**REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA**

Ministry of Health

Minister of Health

**ORDER**

No RD-01-138 of 19 March 2020

Pursuant to Article 63(6) of the Health Act and in connection with the Decision of the National Assembly to declare a state of emergency on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria between 13 March 2020 and 12 April 2020, the spread of the COVID-19 disease on a global scale and the pandemic declared by the World Health Organisation, as well as the recommendations of the National Operations Staff established under Order No Р-37 of 26 February 2020 of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Bulgaria,

**I hereby ORDER:**

1. A temporary ban shall be imposed on the entry of third-country nationals via any and all border crossing points using any and all means of transport, be they aircraft, marine vessels, railway or road vehicles, on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria between 00:00 a.m. on 20 March and 17 April 2020.
2. The ban on entry in the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria of persons arriving from the EU Member States and the Schengen area countries listed below shall remain effective. Said countries are: Italy, Spain, France, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Germany, the Netherlands and Switzerland. Bulgarian nationals, the family members of Bulgarian nationals and persons having their permanent or long-term residence in the Republic of Bulgaria shall be exempt from said ban. The nationals of the EU Member States and Schengen area countries above and their family members shall be allowed to transit via the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria for the purposes of returning to their country of permanent or long-term residence.
3. The ban referred to in point 1 shall not extend to the nationals of EU Member States and Schengen area countries or their families unless these fall under the provision of point 2.
4. This ban shall not extend to:
* health professionals, health researchers and professionals in the sphere of caring for the elderly;
* transport staff engaged in the haulage sector, crew on aircraft transporting goods and cargo and, where necessary, other transport staff;
* diplomats, international organisation officials, military personnel and humanitarian workers in the course of discharging their professional obligations;
* persons travelling for humanitarian purposes;
* third-country nationals holding a long-term residence permit issued by another EU Member State and transiting via Bulgaria for the purposes of returning to their country of permanent or long-term residence.
1. This Order shall be communicated to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Interior, the Minister of Transport, Information Technologies and Communications, the Head of the Border Police Directorate General and Regional Health Inspectorates for the purposes of information and to ensure its implementation.

*[Signature]*

*[Round stamp reading ‘Ministry of Health of the Republic of Bulgaria, 2’]*

**KIRIL ANANIEV**

*Minister of Health*