



AID MEASURES

The first of a series of measures intended to aid businesses in the tourism, hospitality, transport, and manufacture sectors has been announced. **The first aid package will amount to €100 million. Provisional tax, VAT, and social security payments will be postponed for the months of March and April** with immediate effect, both for employers as well as for self-employed persons. **A scheme is to be launched through which refunds will be given for expenses that business which invest in teleworking incur.** Payments owed by Government to businesses will be accelerated so as to help protect their liquidity. These are forceful measures that have been made possible only due to the resilient economy and sound finances of the country. These measures will leave a **positive impact on industry and will save jobs.**



TELEWORKING

A Directive by the Head of Civil Service lays down for **teleworking requests by public sector employees** to be accepted in their entirety, whilst allowing for everything possible to be done so that similar requests are also accepted, as long as work carried out and service to clients remains consistent.



QUARANTINE LEAVE

A Legal Notice on quarantine was published, which gives the **employee quarantine leave without loss of income** in cases where the employee is legally obliged to follow quarantine, that limits them to a fixed zone or place as determined by health authorities.



NEW COVID CASES IN OUR COUNTRY

Health authorities have confirmed a new Covid-19 case late yesterday evening: **a 19 year-old Maltese teenager who travelled to Brussels in the past days**. This morning, **a further 5 cases were announced** which involved a Russian person returning to the country from Russia, a Maltese person who arrived from Dublin; another Maltese person who returned from Barcellona and a foreign couple, a person from Hong Kong, and an Italian person, who were on holiday in Madrid. Therefore, there are a **total of 18 Coronavirus cases**, with one case resulting in recovery and remission. All cases result to have been imported, and all persons involved are in good condition of health.



MEASURES AGAINST COVID

Law Courts and Local Tribunals will be closed. The same applies for all national museums in the country.

Open-air markets, apart from those selling food, will also be closed. Food market selling points have to keep 20 metres away from each other. Esplora will also be kept closed. The same applies to Day Care Centres. Access through supervision for children, both for those who are under a care order, and even those who aren't, has similarly been stopped.



CORRADINO CORRECTIVE FACILITY

Corradino Corrective Facility, and detention centres where immigrants are housed, **will not be accepting visitors till 19th March**: Corradino Facility is a closed space where hundreds of persons are housed; the same applies for detention centres.



FOOD STORAGE

The major food importers and supermarket owners have informed government that **food supplies are more than enough**. They do not foresee any serious issues for the foreseeable future. **Consumers are urged to continue with their usual purchases, without panic or confusion.**



HOME HELP SERVICE

So as to safeguard elderly persons as well as employees in this sector, and for essential services to continue being provided, Agenzija Sapport announced changes in Home Help. **Helpers will start buying elderly persons food and medicines only.** Thus, **those persons who cannot turn to anyone for help will be able to receive these essential items.**



HELPLINES

111 – For those who feel **symptoms of COVID-19** or who wish **further information**

+356 2204 2200 – For Maltese residents **who were caught in one of the high-risk countries and wish to return to Malta**

+356 21411 411 – For those in **mandatory quarantine** who require provisions of food and medicine

25981000 – For those who have **questions about the educational sector and the impact of the coronavirus**

21692447 – For **hoteliers and tourists** who have questions about the announced measures.