

Table 4:

Courts performance during Covid-19 pandemic, suspension of activities and remote hearings



European Bank
for Reconstruction and Development

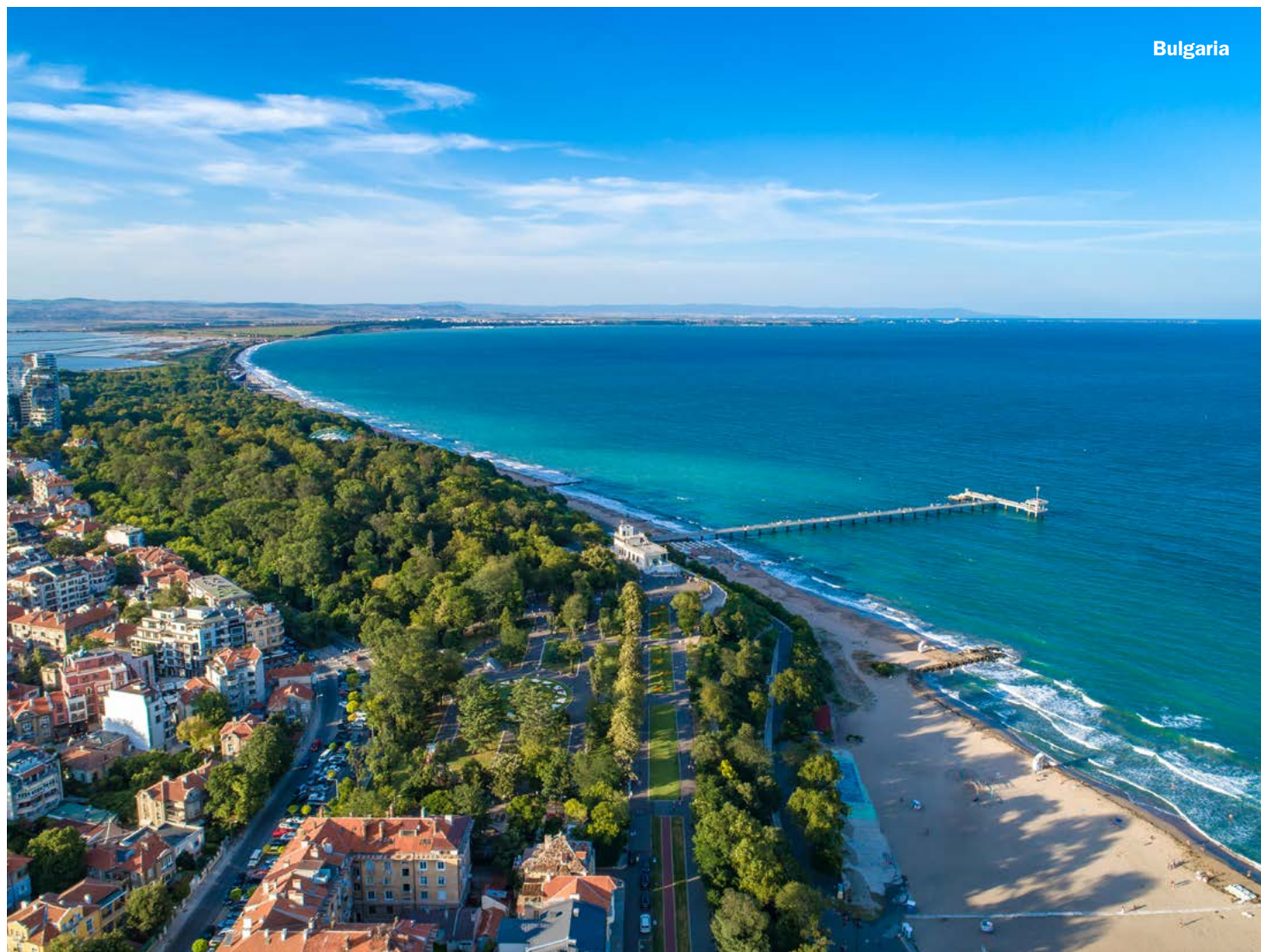


This Annex was produced by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) Legal Transition Programme, as part of the EBRD Covid-19 Emergency Measures Survey which complements the 2022 EBRD Business Reorganisation Assessment.

The contents of this Annex reflect the opinions of individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the EBRD.

Terms and names used in this Annex to refer to geographical or other territories, political and economic groupings and units, do not constitute and should not be construed as constituting an express or implied position, endorsement, acceptance or expression of opinion by the EBRD or its members concerning the status of any country, territory, grouping and unit, or delimitation of its borders, or sovereignty.

The EBRD makes no representation or warranty, express or implied, as to the accuracy or completeness of the information set forth in this Annex. The EBRD has not independently verified any of the information contained in the Annex and the EBRD accepts no liability whatsoever for any of the information contained in this Annex or for any misstatement or omission therein. This Annex remains the property of the EBRD.




























Information in this table is based on the review of the answers received in connection with question 8 and 9 of the EBRD Covid-19 Emergency Measures Survey. This table reflects the respondents' position as of April 2022. Information provided by local counsel respondents has not been independently verified by the EBRD. Responses are based on original text provided by respondents. In some cases response have been edited by the EBRD for clarity.

Key:  Yes  No

 Yes due to general lockdown or upon discretion of the courts

[Question 8:](#) “Did the courts close for any period from March 2020 to date as result of the Covid-19 pandemic and/or social distancing measures?”

[Question 9:](#) “Were remote hearings an option?”

Economy	Suspension of courts activities	Duration of suspension	Remote hearings were available
Albania		From a few days to a few weeks depending on the national Covid-19 restrictions.	
Armenia			
Azerbaijan		Six months.	
Belarus			
Bosnia and Herzegovina (Federation and Republika Srpska)		From a few days to a few weeks depending on the discretion of the courts.	
Bulgaria		Two months in 2020 and two months in 2022, except urgent matters.	
Croatia		Two months in 2020.	
Cyprus		Six months in 2020, except urgent matters.	
Czech Republic			
Egypt			
Estonia			
Georgia			
Greece		Sixteen months between 2020 and 2021, except urgent matters.	
Hungary		One month in 2020. Thereafter, courts were operating but hearings did not take place until May 2021.	

Economy	Suspension of courts activities	Duration of suspension	Remote hearings were available
Jordan	✓	Two months in 2020.	✓
Kazakhstan	△	During the entire state of emergency.	✓
Kosovo	✓	Over one year.	
Kyrgyz Republic	△	Courts did not officially close, but in practice there was a nation wide lockdown for a month during which courts de facto did not work.	
Latvia	✗		✓
Lebanon	✓	Three to four months.	✓
Lithuania	✗		✓
Moldova	✓	Two months in 2020. Thereafter, each court was entitled to postpone court hearings if their district was declared in red alert.	
Mongolia	△	The courts did not officially close during the pandemic. However, throughout 2020 and 2021 there were a substantial number of postponements of court hearings.	✓
Montenegro	✓	Eight months in 2020.	✓
Morocco	✗		
North Macedonia	✓	Three months in 2020, except for urgent matters.	✓
Poland	✓	Two months in 2020, except for urgent matters. Then, each court was entitled to postpone court hearings.	✓
Romania	✗		
Russia	✓	Two months in 2020, except for urgent matters. During the 2021 lockdown, each court was entitled to postpone court hearings. Some restrictions were also in place in January-February 2022.	✓
Serbia	✓	Two months in 2020. From May 2020 onwards, the courts continued to operate regularly but were subject to implementation of Covid-19 safety measures.	✓

Economy	Suspension of courts activities	Duration of suspension	Remote hearings were available
Slovak Republic	✓	Courts open only for urgent matters.	✗
Slovenia	✓	Two months in 2020, except for urgent matters.	✓
Tajikistan	✗		
Tunisia	✓	Five months in 2020.	✗
Türkiye	✓	Two months in 2020.	✗
Turkmenistan	✗		
Ukraine	✗		✓
Uzbekistan	✗		
West Bank and Gaza	✓	Two months in 2020, except for urgent matters.	✗