



Union Internationale des Avocats
International Association of Lawyers
Unión Internacional de Abogados

RULE OF LAW IN THE FACE OF COVID-19

The UIA has surveyed lawyers across the globe to assess the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the legal, legislative, executive and judicial systems in their respective countries. Specifically, we inquired about invocation of emergency powers; the functioning of the legislature; the functioning of the courts, including whether and to what extent court hearings were being held and the impact on statutes of limitation. We also inquired whether and to what extent COVID-19 had impacted the practice of law and the functioning of law firms. Finally, we inquired as to whether there were any social programs available to lawyers to address loss or potential loss of business due to the coronavirus.

Set forth below is a color coded assessment of the responses we received. Green indicates little impact of the virus on the above elements or strong programs, policies or responses to ameliorate the effects of the virus. Red indicates strong virus impact and few or weak ameliorative responses by States. Yellow indicates varying degrees of impact.

| | Is the Legislative Branch of Government (E.g., the Parliament, the Congress, etc.) still Functioning and Active? | Has there been a State of Emergency Declared that has Limited the Activities of the Legislature? | Are the Courts still open and Functioning? | Are Court Hearings being Cancelled and/or Delayed? Held by Telephone/Video? | Are there Special Provisions being made for Urgent Legal Matters (E.g., Defendant in Custody, need for Immediate Injunctive Relief)? | Have Statutes of Limitations been Suspended either Legislatively, by Court Ruling, or Otherwise? | Are Lawyers still Permitted to Practise? To go to their Offices? Are there any other Restrictions on their Activities? | Are there any Government Provisions to Compensate Law Firms, Lawyers or Legal Staff for Lost Business/ Revenue/Profit? |
|--------------|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| Australia | Orange | Red | Green | Green | Green | Green | Orange | Green |
| Belgium | Green | Red | Orange | Red | Green | Red | Green | Green |
| Brazil | Green | Red | Orange | Green | Green | Red | Green | Green |
| Burkina Faso | Green | Red | Orange | Red | Green | Green | Orange | Red |
| Cameroon | Green | Green | Green | Red | Orange | Green | Orange | Red |
| Canada | Orange | Red | Orange | Green | Green | Red | Green | Green |
| Costa Rica | Green | Green | Orange | Red | Green | Orange | Green | Red |
| Croatia | Green | Green | Orange | Red | Orange | Green | Orange | Green |
| Egypt | Orange | Red | Red | Red | Red | Green | Orange | Red |
| France | Green | Red | Red | Green | Green | Red | Orange | Green |

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|-----------------|--|--|--|---|--|--|---|--|
| Germany | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Moderately affected | Substantially affected | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Moderately affected | Minimal or no affect |
| Hong Kong | Moderately affected | Minimal or no affect | Moderately affected | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect |
| Hungary | Minimal or no affect | Substantially affected | Moderately affected | Substantially affected | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Moderately affected | Substantially affected |
| India | Substantially affected | Minimal or no affect | Moderately affected | Minimal or no affect | Moderately affected | Substantially affected | Substantially affected | Substantially affected |
| Israel | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Moderately affected | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Moderately affected | Minimal or no affect |
| Italy | Minimal or no affect | Substantially affected | Moderately affected | Substantially affected | Minimal or no affect | Substantially affected | Moderately affected | Minimal or no affect |
| Kuwait | Moderately affected | Substantially affected | Substantially affected | Substantially affected | Minimal or no affect | Substantially affected | Moderately affected | Minimal or no affect |
| Nigeria | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Moderately affected | Substantially affected | Moderately affected | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Substantially affected |
| Poland | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Substantially affected | Minimal or no affect | Substantially affected | Moderately affected | Minimal or no affect |
| Spain | Substantially affected | Substantially affected | Substantially affected | Substantially affected | Minimal or no affect | Substantially affected | Minimal or no affect | Substantially affected |
| Swiss | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Moderately affected | Substantially affected | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect |
| Turkey | Moderately affected | Minimal or no affect | Moderately affected | Substantially affected | Minimal or no affect | Substantially affected | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect |
| Uruguay | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Substantially affected | Substantially affected | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect |
| US - California | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Moderately affected | Moderately affected | Minimal or no affect |
| US - New-York | Moderately affected | Minimal or no affect | Substantially affected | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Minimal or no affect | Moderately affected | Minimal or no affect |

 Minimal or no affect
  Moderately affected
  Substantially affected

Survey made between April 6 and May 20, 2020.