As part of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) preventive measures, the Government of Georgia has made a decision to impose restrictions on the entry of foreign nationals. The restrictions are effective from 18 March 2020, 00:00, and will remain in force for two weeks.

The restrictions will apply to all foreign nationals, with the exception of:

- Representatives of diplomatic missions and international organisations accredited to Georgia, and their family members;
- Family members of Georgian citizens, despite their nationality (spouse, child or parent; relevant documents must be presented);
- Persons arriving in Georgia as part of a necessary humanitarian mission (ie. doctors, volunteers);
- Individuals who have been granted the status of stateless person by the respective authorities of Georgia;
- Individuals holding status-neutral travel documents;
- Individuals with a refugee status in Georgia;
- Official delegations - this will be decided on a case-by-case basis;
- Train and truck drivers involved in the transport of goods and services;
- Aircrew.

The Head of the Government of Georgia has noted that there are 4 areas of critical significance which must be managed effectively in order to combat the challenges faced.

One of these areas is logistics and stock management. In this regard, and in order to ensure the smooth running of freight road transport, trucks entering the country
from areas designated by the WHO as a high-risk zone will have to comply with the following rules:

- the complete disinfection of the truck under the supervision of authorised customs personnel;
- the escort of trucks to their destination (in the case of transit);
- the replacement of the driver at the border crossing point:
  - the original driver (the person driving the vehicle to the customs border of Georgia) will either be subject to return (if he is a foreign citizen), or quarantined/admitted to the relevant medical institution depending on his clinical condition;
  - the truck driver taking over the operation should not be considered a risk to the spreading of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).
- the replacement of the truck and trailers, if deemed necessary.

Freight vehicles registered in a foreign country shall move through the territory of Georgia at the following conditions:

- After completing the procedures at the customs checkpoint, means of transport shall move non-stop to a final destination. Stopping allowed only on specially designated areas – **STOP POINTs**, places for purchasing compulsory civil liability insurance policy ([https://www.tpl.ge/en/salespoints](https://www.tpl.ge/en/salespoints)), and parking lots located in the vicinity of customs checkpoint;
- Specially designated STOP POINT areas will serve for trucks for refueling, paying the road fee, compulsory civil liability insurance policy of the owner of a motor vehicle registered in foreign countries. Availability to purchase personal necessities, food, WC and etc.
- In case of emergencies or special needs (car accident, health problems, etc.), the driver should contact the relevant services and should remain in the cabin before the representatives of those services will get to the driver. For these purposes the driver shall call the Emergency and Operative Response Center at 112;
• The truck should leave the territory of Georgia:
  - In case of transit movement (except for the movements from/to customs check point "Kazbegi") transport means shall leave the territory of Georgia within 24 hours since entering the country;
  - In other case (including the import movement and transit case of entering/leaving via customs checkpoint "Kazbegi" within 48 hours. The time periods required for carrying out the customs formalities and stopping at parking lots located in the vicinity of Georgian State Customs Border Crossing Point shall not be counted.

• It is strongly recommended to make only non-cash payment (online purchase, plastic card, etc.) and to use the personal protective equipment (medical mask, gloves, and etc).

Note:
Violation of rules (vehicle without permission to leave, stopping in forbidden areas, violation of terms of movement, etc.), except when weather conditions or other external factors makes it difficult and/or impossible to follow rules, the vehicle driver will be fined with 3000 GEL for the violation of the State emergency regime in accordance with Presidential Decree №1 March 21, 2020, Article 8, and will be placed in 14-day quarantine, means of transport will be taken to the impound lot.

STOP POINT areas are located at:
• Urbnisi– Kareli districts, cadastral code: 68.16.45.054;
• Terjola– Trejola district, village Siktarva, cadastral code: 33.08.38.224;
• Gori – Gori district, village Tiniskhidi, cadastral code: 66.44.02.033;
• Zestaponi– Zestapoini district, village Argveta, cadastral code: 32.03.34.211.

SOURCE: GIRCA and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia