

Strasbourg, 25 October 2021

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Tr./005-281

## 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-23837 from the Permanent Representation of Latvia to the Council of Europe, dated 21 October 2021, transmitted to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on 21 October 2021, 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 - 23837

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 its right to derogate from certain of its obligations under the 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 in the light of the increased peril to the public health that the new strain of the COVID-19 virus has brought, following the Order of the Cabinet of Ministers of 9 October 2021 no. 720 "*On the Declaration of Emergency Situation*" as of 11 October 2021 an emergency situation has been declared in the entire territory of the Republic of Latvia. This emergency situation is extended until 11 January 2022.

In the light of this continuous threat that the COVID-19 pandemic poses and after a diligent and careful analysis of the necessary steps to combat the rapid spread of the new strain of the virus, to prevent an overload of the healthcare system, and to reduce avoidable mortality, whilst ensuring that essential State functions and services can continue to operate, the Government of the Republic of Latvia has adopted measures restricting certain rights and freedoms provided by the Convention. In particular, the Government of the Republic of Latvia has decided to prohibit as of 21 October 2021 all public events and gatherings, consequently necessitating a derogation from Article 11 of the Convention. The restrictions on the exercise of this right are prescribed in the Cabinet of Ministers' Order no. 720 of 9 October 2021 "*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 any future developments with regard to the emergency situation and notify her when the above 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, 21 October 2021

To: Secretary General of the Council of Europe

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**(\*) Derogation registered at the Secretariat General on 21 October 2021 – Or. Engl.**