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JAVNA AGENCIJA ZA RAZISKOVALNO DEJAVNOST
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Crime and covid with the emphasis on the rural settings

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Covid-19 Outbreak

Covid-19 is the disease caused by the new coronavirus, first identified in China, in december of 2019.

- The virus has spread rapidly mostly within China, but also to 28 other countries, including the European region.
- The first 3 cases in Europe were reported in France, on the 24th of Janurary, 2020.
- The first death was reported on the 15th of February in France
- The Who on March 11, 2020 declared the novel coronavirus a Global Pandemic.

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- As of 17. March all European countries had a confirmed case of coronavirus, with Montenegro being the last European country to report at least one case
 - First case in Montenegro was confirmed on 17 March 2020.
 - As of 24 May, Montenegro had become the first Covid-19 free country in Europe, but this situation did not last for long, shortly after a new case had been identified

CRIMINAL OFFENCES AGAINST HUMAN HEALTH

Non-compliance with Health Regulations Aimed at Suppressing Dangerous Communicable Diseases

Article 287

Whoever does not comply with regulations, decisions, orders or instructions ordering measures for the suppression or prevention of a dangerous communicable disease shall be punished by a fine or a prison sentence for a term not exceeding one year.

CRIMINAL OFFENCES AGAINST HUMAN HEALTH

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Spreading Dangerous Communicable Diseases Article 288

Whoever does not comply with regulations, decisions, orders or instructions for the suppression or prevention of a dangerous communicable disease due to which the disease concerned is spread shall be punished by a prison sentence for a term not exceeding three years.

On March 13, the Government of Montenegro annouced an initial round of precautionary measures designed to reduce the transmission of Covid-19.

- Subsequent measure have also been introduced
- People found to be in violation of the regulations can be fined or arrested
- Some of the measures include:
 - Masks are required to be worn
 - People must maintain a minimum of 2 meters distance between themselves
 - Hand disinfectant must be provided at each entrance and exit
 - Limiting the number of custromers who can be inside markets, shops hair salons etc.
 - Testing required for crossing into Montenegro
 - Curfew from 9pm to 5am

*In 2020, 632 people violated the epidemiological measures
in Podgorica:*

- 135 rejected criminal charges
- 5 deferred prosecutions on the basis of which 1700 euros were paid for humanitarian purposes
- 13 submitted applications
- 148 were imprisoned
- 91 suspended sentences
- 4 punishments of work in the public interest
- 40 persons were fined
- 134 persons concluded plea agreements

Data for Podgorica for the period from january 1, 2021 to march 2021

141 persons violated epidemiological measures.

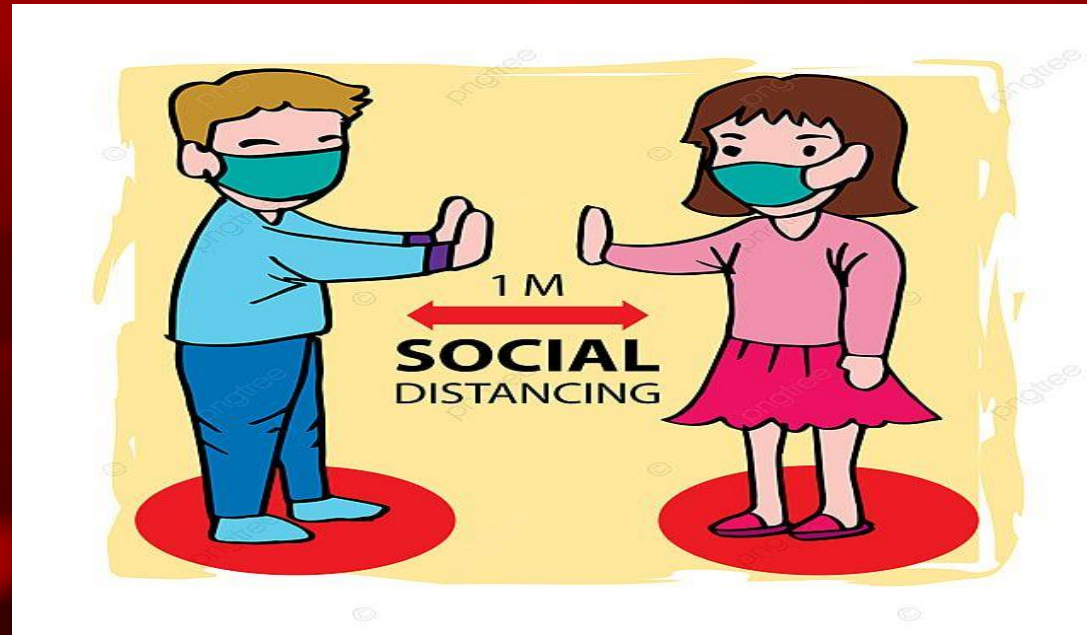
Of which:

- Curfew - 65
- Prohibition of opening catering facilities - 29
- Inter city traffic ban - 3
- Ban on gathering in someone else's household - 28
- Ban on mass gathering in public - 1

- Suspended sentences - 3 persons
- Punishment of work in the public interest- 4 persons
- Fine - 1 person

Personal responsibility

Experience has shown that personal responsibility is the most effective factor in suppressing the spread of corona virus. It is impossible for government apparatus to solely control all interactions and situations, therefore each person should abide to the suggestions given by the medical experts.



Conclusion

There is no doubt that the presence of covid, and the enforcement of measures for prevention of virus spreading, among other things significantly effects the legislative concept. Legislative concept, according to its role, must follow the current needs and events

Most notably the criminal sanctions aimed at supressing the spread of infectious disease came to the fore



Thank you for attention!

