

Gugushev & Partners

L A W O F F I C E

LEGAL REVIEW

OF THE REGULATORY DEVELOPMENTS
IN RELATION TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
AND THE STATE OF EMERGENCY

AMENDMENTS RELATED TO UTILITY BILLS RELIEF AND
GOVERNMENT ACCESS TO TRAFFIC DATA



The present legal analysis includes confidential information. The analysis or parts of it cannot be provided, copied or disclosed under any circumstances without the explicit written consent of Gugushev & Partners Law Office.

This analysis has been developed according to the applicable legislation, legal and administrative practice as per the above-mentioned date and it is restricted only to the questions analyzed in it. All examples and conclusions written here, should not be in any manner associated with other issues, which are not subjects of the present analysis.

In case this analysis is disclosed before third parties, even with the consent of Gugushev & Partners Law Office, the latter is not liable in any way and under any jurisdiction in relation to third parties, regardless of the basis on which it may be held responsible – contract, contract in favor of third party, negligence, incompetence, etc.

I. INTRODUCTION

The present document represents a general analysis of the main regulations and amendments, introduced by the Emergency Act Regarding the Measures and Safeguards During the State of Emergency declared by the National Assembly of Bulgaria with its Resolution from March 13th, 2020 („the Emergency Act“ or “the Act”) as published in State Gazette, issue 28 of March 24th, 2020 (special issue).

The present review, updated as of March 24th, 2020, presents an analysis of all legal changes introduced by the final version of the bill that became law. This report has been prepared by the legal specialists of Gugushev & Partners Law Office and is to be used for information purposes only. This report does not represent a legal advice/statement, cannot be relied upon in any way as such and shall not in any way be considered legally binding with regards to Gugushev & Partners Law Office.

For further information, including legal support and answers to your specific questions with regards to the present information, you can contact us by e-mail address: office@gugushev.com or telephone: 00359 2 815 75 10, as well as on our public profiles on [Facebook](#) и [LinkedIn](#).

II. AMENDMENTS RELATED TO UTILITY BILLS RELIEF AND GOVERNMENT ACCESS TO TRAFFIC DATA

Amendments are also introduced in the Electronic Communications Act where all companies providing public electronic communication networks and/or services (i.e. telecom companies and internet providers) are required to retain traffic data regarding individuals who have been quarantined or ordered to undergo forced isolation/treatment and provide this data upon request to the Ministry of Interior. Previously data identifying the devices of the consumers, the time, date and duration of their connection to the public networks as well as the cells used were to be provided only upon orders from a judge presiding over a court institution or another person explicitly authorized by him/her.

The provisions of the Emergency Act also amend the general terms and conditions of all energy companies, providing electricity to end-users, by increasing the deadline for consumers to pay their electricity bills from 10 to 20 days from the date of the invoice. All planned repair works on the electricity grid requiring temporarily stopping power are postponed. The only exceptions are repair works required for removing power outages and breakdowns in supply.

We are looking forward to assisting you further, including for statements with the described topics.

Faithfully Yours,
Gugushev & Partners Law Office Team

Victor Gugushev – Partner
Iliyan Trifonov – Associate