

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.

REGION	Europe and Central Asia
Date range	31 August - 10 September
Reported by	Annalena Pott

Brief summary of major changes:

Major changes in Europe and Central Asia relate to school openings across the region. Albania, France, Moldova, or Poland, have re-introduced in-person teaching, based on a system that ensures only a limited number of students in school buildings. Germany's school policies are based on county regulations and therefore vary per region. However, Central Asian countries, such as Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan and Kyrgyzstan, have largely decided to move towards online classes since the region continues to experience lockdown regulations or substantial increases in COVID-19 cases. This is also reflective in the stay-at-home requirements and restrictions on internal movement in Azerbaijan, which have been extended until mid-September. Public transport in Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan have been reduced or closed during the weekends. Finally, following a rise in cases in Ukraine, the country has extended its list of 'red zones', which was met with opposition from some regional governors.

C1: School Closing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Albania: Schools will reopen on September 14, with preparations made to combine in-person and online teaching.• Azerbaijan: Schools and education facilities will reopen on September 15.• Belgium: On September 1, the school year resumed and schools gradually opened, if cases allow it.• Germany: Schools have reopened again, with different approaches to in-person teaching per county.• Kazakhstan: The Kazakh government has decided to transition to online teaching as of September 1.• France: All students and professors who return to school on Tuesday, 1st September will have to wear masks.
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Summaries are created with data from the OxCGRT, uploaded by contributors. For specific references, please see the database www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/covidtracker

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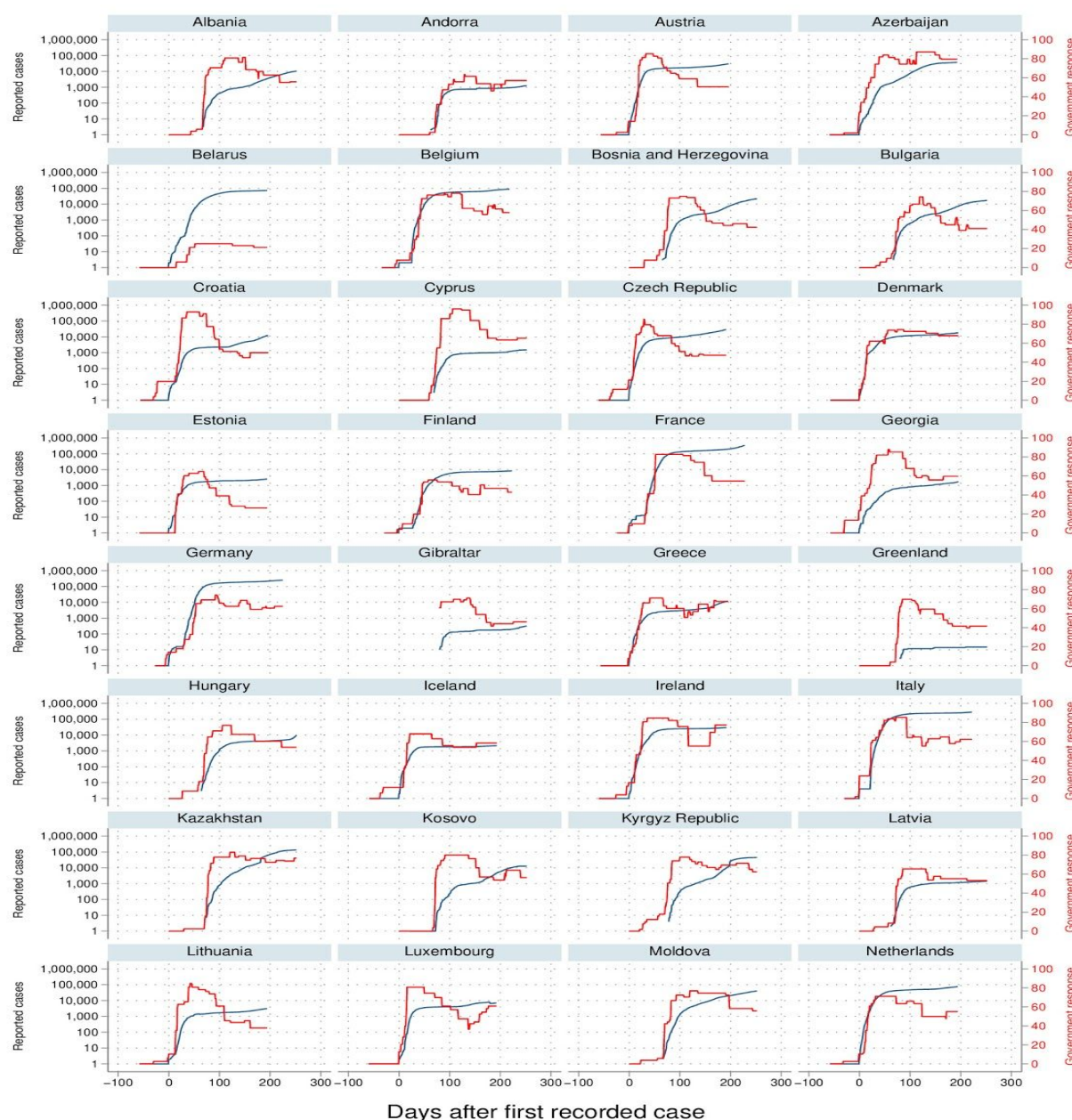
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyrgyzstan: Grade 1 students return to school on 1 September. All other grades will learn online. • Moldova: From 1 September the school and preschool institutions will be reopened under clear instructions and with strict observance of the sanitary-epidemiological norms. • The Netherlands: Government confirms that as of Monday 31 August 2020 all schools (primary and secondary) are fully open in the Netherlands after the summer holidays. • Poland: Almost all schools started operating on September 1. • Serbia: From Tuesday 1st September 2020, schools have reopened in a staggered system, with grades 1-4 teaching hours held in the morning, and grades 5-8 to be held in the afternoon.
C2: Workplace Closing	No major changes recorded.
C3: Cancel Public Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turkey: The government has refined its restrictions on weddings and ceremonies. As of Friday [September 4th], large gatherings such as outdoor weddings and other traditional celebrations will be reduced. The duration of a wedding ceremony in Turkey has been limited to an hour, with a ban on dancing and serving of food.
C4: Restrictions on Gatherings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portugal: Lisbon restricts gatherings of more than 10 people. All events with over 20 people are prohibited. • Ukraine: On Sept. 7, the Health Ministry expanded the list of cities and areas with the red, or highest, level of COVID-19 threat.
C5: Close Public Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Azerbaijan: Until September 30, 2020, buses will only function during the week, not on Saturday and Sunday. The Baku Metro is closed until September 15. • Kazakhstan: Public transport is not operating any longer on the weekend.
C6: Stay at Home requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Azerbaijan: Additional restrictions are in place in the cities of Baku and Sumgayit, as well as the district of Absheron. You are no longer required to register on the government's database or gain SMS approval to leave your home. • Belgium: As of August 27, the local restrictions in Antwerp have been lifted.
C7: Restrictions on Internal movement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Azerbaijan: Several cities in Azerbaijan have been placed under restrictions for movement. Movement to and from Baku, Sumgayit, and the Absheron district remains prohibited indefinitely. • United Kingdom: Restrictions remain in place in Bolton and Trafford following a rise in cases. • Georgia: Following a rise in cases, entry and exit into the Mestia municipality have been blocked.

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C8: International Travel Controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sweden: On the 27th August 2020 the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs lifted its advice against non-essential travel to Bulgaria, the Netherlands and Romania. Lithuania: The list of countries most affected by COVID-19 infection was updated on Monday, 4 September, with effect from the following Monday, 7 September.
H2: Testing Policy	No major changes recorded.
H3: Contact Tracing	No major changes recorded.

Cases vs Government Response Index:



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