

VENICE, NOVEMBER 2, 2021

## PROTOCOL AND PRACTICE FOR COVID-19 RISK MITIGATION AT VENICE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY



Information for participants of seminars, conferences, and meetings.

v. 6 02/11/2021

### Guiding principles

The health, safety, and well-being of our VIU community is the primary focus that guides the decisions of VIU relative to COVID-19.

VIU decisions are informed by Italian national legislation, Veneto Regional legislation, Italian ministerial guidance and the recommendations of the scientific community.

All students, professors, staff, and participants must agree to the co-responsibility pact in order to attend VIU activities.

In addition to the requirements for entry to Italy, and the applicability of the Covid-19 Green Pass, EU Digital Covid Certificate or equivalent recognized certification, in the interest of the health and safety of the VIU community, VIU is asking all participants, students and professors to get a COVID-19 test<sup>1</sup> within 72 hours prior to the start of the seminar/conference/meeting (or the first day of your attendance). You cannot attend classes or other activities on or off campus until you take a test and receive the results.

Italy is participating in EU initiatives to digitize documents to facilitate the safe movement of people within Italy and between EU countries.

1. The EU Digital COVID certificate (also frequently referred to as COVID Green Pass/Certificato Verde) is a digital document with a QR code, that provides evidence that a person has either:
  - been vaccinated against COVID-19
  - received a negative test result

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<sup>1</sup> PCR/molecular and antigen/lateral flow swab tests are acceptable

- recovered from COVID-19 in the past six months

For more information on the EU Digital COVID certificate:

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/safe-covid-19-vaccines-europeans/eu-digital-covid-certificate\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/safe-covid-19-vaccines-europeans/eu-digital-covid-certificate_en)



The certificates issued by the health authorities of Canada, Japan, Israel, the United Kingdom and the USA are recognized as equivalent to the Green Pass issued by the Italy and other EU countries. Certificates from other countries outside the EU may be considered valid if they contain specific data. See dedicated section below.

The EU Digital COVID Certificate, or equivalent, is required for entry into Italy and in specific circumstances within Italy.

#### 1. EU Digital Passenger Locator Form (dPLF)

Passenger Locator Forms (PLFs) are used by public health authorities to facilitate contact tracing in case travelers are exposed to infectious disease during their travel by plane, ship (cruise/ferry), rail, bus or automobile. Information that travelers provide in PLFs can be used by public health authorities in destination countries to rapidly contact travelers, with the goal of protecting the health of travelers' and their contacts, as well as preventing further spread of disease.

The EU Digital Passenger Locator Form is required to enter Italy.

(<https://app.euplf.eu/#/>)

#### 2. Covid Tests

Rapid Antigen tests:

The rapid antigen test detects protein fragments specific to the Coronavirus. It requires a swab from the back of your nose or throat. Results are usually available within 30 mins.

Also known as lateral flow tests. In Italian: *Tampone antigenico*

PCR tests:

The PCR test detects viral RNA (or genetic material) in early stage of infection. It also requires a swab from the back of your nose and/or throat. The swab must be analyzed in a lab and therefore results take several hours to be reported. Outside of hospital contexts it usually requires minimum 24 hours.

Also known as molecular tests. In Italian: *Tampone molecolare*



Antigen tests and PCR tests are both recognized by the Italian health authorities for the purposes of the EU Digital Covid Certificate / Green Pass and by VIU for your pre-arrival test.

In this document when the term "Covid test" is used, either the antigen or PCR test is valid, unless otherwise specified.

Rapid Saliva tests and serological antibody (blood) tests are not included in the term "Covid test" as used in this document, and are not valid for the purposes of equivalence to the EU Digital Covid Certificates / Green passes, for entry into Italy, or for access to the VIU facilities.

[Where to get at Covid test.](#)<sup>2</sup>

### **Applicability of the EU Digital COVID certificate/Green Pass in Italy**

From August 6, 2021, throughout Italy, you will need a Covid-19 Digital Certificate (Green Pass), or equivalent certificate recognized by the Italian authorities<sup>3</sup>, to enter:

- a. the indoor areas of bars, cafés and restaurants;
- b. theaters, cinemas, public events and sports competitions;
- c. museums, galleries, and other cultural venues;
- d. swimming pools, gyms, spas and wellness centers, theme and amusement parks, recreational and leisure centers, gaming halls and casinos;
- e. trade fairs, conferences and meetings.

From September 1, 2021, you will need a Covid-19 Digital Certificate (Green Pass), or an equivalent certificate to:

- a. **attend classes at universities (including Venice International University)**
- b. board aircraft for national flights;
- c. board interregional ships and ferries
- d. travel on Intercity and High Speed trains;

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.univiu.org/about-viu/brochures-reports-and-regulations/covid-19-protocol-and-practice/covid-test>

<sup>3</sup> The certificates issued by the health authorities of Canada, Japan, Israel, the United Kingdom and the USA are recognized as equivalent to the Green Pass issued by Italy and other EU member countries. Certificates from other countries may be considered valid if they contain specific data. See dedicated paragraph.

- e. travel on inter-regional buses;
- f. travel on charter buses.

Green Passes are not currently required on urban public transport.



Important: if your Green Pass has been issued on the basis of vaccination against COVID, it is important to consider that the Pass is valid in the aforementioned contexts in Italy even with one dose of a two-dose vaccine. Whereas, for ENTRY into Italy, the Green Pass issued on the basis of vaccination is considered valid only if the vaccination cycle is completed at least 14 days prior to entry.

### **Recognized equivalent certification of vaccination**

The certificates issued by the health authorities of Canada, Japan, Israel, the United Kingdom and the USA are recognized as equivalent to the Green Pass issued by the Italian authorities and other EU countries.

Vaccination Certificates from other countries may be considered valid if they contain specific data:

- personal identification data of the holder (name, surname, date of birth);
- data relating to the vaccine (name and lot);
- date(s) of administration of the vaccine;
- identification data of the body that issued the certificate (State, Health Authority).

#### Important:

Only EMA- or AIFA- approved vaccines are recognized:

1. Comirnaty (Pfizer-BioNtech);
2. Spikevax (Moderna);
3. Vaxzevria (AstraZeneca);
4. Janssen (Johnson & Johnson);
5. Covishield (Serum Institute of India);
6. R-CoVI (R-Pharm);
7. Covid-19 vaccine-recombinant (Fiocruz)

The vaccination certificate can be in paper or digital format, and must be in one of the following languages: Italian, English, French, Spanish. If the certificate is in any other language it must be accompanied by a sworn translation. The validity of recognized vaccination certificates is the same as for the COVID-19 Green Passes issued by the Italian state.



Certification of recovery from Covid-19 in the past 6 months must contain at least the following data:

- personal identification data of the holder (name, surname, date of birth);
- information on the holder's previous SARS-CoV-2 infection, following a positive test (date of first positive swab);
- identification data of the body that issued the certificate (State, Health Authority).

### **Getting an Italian Green Pass if you have been vaccinated abroad**

People who have been vaccinated abroad or who have a certificate of recovery from COVID from a foreign health authority may request an Italian Green Pass from the Venice District Health Authority<sup>4</sup>. Send the request in writing via email to [green.pass@aulss3.veneto.it](mailto:green.pass@aulss3.veneto.it), including a telephone number where you can be contacted to receive further instructions.

Participating in VIU activities if you are not vaccinated with an EMA-approved vaccine:

If you do not have a certificate of vaccination or of recovery you will need a negative result of a COVID test carried out in the 48 hours before your arrival/the event which must be repeated every 48 hrs for the duration of your participation. Your program coordinator will be able to advise you on getting tested.

### **Entering Italy**

According to the Ordinance of the Minister of Health of 29 July 2021<sup>5</sup>, different travel restrictions apply to the following lists of countries.

For the full list of Countries and complete information on restrictions, consult the official Foreign Ministry information [here](#), where you can take the official Foreign Ministry [questionnaire](#) to understand the legal requirements for entry into Italy from your country.

LIST C Countries:

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.aulss3.veneto.it/Green-pass-per-vaccinazioni-eseguite-allestero-o-guarigioni-avvenute-allestero>

<sup>5</sup>

[https://www.esteri.it/MAE/resource/doc/2021/10/ordinanza\\_22\\_ottobre\\_2021.pdf](https://www.esteri.it/MAE/resource/doc/2021/10/ordinanza_22_ottobre_2021.pdf)

Free movement is allowed to and from these countries for any reason as long as you have not stayed in or passed through one of the countries on List D and/or E in the 14 days prior to entering Italy

Persons who enter Italy after staying in or transiting through any **List C country** in the previous 14 days must:



- compile the EU Digital [Passenger Locator Form \(dPLF\)](#)<sup>6</sup> and present a copy of it in paper or digital format
- present **EU Digital Covid Certificate** (Green Pass) or **equivalent recognized certificate\*** in paper or digital format, providing proof that the person has completed the vaccination cycle with an EMA<sup>7</sup>-approved vaccine against SARS-CoV-2 at least 14 days prior to travel; or has recovered from Covid-19 and is no longer subject to required isolation; or has a negative Covid-19 test result for a swab taken within 48 hours prior to entering Italy.

These documents may be required for you to board your flight and/or will be checked by the Italian authorities on arrival.

If you fail to present these documents you may be refused boarding on your flight.

If you fail to present the EU Digital Covid Certificate, or equivalent, on entry you will be required to undergo a period of self-isolation under the supervision of the health authority for a period of 5 days, after which you will have to take a Covid-19 test.

List C Countries at time of writing on November 2, 2021 include:

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Croatia, Denmark (including the Faroe Islands and Greenland), Estonia, Finland, France (including Guadeloupe, Martinique, Guyana, Reunion, Mayotte and excluding other overseas territories outside the European mainland), Germany, Greece, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands (excluding other overseas territories outside the European mainland), Poland, Portugal (including the Azores and Madeira), Czech Republic, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain (including the territories in Africa), Sweden, Hungary, Iceland, Liechtenstein Norway, , Switzerland, Andorra, Monaco:

This list is subject to change. Consult Foreign Ministry website [here](#) for updates)

LIST D Countries:

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<sup>6</sup> EU Digital Passenger Locator Form platform <https://app.euplf.eu/>

<sup>7</sup> EMA – European Medicines Agency - <https://www.ema.europa.eu/en>



There are no restrictions on entry from these countries, subject to any provisions adopted regionally (at time of writing there are none in place for the Veneto Region) but strict measures are in place:

Persons who enter Italy after staying in or transiting through any List D country in the previous 14 days before entering Italy must:

- compile the EU Digital [Passenger Locator Form \(dPLF\)](#)<sup>8</sup> and present a copy of it in paper or digital format
- present a negative Covid test result (PCR/molecular or antigen/lateral flow) taken within 72 hours prior to entering Italy (48 hours in the case of travelers arriving from the UK)
- present a Covid-19 vaccine certificate providing proof of vaccination (complete cycle) at least fourteen days prior to the travel date with a vaccine approved by the European Medicines Agency.

Persons who do not have a Covid-19 vaccination certificate may enter Italy in any case on condition that they:

- present a negative Covid test result (PCR/molecular or antigen/lateral flow) taken within 72 hours prior to entering Italy (48 hours in the case of travelers arriving from the UK)
- **self-isolate for 5 days** under the supervision of the health authority, after which it shall be necessary to take a new Covid test.

Entry from **Canada, Japan and the United States of America**: persons travelling to Italy may also present a certificate proving that they have recovered from Covid-19 in the past six months instead of the vaccine certificate, on condition that they have not visited or transited through any country other than the three listed.

List D Countries at time of writing on November 2, 2021 include:

Saudi Arabia, Australia, Bahrain, Canada, Chile, United Arab Emirates, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Israel, New Zealand, Qatar, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (including Gibraltar, Isle of Man, Channel Islands and British bases on the island of Cyprus and excluding territories outside mainland Europe), Republic of Korea, Singapore, United State of America, Ukraine Uruguay,, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macao Special Administrative Regions:.

Take the Italian Government's online survey to check all the requirements before your departure: <https://infocovid.viaggiasesicuri.it/>

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<sup>8</sup> EU Digital Passenger Locator Form platform <https://app.euplf.eu/>

LIST E countries:

All other Countries not included in the above lists.



Entry into Italy from these countries does not require any authorization from the Ministry of Health but is allowed only for specific reasons: work, health, study, urgency, return to residence.

Travel to Italy after staying in or transiting through any List E country in the previous 14 days before entering Italy is subject to restrictions.

Entry is permitted for Italian/EU/Schengen citizens and family members, as well as holders of long-term resident status and family members (Directive 2004/38/EC), and unmarried partners in a proven stable relationship (regardless of whether or not they cohabit) with Italian/EU/Schengen citizens or long-term residents, if travelling to their partner's home or place of residence in Italy and to athletes participating in sports competitions of national interest and accompanying personnel.

Persons not belonging to any of the groups mentioned above who transited through or stayed in these Countries in the prior 14 days may enter Italy only for specific reasons, **including work, study, health, or other absolutely essential reasons**, or to return to their home or place of residence, and must:

- compile the EU Digital [Passenger Locator Form \(dPLF\)](#)<sup>9</sup> and present a copy of it in paper or digital format
- present a negative Covid test result taken within 72 hours prior to entering Italy
- **self-isolate for 10 days** under the supervision of the health authority, after which it shall be necessary to take a new Covid test.

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<sup>9</sup> EU Digital Passenger Locator Form platform <https://app.euplf.eu/>

## General practice on and off campus during your stay at VIU



- All students, professors, participants, and staff attending academic activities in-person at VIU must be in possession of an EU Digital Covid Certificate / Green Pass. VIU will carry out regular spot checks of certification.
- Any persons visiting the VIU premises in any capacity must be in possession of an EU Digital Covid Certificate / Green Pass. VIU will carry out regular spot checks of certification.
- All students, professors, participants, and staff should self-monitor on a daily basis for symptoms including a cold, sore throat, fever, labored breathing, or other flu-like symptoms and malaise, or loss of smell or taste (consider bringing a thermometer with you).
- Wash hands often with soap and water, or use a gel hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Maintain appropriate social distancing – minimum 1 meter.
- Avoid hugging and hand-shaking.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or into your elbow. Dispose of the tissue immediately.
- Wearing a mask is required in all indoor spaces other than private residences: public buildings and offices, shops, museums, galleries, train stations, vaporetto landing docks, airports, and on all public transport. Masks are also required outdoors in certain contexts, in the courtyards of hospitals for example, and in any other context where social distancing of 1 meter cannot be guaranteed.
- In bars and restaurants you must wear a mask when entering, and can remove it only when seated. A minimum social distance of 1 meter must be maintained with anyone who does not live in your household.
- Install Immuni the official Covid-19 tracking app in Italy on your phone <https://www.immuni.italia.it>
- In the event of a COVID-19 outbreak at VIU or in Venice, cooperate with the authorities in contact and tracing operations.
- If you develop any symptoms that may be indicative of a Covid-19 infection, **STAY HOME**, (or in your accommodation) contact a doctor, or the health authorities. While waiting for further Health Authority decisions, you are required to self-isolate\*.
- If you are told to self-isolate, or put in quarantine you must notify immediately VIU (via email: [covid19@univiu.org](mailto:covid19@univiu.org))

**Access to VIU on the campus on San Servolo island is not permitted if:**

- **you have a fever higher than 37.5 ° C, a cough, or labored breathing;**
- **you have been instructed by the health authorities to quarantine or advised to self-isolate.**
- **you know that you have been in contact with anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days.**



**Arrival at VIU:**

- Mask wearing on public transport is required, including on the no. 20 vaporetto to from San Zaccaria to San Servolo.
- Entry to the buildings at San Servolo is exclusively via the Reception.
- Put on your mask before you enter the reception
- You may be asked to exhibit your EU Digital Covid Certificate / Green Pass or equivalent certification (spot checks required by Italian legislation in university premises)

**General prevention measures while on campus:**

**What VIU is doing:**

- VIU has drawn up the protocols, practices and guidelines in cooperation with health and safety consultants.
- VIU will carry out spot checks of Digital Covid Certificates/Green Passes as required by recent Italian legislation.
- All VIU offices, classrooms, and common areas will be cleaned and sanitized every morning.
- Gel hand sanitizer will be available in all offices, classrooms, seminar rooms, and conference halls.
- VIU has reduced the capacity in all classrooms, seminar rooms, conference halls, the MacLab and PC room to 50% in order to guarantee adequate social distancing.
- Informational Signage will be placed throughout the campus to remind the VIU community of hygiene protocols and social distancing measures.
- VIU will continue to monitor any reviewed legislation and guidance from the local and national authorities relative to Covid-19.
- VIU will cooperate fully with the health authorities in the event of a COVID-19 outbreak at VIU, or in Venice.
- VIU is committed to keeping the members of the VIU community informed of what is happening at VIU, in Venice, and in Italy in general.



For all:

- All students, professors, participants, and staff are required to wear face masks indoors on campus, in all classrooms, corridors, meeting spaces, and common areas, except when eating (allowed only at the bar, dining room and outdoors) and when inside their own residence hall rooms (applicable to campus residents only).
- Always maintain a minimum social distance of at least one meter from other people.
- Restrict your movements around the campus as much as possible.
- You can walk and sit in the park. Masks are currently not required outdoors.
- Eating and drinking is not permitted in the classrooms, seminar rooms, or conference halls. Consume drinks and food only in designated areas where it is permitted.
- Avoid gatherings of numerous people in common areas.
- The use of the lift is not recommended; if necessary, use it 1 person at a time;
- Do not rearrange the seating in the classrooms, seminar rooms, or conference halls. A minimum of 1 meter must be maintained between the chairs.
- Entry to toilets is permitted one person at a time.
- Follow all the instructions sent by VIU staff and posted at the entrance to the premises, classrooms, seminar rooms, or conference halls, or common areas.

For professors, speakers, lecturers:

- The lecturer or speaker may remove their mask while speaking on condition that they can maintain a minimum of 2 meters from the participants/audience in the first row. If the distance is under 2 meters a mask must be worn.
- Please open the windows at the end of your session to ventilate the classroom.
- After 2 hours of activity in a classroom, seminar room, or conference hall, a break is mandatory, during which the room must be ventilated by opening the windows.
- In the event of non-compliance of the participants, the lecturer or speaker must suspend the activity.

Bar / Cafeteria

The Covid Digital Certificate / Green pass (or equivalent certification) is required for eating indoors.

During receptions, refreshment breaks, provided by VIU during the activities.

During coffee breaks, buffet lunches or for breaks at the bar or in the canteen:

- hands should be washed with soap or a disinfectant gel before approaching the refreshment area.



- when you are in the refreshment area to take food and beverages, always wear a mask.
- consume food and beverages only in the spaces provided such as tables or support counters, maintaining social distancing of at least 1 meter. Also if standing, maintain a minimum social distance of at least one meter when removing mask while consuming food and beverages.

#### Participants in VIU-arranged housing:

- No visitors whatsoever are allowed in the rooms on campus or in the apartments in the city.
- Be respectful of your neighbors, making sure that you wear your mask in all common areas (halls, corridors, stairwells).
- If you suspect that you may have Covid-19 symptoms, call the health authorities (see the dedicated paragraph below), inform your room-mates, and inform VIU (via email: [covid19@univiu.org](mailto:covid19@univiu.org)).

#### Correct use of the mask:

- in any case, keep the greatest possible distance from other people even when wearing a mask;
- change the mask if it is wet, if it is removed, and in any case every 4 hours;
- do not use the mask improperly (e.g. placing it on the neck, chin, or forehead)
- the mask must cover both the nose and the mouth,
- the mask is personal and disposable. Once removed, it must be thrown into a container with a lid or closure device;
- Hands should be washed with soap or a disinfectant gel before putting on and taking off the mask.
- wash your hands frequently with soap in the bathrooms and or with gel hand sanitizer that you will find in the corridors and the classrooms at VIU
- when you walk through the corridors, stop in the common areas or enter the classroom, you must always wear a mask.

#### **If you develop any symptoms that may be indicative of a Covid-19 infection**

**STAY HOME**, (or in your accommodation) contact a doctor or the health authorities. While waiting for further Health Authority decisions, you are required to self-isolate.

Who you should call:

118 - emergency medical services, if you have labored breathing. (Veneto)

112 - emergency services, if you have labored breathing. (other regions)



If you have mild symptoms:

- Contact your general practitioner if you are resident in Italy
  - If you are only living/staying in Venice temporarily, call one of the following:
    - Health Assistance Point for Visitors
      - Piazzale Roma +39 041 2960784
      - Piazza San Marco +39 041 2960784
    - Out-of-hours Health Assistance (ex Guardia Medica): +39 041 2385600
- Everyday 8pm to 8am, and also Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays from 8am to 8pm

Other useful numbers:

- 800 938 811 Venice District Health Service Helpline (or +39 041 8724999 if calling from a phone registered abroad)
- 800462340 Veneto Region Covid Helpline;
- 1500 - Italian Ministry of Health helpline (or +39 0232008345 OR +39 0283905385 if calling from a phone registered abroad)

If you have private health insurance, contact your insurance company.

Notify VIU, by phone during office hours, or by email: [covid19@univiu.org](mailto:covid19@univiu.org)

If you are in shared housing, do your best to self-isolate in your room. Your room-mates should also restrict their movements. If you are in VIU-arranged housing, inform VIU staff immediately by email.

### **If you develop symptoms of fever or cough or severe general malaise while you are on campus**

- Go immediately to the 7K office on the ground floor as indicated in the map on the last page of this information sheet.

If you have serious symptoms:

- 118 for emergency services if you have labored breathing or other serious symptoms;
- 112 for emergency services as an alternative to the first emergency number.
- Notify the VIU staff responsible for your program using the telephone in the 7K office.

### **Conduct**

All members of the VIU Community will be expected to participate fully in our joint efforts to limit the potential spread of the coronavirus.

If you have any concerns about the protocols, or compliance, please discuss them with your program coordinator.

Updates and integrations to this protocol will be published as needed.

#### PROTOCOL AND PRACTICE for COVID-19 RISK MITIGATION at VENICE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY | Co-responsibility Pact:



I confirm that I have received the VIU PROTOCOL AND PRACTICE for COVID-19 RISK MITIGATION: Information for participants of seminars, conferences, and meetings

All members of the VIU Community will be expected to participate fully in our joint efforts to limit the potential spread of the coronavirus.

I agree to adhere to the provisions provided for therein, and in particular:

- I undertake to take a COVID-19 test within 72 hours prior to my arrival at VIU.
- I will not go to the VIU campus on the island of San Servolo, or participate in-person in any VIU activities, even off campus, until I have received the negative result of the aforementioned COVID-19 test.
- I understand and accept that Italian legislation requires that students, professors, and staff who will participate in-person in academic activities in universities must be in possession of a valid Digital Covid Certificate/Green Pass (or equivalent).
- I undertake to cooperate with VIU staff when spot checks of Digital Covid Certificates are being conducted.
- I undertake to follow the instructions of the health authorities in the event I test positive for COVID-19.
- I undertake to follow the instructions of the health authorities, and VIU, in the event that there is an outbreak of COVID-19 among the VIU community.
- I will not go to the VIU campus on the island of San Servolo, nor participate in-person in any VIU activities, even if off campus, if I have a fever above 37.5° C, a sore throat, cough, or loss of smell or taste, or general malaise.
- I undertake to inform VIU (via email: [covid19@univiu.org](mailto:covid19@univiu.org)) if I receive a positive test result, or contact the health authorities because I suspect I have symptoms.
- I undertake to install the Immuni (<https://www.immuni.it>), if the operating system of my mobile phone supports its installation.

To accept the co-responsibility pact, go to the form on the VIU website and enter your name, surname, and email address:

<https://www.univiu.org/component/rsform/form/87-covid-19-protocols-and-practice-protocollie-comportamenti>

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding!

**7K OFFICE Map.**

