



COVID-19 Safety Guidance and Emergency Protocol at ESC Strasbourg

This document explains how CEPA deals with COVID-19-related situations at its European Study Center (ESC) in Strasbourg, France, and will help you prepare for your international travel. Please keep in mind that the information below only describes the current situation. As new information is published, and new rules and regulations are introduced by local authorities, this document will be updated to adjust to new developments and incorporate best practices.

Last updated: February 10, 2021

SAFETY GUIDANCE

PRIOR TO DEPARTURE

Precautions

- At most locations, wearing a face mask will be mandatory, especially in public places such as supermarkets, restaurants, shops, and malls, but also in the common areas of your accommodation, e.g. in the breakfast room. We recommend always wearing a face mask in public, even though it may not be mandatory as it will help to keep you and others safe. Please make sure to have enough face masks with you while traveling. Additional masks will be available at the ESC Strasbourg in case needed.
- Please always have hand sanitizer with you during your program and use it whenever necessary. Some shops and restaurants may offer sanitizer at the entrance for their customers to use. Please make use of this whenever possible and do not forget to still wash your hands thoroughly. Hand sanitizer will also be provided in the common areas of the ESC Strasbourg for you to use.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. When you need to cough or sneeze, please remember to cover your mouth and nose with your bent elbow.
- Pay attention to and be aware of the hygiene standards that are required in France and any other destination(s) you visit during your time in Europe. Follow the directions of officials and staff at all times, e.g. during a guided tour, company visit, group meal, train ride, etc.

Boarding and disembarking your flight: Please make yourself familiar with the regulations of your specific airline to make sure that you will be able to board your flight. Depending on your departure and arrival airport, your temperature might be checked, you might be required to take a COVID-19 test prior to your flight or at the airport, or there may be additional documentation required for passengers to complete. If you feel ill before your departure, please reconsider travelling and check with your doctor or local health authorities.

Travel cancellation insurance: We highly recommend a travel cancellation insurance. CEPA is currently not offering this as part of their services as it is more reasonable for program participants to do so in their country of origin.

Contact tracing app: Several countries in Europe, including France (“Tousanticovid”) and Germany (“Corona Warn-App”), have introduced a COVID-App for contact tracing. We recommend that you familiarize yourself with the apps that have been developed for various European countries depending on any individual travel plans you have and to download them prior to your arrival. This will also facilitate the procedures in case you may feel ill and need to take a test.

CEPA requires each program participant to complete a Program Participant Data Form, which will also include a section about COVID-19. Each program participant needs to be prepared and is required to follow the official rules and regulations of each destination. Please inform us immediately about any health restrictions you may have.



ON SITE AT THE ESC STRASBOURG, FRANCE

On-Site Coordinator: CEPA programs include an On-Site Coordinator, who can assist during the program whenever necessary and knows the exact rules and regulations, depending on the situation.

During the program: Your On-Site Coordinator will welcome you during the orientation session at the ESC Strasbourg and give you detailed information on the most recent emergency protocol. Key actions will focus on the wellbeing and protection of participants, such as a daily temperature check to assess for fever, providing hand sanitizer on-site and allowing easy access to bathroom facilities. All participants will be required to register with the French App “Tousanticovid” for contact tracing. If any doubt, the CEPA On-Site Staff in Strasbourg can arrange for a test in one of the 119 local testing laboratories and pharmacies. Tests are easily accessible at the cost of participants and results are usually known within 24 hours. Your On-Site Coordinator would be available to accompany you to a doctor, hospital, or a COVID-19 testing site if necessary. In case of a positive test result, the participant would be isolated in a separate room in one of the aisles of the ESC for a 7-day quarantine.

Housing: You are required to wear a face mask in the common areas and during breakfast (of course except when you are seated at your own table). Cleaning and disinfection according to the authorities’ guidelines will apply and the ESC On-Site Staff will place a maximum of two participants per room.

Classroom: Mandatory mask for lecturer and participants, sanitization of the room before and after class, physical distancing of two meters, one way access to building, hand-sanitizers available for each participant, alternatively, bathroom nearby to wash hands.

Public transportation: Depending on your travel itinerary, you might use public transportation frequently. Please wear a face mask whenever doing so. If you apply the social distancing rules, public transportation is safe to use. However, it is recommended to allow for enough time to get from A to B, in case a train or bus is crowded, so you can take the next one. The CEPA On-Site Staff in Strasbourg will monitor the situation daily.

Visiting sites/museums/companies/institutions: You must follow the rules implemented by each site. Please note that this will differ from site to site. Your On-Site Coordinator will inform you accordingly before each visit.



EMERGENCY PROTOCOL

Communication: Before the start of the program, the CEPA On-Site Staff in Strasbourg will prepare some of the latest updates about COVID-19 in France and make it available to all program participants directly (or through their home institution). In addition, participants will be asked to complete a document before they arrive in Europe in order for the CEPA and ESC On-Site Staff to have a contact person they can reach out to in case of any concern and communicate regarding quarantine, isolation, or hospitalization etc.

Feeling ill: If you feel ill and have symptoms that are related to COVID-19, please inform your On-Site Coordinator or faculty leader immediately as acting quickly will help to keep others safe in case of an infection. The next steps will be decided together with the local authorities on a case-by-case basis, e.g. if testing will be necessary or if the participant needs to isolate.

Quarantine: Participants who may have been exposed to COVID-19, including classmates and roommates, would be isolated in a separate room in one of the aisles of the ESC and put on a 7-day quarantine. CEPA On-Site Staff will then contact the local health authorities via the app "Tousanticovid" and ask for their advice and liaise with one of the nearby doctors. In case necessary, testing will be organized for each participant in one of the 119 local testing laboratories and pharmacies. Tests are currently easily available in Strasbourg at participant's own cost. On-site program resources will be available to participants to support them during their 7-day quarantine: The ESC can provide food at the participant's expense and ESC On-Site Staff would bring it in front of the door of their room. The On-Site Coordinator and/or ESC On-Site Staff would help with the laundry, printing, and make sure participants can access their classes (online). In case of a positive test result, the local health authorities will decide how to proceed regarding other program participants on a case-by-case basis. Depending on the amount of contact with the infected program participant, they may have to go in self-isolation as well or continue to monitor symptoms as usual. According to the measures ordered by the local health authorities, CEPA will decide about whether a continuation of the program is possible or if a termination is necessary.

Please adapt and adhere to the specific rules and regulations valid for Strasbourg and any other destination you visit while in Europe. Whenever you have questions or concerns while traveling, please get in touch with your On-Site Coordinator.

Thank you for your support and understanding!

