

Dezember 2020

Länderbericht

Auslandsbüro USA, Washington D.C.



Dezember Corona Update: Aktuelle Studien, Analysen und Kommentare

Zusammengestellt von: Dirk Hegen

Die Corona-Krise hat über die erheblichen gesundheitlichen Risiken und Folgen hinaus weitreichende Auswirkungen auf die Wirtschaft, Sicherheit, Forschung, Innen- und Außenpolitik sowie das gesellschaftliche Leben in den Vereinigten Staaten. Namhafte US-amerikanische Think Tanks und Experten setzen sich intensiv mit den unterschiedlichen Aspekten und Herausforderungen dieser in ihrem Umfang und ihrer Schnelligkeit beispiellosen Krise auseinander. Für einen Überblick über den aktuellen Stand der Diskussion stellt das KAS-Auslandsbüro USA mit Sitz in Washington D.C. monatlich eine Auswahl an Studien, Analysen und Kommentaren jeweils mit Links zu den Beiträgen zusammen.

“Global Economic Effects of COVID-19”

Quelle: Congressional Research Service (December 23, 2020)

James K. Jackson, Coordinator, Specialist in International Trade and Finance, et al.

This updated [report](#) shows that in the months since the COVID-19 outbreak was first diagnosed, it has spread to over 200 countries and all U.S. states. The pandemic has negatively affected global economic growth beyond anything experienced in nearly a century. This report provides a detailed picture of these developments.

“Conflict Zones in the Time of Coronavirus: War and War by Other Means”

Quelle: The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (December 17, 2020)

Jarrett Blanc, Senior Fellow, Geoeconomics and Strategy Program; Frances Z. Brown, Senior Fellow, Democracy, Conflict, and Governance Program

This [compendium](#) shows that as the coronavirus pandemic approaches the one-year mark, its toll on global health, economies, and politics almost everywhere has been immense. According to the authors, the coronavirus has devastated fragile and conflict-affected states, exacerbating suffering and, in some cases, shifting power dynamics in ways that are likely to influence politics or the conflicts even when the pandemic subsides.

“What Is the World Doing to Distribute COVID-19 Vaccines?”

Quelle: Council on Foreign Relations (December 21, 2020)

Claire Felter, Senior Copy Editor/Writer

According to this [backgrounder](#), governments and researchers have been working with an extremely ambitious timetable to provide billions of people with immunity to the new coronavirus. Now, the first vaccines are being distributed, spurring hope that the pandemic's end is in sight.

“Co-Chair Statement on the December 2020 Commission Meeting - U.S. Global Health Security in the Covid-19 Era: Momentous Transitions”

Quelle: Center for Strategic and International Studies (December 21, 2020)

Julie Gerberding, Executive Vice President and Chief Patient Officer, Merck; Commission Co-Chair; Kelly Ayotte, Former Senator (R-NH), Commission Co-Chair

The Co-Chairs of CSIS' Commission on Strengthening America's Health Security [discuss](#) the Commission's December 2nd meeting, which marked the beginning of a second two-year effort, during which time the Commission will “drive discourse and develop concrete action agendas for U.S. health security policy in the Covid-19 era.”

“KFF COVID-19 Vaccine Monitor: December 2020”

Quelle: Kaiser Family Foundation (December 15, 2020)

According to KFF, the COVID-19 [Vaccine Monitor](#) is an ongoing research project tracking the public's attitudes and experiences with COVID-19 vaccinations. Using a combination of surveys and focus groups, this project will track the dynamic nature of public opinion as vaccine development unfolds, including vaccine confidence and hesitancy, trusted messengers and messages, as well as the public's experiences with vaccination as distribution begins.

“How Do OECD Forum Attendees Compare with Citizens Around the World on Views About the Pandemic, the Economy, and Multilateralism?”

Quelle: Pew Research Center (December 15, 2020)

Richard Wike, Director of Global Attitudes Research

This [presentation](#) at the OECD annual forum on December 15, 2020 shared the results of an invitation-only poll of forum attendees about the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts, the state of the global economy, the future of work, and cooperation between countries. The presentation compared the poll's results to findings from Pew Research Center surveys of general publics around the world.

“Pandemic Consequences: The Acceleration of Confrontational Politics”

Quelle: Just Security, Reiss Center on Law and Security, New York University School of Law. (December 17, 2020)

Thomas Carothers, Guest Author; Benjamin Press Guest Author

This [article](#) discusses another critical trend during the pandemic: contrary to the hopes of some observers, the pandemic is also fueling the longer-term ascendancy of confrontational politics. The authors predict that “going forward, the disruptive potential of ever more confrontational politics will remain a core challenge to political stability as the world staggers toward post-pandemic life.”

“Remote Learning Is Here to Stay - Results from the First American School District Panel Survey”

Quelle: RAND Corporation (December 15, 2020)

Heather L. Schwartz, Director, Pre-K to 12 Educational Systems Program; Senior Policy Researcher; et al.

School districts in the United States have approached reopening public schools during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic in notably different ways. The authors of this [report](#) developed a national picture of school districts' needs and approaches to school reopenings by fielding a survey to the new American School District Panel, which consists of leaders of more than 375 school districts and charter management organizations.

“Congress Passes \$900 Billion Coronavirus Relief Bill”

Quelle: Tax Foundation (December 21, 2020)

Garrett Watson, Senior Policy Analyst; Erica York Economist

This [report](#) analyses the coronavirus relief bill, signed by the President on December 27th. The authors show that the law extends and modifies several provisions first enacted in the CARES Act, Congress's \$2.2 trillion pandemic relief law that was passed in March. With this package, lawmakers responded to the coronavirus and related economic hardship with a record-setting \$3 trillion of fiscal support. The package extends relief through mid-March 2021, providing support to people and businesses through the next several months of the pandemic.

“How the COVID-19 Pandemic is Transforming State Budgets”

Quelle: Urban Institute (December 22, 2020)

This [database](#) traces how the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting recession have dramatically reshaped state economies and budgets. According to the Urban Institute, the severity of the pandemic and economic downturn varies significantly across states, creating unique economic and political pressures. The database collects health, economic, and fiscal data for all 50 states and the District of Columbia to show how each individual state has changed during this crisis.

“Keep it timely, targeted, and temporary: Policymakers should reject calls to make pandemic unemployment benefits permanent”

Quelle: American Enterprise Institute (December 17, 2020)

Matt Weidinger, Rowe Fellow

In this [report](#) the author suggests that “policy-makers should reject efforts to convert temporary policies unique to the pandemic into permanent features of the nation’s unemployment benefit program. Doing so would result in higher unemployment, higher taxes on jobs, and lower wages for workers.”

“The post-COVID world this week: More vaccines bring more problems, Australia and China’s trade ‘beef’ intensifies, and the rise of resilient power”

Quelle: The Atlantic Council (December 18, 2020)

This weekly [guide](#) covers new vaccines, related logistical hurdles for governments, as well as “Australia’s pandemic-fueled trade spat with China.” Furthermore, it states that the World Health Organization dispatched scientists to solve this era’s biggest mystery and asks “what exactly caused the pandemic?”

“More economic relief and stimulus: Why and how”

Quelle: The Brookings Institution (December 16, 2020)

William G. Gale, The Arjay and Frances Fearing Miller Chair in Federal Economic Policy, Senior Fellow - Economic Studies, Director - Retirement Security Project, Co-Director - Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center

This [report](#) argues that "COVID response policy is economic policy right now. The more traditional economic stimulus and relief are the focus of this policy brief, but they must be supplemented by effective responses to the virus itself (mask-wearing, testing, tracing, developing treatments and vaccines, etc.)." The report also claims that full economic recovery requires that the virus be contained, but the "policy measures discussed here will help provide relief and improve the economy until containment is achieved."

"Key Labor Provisions in the COVID-19 Response Package"

Quelle: American Action Forum (December 22, 2020)

Isabel Soto, Director of Labor Market Policy

This [report](#) discusses the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 (CAA), which includes the latest coronavirus relief plan. The Act extends several pre-existing provisions from previous coronavirus-related legislation that support unemployed individuals and those still attached to the labor force. Other workforce-related provisions highlighted include extending paid sick leave, additional funding for employment training, and additional funding for the Child Care & Development Block Grant program.

"Global Mobility and the Threat of Pandemics: Evidence from Three Centuries"

Quelle: Center for Global Development (December 10, 2020)

Michael Clemens, Director of Migration, Displacement, Humanitarian Policy and Senior Fellow; Thomas Ginn, Research Fellow

This [paper](#) argues that countries restrict the overall extent of international travel and migration to balance the expected costs and benefits of mobility in a pandemic and asks how, given the

ever-present threat of new, future pandemics, permanent restrictions on mobility should respond.

"COVID-19 Vaccine: The End of the Epidemic is Within Reach"

Quelle: Pioneer Institute (December 8, 2020)

Joe Selvaggi, Host of HubWonk; Guest: Peter Kolchinsky, Ph.D., biotechnology investor and a scientist.

This [podcast](#) focuses on the rapid development, efficacy, and rollout of the newly approved COVID-19 vaccines.

"Variation in US Hospital Mortality Rates for Patients Admitted With COVID-19 During the First 6 Months of the Pandemic"

Quelle: American Medical Association - JAMA (December 22, 2020)

David A. Asch, MD, MBA, Division of General Internal Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia and Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, et al.

This [research](#) investigates hospital-level mortality which may depend not just on patient risk factors, but also on the hospital where patients are admitted. The study finds that Individual-level and hospital-level mortality rates are also likely to improve over time with increasing experience with the disease and as new treatments become available. The research used data from a large national health insurer in the U.S. to estimate the variation in hospital-level mortality.

“Four steps to undo the harms of legacy infrastructure in the COVID-19 recovery”

Quelle: Brookings Institution (December 17, 2020)

Shalini Vajjhala, Nonresident Senior Fellow - Metropolitan Policy Program; Joseph W. Kane Senior Research Associate and Associate Fellow - Metropolitan Policy Program

This [report](#) shows that the COVID-19 pandemic has brought underlying infrastructure failures into sharp relief; for Americans who can't afford their bills, electricity and water shutoffs have become an immediate public health hazard. However, to the authors, the current pandemic-induced economic crisis is an “opportunity to address these structural inequities.” The authors also propose a four-part national infrastructure stimulus program.

“Coronavirus Crisis Update: Chris Murray, America’s Reopening”

Quelle: Center for Strategic and International Studies (December 21, 2020)

Host: H. Andrew Schwartz, Chief Communications Officer

Guest: Chris Murray, Director of the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), University of Washington

This [podcast](#) covers Covid-19, which pushed modeling onto new ground, as forecasting of individual and governmental behavior became essential to inform decisions in the near to medium term. According to Murray “looking ahead to 2021, in Q1 and 2 we will see a profound pivot, as vaccinations are scaled, winter ends, government policies evolve, and immunity within the population rises.” Murray concludes that “we should arrive at a surprisingly decent place in June or July.”

Für die aktuellen Zahlen zur Coronakrise in den USA:

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/coronavirus-us-cases.html>

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e. V.

Paul Linnarz
Leiter Auslandsbüro USA, Washington D.C.
Europäische und Internationale Zusammenarbeit
www.kas.de

paul.linnarz@kas.de



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