

Februar 2021

Länderbericht

Auslandsbüro USA, Washington D.C.



Februar 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. Die bisherigen Ausgaben des Corona Update: USA finden Sie [hier](#).

“Remarks by President Biden at an Event Commemorating the 50 Millionth COVID-19 Vaccine Shot”

Quelle: The White House (February 25, 2021)

During his [remarks](#), President Biden thanked the National Institutes of Health saying that “the brilliant team there made possible the rapid deployment and development of COVID-19 vaccines. And this administration will follow the science to deliver more breakthroughs.” He also stated that “today, I’m here to report we’re halfway there: 50 million shots in just 37 days since I’ve become President. That’s weeks ahead of schedule, even with the setbacks we faced.”

“A Guide to Global COVID-19 Vaccine Efforts”

Quelle: Council on Foreign Relations (February 5, 2021)

Claire Felter, Senior Copy Editor/Writer

This [guide](#) shows that about one year after the new coronavirus emerged, the first vaccines to protect against it are being administered. While

governments, multilateral organizations, and private firms have spent billions of dollars to develop effective vaccines, the author also explains that production challenges, vaccine nationalism, and new virus strains are presenting obstacles.

“A COVID Vaccine Certificate: Building on Lessons from Digital ID for the Digital Yellow Card”

Quelle: Center for Global Development (February 11, 2021)

Alan Gelb, Senior Fellow; Anit Mukherjee, Policy Fellow

This [report](#) discusses that as more states are scaling up their vaccination programs and the number of vaccinated people increases, a COVID Vaccine Certificate (CVC) is “likely to become an important tool to help monitor and manage the rollout of vaccinations and get national economies back on track.” According to the authors, such a credential would also be needed to facilitate the safe movement of people across countries, including to rejuvenate the tourism industry, which is important for many developing countries.

“Stitching Together a Solution: Lessons from the Open Source Hardware Response to COVID-19”

Quelle: Wilson Center (February 2021)

Anne Bowser, Deputy Director of STIP, Director of Innovation and Innovation Specialist, et al.

According to this [publication](#), thousands of individuals across the United States and around the world formed virtual networks to activate engineers, medical professionals, logistics experts, and regulatory specialists in response to the coronavirus. These networks relied on open source hardware (OSH) approaches to quickly create, collectively iterate, and disseminate designs for medical supplies. The authors assess that “overall, the OSH response to the COVID-19 crisis is an inspiring example of disparate communities coming together to leverage open, distributed design and manufacturing to meet a moment of international need.”

“Fact Sheet: President Biden Announces New Actions to Expand and Improve COVID-19 Testing”

Quelle: The White House (February 17, 2021)

President Biden [announced](#) a series of new actions to expand the United States’ COVID-19 response. These actions include the expansion of COVID-19 testing for schools and underserved populations, an increase in domestic manufacturing of testing supplies and in virus genome sequencing efforts.

“COVID-19 Q&A: Dr. Debra Kaysen on Individual and Collective Stress & Grief”

Quelle: Stanford University (February 2021)

Dr. Debra Kaysen, Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Public Mental Health & Population Sciences Division

In this [Q&A](#), Dr. Debra Kaysen discusses “the countless individual tragedies of the virus that come together in a cumulative and mutual loss to which few of us are immune.” She also discusses communal grief and how to deal with the societal stress of COVID-19.

“AEI Polling Report: Vice President Harris, top 10 COVID-19 public opinion trends, Trump voters’ attitudes, and Ordinary Life: Gambling and playing the market”

Quelle: American Enterprise Institute (February 22, 2021)

Karlyn Bowman, Senior Fellow

For this [polling report](#), AEI reviewed hundreds of questions asked in the past year about the coronavirus pandemic. This report highlights specific trends, illustrated with surveys from major pollsters. Findings include substantial increases in the number of people who know someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 and died from it; that a majority of 61 percent are currently worried about contracting the virus; and that Americans have reported relatively stable mental, physical, and emotional well-being since the beginning of the pandemic.

“This economic crisis is also a crisis for democracy”

Quelle: Atlantic Council (February 16, 2021)

Amanda Dickerson, Contributor, Atlantic Council GeoEconomics Center

According to this [blog](#), the COVID-19 pandemic is inflicting economic damage across the world,

which “may be having an insidious knock-on effect: eroding faith in democracy, especially among young people. Millennials across the globe are more disillusioned with democracy than any other generation was at the same stage of life.” The author also provides suggestions to ease this crisis of democracy.

“Vaccinating Older Adults in the US Against COVID-19: A Work in Progress”

Quelle: Kaiser Family Foundation (February 25, 2021)

Meredith Freed, Policy Analyst, Program on Medicare Policy; et al.

This [issue brief](#) shows that states have made progress in vaccinating older adults against COVID-19 in recent weeks, but that no state has vaccinated at least half of its older population. According to the authors, twenty-two states and the District of Columbia have vaccinated at least one-third of their residents who are 65 and older against COVID-19. The share of adults 65 and older who have received at least one dose of a vaccine ranges from 49 percent in North Carolina to 27 percent in Pennsylvania.

“Internet search patterns reveal clinical course of COVID-19 disease progression and pandemic spread across 32 countries”

Quelle: Boston Children’s Hospital, Boston, MA (February 11, 2021)

Tina Lu and Ben Y. Reis, Predictive Medicine Group, Computational Health Informatics Program, Boston Children’s Hospital

This [study](#) shows that Internet search data can be useful for characterizing the detailed clinical course of a disease. These data are available in real-time at population scale, providing important

benefits as a complementary resource for tracking pandemics, especially before widespread laboratory testing is available.

“Comments to FCC Regarding an Emergency Expansion of E-Rate Funding”

Quelle: Information Technology & Innovation Foundation (ITIF) (February 16, 2021)

Doug Brake, Director, Broadband and Spectrum Policy; Alexandra Bruer, Policy Analyst

ITIF filed [comments](#) to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), supporting an expansion of the E-Rate program to help address the homework gap during the pandemic, stating that “the Commission has the authority to augment this program, especially in the face of unprecedented changes to the typical learning environment during the COVID-19 pandemic. ITIF also recommended that the FCC “should expand supported services with low-cost, technology-neutral tools to connect to existing networks.”

“Advisory Committee Meeting - Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee February 26, 2021 Meeting Announcement”

Quelle: United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) (February 26, 2021)

In this briefing [document](#) the FDA finds that the Johnson & Johnson shot was shown to be 66.9% effective against moderate to severe/critical COVID-19 cases 14 days after vaccination. A large clinical trial indicated no COVID-19 hospitalizations or deaths 28 days after patients received the vaccine. “The analysis supported a favorable safety profile with no specific safety concerns identified that would preclude issuance of an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA),” the FDA concluded, thereby authorizing a third vaccine in the U.S.

“Educators are key in protecting student mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic”

Quelle: Brookings (February 24, 2021)

Marty Swanbrow Becker, Associate Professor of Psychological and Counseling Services, Educational Psychology and Learning Systems Department, Florida State University

According to this [report](#), American students were experiencing widespread mental-health distress long before the COVID-19 pandemic took hold and that youth suicide has been on the rise for the past decade. Nevertheless, according to the author, the pandemic is making matters worse, as evidenced by a recent survey, which showed that over 80% of college students reported that COVID-19 has impacted their lives through increased isolation, loneliness, stress, and sadness.

“A transatlantic cure to the pandemic and structural global health shortcomings?”

Quelle: Wilson Center (February 16, 2021)

Remco van de Pas, Senior Research Associate;
Louise van Schaik, Senior Research Fellow

This [article](#) identifies topics and recommendations for U.S.-EU cooperation in improving global health governance. The authors assess that the credibility of the EU and U.S. will hinge upon their ability to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic at home and that extensive and innovative policies are needed in the fight against disinformation that fuels vaccine hesitancy. They conclude that the EU and the U.S. have to restore confidence in the ability of liberal democracies to overcome the crises caused by the pandemic.

“Resilience and Adaptation: International Relations after COVID”

Quelle: American Council on Germany (February 9, 2021)

Host: Steven E. Sokol, President, American Council on Germany

Speakers: Sharon Burke, Senior Advisor, International Security Program and Resource Security Program, New America; Dr. Stefan Mair, Director, German Institute for International and Security Affairs (Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, SWP).

This [online discussion](#) looks into the impact of COVID-19 on international affairs, as countries around the world struggle to roll out vaccines to combat the coronavirus crisis. The discussion shows, however, that the pandemic is not the only global challenge on the international agenda.

“COVID-19 Vaccine Indicators”

Quelle: Resolve to Save Lives – Vital Strategies (February 2021)

In this [report](#), Resolve to Save Lives – Vital Strategies proposes six additional “vaccine indicators” to supplement the previously recommended 15 essential indicators to control COVID-19, and highlight best practices among state COVID-19 vaccine dashboards. The report also emphasizes that states need “to prepare now to share vaccine-related data to inform decision-making and provide accountability and transparency in vaccine rollout and that these data will become increasingly important as vaccine supplies increase in the months to come. “

“Operational Strategy for K-12 Schools through Phased Mitigation”

Quelle: Centers for Disease Control (CDC) (February 26, 2021)

This [operational strategy](#) presents recommendations based on the “best-available evidence at the time of release.” The CDC notes that in order to enable schools to open safely and remain open, it is important to adopt and consistently implement actions to slow the spread of SARS-CoV-2 both in schools and in the community. Recommendations further include universal wearing of masks by students, staff and teachers, testing, vaccinating, as well as social distancing.

Für die aktuellen Zahlen zur Coronakrise in den USA:

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

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