

Situation Germany

The treatment of the coronavirus pandemic follows a complex system of competences between the different state levels (national, state, regional, local) whereas the state level (Bundesländer) is holding the majority of legal competences. Besides some national regulations there are 16 different regulations in the Bundesländer which are updated on a very regular basis. So far there hasn't been any specific construction-only regulation apart of some hygienic and social distancing regulations on the national level around the work on construction sites.

Generally speaking construction has not been affected so far, construction sites have remained open and are more or less running as before. No major lay-offs and (nearly) no short time work has been recorded. On the contrary, the construction industry proves to be one of the most important stabilizing pillars of the German economy. IG BAU has signed a declaration with our social partners to ensure that the virus is not spread. It contains measures guaranteeing social distancing and ensuring basic hygienic standards on the construction sites. IG BAU is concerned that practice on the construction sites may not correspond to these agreed standards. Therefore, IG BAU is putting a lot of effort on informing members and workers about how to protect during the pandemic. Also common accommodation particularly of posted workers have the potential to favour the spread of the virus (we see it happening already in other sectors like in the meat industry).