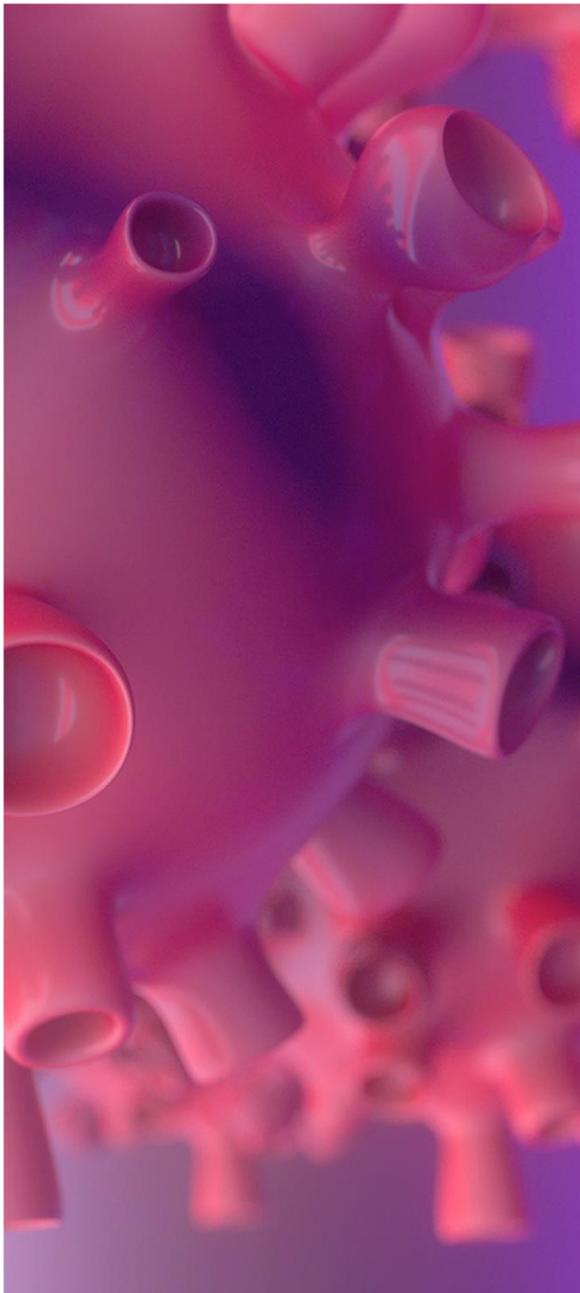

COVID-19 (No.7)

Legal Flash | Portugal

Updated June 15, 2020



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- > **Government halts all air traffic between Portugal and countries from outside the European Union, with certain exceptions.**



Government halts all air traffic between Portugal and countries from outside the European Union, with certain exceptions

The global epidemiological situation and the rising number of infections in Portugal, which are steadily spreading across the country, have made it necessary for reasons of public health to curb potential means of transmission to control the epidemic in the country.

The Government has issued Order No. 3427-A/2020 dated March 18 halting air traffic between Portugal and countries from outside the European Union, with the following exceptions:

- a) Countries associated with the Schengen Area (Liechtenstein, Norway, Iceland and Switzerland);
- b) Countries in which Portuguese is the official language; in the case of Brazil, however, only flights to and from Portugal and Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro will be allowed;
- c) The United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela, Canada and South Africa, because of the presence of large Portuguese communities in those countries.

The above will not apply to: (i) flights for repatriation of Portuguese nationals and holders of Portuguese residence permits; or (ii) flights for the repatriation to their respective countries of foreign citizens currently in Portugal, as long as the flights have been arranged by the authorities in those countries, they have been requested and approved in advance, and as long as the principle of reciprocity is observed.

This ban will not apply to State and Armed Forces aircraft, flights exclusively for freight and mail transportation, humanitarian and medical emergency flights, or technical stopovers for non-commercial purposes. From April 18, the ban also ceased to apply to aircraft participating in or arriving to take part in the Rural Firefighting Campaign (*Dispositivo Especial de Combate a Incêndios Rurais - DECIR*).

From June 15, the prohibition will no longer apply to transit flights and flights in or out of Portugal for (i) EU nationals, nationals of States associated with the Schengen Area and third-country nationals with legal residency in an EU Member State; and (ii) third-country nationals traveling as part of a study program.

This measure went into effect at midnight on March 18, 2020 and was to run until April 17 but, by means of Order 4698-C/2020 of April 17, Order 5503-C/2020 of May 13 and Order 6251-A/2020 of June 12, it was extended three times and will now be in effect until midnight on June 30, 2020.

It should be noted that, in view of the pandemic affecting Italy at the time, all flights between Italy and Portugal, whether commercial or private, were suspended on March 10. This suspension has been successively extended until midnight on June 14, 2020.



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Cuatrecasas has set up a Coronavirus Task Force, a multidisciplinary team that constantly analyses the situation emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic. For additional information, please contact our taskforce by email TFcoronavirusPT@cuatrecasas.com or through your usual contact at Cuatrecasas. You can read our publications or attend our webinars on our [website](#).

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