Beat: Politics

Up to 165 countries impose restrictions on travelers from Spain

As a consequence of COVID-19

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USPA NEWS - Up to 165 countries have established restrictions on travelers from Spain. The escalation of outbreaks due to Coronavirus that affects all Spanish regions, with greater intensity in Catalonia and Aragon, is leading the rest of the countries to prohibit the entry of travelers from Spain or to impose conditions on their entry. One of the last has been the United Kingdom, which imposes a quarantine of two weeks on all travelers - national or foreign - who enter British territory. France has also closed its common border with Catalonia - Northeast of Spain - and does not rule out extending said closure to the entire border. And Belgium, another partner of Spain in the European Union, has prohibited its nationals from traveling to Spanish territory.

The restrictions imposed by the most important of the 165 countries that monitor the arrival of Spaniards to their territories and prohibit or hinder the travel of their nationals to Spain concern, above all, the Spanish tourism sector. After a confinement of almost three months, since March 14, and when he was confident in the summer campaign to save his accounts, this new threat may end the sector that contributes the most to Spanish GDP. Above all, there is concern about the quarantine imposed by London on travelers from Spain because many Britons spend their holidays in Spain, in search of the Sun, or who have second homes on the Spanish coast.

Two regions are the most affected by the quarantine decreed by the British Government: Balearic and Canary Islands. The two archipelagos are the preferred destinations of many British, as well as the Levante coast. The island tourism sector has asked the Spanish Government to defend the establishment of "safe destinations" in its territories, where the epidemiological situation by COVID-19 is better than in the United Kingdom. Many Britons asked these days by the media claim to feel safer in Spain than in their country and reject the quarantine imposed by their Government when they want to return to British territory.

After learning about the quarantine imposed by London, the British TUI, the largest airline in Europe, announced the suspension of all its flights to or from Spain. The measure has not been supported by Ryanair, which maintains its flight schedule for this summer. Balearic Islands and the Canary Islands were joined on Monday by Andalusia, which has also asked the Spanish Government to establish safe corridors so that international tourism does not disappear from their territories.

All this, as a consequence of the latest figures of the Coronavirus in Spain. According to data updated by the Ministry of Health, in the last 24 hours 855 new infections have been confirmed, bringing the total number of infections since the pandemic began to 278,782 people and the number of deaths to 28,434 people. Comparison with the United Kingdom reveals that the total number of those infected to date in British territory amounts to 299,426 people and the number of deaths to 45,752 people.

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Editorial program service of General News Agency:
United Press Association, Inc.
3651 Lindell Road, Suite D168
Las Vegas, NV 89103, USA
(702) 943.0321 Local
(702) 943.0233 Facsimile
info@unitedpressassociation.org
info@gna24.com
www.gna24.com