

**Joint Statement by the Ministers of Health of
Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania on the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-
2019) pandemic
(12 March, 2020)**

We, the Ministers of Health of the Baltic states, highly appreciate the efforts made by the World Health Organisation, the European Commission, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control and the European Union Member States to protect European citizens.

We agreed on the need to take a common position in order to face the present global challenge caused by COVID-19 pandemic, based on the following points:

- sharing information for travellers coming back from or travelling to risk areas;
- sharing medical and epidemiological information as well as information on measures adopted;
- exchange the information provided to the health care and other professionals and to the public;
- ensuring smooth and reliable international traffic with necessary precautionary measures taken;
- measures taken at internal borders should be based on the assessment of the threat to public health and in close coordination with the neighbouring countries;
- conduct regular conference calls at expert and at ministerial level.

We express solidarity among the Baltic countries and intention for mutual assistance in our preparedness and response efforts.

The above views are based on the current epidemiological situation in the Baltic states. In case the situation changes, necessary *ad hoc* measures should be taken while informing the neighbouring countries.