



EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
EMBAJADA DE LA REPUBLICA DE FILIPINAS  
MADRID

**PUBLIC ADVISORY # 5**  
**March 13, 2020**

The Philippine Embassy in Madrid wishes to provide the following update on the conditions in Spain with regard to the coronavirus (COVID-19):

Spain has declared a state of alarm on the coronavirus, a constitutional measure aimed at monitoring order in the country, which include limiting the movement of people and vehicles.

The Ministerio de Sanidad has reported that as of March 13, 2020 there are 4,209 confirmed cases in Spain, with 1,990 of these cases recorded in the community of Madrid. No Filipino has been reported as being under observation. The Embassy is in contact with Spanish authorities and will be notified if there are Filipinos among the confirmed cases.

Social and cultural activities of the Embassy, particularly activities with Casa Asia for April 2020 have been postponed. All consular mobile outreaches are suspended. We urge Filipinos to respect the advisories of the national and regional governments and postpone cultural and community activities, as well as group gatherings for the meantime.

Starting Wednesday, March 18, 2020, the Philippine Embassy will be accepting consular services by appointment basis only. Dual citizenship applications shall not be entertained. Applicants whose passports are going to expire BEFORE March 2021 shall be prioritized for passport renewals. We request others whose passports will expire beyond March 2021 to set aside their plans to come to the Embassy.

To ensure the efficient delivery of consular services, we urge applicants to send **in advance, via email** the application and supporting documents for passports, dual citizenship and report of birth, at **info@philembassymadrid.com** or **consular@philembassymadrid.com**.

The Philippine Consulate General in Barcelona and the Office of the Honorary Consuls have been advised that they may resort to an appointment system in receiving applicants to prevent congestion and unnecessary travel by consular applicants.

All Spanish nationals and foreign nationals from Spain who wish to travel to the Philippines for tourism, study or business purposes are recommended to **postpone travel** to the Philippines **as they may not be allowed entry**. Those who are allowed to enter the Philippines are (1) Filipino citizens and their spouse/children; (2) foreign nationals who hold permanent resident visas; (3) diplomats who are working in the Philippines.

The public is further informed that there are **domestic restrictions in place on land, sea and air travel in Metro Manila from March 15, 2020 to April 14, 2020**. Travelers entering the Philippines via Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) will need to remain in Metro Manila until the domestic travel ban is lifted. If the ultimate destination is outside of Metro Manila, travelers may fly through Clark, Cebu, and other international points of entry. You are advised to contact your airline for the latest developments.

If you develop symptoms of acute respiratory infection, it is advised to stay at home, do not go to the hospital, and call 112 for medical service. Everyone is advised to maintain a positive outlook, educate themselves on health and hygiene, and keep their immune systems strong so that the body can best combat against illness.

More information on COVID-19 and cases in Spain may be found in <https://www.mschs.gob.es/>

For other specific concerns of the Filipino community in Spain, please check regularly the Philippine Embassy website, Embassy and POLO Facebook account and the E Filipinas APP.

