

Health screening: passengers should not be required to leave vehicles, says Brussels

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"Maritime workers" have been included on the European Commission's newly published lists of those "exercising critical occupations" - a list designed to ensure such workers are not prevented from travelling.

Those on the list (see attachment), including fishermen and civil servants, should be allowed to cross borders in order to reach their place of work, the Commission says. Inland navigation workers are also included.

Health screening is increasingly common at Europe's new internal borders. Such screening "should not necessitate the workers to leave the vehicles and should in principle be based on electronic body temperature measurement", the guidance reads. Workers who have a fever and who are denied boarding should be offered "appropriate health care".

The European Union is attempting to keep essential workers and freight following across the single market. Separate guidelines for the airfreight industry have also been published (also attached). Shipments of medical supplies have been hampered by the collapse of air cargo capacity.

Romania to introduce quarantine for truckers, ship crews

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Romania will from March 31 introduce a 14-day quarantine period for truck drivers, aircraft pilots and ship crews entering the country, according to the Switzerland-based International Road Transport Union (IRU).

Quarantine can take place at home, in a space provided by the employer or "in the spaces made available by the public administration authorities", the [announcement reads](#).

The European Commission had hoped to avoid quarantine measures of this type for workers in "critical" industries.

"We are extremely concerned about the lack of coordination and individual approaches put in place by governments worldwide," said IRU Secretary General, Umberto de Pretto. The IRU, which monitors trade barriers worldwide, says some countries have completely closed borders to freight.

An EC-promoted "green lanes" scheme to keep freight moving across the bloc's increasingly numerous internal borders has not yet had the desired effect, to judge by [real-time reports](#). On March 30 there were significant border backlogs between Belgium and Luxembourg, and between Germany and Poland.