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	01 January - 31 January
Reported by	Ayanna Griffith

Brief summary of major changes:

January brought several changes across Europe and Central Asia. Most notably, several nations have implemented stricter international travel control guidelines. Third country nationals are now banned from entering San Marino, Luxembourg, Greenland, and Denmark. While restrictions on travel of individuals coming from the United Kingdom, South Africa, and several nations in South America have been implemented in Austria, Ireland, and the Netherlands. For those nations still permitting the entry of travellers, PCR tests and/or quarantines have been made mandatory.

January also saw the reopening of schools in Uzbekistan, Ukraine, Kosovo, and Albania, amongst other nations. However, several countries, such as the United Kingdom, San Marino, and the Slovak Republic, postponed the reopening of schools in response to increases in COVID-19 cases. This uptick of cases also brought the implementation of stricter rules regarding workplace closing, gatherings, and restrictions on internal movement.

C1: School Closing	**Albania-** On 11 January, school reopened on a rotational basis with some groups of students attending in-person classes three times a week, and the others attending two times a week. Universities postponed reopening. **Austria-** On 25 January, schools reopened to a limited extent, but the majority of students continued distance learning. **Czech Republic-** Schools remain closed. However, as of 7 January individual consultations can be arranged, and university and higher vocational school entrance exams can be held in a group of no more than 10 people. **Denmark-** On 4 January, it was announced that all schools and universities would move to distance learning. **Estonia-** On 7 January, the government announced the

	reopening of general education schools, vocational schools, and universities in Harju County and Ida-Viru Country.
	● **Greece-** Schools have suspended in person learning from 18 January to 24 January
	● **Italy-** As of 11 January some schools in areas deemed to be low-risk have reopened at 50% capacity.
	● **Kazakhstan-** As of 11 January, grades 1-5 can resume in-person learning, while Grades 9-11 are allowing only 70% of students to resume in person teaching.
	● **Kosovo-** On 18 January, nursery, primary, and middle schools were permitted to open.
	● **Kyrgyz Republic-** From 18 January, schools reopened for grades 1, 5, 9, and 11 in Bishkek.
	● **Luxembourg-** As of 10 January, the gradual reopening of classes began.
	● **Poland-** As of 18 January, students in grades 1-3 returned to in-person classes.
	● **San Marino-** In January, schools in San Marino closed.
	● **Slovak Republic-** In January, the government announced the postponement of the opening of schools after the holidays.
	● **Slovenia-** From 23 January, 9 out of 12 regions, reopened kindergartens and the first three years of primary schools.
	● **Spain-** In January, the government announced the reopening of schools.
	● **Ukraine-** As of 25 January, schools across the country reopened.
	● **United Kingdom-** Schools have generally suspended in-person learning. However, schools in Wales are open for the children of essential workers.
	● **Uzbekistan-** From 11 January, schools and universities across the country reopened.
C2: Workplace Closing	● **Azerbaijan-** On 17 January government offices were limited to 30% capacity. The closure of personal care businesses and shopping centres were required.
	● **Cyprus-** From 10 January all non-essential businesses were required to close.
	● **Denmark-** In January, all non essential businesses were required to close.
	● **Norway-** On 23 January, Oslo and nine neighboring municipalities were rated as "red level" areas, requiring all non-essential businesses to close.
	● **United Kingdom-** In January, non-essential businesses throughout the nations were required to close.
C3: Cancel Public Events	● **Estonia-** On 18 January, authorities announced that outdoor public events were permitted in Harju and Ida-Viru counties.

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	- **Iceland-** As of 13 January, public events are permitted to take place. - **Luxembourg-** On 11 January, public events were permitted to take place with strict sanitary restrictions. - **Ukraine-** From 8 January, all public events are banned. - **Uzbekistan-** In January, the government discouraged public events.
C4: Restrictions on Gatherings	- **Denmark-** In January, the government restricted gatherings to 5 or less persons. - **Germany-** From 5 January, private meetings with one other person from a different household are permitted. - **Netherlands-** On 25 January, it was announced that the maximum number of people permitted to attend funerals is 50. Additionally, it was recommended to visit no more than 1 household per day, and to receive no more than 1 individual over the age of 13 into your home per day. - **Portugal-** From 8 January, events and celebrations are limited to 5 people, unless they belong to the same household. - **Slovak Republic-** From 1 January, households were prohibited from mixing.
C5: Close Public Transport	- **Azerbaijan-** From 2 January to 4 January public transportation was suspended. For the month of January, until 18 January, public transportation was suspended on the weekends. - **Czech Republic-** As of 30 January, the use of cableways is restricted to the operation of rescue services. - **Slovenia-** In January, public transportation was carried out at a limited capacity. - **Turkey-** As of 15 January, the use of public transportation in Istanbul has been banned for individuals under the age of 20 or over the age of 65.
C6: Stay at Home requirements	- **Cyprus-** From 10 January, all outings from your place of residence require permission to be granted by authorities. - **Slovenia-** In january the government issued a curfew between 22:00 pm and 6:00 am - **Turkey-** In January, the government implemented a weekend curfew from 21:00 pm Friday to 5:00 am Monday. - **United Kingdom-** In January, all nations of the United Kingdom implemented a stay at home order.
C7: Restrictions on Internal movement	- **Cyprus-** From 10 January, all outings from your place of residence require permission to be granted by authorities. - **Germany-** From 5 January, residents in "hotspot areas" are not

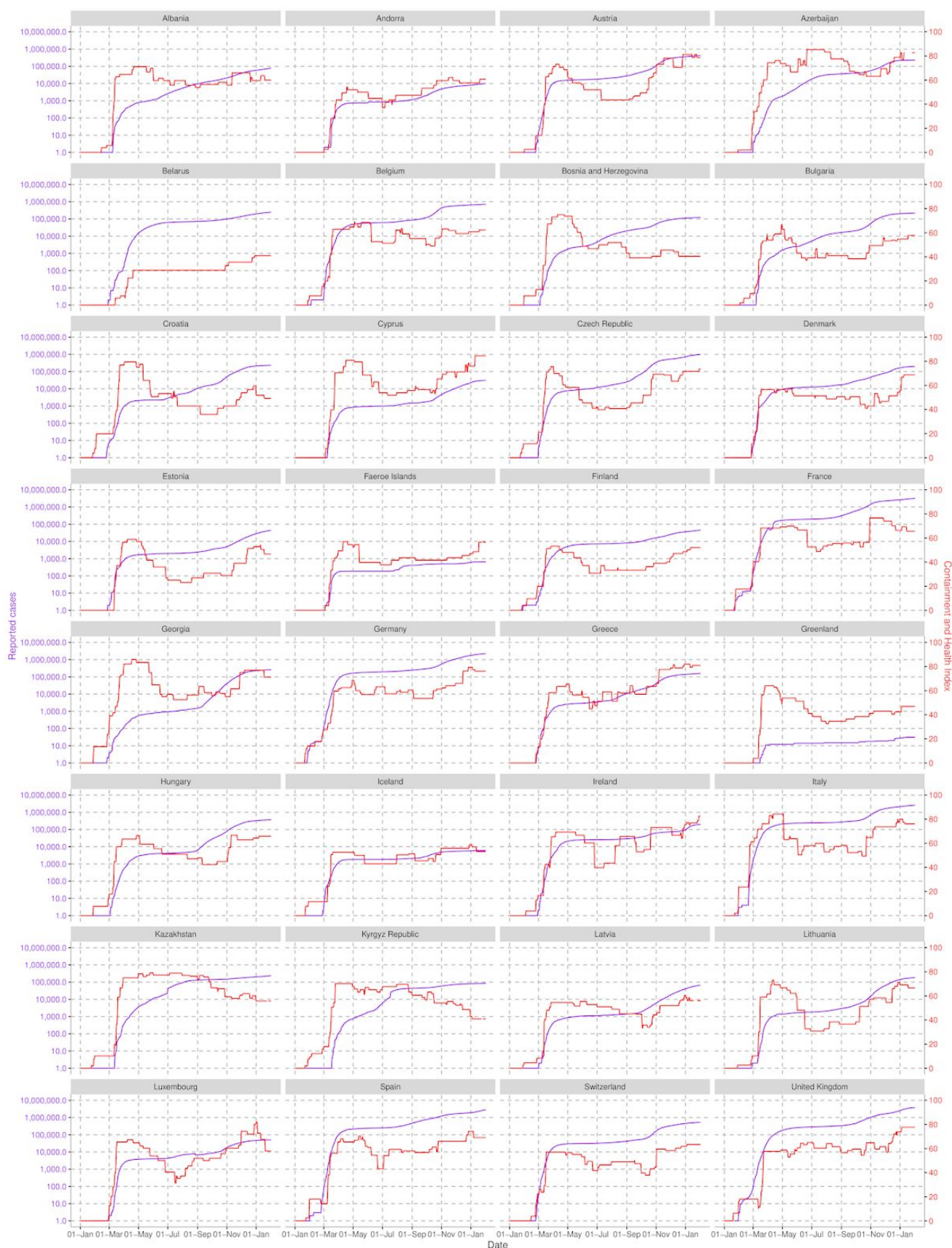|	
	permitted to travel more than 15 km from their town of residence without a valid reason. ● **Portugal-** On 9 and 10 January movement between municipalities was prohibited. On 15 January travel between the islands was banned, with exceptions for essential purposes. ● **Slovak Republic-** On 7 January, movement within the Nitra region is prohibited unless an individual receives a negative COVID-19 test result within the last 7 days. ● **Turkey-** Authorities require intercity travel permits for Turkish citizens and residents aged 65 and over. ● **United Kingdom-** On 4 January, England banned travel outside of your area of residence. On 20 January, Wales banned travel to other areas of the country.
C8: International Travel Controls	● **Austria-** The bans on flights from the UK, Brazil and South Africa have been extended until 7 February. ● **Bulgaria-** As of 3 January, a temporary ban has been introduced for the entry of individuals who are not citizens or residents of Bulgaria or the States of the European Union, or Schengen Parties. ● **Croatia-** On 15 January, it was announced that travellers from South Africa and the United Kingdom must have a negative PCR test and must self-isolate for 14 days. ● **Denmark-** From January 9 to 28 February, all incoming travellers have been banned from entering the country. ● **Faeroe Islands-** From January 9 to 28 February, all incoming travellers have been banned from entering the country. ● **Greenland-** From 1 January to 28 February all entry into Greenland is banned. ● **Ireland-** On 9 January it was announced that all travellers from the United Kingdom and South Africa will need a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken up to 72 hours prior to arrival in Ireland. On 26 January, the government announced mandatory quarantine measures to all international arrivals. ● **Latvia-** As of 15 January, all travellers must present a negative COVID-19 PCR test, and must self-isolate for 10 days. ● **Luxembourg-** As of 1 January, third country nationals are not permitted to enter Luxembourg. ● **Netherlands-** In January the government extended a ban on flights from the United Kingdom, and several countries in South and Central America. ● **San Marino-** As of 7 January, travel into San Marino from countries with high numbers of COVID-19 cases is prohibited, unless for essential reasons. ● **Slovenia-** As of 9 January, a negative COVID-19 antigen or PCR test is required for entry into Slovenia. ● **United Kingdom-**From 9 January, all travellers coming from South Africa have been banned. On 27 January, the government

	announced the requirements of citizens and residents returning from "red list" countries to quarantine in government operated facilities.
H2: Testing Policy	● **Austria-** Throughout January, mass testing was carried out. From 18 January, a negative covid test was required to leave the re-enter society after lockdown. On 21 January the government passed a resolution to offer free COVID-19 antigen tests. ● **Luxembourg-** In January, the government embarked on a widespread testing project with the aim of testing representative samples across the population. ● **San Marino-** In January, voluntary testing was suspended to give priority to contact tracing.
H3: Contact Tracing	● **Belgium-** As of 3 January, all close contacts of a confirmed case of COVID-19 are placed under quarantine for a 10 day period. ● **Germany-** In January, authorities explained that the contact tracing system is still being implemented. However, due to the high number of COVID-19 cases it is not possible to trace all of the suspected cases. ● **Ireland-** After the suspension of contact tracing in December due to the high number of COVID-19 cases. On 28 January, the government announced that contact tracing will recommence. ● **Uzbekistan-** Those who have been in contact with a person who tests positive for COVID-19 will no longer be automatically quarantined, but required to self-isolate for 14 days.
H6: Facial Coverings	● **Austria-** From 25 January, FFP2 masks will be required on public transportation and shops. The government announced plans to make these available at an affordable price, and provide individuals over the age of 65 with 10 free FFP2 masks. ● **Germany-** On 19 January, the governments announced the requirement for FFP2 masks to be worn on public spaces. ● **Monaco-** As of 11 January, masks must be worn in all public spaces, and shared areas of private spaces. ● **Sweden-** As of 7 January it is recommended that individuals ages 16 and above wear face masks on public transportation between 7-9 am and 4-6 pm on weekdays.

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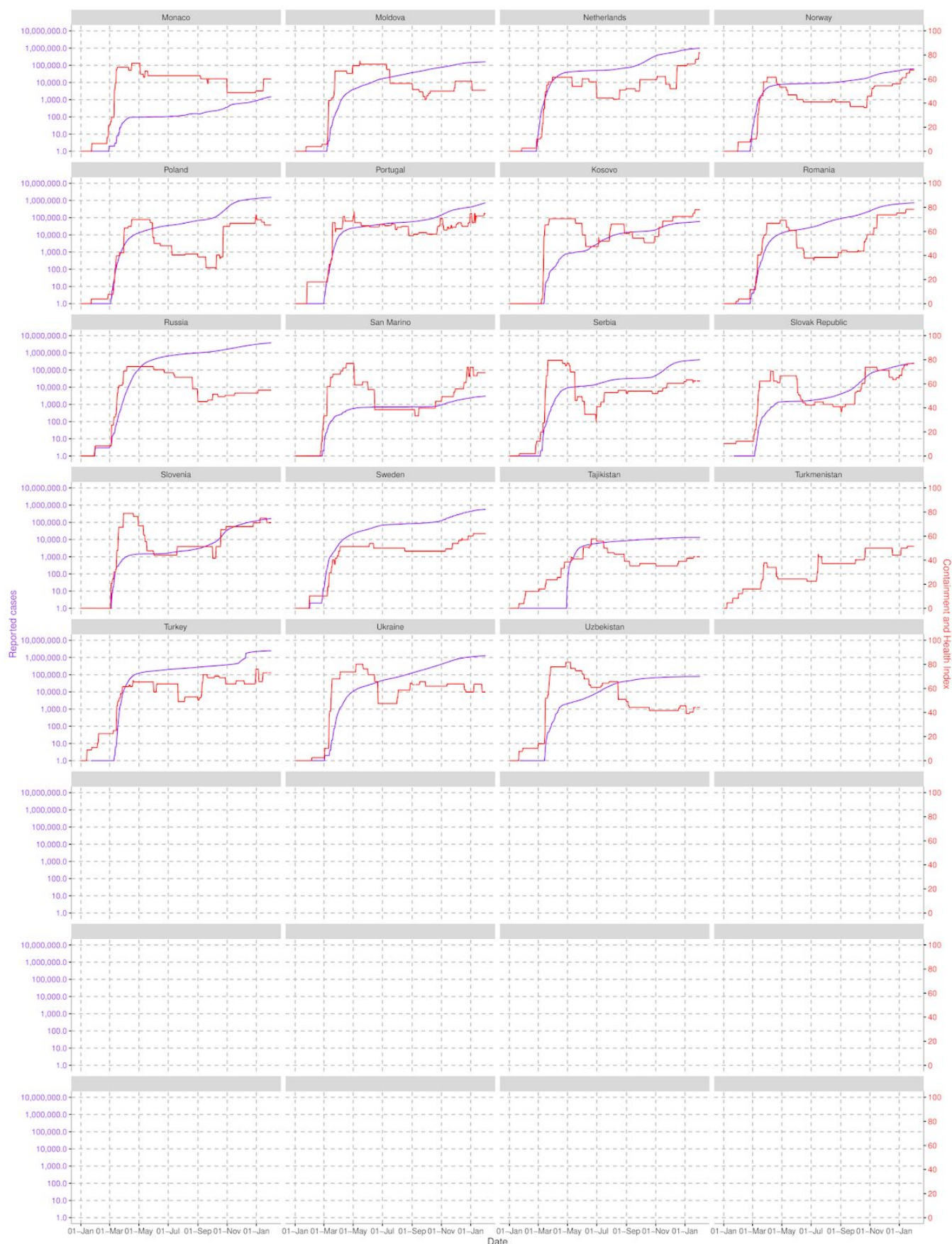
Cases vs Containment and Health Index

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