



# COVID-19 Outbreak Update 6 March

SOLACE GLOBAL

**Executive Summary**

At this time, Solace Global advises against all travel to China, Daegu in South Korea and Iran due to the ongoing travel restrictions, cancelled flights, government warnings and outbreak of COVID-19. Additionally, Solace Global advises against all non-essential travel to Hong Kong, Macau, Cheongdo in South Korea and 11 towns in northern Italy. Further travel restrictions and disruption to business operations globally are possible in the coming days and weeks.

**Latest Updates**

The number of cases globally has exceeded 100,000, mainly after Iran reported an increase of 1,234 cases on 6 March. In the UK, the Royal Berkshire NHS Trust confirmed that one individual has died as a result of the COVID-19 virus, marking the first fatality inside the country. Elsewhere in Europe, cases were increasing in Germany and France, while the Netherlands has also recorded its first death. However, Italy remains the centre of the continent’s outbreak with nearly 4,000 cases and 148 fatalities – the most outside of China. Bhutan and Costa Rica also both confirmed their first cases of the virus.

Meanwhile, the United States announced an increase of 230 cases, most of which were recorded in Washington State where officials were expected to close a \$4m deal to take over a roadside motel to convert it into a quarantine facility.

The head of the United Nation’s food agency, the World Food Programme, has warned of “absolute devastation” in Africa and parts of the Middle East in the coming months if Western nations don’t increase aid efforts. The warning was issued as fears continue to grow over a widespread economic downturn, which could impact other nations’ ability to provide aid.

Barbados has announced new restrictions on travellers from several countries. Travellers to Barbados who have visited or transited through Hubei province in China in the past 14 days will be placed into quarantine. Anyone who has travelled from other parts of China will be screened and, if necessary, placed into isolation. Similar measures will be applied to travellers who have been to S. Korea, Iran or the Italian provinces of Lombardy, Emilia Romagna and Veneto.

**Current Statistics (Numbers vary between sources)**

Current Total Infected (new cases)	100,242 (+4,729)	Total Confirmed Recoveries	55,812 (+2,117)	Total confirmed Deaths	3,408 (+124)
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<b>Current confirmed case numbers</b>	China (80,559), South Korea (6,593), Iran (4,234), Italy (3,858), <i>Diamond Princess</i> (696), Germany (577), France (423), Japan (381), Spain (345), USA (233), Switzerland (132), Singapore (117), UK (116), Belgium (109), HK (105), Sweden (101), Norway (101), Malaysia (83), Netherlands (82), Australia (60), Kuwait (58), Bahrain (55), Thailand (47), Canada (48), Austria (47), Taiwan (44), Iraq (40), Iceland (37), Greece (31), India (31), UAE (28), San Marino (21), Denmark (20), Algeria (17), Israel (17), Lebanon (16), Oman (16), Vietnam (16), Ecuador (13), Ireland (13), Czechia (12), Finland (15), Macau (10), Croatia (10), Georgia (9), Portugal (9), Brazil (8), Qatar (8), Palestine (7), Azerbaijan (6), Belarus (6), Mexico (6), Romania (6), Slovenia (6), Philippines (5), Estonia (5), Pakistan (5), Saudi Arabia (5), New Zealand (4), Russia (4), Senegal (4), Chile (4), Hungary (4), Egypt (3), Indonesia (2), Luxembourg (2), Morocco (2), Argentina (2), Bosnia and Herzegovina (2), Afghanistan (1), Andorra (1), Armenia (1), Cambodia (1), Dominican Republic (1), Jordan (1), Latvia (1), Lithuania (1), North Macedonia (1), Monaco (1), Nepal (1), Nigeria (1), Sri Lanka (1), Tunisia (1), Ukraine (1), Bhutan (1), Cameroon (1), Costa Rica (1), Gibraltar (1), Liechtenstein (1), Poland (1), Serbia (1), South Africa (1).
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<b>Deaths</b>	China (3,042), Italy (148), Iran (124), South Korea (42), USA (14), <i>Diamond Princess</i> (6), Japan (6), France (7), Australia (2), HK (2), Spain (3), Iraq (3), Thailand (1), Taiwan (1), San Marino (1), Philippines (1), Switzerland (1), UK (1)
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**Travel Restrictions (these restrictions remain fluid and are subject to change at short notice, keep up to date with potential restrictions if travelling)**

<b>China</b>	<b>Quarantined and lockdown cities/regions</b>	Majority of Hubei Province. Restrictions outside of Hubei Province are being relaxed to attempt a continuation of business as usual.
	<b>Flight restrictions</b>	Majority of international airlines have ceased operations to and from Chinese mainland. Flight operations to and from HK and Macau are also being impacted.
<b>Italy</b>	<b>Current restrictions</b>	Lombardy region (Codogno, Castiglione d’Adda, Casalpusterlengo, Fombio, Maleo, Somaglia, Bertonico, Terranova dei Passerini, Castelgerundo and San Fiorano) and one in Veneto (Euganeo).
	<b>Flight restrictions</b>	While some flights continue to operate, many countries have restricted all air travel.
<b>South Korea</b>	<b>Current restrictions</b>	Daegu and Cheongdo cities.
	<b>Flight restrictions</b>	Flights have been scaled back, with many countries restricting air travel.
<b>International</b>	As it stands, travellers from, or who have recently been to, China (including SARs and occasionally Taiwan), South Korea, Iran and Italy face a wide variety of restrictions depending on country. Travellers should contact their relevant embassy for the latest information regarding entry restrictions, flight suspensions and current country advice.	

<b>Solace Global Advice</b>	<b>Advise against all travel:</b> Mainland China, Daegu (South Korea), Iran
	<b>Advise against all but essential travel:</b> Hong Kong, Macau, Cheongdo (S Korea), 11 towns in northern Italy

- Solace Global advises clients and travellers to monitor countries experiencing outbreaks due to currently in place travel restrictions. Regularly check updates via your respective government agency and the World Health Organisation for travel information and potential restrictions.
- Ensure your healthcare and insurance providers are aware of any essential travel to impacted locations.
- Continue to monitor the situation closely, as new travel restrictions and further outbreaks may occur with no warning.
- Do not travel if ill, as you may be subject to additional screening, delays and even quarantine, regardless of destination or country of origin.
- Maintain a good hygiene level, use hand sanitizer and wash hands regularly if travelling in the coming days. Additionally, monitor for symptoms, should you suspect that you have contracted the virus, self-quarantine and immediately call your relevant embassy and/or consult your doctor.