

Luxembourg imposes more virus restrictions

15 March 2020

Luxembourg on Sunday followed its neighbours France and Belgium in closing bars and restaurants to try to stem the spread of the coronavirus epidemic.

Prime Minister Xavier Bettel said that, from midnight, bars and restaurants would be closed but grocery shops, pharmacies and other essential businesses could remain open.

He called on citizens to limit their movements to travelling to work, food shopping, medical appointments and visits to help the elderly.

The over-65s—who are particularly vulnerable to COVID-19—were urged to stay at home to reduce the risk of infection.

"They must cancel their activities and limit what is not essential," Bettel said after an emergency meeting of his government.

Swimming pools, museums, sports centres, night clubs, libraries and cinemas are also to be closed to try to stop the transmission of the virus.

The tiny Grand Duchy has reported 77 cases of the virus and one death so far.

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