



**Reply of the Romanian Maritime Law Association to the Court procedures in the Romanian jurisdiction given the COVID-19 outbreak**

**Questions:**

1. Are the Courts in your jurisdiction open and functioning as per normal?

**Answer:** No. According to the Presidential Decree no. 195/2020 a state of emergency has been instituted for 30 days. As per art. 42(1) from this Decree only the urgent matters will be heard by the Commercial Courts in this timeframe and the other Court cases will be stayed.

2. If not, are there any exceptions to the arrest of ships and / or are other injunctive or enforcement procedures available?

**Answer:** Yes. According to the Judges Council Decision no. 417/24.03.2020, the claims relating to the arrest of ships and other other injunctive/enforcement procedures will ne heard by the Courts.

3. Can Judicial Sale of Ships still take place?

**Answer:** Yes. Judicial Sale of Ships can still take place.

4. Do you know how long the Courts in your jurisdiction will be closed for?



**Answer:** Yes. According to the Presidential Decree no. 195/2020 the state of emergency has been instituted for 30 days starting with 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020. So it will end on the 15<sup>th</sup> April 2020. However, the President has announced that this will be extended with a period of another 30 days.

5. Is the flag registry in your jurisdiction (if applicable) operating as per normal in terms of the registration of ships and registration of mortgages and deletion of same.

**Answer:** Yes. The Romanian flag registry is operating as per normal in terms of the registration of ships and registration of mortgages and deletion of same.

6. Has your flag administration issued any special exemptions for the period of the Pandemic?

**Answer:** No, not at this time.

Yours sincerely,

**President of the Romanian MLA,  
Adrian Cristea**