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Madrid region orders partial lockdown in poorer areas hit by COVID-19

Madrid.—The regional government of the Spanish capital Madrid ordered a lockdown from Monday in some of the poorer areas of the city and its outskirts that are home to about 850,000 people, after a surge in coronavirus infections there.

Regional leader Isabel Diaz Ayuso said on Friday movement between and within areas in six districts would be restricted, but people would be able to go to work in Spain's hardest-hit region.

Residents in Madrid's poorer districts had said earlier they felt abandoned, stigmatised and feared new restrictions would deprive

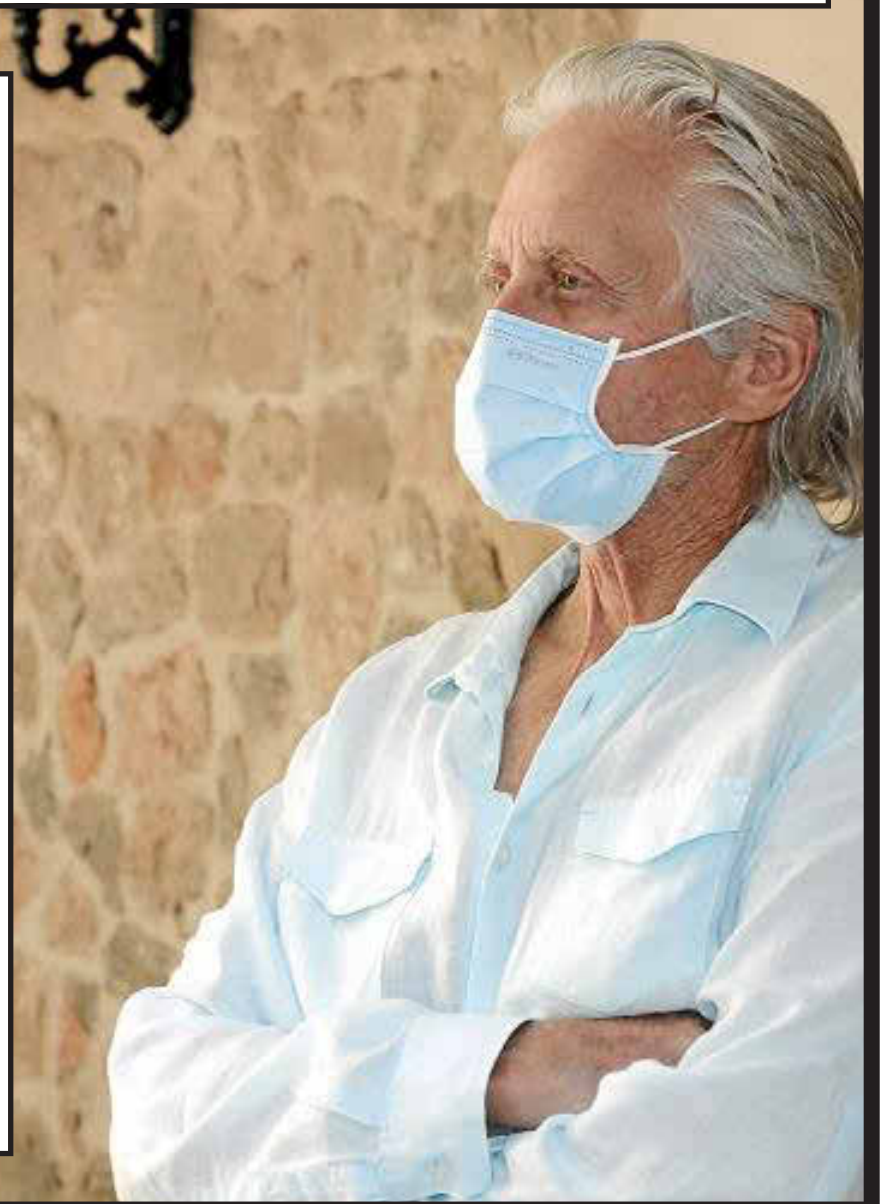
them of income. After the announcement, a few hundred protestors gathered in front of the offices of Madrid's regional government to demand Ayuso quit.

"The health centres are saturated in the south of the city and they have not done anything about it," said protester Rosa Baras, 65.

Ayuso, who attracted criticism for saying this week "the way of life of immigrants" was partly to blame for the rise in cases, said the areas had been chosen because contagion levels there exceeded 1,000 per 100,000 people.

MICHAEL DOUGLAS TALKS MAJORCA, POLITICS, HIS FAMILY AND FUTURE PLANS IN WIDE-RANGING INTERVIEW: SEE PAGES 20, 21 AND 22.

“WE HAVE ENJOYED SOME FANTASTIC MONTHS ON MAJORCA”



Former British tourism minister plans Majorca Christmas: Page 3