

## COVID-19 EU Briefing 04 May 2022

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*

#### **International:**

- **Croatia:** Croatia has dropped all Covid entry restrictions.
- **Greece:** From 1 May, all incoming travellers no longer must follow any rules. This means that all travellers, regardless of their country of origin, can enter Greece without having to provide covid-19 proof upon their arrival.
- **Germany:** The German authorities have decided to prolong the existing coronavirus entry restrictions until the end of May upon an evaluation that the current covid-19 situation does not permit for the complete removal of the travel rules.
- **Bulgaria:** From 1 May, travellers will be able to travel to Bulgaria exempted from presenting a vaccination, recovery or test certificate.
- **Ireland:** Authorities in Ireland have announced that they will not oblige passengers to wear a face mask while travelling with international airlines if their home countries have abolished such a requirement.
- **Italy:** The Italian Ministry of Health has announced that the requirement to complete a Passenger Locator Form for entering the country has been abolished, while the rest of the existing entry restrictions have been prolonged until the end of the month.
- **Malta:** The red and dark red zone system remains in place. Those coming from a red zone can enter Malta with a valid vaccine certificate, a recovery certificate, or a negative swab test under the already established parameters. However, the Passenger Locator Form necessity is removed as of 2 May.
- **Portugal:** Madeira archipelago dropped all its entry rules. But the archipelago of the Azores still applies the rules as in the continent, meaning entry is only possible upon proof of vaccination, recovery or negative test.
- **Spain:** The Spanish authorities have extended the current travel requirements on travellers from countries from the European Union and Schengen Area as well travel restrictions on visitors from third countries, up until 15 May.

#### *Domestic:*

- **Latvia:** From 1 July 2022 onward the requirement for teachers and teaching staff to have a valid vaccination or recovery certificate will be lifted.
- **Lithuania:** Lithuania has ended covid-related emergency status
- **Denmark:** Denmark has decided to destroy 1.1. million doses of the covid-19 vaccines after the country declared the pandemic “under control”.
- **Sweden:** The country's public health agency has said it is prepared to introduce new restrictive measures should another wave hit the country.

- **Belgium:** The next Consultative Committee on the last remaining covid-19 measures has been postponed and is now scheduled to take place on 20 May.
- **Greece:** A decision on whether to lift indoor masking mandate will be made on 1 June.
- **Italy:** The Italian authorities have discontinued the requirement to present a covid-19 Green Health Pass for Italian citizens and foreign visitors to access places like museums, pubs, hotels, and other activities and services. However, face masks will remain compulsory on public transport and in some indoor venues until 15 June.
- **Malta:** Almost all of Malta's covid-19 restrictions will be removed as from 2 May and the second covid-19 booster shot will also be offered to those over the age of 65. Only those who are positive for covid-19 will need to isolate. Masks will only be obligatory in hospitals, medical clinics, elderly homes, and on board flights.
- **Portugal:** The Directorate-General of Health updated its orientation on the use of masks, considering the masks an "important measure" to contain the spread of covid-19. Masks are still mandatory in some specific closed spaces, such as health facilities, pharmacies and transport modes.

*Source: DeHavillandEU*