SITUATION REPORT #13
COVID-19

14 APRIL 2020

14 APRIL 2020 by 09:00 hours

351 COVID-19 cases 1) 47% Female
3410 cases tested 53% Male

83% mild cases/homecare
3 intensive care
53 hospitalized
8 casualties
63 fully recovered

42 cases 2) 377 cases 3)

Global statistics from WHO at 09:00 hours

1,776,867 confirmed cases
111,828 deaths

1) Statistics, as available by the Kosovo Institute for Public Health
2) Recorded by Serbian health system
3) Number of cumulative cases verified in Kosovo
As of 14 April of 2020, 09:00 hours, according to IPH there are 377 total cases of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19. Number of verified casualties to COVID-19 in Kosovo is 8 cases.

13 April marked one-month of the first case of COVID-19 infected in Kosovo. According to the WHO Office in Prishtinë/Priština, Kosovo has entered the community spread phase of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Currently 3 patients are under intensive care. 63 patients have fully recovered including Patient Zero. Currently under quarantine are the following municipalities: Prishtinë/Priština; Klinë/a; Malishevë/Mališevo; Viti/Vitina, Mitrovica North, Zvečan/Zvećan, Ferizaj/Uroševac, Suharekë/Suva Reka, Priyren and following villages: Topanićë/Topanica, Kamenicë/Kamenica Municipality; Korishë/Koriša, Prizren/Prizren Municipality, Smrekonicë/Smrekovnica, Vushtrri/Vučitrn and Vrapčiq/Vrapčić Gjilan/Gnjilane Municipality. On 13 April the government has announced additional stricter measures will be starting from 15 April. These measures limit the movement of individuals up to 90 minutes per day, for supplies and services. The schedule is divided into 8 groups, based on the one-before-the-last digit of ID for Kosovo ID holders or of the passport for foreigners.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One-before-the-last digit</th>
<th>Schedule of movement allowed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 and 1</td>
<td>07:00-08:30 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>09:00-10:30 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>11:00-12:30 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>13:00-14:30 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 and 6</td>
<td>15:00-16:30 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>17:00-18:30 hours</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>19:00-20:30 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>21:00-22:30 hours</td>
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</tbody>
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Persons below 16 years of age cannot move without the adult escort from the same household. Persons above 65 years of age are urged not to go out.

Kosovo Police have placed checkpoints at all points to and from Prishtinë/Priština. Staff of diplomatic missions and international organizations on essential duty are exempt from the quarantine.
Measures by the government and public institutions

The government took early measures to prevent the spread of the COVID-19. Since then, new measures have gradually been introduced to mitigate and contain COVID-19. The government declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency on 15 March. Curfew schedule continues to be from 17:00 to 06:00 hours. There are 15 new cases in Kosovo registered in the last 48 hours, and new infections are increasing in numbers. Due to a sharp increase of infections on 11 April, Prishtinë/Priština was placed under quarantine as of 12 April in the midnight.

During past 48 hours, 106 cases involving 219 persons have been reported by police of failure to comply with government-imposed restrictions in different locations all over Kosovo. Distance learning program for classes 1-9, will soon be extended to preschool categories of children from 0-6 years old. Information available at https://masht.rks-gov.net/e-mesimi

Travel and Transport

Most international air travel to Kosovo is suspended as of 16 March 2020. Military flights and airplanes carrying cabin crew allowed to land in Pristina Airport for outgoing passengers. There is an exception for incoming medical flights and MEDEVAC. Schedule for limited outgoing flights can be found at http://www.airportpristina.com/. Travel by land is restricted to all travelers except Kosovo passport holders, staff of diplomatic/consular missions, international organizations, foreigners with residence in Kosovo, and freight. Every person, irrespective of nationality entering Kosovo is placed under mandatory 14-day quarantine/isolation. Intercity transport is suspended as well as organized international transport of passengers. All public transportation has been discontinued. Taxi services are available during 06:00 hours to 17:00 hours.
Public and Private Services

Currently all emergency and other core government functions continue to operate. Municipalities continue provide civil documentation, albeit with reduced capacities. As of April 7, individuals who are not equipped with masks and gloves will not be able to receive services in the Municipality of Prishtinë/Priština. The Ministry of Health has created a special website https://www.kosova.health/en/ with current official Kosovo statistics, and measures taken to prevent further transmission of the disease. Also, visitors at the website can do an interactive self-evaluation to verify for COVID-19 symptoms. There is also a possibility to register for volunteering at the same website. An emergency phone line is: 038 200 80 800 (0.02 cents per minute).

During press conference on 12 April, PM Kurti, called on diaspora to financially help Kosovo, by contribution into a dedicated account, where diaspora and foreign donations will be collected in response to COVID-19 outbreak.

Situation in K-Serb majority municipalities and in the north

There are 42 reported COVID-19 cases in northern Kosovo, and in municipalities with Serbian majority. North Mitrovica and Zvečan/Zveçan continue to be under quarantine, with some exceptions for movement, such as suppliers and other emergency.

Current curfew hours Zubin Potok/Zubinpotok and Leposavić are weekends from 15:00 to 05:00 hours and weekdays from 17:00 to 05:00 hours.

On 11 April, the editor-in-chief of the KoSSev news portal was detained for few hours by the police based on alleged violation of restriction of movement. The Association of the Journalists of Kosovo, the European Federation of Journalists and the “Safejournalists” Western Balkans regional project have condemned the detention.

A group of NGOs in Kosovo also sent a press release condemning detention: New Social Initiative (NSI); Institute for Territorial Economic Development (InTER); Black and White World Portal; Local Initiative LINK; Gračanica Online; Advocacy Center for Democratic Culture (ACDC); Communication for Social Development (CSD); Media Center from Čaglavica; Center for Social Initiatives; Forum for Development and Multiethnic Cooperation (FDMC), and Alternative Association.

Requested by the mayor of Gracanica, approved and coordinated by the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Public Administration of Kosovo, a number of health workers from Serbia have been deployed in Gracanica to help the municipalities inhabited by the Serbian majority with the response to COVID-19.

Observations important to health, socio-economic and human rights dimensions of COVID-19 outbreak

As can be seen from signals from banks, the business community as well as calls from civil society and reports from vulnerable groups, the social and economic impact of COVID-19 will be significant. Some early measures have been taken authorities and Central Bank of Kosovo. This needs to be expanded and an integrated comprehensive socio-economic response developed.

It is of utmost important that Human Rights are upheld in the context of the ongoing health and sanitary crisis in Kosovo, as elsewhere. Vigilance needs to be observed for instances of discrimination and stigma, as well as limitations to fundamental freedoms such as freedom of movement, expression, assembly and association, and the right to privacy.

Overall, while measures to contain the health crisis in Kosovo do not seem to disproportionately affect the enjoyment of human rights, they should remain as non-intrusive as possible and in line with requirements of legality and necessity, and in accordance with international human rights law.
**Response of the UN system in Kosovo**

WHO is the lead agency for health related coordination with Ministry of Health. Overall coordination is led by the UN RC/DC. WHO remains in daily contact with Ministry of Health and Institute of Public Health in supporting an effective response. WHO and a few other UNKT agencies are members of the inter-institutional crisis management group.

WHO hosts trainings on 6 different topics to support a more effective COVID-19 response [https://openwho.org/courses/](https://openwho.org/courses/)

**Socio-economic impact assessment and recovery framework**

The COVID-19 Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan (SPRP) developed by the UNKT outlines the immediate needs and gaps of the public health measures as well as initial socio-economic needs, including the financial costs. The SPRP is available on global platform [https://covid-19-response.org/](https://covid-19-response.org/) for donors and partners to view while allowing for a global overview of each affected countries needs to ensure efficient allocation of mobilized resources. The SPRP is a living document and will be updated as the situation develops.

UNKT in coordination with Word Bank is launching a series of assessments to measure the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19. UNDP will lead a rapid socio-economic assessment with UN Women and UNFPA to ensure the gender dimensions of the COVID-19. First results available end April. Consequent assessments may be sectoral or focusing on cross cutting priorities such as labor market, productive sectors or specifically vulnerable groups. The assessments will inform the development of an integrated UN interagency recovery framework to respond to the impacts of COVID-19.

**Support for the health system with equipment to fight COVID-19 pandemic**

On 13 April 2020, the second truck of UNICEF supplies arrived in Prishtinë/Priština with 1.5 tons of PPEs, including 8,900 surgical gowns, to support health authorities. As agreed with Ministry of Health, 10% of this supply is delivered to the hospital in Mitrovica North and to the hospital in Gračanica/Graçańicë. This support is part of the UNICEF’s Home Visiting Programme, financed by the Government of Luxembourg. In response to COVID-19 outbreak, Luxembourg will continue to support UNICEF in provisioning additional PPEs to front line health workers. Next shipment includes among other items, 40 oxygen concentrators.

**Observations and concerns in Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities**

There are emergent needs of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities as the most vulnerable and exposed groups to the COVID-19 outbreak. There is a need in assistance for food and non-food items as thousands of families due to scarce economic and social conditions are affected exponentially, hence basic health and food assistance is a matter of urgency.

**United Nations Family in Kosovo**

UN remains operational both working from home as well as in the field directly helping vulnerable groups. Coordination mechanisms are established with partners and support intensified not only to authorities to respond effectively to the COVID-19 outbreak but also distributing assistance directly to vulnerable groups and families.
UN Women is coordinating joint Security and Gender Group (SGG) efforts in addressing social and economic consequences of COVID-19 on women.

The OSCE Mission in Kosovo has launched the social media campaign against domestic violence on Mission's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram you can find visuals and messages to be re-shared in English, Albanian and Serbian languages, using hashtag #DomesticViolenceAwareness.

Asylum Seekers, refugees and migrants

The borders remain closed and the border police reported that no new arrivals entered in Kosovo in the last period. Currently, 188 asylum-seekers are accommodated in the Asylum Centers. There are no new arrivals into the Asylum Centers. So far, five asylum-seekers were tested on COVID-19 and they all resulted negative. The authorities in the Asylum Centers highlighted the need for clothing for the asylum-seekers. UNHCR provided internet access to asylum center in Magure/Magura while in Vranidoll/Vranidol the works are ongoing. 31 persons remain in the quarantine in the center for foreigners in Vranidoll/Vranidol.

Internally Displaced Persons and Voluntary Returnees

The IDPs with chronical diseases in collective shelters in four north municipalities have difficulties to obtain medicaments. UNHCR and partners continued identifying Persons of Concern (POCs) that could potentially benefit from the emergency fiscal package. In meanwhile, the IDPs and returnees identified are being assisted to register with respective employment offices, which is a precondition to benefit from the package. UNHCR and partners are continuing advocacy for inclusion of Persons of Concern to in humanitarian aid programmes.

Innovation

The Innovation Center Kosovo (ICK) “Hack the Crisis Kosova” hackathon, supported among others by UNDP in Kosovo, gathered 400+ community members, including 70 teams, 60 mentors and 50+ partners. Young innovators joined their forces to find the best solutions to tackle the COVID-19 crisis. The result of over 60 hours of tireless work brought forth 38 innovative youth-led projects in five categories. Read the full story: https://bit.ly/2V03Lt8

International responses to COVID-19 Pandemic in Kosovo and globally

On April 11 the UN SG sent a public message to mark Easter, Passover and Ramadan: Renewing Faith in our Common Humanity in the Face of the COVID-19 Pandemic, calling on religious leaders for action to defeat this virus – “…with cooperation, solidarity, and faith in our common humanity”. For full message please see – https://bit.ly/34yGXnf

On April 10 the International Monetary Fund has approved a 51.6-million-euro loan for Kosovo to tackle the economic crisis caused by COVID-19 and address urgent balance of payments issues.

On 6 April, the UN SG launched an appeal “for peace in homes around the world” and to world leaders to reinforce efforts to combat and prevent gender-based violence which is increasing globally as a result of COVID-19. Currently, 124 countries are supporting the appeal.
EU could be making available up to 160 million euro for Kosovo in a period of 2 to 6 months through macro-financial assistance, budget support & IPA grants to support private sector, agriculture & alleviate poverty.


The UN SG launched on 25 March a 2 billion USD global humanitarian response plan to fund the fight against COVID-19 in the world’s poorest countries. Properly funded, it will save lives and arm humanitarian agencies and NGOs with laboratory supplies for testing, and with medical equipment to treat the sick while protecting health care workers. Already an estimated 1 billion USD have been committed by UN member states.

The UN SG’s call for global cease-fire on 23 March 2020 backed by among other dignities by Pope Francis, UN Messengers of Peace [https://bit.ly/2RokW5p](https://bit.ly/2RokW5p) and heeded by various warring parties as ceasefire was declared in Philippines, Yemen, Cameroon, Colombia, as well as fragile truce in parts of Middle East. More than 2.1 million people worldwide have raised the voice in support of the appeal by signing online [https://avaaz.org/campaign/en/global_ceasefire_loc/](https://avaaz.org/campaign/en/global_ceasefire_loc/)

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GIS representation of confirmed COVID19 cases in Kosovo

![GIS representation of confirmed COVID19 cases in Kosovo](image-url)
For more information, visit or contact UN Kosovo Team (15 Agencies and the Coordination Office)

Web: www.unkt.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/UNKosovoTeam
Twitter: https://twitter.com/UNKosovoTeam
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/unkosovoteam/

UN Development Coordinator Ulrika Richardson
Twitter: https://twitter.com/UNKT_DC

UNDP
Website: https://www.ks.undp.org/content/kosovo/en/home.html
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/UNDP.Kosovo
Twitter: https://twitter.com/UNDP_Kosovo

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Twitter: https://twitter.com/unwomenkosovo

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Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/unpakosovo/
Twitter: https://twitter.com/UnpfaKosovo

UNHCR
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/unhcr.kosovo/
Twitter: https://www.twitter.com/Refugees
Instagram: https://instagram.com/refugees?igshid=6sgykcvdqww

WHO
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/WHOEurope
Twitter: https://twitter.com/WHO_Europe

Kosovo authorities

Ministry of Health:
Website: http://msh.rks.gov.net/
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Ministria-e-Shëndetësisë-597689407055317

Institute of Public Health:
Website: www.niph-rks.org/
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/InstitutiiKosovesperAdministratetPublike
WHO, UNICEF and UNDP partnered with WhatsApp with the aim is to get real time health information to billions around the world on COVID-19: The WhatsApp Corona-virus Information Hub provides simple, actionable guidance for health workers, educators, community leaders, nonprofits, local governments and local businesses and offers general tips and resources to reduce the spread of rumors and connect with accurate health information:  
https://www.whatsapp.com/coronavirus
Or join WHO’s Health Alert on WhatsApp:

For Arabic send "ابحرم" to +41 22 501 70 23 on WhatsApp wa.me/41225017023?text=ابحرم
For French send "salut" to +41 22 501 72 98 on WhatsApp wa.me/41225017298?text=salut
For Spanish send "hola" to +41 22 501 76 90 on WhatsApp wa.me/41225017690?text=hola
For English send "hi" to +41 79 893 18 92 on WhatsApp wa.me/41798931892?text=hi

To stay up to date with the latest information, please visit:

World Health Organization:  https://tinyurl.com/yx6vexyp
WHO guidance for countries:  https://tinyurl.com/sz5zrl9
Coronavirus (COVID-19) Situation:  https://tinyurl.com/tpr4rzc

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