

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture

Youth, Education and Erasmus+
Unit B.4 - Erasmus+ coordination

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NOTE FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE ERASMUS+ AND EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS NA DIRECTORS

Subject: Coronavirus – implications for Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps

projects

Dear colleagues,

In the context of the outbreak of the Coronavirus in China, National Agencies are requested to inform the participating organisations concerned and instruct them to contact the individual participants who already are in, or are planning to leave to or from the affected areas within the coming weeks. Participants should also be reminded of the assistance that can be provided by embassies, consulates and honorary consulates in the country of their stay.

It is for the participating organisations and individuals to decide on the course of action to take in the light of national travel advice and repatriation schemes, as for example cancelling or postponing all non-essential travels to China. The National Agencies should however monitor closely, in cooperation with the participating organisation, if the area can be considered safe by the time of travel for the entire duration of the mobility or project activity.

Please be reminded that National Agencies may apply the force majeure clause to activities taking place in China or other affected areas as well as to incoming mobility from these areas, as foreseen in the template of the grant agreement between National Agencies and the beneficiaries and as defined in the programme guide and other contractual documents. National Agencies may thereby cancel, postpone or move activities planned in such regions in the most flexible way, notwithstanding the respect of the general legal framework applying to Erasmus+ and the Corps. Given the exceptional circumstances, the same principles can be applied also to any incoming mobility from the affected regions.

Justified repatriation costs will be accepted as exceptional costs, whereas normal reporting requirements apply.

For further information or clarifications, please do not hesitate to contact the Commission via your NA desk officer or by sending an email to <u>EAC-NA-COORDINATION@ec.europa.eu</u>.

Ute HALLER- BLOCK Head of Unit