



**European Committee
of the Regions**

The Secretary-General

Brussels, *date of official registration*
SGCab/SoB/JSIM/ssch DEC 99/2022

INSTRUCTION No 46/2022
of 22 March 2022

suspending the application of Article 4(4) of Decision No 29/2021 of the President of the European Committee of the Regions of 20 December 2021 on specific health and safety measures pertaining to the functioning of the European Committee of the Regions during the COVID-19 pandemic

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS,

HAVING REGARD TO Decision No 29/2021 of the President of the European Committee of the Regions of 20 December 2021 on specific health and safety measures pertaining to the functioning of the European Committee of the Regions during the COVID-19 pandemic ("Decision No 29/2021"), and in particular Articles 5(1) and (3) thereof,

HAVING REGARD TO Decision No 3/2022 of the Secretary-General of the European Committee of the Regions of 14 January 2022 laying down implementing measures for Decision No 29/2021 of the President of the European Committee of the Regions of 20 December 2021 on specific health and safety measures pertaining to the functioning of the European Committee of the Regions during the COVID-19 pandemic ("Decision No 3/2022"),

HAVING REGARD TO Instruction No DECS/36/2022 of the Secretary-General of the European Committee of the Regions of 7 March 2022 suspending in part the application of Article 4 of Decision No 29/2021 of the President of the European Committee of the Regions of 20 December 2021 on specific health and safety measures pertaining to the functioning of the European Committee of the Regions during the COVID-19 pandemic ("Instruction No 36/2022"),

WHEREAS:

- (1) Pursuant to Article 5(1) of Decision No 29/2021, the Secretary-General is empowered to issue instructions to further specify and give effect to any provision of that Decision.

- (2) Pursuant to Article 5(3) of Decision No 29/2021, the Secretary-General is empowered to suspend in whole or in part the application of Article 4 of that Decision where the health and safety situation no longer requires such implementation.
- (3) On 21 February 2022, the medical officer of the European Committee of the Regions ("the Medical Officer") advised in favour of discontinuing the verification of the EU Digital COVID Certificate ("EUDCC") currently carried out by EUDCC Screening Operators ("ESOs").
- (4) On 22 February 2022, the members of the crisis management team of the European Committee of the Regions ("the CMT") recommended progressively discontinuing the verification of EUDCCs.
- (5) On 7 March 2022, the application of Article 4(4) of Decision No 29/2021 was suspended by the Secretary-General for badge holders entering certain verified-access areas.
- (6) In light of the current epidemiological situation in Belgium, and with due consideration to the opinion of the Medical Officer and the recommendations of the CMT, the Secretary-General deems it appropriate to adapt his instructions to staff, and thus to repeal Instruction No 36/2022 and replace it with the present Instruction.

HAS ISSUED THIS INSTRUCTION:

Sole Article

Suspension

1. The application of Article 4(4) of Decision No 29/2021 shall be suspended for visitors and badge holders who enter the verified-access areas referred to in Article 2(1) of Decision No 3/2022.
2. ESOs shall no longer carry out a verification of the EUDCCs of the visitors and badge holders referred to in paragraph 1.
3. Organising entities shall no longer have to inform the Security Service in advance of any forthcoming verified-access area(s) referred to in paragraph 1.
4. The head of the Security Service shall monitor compliance with this Instruction.
5. Instruction No 36/2022 is hereby repealed. References to the repealed Instruction in acts and other documents of the Committee shall be construed as references to this Instruction.
6. This Instruction shall enter into force on 22 March 2022 and shall lapse on 30 April 2022.

Done at Brussels, 22 March 2022.

Signed

Petr Blížkovský