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GENERAL SECRETARIAT FOR  
CIVIL PROTECTION, GREECE



## **Webinar "Earthquakes in the midst of the pandemic" - 19 November 2020**

### **EQ and pandemic Scenario – Greek experience and view**

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# Natural Disasters & Climate Change



**When?**

**Scale?**

**Level?**

Disaster Prone  
Areas



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# Vulnerable people are primary affected by disasters

## Every Life Counts

“The UN global survey explains why so many people living with disabilities die in disasters”

<https://www.unisdr.org/archive/35032>



GESTIONE DELL'INTERVENTO IN PRESENZA DI PERSONE CON SPECIFICHE NECESSITA, ISA, 17 ottobre 2017



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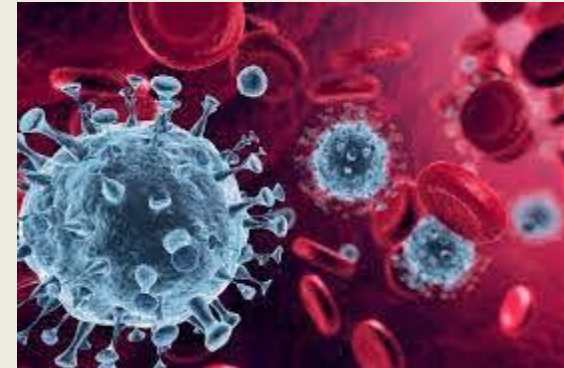


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# 2020 PANDEMIC CRISIS

NEW threat  
NEW challenge



**HOW TO REACT IN DISASTES AMIDST BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS?**

**WHAT ABOUT THE MORE VULNERABLE ONES?**



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## ECFF initiative

Webinar entitled:

**“Multi-hazards and vulnerable groups: What are the COVID-19 pandemic crisis impacts on people with disabilities in case of coexistence with natural or man-made disasters”**

To be organized by:

- Eur-OPA Major Hazards Agreement, Council of Europe (CoE)
- European Center for Forest Fires (ECFF)
- General Secretariat for Civil Protection, Greece (GSCP)
- National Technical University of Athens, Greece (NTUA)

As a follow up of a previous Conference entitled:

“Evacuation of Buildings in Case of Earthquake or a Fire for People with Disabilities”



Date: 31/10/2017



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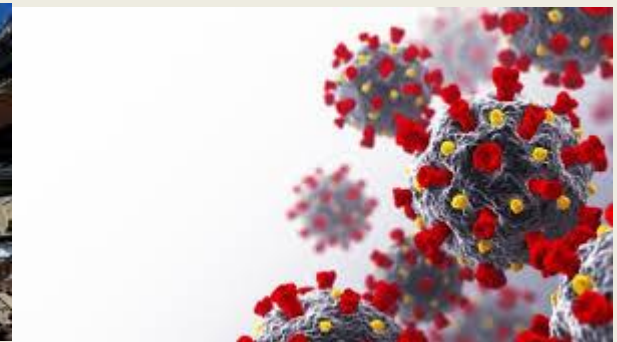
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## Definition of the Problem : Multi-hazards and people with disabilities

- The COVID-19 pandemic crisis has intensified the challenges for vulnerable groups in terms of **effective response and preparedness**
- Mission and work of the first responders becomes even more complicated and difficult in case of **biological hazards coexistence**
- **Standard evacuation procedures for people with disabilities**, in case of an earthquake or a fire **amidst pandemics**, need to be addressed





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## Webinar scope

- Define the problems in coping with multi-hazard risks focusing on people with disabilities
- Interaction among operational people, researches, academics and representatives of the disability community



**How to foster coping capacity for All  
against multi-hazards?**



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**Joint Meeting of Permanent Correspondents and Directors of Centers,  
Zagreb 5-7 November 2018**

## **“Resume of Activities 2018 of the European Center for Forest Fires (ECFF)”**

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# 1. Enhance Disaster preparedness focusing on vulnerable groups

*(Priority 4, Sendai 2015-2030)*

- **CASE STUDY:** Evacuation of a Maternity Hospital
- **TARGET GROUP:** Infants, pregnant women and/or people with special needs (e.g. wheelchair users)
- **DISASTER SCENARIO:** Earthquake or a fire
- **SCOPE:** Prepare **a Table- Top Exercise template** to be used for emergency response training



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## ☐ The Earthquake Scenario

On December 5, 2018 at 11:00 am there is a 5.6 degree earthquake of the Richter scale, of short duration and with a focus on Parnitha Mountain, which is particularly noticeable in Attica. The major earthquake follows trans-sections of up to 5.0 degrees of the Richter scale.





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## ▪ After the Earthquake

- ✓ The Head of the Technical Support Team takes a picture of the event for the entire Hospital Unit and immediately informs the General coordinator (GC):
  - A problem has been identified on the 3rd floor with **cracks in the masonry**, in the columns of the frame and there are fallen plasters from the walls
  - One of the patients on the third floor is injured by the fall of building materials
  - The emergency exit of the 2nd basement is blocked by a fallen object and hence two persons are trapped but they are not injured
  
- ✓ The General Coordinator in conjunction with the CEO and the Nursing Director **decides to proceed in partial evacuation of Wing 319-326**





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On the 3rd floor there is a total of:

- 10 ambulatory patients
- 2 with a wheelchair
- 6 newborns
- 1 doctor
- 4 nurses
- 5 guests-escorts



Room of the Wing 319-326 at Leto Hospital

- ✓ The 6 newborns of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor are transferred to the **Infants Intensive Care Unit of the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor**
- ✓ The Head of the Evacuation Team asks the Coordinator for the **assistance of four people to help the 2 wheelchair patients to evacuate** through the Stairwell A and be transferred to the **2<sup>nd</sup> Floor's Lobby Area** (Refuge Area)



Infants Intensive Care Unit of the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor at Leto Hospital



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## □ The Fire Scenario

On October 10, 2018 at 12:00 pm, a fire breaks out at the kitchen area, which is located at the 1st basement of the Hospital. Dense smoke is produced, which is mainly dispersed internally on the ground floor (Central Lobby of the Hospital) and partially on the first floor, where the Infants Intensive Care Unit (IICU) is situated. The outside windows of the IICU are always closed and the air condition is continuously in operation.



Central Lobby of the Leto Hospital (Ground Floor)



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### ▪ After the Fire Ignition

- ✓ **The automatic fire extinguishing system is activated** to limit the spread of the fire and the air supply is deactivated to avoid smoke inflow into the building
- ✓ The GC in conjunction with the CEO and the Nursing Director decide to **immediately evacuate the 1st, 2nd basements, the Ground floor and for precaution reasons the Infants Intensive Care Unit (IICU) of the first floor.**
- ✓ **Announcement of Evacuation through the Central Speaker System**
- ✓ The GC notifies the **Hellenic Fire Brigade (199)**, informing on the location of the fire, its size, its rate of spread and the burning material. Two firefighting vehicles arrive in 10 minutes. A representative of the Fire Safety Team guides the Fire Brigades at the points they will act on. Four firefighters operate at the first basement to completely extinguish the fire.
- ✓ The GC informs **Hellenic Police Force (100)** to arrange the traffic at the Central Entrance of the Hospital



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- **1<sup>st</sup> Floor- Infants Intensive Care Unit (IICU)**

On the 1st floor there are is a total of:

- 8 newborns in baby cots
- a newborn with mechanical support at incubator
- 2 ambulatory patients
- 8 nurses
- 2 doctors
- 2 guests at the lobby of 1<sup>st</sup> floor



Incubators at Leto Infants Intensive Care Unit







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**Thank you for your Attention**