

Coronavirus Precautions by Post & Logistic companies

Even in times of lockdowns and reduced social and economic activity, postal and logistics services remain running as one of the backbones of society in many countries. Our postal and logistics workers ensure daily communication and the delivery of goods to all, even in times of crisis. It shows why universal postal services must be regarded as an emergency service. We, as postal and logistics trade unions, have the responsibility to safeguard and protect our workers but also to see how best the infrastructure of daily delivery can benefit society as a whole.

UNI Post&Logistics has looked into examples and measures to protect the health and safety of post and logistics workers. Below you will find a list of measures already implemented in some countries or raised by national trade unions as essential. We would also like to contribute to national considerations and support national trade unions from a global level. We aim to help determine what to include in negotiations and regulations with postal and logistics management to ensure the health and safety for all post and logistic workers, as well as our customers globally; and support efforts to stop the rapid spread of the virus.

1) **Information:** postal workers must be informed regularly by the company about the risk of infection, this includes the use of PPE (personal protective equipment) and hygiene standards, but also how to deal with customer contact, delivery in risky areas or handling of goods from infected areas. Unions must inform postal workers about their rights and obligations, agreed measures and agreements regarding COVID19.

2) **Provision** of PPE (such as clothing and tools, face masks, gloves, soap and disinfectants) by the company to all workers; regular disinfection of workplaces, work tools and vehicles; adapted workplaces with the necessary safety distance (restricted number of workers and customers in one room) or

other measures (eg plexiglass walls) to prevent the transmission of the virus at all postal facilities (post offices, sorting centres, distribution centres, breakrooms and warehouses).

3) **Action:** unions shall negotiate agreements on paid sick leave, paid leave for childcare and paid leave in case of self-isolation for all grades and forms of employment within the company. Further, unions shall ensure that measures introduced are also properly implemented.

Companies must give workers the opportunity and time to follow hygiene and prevention procedures; to self-isolate or go on childcare/sick leave; and to refuse risky deliveries, the handling of risky goods or the provision of services to customers of risk.

Companies must implement actions to lower the risk of infections, such as the introduction of telework where possible; the systematic quarantine and disinfection of goods; the introduction of a non-signature drop-off system that allows customers to receive a parcel without face-to-face interaction with letter carriers and deliverers; a reduction in payments pay cash in favour of cards; and 15 days of mandatory quarantine for workers who have been in contact with infected persons.

The national situations are very different and so are the postal networks. We have received answers from various countries affected differently by the pandemic. Therefore, this list is not closed and must be seen as a general recommendation to give ideas of measures that can be taken to protect the health and safety of postal and logistics workers.



UNI Post & Logistics would like to keep you informed about the different actions and agreements being negotiated with companies around the world. Therefore, we call on all affiliates to send us your national examples (actions/agreements/impacts). We will make all examples available on share point which you can access under the following link:

https://uniglobalunion-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/no-reply_uniglobalunion_org/Eg5o1Kc0noZHpQFvhxeZB1kBhlvSNR986n5_6LMFW40nxA?e=HoZbbs

If you have any further questions, need of information or would like to have an exchange with colleagues from other countries, the UNI Post & Logistics team is available and will support you in all regions.

Please stay safe and healthy and keep your social distance!
In solidarity!
