



## EXTRAORDINARY MEASURES TAKEN WITHIN THE JUSTICE SECTOR FOLLOWING THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE SPANISH GOVERNEMENT DECISION TO DECLARE THE STATE OF ALARM

On the 14th March 2020 the Spanish State approved the Royal Decree 463/2020 of 14 March that declares a **STATE OF ALARM**, in order to deal with the health services crisis provoked by the **COVID-19**.

Amongst the measures adopted that affect all sectors of citizenship, there are also measures taken in the **legal field** affecting judicial and administrative proceedings which may alter the files dealt with in the Spanish territory.

In particular, the following measures have been implemented as from **THREE ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS** namely:



### SECOND ADDITIONAL PROVISION - Suspension of procedural deadlines

Procedural deadlines are suspended, deadlines foreseen in procedural acts in all Court orders. The said deadlines will be lifted once the Royal Decree and, if applicable, its extensions, ceases to be in force. Ultimately, until the Government declares that the State of Alarm is finished.

### THIRD ADDITIONAL PROVISION – suspension of administrative deadlines

Deadlines for the handling of administrative proceedings are suspended. As in the previous case, the suspension will be in force during the decreed 15 days period, or until the period if extended is declared finished.

### FOURTH ADDITIONAL PROVISION - SUSPENSIONS OF STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS AND EXPIRATION

Statute of limitations and expiration of any actions and rights are suspended. This paragraph is applicable as far as we are concerned to all actions which have a term of the statute of limitation and that will be suspended.

The General Council of the Judiciary, following the Royal Decree of the government declaring the State of Alarm, has ordered to **SUSPEND ALL SCHEDULED PROCEDURAL ACTS, HEARINGS and procedures deadlines**.

This means that no trials will take place at Courts and that the deadlines in the procedures are suspended while the State of Alarm is in place.

**The date for these above mentioned measures coming into force is the date of its publication, 14th March 2020.**