



The COVID-19 Crisis from a German, European and International Perspective

An Online Panel Discussion Series
Jointly Organized by the IFHV and Verfassungsblog

live stream on
verfassungsblog.de

The COVID-19 pandemic presents unprecedented constitutional challenges to states worldwide, and to their regional and international cooperation. The Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict (IFHV) and Verfassungsblog are bringing together internationally recognized experts in a three-part online discussion series to reflect on these challenges and ways to address them.

Session I: 12 May 2020, 4.00 – 5.45 pm
“Schaffen wir das?” – COVID-19 as a crisis for German law and politics

Session II: 19 May 2020, 4.00 – 5.45 pm
“Whatever it takes?” – COVID-19 as an (existential) crisis for the European Union

Session III: 26 May 2020, 4.00 – 6.00 pm
“Universally respected but temporarily neglected?” – COVID-19 as a crisis for human rights and multilateralism



www.ifhv.de

Session I: 12 May 2020, 4.00 – 5.45 pm “Schaffen wir das?” – COVID-19 as a crisis for German law and politics

In Germany, fundamental rights are currently being curtailed on a massive scale for what the great majority deems the “greater good”: the stability of the public health system. Moreover, the legislator enacted amendments to the *Infektionsschutzgesetz* that provide the Federal Ministry of Health with sweeping quasi-legislative powers in case of a national epidemic. As the measures are slowly being lifted, this panel will draw preliminary conclusions from the current crisis and discuss what the German constitutional order and the German political system will look like after COVID-19.



Sabine Leutheuser-Schnarrenberger (Former German Federal Minister of Justice)
COVID-19 and the German Constitutional Order



Christoph Möllers (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin / Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin)
The *Bundestag* and COVID-19



Pierre Thielbörger / Benedikt Behlert (IFHV, Ruhr-Universität Bochum)
The Emergency Regulations of the Grundgesetz: Fit for a Pandemic?



Anika Klafki (Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena)
The amendments to the Infektionsschutzgesetz: an antidote with deadly side effects?



Andrea Römmele (Hertie School, Berlin)
COVID-19 and its implications for the German political (party) system



Chair: Max Steinbeis (Verfassungsblog)

Session II: 19 May 2020, 4.00 – 5.45 pm “Whatever it takes?” – COVID-19 as an (existential) crisis for the European Union

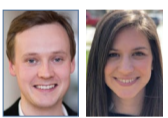
The COVID-19 crisis challenges the European Union (EU) in unprecedented – some would even say: existential – ways. Solidarity, everyone agrees, is the order of the day. But how? And how long? Can only commonly shouldered debt in the form of “Corona bonds” prevent a COVID-19 induced death to the Union, or does the European Stability Mechanism present an apt instrument to deal with the economic fall-out of the pandemic? And what about democracy and the rule of law in the fight against the pandemic? This panel discusses these and other questions the EU is confronted with in the wake of the COVID-19 outbreak.



Christos Stylianides (Former EU Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management)
European Lessons from the Ebola pandemic for the current COVID-19 crisis



Anna-Katharina Mangold (Europa-Universität Flensburg)
The COVID-19 pandemic as a catalyst for other EU crises



Mark Dawson / Ana Bobič (Hertie School, Berlin)
COVID-19 and the European Central Bank



Kim Lane Scheppele (Princeton University)
Orban’s ‘emergency measures’ and their consequences for the EU



Chair: Sinthiou Buszewski (Verfassungsblog)

Session III: 26 May 2020, 4.00 – 6.00 pm “Universally respected but temporarily neglected?” – COVID-19 as a crisis for human rights and multilateralism

Multilateralism and international human rights have been met with increasing scepticism for quite some time now. So far, the COVID-19 pandemic has certainly not made international cooperation easier. But what exactly does this pandemic mean for multilateralism and the international protection of human rights? And what will international cooperation look like once the virus is under control? This panel will discuss the implications of COVID-19 in this regard and identify some lessons to be learned for the international community.



Philip Alston (NYU / Former UN Special Rapporteur Extreme Poverty and Human Rights)
COVID-19 from the Perspective of Human Rights and Global Poverty



Marco Sassóli (Geneva Academy of IHL and Human Rights / Université de Genève)
The COVID-19 Pandemic and its Implications for (Existing) Conflicts



Gian Luca Burci (Graduate Institute Geneva, Former Legal Counsel of WHO)
COVID-19 as an Institutional Crisis for the WHO and Multilateralism



Katrin Radtke / Eva Johais (IFHV, Ruhr-Universität Bochum)
COVID-19 as an International Challenge for Humanitarian Governance



Nico Krisch (Graduate Institute Geneva)
International Law after COVID-19



Chair: Pierre Thielbörger (IFHV, Ruhr-Universität Bochum)

How to connect:



- The discussions will be live-streamed on verfassungsblog.de and on YouTube.
- Questions will be accepted via Twitter and YouTube.
- If possible, please register beforehand under ifhv@rub.de.
- For those who cannot attend a recording will be made available after the events.