



Impact of Covid-19 on international students

EU action in the field of legal migration

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Mitigating the impact of COVID-19

Avoiding situations of irregular stay (1)

COVID-19-related temporary extensions of stays of third-country nationals in Schengen Member/Associated States: notification to the Commission.

Avoiding situations of irregular stay (2)

New annexes to the Schengen Handbook for Border Guards and the Visa Handbook published by the Commission.

→ “Schengen-wide” effect of national measures

States should not consider stays covered by national measures listed in these annexes as irregular.

Avoiding situations of irregular stay (3)

Further information:

https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/news/20200529_commission-encourages-member-states-not-consider-illegal-stay-eu-third-country-nationals-member-state-caused-covid-related-measures_en

Fine-tuning of travel restrictions (1)

11 June 2020: Commission recommendation

- Gradual and partial lifting of temporary travel restrictions on non-essential travel after 30 June 2020, based on objective criteria and a coordinated and common approach.
- Where travel restrictions continue to apply, third-country nationals travelling for the purpose of study should be exempted (essential function/need).

Fine-tuning of travel restrictions (2)

30 June 2020: Council Recommendation on the gradual lifting of the temporary restriction on non-essential travel into the EU

- Regularly updated list of third countries to which no restrictions should apply
 - Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia, Uruguay; China, subject to confirmation of reciprocity.
- Where travel restrictions continue to apply, Schengen Member/Associated States should ensure that third-country nationals travelling for the purpose of study are exempted.

Fine-tuning of travel restrictions (3)

- Exemption must cover third-country students as defined in Students and Researchers Directive (EU) 2016/801 (higher education, full-time course of study...), starting or continuing their studies in the academic year 2020/21.
- Exemption may also cover third-country nationals accepted by other education institutions, such as pupils or students attending secondary schools, language schools, boarding schools/vocational schools, exchange pupils.

Fine-tuning of travel restrictions (4)

More information:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/health/coronavirus-response/travel-and-transportation-during-coronavirus-pandemic_en#exemptions-from-travel-restrictions

Fine-tuning of travel restrictions (5)

- Recommendation of the Council not legally binding => Member States may apply public health-related travel restrictions under national law.
- Effectiveness of decisions on lifting the restrictions dependent on their coordinated implementation by Member States.
- Website launched by the Commission with information on travel restrictions, travel advice, public health and safety measures, based on data provided by Member States: <https://reopen.europa.eu>.