COVID-19 EU Briefing 13 October 2021

The new Weekly EU COVID-19 Briefing will include recent developments from the EU on treatments, vaccines and high-level announcements as well as important restrictions updates on a Member State level.

General EU Developments

Vaccines:

- The European Medicines Agency [announced](#) it has ended the rolling review of CVnCoV, CureVac AG's COVID-19 vaccine, after the company [informed](#) the Agency that it was withdrawing from the process.

Therapeutics:

- The European Medicines Agency has started evaluating an [application](#) for marketing authorisation from Roche for the monoclonal antibody combination Ronapreve.

Restrictions Update

European:

- EU Health ministers called for unified criteria to implement the recovered-vaccinated-tested rules.

International:

- **Belgium:** All persons who have been immunized against the Coronavirus, as well as those who have recovered from the disease have to prove that they hold the correct certificates through the Passenger Locator Form (PLF) when returning to Belgium.
- **Cyprus**: Lichtenstein arrivals to Cyprus are no longer obliged to follow stringent entry requirements as the country has been added to the green category. Entry rules have been facilitated for a few third countries and Luxembourg and Australia arrivals, whereas those from Czechia and Slovenia have to follow stricter entry rules.
- **Czech Republic:** Nationals of Latvia and Romania have been required to undergo testing and quarantine requirements from 11 October when reaching the Czech territory. At the same time, Norway, Cyprus and Luxembourg have been moved to the orange category.
- **Denmark:** Sweden, Portugal and Liechtenstein move to green status in updated travel guidelines while Lithuania moves to yellow. Danish residents who are not vaccinated or immune through previous infection are required to get a test after entry.
- **Estonia:** Nine European countries have been on Estonia's green list since Monday: The Czech Republic, The Vatican, Hungary, Liechtenstein, Malta, Monaco, Poland, San Marino, Spain.

- **Finland:** The Parliament proposed extending Finland's current border entry requirements until the end of this year. According to the current regulations, unvaccinated or one-dose passengers arriving from at-risk or otherwise designated countries are required to undergo two coronavirus tests: one on arrival and the second within 3–5 days of arrival in Finland.
- **Latvia:** Nine European countries have been on Latvia's green list from Friday, October 8: The Czech Republic, The Vatican, Hungary, Liechtenstein, Malta, Monaco, Poland, San Marino, Spain.
- **Lithuania:** Cyprus, Crete in Greece, Luxembourg, Netherlands, and France – except Martinique and Guiana – have been moved to the yellow list, from red. Spain's Tenerife and Gran Canaria as well as Liechtenstein, have been green-listed from yellow.
- **Portugal:** Fully vaccinated travellers from the UK will no longer have to take a COVID-19 test before travelling to Portugal.
- **Slovakia**: Authorities in Slovakia have applied new changes to the entry rules for travellers. All travellers from age 12 and over are obliged to register through eHranica, when reaching Slovakia.
- **Spain**: Restrictions to access to airport terminals have been lifted, allowing companions of travellers to say farewell. Spain added Portugal and Hungary to its high-risk areas list. Travellers from Portugal and Hungary now are subject to additional entry rules when reaching Spain.
- **Sweden:** People who can show a UK-issued proof of COVID-19 vaccination are able to enter Sweden for the first time in months.

Domestic:

- **Austria**: Voralberg has become the first Austrian state to relax its rules on mask-wearing and testing in schools, as of Monday 11 October
- **Bulgaria:** Anti-epidemic measures in Sofia will be tightened due to the increased incidence of covid-19. The group attendance extracurricular activities and activities are suspended. Seminars, exhibitions and conferences are also prohibited.
- **Cyprus:** COVID-19 measures are beginning to ease in Cyprus. Among the changes will be the increase of the number of people allowed indoors in establishments such as restaurants, cafes, nightclubs and various other venues that are used for gatherings.
- **Croatia**: The Croatian Institute of Public Health issued recommendations for third doses and booster shots. The administration of the third dose is recommended for people with severe underlying health conditions, and they should receive it within a timeframe defined by doctors who are treating their diseases.
- **Czech Republic:** The Czech Health Ministry has dropped its plan to stage three rounds of blanket COVID-19 testing at schools.
- **Denmark**: The Danish Health Authority confirmed that it is still allowing people aged 12-17 to receive the COVID-19 vaccine from Moderna.
- **Estonia:** Professor of virology and chief of the government's scientific council Irja Lutsar said the council supports significantly stricter restrictions for unvaccinated people. A proposal will also be made to the government to give people with antibodies a short-term certificate of COVID-19 recovery.

- **Finland:** Finland's Covid vaccination certificate was unveiled at a press conference
- **Germany**: COVID-19 rapid antigen tests will no longer be free for the general population. It will remain free for those under 12, and those unable to get vaccinated for medical reasons. MRN
    - COVID-19 jabs have been recommended as a booster by Germany's vaccine advisory committee for those who had a full course of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine.
- **Greece:** The online platform for appointments for the third dose of Covid-19 vaccination will open on Sunday afternoon for people with underlying health problems and those over 50.
- **Italy**: Italy has decided to provide a booster shot of Pfizer and BioNTech's Covid-19 vaccine to frail people regardless of their age as well as people aged 60 and over.
- **Latvia**: A national state of emergency was declared for three months from Monday 11 October 11, bringing with it the entry into force of several restrictions. Measures include: remote working, an obligation to get vaccinated in the public sector and the COVID-19 certification will be mandatory in the private sector for specified critical professions.
- **Lithuania:** Lithuania will shortly start offering COVID-19 booster shots to everyone.
- **Romania:** Romania recorded 16,743 COVID-19 cases on Tuesday, the highest daily count since the start of the pandemic.
- **Slovakia**: Six days ago, Slovakia registered its highest number of cases since March, with 1,971 new cases being recorded.

- **Spain**: Madrid, Catalonia and Valencia this week fully reopened nightclubs and the Balearic Islands are set to lift all restrictions from Friday.

Source: DeHavillandEU