

EASAC – Virtual Council Meeting 26 and 27 November 2020

Roundtable Presentation of Member
Academies' Activities
(with focus on Covid-19 related projects)



Institutes of the Austrian Academy of Sciences (ÖAW) are involved in various COVID-19 related research initiatives and public events:

- **Life Science Cluster:** development of two new antigen test procedures, monitoring of SARS-CoV-2 genome mutations, development of drug (ANP01), epidemiological modelling and data-analysis, modelling of infection rates and monitoring of lock-down effects
- **Humanities, Social Sciences and Economics:** The Austrian constitution and the Corona-pandemic, COVID-19 and the financial system, two Web-seminars of the Vienna Institute of Demography tackling issues like: “Restarting the Economy While Saving Lives Under COVID-19” or “Demographic Aspects of the COVID-19 Pandemic and its Consequences”

Science and Society:

- Expert interviews in public television, ÖAW Podcast MAKRO MIKRO, Science Journalism Fellowship
- ÖAW Prize: „The role of the Sciences in the Corona Crisis?“,

ÖAW online-portal to COVID-19: <https://www.oeaw.ac.at/corona/>

- Includes Facts and Figures | Projects | Expert-Listing
- Offers a list of experts to Corona-related topics; experts are ready to share information and to be contacted also by journalists.

Croatian Academy CASA July – Dec 2020

*COVID 19: a) Statement on COVID 19 17.3.2020:
Nov 17/May 10: infected 87.464/2244; dead: 1113/101*

*b) Sept-Nov: Series of 5 one-day conferences
addressing ‘Brave new world: democracy, rights..’
‘Technology’, ‘Students’: CASA + Uni Rijeka*

<http://info.hazu.hr/upload/File/2020/Simpozij-COVID-IV-FINALNO.pdf>; <https://uniri.hr/covid-19-messages-o-pandemiji-iz-pet-perspektiva/>

c) Statements: climate + earthquake –17.3. + 23.3.

[//info.hazu.hr/.Statement on Climate Change](http://info.hazu.hr/.Statement on Climate Change)

*Contentions: role of gas – earthquake damage done by
natural gas chimneys (as in 1880) → alt: decarbonization*



Czech Academy
of Sciences

Czech Academy of Sciences

Virtual meeting of EASAC Council – November 2020

Hana Sychrová

President of the Council for International Affairs of the CAS

☐ Science for policy-makers

- Memorandum of Cooperation with the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Rep.

☐ Science for public

- Online Week of Science and Technology (11/2020)

☐ Covid-19

- #Veda_proti_covidu (Science against Covid)
- On-line support for education (elementary schools – high schools)
- Regular radio programme with virolog Jan Konvalinka (IOCB)
- Regular papers and studies of the think-tank IDEA (CERGE–EI, economy)
- Participation in governmental advisory body (AntiCovid)
- 5 CAS institutes involved in PCR testing
- New programme for Strategy AV 21 (multidisciplinary projects –Top research in public interest)
- Plans for a new Virology centre (collaboration with Masaryk University, Brno, EU funds)

CAS president Eva Zažímalová – new member of EC Group of Chief Scientific Advisors (May 2021)

ESTONIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

Science-for-Policy activities
of the last six months

Jaak Järv

Secretary General

e-mail: jaak.jarv@ut.ee

EASAC Council meeting 26-27 November 2020

Newspapers and social media

- Communicating opinions of our Academy members about pandemic management, research news and prognosis.
- Translating and publishing reports (EASAC, ISC, IAP, ALLEA et al) and declarations of partner academies (Leopoldina, WAAS).

Government

- Advising ministries and parliament offices via research advisers network, which was launched already before the crisis.

Other implications

- Due to restrictions the Academy Meetings, seminars and other events are now broadcasted online and are open for public. This has greatly increased attendance and impact of these events in society.

Thank you for your attention !



Académie des Sciences What communication ?

I – Statements, Web site, Twitter...

Research funding, ERC, Horizon Europe, ERC, fake news

II – Articles in the Press

Understand an exponential growth

III – Round table on TV channels

IV Standing committees on

biosecurity, environment, energy & climate

V - COVID Crisis Unit

- Epidemiology models
- Efficiency of masks
- Efficiency of software tracing
- Vaccinations



Leopoldina
Nationale Akademie
der Wissenschaften

Leopoldina Statements on the Coronavirus Pandemic (March- November 2020)

Summary presentation for EASAC Council
November 2020

Professor Volker ter Meulen



Coronavirus: National Academy Leopoldina presents seven ad-hoc-statements

- Challenges and options for intervention (21 March 2020)
- Measures relevant to health (3 April 2020)
- Sustainable ways to overcome the crisis (13 April 2020)
- Medical care and patient-oriented research in an adaptive healthcare system (29 May 2020)
- Towards a crisis-resistant education system (1 October 2020)
- Establishing effective rules for autumn and winter (8 October 2020)
- How should access to a Covid-19 vaccine be regulated?
(9 November 2020)

A Royal Irish Academy Discussion Paper on Science Advice in Ireland and Europe

Discussion Paper 1 / 2020



Science advice network needed to inform government, RIA says

Network could advise government on viruses, climate change and water supply issues

© Sat, May 23, 2020, 10:14

Kevin O'Sullivan Environment & Science Editor



Dr Mary Canning, President of the Royal Irish Academy. Photograph: Johnny Bambury.



The setting up of an independent network of scientific advisers is needed to

Prof Brian Norton MRIA
Royal Irish Academy Policy and International Relations Secretary



Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei

Activities for COVID-19

<https://www.lincci.it/it/covid-19-documenti-dellaccademia-dei-lincei>

Statements by the Committee on COVID-19

Statements by other Committees

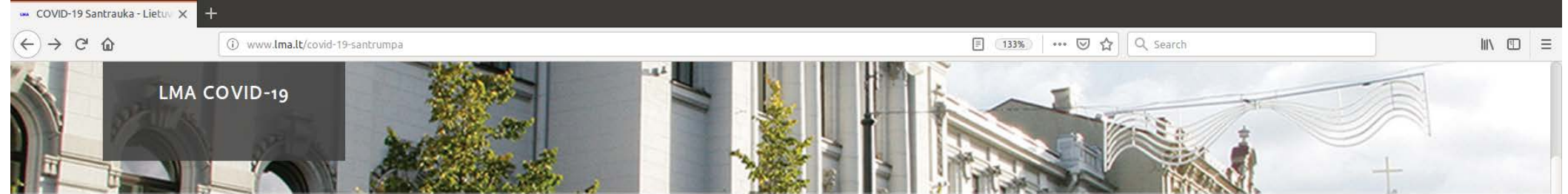
Publications on the Lincei blog of Huffington Post

Scientific articles

Interviews in Radio and TV

Links to other Academies

29 April 2020. Proposed the creation of an European biomedical research institute, with the study of infectious diseases and immune responses as its core mission.



Komisija

[COVID-19 Santrauka](#)

[Trumpos žinios](#)

[COVID-19 Virusologija](#)

[COVID-19 Epidemiologija ir modeliavimas](#)

[COVID-19 Imunologija, diagnostika](#)

[COVID-19 Klinikiniai aspektai](#)

[Vaikų, nėščiųjų ir žindyvių COVID-19](#)

[COVID-19 Gydymas](#)

[COVID-19 Profilaktika ir skiepijimai](#)

[Mokslų akademijos apie COVID-19](#)

COVID-19 Santrauka

Santrauka

Koronaviruso COVID-19 plitimas pasaulyje kasdien keičiasi. Naujausią informaciją sekite [ČIA](#)
Naujausią COVID-19 plitimo Lietuvoje situaciją sekite VĮ Registrų centro [tinklalapyje](#)

Istorija

- 2019.12 – Kinijoje Hubei provincijos Wuhan mieste pirmą kartą nustatyta COVID-19 virusinė infekcija
- 2020.03.11 – PSO COVID-19 infekciją paskelbė pandemija.
- 2020.02.26 – Lietuvoje paskelbta ekstremali padėtis.
- 2020.02.28 – Pirmas patvirtintas COVID-19 infekcijos atvejis Lietuvoje.
- 2020.03.16 – Lietuvoje paskelbtas karantinas.
- 2020.03.18 – Pirmas vietinio užsikrėtimo COVID-19 atvejis Lietuvoje.

Sukėlėjas

Sunkaus ūminio respiracinio sindromo koronavirusas 2 (angl. SARS-CoV-2) yra *Coronaviridae* šeimos virusas, priskirtas *Betacoronavirus* genčiai, sukeliantis ūminę viršutinių ir apatinių kvėpavimo takų infekciją, vadinamą koronavirusine liga 2019 (angl. COVID-19)

Epidemiologija

PSO duomenimis, inkubacinis periodas – nuo 1 iki 14 dienų, dažniausiai – apie 5 dienas. Pavieniais atvejais inkubacijos periodas gali būti ilgesnis.

Infekcijos šaltinis – ligonis. Epidemiologine prasme pavojingiausi sergantieji lengvomis formomis ar besimptomė COVID-19 infekcija.

Jūras Banys, 26 November 2020



KONINKLIJKE NEDERLANDSE
AKADEMIE VAN WETENSCHAPPEN

ROYAL NETHERLANDS ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Science For Policy Projects 2020/2021

IN PROGRESS:

Health Inequalities. An Interdisciplinary Exploration of Socioeconomic Position, Health and Causality (together with FEAM and ALLEA) – an interdisciplinary report on the relationship between socioeconomic status and health.

- *Publication expected in summer 2021*

More Efficient Development and Production of Medicinal Products (together with FEAM) – an assessment of promising developments in science and technology and how these can be used to ensure optimal results.

- *Started in April 2020*

IN DEVELOPMENT:

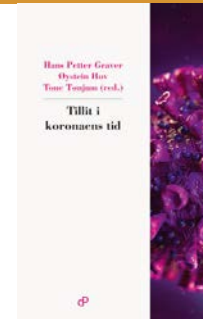
Interdisciplinary COVID19-related Projects

- I. Pandemic Preparedness Plan* – lessons learned and science-based policy recommendations for future pandemics
- II. Impact Of The Pandemic on Trust in Science, Scientists and Scientific Practices* – assessment of positive and negative impact and an exploration of ways to improve the impact of science for policy.



- Seminar series:

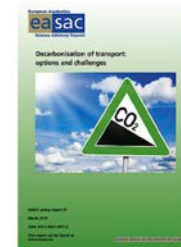
- 1) Trust during the Corona pandemic and
 - 2) Antimicrobial resistance a global problem
- > 16 digital meetings transferred into a published book



- Sept. 2nd 2020: Meeting on “Wood pellets threat to climate change”



- Sept. 9th 2020: Seminar on Decarbonisation of transport



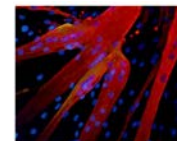
- Oct. 19th 2020: Meeting on Gene modified organisms



- Nov. 19th 2020: Trust in Science and Changing Landscapes of Communication



- Nov 23rd 2020: regenerative medicine → Norwegian focus



COVID-19 Advisory Team – is an interdisciplinary body established at the **Polish Academy of Sciences** on June 30, 2020

Main tasks:



monitoring the epidemic situation in Poland



determining possible scenarios and making appropriate recommendations

establishing cooperation with similar groups in other countries

The Team published **6 position statements** and a report „**Understanding COVID-19**”

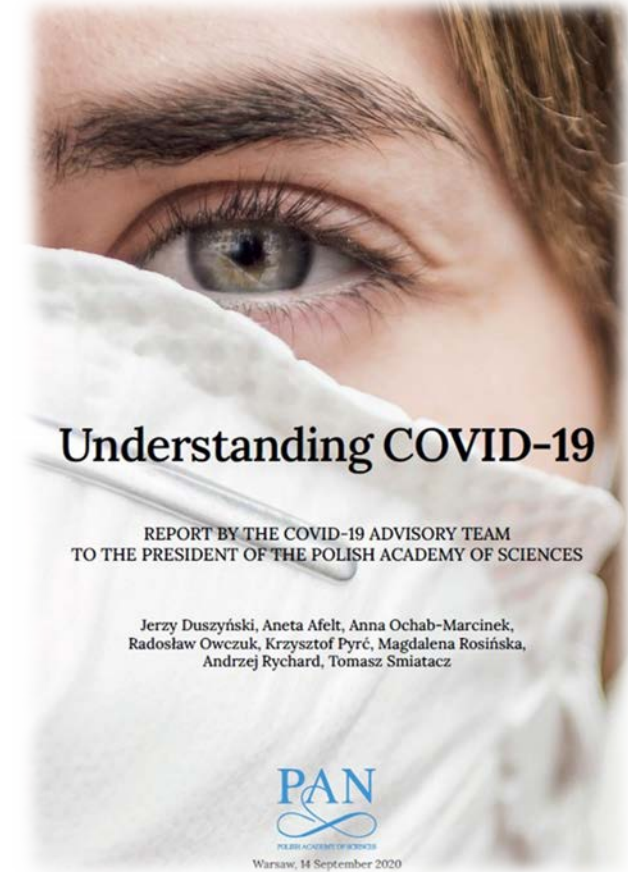
Team’s website:

https://institution.pan.pl/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=462

Example of other science-for-policy activities:

Webinar organised by the Committee for Biotechnology of the PAS entitled:

„Challenges and possibilities of regenerative medicine: EASAC-FEAM report from Polish perspective”, 25 November 2020





EASAC Council Meeting

November 26 - 27, 2020



Mária Omastová
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Science is the future

Political changes in Slovakia



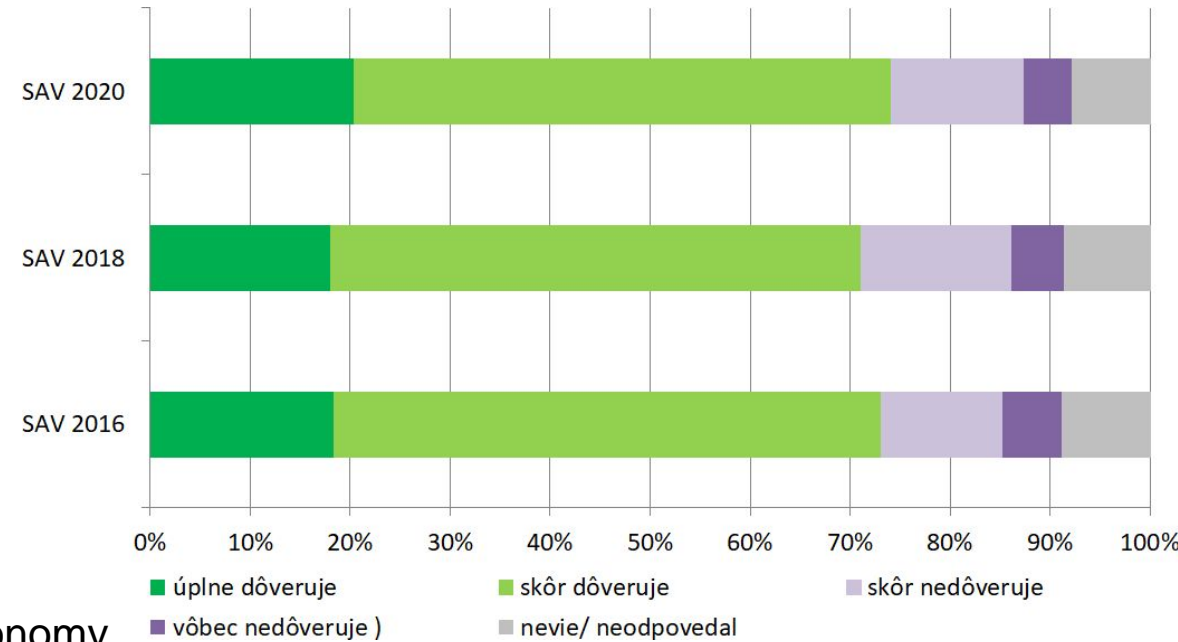
New Government and Parliament since March 21, 2020

During COVID-19 pandemic a lot of scientists from SAS working as experts for pandemic commissions

The President of the Slovak Republic, Zuzana Čaputová, considers it important that people listen to the voice of scientists, experts or doctors during a pandemic.

The results of the repeated survey of the **credibility of the Slovak Academy of Sciences** (years 2016, 2018 and 2020) show the remarkable stability of the confidence of the Slovak population in the SAS over time.

In all surveys, **more than 70% of the Slovak population trusted** (completely or rather trusted) **the SAS**. In the most recent survey, the trust climbed as high as 74%, which is the highest of all observed institutions.



Publication of the EASAC report Packaging plastics in the circular economy

https://www.sav.sk/?lang=sk&doc=services-news&source_no=20&news_no=8903&lang_change=sk

Publication of the EASAC statement on World Science Day for Peace and Development on the website of the SAS.

https://www.sav.sk/index.php?doc=services-news&source_no=20&news_no=9130

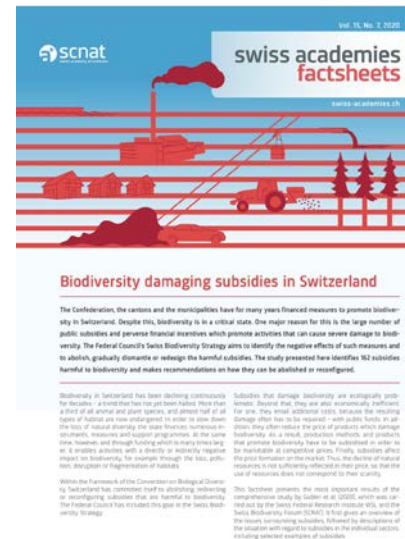
Publication of the article "Politicians listen to scientists in the European Parliament. How does it work?" on the portal „Science at your fingertips". The article presents the mission and activities of EASAC for the wider community.

<https://vedanadosah.cvtisr.sk/politici-vedcov-pocuvaju-aj-v-europskom-parlamente-ako-to-funguje>

Science-for-policy activities

Science-for-policy activities

- **Crisis Competence Centre / Interdisciplinary Science Network (Parliamentary Initiative)**
- **”Biodiversity damaging subsidies in Switzerland” (Factsheet publication)**



Royal Society activities on Covid-19 EASAC Council meeting, May 2020

Professor Richard Catlow FRS
Foreign Secretary



Royal Society science for policy activities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Royal Society is responding to the COVID-19 pandemic in a number of ways:

- Convening science advice groups which are both multidisciplinary and draw from a wide pool of the Fellowship and science community:
 1. **SET-C** - Science in Emergencies Tasking – COVID
 2. **DELVE** - Data Evaluation and Learning for Viral Epidemics
 3. **RAMP** - Rapid Assistance in Modelling the Pandemic
- Our journals are making all research findings and data relevant to the covid-19 pandemic immediately open access
- Supporting teachers by collating a number of resources, activities and videos, to support learning from home
- Working with others on Covid-19 activities such as through our membership of networks of international academies, such as EASAC

Thank you