities in the past week related to Covid-19
SOS, Slovenia	<a href="https://www.covidvisualizer.com/">https://www.covidvisualizer.com/</a>  1022 active 61 deceased 165 recovered	<b>-State of emergency</b> -Schools and kindergartens closed until further notice  <b>-Limitations of movement:</b> Ordinance on temporary general prohibition of movement and public gathering in public places and areas and prohibition of movement outside the municipality of permanent or temporary residence. Ordinance is available from 30 March until further notice.  <b>-Borders closed</b> (with some exceptions) -Ministry of health advised against travelling abroad <b>-Key economy measures:</b> Business interruption until further notice (there are some exceptions – e.g. grocery stores)	-Office closed,  -Work from home from 16 March until further notice	-Use of digital tools and apps (Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Fb closed group) -Online daily meetings with co-workers and partners -Extraordinary meetings of board and its presence in governmental working group for measures on intervention act -Very intensive collaboration with mayors and employees from municipalities (calls) -Postponed sessions, project activities -Collecting measures taken by the Municipalities at the time of pandemic (they will be presented at SOS' web-site) -Preparing webinars on: Organisation of online seminars (webinars); Discussions on the new Ordinance (questions that have been raised by citizens and municipalities); Technical and information support for the use of digital tools for municipalities; Digital operation/business. In total there is more than 1300 webinar

		There are 2 intervention acts (2 <sup>nd</sup> is in draft) Measures from 1st act are valid from 13th of March to 31st of May 2020, unless otherwise provided by this law.		visitors. -Preparation of FAQ regarding to the Ordinance -“Helping Hand” platform (sl. Pomoč na dlani) -Noted a record number of website visitors: 500% more website visitors in the last 30 days – compared to ordinary situation of work.
SCTM, Serbia	<a href="https://www.covidvisualizer.com/">https://www.covidvisualizer.com/</a>  4772 infected 103 deceased 443 recovered	<p><b>-State of emergency</b></p> <p><b>-Schools closed</b> during the state of emergency</p> <p><b>-Limitations of movement:</b> From 17:00 to 5:00 (for everyone); <u>Complete ban of movement during the weekends and on Monday of April 20</u>; people older than 65 cannot leave their homes except on Sunday from 4:00 to 7:00</p> <p><b>-Borders situation:</b> Exit is possible via car, plane transport is banned, everyone who enters must go to quarantine (from 2 to 3 weeks)</p> <p><b>-Travel limitations:</b> International and intercity traffic transport is banned, traveling by car is allowed</p> <p><b>-Gathering limitations:</b> Gatherings for more than 2 people are banned</p> <p><b>-Key economy measures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a moratorium on debtors' debt repayments,</li> <li>-reduced reference interest rates</li> </ul>	<p>-Office closed</p> <p>-Staff working from home during the state of emergency</p>	<p>- <b>Communication with LSGs:</b> The SCTM has informed LSGs on multiple activities (regulations, instructions) of national level on the topics such as: organisation of operation of retail stores, way of use of LSGs electronic service of issuing of movement permits during curfews (informal carers, house support <a href="https://euprava.gov.rs/usluge/5616">https://euprava.gov.rs/usluge/5616</a>), working relations, postponing the deadlines for submission of LSGs annual financial report. The SCTM performs regular exchange of information and good practices between LSGs via SCTM expert networks</p> <p>- <b>Direct support to LSGs:</b> The SCTM prepared an exceptionally important initiative for defining measures to support the financial sustainability of LSG's budgets and for opening a dialogue on support for LSGs. This initiative is submitted to the Government of the Republic of Serbia, the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government.</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-allocating additional money for public investment and one-off assistance for retirees</li> <li>- Decree on additional borrowing during the state of emergency caused by the COVID-19 virus by taking out loans, issuing government securities on the domestic and international financial markets and providing guarantees of the Republic of Serbia</li> <li>-Decree on the supplement to the basic salary of employees in health care institutions and certain employees performing tasks in the field of health.</li> <li>- The Government of Serbia adopted an Economic Measures Package (worth 608.3 RSD or 5.1 billion EUR) that includes, among other things, the payment of minimum salaries to a dedicated account, as well as assistance to every adult citizen. The Government decree defined postponement of taxes and contributions for employees and advance tax payments for 2020. All businesses can use this benefit provided they have not laid off more than 10 percent of employees by March 15.</li> </ul>		<p>SCTM signed agreement on amendments to the special collective contract for employees in local self-government with the union and MPALSG which allowed it not to diminish the earnings of people who do not work due to the consequences of infecting the virus of COVID 19 or the measure of the isolation they have been given to them to receive the full amount of earnings</p> <p>- <b>Communication to the general public:</b> SCTM's webpage <a href="#">COVID-19: The latest news from cities and municipalities</a> is constantly updated.</p>
MMU, Turkey	<a href="https://www.covidvisualizer.com/">https://www.covidvisualizer.com/</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>No state of emergency</b></li> <li>- <b>National Solidarity Campaign</b> launched by the Government to collect donations for the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Office closed and disinfected for the third time</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Covid-19 relevant information, best practices, measures, funding opportunities, circulars, statistics, updates announced on the Covid-19</li> </ul>

	<p>62.200 infected 1.518 deceased 5.674 recovered</p>	<p>affected</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>All international flights</b> completely terminated</li> <li>- <b>Intercity travel</b> by public transport (domestic flights, buses, trains) halted and subject to special permission by the state governors</li> <li>- <b>Limitations of movement:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*<b>Curfew</b> for weekends in all 30 metropolitan cities and Zonguldak province</li> <li>*<b>Partial curfew</b> - people under age 20 (exceptions for the people between age 18-20 who work), over age 65 and those with chronic illnesses restricted to leave their homes (municipalities and the government helping to meet their needs)</li> <li>*<b>227</b> neighbourhoods and villages across the country under quarantine</li> <li>*<b>15-day</b> entry and exit ban to all 30 metropolitan cities and Zonguldak province</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Borders</b> with Iran, Iraq and Georgia closed</li> <li>- <b>Public institutions (including MMU)</b> ordered to allow for alternating and flexible schedules and enforce remote working if possible</li> <li>- <b>Schools and universities closed.</b> Remote education provided for primary, secondary and high schools until the end of April, and universities in the remainder of the spring semester</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Work from home (until 26 April for now, decided week by week)</li> <li>- Online weekly coordination meetings with MMU executive staff</li> <li>- Searching for new online tools for trainings, webinars, internal communication and teleworking</li> <li>- Internal communication: regular informative e-mails on Covid-19, suggestions for having quality time at home and online trainings / events announcements / webinars by the Corporate Communications department to all LGA staff</li> <li>- Meetings with smaller groups and internal meetings replaced</li> </ul>	<p>section on MMU's website (in Turkish): <a href="http://marmara.gov.tr/covid19">http://marmara.gov.tr/covid19</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- International Covid-19 management resources and good practices collected, listed and announced on the Covid-19 section on MMU's website (in Turkish): <a href="http://marmara.gov.tr/covid19/uluslararasi-covid-19-yonetim-kaynaklari-ve-iyi-uygulama-ornekleri">http://marmara.gov.tr/covid19/uluslararasi-covid-19-yonetim-kaynaklari-ve-iyi-uygulama-ornekleri</a></li> <li>- Municipalities encouraged to share their good practices against Covid-19 with MMU and listed international networks that collect practices of cities (contact information of relevant networks shared with municipalities)</li> <li>- Webinar on air quality and Covid-19 for member municipalities (16.04.2020)</li> <li>- Online training course on effective communication on the phone for member municipalities (14-21.04.2020)</li> <li>- Online training course on e-municipality system and archive legislation for member municipalities (15-23.04.2020)</li> <li>- Online training course on municipal legislation for member municipalities (15-</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>8 GB</b> free internet provided for primary and secondary school students, and <b>100 GB</b> free internet for healthcare workers</li> <li>- <b>Psychological support line</b> for healthcare workers</li> <li>- <b>Disinfection of animal shelters</b> and living areas of street animals such as parks and gardens carried out by the government. Taking necessary measures to prevent animals from starving</li> <li>- <b>Major nation-wide exams postponed</b></li> <li>- <b>Mask sales banned.</b> 5 masks per person for 10 days will be distributed to the citizens for free by pharmacies upon online application on e-government website.</li> <li>- <b>Markets</b> serving customers between 9:00 am to 9:00 pm, and the number of customers in every store limited to one tenth of its original number based on its area</li> <li>- <b>All</b> restaurants, dining places, patisseries, pavilions, bars, discotheques, night clubs, cafes, gyms, internet cafés, movie theatres, barber shops, hair dressers, beauty parlours, libraries, private kindergartens closed (only home delivery and take-away food allowed)</li> <li>- <b>Picnic areas</b> closed on weekends; having picnics, fishing at the shores, doing physical exercise outside banned</li> </ul>	<p>with online meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Big events including seminars and the General Assembly meeting cancelled</li> <li>- Municipal Council meetings and General Assembly meetings of all municipalities and LGAs (including MMU) cancelled in April, May and June (by a Circular issued by the Ministry of Interior on 26.03.2020)</li> </ul>	<p>28.04.2020)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Online training course on public procurement legislation for member municipalities (continuing for 18 weeks)</li> </ul>
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- **All kinds of scientific, cultural, artistic meetings or activities postponed until the end of April**
- **Sports games and leagues postponed**
- **Meetings in open and closed prisons, the use of family meeting rooms and transfers between prisons postponed**
- **Military farewell ceremonies suspended**

**Economy measures:**

- Bankruptcy and financial executionary proceedings stopped until 30 April, except for obligations regarding alimony and child support
- Tax cuts from municipalities suspended for April, May and June
- Additional payments of healthcare staff boosted for 3 months and 32.000 new healthcare staff to be employed
- Import tariffs on ethanol, disposable medical masks, and ventilators lifted
- A €100 billion (approx. \$15.4 billion) economic measures package announced by the Government to address financial issues of companies and low-income households. With this package the Government promised to:
  - \*Raise the Credit Guarantee Fund limit,*
  - \*Postpone tax liabilities, social security premium payments and credit debts of*

		<p>employers in sectors most affected by the crisis, and provide additional financial support to those companies when needed,</p> <p><i>*Extend financial support to stocks for exporters in order to maintain capacity utilization rates,</i></p> <p><i>*Encourage credit packages for citizens under favourable and advantageous conditions,</i></p> <p><i>*Make a resource transfer of €2 billion to families in need, among other measures.</i></p> <p><i>*Daily financial support to the hospitals for per patient diagnosed with Covid-19</i></p>		
<p>SOGFBiH, Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina</p>	<p><a href="https://www.covidvisualizer.com/">https://www.covidvisualizer.com/</a></p> <p>Infected - 664 Deceased - 26 Recovered - 61</p>	<p>-<b>State of emergency</b> since 17 March 2020.</p> <p>-<b>Schools closed</b> since 11 March; <b>distance learning introduced</b>.</p> <p>-<b>Curfews and limitations of movement:</b> all public gatherings banned. Curfew from 18:00 until 05:00 for all.</p> <p>-<b>Most of the borders closed, flights cut off, entry restrictions for foreigners</b></p> <p>-<b>Work from home</b> recommended</p> <p>-<b>Economy measures</b> on the next session of Parliament set of prepared economic measures will be discussed.</p> <p>- <b>Decision on systematic disinfection</b> of all cities of the Federation, as one of the measures to combat the spread of the virus.</p> <p>- <b>FBiH Government</b> brought decision on</p>	<p>- Office is operational, staff works from home.</p> <p>- Use of Slack and Zoom applications is increased.</p>	<p>-The Secretariat is constantly informing all LGs on the Decisions approved by Central Authorities.</p> <p>-Sharing good practices of LGs related to fight against Corona virus.</p> <p>-Coordination with Mayors regarding raising awareness of higher levels of the needs on local level in this crises period.</p>



		<b>subsidies to private companies and entrepreneurs</b> / incentive for agriculture in the amount of 87,000,000 KM		
ACOR, Romania	<a href="https://www.covidvisualizer.com/">https://www.covidvisualizer.com/</a>  7707 total cases 5.963 active 387 deceased 1.357 recovered	- <b>State of emergency</b> starting 16 March, prolonged until 16th of May; - <b>Schools closed</b> since 13 March, until 16 <sup>th</sup> of May; - <b>Universities</b> closed until 16 <sup>th</sup> of May, online schooling - <b>Limitations of movement: 1 new Military Ordinance issued:</b> <b>Military Ordinance nr. 8/10 April 2020</b> - a serial number of agri-food products for which export is prohibited / suspended during the period of emergency: wheat, barley, oats, corn, sugar etc. -the measure of suspension of flights performed by airline operators to Spain and from Spain to Romania is extended for a period of 14 days, starting with April 14, 2020. <b>April 14, 2020, new presidential decree:</b> -The Government will take all measures to ensure the food security of the citizens by continuing the supply, production, processing, transport and supply to people of the goods of strict necessity. -During the state of emergency, prices may be capped on medicines and medical equipment, on strictly necessary foods and	- Office closed  - Work from home	April 13, 2020 - The Ministry of Public Finance transmitted to the Association of Communes of Romania the point of view of the Ministry regarding the application of the fiscal measures adopted by the Government Emergency Ordinance no. 29/2020 regarding some economic and fiscal-budgetary measures. Among the measures adopted by the Government Emergency Ordinance no. 29/2020 are:  - Extending the payment term of the tax on buildings, land and means of transport and granting the allowance established by the local council;  -For tax obligations due from the date of entry into force of the OUG no. 29/2020 and unpaid until the end of the state of emergency is not calculated and no interest and late payment penalties are due;  -Suspension or non-initiation of enforcement measures by the population of budgetary claims.

	<p>on public utility services, such as electricity and heat, gas, water supply, sanitation or fuel.</p> <p>-During this period, it is forbidden to cease or suspend the activity of residential care and assistance centers for the elderly, residential centers for children and adults, with and without disabilities, as well as for other vulnerable categories, public and private.</p> <p>-In the field of transport and infrastructure, the Government establishes the specific conditions for the provision of transport, passenger and freight services, so that the protection of the population and goods is a priority.</p> <p>-The providers of electronic communications services have the obligation to ensure the integrity of the electronic communications networks and to avoid the possible situations of interruption of the traffic in the public electronic communications networks.</p> <p><b>Military Ordinance nr. 7/4 April 2020</b></p> <p><b>-Quarantine in new town Tëndărei,</b> Ialomița county;</p> <p><b>-Suspension of commercial flights to</b> Republic of Austria, Belgium, USA, Ireland and Iran, starting with 5 of April, for 14</p>		<p>-The president of ACoR, Mr. Emil DRĂGHICI, participates every day in the online show FAX COMMENTS which deals with topics of interest to the local public administration; yesterday the topic was: local public debt and today: debates on the census etc.</p> <p>- All information concerning the COVID-19 and measures at national level are uploaded on ACoR's website and Facebook.</p> <p>-WhatsApp group for Mayors – sending most important news from central government, including links, important information.</p>
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	<p>days;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-<b>Extension of suspension of road transport</b> to Spain, Italy, France, Netherlands and Turkey during the state of emergency;</li> <li>-<b>At demand hotels are provided to doctors</b> who want to stay during the quarantine;</li> <li>-<b>Restaurants, bars and cafes are closed.</b></li> <li>-<b>Events (weddings, funerals etc.) and gatherings exceeding maximum 8 persons are forbidden;</b></li> <li>-<b>All cultural, scientific, artistic, religious, sports, entertainment or gambling, spa treatment and personal care activities held in confined spaces are suspended.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Key economy measures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Payment of technical unemployment for the employees of the companies that close their activity, but not more than 75% of the average gross salary.</li> <li>-Raised ceiling for guaranteeing loans for SMEs by 5 billion lei, for investments and working capital. The interest on these loans will be subsidised. Reimbursement of VAT up to 9 billion lei.</li> <li>- <b>On March 26 was</b> adopted the Emergency Ordinance regarding the postponement of the payments of the instalments to the banks at the request of the borrowers, with up to 9 months, no more than 31.12.2020.</li> </ul>		
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>March 29</b>, During the period of emergency the prices for electricity and thermal energy, natural gas, water supply, sanitation and fuels cannot be increased above the level practiced at the date of the issuance of the Military Ordinance no. 4; these can only be reduced according to demand and supply.</li> <li>- <b>April 6</b>, providing a salary incentive for doctors and auxiliary staff who treat people affected by COVID-19 (aprox. 500 Euros);</li> </ul>		
AoC, Croatia	<a href="https://www.covidvisualizer.com/">https://www.covidvisualizer.com/</a>  Total cases: 1741 Active: 1234 Deceased: 34 Recovered: 473	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>State of emergency</b></li> <li>- <b>Schools and kindergartens closed</b></li> <li>- <b>Limitations of movement</b></li> <li>- <b>Borders closed</b></li> <li>- <b>Travel limitations</b> between cities</li> <li>- <b>Gathering limitations</b> for more than 5 people</li> <li>- <b>All the shops closed except ones that sale or produce food and pharmacies</b></li> <li><b>Economy measures</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Postponement of the tax payment for the companies for 3 months</li> <li>- Salaries (up to cca 535 EUR), taxes and surtaxes covered by the Government for those private companies who did not fire employees</li> <li>- Taxes and parafiscal charges write-off for the private companies who will have less</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Office closed</li> <li>- Work from home</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Offering the service for online meetings to LGAs' members (City council, civil protection council...)</li> <li>-Coordination of the measures cities are taking in order to manage the situation (communication between cities)</li> <li>-Informing public about the measures cities are taking</li> </ul>

		income because of the situation - Small loans for SMEs (up to 25.000 EUR)		
ATMRS, RS, BH	<a href="https://www.covidvisualizer.com/">https://www.covidvisualizer.com/</a>  TOTAL BIH: 1155  R. SRPSKA: 486 RECOVERED: 269 DECEASED: 43	<b>-State of emergency extended until April 27</b> <b>-Schools, restaurants, cafes closed</b> <b>-Bakeries, pharmacies and markets open from 8-18h</b> <b>-Borders situation</b> Foreign visitors are not able to enter BiH, unless they are residents of BiH. All who enter are subject to 14-day quarantine. Travelers coming from China, South Korea, Japan, Italy, Iran, France, Romania, Germany, Austria, Spain, Switzerland, and Belgium are banned from entry. <b>-Public gatherings not allowed</b> <b>-Limitations of movement:</b> Curfew from 8PM until 5AM; Persons over the age of 65 are only allowed to leave their homes on Tuesday and Friday from 7 AM to 10 AM  <b>Key Economic measures :</b> - All members of Government will give up 50 % of their net income to the solidarity fund (fund which should help the private sector companies)  -The Government also recommends that all other employees in the public sector give	-Office open  -Mostly work from home  -Viber group to discuss activities	ATMRS initiative: All providers of utility and other services delivered to general population and companies in R.Srpska do not charge interest on monthly bills, starting February until the month when the state of emergency ends. This initiative was adopted through the telephone session of the ATMRS Presidency, and concerns water, electricity, gas, waste, heating, Internet, telephone and other service providers.  -Telephone communication with most of the Mayors regarding the current situation and the updates (messages) from the RS Government emergency situation committee.  -News from municipalities is shared with all other members, decisions of the RS government emergency situation committee is regularly published on AMC website.

		<p>up 5% , 10 or 20 % (depending on salaries) of their net income and pay it into the solidarity fund.</p> <p>-The Government will pay taxes and contributions in the amount of KM 16.5 million (8.5 M euro ) from the budget for around 40,000 workers, mostly from the service sector.</p> <p>-RS Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management diverted KM 2.2 million ( 1.1 M euro )in loans from the current IFAD Rural Competitiveness Project to encourage agricultural production expansion.</p>		
AKM, Kosovo	<p>Infected: 423 Active:343 Recovered: 71 Deceased: 9</p>	<p>- <b>State of Public Health Emergency</b></p> <p>-<b>Schools, kindergartens and universities closed</b>; online schooling as of 23 March until further decision.</p> <p>-<b>Limitation of movement</b>: New measures starting from 15 April until 4 May (<i>citizens are allowed to move only 90min during the day, the schedule is done according to the personal ID number</i>)</p> <p>- <b>Travel limitations</b>:</p> <p>-<b>Temporary suspension of air and land travel</b> to high and medium risk countries (until further decision).</p> <p>-<b>Compulsory check</b> of passengers coming from epidemic areas.</p>	<p>- Office closed</p> <p>- Work from home 16 March -13 April. (until next decision)</p> <p>- All trainings and meetings cancelled.</p> <p>- Communication through emails and via Viber group to discuss activities.</p>	<p>-The LGA is very active in information sharing, advocacy and lobbying and addressing demands to key institutions for the interests of LGs during the crisis.</p> <p>-AKM is a member of the Inter-Institutional Group for Incident Management (GNMI) representing the Municipalities where the demands and needs of the municipalities are presented continuously; AKM assesses the situation in municipalities and reports to GNMI; Municipalities are informed by AKM on daily basis for the work of GNMI.</p> <p>-Daily communication with Mayors and</p>

	<p><b>-Obligatory self-quarantine</b> for all citizens coming from high and medium risk epidemic zones.</p> <p><b>-Gatherings prohibited</b></p> <p><b>-No spectators at public events.</b></p> <p><b>-Prohibition of activities</b> of restaurants, nightclubs, gyms, swimming pools.</p> <p><b>-Prohibition of the export of medical equipment, materials and medicines.</b></p> <p><b>-Hygienic measures</b> in all institutions, companies and public transport.</p> <p><b>-Prohibition for organising international transport</b> to high-risk countries and vice versa.</p> <p><b>-Economy measures:</b> Government has decided to postpone the filing of tax liabilities and financial reporting of various businesses and organisations as well as delaying the payment of loans until 30 April. Payments to all public utilities, including water, electricity, heating and waste collection, have been postponed to this date as well.</p>		<p>representatives of local governments;</p> <p>-Coordination with Mayors regarding raising awareness of higher levels of the needs on local level in this crisis period;</p> <p>-Daily communication with Collegiums; -Daily communication with Central Level (sharing information on daily basis about Covid-19 cases in Municipalities).</p> <p>- Consultation with central level regarding decisions relating to the activities of local authorities;</p> <p>-AKM requests financial means for Municipalities (10 million Euros have been allocated for the fiscal package);</p> <p>-Responding to the demands and problems of municipalities;</p> <p>-Media constantly refers to the social media of AKM for information for municipalities about the pandemic Covid19.</p> <p>- Mayors held a meeting with the Minister of Health, Mr. Arben Vitia, to further coordinate in the joint battle against pandemic Covid-19. The Ministry of Health respects AKM's proposal for the same free movement for all Municipalities; In this meeting it was decided</p>
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			<p>that the schedule of restricting the movement of citizens will remain as requested by the AKM, it will be the same for all municipalities; from 17.00-06.00, except for the municipality of Malisheva and North Mitrovica. The restriction schedule may change depending on the change of situation in the municipalities and the National Institute of Public Health recommendations. The Minister of MoH praised the cooperation with the AKM and said that without the cooperation with the municipalities, the desired success will not be achieved.</p> <p>- The AKM has organised a meeting of the Council of Mayors to debate on the current situation in municipalities and the demands and challenges of municipalities in preventing the spread of Covid-19 pandemic. The Council of Mayors came up with nine recommendations in the battle against Covid-19 pandemic.</p> <p>- Coordination between Ministry of Health and Municipalities continues in determining the schedule of movement for the citizens. Following the decision of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo, where the Ministry of Health is authorized to consult the Municipalities of Kosovo to decide in the</p>
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			<p>future on the movement of citizens, in order to prevent and combat the spread of Covid-19 disease, Executive Director of the AKM met the Minister of Health. In this meeting, they discussed the harmonization of positions between the Municipalities of Kosovo and the Ministry of Health, in particular on the measures after April 12 which will be in function of the implementation of the provisions of the Law on Fighting and Prevention of Contagious Diseases.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- After the consultations with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Public Administration (MIAPA) it has been decided that the special permits for the municipal essential staff circulating within the respective Municipality will be issued by the respective Emergency Headquarters of the Municipalities. As for the essential staff that has to move from one municipality to another, their list should be send to the MIAPA Operational Centre.</li> <li>- Mayors have reacted through the AKM regarding the new anti-Covid-19 measures. (new measures allow each citizen to move only 90min during the day, the schedule is done according to the personal ID number) The reaction came after the Minister of Health (MoH) Mr. Arben Vitia and the Minister of the</li> </ul>
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			<p>Ministry of Local Government Administration (MLGA) Mrs. Emilia Rexhepi in their statement, in regard to the new measures set forth, stated that 38 municipalities of Kosovo were also consulted regarding these measures. The Deputy President of AKM in his letter directed to the MoH, stated that he had contacted his Mayor colleagues and they said they were not consulted in regard to these new measures. So, he said that these statements are incorrect and as such, have aroused indignation and anger to my colleagues.</p> <p>- At the request of the AKM, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development (MAFRD), there will be work opportunities and some mitigation measures for our farmers. The working hours for individual farmers equipped with Farm Identification Number (FIN) only to work on their farms, will be from 06:00 to 20:00. Farmers equipped with FIN will be free to work their farms and move from municipality to municipality, only to carry out the necessary agricultural work, except from and to the outbreaks of infection.</p> <p>-The AKM has addressed a request to the Ministry of Economy, Labour, Trade, Investment, Entrepreneurship and Strategic Investments and the Ministry of Local</p>
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				Government Administration, for the permit for the works of the Municipalities in the infrastructural investments and maintenance of the services.
AAM, Albania	<a href="https://www.covidvisualizer.com/">https://www.covidvisualizer.com/</a>  Infected: 494 Recovered: 251 Deceased: 25	<p><b>-State of natural disaster</b> announced on 22 March 2020.</p> <p><b>-Schools, kindergartens, nurseries closed</b> till further notice.</p> <p><b>-Starting on 13 April</b>, one person per household is allowed to go out to carry needed activities from 05:00 to 17:30. Such person will have to obtain a permit through an application on government website e-Albania. This measure relates to pedestrians, whereas vehicles can be used with a permit from the Albanian State Police only for business purposes or well justified private needs.</p> <p><b>-Repatriation of Albanians</b> will restart as of Saturday, 18 April, with the precondition of a quarantine of two weeks in accommodation structures approved by the Ministry of Tourism. Anyone returning to Albania will pay for the travel and</p>	<p>-Office has been closed since 10 March,</p> <p>-Staff is working from home.</p> <p>-Daily communication among staff and partners. Activities adjusted, shifting to online meetings or postponing activities.</p>	<p>Under Interreg Med project MD.net, a third webinar will be organized on importance of physical activities under Covid 19 conditions.</p> <p>Details will follow shortly and will be shared on AAM social media.</p>

		<p>accommodation at reduced rates.</p> <p><b>-A list of economic entities</b> allowed to operate in limited hours was approved by the Ministry of Health.</p> <p><b>-Government started to subsidize wages</b> for self-employed and small businesses employees that lost their jobs because of Covid-19 measures. The wages equal the minimal level of 26 000 leke.</p> <p>Employees of other businesses that have lost their jobs due to Covid 19, will receive one payment of 40 000 leke once.</p>		
<p><b>ZELS, North Macedonia</b></p>	<p><a href="https://www.covidvisualizer.com/">https://www.covidvisualizer.com/</a></p> <p>974 infected, 45 deceased, 98 recovered</p> <p>143 healthcare workers infected</p> <p>9.262 tests are made to date 15.04.2020</p>	<p><b>- State of emergency</b></p> <p><b>-Schools, kindergartens and universities closed</b> from 11 March</p> <p><b>- Limitations of movement:</b> curfew from Monday to Friday from 04 p.m. to 05 p.m., during the weekend from Friday from 04 p.m. to Monday to 05 a.m.</p> <p><b>- Borders closed</b>, entrance/exit of domestic and foreign citizens prohibited</p> <p><b>- Travel limitations:</b> public transport limited, intercity transport partially limited</p> <p><b>- Gatherings prohibited</b></p> <p><b>Measures and decisions form the 37<sup>th</sup> session of the Government of the RNM</b></p> <p><b>- The Government determined the text of the agreement between the Republic of</b></p>	<p><b>- Office closed</b></p> <p><b>- Work from home</b> (every ZELS employee works from home and is available for any obligation according to the working hours of the Association, from 08:30 AM to 04:30 PM)</p> <p><b>- IT staff go to ZELS every Tuesday and Friday for monitoring the operational system of ZELS and are available for any other obligation,</b></p>	<p><b>- Submitting all government recommendations and decisions to the local authorities</b></p> <p><b>- Responding to the demands and problems of municipalities, as well as providing permits for crisis headquarters</b></p> <p><b>- Counselling with the representatives of state institutions regarding some decisions that refer to the activities of the local authorities</b></p> <p><b>- Everyday communication with the Mayors and representatives of local governments</b></p> <p><b>- Receiving documents by mail regarding cases of clients and acting on them in accordance</b></p>

		<p>Northern Macedonia and the Republic of Turkey for a donation of medical equipment and funds intended for the health sector, which consists of 50,000 pieces of protective medical masks, 1000 protective spacesuits, and 1000 diagnostic tests;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Government adopted a decree with the legal force to limit the payment of wages and allowances to public sector employees during a state of emergency;</li> <li>- The Government decided to extend the legal deadline for concluding contracts for production and purchase of tobacco for the 2020 harvest, which is concluded by the tobacco producers with the registered tobacco purchasers;</li> <li>- The Government adopted the Decree with the legal force for the application of the Law on Public Employees during the state of emergency, according to which public sector employees who are employed for the duration of temporary measures for protection against spread and prevention of coronavirus KOVID - 19, the unused part of the annual vacation from the calendar year 2019 can be used until May 31, 2020, according to the needs of the work process and based on the approval of the head of the institution;</li> <li>- The Government adopted a Decree with</li> </ul>	<p>arising from the needs of the municipalities</p>	<p>with legal authorizations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Maintenance of electronic systems and error correction</li> </ul>
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	<p>the legal force for the application of the provisions of the Law on Pensions and Pension Compensation from fully funded pension insurance during the state of emergency in order to extend the deadlines for submitting a request for exercising the rights arising from the Law on Payment of Pensions and Pension Benefits from the fully funded pension insurance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The Government adopted a Decree with the legal force for the application of the provisions of the Law on Mandatory Fully Funded Pension Insurance during the State of Emergency;</li><li>- The Government adopted a Decree for amending the Decree with the legal force for the application of the Law on Local Self-Government, according to which the president of the Municipal Council may convene and chair a session of the Council, and using means of communication (telephone or conference call, using Internet communication and software tools);</li><li>- The Government reviewed and adopted the information on StopKorona! - mobile application dealing with KOVID-19;</li><li>- The Government adopted a Decree with the legal force for supplementing the Decree with the legal force for the</li></ul>		
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application of the Law on Protection of the Population from Infectious Diseases during the State of Emergency;

- The Government reviewed the information and adopted the text of the agreement for a donation of mobile internet cards to socially disadvantaged families who have children-students in a primary and secondary school;

**Measures and decisions form the 38<sup>th</sup> session of the Government of the RNM**

- The Government allowed a special regime of movement for people with disabilities;

- The Ministers of the Government reviewed and adopted the information on the requirements that meet the criteria of the Public Call No. 1 for loans from the Credit Line of the Special Credit Fund (PFF) in order to reduce the consequences of the coronavirus KOVID-19

- The Government adopted the Decree which, due to the declared state of emergency in the country, requires the engagement of the entire capacity of the organizational units within the Ministry of Interior, including the trainee police officers;

- The Government adopted the Decree with the legal force for the application of the

Law on Execution of Sanctions during the State of Emergency, according to which the execution of the reference acts for the execution of imprisonment of persons sentenced to imprisonment for up to three years is postponed until September 1, 2020, except for cases where there is a risk of an overdue sentence;

- a Decree with legal force was adopted for supplementing the Decree with the legal force for the application of the Law on Notary during a state of emergency in the country in the part of the obligation to hold notary exams, with provisions for extension of the mandate of the bodies of Notary Chamber;

- At the suggestion of the Ministry of Justice, the Government adopted a Decree with the legal force for the application of the Law on Judicial Service during the State of Emergency;

**Measures and decisions form the 39<sup>th</sup> session of the Government of the RNM**

- The Government adopted the Decision on redistribution of funds between budget users of the central government and between the funds, according to which in the Budget of the Republic of North Macedonia for 2020, in the special part in



	<p>the first sub-column Basic Budget Expenditures, redistribution of funds in the amount of MKD 6,542,000,000 (roughly EUR 100 million) is performed;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The government adopted an amendment to the decree in support of private-sector employers affected by the health and economic crisis due to the payment of salaries for April and May 2020, and these changes remove the requirement that managers and business owners employed in them cannot use measure (and in order to protect micro and small companies), and is supplemented by the condition that the number of employees should be maintained 2 months after using the measure, i.e. until July 2020;</li><li>- At this session, a conclusion was made for the establishment of a central mechanism for receiving, monitoring and distribution of all donations and assistance that the Republic of North Macedonia receives;</li><li>- At the proposal of the Ministry of Economy, Ministers reviewed and adopted the Decree on the application of the Law on Accreditation during the state of emergency;</li><li>- The Decree with the legal force for the application of the Law on Establishment of the Agency for Financial Support in</li></ul>	
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Agriculture and Rural Development during the State of Emergency was reviewed and adopted;

**Measures and decisions form the 40<sup>th</sup> session of the Government of the RNM**

- The Government reviewed and adopted the proposal to extend the ban and the special regime of movement on the territory of the Republic of North Macedonia during the upcoming Christian holiday Easter, i.e. the ban on movement will start on April 17, 2020 ( Friday) from 16:00 and will last until April 21, 2020 (Tuesday) until 05:00;
- At this session, the Government concluded that the period of crisis in the municipalities of Debar and Centar Zupa is over and that this situation has given the expected results in terms of health;
- The Government adopted a Decree was adopted with the legal force for the borrowing of the Republic of North Macedonia from the International Monetary Fund (about 176.7m euros) for the financial support from the Instrument for fast financing during the state of emergency;
- The Government reviewed and adopted the Information on the need to use Macro -

	<p>financial support from the European Union for non-EU countries, and approved the draft text of the Letter for a formal application for use of Macro-financial support from the European Union for Republic of North Macedonia;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The Government reviewed and adopted the Decree with the legal force for supplementing the Decision on determining the amount of salary of the elected and appointed persons in the public sector during the state of emergency, whose provisions are also referred to the extraordinary and authorized ambassadors and consuls general of the Republic of North Macedonia;</li><li>- The Government also adopted a Decree amending the Decree on the Application of the Law on Protection of the Population from Infectious Diseases during the State of Emergency;</li><li>- At the session, a Decision was adopted for amending the Decision on the implementation of mandatory state quarantine of the citizens of the Republic of North Macedonia returned from abroad with humanitarian flights;</li><li>- At the proposal of the Ministry of Health, the Government adopted the Decree amending the Decree with the legal force</li></ul>	
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for the application of the Law on Health Care during the state of emergency;

**Measures and decisions form the 41<sup>st</sup> session of the Government of the RNM**

- The Government concluded to submit a proposal to the President of the Republic of North Macedonia with a report on the activities undertaken so far by state institutions, arguing that a state of emergency is needed to successfully deal with coronavirus in the country;
- The Government reviewed and adopted the Information of the Development Bank of the Republic of North Macedonia for the second package of approved applications from the processed applications of companies that meet the conditions and criteria for interest-free loans from the Public Call from the first package of economic measures;
- The Government adopted a Decree with the legal force for payment of royalties for persons engaged in state authorities (legislative, executive and judicial), regulatory bodies, agencies, state commissions, legal entities in full or dominant state own, units of the local self-government and the city of Skopje and the legal entities established by the units of the

		<p>local self-government and the city of Skopje;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Government adopted the Decree with the legal force for amending the Decree with the legal force for the application of the Law on Value Added Tax during the state of emergency which determines the exemption from value-added tax for the supply of goods and services that are donated given to budget users as well as the turnover of goods and services performed to budget users realized with donated funds;</li> <li>- At the proposal of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy, the Government adopted the Decree amending the decree with the legal force for the application of the Law on Agricultural Land during the state of emergency, which overcomes the economic difficulties of tenants due to the emergency due to the epidemic, the deadline for payment of the annual rent for 2019 is extended until October 31, 2020, and unilateral termination of contracts for the lease of agricultural land in state ownership due to unpaid annual rent until October 31, 2020, will not be performed;</li> </ul>		
CALM, Moldova	<a href="https://www.covidvisualizer.com/">https://www.covidvisualizer.com/</a>	<b>-State of emergency</b>	-Office closed.	-CALM Secretariat is constantly informing all LGs on the Decisions approved by Central

	<p><a href="#">m/</a></p> <p>Infected - 2049 Deceased - 46 Recovered - 171</p>	<p><b>-Schools, kindergartens and universities</b> closed until 15 May 2020, <b>distance learning introduced.</b></p> <p><b>-Limitations of movement:</b> Groups up to 3 allowed outdoor; having an ID is mandatory when going out; People over 63 years old are allowed out only for purchasing food or medicines. April 7 -27, 2020 are declared holiday days for all units in the budgetary sector except health care, police and army.</p> <p><b>-Borders situation:</b> Entrance of foreign citizens prohibited; Airports and majority of border points closed. Only corridors for international cargo are opened. Moldovan citizens returning from abroad are allowed to enter the country being obliged to buy the health insurance and stay in self isolation for at least 14 days.</p> <p><b>-Travel limitations:</b> Travels abroad prohibited, Travels within the country not recommended, <i>unless it is an urgent necessity.</i></p> <p><b>-Gathering limitations:</b> Any types of gathering, including in churches are prohibited</p> <p><b>-Key economy measures:</b> postponement of repayment of loans; postponement of</p>	<p>-CALM Secretariat is working from home, for now until the emergency situation is in power (15 May 2020)</p> <p>-Other measures: Work with the members via Viber groups, e-mail communication and phones.</p>	<p>Authorities related to COVID 19 preventing measures with direct impact of LPA.</p> <p>-CALM also made on its website a specially dedicated page that is updated on hourly basis for Decisions approved by Central Authorities related to COVID 19, legislation, instructions, etc. with direct impact of LPA.</p> <p><a href="http://calm.md/pageview.php?l=ro&amp;idc=314&amp;nod=1&amp;t=/Informatii-privind-noul-Coronavirus-COVID-19&amp;">http://calm.md/pageview.php?l=ro&amp;idc=314&amp;nod=1&amp;t=/Informatii-privind-noul-Coronavirus-COVID-19&amp;</a></p> <p>-CALM together with Ministry of Health, the representatives of WHO and UNDP organised this week over 20 webinars via Zoom for Mayors from all districts from Moldova. The webinars were dedicated to the measures LGs must take related to Covid 19 spread prevention in generally and special protective measures related to Easter Holidays.</p>
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		<p>payment of taxes and contributions with 60 days</p> <p>Unemployment support introduced for the period of emergency situation.</p> <p><b>-Additional measures affecting LGs:</b></p> <p>The Instruction regarding the establishment of the quarantine regime in localities, during the state of emergency, is approved. Now municipalities in a decentralised way can establish the quarantine regime if the municipality has 1% of the population infected by Covid-19.</p>		
UoM, Montenegro	<p><a href="https://www.covidvisualizer.com/">https://www.covidvisualizer.com/</a></p> <p>Infected: 290 Deceased: 4 Recovered: 55</p>	<p><b>-No state of emergency</b></p> <p><b>-Schools closed</b> until 30 April.</p> <p><b>-Limitations of movement:</b> ban on leaving the housing facility for citizens, from Monday to Friday, from 7pm to 5am the following day, Saturday from 1pm to 5am and Sunday from 11am to 5am. Exceptionally, for the duration of this ban, persons who take their pets out for a walk may stay in the public place for up to 60 minutes. Compulsory institutional isolation for persons who have been quarantined or self-isolated and are tested positive for the novel coronavirus, for patients who have been hospitalized, have recovered and have</p>	<p>-Work from home</p> <p>-All meetings cancelled.</p>	<p>-A representative of the UoM participates in each session of the National Coordination Body for Communicable Diseases (NCB)</p> <p>-The relevant information is communicated to all municipalities</p> <p>-The Governing Board of the UoM decided to donate 10.000 Euros into the account of the NCB. The session was held electronically.</p> <p>-A representative of the UoM is the member of the Working Group appointed by the Prime Minister to prepare proposals for a new package of measures to support Montenegrin economy, entrepreneurs and citizens in dealing with the impact of the coronavirus</p>

	<p>no symptoms of the disease, but have not yet had two consecutive negative results from samples taken at intervals of 24 hours; as well as for persons who came from abroad and tested positive for the novel coronavirus in quarantine.</p> <p><b>-Borders situation:</b> prohibition of entry to foreigners, except to foreigners with permanent or temporary residence in Montenegro and foreigners who operate motor vehicles used for traffic of goods. Extended until 30 April</p> <p><b>-Travel limitations:</b> suspension of international passenger traffic, ban on intercity passenger transport. <b>Extended until 30 April</b></p> <p><b>-Gathering limitations:</b> ban on presence and loitering of more than one person in an open public place. Ban on presence and loitering of persons on beaches, landscaped and unregulated bathing areas and picnic areas. Prohibition of gathering in the facilities of accommodation for persons who are not members of the common family household</p> <p><b>-Key economy measures:</b> postponement of</p>		<p>pandemic.</p> <p>-As a member of the Working Group, UoM, in consultation with municipalities, has prepared a proposal of measures to support economy in dealing with impact of coronavirus pandemic, taking in account needs of LSG for basic functioning.</p>
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repayment of loans for 90 days; postponement of payment of taxes and contributions on earnings, as well as, obligations under the Law on Rescheduling of Tax Claims; postponement of payment of lease of state-owned real estate, also for a period of 90 days; Investment and Development Fund (IRF) has decided on a new line of credit, intended to support liquidity of businesses. The loan amount can be up to EUR 3 million; Suspension of payment of variable pay and all budgetary allowances for work in commissions, steering committees and other working bodies; Restriction and control of budget spending; Advance payment to service providers and contractors on started capital projects with the provision of a bank guarantee in the value of advance payment to ensure their liquidity and maintain continuity of works

**-Additional measures affecting LGs:** Local self-governments are obliged to identify, in cooperation with the municipal crisis staffs, potential facilities which would be used for the implementation of quarantine measures, and propose to the Ministry of Health for further quarantine determination procedure.

<p><b>NAMRB, Bulgaria</b></p>	<p><a href="https://www.covidvisualizer.com/">https://www.covidvisualizer.com/</a></p> <p>Infected:783 Deceased:37 Recovered: 122</p> <p>18 502 tests made</p> <p>19 241 in active quarantine</p>	<p><b>-State of emergency</b> until 13 May 2020</p> <p><b>-Schools closed</b> until 13 May 2020. Classes are conducted online. Annual exams (matriculation exams) for all students will be postponed by a week or so. No spring holidays.</p> <p><b>-Limitations of movement:</b> citizens are not allowed to visit parks, children playgrounds, outdoor/indoor sport facilities.</p> <p><b>-Borders situation:</b> temporal ban for entry in Bulgaria for all third country nationals, as well as people coming from Italy, Spain, France, UK, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Austria, Belgium, Iceland, Lichtenstein and Luxembourg. Exempt are Bulgarian citizens and members of their families.</p> <p><b>-Travel limitations:</b> checkpoints are installed at the entry/exit of cities - district centres. Travel in or out of the cities is generally not allowed. Exceptions – people working there and living in another town (need document from employer), urgent medical situation, returning to home address, taking care of members of family.</p>	<p>-Office: open, work on schedule, 1 person per office maximum.</p> <p>-2/3 of staff work from home.</p> <p>-Other measures: frequent cleaning; disinfection and protection equipment for all available.</p> <p>-Weekly videoconference of the Managing Board.</p>	<p>Active communication and lobbying with central government on LGs' problems/ issues implementing the measures.</p> <p>-All information concerning the COVID-19 and measures at national level are uploaded on NAMRB's website and sent by email to all Mayors.</p> <p>-Viber group for Mayors – sending most important news from central government, including links, important information and Q&amp;A possibility.</p> <p>-Keeping a special section on NAMRB's website for measures (practices) of municipalities: <a href="https://www.namrb.org/news">https://www.namrb.org/news</a></p> <p>-NAMRB offers free consultations or preparation of projects of municipalities under the new Patronage Care Programme.</p> <p>-NAMRB deposited its position concerning the amendments of the rules for awarding grants from ESIF. The Association stands against the increased powers of the Managing Authorities to stop open public selection procedures. The position was not taken into consideration and the amendments were adopted on 15.03.2020 for the period of the state of emergency.</p>
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	<p><b>-Gathering limitations:</b> gatherings generally are not allowed. Not more than two persons aged over 60 are allowed at one place. Two meters distance at all public places for all.</p> <p>All citizens are obliged to wear face masks in public areas (incl. public transport, shops, parks, streets, religious temples, etc.)</p> <p><b>-Key economy measures:</b></p> <p>4.5 billion BGN</p> <p>-1 billion BGN for the engagement of the government to cover 60% of the salaries and social security taxes of employees of companies that were forced to close their businesses in an effort to keep this people employed.</p> <p>- Increase of capital of Bulgarian Bank for Development with 500 million BGN - as guarantee for the business credits from commercial banks.</p> <p>- Increase of capital of Bulgarian Bank for Development with 200 million BGN - as guarantee for interest-free credits up to 1 500 BGN (per month; for 3 months maximum) for people in unpaid leave.</p> <p>- 600 million BGN from taxes and fees paid by citizens and business that will not be paid to the state budget on time and their payment is deferred until end of June 2020.</p>		<p>-In coordination between NAMRB, the National Crisis HQs and Renault-Nissan Bulgaria 19 vehicles were provided for the needs of the municipalities for food, medicines and essential goods delivery.</p> <p>-NAMRB collects data from municipalities to ensure access to the Information System for Coordination and Control of People under Quarantine</p>
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	<p>- 500 million BGN for salaries for overtime hours in the system of the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Defence.</p> <p>- 50 million BGN for the poorest pensioners for Easter.</p> <p>- 20 million BGN for social patronage care.</p> <p>234 million BGN from EU funding are redirected for measures to fight COVID-19. The Fund of Funds mobilised 400 million BGN in response to the economic consequences of the crisis.</p> <p>With the amendment of the State Budget Law the government of Bulgaria can increase its government debt from 2.2 billion BGN to 10 billion BGN if needed.</p> <p>Tax reliefs for business – postponed submission of tax declarations and deferral of tax payments till June 2020.</p> <p>Loans payment deferment for up to 6 months.</p> <p>Food chain stores to provide space for local producers products in an effort to support regional agricultural sector.</p> <p><b>Other measures:</b></p> <p>Order, containing the list of hospitals for treatment and monitoring of COVID-19 patients published (including municipal). Hospitals need to ensure the conditions and</p>		
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	<p>the number of beds in intensive and other care units, as stipulated in the order.</p> <p>Online Information System for Coordination and Control of People under Quarantine.</p> <p>Order, giving the right to Mayors to engage medical staff from kindergartens, nurseries and schools to be included in the work of the medical institutions on the territory of the municipality (currently they are on paid leave)</p> <p>Ministry of Tourism calls on municipalities to support them in the advertisement of Bulgarian tourism, through distribution of digital content, such as virtual tours of museums, galleries, tourist objects and sightseeing.</p>		
<b>NALAS Secretariat</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Office closed, work from home.</li> <li>-Online meetings and webinars.</li> <li>-All activities of the 2020 Work Plan adjusted to the new circumstances.</li> <li>-Online CLO meeting, General Assembly, Knowledge Management Meeting, Task Force meetings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-The traditional NALAS Digest has been transformed into an exchange platform for good practices of local governments in South East Europe and their Associations in combating Covid-19. It is a weekly edition, the last one available here: <a href="https://us1.campaign-archive.com/?u=e2fcd60ad8f04210f9e8a5699&amp;id=c1f1f9047e">https://us1.campaign-archive.com/?u=e2fcd60ad8f04210f9e8a5699&amp;id=c1f1f9047e</a></li> <li>-Weekly Covid-19 Update for NALAS members, including information about the situation, official measures and activities by NALAS member LGAs.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-NALAS Quick Response service is following the trending topics and already had an inquiry for collecting data on financing Covid-19 measures.</li><li>-As part of NALAS e-Academy, an ongoing e-learning course in Disaster Risk Management (DRM).</li><li>-Series of webinars in DRM in cooperation with the Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for South-Eastern Europe (DPPI SEE).</li><li>-Membership in the CEMR Covid Task Force</li><li>-Presentations at CEMR Platforma webinar</li></ul>
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