

# Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker

## Regional report - Europe and Central Asia



This report summarises the major changes in the region for the Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker's [Containment and Health Index](#), providing a high level overview of shifts in government policies.

OxCGRT is created by the Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford. For more information visit [www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/covidtracker](http://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/covidtracker).

<b>REGION</b>	Europe and Central Asia
<b>Date range</b>	31 July until 12 August
<b>Reported by</b>	Annalena Pott

### Brief summary of major changes:

Across the region of Europe and Central Asia, the majority of notable policy changes, and public health measures of the past two weeks have occurred in targeted areas that are experiencing spikes in virus cases.

After the end of the summer vacation in several states in Germany, schools have now begun to re-open. Mask requirement policies, however, differ per state. After a rise in infections in two schools in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, affected schools had to close as a precautionary measure.

Finland has eased restrictions on teleworking on August 1. This is currently under review and the policy may be adapted and reintroduced again if cases are substantially increasing again.

Both Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan have continued their lockdown measures from the beginning of August to mid-August or the end of the month, in the case of Azerbaijan.

Iceland has reintroduced restrictions following a rise in cases. This means that restaurants and bars have to adhere to a 2 meters distance, and are required to close by 11PM. Spain has also followed suit with increased restrictions. Restaurants and bars have to close between midnight and 7AM. Tourists from several European countries and land borders travel have to provide a negative COVID-19 test result, in order to enter the country.

Following the implementation of a regional partial lockdown in Northern England, the United Kingdom has delayed the easing of additional restrictions until at least August 15. Despite this, Wales has opened up restaurants and pubs indoors, therefore following suit with other regions in the United Kingdom.

<b>C1: School Closing</b>	• <b>Germany:</b> Following the end of summer vacations in several
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	<p>states, schools have opened again and a variety of mask regulations have been imposed. While students and teachers are required to wear face masks in schools but not in class rooms in Berlin and Brandenburg, the county of Schleswig Holstein has recommended wearing face masks also during teaching. Two schools in Mecklenburg Vorpommern had to close again following cases of COVID-19.</p>
<b>C2: Workplace Closing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Greece:</b> In response to a spike in COVID-19 cases, bars, restaurants and cafes are required to shut down in several regions between midnight and 7AM from August 12 onwards.</li> <li>• <b>Finland:</b> The restrictions on work, with recommendations for teleworking, have been lifted on August 1.</li> <li>• <b>United Kingdom:</b> From August 3, pubs and restaurants are allowed to open again indoors in Wales.</li> <li>• <b>Iceland:</b> From July 31 onwards, restrictions have been put in place again and a 2 meters distance rule has been reinstated. Restaurants and bars have to close by 11PM.</li> </ul>
<b>C3: Cancel Public Events</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>United Kingdom:</b> Plans on easing restrictions on events, such as wedding receptions, have been postponed until at least August 15.</li> </ul>
<b>C4: Restrictions on Gatherings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Austria:</b> From August 1 onwards, indoor events for up to 500 people and outdoor events for up to 750 people are permitted.</li> <li>• <b>United Kingdom:</b> On July 31, parts of Northern England, namely: Greater Manchester, East Lancashire and parts of West Yorkshire, have been placed on partial lockdown and different households are prohibited from meeting.</li> <li>• <b>Iceland:</b> On July 31, Iceland has reintroduced restrictions, and is now limiting gatherings to 100 people.</li> </ul>
<b>C5: Close Public Transport</b>	No major changes recorded.
<b>C6: Stay at Home requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Switzerland:</b> As of August 5, travellers from mainland Spain are required to self-isolate for 10 days following a rise in cases.</li> <li>• <b>Kazakhstan:</b> The previously implemented lockdown has been extended until mid-August.</li> <li>• <b>Azerbaijan:</b> The previously implemented lockdown has been extended until the end of August.</li> </ul>
<b>C7: Restrictions on Internal movement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Belgium:</b> Following a spike in COVID-19 cases in the Antwerp province, authorities strongly recommend to avoid travelling in and out of the region.</li> <li>• <b>Kazakhstan:</b> The lockdown has been extended until mid-August.</li> </ul>
<b>C8: International Travel Controls</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Austria:</b> Since August 1, flights between the UK and Austria resumed again. The government also allows more countries now to enter Austria, if travellers can provide a negative COVID-19 test result.</li> <li>• <b>Greece:</b> Following a rise in infections, travellers arriving through land borders and those coming from European countries have to provide a negative COVID-19 test to enter Greece.</li> <li>• <b>Czech Republic:</b> On August 3, the list of low-risk countries that can enter the territory of the Czech Republic has been updated. Romania is now removed from the list of low-risk countries, while Tunisia will join the list.</li> </ul>

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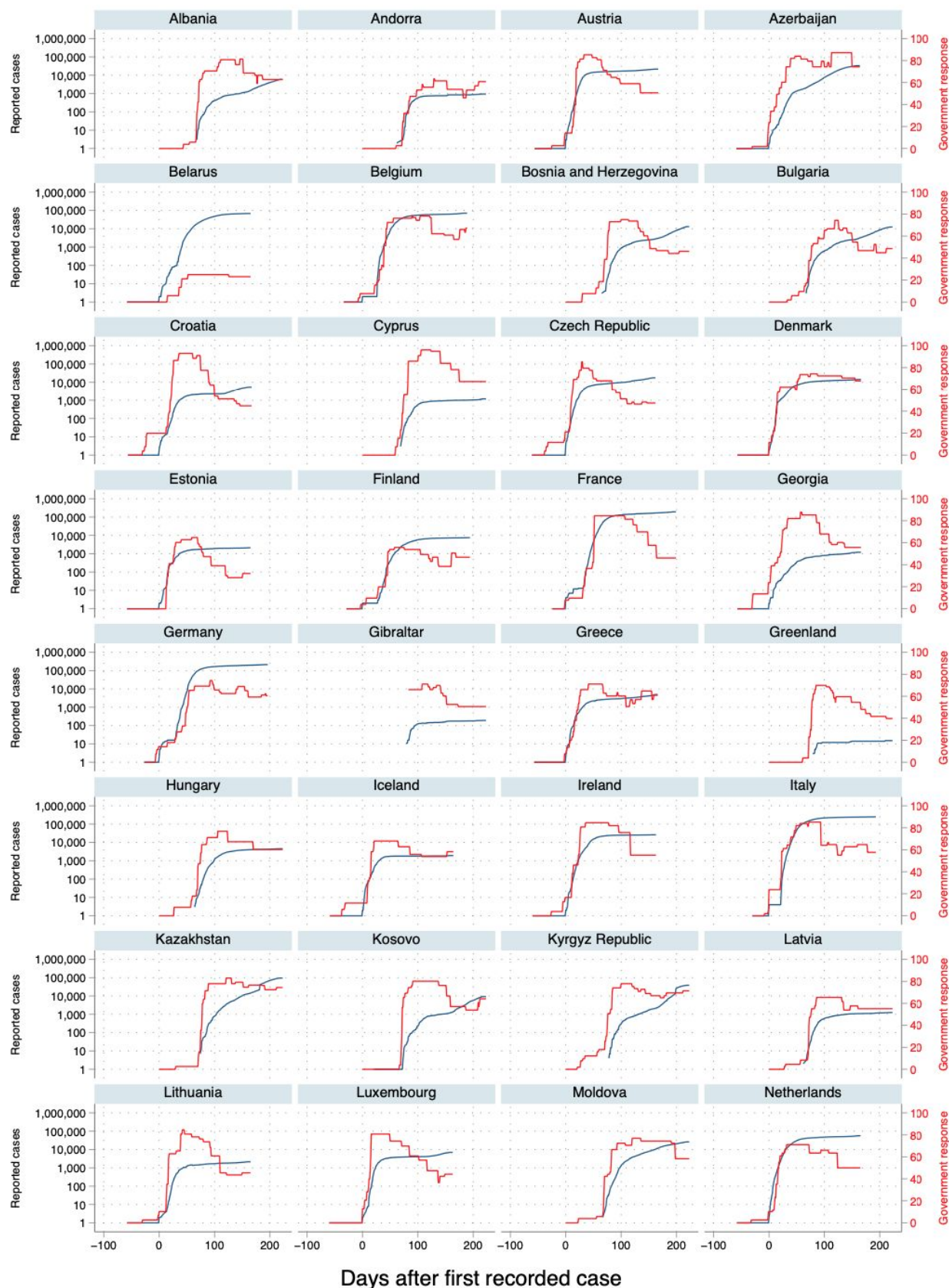


<b>H2: Testing Policy</b>	No major changes recorded.
<b>H3: Contact Tracing</b>	No major changes recorded.

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### Cases vs Government Response Index:

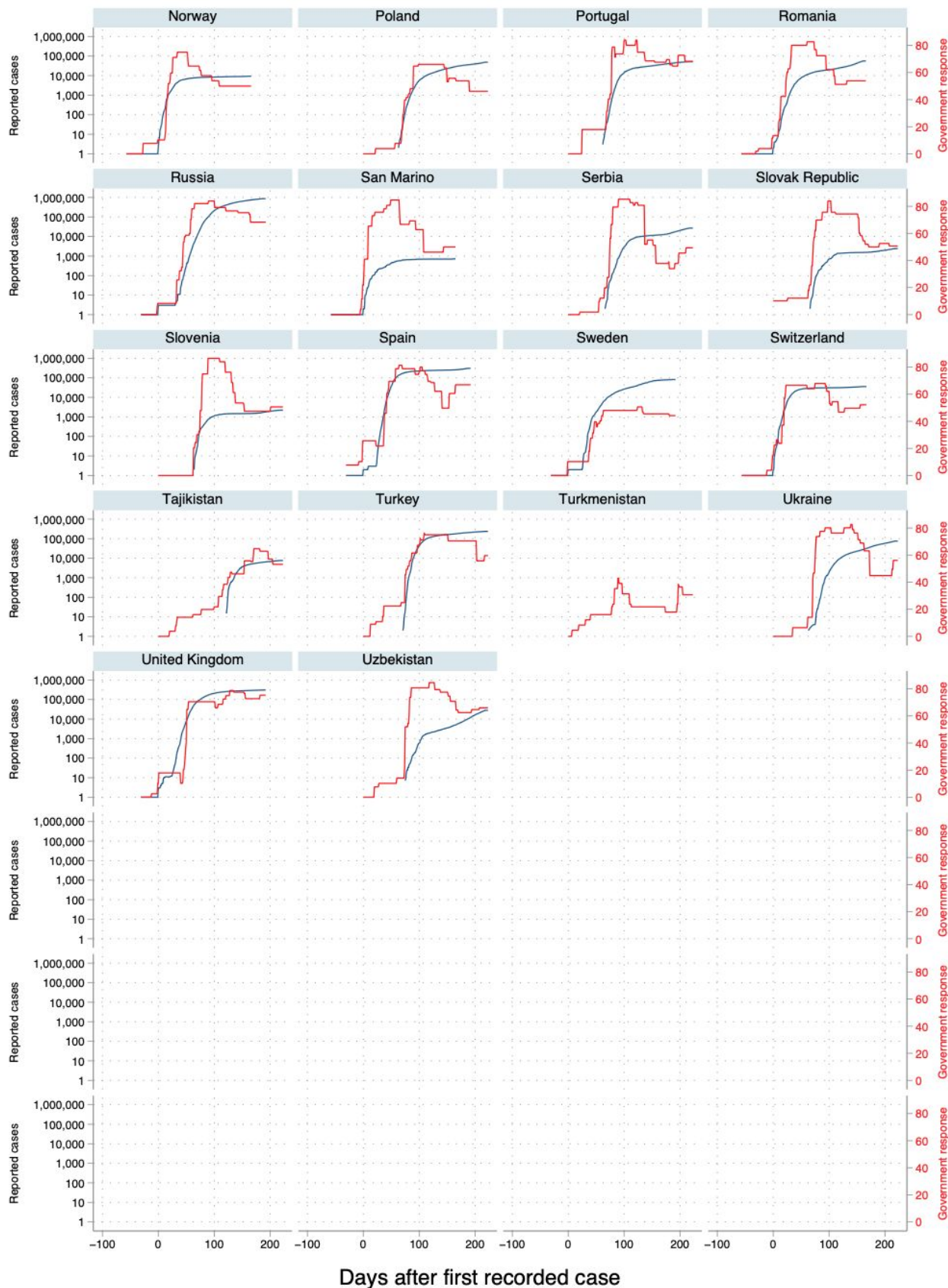


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