**Force Health Protection Branch NATO MilMed COE** Munich



## Short Update 45a **COVID-19 Coronavirus Disease** 13<sup>th</sup> of November 2020



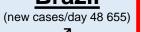
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40 461 deaths

### News:

- **GLOBAL** 52 764 279 **Confirmed cases** 33 446 350 recovered
- 1 293 928 deaths
- USA (new cases/day 142 504) 10 504 854 confirmed cases
- 4 011 326 recovered 241 395 deaths
- India (new cases/day 47 905)
- 8 728 795 confirmed cases 8 115 580 recovered
- 128 668 deaths Brazil

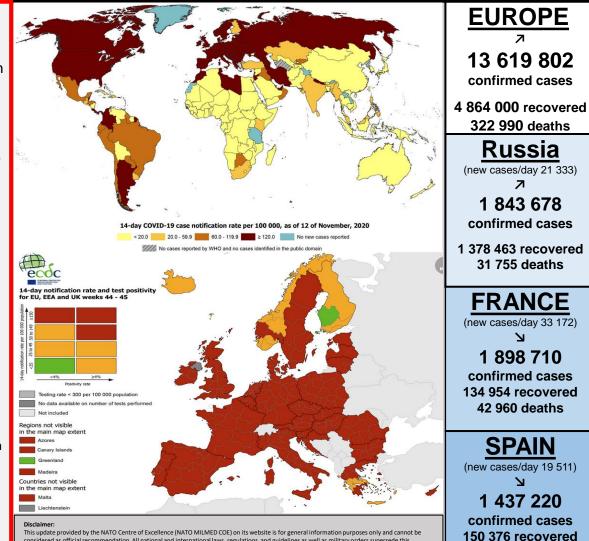


- 5 781 582 confirmed cases
- 5 254 457 recovered 164 281 deaths

- Experts warn against national selfishness in the distribution of corona vaccines. Global solidarity should not fall by the wayside. The poorest countries with weak health systems in particular are dependent on a rapid supply of vaccines in order to contain the corona pandemic. Corona will only be defeated worldwide or not at all.
- AstraZeneca: The blood cancer drug from the British pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca has not proven to be helpful in a corona infection. Calquence, which is commonly used for leukemia, could not have reduced the death rate of hospitalized COVID-19 patients or prevented lung failure.
- WHO/CDC: Measles surged worldwide in 2019 reaching highest number of reported cases in 23 years. Highlighted in a publication by WHO and the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), measles cases worldwide increased to 869 770 in 2019, the highest number reported since 1996 with increases in all WHO regions. Global measles deaths climbed nearly 50 percent since 2016, claiming an estimated 207 500 lives in 2019 alone.
- ECDC: Published the first update of the guideline for: "Heating, ventilation and air-conditioning systems in the context of COVID-19" on 11 Nov.
- EU/ECDC: The European Commission on 11 Nov presented a set of proposals to expand the legal mandate of ECDC. First, a draft Regulation changing ECDC's current founding Regulation was announced.
- WHO's health emergencies online learning platform: OpenWHO.org.
- Find Articles and other materials about COVID-19 on our website here.
- Please use our online observation form to report your lessons learned observations as soon as possible here.

#### **Topics:**

- **Global situation**
- Subject in Focus: European Solidarity in action
- **Facts and Figures**
- In the press



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Table 1. Newly reported and cumulative COVID-19 confirmed cases and deaths, by WHO Region, as of 8 November  $2020^{**}$ 

## **Global Situation**

**Vorid Health** COVID-19 cases reported in the last seven days\* SPA: Catal 06 November - 12 November editions by November all bars and all cinemas remain clos will also be the cordon on weeken lotal cases reported lotal cases reported in the last 7 days in the last 7 days per 100 000 population 1.999 1000 - 499 100.0 - 149.9 5000 - 9994 10 000 - 24 999 150.0 - 299.9 > 25 000 ≥ 300.0 Data under review for retroactive diustment by national authoritie Man labels indicate certai ealons with more than 400 nev -day cases per 100k ases per 100 000 populat The 7-day window typically varies ± 1 day due to data reporting times If the latest available update for a registration appears as "Data upgatilable." nore than 7 days ago, the pears as "Data unavai COVID-19 data sourced from the European Cor ory (ECML) COVID project managed by the Joint Research Centre (JRC) available information shared by National Authorities and ECDC; and ported to WHO under the International Health Regulations (HR 2005). Geographic boundaries and population estimates sourced from the Euroster NUTS 2016 Classification, WHO Administrative boundaries, the Humanitaria Darta Exchange (HDX), and National Authonitoritive sources. Geographic units may be aggregated during processing to align with COVID-19 data. The sum of subnational cases may be significantly lower than official nati totals, as not all cases can be traced to a subnational location. an production: 13 November 2020 Contact: eurolhr@who.in

**FRA:** A current study shows that around 60 percent of French people have violated the curfew, which has been reintroduced for around two weeks, at least once. This was the result of a survey by the lfop Institute among more than 2000 French people aged 18 and over. Visiting relatives was cited as the most common reason for breaking the rules, followed closely by meeting friends. For this, around a fifth of those surveyed violated the curfew. One in ten respondents to the survey left home to meet a sex partner.

According to the institute, the new lockdown would be less respected than with the first wave in spring. One reason for this behavior could be physical stress: 28 percent of those questioned spoke of persistently poor mood and 38 percent suffered from sleep disorders.

The French Prime Minister has ruled out an early relaxation of the strict Corona restrictions. A strict curfew has been in effect in France since the beginning of the month. Shops and restaurants are closed. These measures will remain in effect until at least the beginning of December.

It would be irresponsible to loosen or repeal the rules now, stressed the Prime Minister. It is possible that the retail trade could open again from December. But he ruled that out for the catering trade.

**GBR**: According to the British government, the number of corona cases reported daily on Thursday, with 33,470 new infections in 24 hours, reached the highest level since the pandemic began.

ation	WHO Region	New cases in last 7 days (%)	Change in new cases in last 7 days *	Cumulative cases (%)	New deaths in last 7 days (%)	Change in new deaths in last 7 days*	Cumulative deaths (%)
	Europe	1 989 636 (54%)	11%	13 144 973 (26%)	25 531 (47%)	44%	311 542 (25%)
lonia will extend its y 10 days from r 16 to 23. Furthermore, id restaurants as well as is and theaters will osed. The night curfew e maintained, as will ning off of communities nds.	Americas	1 031 573 (28%)	3%	21 509 104 (43%)	17 289 (32%)	<1%	656 629 (53%)
	South-East Asia	390 157 (11%)	2%	9 641 945 (19%)	5 132 (9%)	10%	149 326 (12%)
	Eastern Mediterranean	214 072 (6%)	18%	3 307 411 (7%)	5 675 (10%)	23%	84 305 (7%)
	Africa	33 687 (1%)	2%	1 357 945 (3%)	831 (2%)	30%	30 616 (2%)
	Western Pacific	31 370 (1%)	19%	765 197 (2%)	377 (1%)	-5%	15 942 (1%)
	Global	3 690 495 (100%)	8%	49 727 316 (100%)	54 835 (100%)	21%	1 248 373 (100%)

**ISR**: The Israeli government wants to enable holidays even in Corona times. Special tourism zones are to be set up in the country shortly. These include the city of Eilat and Dead Sea areas. For the time being, it's only about domestic tourism, not visitors from abroad. In other regions of the country, hotels and restaurants will remain closed for the time being. The prerequisite for entering these so-called isolated "tourist islands" is a negative corona test, which must not be more than 72 hours old. An additional quick test is carried out at the entrances to the zones. The results would have to be presented to the hotels upon check-in.

**ITA**: Due to the aggravated corona situation, hospital staff in Italy work under constant stress in many places and at the edge of capacity. As doctors reported, unlike during the first wave, health workers are frustrated, demotivated, stressed and suffer from burnout. There is a widespread depression that is not helpful in fighting the epidemic. In one hospital in the province of Como, for example, 70 of the 600 doctors and nurses are on sick call because the staff was tested positively. The closure of the hospital's emergency department was ordered on Wednesday. Similar conditions exist in other hospitals in the region and throughout Italy.

**TUR**: To contain the coronavirus, Turkey bans smoking in public places. If necessary, smoking should be prohibited on busy streets, at bus stops and in public places. The mask requirement that has been in force nationwide for months must always be followed, but smokers regularly violate it. Furthermore, the provinces are to decide for themselves about curfews for citizens over 65 years of age if the number of infections among them increases. The governments of the cities of Istanbul and Ankara have already reintroduced measures prohibiting the elderly from leaving their homes outside of the hours between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

**USA**: reported another high in new infections with the coronavirus. 153,496 cases were registered today, that is around 10,000 more than the day before. It is the highest recorded number of infection with the virus within 24 hours since the pandemic began. In view of the drastically increasing number of infections, New York announced a curfew for bars and restaurants. All establishments that have a license to sell alcohol must close at 10 p.m. starting today. Meetings with more than ten people are also prohibited.

The elected US President Joe Biden wants to appoint a so-called "COVID coordinator" who controls the response to the coronavirus pandemic and keeps him informed on a daily basis. He is supposed to be supported by a team that regulates the distribution of a vaccine, addresses problems in the supply chain and improves access to tests. Only earlier this week Biden appoint doctors and other health professionals to turn his campaign promises into actionable plans.

## **Global Situation**

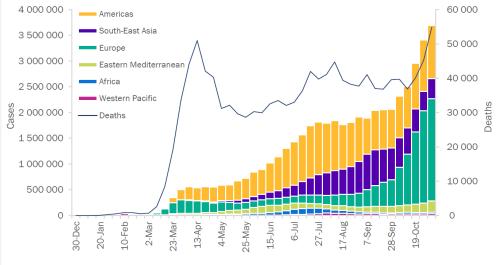
#### Global epidemiological situation by WHO, as of 10 Nov

In the past week, the global number of cases of COVID-19 has increased by 8% compared to the previous week, totalling more than 3.6 million new cases, while new deaths have increased by 21% to over 54 000. This brings the cumulative numbers to over **49.7 million reported cases** and over **1.2 million deaths** globally since the start of the pandemic.

The **European Region** continues to account for the greatest proportion of new cases and deaths in the past 7 days, the Region reported over half (54%) of all new cases and nearly half (47%) of new deaths. Although it still accounts for only 2% of the global total number of cases and deaths, this week the **Western Pacific Region** showed the largest relative proportional increase in new cases (19%) compared to the previous week followed by the **Eastern Mediterranean Region** (18%) and the **European region** (11%).

The three regions reporting the highest proportional increases in newly reported deaths in the past 7 days compared to the previous week are **Europe** (44%), **Africa** (30%) and the **Eastern Mediterranean** (23%). The **Western Pacific Region** was the only region to report a decrease in deaths (5%) this week compared to the previous week.

The five countries reporting the highest number of cases in the past week were the **United States of America**, **France**, **India**, **Italy** and the **United Kingdom**.



## Figure 1: Number of COVID-19 cases reported weekly by WHO Region, and global deaths, as of 8 November 2020\*\*

Reported week commencing

#### RUSSIA - Further increasing numbers of infections and news about "Sputnik V"

Two days after the companies BioNTech and Pfizer published a first interim analysis of the ongoing Phase III study of their vaccine candidate BNT162b2, according to which an effectiveness of 90% could be achieved, the "National Research Center for Epidemiology and Microbiology" and the "Russian Direct Investment Fund" (RDIF) announced in a press release on 11/11/2020, the efficiency of their vaccine is even given as 92%. This is based on an analysis of the data from the first 16,000 volunteers who would have already received a second dose (or placebo).

Unexpected side effects have not occurred so far, common vaccination side effects such as pain in the area of the injection site or flu-like symptoms are affirmed but not quantified more precisely. As with the vaccine candidate BNT162b2 (BioNTech / Pfizer), this interim analysis should in no way be confused with a transparent disclosure of all relevant data, which would then also allow an independent scientific assessment.

Ultimately, the global race for the first vaccine seems to be less about completeness of the data than about good publicity. The expectations of people worldwide are high, as is the pressure on pharmaceutical companies to be able to announce success stories.

If the announcement of the approval of Sputnik V on August 11, 2020 (seen worldwide as the first vaccine) or the naming based on glorious Soviet times were already a media coup, the current press release fits in seamlessly here. And the Russian government seems to need positive press reports in view of the current COVID-19 situation in the country. Because the second wave has already hit the country in full. In the meantime there have been or are (cumulatively) more than 1.8 million COVID-19 cases and officially more than 31,000 deaths in connection with COVID-19. The 7-day incidence as of November 11 was at least 140.4 / 100,000 inhabitants, with Germany currently doing even worse in comparison with 218.4 / 100,000 inhabitants.

Despite the increasing number of cases, the Russian government has tried to avoid a new general lockdown. As in other countries, economic considerations presumably play a central role here. Measures such as a mask requirement in certain areas already apply, and a curfew for bars and restaurants from 11 p.m. was also recently announced. Consistent data collection from restaurant, club or bar visitors (to improve the traceability of infection chains) has already taken place in Moscow at least with the help of a QR code-based system. Unlike the first wave of pandemics in spring, the current second wave does not only affect urban regions such as Moscow or St. Petersburg, but this time is to be found much more extensively in more peripheral provinces. Hospital beds are becoming increasingly scarce, and additional field hospitals are now part of everyday care. For example, The Vice-Governor of St Petersburg, Oleg Ergashev, announced in early November that hospitalization rates due to COVID-19 in the city had reached 600 people per day and only 9% of hospital bed capacity was free for COVID-19 patients.

It is not without reason that hopes rest on "Sputnik V" and its wide availability in the near future. When and whether this can be realistically implemented remains open. The contractually guaranteed production capacities for the (non-Russian) global market are given as at least 500 million cans per year.

https://sputnikvaccine.com/newsroom/pressreleases/the-first-interim-data-analysis-of-the-sputnik-v-vaccine-against-covid-19-phase-iii-clinical-trials-/ https://www.nytimes.com/2020/10/31/world/europe/russian-provinces-coronavirus-putin.html

## Subject in Focus: Coronavirus: European Solidarity in action

#EUSolidarity #StrongerTogether



\*

Across the European Union, countries, regions and cities are stretching out a helping hand to neighbours, helping those most in need. This is European solidarity in action.

#### • European solidarity in treating patients

Countries are treating critically ill patients from other Nations, making their own intensive care capacities available for these patients or sending Medical staff (Doctors, nurses, paramedics) to treat the patients in other countries.

#### European solidarity in protecting health workers and citizens

From the beginning of the Pandemic the European Commission started delivering millions of masks in different countries to protect EU healthcare workers. The rescEU reserve of medical equipment is completely financed by the EU budget. <u>Germany and Romania were the first Member States to host the rescEU reserve, followed by Denmark, Greece, Hungary and Sweden in September.</u>

520,000 masks, ventilators and surgical gloves already delivered so far from the rescEU reserve, as well as in-kind assistance provided to countries in need via the EU Civil Protection Mechanism.

So far, the EU Civil Protection Mechanism has responded to 25 requests throughout the pandemic and provided personal protective equipment, medicines and health experts.

#### EU Industry steps in to protect European citizens

European companies have quickly responded to the coronavirus crisis and have shown extraordinary solidarity to face the pandemic together to protect the health of the European citizens. Many companies across Europe retooled and revamped their production to meet the demand for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), disinfectants and medical devices. From distilleries to textile companies, the industry has put its knowhow at the service of the citizens to produce, for instance, masks, protective gowns, hand sanitizers and ventilators.

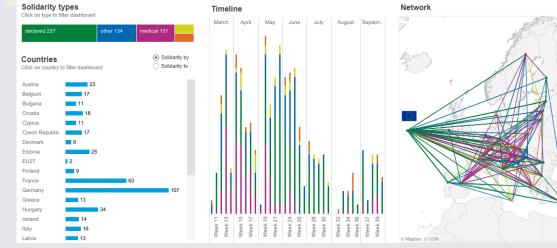
#### European solidarity in bringing people home

Since the beginning of the outbreak, on board of over 360 repatriation flights facilitated and co-financed by the EU Civil Protection Mechanism, over 82,000 stranded EU citizens have been brought home so far. One in three passengers repatriated were European citizens from a different nationality than the country organising the repatriation flight. Many more intra-European flights, also outside the EU Civil Protection Mechanism, but chartered directly by Member States, are bringing citizens home daily.

Source: https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/health/coronavirus-response/coronavirus-european-solidarity-action\_en#snapshots-of-european-solidarity

#### The European Solidarity Tracker

The European Solidarity Tracker collects and displays instances of pan-European solidarity throughout the first wave of the coronavirus crisis. It illustrates how solidarity between the EU institutions and the 27 member states has been communicated, debated, and put into action. It was updated and expanded continuously throughout the summer of 2020; data collection concluded on 30 September.



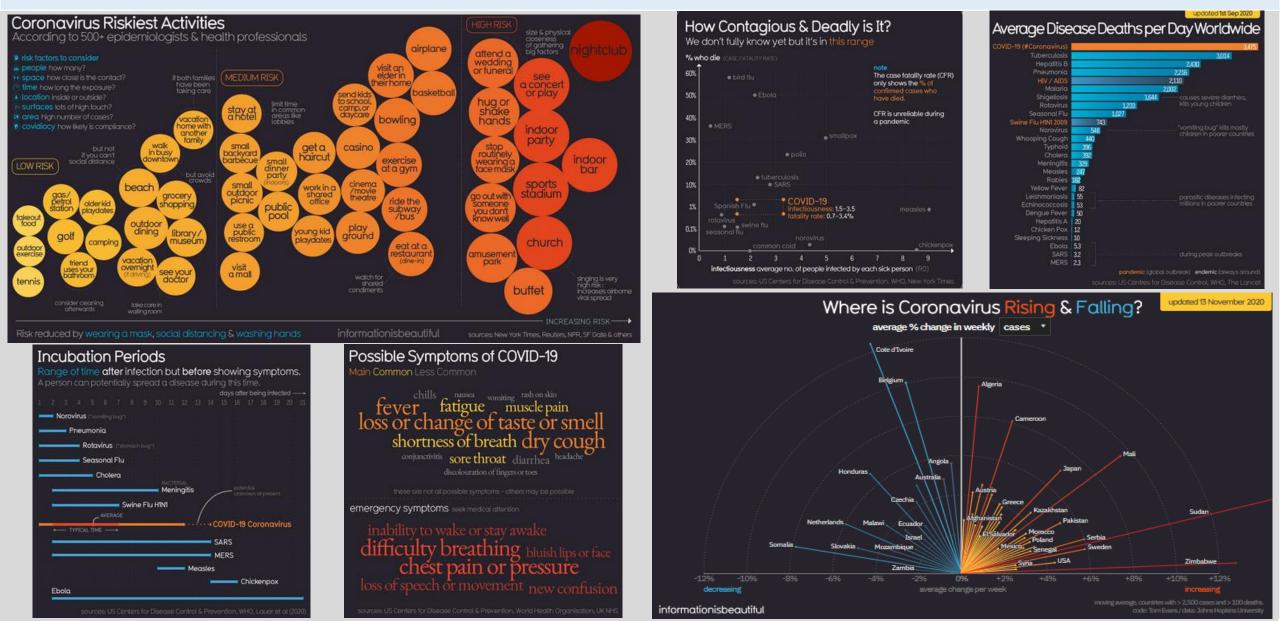
#### How do I use the European Solidarity Tracker?

The European Solidarity Tracker is an interactive data visualisation tool created with Tableau. Where interactions allow for the filtering of information, instructions are included. Items can be filtered by the actors involved in an act of solidarity. "EU" hereby indicates items that concern the institutions of the union, whereas "EU27" is used for items that address the community of EU member states. Items can also be filtered by the "solidarity type" of the act in question ("medical," "economic," "declared," "people-level" and "other"). Additionally, a time-range slider allows the user to specify particular time periods of interest. Hovering over the interface will reveal additional information on individual items.

Please find all information and the European Solidarity Tracker here

## **Facts and Figures**

#### https://informationisbeautiful.net/visualizations/covid-19-coronavirus-infographic-datapack/



## In the press

This section aims at summarizing trending headlines with regards to COVID-19. The collection does not aim at being comprehensive and we would like to point out that headlines and linked articles are no scientific material and for information purposes only. The headlines and linked articles do not reflect NATO's or NATO MilMed COE FHPB's view. Feedback is welcome!

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12 <sup>th</sup> November 2020 BBC Delhi's Covid cases spike as temperatures drop and pollution rises https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-54912871	10 <sup>th</sup> November 2020 Aljazeera One in five COVID-19 survivors develop mental illness: Study https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/11/10/one-in-five-covid-19-survivors- develop-mental-illness-study 12 <sup>th</sup> November 2020 South China Morning Post US-China military talks aim to ease tensions with Covid-19 prevention focus https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3109516/us-china-military- talks-aim-ease-tensions-covid-19-prevention		
11 <sup>th</sup> November 2020 The Guardian EU seeks greater public health powers after Covid 'wake-up call'			
https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/nov/11/eu-seeks-greater-public-health-powers-in-wake-of-covid-wake-up- call			
12 <sup>th</sup> November 2020 <b>The Guardian</b> <b>New Zealand partially shuts central Auckland over mystery Covid case</b> <u>https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/nov/12/new-zealand-investigates-mystery-covid-case-in-auckland</u>			
09 <sup>th</sup> November 2020 DW Coronavirus: Researchers identify seven forms of disease https://www.dw.com/en/coronavirus-researchers-identify-seven-forms-of-disease/a-55522442	11 <sup>th</sup> November 2020 Aljazeera Digital misogyny: Online abuse of women surges during COVID https://www.aljazeera.com/economy/2020/11/11/women-bear-brunt-of-digital- abuse-as-covid-drives-people-online		
12 <sup>th</sup> November 2020 <b>The Guardian</b> <b>Black and Asian people at greater risk of getting Covid, meta-study finds</b> https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/nov/12/black-and-asian-people-at-greater-risk-of-getting-covid-meta-study-finds			

## The new normal!

## **ENEW NORMAL**



Be a role model. Show others the importance of cleaning hands, covering coughs and sneezes with a bent elbow, maintaining a distance of at least 1 metre from others and cleaning frequently touched objects and surfaces regularly.

Don't just say it,

#StaySafe



In some places, as cases of COVID-19 go down, some control measures are being lifted.

But this doesn't mean we should go back to the 'old normal'. If we don't stay vigilant and protect ourselves and others, coronavirus cases may go up again.

If we stop following the key protective measures, coronavirus can come rushing back.

Now, more than ever, it's important that we all follow our national health authority's advice and be part of helping to prevent coronavirus transmission.

Wherever you are, you still need to protect yourself against COVID-19.

Even as restrictions are lifted, consider where you are going and stay safe.





Avoid the Three C's World Health Organization Be aware of different levels of risk in different settings.

There are certain places where COVID-19 spreads more easily:



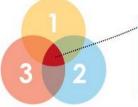


Crowded places with many people

nearby

settings Especially where people have close-

enclosed spaces with poor ventilation range conversations



The risk is higher in places where these factors overlap. Even as restrictions are lifted, consider

where you are going and #StaySafe by avoiding the Three C's.

#### WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?







Avoid crowded Maintain a places and limit least 1m time in distance enclosed from others spaces

When possibl open windows and doors for ventilation

Keep hands clean and requested or if physical cover couchs and sneezes distancing is not possible

If you are unwell, stay home unless to seek urgent medical care.



Mouth and nose

protection

limited

Protects wearer

of mask

Protects

periphery

## The perfect wave – why masks are still important



#### NEW STUDY ON MOUTH NOSE PROTECTION AND SOCIAL DISTANCING

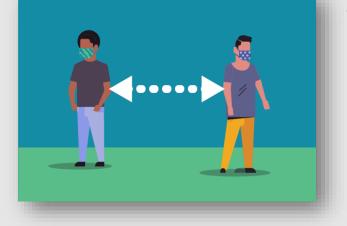
Unfortunately, in the epicenter of the new hot spots areas often enough people are seen who do not adhere to the still valid protective regulations such as social distancing and the correct wearing of a nose and mouth protection. It could be as simple as that - <u>new studies</u> show that these two measures make a significant contribution to reducing the probability of transmission.

In the case of protective masks with an advertised protective effect in connection with SARS-CoV-2, depending on the intended purpose, a distinction is made between two types:

**Medical face masks (MNS; surgical (surgical) masks);** are primarily used for third-party protection and protect the person against the exposure of potentially infectious droplets of the person wearing the face mask. Corresponding MNS protect the wearer of the mask if the fit is tight, but this is not the primary purpose of MNS. This is e.g. used to prevent droplets from the patient's breathing air from getting into open wounds of a patient. Since, depending on the fit of the medical face mask, the wearer not only breathes in through the filter fleece, but the breathing air is drawn in as a leakage current past the edges of the MNS, medical face masks generally offer the wearer little protection against aerosols containing excitation. However, you can protect the mouth and nose area of the wearer from the direct impact of exhaled droplets from the other person as well as from pathogen transmission through direct contact with the hands.

**Particle-filtering half masks (FFP masks);** are objects of personal protective equipment (PPE) in the context of occupational safety and are intended to protect the wearer of the mask from particles, droplets and aerosols. The design of the particle-filtering half masks is different. There are masks <u>without</u> <u>an exhalation valve</u> and masks <u>with an exhalation</u> valve. Masks without a valve filter both the inhaled air and the exhaled air and therefore offer both internal and external protection, although they are primarily designed for internal protection only. Masks with valves only filter the inhaled air and therefore offer no external protection!!!

As a large number of unrecognized people move around in public spaces without symptoms, mouth and nose protection protects other people, thereby reducing the spread of the infection and thus indirectly reducing the risk of becoming infected



FFP2/FFP3

mask without valve

FFP2/FFP3

mask with valve

X

https://www.sueddeutsche.de/gesundheit/atemschutzmaske-coronavirus-maske-schutz-1.4867144 https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html https://www.bfarm.de/SharedDocs/Risikoinformationen/Medizinprodukte/DE/schutzmasken.html Due to the occasion, it should be pointed out again and again, also by executives, that the correct way of wearing the mask is essential to achieve maximum protection. The mask wrong, e.g. for example, wearing it under the nose means accepting a possible infection of others.

FFP2 / 3 masks are still considered deficient equipment and should be kept available for healthcare workers and emergency services

# ORT wear your facemask under your nose or mouth:

When wearing a facemask, don't do the following:





around your necl

