

CCNR ANALYSIS

Information regarding inland navigation in Italy in the context of COVID-19

General information on the Italian situation and transport sector

The Italian Government issued a series of regulations dealing with the spread of the COVID-19 epidemic at the national level. As of March 30th, strict regulations are in place all over the national territory to limit personal movements and productive activities [for information on general regulations go to <https://www.interno.gov.it/it>]. Regional regulations can also implement further restrictions.

Though, transport is deemed as an essential service by the Government, and therefore it is currently subject to less restrictions than other economic sectors. Inland navigation represents a very small share of the Italian transport system, but nonetheless some important organisations are in place to manage the sector.

Information on Italian waterways

The main reference for Italian inland navigation is the **Unione Navigazione Interna Italiana (UNII)** website [<http://www.unii.org/en/>]; this organisation coordinates inland navigation of all purposes in Italy. As of March 30th, the UNII has not published any update on the COVID-19 emergency on their official communication channels. Though, important information can be found on the websites of the associations and organisations that take part to the UNII [see list here: <http://www.unii.org/en/what-is-unii/members/>].

The most effective strategy is to check the local regulations of the northern Italian Regions where most of inland navigation takes place (mainly in the Po river basin and in some major lakes in the north).

For instance, news relative to inland navigation can be found on the website of **Regione Piemonte** [<https://www.regione.piemonte.it/web/notizie-avvisi?tema=233>], where some notices to stop navigation in some minor lakes because of COVID-19 have already been published. Some other local information can be found on the dedicated webpage of **Regione Veneto** [<https://www.regione.veneto.it/web/mobilita-e-trasporti/navigazione-in-acque-interne>].

A dedicated webpage on the website of **Regione Lombardia** clarifies exactly which navigation services have been reduced or suspended due to the epidemic [<https://www.regione.lombardia.it/wps/portal/istituzionale/HP/DettaglioAvviso/servizi-e-informazioni/cittadini/Muoversi-in-Lombardia/Navigazione-laghi-fiumi-e-navigli/coronavirus-modifiche-servizio-navigazione/coronavirus-modifiche-servizio-navigazione>].

The website of **Agenzia Interregionale per il fiume Po (AIPO)**, a governmental body which groups the Regions which compose the Po river basin, has a dedicated section on Coronavirus [<https://www.agenziapo.it/content/emergenza-coronavirus-covid-19>]. The AIPO published dispositions and guidelines for the containment of the virus spread in the workplace, mainly for their internal use

[\[https://www.agenziapo.it/sites/default/files/Misure%20contenimento%20virus%20CoVid-19.pdf\]](https://www.agenziapo.it/sites/default/files/Misure%20contenimento%20virus%20CoVid-19.pdf).

Similarly, the **Porto di Venezia** authority published some very detailed guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19 for workers in the port during different activities [here <https://www.port.venice.it/it/covid-19-linee-guida-interfacce-operazioni-portuali-nei-terminal-banchina-nave-trasportatori-in.html>].

About the CCNR

The Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR) is an international organisation that exercises an essential regulatory role in the navigation of the Rhine. It is active in the technical, legal, economic and environmental fields. In all its areas of action, its work is guided by the efficiency of transport on the Rhine, safety, social considerations, and respect for the environment. Many of the CCNR's activities now reach beyond the Rhine and are directly concerned with European navigable waterways more generally. The CCNR works closely with the European Commission as well as with the other river commissions and international organisations.