

Dear University Citizens, dear Colleagues,

The Government of Hungary, in its Decree 71/2020 (III.27.), has declared restrictions on movement, the major provisions of which are the following:

The decision on the restrictions on movement is in force across the whole territory of Hungary between 28 March and April 11: during this period, people will only be allowed to leave their homes for good reason.

Such good reasons include going to work, performing occupational duties, pursuing economic, agricultural and forestry activities, and shopping in stores selling materials and equipment essential for the performance of these activities, primarily in stores selling technical appliances, construction materials and equipment.

In the current situation it is not necessary to amend the measures taken so far at the University. For the students ban on visiting the institution (distance education), for the employees duty order, home office, or in reasonable excuse, exemption from work shall remain in effect.

While leaving home for going to work, I kindly ask you to keep your University pass with photo with yourself, with that you can attest that you are the employee of the National University of Public Service. In case later on a new provision shall be accepted that enables people to leave their home only in the possession of an employer's certificate, I will immediately make the necessary arrangements to provide such certificate and to send it – preferably by e-mail - to the colleagues concerned.

Permitted activities include furthermore the use of health care services, including – beyond curative treatments – healthcare services provided for the preservation of physical and mental health, such as psychotherapy and physiotherapy.

People are also allowed to leave their homes for individual leisure and sport activities, as well as for walking exercise. Such activities are permitted in residential and non-residential areas, wherever possible in green areas, for people on their own or for people sharing the same household, keeping a distance of a minimum one and a half meters from others. During daytime, people are also allowed to accompany minor children in small groups under supervision.

Weddings and funerals in limited family circles are likewise permitted, as well as shopping in food stores and drugstores. Visiting stores selling pet food or animal forage, agricultural stores, markets, pharmacies, filling stations, tobacco shops, hairdressers and manicure salons is also permitted.

Between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. only people over the age of 65 will be permitted to shop in food stores, drugstores, markets and pharmacies.

From Saturday, restaurants will have to close down; they will only be allowed to maintain operations for take away food and home deliveries.

During the restrictions on movement, transport, cleaning and hygiene services, automobile and bicycle repair services and services related to waste management will continue to remain available.

In the most essential cases administration requiring personal attendance is also permitted, including the administration at the public authorities, the use of banking, financial, insurance and postal services.

Pet owners are allowed to walk their pets in public spaces, and to visit veterinary clinics and hospitals.

The restrictions on movement cannot hinder parental rights and obligations or religious activities.

Leaving one's home for the purpose of helping people who are unable to provide for themselves or are in need of assistance (for instance minors, the elderly and the sick) is also allowed.

The decree lays down that everyone is required to minimize social interaction, and except for those sharing the same household, people should keep a minimum distance of one and a half meters from each another everywhere, including on public transport.

Dear University Citizens,

I kindly ask you to fully comply with the provisions of the Government Decree and also to look after your health and that of your loved ones. Let us ensure together the continued functioning of the University and distance education for our students.

Budapest, 27 March, 2020

Dr. András Koltay

Rector