



Travel restrictions effective as of 1 September due to COVID-19 in Hungary

KPMG Legal Tóásó Law Firm

3 September 2020



Decrees



Persons entitled to entry



Foreign citizens



Epidemiological surveillance



Special rules I.



Special rules II.



Contact

New decrees introduced due to COVID-19



The following government decrees and decree of the Ministry of Interior have become effective as of 1 September 2020 aiming at introducing safety measures against COVID-19



TEMPORARY REINSTATEMENT OF BORDER CONTROLS

- Temporary reinstatement of controls at the domestic borders of Hungary
- The decree will expire as of 1 October 2020



TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS DURING THE PERIOD OF EPIDEMIC PREPAREDNESS



CERTAIN RULES APPLICABLE TO EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE IN RELATION TO COVID-19



COLLABORATION OF THE HUNGARIAN ARMED FORCES IN THE TASKS RELATED TO EPIDEMIC PREPAREDNESS



STATES CONCERNED BY THE RULES OF BUSINESS TRAVEL BETWEEN RELATED UNDERTAKINGS



Hungarian citizens and other persons entitled to entry



Persons arriving from abroad to Hungary from non-business travels, such as

- **Hungarian citizens and their relatives** (e.g., wife, children);
- **Persons entitled to stay permanently or for a period of more than 90 days** in Hungary and their relatives;
- **Athletes, sport professionals**, who are members of a Hungarian sport club or delegates, invitees of a sport event may be subject to mandatory health examinations when entering Hungary.

The above entry rules do not apply to:

- Crossing borders in freight traffic or with official passport;
- Persons who proved that they had already tackled the virus in the past 6 months.

If **SUSPECTED of infection**, the person concerned must go into quarantine at home or at a place designated for such purposes by the competent authorities.

Employees, who must be in quarantine at home due to infection / suspected infection established by health examinations, qualifies as **persons incapable of work** and thus are entitled to sick pay.

If **NOT SUSPECTED of infection**, the person concerned must go into quarantine at home or at a place designated for such purposes by the competent authorities for 14 days.

Persons who went through the health examinations twice in 5 days and got negative results may be **exempted from quarantine**.

Employees, who must be in quarantine at home for 14 days due to non-business travels abroad (e.g., family holiday) and are not suspected of infection based on health examinations, **do not qualify as persons incapable of work** and thus are not entitled to sick pay. In this case, such employees may discuss with their employers the conditions of **working remotely**.



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Travel restrictions for foreign citizens



In principle, **foreign citizens are not allowed to enter Hungary**, unless the police exempt them from such restriction based on their request.

The police may **permit the entry** if the requestor proves that – among others – the aim of the entry is one of the following:

- Participation in a domestic court or other official procedure;
- Proved domestic business activity or other work;
- Use of healthcare services based on a medical recommendation/certificate;
- Completing study or exam obligations;
- Transportation of passengers.

The persons concerned may also be subject to **health examinations** when entering the borders.

- If suspected of infection, **the person concerned is not allowed to enter Hungary.**
- If **not** suspected of infection, he/she must go into quarantine at home or at a place designated by the competent authorities for such purposes for 14 days. Persons who have been subjected to the health examinations twice in 5 days and got negative results may be **exempted from quarantine.**



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Determining contact persons

Persons qualify as contact persons, if

- ✓ they have been **in touch with** persons diagnosed with COVID-19,
- ✓ **do not** show symptoms of COVID-19, and
- ✓ **are pronounced to be contact persons by the authority.**

Family members of persons in mandatory home quarantine may also qualify as contact persons.

Restriction of contact persons' freedom of movement

The epidemiological authority may restrict the contact persons' freedom of movement **in its decision** so that during the epidemiological surveillance the contact person must not leave his/her home, fenced area of a home or other place that is not qualified as a health institution.

Termination of the restriction

Contact persons may be verified to be non-infected based on the results of **two health examinations completed in 5 days.**



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Special rules on certain type of persons I.

Border workers

- Citizens of neighbouring states and Hungarian citizens residing in a neighbouring state **may enter Hungary and stay** for up to **24 hours** within a **30 kilometer range** from the state border.
- They are **required to stay** within the **30 kilometer range from the state border** and **leave** Hungary within **24 hours** from the entry.
- Hungarian citizens residing within the 30 kilometer range from the state border **may return to Hungary** from the territory of the neighbouring state without any restriction, if the period of their stay in the foreign state did not exceed **24 hours** and they did not leave the **30 kilometer range**.

Transit passengers

Non-Hungarian citizens in passenger traffic may enter Hungary in order to transit from the country if they are not suspected with infection based on **health examinations carried out** in the course of entry.

Athletes, sport professionals and persons taking part in sport events

In case of **sports events held in Hungary**, certain foreign athletes, sport professionals and other key persons may be entitled to entry if they appropriately proved that they had been tested negative for COVID-19.



Special rules on certain type of persons II.



Chief-executives and employees of affiliated enterprises

Unrestricted entry is permitted from any country, if

- ✓ the persons concerned are **chief-executives or employees** of a foreign / domestic company, which is
- ✓ an **affiliated company** of another foreign / domestic company, and
- ✓ the purpose of travel is proved to be business related.

E.g.,: The managing director of an Austrian company may enter Hungary without any restrictions if the purpose of his/her travel is to participate in a shareholders' meeting of the Austrian company's 100% owned Hungarian subsidiary.

AuCo

Austria

100%

HuCo

Hungary





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