

Government Decree 71/2020 (27 March)
on restricting movement

The Government,
acting within its original legislative power laid down in Article 53 (2) of the Fundamental Law,
acting within its function laid down in Article 15 (1) of the Fundamental Law,
orders as follows:

Section 1 (1) Everyone shall be obliged to restrict social contact with other persons, with the exception of those living in the same household, as much as possible, and to maintain a distance of at least 1.5 meters from others, if possible.

(2) Paragraph (1) shall apply also to public transport.

Section 2 Except for those employed there, it is forbidden to stay in a catering facility. This shall not apply to pick-up and delivery of food for take-away.

Section 3 Leaving a domicile, place of residence or private home shall be permitted only for a justified reason set out in this Decree.

Section 4 (1) Justified reasons under section 3 shall be the following:

a) performance of work, professional obligations, economic, agricultural and forestry activities, and shopping in a shop selling materials and equipment essential for performing these activities (especially in a shop selling technical goods or construction materials and equipment),

b) escort of minors in connection with daycare supervision in small groups,

c) access to health care or health services, including health services for preserving physical and mental health (especially psychotherapeutic care, physiotherapeutic treatment and therapeutic exercise) other than curative activities,

d) individual recreational sports and walking in accordance with section 5,

e) conclusion of marriage and funeral in close family circle,

f) shopping in a grocery store selling daily consumer goods (hereinafter “grocery store”),
g) shopping in an other store selling daily consumer goods (such as toiletries, drugstore products, household detergents, chemical products or sanitary paper products) (hereinafter jointly “drugstore”),

h) shopping in a store selling pet food and feed,

i) shopping in an agricultural store, including a store selling fertiliser and a slaughterhouse,

j) shopping at a market and a local farmers’ market (hereinafter jointly “market”),

k) shopping in a store marketing medicinal products and medical devices (hereinafter jointly “pharmacy”),

l) visiting a filling station,

m) shopping in a tobacco shop,

n) access to hairdressing or manicure services,

o) access to transportation, cleaning or hygienic services,

p) access to motor vehicle and bicycle repair shop services and services related to repairing agricultural and forestry machinery and equipment,

q) access to services in relation to waste management,

r) if absolutely necessary, administration of affairs requiring attendance in person, such as access to administrative, bank, financial, insurance and postal services,

s) providing for animals, walking pets in public spaces, visiting a veterinary practice or a veterinary hospital,

t) parental rights and obligations,

u) faith-based activities.

(2) Subject to the provisions of section 1, providing assistance to persons unable to care for themselves or in need of assistance (such as a minor, an elderly person or a sick person) shall also qualify as a justified reason.

Section 5 Individual recreational sports and walking may only be pursued outside settlement limits or, if pursued within settlement limits, alone or together with persons living in the same household and possibly in green spaces, with the proviso that a distance of at least 1.5 meters shall be maintained from others.

Section 6 (1) For their own and their families' interest, persons who have attained the age of 65 years shall be allowed to visit a grocery store, drugstore, market or pharmacy only between 9 a.m. and 12 a.m.

(2) Except for those employed there, only persons specified in paragraph (1) shall be allowed to stay in or at a grocery store, drugstore, market or pharmacy between 9 a.m. and 12 a.m.

Section 7 The operator of the facility shall be responsible for enforcing the restriction under section 1 (1) and the provisions specified in section 2 and section 6 (2).

Section 8 (1) Compliance with the restrictive measures set out in this Decree shall be controlled by the police, assisted by the military police and by any organ under the Act on the service relationship of the professional personnel of organs performing law enforcement duties.

(2) In the case of non-compliance with the restrictive measures set out in this Decree, a police officer shall use the measures and coercive means under Act XXXIV of 1994 on the Police (hereinafter "Rtv.") observing the requirement of necessity and proportionality, in accordance with the provisions of Rtv.

Section 9 (1) By way of derogation from section 1 (1) of Act II of 2012 on infractions, infraction procedure and the infraction records system (hereinafter "Szabstv.") a person violating a restrictive measure set out in this Decree commits an infraction.

(2) By way of derogation from section 11 (1) of the Szabstv., the lowest amount of fine for an infraction under paragraph (1) shall be five thousand forints, while its highest amount shall be five hundred thousand forints.

Section 10 (1) This Decree shall enter into force on 28 March 2020.

(2) This Decree shall be repealed on 11 April 2020.

Section 11 Section 1 of Government Decree 46/2020 (16 March) on the measures to be taken during the state of danger declared for the prevention of the human epidemic endangering life and property and causing massive disease outbreaks, for the elimination of its consequences, and for the protection of the health and lives of Hungarian citizens (III) shall not apply.