



PRESIDENTIAL DECREE REGARDING THE STATE OF EMERGENCY

On 16 March 2020, the President of Romania declared a state of emergency for the next 30 days to limit the spread of COVID-19 and to manage its effects. The Presidential Decree set out certain emergency measures that became immediately applicable, as well as certain gradual/progressive measures, which may be taken in the future, depending on the developments.

Amongst the emergency measures with immediate application have been included also measures related to execution of community sanctions and measures.

Thus, **have been suspended:**

- all direct contacts between the supervised persons and the probation counsellors either at the probation premises or home visits,
- the obligations to perform unpaid work for the benefit of the community,
- the obligation to attend a training course or professional qualification,
- the obligation to attend one or more programs of social reintegration.

The suspended measures and obligations are resumed after the cessation of the state of emergency.

For situations where the term of supervision, the duration of the supervision or the duration of the non-custodial educational measure for juveniles was fulfilled during the state of emergency, the final supervision report prepared by the probation case manager mentions how the supervision process was carried out and the objective impossibility of execution of the measures and obligations.

NATIONAL PROBATION GENERAL DIRECTOR` DECISIONS

In order to implement the Presidential Decree the National Probation General Director issued several decisions in order to guide the probation activity.

In the cases mentioned above, the probation counsellors inform the supervised person by telephone or e-mail and send written notifications to the community institutions in which the obligations are executed regarding the suspension of their execution.

New cases

For all new cases received during the state of emergency the case manager makes all the requests for locating and telephone contact of the supervised person and continue to communicate in writing a copy of the penal sentence and other information relevant for the probationer. He/she is informed regarding the necessity of submitting a declaration and documents regarding the housing, financial situation, school preparation or professional qualification, the current professional situation and other necessary documents related to the measures imposed by the

court. It is communicated to the supervised person that the first meeting will be held after 15.05.2020, following the day on which the meeting is to be communicated to the supervised person by any written or telephone means, these issues being recorded in writing by the probation case manager. During this time, the probation case manager are keeping contact through distance communication with different supervised persons depending on their problems and needs.

Conditional release meetings

The hearings for conditional release continue, including the attendance of the probation staff to these meetings respecting the recommendation for social distancing and other protective means. In some cases the supervision judge from the conditional release commission may decide the hearing of inmates through distance communication tools such as videoconference.

Presentence reports

In cases where the deadlines for preparing presentence reports cannot be postponed all the meetings with the persons are organised, as much as possible, by distance communication tools.

Health safety

In order to protect the health of the communities, of each of the probationers and their families, and for the probation counsellors, the teams in our probation offices are supported and encouraged to use flexible means for essential activities, including teleworking. So far, there is no information about the infection of any probationer or probation counsellor.