

Dear COST Action Chair,

COST Action participants have raised questions with regard to international travel and the risk of infection from the coronavirus.

COST follows the advice of public health authorities such as the World Health Organisation (WHO) and national Ministries.

The WHO, in its update from 27 January 2020, advises that “measures to limit the risk of exportation or importation of the disease should be implemented, without unnecessary restrictions of international traffic.” ([https://www.who.int/ith/2019-nCoV\\_advice\\_for\\_international\\_traffic/en/](https://www.who.int/ith/2019-nCoV_advice_for_international_traffic/en/)).

In the current situation, no cancellation of COST meetings or other collaboration activities is required.

Should specific measures which would require cancellation of COST activities be implemented in some European Regions, “force majeure” as defined in the COST Vademecum (5.1.5.section 2) will apply.

COST invites Action Chairs and Grant Holders to inform their Science Officer and Science Administrator of any official measure taken by national ministry that might have an impact on the conduct of a COST activity.

Action participants must follow the regional or national authorities' instructions.

The COST Association recommends checking regularly the information and advice given on the respective national Ministries' websites (available in local languages).

Kind regards,

**Dr. Primož Pristovšek** | Head of Science Operations