

Federal press conference + Merkel video chat Corona News 11/17/2020

55 million infections worldwide Germany reached 817,000 with 12,833 deaths

TOP 4 world - Corona - infection rates: USA 11.2 million, India 8.8 million, Brazil 5.9 million, Russia 1.9 million. The 3 largest EU corona infection countries: France 2 million, Spain 1.5 million, Italy 1.2 million. Over 1.3 million deaths worldwide.

Numbers copyright: Johns Hopkins University & Medicine Coronavirus Resource Center

Hello dear Corona friends. Due to the topicality I will ONLY write about today's (meanwhile yesterday) Federal Press Conference and the video chat Merkel and the Prime Ministers, because the page will fill up quickly. I will start with the federal press conference. The federal government had placed 3 commercials in various social networks through an agency, which were intended to address young people and young adults in particular with regard to restricting contacts. Before I go into the videos that I have just seen and got a brand new impression, for the press conference, because this was exactly what these promotional videos were about. On the question of the costs of the video creation, Mr. Seibert allegedly had no figures that had not yet been finally calculated, nor did he want to provide any information on the costs of working with influencers, as he said. His short answer to the question of the subsequent submission of the costs: Let's see. So no. But Mr. Seibert's motto in terms of corona reports from the federal government: Always transparent and only facts. Partially right. The fact is: He doesn't give out the numbers. When asked which platforms are being used with which success rate this answer: Approx. 1.3 million views on Twitter and Facebook for the first video, around 400,000 views on Twitter, part 3 started yesterday. Criticism like: That would not correspond to our living environment, what would be shown in the videos, Mr. Seibert does not accept. It would be that the majority commented positively about it, there was always a certain proportion of people who did not think something was good.

As I said, I watched all 3 videos today and the messages in them, which, according to the Federal Government, are mainly aimed at young people, not only do not correspond to our living environment, but actually represent a Hartz IV glorification. Make yourself a picture. Key messages in Video 1 are: "Laziness can save lives" and: "Doing nothing is a service to the community". If I have to suggest something to my boss, he'll send me straight to a psychologist. Video 2 actually says the same thing in other words, someone tells his alleged life story in Corona times: "We were moldy and rotten at home" and "Special times need special heroes". Video 3 same topic, different actors: "The fate of the country was in the hands of young people. We did the only right thing - nothing. Stayed at home with your ass." The key message of all 3 videos at the end: Become a hero too and stay at home. The hidden message of the videos should actually be: Avoid unnecessary contacts, do not party, do not go outside the door unnecessarily, do not have meetings that are avoidable, etc. Understand that or many young people do not want to understand, it sounds more like: At Lie lazy, do nothing (says the video), collect money and let it go. The film confirms all of this, only with the "cashier", the makers somehow forgot that. My opinion: This money, the amount of which nobody knows, could certainly have been spent better. But I have a number for you: In a small inquiry to the federal government, the AFD found out what costs the Corona Warn app has actually cost so far, including the marketing campaign: Instead of the 3.5 million euros estimated in June 2020, it is now then it turned out to be just over 12.8 million euros; yes well, small misjudgments can happen. I am only bringing this number so that you can estimate what these 3 videos cost.

The 2nd big topic of this federal press conference was the possible vaccine against corona. It was about approval issues as well as quantities. Mr. Kautz spokesman for the Ministry of Health made it clear that a possible approval of a vaccine in the USA is not automatically approved in the EU. Means: The company Biontech works with the American company Pfizer. If the American company, in cooperation with Biontech, gets a vaccine approved on the US market, it can already be distributed there, while the company in Germany first has to apply for approval. And the EU approves for all EU countries, no EU countries can approve themselves. The EU would be negotiating about 160 million cans, nothing would be clear yet, the company Moderna was still in stage 3 studies. The vaccine from Moderna is said to be 94.5% effective and does not have to be stored at extremely low temperatures, a normal refrigerator would be sufficient. When asked by journalists how poor countries can get these vaccines if they can't afford them, Mr. Seibert said that Ms. Merkel had coined the motto (again): Vaccines and medicines must be affordable, available and accessible. This applies particularly to developing countries and poor countries. Well, we already know where the next billions in Germany are going.

I am now leaving the Federal Press Conference and going into the video conference of Ms. Merkel and the Prime Ministers, the result of which has been severely delayed due to discrepancies and displeasure with the completed submission of new regulations by Mr Braun, Head of the Chancellery. Instead of announcing the result around 4 p.m. as planned, the press conference opened at 7:22 p.m. Hence my report only now. First of all: There is almost nothing new, because it was agreed to meet again in a week, on November 25th, as planned, in order to then decide on longer-term measures. Today was more or less a merging of opinions and information, Braun's regulations were heard, every Prime Minister now has the task of putting together something sensible by next week and then presenting it. With the help of the government, a new package of measures will be put together based on the current figures. And already we are right in the middle of Ms. Merkel's statements. She sees drastic contact restrictions as the clear recipe for success in this corona time; these not only have to be adhered to, but also tightened. The R-value plays a big role (well, it's been said for weeks, the R-value alone says nothing), and the doubling plays a big role. In addition, the occupancy rate of the intensive care beds is important. Before November 25th the majority of prime ministers do not want to pass any interim regulations. She advises to go to the doctor if you have symptoms of a cold, who will decide on a test, but you should definitely stay at home until the symptoms subside. After all, when 10,000 people have a cold, nobody knows whether they are corona symptoms or not. The goal is very clear to come back to below 50 / 100,000 inhabitants nationwide. As good news, she put in the room that a second company, Moderna, also had a vaccine. You don't know when exactly, it can be very soon. (But also can't). Very specific statement. Prime Minister Müller von Berlin added that for the first time there were over 1000 corona patients in Berlin who were being treated clinically. You have to take note of that, you have to talk about it. And Mr Söder talks about Germany currently having the mildest lockdown in all of Europe. Instead of constantly having to go up and down from lockdown measures, he is in favor of a longer-term "therapy", otherwise the population will not participate. He is already particularly worried about New Year's Eve and the meetings. And he is not sure whether the "big throw 2 will succeed next week".

Again specifically summarized:

Limit private meetings to ONE fixed household

Refrain from private celebrations, trips, excursions, unnecessary public transport or public traffic

Only visit people at risk without symptoms

15 FFP2 masks for people at risk from December 1st can pick up for a fee (But where?)

In case of symptoms tel. Sick leave, possibly see a doctor, stay at home

Well, that's how we do it all, and some already know: the new regulation of the Infection Protection Act will come into force on Wednesday, the SPD has probably now also agreed, everything seems to be clear. In the run-up there were various rumors about the content, there were once again colorful fantasies circulating from "Disabling the Basic Law" to the alleged "Enabling Act", an allusion to earlier times. All nonsense, on Wednesday we will know more, and so will I.

But I still have one question at the end: At the federal press conference the journalists sit on the seats with masks, the press spokesman for the ministries opposite without a mask, there are no protective windows. If a press officer sits down because of a change e.g. B. on the side of the journalists, if he suddenly wears a mask, if he goes back to his other seat, the mask is off again. Perhaps there is now information about Corona in the room only in certain areas or among certain groups of people, or how is the whole thing explained? Until Wednesday.

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