

September 2022

# Länderbericht

Auslandsbüro USA, Washington D.C.



## September 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](#).

### “The Lancet Commission on lessons for the future from the COVID-19 pandemic”

Quelle: The Lancet (September 14, 2022)

Jeffrey D. Sachs, Center for Sustainable Development, Columbia University; Salim S. Abdool Karim, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University; Joseph Allen, Department of Environmental Health, Harvard Chan School of Public Health; et al.

According to the commission’s [report](#), as of May 31, 2022, there were 6,9 million reported deaths and 17,2 million estimated deaths from COVID-19, as reported by the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation. The authors state that “this staggering death toll is both a profound tragedy and a massive global failure at multiple levels. Too many governments have failed to adhere to basic norms of institutional rationality and transparency, too many people—often influenced by misinformation—have disrespected and protested against basic public health precautions, and the world’s major powers have failed to collaborate to control the pandemic.”

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### “COVID-19: Potential Implications for International Security Environment—Overview of Issues and Further Reading for Congress”

Quelle: Congressional Research Service (September 28, 2022)

Ronald O'Rourke, Specialist in Naval Affairs

This updated [overview](#) highlights issues for Congress which may include whether and how the pandemic could change the international security environment, whether the Biden Administration’s actions for responding to such change are appropriate and sufficient, and what implications such change could have for the role of Congress in setting and overseeing the execution of U.S. foreign and defense policy. The author also states that Congress’s decisions regarding these issues could have significant implications for U.S. foreign and defense policy.

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### “The WTO and vaccine supply chain resilience during a pandemic”

Quelle: Peterson Institute for International Economics (September, 2022)

Chad P. Bown, Reginald Jones Senior Fellow

This [paper](#) describes the market failures justifying the domestic subsidies and contracting arrangements used to accelerate vaccine research and development and to increase the scale of vaccine production to save lives, livelihoods, and economic activity during a pandemic. It highlights tradeoffs associated with the US subsidies and the priority-rated contracts written through the Defense Production Act under Operation Warp Speed. This case study also reveals an environment in which cross-border supply chains exacerbate input shortages in ways that constrain vaccine production, highlighting the need for the WTO to embrace new forms of international policy coordination for pandemic preparedness and response.

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### **“Partisan differences are common in the lessons Americans take away from COVID-19”**

Quelle: Pew Research Center (September 6, 2022)

Giancarlo Pasquini, Research Associate; Emily Saks, Research Assistant

This Pew Research Center [survey](#) asked U.S. adults what they have learned from the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the authors “Americans’ thoughts about these questions are often divided along partisan lines.” The study claims that Democrats and those who lean to the Democratic Party often mention appreciation for the vaccine development process and the speed at which vaccines and treatments were developed. Another top response is a respect for science generally. By comparison, with Republicans and those who lean to the GOP, skepticism toward vaccines is the top response and “mentions of distrust of the pharmaceutical industry and government officials are also relatively frequent.”

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### **“Phase Two of ‘Vaccine Diplomacy’: Expanding Global Vaccine Production Capabilities”**

Quelle: Wilson Center (September 29, 2022)

#### Moderator:

Benjamin Gedan, Acting Director, Latin American Program, Director, Argentina Project

#### Panelists:

Jens Spahn, Member of Parliament, Deutscher Bundestag and Former Health Minister, Government of Germany

Daniel Rodriguez, Director, Procurement & Supply Management, Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)

John Lepore, Senior Vice President, Government Engagement, Moderna

Rosane Cuber Guimarães, Vice-Director of Quality, Bio-Manguinhos

This [online event](#) discusses several questions regarding “vaccine diplomacy” including: Should U.S. and European producers of highly effective mRNA vaccines invest more in overseas production? What are the public health and geopolitical implications of Chinese and Russian vaccine production in the developing world? What is the status of European Union and World Health Organization efforts to build vaccine development and production capabilities in Latin America and other developing regions? What are the strengths and barriers in countries such as Argentina, Brazil and Mexico?

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### **“BROWN CENTER CHALKBOARD - Financial, political motives explain colleges’ COVID-19 reopening decisions”**

Quelle: Brookings Institution (September 27, 2022)

Sophie Eldridge, Senior, Davidson College Student Leader, College Crisis Initiative; Danny Klinenberg, PhD Candidate, University of California, Santa Barbara; Dick Startz, Professor of Economics, University of California, Santa Barbara

This [research](#) indicates that institutional decision-making was informed by financial incentives in the fall of 2020. When schools, particularly private schools, derived a larger percentage of their core revenue from auxiliary services, the financial burden of operating online may have seemed too risky. The authors also state that political influences also may have shaped public institutions' instructional modes, with more in-person instruction in states controlled by Republicans. As the school year developed and vaccines rolled out, schools again had to make a difficult choice to reassess and determine their future operation mode, some incorporating these online systems and some leaving them in the past.

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### **“A Fireside Chat with Dr. Ashish Jha, White House Covid-19 Response Coordinator”**

Quelle: Center for Strategic and International Studies (September 29, 2022)

Host:

J. Stephen Morrison  
Senior Vice President and Director, Global Health Policy Center, CSIS

Guest:

Ashish Jha, White House Covid-19 Response Coordinator

This [conversation](#) covers the history of the COVID pandemic, while also touching on the recent bivalent vaccine campaign. When asked about his greatest concern Jha stated: “I think a lot of people want to put the pandemic in the rear-view mirror. And I appreciate that sentiment. But the challenge right now is to remind people that it's still a real ongoing threat and that if we do the things that we know how to do and if we execute on those things as a government and if people do the things that they need to do to protect themselves, we really can get through this in a much, much better way with far fewer hospitalization stats.”

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### **“The Impacts of Covid-19 Illnesses on Workers”**

Quelle: National Bureau of Economic Research (September 2022)

Gopi Shah Goda, Stanford University  
Evan J. Soltas, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Department of Economics

This [research](#) shows that Covid-19 illnesses persistently reduce labor supply. The authors estimate that workers with week-long Covid-19 work absences are 7 percentage points less likely to be in the labor force one year later compared to otherwise-similar workers who do not miss a week of work for health reasons. These estimates suggest Covid-19 illnesses have reduced the U.S. labor force by approximately 500,000 people (0.2 percent of adults) and imply an average forgone earnings per Covid-19 absence of at least \$9,000, about 90 percent of which reflects lost labor supply beyond the initial absence week.

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### **“U.S. Life Expectancy Is in Decline. Why Aren't Other Countries Suffering the Same Problem?”**

Quelle: Council on Foreign Relations (September 8, 2022)

This [brief](#) shows that the U.S. drop-off in life expectancy is mainly due to COVID-19. Increases in deaths due to the coronavirus disease accounted for just over half of the decline. Since the pandemic's start, COVID-19 has killed more than a million Americans, by far the highest reported death toll of any country; and in 2021, COVID-19 remained the third leading cause of death among Americans. But the CDC found that also higher was mortality due to unintentional injuries and heart disease, among other causes. The rise in unintentional injuries was driven by drug overdoses, as COVID-19 has exacerbated the country's opioid epidemic.

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## “Meta’s Emergency: Oversight Board Comment on COVID-19 Misinformation Policies”

Quelle: CATO Institute (September 2, 2022)

Will Duffield, Policy Analyst

This [article](#) comments on Facebook’s fact checking procedures and changes made to them in response to Covid-19. That author states that “while Covid-19 persists, the emergency that necessitated, or at least justified extraordinary action has waned. The Oversight Board should make use of this opportunity to formally bring Meta’s Covid-19 content moderation state of exception to a close, and avoid the establishment of a “new normal” of platform responsibility for policing users’ truth claims.”

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### Für die aktuellen Zahlen zur Coronakrise in den USA:

<https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/>

### Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e. V.

Dirk Hegen  
Program Manager, KAS Auslandsbüro USA, Washington D.C.  
Europäische und Internationale Zusammenarbeit  
[www.kas.de](http://www.kas.de)

[dirk.hegen@kas.de](mailto:dirk.hegen@kas.de)



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