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Konu : Dünya Sağlık Örgütü Tarafından Yayımlanan COVID-19 Salgınına İlişkin Güncel Bilgiler Hk.

27.10.2020

Sirküler No: 1195

Sayın Üyemiz,

Uluslararası Deniz Ticaret Odası'ndan (International Chamber of Shipping-ICS) alınan 26.10.2020 tarihli Ek'te sunulan yazıda, Dünya Sağlık Örgütü (World Health Organization-WHO) tarafından COVID-19 salgınına ilişkin genel epidemiolojik bilgilerin 25 Ekim 2020 tarihinde yayımlandığı bildirilmektedir.

Yazıda, COVID-19 salgınına yönelik geçen haftadan bu yana 5,402,335 yeni vakanın onaylanması ile birlikte dünya genelinde toplamda 42,512,186 vakaya ulaşıldığı, bir önceki haftaya göre önemli bir vaka artışının gözlemlendiği ve bu dönemde 39,927 hastanın hayatını kaybettiği ifade edilmektedir. Ayrıca, Avrupa genelinde COVID-19 salgınına yönelik vaka sayıları, hastaneye yatan vakalar ve ölüm oranlarında önemli bir artış olduğu belirtilmektedir. Dünya Sağlık Örgütü tarafından yayımlanan en son verilere göre 465,319 yeni vaka sayısı ile birlikte Pazar gününün üst üste en çok vaka raporlanan üçüncü gün olduğu belirtilmektedir.

Yazıda devamla, bir veya birden fazla Üye Devlete ait havalimanlarının uluslararası transit alanlarından geçerken transit vizeye sahip olma şartı koşulan üçüncü ülke vatandaşlarına ilişkin bir listenin Avrupa Birliği Genel Müdürlüğü'nün (European Union Directorate General) internet sitesinde yer aldığı ifade edilmektedir. Düzenli olarak güncellenen ve Uluslararası Hava Taşımacılığı Birliği (The International Air Transport Association-IATA) ile paylaşılan belgeye <https://bit.ly/34BKC5H> internet adresi üzerinden ulaşılabileceği belirtilmektedir.

Konuya ilişkin detaylı bilgi Ek'te sunulmaktadır.

Bilgilerinize arz/rica ederim.

Saygılarımla,

İsmet SALİHOĞLU
Genel Sekreter

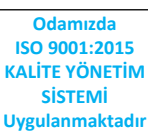
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ICS'den alınan 26.10.2020 tarihli yazı. (15 sayfa)

Dağıtım:

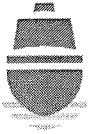
- Tüm Üyeler (WEB Sayfası)
- Türk Armatörler Birliği
- GİSBİR (Türkiye Gemi İnşa Sanayicileri Birliği Derneği)
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26 October 2020

COVID-19(20)173

TO: **LABOUR AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**
ALL MEMBERS & ASSOCIATE MEMBERS
BI WEEKLY MEMBERS MEETING PARTICIPANTS
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION GROUP PARTICIPANTS

COVID-19 UPDATE AS OF 26 OCTOBER 2020

Action Required: *Members are invited to note:*

- *Information below provided by WHO for 25 October 2020 and general epidemiological information regarding Covid 19 issued by WHO.*
- ***42512186** confirmed cases of COVID-19 (12.7%) **5,402,335** additional cases have been confirmed since last week. This is a substantial increase on the previous week. There has also been a small increase in fatalities over the period with **3,9927** additional deaths. However, many countries still cannot report all cases due to insufficient testing equipment so numbers are considerably higher.*
- *Covid case numbers, hospital admissions and deaths have been substantially increasing across Europe. According to the latest data from the World Health Organization (WHO), Sunday was the third consecutive day to see a record high in reported infections - with 465,319 cases confirmed.*
- *A List of third countries whose nationals must possess an airport transit visa when passing through international transit areas of airports situated in the territory of one/some Member States is a public document I found on the DG MOHE website). It is regularly updated and shared with IATA. https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/sites/homeaffairs/files/annex_7b_atv-national_lists_en.pdf*
- *As Copenhagen may become a hub airport for seafarers An ICMA member running a local seafarers hotel has mentioned if they can be of service in any way, please let them know or pass information attached at Annex A to any other group that might be interested.*

To get specific information about a country please visit the WHO-Covid-19 dashboard. [Link](#).

SITUATION IN NUMBERS BY WHO REGION

Region	Cases	Deaths
Global	42512186	1147301
Africa	1,291,315	29,145
Americas	19,477,882	622,086
Eastern Mediterranean	2,908,574	73,848
Europe	9,255,953	267,505
South-East Asia	8,870,366	139,537
Western Pacific	707,355	15,167

TOP 12 COUNTRIES WITH CASES AS AT 26 OCTOBER 2020 (Greatest first)

		This Week	Status
1	United States of America	United States of America	The Same
2	India	India	The Same
3	Brazil	Brazil	The Same
4	Russia	Russia	The Same
5	Argentina	Argentina	The Same
6	France	Colombia	Changed
7	Spain	Spain	Changed
8	Colombia	Peru	Changed
9	Peru	Mexico	Changed
10	Mexico	France	Changed
11	United Kingdom	United Kingdom	The Same
12	South Africa	South Africa	The Same

TOP 12 COUNTRIES

	WITH INCREASED CASES YESTERDAY	WITH HIGH FATALITIES YESTERDAY
1	United States of America	USA
2	India	India
3	France	Brazil
4	Brazil	Mexico
5	United Kingdom	Argentina
6	Italy	Iran
7	Russia	Russia
8	Argentina	Colombia
9	Poland	Italy
10	Czech Republic	France
11	Germany	Indonesia
12	Colombia	Czech Republic

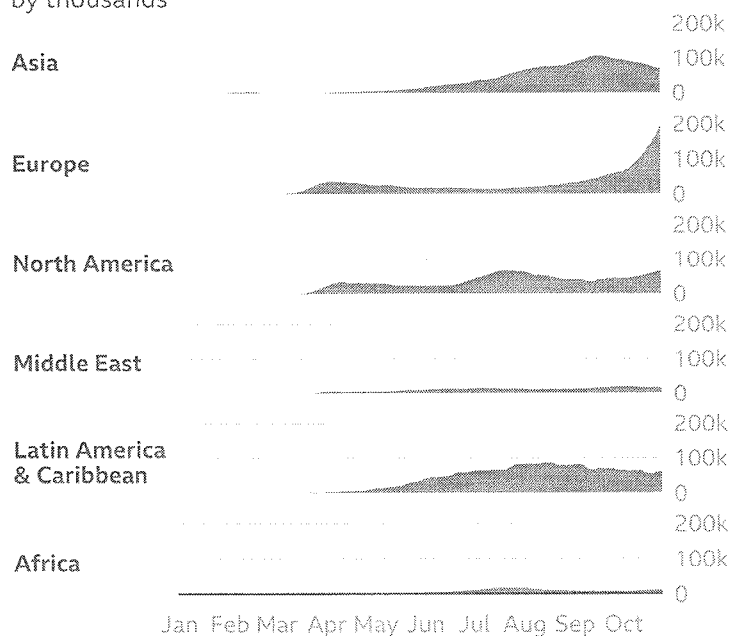
Global Perspective

Coronavirus is continuing its spread globally, with over 40 million confirmed cases in 189 countries and in excess of one million deaths. The virus is surging in many regions and some countries that had apparent success in suppressing initial outbreaks are also seeing infections rise again. Cases have risen over the last few months in several regions of the world.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has warned the global death toll could hit two million before an effective vaccine is widely in use. It says roughly one-in-10 people worldwide may have already been infected but most of the world remains at risk.

Covid-19 cases compared by continent

Number of cases per day, seven-day rolling average, by thousands



Oceania cases excluded as too low to register on scale

Source: ECDC and national public health agencies, data to 25 Oct



In Latin America, Brazil has passed five million confirmed cases, although daily new infections are thought to be slowing. Argentina has become one of only seven countries to record over one million cases and daily cases are still rising.

Cases in Indonesia rose at the end of August recording around 4,000 new cases a day in October. The country has recorded over 13,000 deaths, the highest in South East Asia.

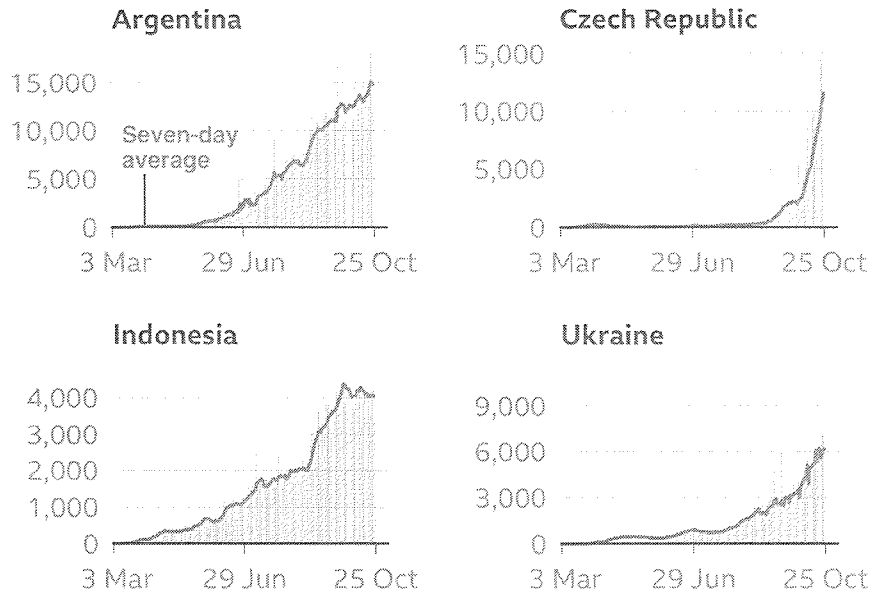
The Czech Republic is now one of the hardest-hit countries in Europe, with a high number of cases relative to the size of its population.

India has driven the increase in numbers in Asia, with nearly eight million confirmed infections, the second-highest official total in the world after the US. The country has maintained a relatively low death rate, given the size of its population.

In the Middle East, cases in Iraq have risen steadily since June, having recorded more than 440,000 cases in total. However, there are signs cases may now be levelling off.

Countries where cases are continuing to rise

Number of cases per day, each country on a separate scale



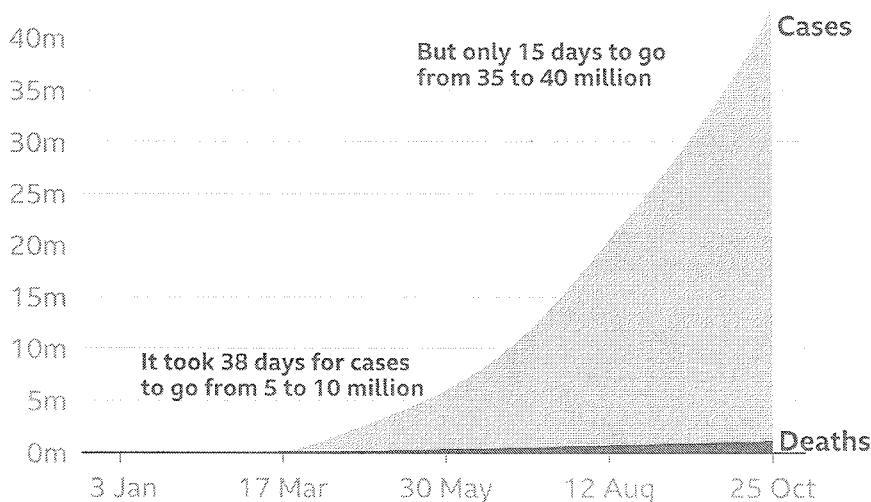
Source: ECDC, data to 25 Oct



Africa has recorded nearly 1.7 million confirmed cases, although the true extent of the pandemic there is not known as testing rates are low. South Africa, with some 700,000 cases and nearly 19,000 deaths, is still the worst affected country. Morocco and Egypt are the only other African countries to officially record over 100,000 cases.

Damage to the world's major economies is four times worse than the 2009 global financial crisis, according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). Meanwhile, the United Nations has said that up to 265 million people could face starvation by the end of the year because of the impact of Covid-19

Global coronavirus cases still rising quickly



Source: Johns Hopkins University, national health agencies, data to 25 Oct



Australia

Australia has adopted an approach of using lockdowns alongside proactive testing and tracing to contain the virus. With a population of 25 million people, it has recorded about 27,500 infections - far fewer than many nations.

Melbourne will exit lockdown from Wednesday after recording no new Covid-19 cases for the first time since June. Victoria state was the epicentre of Australia's second wave, accounting for over 90% of its 905 deaths. Melbourne, went into lockdown 111 days ago - enforcing home confinement, travel restrictions and closing stores and restaurants. However today Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews said the city could re-open. "With zero cases and so much testing over the weekend we are able to say that now is the time to open up," In July, Victoria saw cases surge to over 700 a day but the severe stay-at-home rules and a curfew have brought the numbers down. Mr Andrews praised the state's six million residents for following the rules, staying the course and ending the second wave." The state government put Melbourne into its second lockdown in early July after cases exceeded 100 cases a day. Infections peaked about a month later, before falling. As the virus spread, stay-at-home restrictions were also imposed on Victoria. Melburnians endured the toughest measures including a night-time curfew, a one-hour limit on outdoor exercise, and a ban on travelling more than 5km (3.1 miles) from their home. The heavily policed lockdown - one of the toughest globally - had divided opinion among the city's residents and prompted small protests. In recent weeks, many business owners and others had called for the state to re-open, but others had supported the premier's cautious approach.

As of 28 October, in Melbourne:

- People can freely leave their homes
- All retailers, restaurants, cafes and bars will re-open, with limits of 10 patrons indoors
- Household visits will be allowed, but with conditions to be revealed tomorrow
- Outdoor gatherings of up to 10 people can take place
- Weddings can have up 10 people, and funerals up to 20.

As of 8 November, in Melbourne:

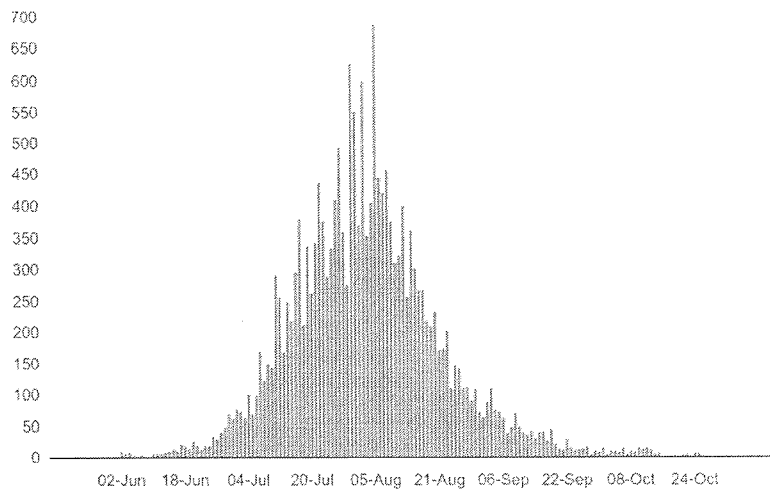
- A 25km (15.5-mile) travel limit will be removed, allowing travel elsewhere in Victoria
- Gyms and fitness studios to re-open
- Larger patron limits for restaurants and bars

Mr Andrews said Victoria was well placed for a "Covid-normal Christmas", but urged people to stay vigilant. "We need to be proud today and optimistic and confident, but we also need to be Covid-19 safe," he said. Today, state health officials reported no new infections for the first time since June, and no new deaths. Active cases stood at 91. Locals celebrated the milestone and re-opening announcement with messages of joy and relief on social media.

Tasmania has effectively opened their borders with Queensland, ACT, NT, WA and SA and will also permit arrivals from New Zealand without Quarantine.

Victoria's daily cases

Entered lockdown 7 July



Source: Victoria Department of Health and Human Services



China

China has previously responded to small outbreaks with large-scale testing. It is once again mass testing an entire city for the coronavirus amid a regional outbreak in Xinjiang province. Around 4.7m people in Kashgar are being tested, with 138 asymptomatic cases found so far. China has been largely successful in bringing infection rates down, but there continue to be small outbreaks. Xinjiang is home to China's mostly-Muslim Uighur minority which rights groups say is being persecuted by the government in Beijing.

Schools in Kashgar have been closed and residents are not allowed to leave the city unless they have a negative test report. The first case in the Kashgar outbreak was an asymptomatic woman working in a garment factory in Shufu county. The woman revealed to be infected following what Chinese state media described as routine testing was the first local case detected in mainland China for 10 days. Widespread testing, which began on Saturday, uncovered another 137 asymptomatic cases. Asymptomatic cases are not counted in China's official tally of 85,810 confirmed infections. The country's death toll stands at 4,634. Over 2.8m tests were conducted in Kashgar by yesterday afternoon and the rest will be completed within two days, according to city officials. Kashgar is in China's western Xinjiang province, home to ethnic Uighurs and Turkic Muslims. It has a network of detention camps which China says are "re-education" centres needed to tackle extremism. The US recently blocked some exports from Xinjiang over alleged human rights abuses and forced labour.

While normal life has resumed in much of China, there continue to be small outbreaks that authorities have chosen to tackle with immediate mass testing. Earlier in October, Qingdao tested its entire population of nine million people. In May, China tested the 11m-strong population of Wuhan, the city where the novel coronavirus was first identified



China has started an important annual political meeting, for four days in Beijing. During the fifth 19th Communist Party Central Committee plenary session China will roll out its five-year economic and development plan and President Xi Jinping will unveil a longer-term plan for the next 15 years called "Vision 2035" which has prompted speculation that he intends to be "president-for-life". Vision 2035 sets goalposts for China's progress to achieve high-income status being a fully developed nation by 2049. China scrapped presidential term limits in 2018, which would allow Mr Xi to remain. Over 300 full and alternate members of the party's Central Committee, the country's top leadership, attend the meeting and the state media agency will announce details of what is agreed on the last day. This year's meeting comes as China's economy recovers from Covid19, as life in most Chinese cities returns to normal. China's five-year plan from 2021-25, details priorities for policy and development for the next five years which it has done since 1953. President Xi "wants the Chinese economy to become more self-sufficient and less reliant on US markets and technologies. We will see more economic targets set for domestic consumption and shifting investment from low-cost manufacturing to high-cost technologies such as semi-conductors, renewable energy, medicine and space science. Earlier this month, President Xi stressed the "dual-circulation" strategy – to reduce China's dependence on foreign markets. Professor Hoo, of Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, believes it is a direct response to worsening relations between the US and China. Prof Hillman disagrees "China is already coming out of the pandemic with signs that its economy is beginning to rebound. The plenum will provide an opportunity to celebrate China's victory over coronavirus, and Chinese state media will no doubt contrast the achievement with Europe's and America's ongoing failures to contain it."

According to official figures, China now leads the charge for a global recovery based on GDP data with growth of 4.9% between July and September, compared to the same quarter last year. However, the figure is lower than the 5.2% expected by economists. Announcement of the 15-year-plan has prompted some analysts to speculate this could be possible.

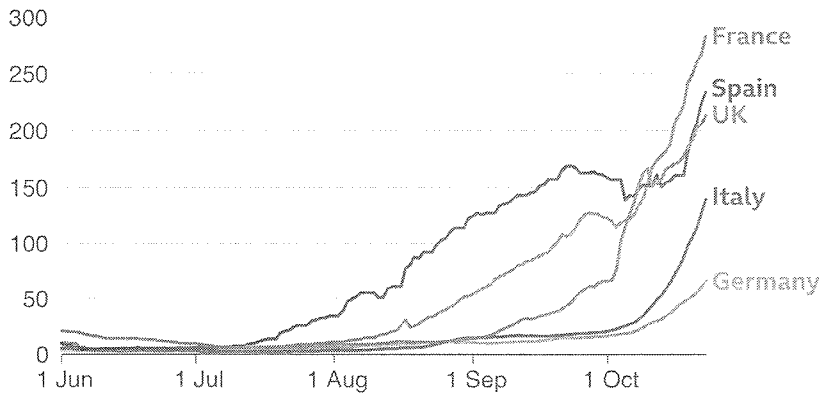
Professor Hoo 2035 was previously hailed as the year China will see "basic realisation of socialist modernization thus an interpretation is that it could be nothing unusual since it's been mentioned before for China's development timeline,". Historically, it is unusual for a longer-term plan to be discussed alongside the five-year-plan. However, another interpretation is that Mr Xi intends to remain in charge for the long-run wishing to stay the 15 years."

Europe

Cases and hospital admissions are now rising fast again in many European countries. Spain and France have become the first western European countries to record over one million cases, and several others have recorded their highest number of new infections since the pandemic started. Lockdowns and other restrictions have returned in worst-affected regions, with fresh appeals for people to wear face coverings and follow social distancing rules.

Coronavirus cases increasing in European countries in recent weeks

Total cases per 100,000 people by week up to 23 October



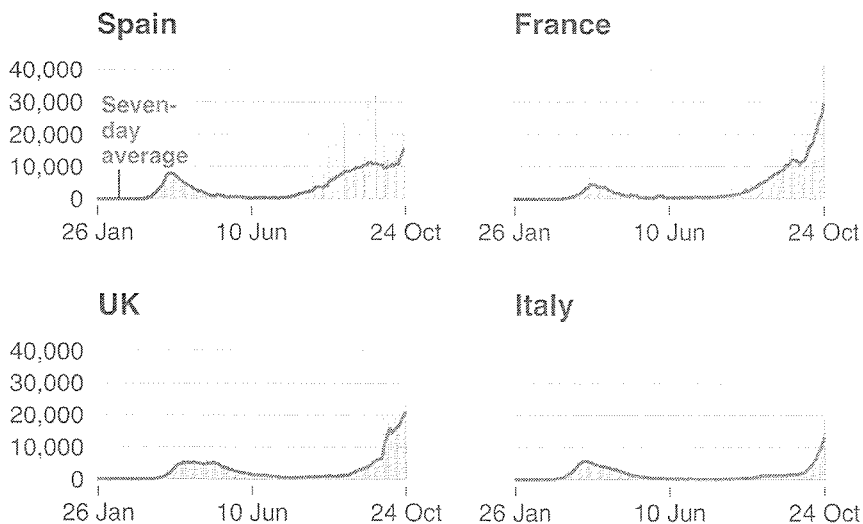
Note: Countries do not always release figures every day, which may explain some of the sharp changes in the trendlines

Source: ECDC, data to 23 Oct



Europe seeing second rise in cases

Number of confirmed coronavirus cases per day



Source: ECDC, data to 24 Oct



Bulgaria

Prime Minister Borisov confirmed that he had tested positive for Covid-19 and was experiencing mild symptoms and was self-isolating

Czech Republic

New lockdowns came into force this weekend, 12,472 new Covid cases were reported for Saturday - The country's highest daily tally for a weekend day

France

France has reported a record number of new daily infections. A total of 52,010 infections were reported on Sunday, up from just over 45,000 on Saturday.

Germany

In Germany, where case numbers have risen sharply in recent weeks, the building belonging to the country's public health body - the Robert Koch Institute - has been vandalised. At least one window was broken as several suspects reportedly tried to start a fire. Meanwhile, Frankfurt has become the latest city to cancel its traditional Christmas market.

Ireland

Ryanair has announced big cuts to its winter flight schedule, saying it will operate at only 40% of last year's capacity. Cuts respond to increased flight restrictions imposed due to Covid 19. This had led to "materially" weaker bookings in November and December. The airline is closing bases in Cork, Shannon, and Toulouse for the winter, expecting to maintain 65% of routes with reduced frequencies. With reduced winter capacity and load factors of about 70%, Ryanair expects annual traffic to be about 38 million passengers which could be further reduced. Chief executive Michael O'Leary said the airline deeply regretted the schedule cuts, forced by "government mismanagement of EU air travel. It is inevitable, given the scale of the cutbacks, that we will implement more unpaid leave, and job sharing this winter in bases where we have agreed reduced working time and pay, but a better short-term outcome than mass job losses. There will be more redundancies at a small number of cabin crew bases where we have still not secured agreement on working time and pay cuts, the only alternative. We continue to actively manage our cost base to prepare for the inevitable rebound and recovery of short haul European air travel once an effective vaccine is developed."

Mr O'Leary has criticised the UK government's policy on quarantining people arriving from overseas, which requires travellers from high-risk countries to isolate for two weeks on return to the UK calling it "a shambles". He has praised the Italian and German governments for having "a much more aggressive test and trace system". He requested all EU governments to adopt the European Commission's traffic light system, to allow for safe air travel regionally between areas with Covid case rates of less than 50 per 100,000 people.

Earlier this year, foreign travel was paralysed for several months by the pandemic, with airlines, airports and tour firms shedding thousands of jobs. Since then, constant changes to the UK's list of countries subject to quarantine have confused potential holidaymakers and hampered recovery efforts. Airlines have cut costs in an effort to remain viable, with IATA warning that hundreds of thousands more jobs are at risk.

The Philippines

The Bureau of Immigration (BI) will lift the antigen test requirement for travellers leaving the Philippines starting November 1. Yesterday, the bureau said it would implement the latest ruling of the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID). The test will still occur if the traveller's country of destination requires a negative coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) test certificate.

Immigration Commissioner Jaime Morente said the other requirements imposed by the IATF-EID for outbound travel remained in place. "A round-trip ticket will still be required for those who will be leaving under a tourist visa," he noted.

Travelers must sign a declaration acknowledging the risks of traveling, which will be given to them by the airline when they check in. In the meantime, restrictions for arriving passengers have been partially lifted. Starting November 1, foreigners with visas pursuant to Executive Order (EO) 226, as amended by Republic Act 8756; those with 47(a)2 visas; and those visas issued by the Aurora Pacific Economic Zone and Freeport Authority, as well as the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority, will be allowed to enter the country. The Department of Justice states that under EO 226 visas are required of personnel or executives of multinational companies in the Philippines; 47(a)2 visas are granted to special non-immigrants, and Aurora and Subic-issued visas are for foreigners working in special economic zones.

Previously, only Filipinos, their spouse and children; foreign children with special needs of Filipinos; foreign parents of minor Filipinos; and foreign parents of Filipino children with special needs could enter the country. Tourists still must secure an entry visa from Philippine embassies or consulates before arrival. Accredited foreign government and international organization officials and their dependents, foreign airline crewmembers, foreign seafarers with 9(c) visas, and foreigners with long-term visas are allowed.

Immigration Port Operations Chief Tan stressed that both departing and arriving travellers still must undergo regular immigration inspection and present documents needed for travel. Arriving passengers must have a pre-booked accredited quarantine facility before arrival and are still subject to the maximum capacity of inbound passengers set by airport authorities. After immigration inspection, arriving passengers will move to the one stop shop at airports to be tested and referred to their assigned quarantine facility. Recently, the IATF-EID allowed Filipinos on non-essential travel to leave. The Bureau of Immigration reported that numbers of Filipino travellers under a tourist visa did not increase significantly despite the policy change.

A pass-through permit (TPP) will soon be required to allow authorized persons to enter an area with restricted travel guidelines, the Philippine National Police (PNP) said on Sunday. Lt-Gen. Guillermo Eleazar, commander of the PNP's Joint Task Force Covid Shield, said the TPP could be secured by authorized persons outside residence (APORs) and locally stranded individuals (LSIs). The TPP differs from the travel authority, as no requirement is needed. The permit will be presented to policemen manning quarantine control points, or border control checkpoints, to allow them to pass travel restrictions being implemented in local government units with restricted status.

Several local government units (LGUs) have adopted an "unrestricted travel policy," in which APORs and non-APORs, and LSIs, will no longer have to obtain a travel authority. Some LGUs, however, have maintained travel restrictions amid continuous spread of

Covid-19. To obtain a travel authority, the APOR must first secure a medical clearance certificate from the city or municipal health office. There must also be prior coordination between the traveller's LGU of origin and LGU destination. The TPP can also be obtained from police stations. To ensure hassle-free travel, non-Apors should secure a TPP before travel as they might be barred from passing through an LGU or LGUs with restricted travel policy. The TPP will prevent this kind of scenario.

Police commanders were directed to ensure that the TPP is made available upon request, Cascolan also called on PNP units and LGUs that no longer have travel restrictions not to deny entry to travellers, even without a travel authority or TPP. Both TPP and travel authority are required in areas under the general community quarantine and the modified general community quarantine. The TPP, however, does not apply in areas still under the more strict enhanced community quarantine and modified enhanced community quarantine.

To prevent a potential outbreak of vaccine-preventable diseases such as measles, polio, and rubella, a health official urged parents on Wednesday to have children vaccinated against such illnesses. "We might not get cases this year but we might get them next year,". Despite a decrease in vaccine coverage, Ho said the DOH is "not seeing a rise in cases this year due to minimum health standards such as proper handwashing" to prevent spread of coronavirus. Ho also announced that the DOH will launch an immunization drive from October 26 to November 25 in the Bicol region, Cagayan Valley, Cordilleras, Ilocos Region, Mimaropa, and Mindanao. On February 1 to 28, 2021, the DOH will also launch the same campaign in Metro Manila, Central Luzon, Calabarzon, and Visayas. To ensure everyone's safety amid the Covid-19 pandemic, Ho added health protocols are in place in immunization centers.

Spain

Spain has declared a national state of emergency and imposed a night-time curfew in an effort to help control a new spike in Covid-19 infections. The same level of emergency was introduced in April. Spain has passed one million cases since it began and nearly 35,000 people have died. It was hit hard during the first wave earlier this year and imposed a more restrictive lockdown. Like other European regions, it has now been hit by a second wave.

Madrid is one of the worst hit regions in Spain and has been subject to tough restrictions Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez said the curfew which came into force last night, would be in place between the hours of 23:00 and 06:00. Under the measures, local authorities can also ban travel between regions. Mr Sánchez said he would ask parliament to extend the new rules, initially in force for 15 days, to six months. He said different regions would have up to an hour of flexibility if wanting to modify the duration of the overnight curfew. Restrictions on movement between districts would be determined by regional leaders and depend on work and medical needs. New measures limit public and private gatherings of different households to up to six people. "The situation we are going through is extreme, it is the most serious in the past half century." According to Mr Sanchez Over half of Spain's 17 regions called for tighter restrictions and the latest measures will apply to all regions except the Canary Islands.

Switzerland

Hospitals in Geneva are calling on medically trained volunteers and retired staff to help care for what it anticipates will be a record number of Covid patients in the coming days

Tanzania

Air Tanzania has now resumed flights to Entebbe, Uganda

United Kingdom

The United Kingdom recorded 19,790 new cases yesterday. The death toll remains the highest in Europe, rising by 151 to 44,896. Young people, particularly from deprived backgrounds, have had their earnings and job prospects hit hardest by the pandemic, adding to fears for their long-term future impact on. BBC Panorama found people aged 16-25 were more than twice as likely as older workers to lose a job, while six in 10 saw earnings fall, according to new research. It also highlighted the impact of school closures on young people and added to growing evidence that students from poorer backgrounds have fallen behind more than privileged peers.

A quarter of pupils (2.5 million children) had no schooling or tutoring during lockdown, a survey by the London School of Economics suggests. Nearly three quarters of private school pupils had full days of teaching (74%) - almost twice state school pupils (38%). The study warns it could lead to poorer pupils suffering permanent 'educational scarring' in respect to key academic milestones such as exams and getting a university place.

Sixteen-year-old Roberta, who was working towards her GCSEs when lockdown came, says she did not get the closure of taking her exams and got no education or support from her school for six months during lockdown. She says it was a struggle to keep up with her peers from privately educated backgrounds. In September, she started at a new, highly competitive school in London which aims to provide a "life-changing education" for bright disadvantaged students. The break of six months did so much damage. Usually I would be able to sit for hours and to revise and really absorb it. Now I get restless after one or two hours." Of the 325 students in Roberta's year group, a third are from deprived backgrounds and 20 were previously privately educated. Although she has returned to the classroom adapting to school life has been stressful trying to keep up with from privately educated peers. "coming into this school, I didn't realise the disparity would be this big in the classroom. There are people that do not know anything and people that know almost the whole content. You can tell who will do well in their A-levels, and who is not. And where will I be?" Even though schools like Roberta's are working to help their students not to miss out, four in 10 UK pupils are still not getting as many teaching hours as prior to lockdown.

Rasheed Graham (23) feels his future hangs in the balance. He secured a place on a fully-funded pilot's training course, before the outbreak brought it to a halt when he was told the flying school was closing and the airline could not afford to fund training anymore. To continue, he must find £60,000 to cover the costs. "The cadetship is worth its weight in gold, as if you don't come from wealth or money, it gives you a chance to pursue a career as a pilot if you don't have the means" He is trying to crowd fund to pay for his course and has raised almost £22,000. "This could work out or it couldn't. I've actually accepted both eventualities, but I'd rather reflect and realise I'd tried to do something to return to flight training than sit back, and let the opportunity go by."

Unsurprisingly, upheaval and uncertainty created by the pandemic has also taken a toll on young people's mental health. Research conducted by the Samaritans and the University of Glasgow found young adults (18-29 years) were more likely to report depressive symptoms and suicidal thoughts than older people.

The assistant principal at Harris Westminster sixth form explained "We've seen a massive increase in students with anxiety not just about the future, but things like sensory overload of being back in a situation surrounded by people. "We've seen a big increase in students with eating disorders this year. And increase in depression. So, we've had to, where possible, direct them to nursing and counselling, but within the first two weeks, they were completely saturated, Schools will still go on educating young people but we're not in the bedroom with them, checking in on them, checking they're okay, checking there's somebody at home looking after them. "It's hard to switch off from that. How do you switch off from worrying about 600 students that you know need you?"

The Department for Education said it is giving every school more money and provided £58m to help schools with extra costs of Covid while the Department for Work and Pensions said its plan for jobs focuses on supporting people in need. It includes the Kickstart scheme, offering the minimum wage for six months work experience, and investment in apprenticeships, traineeships and work coaches. With coronavirus cases rising and London now under "high" tier two restrictions, Roberta's future feels even more uncertain - but she is still hopeful." I don't know how the future's will pan out but perhaps society can come out better than before".

USA

225,000 Americans have died since the pandemic began, the highest for any country

Mark Meadows, White House Chief of Staff said Covid-19 could only be defeated through vaccines and other mitigation areas like vaccines and therapeutics. His remarks come as cases surge in the US, nine days before the presidential election. Vice-President Mike Pence continued to campaign despite positive tests for his team. He and his wife both tested negative yesterday. Speaking with CNN, Mr Meadows said control of the virus was not realistic because "it is a contagious virus just like the flu".

Yesterday addressing supporters in New Hampshire President Trump repeated that the US was turning a corner, despite recording record infections and rising hospital admissions. "We're coming around, rounding the turn, have the vaccines, have everything. Even without vaccines, we are rounding the turn," he told supporters, many not wearing face masks or observing social distancing. No vaccine has completed clinical trials. He has visited key swing states. Mr Biden's lead is much narrower in several states which will decide the election. Saturday he campaigned in North Carolina, Ohio and Wisconsin planning to appear at two rallies in Pennsylvania today, and Michigan, Wisconsin and Nebraska tomorrow.

His running mate Mike Pence held a rally on Sunday afternoon in Kinston, North Carolina. Mr Pence has continued campaigning despite being a close contact of Marc Short, his chief of staff, who has test positive for Covid-19. Media reports say Pence adviser Marty Obst and at least two other members of staff have also recently tested positive. The cases have raised fresh questions about the White House's Covid-19 protocol, three weeks after President Trump was admitted to hospital with the virus before recovering.

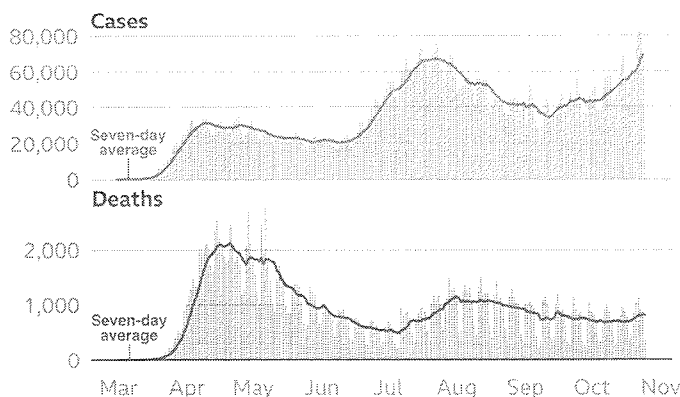
Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden said the White House was waving "the white flag of defeat". He added that Mr Meadows' comments showed the Trump administration had "given up on their basic duty to protect the American people. Joe Biden scheduled no public events yesterday but attended church and briefly appeared at a virtual campaign concert. In an interview with CBS's 60 Minutes programme, yesterday he said President Trump could win the election even though he is trailing him by an average of eight points

in polls. He accused him of trying to delegitimize the election by doubting the integrity of postal ballots.

America's coronavirus outbreak has become a key policy battleground before the election, and contributed to a surge in postal and early in-person voting. About 59 million ballots have already been cast, a record figure largely spurred by the pandemic. Speaking to the BBC yesterday, top US infectious disease expert Dr Anthony Fauci said a Covid-19 vaccine could be available in the US before the end of the year if one proved "safe and effective", but that the first doses would go to people in order of priority. He said it would take "several months into 2021" before the vaccine was more widely available.

The US has recorded over 225,000 coronavirus deaths - the world's highest official death toll. New cases hit a record daily high on Friday, with over 83,000 new infections. US Surgeon General Jerome Adams has warned that hospital admission numbers are growing, but mortality rates are falling due to better patient care. The US has had over eight million confirmed cases and the handling of the pandemic has become central to the presidential election campaign. Daily cases had slowed in August but the recent rise is driven mostly by renewed outbreaks in the Midwest. The outbreak has had a devastating impact on the US economy, with GDP falling by a record rate of 33% in the three months from April to June

Number of daily cases and deaths in the US



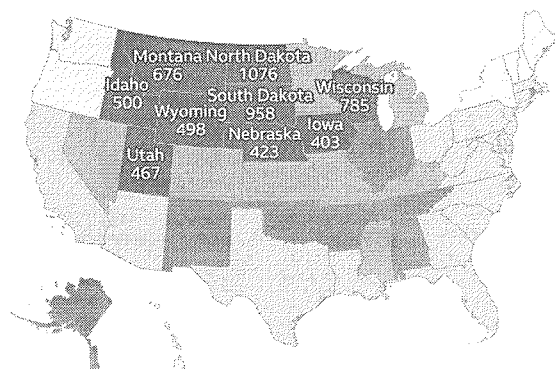
Source: COVID Tracking Project



Cases still high in several US states

Average daily cases in the last week per million people

0-99 100-199 200-299 300-399 400+



Johns Hopkins University, updated: 26 Oct 08:00 BST



Natalie Shaw
Director Employment Affairs

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