

The Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to the Heads of Mission accredited to Oslo and has the honour to refer to amendments in the regulation on Covid-19 measures to introduce stricter rules for entry into Norway to stop the spread of coronavirus mutation.

The following changes will take effect at 00:01 on Friday 29 January 2021.

The Government will be closing the borders to foreign nationals without a residence permit in Norway, including for EEA-citizens.

The following groups will no longer be allowed to enter Norway:

- Foreign nationals resident in the European Economic Area (EEA) and EEA citizens resident in a third country (as long as they are not covered by any of the exemptions made for third country citizens),
- Family members who are not close relatives, both for EEA citizens and others this means that grandparents, grown children, parents of grown children and established relationship of romantic partners will not be allowed to enter Norway,
- Foreign nationals from countries outside of the EEA area who are granted a residence permit for work or studies, including season workers and students;
- A foreign national who is to work with film or series production in Norway or a foreign national who is to work as a researcher, and who is exempt from the requirement of a residence permit for an employment relationship.

There are still exemptions for some groups groups who still may enter Norway, among others:

- Foreign nationals who are resident in Norway, including members of diplomatic and consular missions, and international organisations, resident in Norway and notified to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including family members forming part of their household; the same applies to dual-accredited diplomats and diplomatic couriers;
- If there are special circumstances for entry to Norway, for example special care responsibility for persons in Norway or other strong welfare considerations;
- A foreign national who is to carry out agreed or formalised parent-child contact or divided residence for children;
- Close relatives to persons who are resident in Norway, i.e. spouse/ registered partner/cohabitant, minor children or stepchildren, parents or stepparents of minor children or stepchildren;

- Journalists and other personnel on assignment for a foreign media institution;
- A foreign national who will only be staying in airport transit before departing Norway;
- Seamen and a holder of a valid aviation personnel licence en route to or from active service;
- A foreign national who performs commercial transport of goods and passengers for payment, or is en route to or from such an assignment;
- A foreign national working in critical social functions.

For more information please see the following webpages:

Information and advice about the coronavirus situation from Norwegian authorities:

The coronavirus situation - regjeringen.no

Press release from the Government dated 27 January 2020 (in Norwegian soon in English):

Innfører de strengeste innreisereglene til Norge siden mars 2020 - regjeringen.no

The national covid-19 regulation (in Norwegian), last updated 24 January 2021, will be updated shortly with the latest changes: <u>Forskrift om smitteverntiltak mv. ved koronautbruddet (covid-19-forskriften) -</u> Lovdata

The Immigration Authorities (UDI): <u>https://www.udi.no/en/about-the-corona-situation/</u>

The Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Heads of Mission accredited to Oslo the assurance of its highest

consideration. 🕁

Oslo, 27 January 2021

