

Corona News 02/01/2021 Collected Corona topics

103 million infections worldwide. Germany reached 2,226,000 with 46,781 deaths

Infection numbers (million): USA 26, India 10.7, Brazil 9.2, Russia 3.8. EU: France 3.2, Spain 2.7, Italy 2.6, England 3.8. 2.2 million deaths worldwide. Turkey Colombia over 2 million Argentina Mexico Poland Iran Ukraine South Africa Peru Indonesia over 1 million.

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First of all, I would like to draw your attention to a very interesting event organized by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation in Hanover, especially in relation to the many contradicting information in connection with Corona, the topic is: Recognizing fake news and false reports. I think there are still 3 dates today that you can take part in this online workshop. The title of the workshop says very well what it's about, I thought to myself: Just take a look, you actually already know the possibilities. But on the basis of many current examples, mention of many aids such as programs and search options, which are also instructed practically, I call it, a super interesting event. Who has not been upset about all this news, where one does not know whether this is true or not? Unfortunately, there are many black sheep romping about in social networks in particular, spreading masses of false news, photos and videos that show or report certain things. I don't want to go into the event page by page. Registration is possible at: <https://www.fes.de/landesbuero-niedersachsen/veranstaltungen> Unfortunately I have just seen that all dates for this event are fully booked. However, one or the other may still drop out or further dates may be offered. You can also find other interesting online events under the link.

Speaking of fake news. I have one that comes from the federal government. After the announcement of the federal - state measures on January 19, 2021, the federal government published a graphic on the official website that contained the following statement in terms of masks (quote): In buses and trains as well as in shops, the obligation to wear a medical (e.g. operating theater) applies - or FFP2 -) masks (end of quote). After I realized that the masks issued in some pharmacies with the vouchers of the federal government for the purchase of 2x6 FFP2 masks were not medical masks at all, I was first referred to them, but they were. But when I then e-mailed a copy of the mask packaging, where it could clearly be read: This is not a medical device, with the corresponding question, whoosh, suddenly the graphic has changed, there is no longer any talk of medical masks, rather it means it now (quote): With these masks even safer in buses, trains and shops FFP2 -, FFP3 mask: Protects against droplets and aerosols. FFP2 masks filter at least 94%, FFP3 masks at least 99% of the aerosols. Surgical mask: Protects against droplets and less against aerosols (end of quote).

Suddenly sounds completely different. For the first time there is talk of FFP3 masks, which are not at all suitable for private individuals, and medical masks are gone; Nobody can check it anyway, because you can't even look at the masks.

This is possibly good news for all those who received or are receiving short-time allowance last year and this year as well. Here, a tax return is mandatory for several million citizens, since the short-time work allowance paid is taxed afterwards by adding taxable income to it and then calculating the tax. The difference to the tax paid must be paid later, unless enough deductions can be claimed. And that's where the dog is, so to speak, buried: On the one hand, there should be a law that extends the deadline for tax returns by 6 months, i.e. the tax return can be made until the end of the year. Due to the many additional explanations, the tax office will be completely overwhelmed anyway to process all applications, so that in practice there may even be more time available until the tax office contacts you.

However, there is still a law that is already in force: An additional tax exemption limit of 1500 euros in income applies until June 30, 2021. Means, if you want to use that, you have to have made the declaration by this date. And one more word about all the people who are currently in the home office, and that is also a large number of employees in the meantime, in particular the number has grown sharply and the duration of those who do this. This will also have an impact on the next tax return, albeit negatively. Why? What many have not thought of yet, you are at home, you no longer have to drive to and from work every day, which means: The mileage allowance will not apply to many applications for months, just as long as the home office lasts. Loss of reimbursement is preprogrammed here as well.

Of course, the topic of vaccination has to be used again, not a day goes by without new information being presented. What suddenly happened last week: All 2 previous vaccine suppliers and also the new one, AstraZeneca, who had only been approved for a few days, suddenly had delivery problems and volume reductions to the EU were announced. Supply chain problems, it was said. However, they only seemed to apply within the EU, as these cuts did not apply in the USA or Great Britain. And then v.d.Leyen also had to contend with allegations: The contract with AstraZeneca was not as specific and sophisticated as she had always claimed.

Under pressure, the EU Commission then disclosed the contract, so it was written, in reality an almost insignificant, meaningless document over 43 pages, because all relevant passages were blacked out. The first version, in which less experienced employees had posted a version with black passages that could be made to disappear again, quickly disappeared "overnight". So today there should be a vaccination summit with leading figures from the pharmaceutical companies, Merkel and her troops, Spahn, Altmaier and some Prime Ministers. Who else was switched on, no idea. It doesn't matter, because without me knowing a / the result of the summit, it was announced yesterday by Anne Will. Because here too it was about the vaccination problems, among other things, Mr. Altmaier and Prime Minister Weil Niedersachsen were guests or virtually connected. Mr. Weil rightly complained about the ongoing uncertainty, the government and the EU are constantly promising quantities, these are then distributed to regions, which then prepare, and then ... nothing. Again news that less or nothing is being delivered, etc. Constant uncertainty as to when the second vaccinations can be made, etc. But then Altmaier speaks up: That's why the vaccination summit is coming now, and concrete further procedures and volume agreements would certainly be made. He would also have noticed that I am now merging pharmaceutical companies to produce more. Of course, you have to look to see where there is still free production capacity that can be used. And if these are practically not approved by the pharmaceutical companies, one must think about mandatory regulations that must be used. Sounds plausible to the normal viewer at first. Until Mrs. Will asks: Does he know where there is still unused capacity? Oops, what a stupid question for Mr. Altmaier. Because he doesn't even know what to meekly admit. Experts would have to check that, or Herr Spahn would know more. Great idea from him that cannot be implemented at all. But he still takes the pharmaceutical companies under protection, because he seems to know better. Why delivery bottlenecks, why not the full quantity? In his opinion, almost clear. He explains: You have to imagine that 120 people are involved in the production of a bottle of vaccine, and if one fails, there are problems. Well, please, it's that simple.

Other ideas aim in the direction of paying the pharmaceutical companies more money for more productions, which would, so to speak, spur the companies on to top performance. Unfortunately, I can't understand. Sure, if I get 100% more for my work from tomorrow, I'll do one or two overtime hours for free, but it can't be that you only get responsibility for the maximum possible production volume at pharmaceutical companies by overpaid? Or does someone want to claim that the alleged \$ 20 that Biontech is currently receiving, clearly leading the price bar for vaccines, makes them suffer from starvation?

They are certainly already earning a golden nose, you just have to follow the share prices. What kind of business practice is it to only perform when one is overpaid? The next one only produces winter coats if he gets a 50% tax exemption from the state or what? That's not how it works. But I'm afraid that is EXACTLY how it will be at the summit: the thick checks will be unpacked to buy more vaccine doses. Lo and behold: suddenly, even before the summit, AstraZeneca announced that it would deliver more, even if not the full amount. And while we are at AstraZeneca: We remember, last week the Bildzeitung and the Handelsblatt wrote that the vaccine only had a very limited effect in people over 65 years of age, they said 20%. AstraZeneca and the federal government were very flustered, false reports, swapped numbers - those were the reactions. Although the Ministry of Health was not yet able to know about the vaccine. Now the approval has been given, the EU has approved the vaccine for everyone, in Germany it is only approved for 18-64 year olds. Why only if everything that is written in Bild and Handelsblatt is wrong? Who is telling the untruth now? Why this age restriction?

And there is always new news about deaths with a possible connection to vaccines. I don't want to go into it now, I had already dealt with the subject in detail. I just want to say one thing: all institutes, including the Paul Ehrlich Institute, are currently denying any connection with vaccines, other countries also have obvious problems in this regard, but they are still investigating. But I find it interesting, if there is nothing in all of these allegations, why are the sick people associated with the vaccine at all? Where is it known who suddenly became ill after the vaccination? Who is spreading this news? Because one thing is clear: There is no dispute about the numbers of sick people, in this last case 69 people, but about the possible connection with the vaccine.

And since the subject of vaccination is already at the center of the corona debates, more news on this. As it was always said: Don't go it alone, we (Spahn and Co.) are happy that the EU has negotiated the vaccine distribution and that a fair distribution takes place (if something is to be distributed). But that doesn't seem to apply to all EU countries, and I personally think it's good that a country doesn't rely on the EU, because whoever relies on the EU is abandoned. So Hungary. They just approved the Chinese vaccine, about which no information is reported here in Germany, and ordered 5 million doses. The EU can only look on silently. Why did the EU not act here, one has to ask? And good news from Lower Saxony: The first vaccination center in Hanover's exhibition grounds opened today, which is absolutely insane, if you consider that on December 27th a big media wave was triggered about the vaccination start, although there was no wave at all. WOW, Lower Saxony is there. The only question is for how long. Unfortunately, the state government has not yet responded to my inquiries. And what can you say about Moderna: Not much, hardly any new news. Except for one from the USA: 330,000 vaccine doses of Moderna were withdrawn from circulation in California, allegedly because of side effects that are allegedly related to the vaccine. All of the people who developed side effects had previously been to a vaccination center in San Diego. That makes you think.

Since the report is so long again that I could still write page by page, just one more message at the end for today: We remember that after the announcement of Germany that commuters from and to Germany now underwent tests and entry procedures had to leave because of the high numbers of infections and the mutations, excited and considered disproportionate. The Czech Republic currently has around 7,000 - 9,000 infections / day, which is extremely high with a population of around 11 million. Nevertheless, various pubs and restaurants across the country were opened on Saturday. And it was good to do in the factories. And in 4 - 5 days, the first will be running in emergency rooms because of corona complaints. Typical.