



Strasbourg, 31 December 2020

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NOTE VERBALE

The Secretariat General of the Council of Europe (Treaty Office) presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and has the honour to enclose a copy of Note verbale No. EP-26162 from the Permanent Representation of Latvia to the Council of Europe, dated 30 December 2020, transmitted to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on 31 December 2020, concerning Article 15 of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (ETS No. 5).

This information is transmitted in pursuance of Resolution (56) 16 of the Committee of Ministers.

The Secretariat General of the Council of Europe (Treaty Office) avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry the assurances of its highest consideration.



Note to all member States.
Copy Latvia.

**Permanent Representation of the Republic of Latvia
to the Council of Europe**

No. EP - 26162

NOTE VERBALE

The Permanent Representation of Latvia to the Council of Europe presents its compliments to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe and, pursuant to Article 15 of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, informs that the Republic of Latvia exercises the right of derogation from certain of its obligations under the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms in the entire territory of Latvia.

The Permanent Representation of Latvia to the Council of Europe informs that the Government of the Republic of Latvia on 6 November 2020 declared the emergency situation in the entire territory of the Republic of Latvia commencing on 9 November 2020, and that the emergency situation is currently extended until 7 February 2021. In the light of the continuous threat the COVID-19 pandemic poses to public health in Latvia and after a diligent and careful analysis of the necessary steps to combat the spread of the virus in the most efficient manner and to decrease the number of persons falling ill due to the spread of the virus, the Government of the Republic of Latvia decided to prohibit as of 30 December 2020 all public events and gatherings. The measure chosen by the Government of the Republic of Latvia restricts the right to freedom of assembly, consequently necessitating a derogation from Article 11 of the Convention. The restrictions on the exercise of the right to freedom of assembly are listed in the order no.655 of the Cabinet of Ministers of 6 November 2020 "On the Declaration of Emergency Situation".

Pursuant to Article 15, paragraph 3, of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, the Permanent Representation of Latvia to the Council of Europe will inform the Secretary General of the Council of Europe about future developments with regard to the state of emergency and notify her when these emergency measures have ceased to operate and the provisions of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms are fully implemented again.

The Permanent Representation of Latvia to the Council of Europe avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe the assurances of its highest considerations.

(seal)
Strasbourg, 30 December 2020

To: Secretary General of the Council of Europe

(*) Derogation registered at the Secretariat General on 31 December 2020 – Or. Engl.