

TURKEY'S EXPORT POLICY RE. COVID-19 EQUIPMENT SHIFTS

Like many other nations, as of March of 2020, Turkey had put in place additional temporary restrictions to control exportation of specific medical goods due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The restrictions had been implemented via two amendments, issued on March 4 and 26, under its *Communique on Goods Whose Exportation Is Prohibited or Subject to Pre-Approval*. The products affected included, but were not limited to, masks and personal protective equipment (PPE) as well as ventilators, parts thereof, ECMO and IC monitors.

Previously, Turkey had agreed with the U.S. to uphold the restrictions but did approve the exportation of specific ventilator parts to be used by Ford for the production of ventilators in the US as well as certain PPE purchased by Walmart.

On May 2nd Turkey moved to lift restrictions on the export of many medical supplies; this decision should lead to sales of equipment needed by many western countries. Turkey does not have a shortage of respirators, intubation tubes, and other critical care equipment. Also lifted was the requirement that private companies in Turkey obtain advance permission from the Turkish government before shipping such equipment abroad.

Sources:

- 1) New York Times, May 2, 2020, retrieved May 4, 2020

<https://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2020/05/02/business/bc-eu-virus-outbreak-turkey.html>

- 2) Middle East Eye, May 2, 2020, retrieved May 4, 2020

<https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/coronavirus-turkey-lifts-ban-export-medical-equipment-fight-virus>

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