



**Republika e Kosovës**  
**Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo**  
*Qeveria - Vlada - Government*

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No. \_\_/\_\_/\_\_  
Date: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_

Pursuant to Article 92, paragraph 4, Article 93, paragraph 4 and Article 55 of the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo, Article 4, Article 5, paragraph 2.4, Article 6, paragraph 1, Articles 10 and 12 of Law No. 07/L-006 on Preventing and Combating COVID-19 Pandemics in the Territory of the Republic of Kosovo of Article 89 of Law No. 04/L-125 on Health, based on Article 4 of Regulation (GRK) - No. 02/2021 on Areas of Administrative Responsibility of the Office of the Prime Minister and Ministries, and pursuant to Decision of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo No. 01/11, dated 15.03.2020, on the Declaration of Public Health Emergency, and in implementation of the recommendations of the NIPHK in order to control, prevent and combat the spread of SARS-CoV-2 virus, in accordance with Article 19 of the Regulation No. 09/2011 of Rules and Procedure of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo, the Government of the Republic of Kosovo, in the meeting held on \_\_/\_\_/\_\_, issues the following:

**D E C I S I O N**

**For general and specific measures for the control, prevention and combating of the COVID-19 pandemic**

**A. [Territorial application]**

1. This decision shall apply to the entire territory of the Republic of Kosovo.

**B. [Entrances and exits of foreign citizens from the Republic of Kosovo]**

2. Foreign citizens entering the Republic of Kosovo, including those with temporary or permanent residence permits in Kosovo and who come from high-risk countries according to the official list of the National Institute of Public Health of Kosovo (NIPHK), must have a negative RT-PCR test for COVID-19 done in the last 72 hours, based on the principle of reciprocity.
3. The following are exceptions from point 2:
  - 3.1. Foreign citizens entering Kosovo through the airport or through land border crossing points and leaving Kosovo within three (3) hours through the airport or land border crossing points, provided that at the entrance they sign the declaration that they will leave Kosovo within three (3) hours;
  - 3.2. Foreign citizens working as professional transporters (drivers), provided that they comply with the international transport protocol for protection against COVID-19;
  - 3.3. Foreign citizens passing through Kosovo through organized transport by bus or regular international line, transit, provided that a declaration is signed that they will leave the territory of Kosovo within five (5) hours;
  - 3.4. Foreign diplomats accredited in Kosovo and their families;
  - 3.5. Persons who have a certificate of full vaccination against COVID-19;
  - 3.6. Persons with a positive serum antibody test result -IgG issued no later than thirty (30) days prior to arrival.

3.7. Children under the age of eleven (11) years.

**C. [Protection and safety at work]**

4. Pregnant women are exempt from the obligation to be physically present at work. Public or private employers are instructed to give them the opportunity to work from home.

**Ç. [General protection and hygiene measures]**

5. Public and private institutions and other entities are obliged to keep hand sanitizers and face masks in accessible places at the entrance of the building and indoors.
6. Public and private institutions and other entities are obliged to place visible signs of the rules of conduct for protection from COVID-19 at the entrance of each building including the sign prohibiting entry to the building without masks, respecting the distance.
7. Officials of public and private institutions and other entities are obliged to carry out disinfection and ventilation of indoor spaces.
8. Wearing a mask covering the nose and mouth is mandatory in all cases, except:
  - 8.1. When walking outdoors, alone;
  - 8.2. While driving the vehicle alone or in a group with no more than four (4) persons;
  - 8.3. When running, cycling and exercising;
  - 8.4. While eating or drinking.
9. The entry of persons without masks in public institutions of Kosovo is prohibited and masks must be worn all the time within common areas

**D. [Education institutions]**

10. Public and private institutions of all levels of education continue teaching according to the relevant guidelines for the education sector.
11. All public and private institutions of all levels of education are prohibited from organizing excursions and group walks.

**Dh. [Showing up for social and pension schemes]**

12. The Ministry of Finance, Labour and Transfers is instructed to release all beneficiaries of social and pension schemes managed by the MFLT from showing up regularly at the relevant offices for recording purposes as required by the relevant laws..

**E. [Restriction of public and private gatherings]**

13. Indoor gatherings are allowed (meetings, seminars, trainings), provided that 50% of the space capacity is used. The organizer is obliged to maintain a physical distance of 1 meters between persons.
14. Outdoor gatherings, mass/social gatherings (festivals, concerts, etc.) are allowed, provided that 70% of the space capacity is used.

**Ë. [Organization of gatherings/parties]**

15. Weddings, engagements, family parties and prom nights are allowed until 01:00.
16. Organization of weddings, engagements, family parties and prom nights is allowed provided that 50% of the capacity of the space is used, but not more than three hundred (300) guests in cases when 50% of the capacity of the space exceeds this number.
17. The distance between the tables should be three (3) meters.
18. For holding weddings, engagements, family parties and prom nights, it is obligatory to respect the special guidelines for gatherings.

**F. [Night clubs]**

19. Nightclubs are allowed to carry out their activity starting from 23:00 to 03:00.
20. Making payments as well as freeing up space by customers in nightclubs should be done by 03:15.
21. Indoors nightclubs should function only up to 50% of their space capacity.
22. Outdoors nightclubs should function only up to 70% of their space capacity.

**G. [Entry, use and organization of certain activities]**

23. From August 20, 2021 to September 10, 2021, entry to the premises of nightclubs, discos and premises where parties (weddings, engagements, family parties, etc.), gatherings, mass gatherings (festivals, concerts, etc.), which have a capacity of over 100 people, as well as the organization of these activities are held, is only allowed if customers / participants possess one of the following evidence:
  - 23.1. Vaccination certificate for complete vaccination or receiving a dose of COVID-19 vaccine;
  - 23.2. RT-PCR negative test for COVID-19, not older than 72 hours;
  - 23.3. Evidence that the person has passed COVID-19 (positive RT-PCR test issued not less than 21 days and not more than 180 days or positive result of serological antibody test - IgG, issued no more than 30 days ago;
  - 23.4. Rapid negative antigen test not older than 48 hours.
24. From 20 August 2021 to 10 September 2021, one of the evidences mentioned in point 23, must be possessed by all employees within the businesses / activities mentioned in point 23, who are in direct contact with customers.
25. The responsible persons of the businesses / activities mentioned in point 23, are obliged to appoint a person who will check the possession of at least one of the evidences according to point 23.
26. Persons under the age of 18 are not required to possess any of the evidence referred to in point 23, except when entering nightclubs and discos.
27. Depending on the epidemiological situation, the deadline set out in point 23 may be changed, and other businesses/activities may be included.

## ***Gj. [Gastronomy]***

28. Gastronomy services are allowed to conduct their activity in accordance with the relevant guideline. Up to 50% of the space capacity is allowed in indoor spaces. Up to 70% of the space capacity is allowed in outdoor spaces. The area is calculated for the area where food and drinks are served.
29. Gastronomy services are allowed to carry out their activity according to their regular hours, in accordance with the Article 40 of the Law No. 2004/ 18 on Internal Trade and relevant municipal regulations.
30. Premises managers must ensure that the distance between customers at different tables is at least one (1) meter.
31. The back of one chair with the back of the other chair should have at least one (1) meter distance.
32. Up to 4 people are allowed at the table indoors. In case the tables are bigger than two (2) meters, then the precondition is to use the space considering the capacity of five (5) people in 10 m<sup>2</sup>.
33. In the indoor spaces, food and beverage service is allowed only for guests who are sitting or standing at a table or at the counter.
34. In the outdoor spaces, up to six (6) persons are allowed at the table, counter or standing tables.
35. Each table should be equipped with disinfectants containing at least 60-70% alcohol.
36. Instructions should be placed in the outdoor areas of the premises regarding informing the clients about the measures protocol against COVID-19.

## ***H. [Shopping malls and other economic operators]***

37. The activity of shopping malls is allowed according to the relevant guidelines.
38. All operators who have wholesale and retail trade as their economic activity are obliged to set the maximum number of customers in the premises, while respecting the rule - 1 person per 8 m<sup>2</sup>. These operators are obliged to indicate at the entrance the maximum number of customers allowed inside at the same time. The area is calculated for the area where customers are allowed to stay.

## ***I. [Work with parties]***

39. The responsible person of the public or private institution and of the economic operators is obliged to stop lining up or gathering inside and outside the work/business environment unless they keep a physical distance of at least 1.5 meters from other groups of persons.

## ***J. [Public transport]***

40. Passenger road transport operators are allowed to work, utilizing the full capacity of the seats, provided that staff and passengers wear the mask during the whole time. Transport operators cannot have more passengers on the bus than the capacity of the seats.
41. Taxis are allowed to work with up to three (3) passengers.

***K. [Theatres, libraries, etc.]***

42. Theatres, libraries, philharmonics, galleries, ensembles, ballet, cinemas, youth centres, museums, cultural centres with groups or other similar institutions subordinated to the MCYS and municipalities are allowed to work using 50 percent of the space/area of the respective facilities for all activities (both in performances and exercises).

***L. [Sports and recreation]***

43. Organization of sports competitions and exercises are allowed complying the protocols and recommendations of world organizations for the organization of sporting events and the protection measures of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo.
44. In indoor competitive activities, the presence of spectators is allowed up to 15% of the capacity of the sports facility or space (sports halls, swimming pools, other indoor spaces) respecting the distance measure of 1.5 meters and other protective measures.
45. In outdoor competitive activities, the presence of spectators is allowed up to 30% of the capacity of the sports facility or space (stadium, sports halls, swimming pools, other indoor spaces) respecting the distance measure of 1.5 meters and other protective measures.
46. The organizers of the competition are obliged to take specific measures, in accordance with international protocols, for the management of the mass (fans) before, during, and after entering the sports space.
47. It is allowed to use gyms, sports centres and similar spaces for individual recreational activities, according to the relevant guidelines.
48. The use of gyms, sports centres and similar spaces is done in the proportion of 1 client in 8 m<sup>2</sup>.
49. It is obligatory to place information signs and disinfectants (or other means for cleaning), in each gym device for the purpose of awareness and disinfection of them by each client after use.

***Ll. [Guidelines and clarifications]***

50. The Ministry of Health is obliged to issue temporary, general and special guidelines for preventing and combating COVID-19, as follows:
  - 50.1. Temporary Guideline for the application of general measures for preventing and combating COVID-19;
  - 50.2. Temporary Guideline for the sector of personal services and businesses, industry, public administration and NGOs;
  - 50.3. Temporary Guideline for educational institutions of all levels;
  - 50.4. Temporary Guideline for gastronomy, hospitality, sales sector and shopping malls;

- 50.5. Temporary Guideline for religious gatherings, funerals, workshops and cultural activities,
  - 50.6. Temporary Guideline for gyms, sport halls and other recreational and sports activities;
  - 50.7. Temporary Guideline for public transport k;
  - 50.8. Temporary Guideline for health care institutions;
  - 50.9. Temporary Guideline for civil aviation;
  - 50.10. Temporary Guideline for correctional institutions, asylum centres and foreigner detention centres;
  - 50.11. Temporary Guideline for weddings, engagements, family parties and prom nights.
51. The guidelines referred to in point 50 are mandatory for all persons and sectors to which they apply.
52. The Ministry of Health is obliged to issue clarifications, when needed, on the points of this decision.

***M. [Implementation]***

53. The Minister of Health, FVA and the Kosovo Police, in cooperation with the municipal emergency headquarters, are obliged to monitor the implementation of this decision and to submit a weekly report to the Office of the Prime Minister (every Friday until 16:00).
54. The Ministry of Health, HUČSK and NIPHK are obliged to submit to the Office of the Prime Minister a weekly report (every Friday until 16:00), on the implementation of measures, the situation in health care institutions, the epidemiological situation and forecasts for the next two weeks.
55. The Ministry of Health is obliged to, on the basis of Law No. 07/L-006 on Preventing and Combating COVID-19 Pandemics in the Territory of the Republic of Kosovo, issue operational decisions depending on the epidemiological situation and the recommendations of the NIPHK.
56. The Kosovo Police and the responsible inspectorates are obliged to monitor the implementation of measures, other decisions and relevant guidelines for the implementation of Law No. 07/L-006 on Preventing and Combating COVID-19 Pandemics in the Territory of the Republic of Kosovo.
57. For violators of measures, the competent bodies are obliged to impose punitive measures in accordance with the Law No. 07/L-006 on Preventing and Combating COVID-19 Pandemics in the Territory of the Republic of Kosovo and other applicable laws.
58. The Ministry of Health is the only authority mandated to interpret this Decision, while other institutions may provide clarifications on the respective categories to which this Decision applies, only after the approval of that clarification by the Ministry of Health.

***N. [Repeal of Decision No. 17/16]***

59. Government Decision No Nr. 19/19 dated 14.07.2021, is hereby repealed.

***Nj. [Entry into force]***

60. The Decision shall enter into force on the day of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo.

## **R e a s o n i n g**

Measures to safeguard public health and protect against COVID-19 have proven necessary to limit COVID-19 transmission and reduce deaths.

According to the latest report of the National Institute of Public Health of Kosovo, the epidemiological situation with COVID-19 in Kosovo presents an increase of infected cases with COVID-19.

In such a situation, referring to the current data on the epidemiological situation and the recommendations of the NIPHK, the Government has balanced the interest of preserving the public health and the economic interest, taking measures that on one hand enable increased economic activity but, on the other hand, control and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Available scientific data show that people who have been vaccinated, recently cured or who have a negative test, have much less risk of spreading the virus. Therefore, the Government has taken the abovementioned restrictive measures, in order to control and prevent the spread of COVID-19 in activities and businesses which may be superspreaders of infection.

The measures taken are in proportion to the health risks caused and appropriate to the circumstances of the time and place, as well as based on the authorizations of Law No. 07/L-006 on Preventing and Combating COVID-19 Pandemics in the Territory of the Republic of Kosovo. The measures taken through this Decision do not define, in any case, the obligation of mandatory vaccination, since the restrictions imposed on the public can be met by presenting proof of vaccination status, the result of a test that concludes that the person is not infected with COVID-19, or that the person is cured by COVID-19 and has sufficient antibodies.

The decision to ease measures against COVID-19 is based on assessing the epidemiological situation and capacities of the health care system to respond, but also while assessing them in light of the effects these measures may have on the general welfare of society and individuals.

The Ministry of Health has coordinated decision-making with stakeholders who have been directly or indirectly affected by the pandemic. The Government notes that these parties have exercised their right to democratic influence in decision-making, in accordance with Article 45.3 of the Constitution.

The review of measures was done by paying attention to the objectives:

- Epidemiological situation in recent weeks;
- Prevention of the spread of COVID-19 infection;
- Non-infringement of economic activities, but giving priority to preserving the life and health of the population;
- Preservation of mental and physical health of citizens.

The measures set out in this Decision, as well as the timelines, serve to keep the epidemiological situation under control, but do not exclude the possibility of taking new restriction or facilitation measures.

Therefore, based on the recommendations given by the NIPHK, line ministries, stakeholders and relevant experts, it was decided as in the enacting clause of this Decision.

**Albin KURTI**

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Prime Minister of the Republic of Kosovo

To be sent to:

- *Deputy Prime Ministers*
- *All ministries (ministers)*
- *Municipalities*
- *Responsible inspectorates*
- *Kosovo Police*
- *Secretary-General of the OPM*
- *Government Archive.*