Coronavirus Disease – COVID-19
10.03.2020

- The death toll from the coronavirus outbreak is over 4,000 worldwide, with the vast majority in mainland China. There have been more than 113,000 global cases.

- All 60 million residents in Italy are under restrictions, including travel checks, school closures and bans on public events. Saint Peter's Square and Saint Peter's Basilica in the Vatican City are now closed to tourists starting today because of the coronavirus, the Vatican press office said in a statement.

- Iran on Tuesday confirmed 8,042 coronavirus cases, the second-highest number outside of China, after Italy. The Middle East country had 291 deaths from the virus. The vast majority of cases (2,114) were in the capital Tehran.

- More than two months after the coronavirus outbreak emerged in the Chinese city of Wuhan, President Xi Jinping has put on a major show of confidence by visiting the stricken epicenter. The president's visit marks a significant moment in the global outbreak, with new cases of the virus slowing to a trickle in the country where the disease first emerged.

- The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says "older adults" and people with serious chronic medical conditions "are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness." Anyone over 60 and those with underlying health problems should try to avoid places with large crowds.

- The Spanish government, the British Airways have blocked direct flights between Spain and Italy as it looks to stop the spread and of coronavirus.

- Nearby Spain has also seen a rapid rise in confirmed cases to 1,204 and 28 deaths. As of Wednesday, schools and universities in the heavily-hit Basque Country will be suspended.

- The European Parliament is also cancelling "non-core" activities -- including things like committee hearings, seminars, cultural events, and election observation missions.

- The city of Qianjiang in Hubei province says it will "restore normal production and living order soon" in a notice published following a meeting by government officials Tuesday. There was no date set in the announcement but the notice said "*all traffic checkpoints in the city will be lifted, all public transportation will be restored, and all enterprises will resume work and production.*"

- A third death due to the virus was announced on Tuesday, when an 80-year-old woman with pre-existing health problems died in a hospital in canton Ticino. The focus in Switzerland has now shifted to protecting the old and the unwell.

- Switzerland has had its third death of coronavirus. The patient from Mendrision, TI, was 80 years old man, he had been suffering from a chronic illness and was considered "high risk."

- Geneva has been at the sharp end of the disruption caused by the new coronavirus. After the motor show, the list of cancelled or postponed conferences and meetings in Switzerland's most international city continues to grow.

Countries	Cases	Deaths	Recovered
China	80'761	3'136	60'113
Italy	9'172	463	724
Iran	8'042	291	2'731
S. Korea	7'513	58	247
Spain	1'650	35	135
France	1'606	30	12
Germany	1'307	2	18
USA	729	27	15
Diamond Princess	696	7	245
Japan	581	10	102
Switzerland	497	3	3
Netherlands	382	4	0
UK	373	6	18
Sweden	346	0	1
Belgium	267	0	1
Denmark	262	0	1
Norway	261	0	1
Austria	182	0	4
Singapore	166	0	93
Malaysia	129	0	24
Hong Kong	118	3	59
Bahrain	110	0	22
Australia	103	3	22
Greece	89	0	0
Canada	77	1	8
UAE	74	0	12
Iraq	71	7	15
Iceland	69	0	1
Kuwait	69	0	1
Egypt	59	1	1
Israel	58	0	4
India	56	0	4
Thailand	53	1	33
San Marino	51	2	0
Taiwan	47	1	17
Lebanon	41	1	1
Czech	41	0	0
Portugal	41	0	0
Finland	40	0	1
Philippines	33	1	2
Brazil	31	0	0
Vietnam	31	0	16
Slovenia	31	0	0
Indonesia	27	0	2
Palestine	26	0	0
Romania	25	0	5
Ireland	24	0	0
Qatar	24	0	0
Algeria	20	0	0
Russia	20	0	3
Saudi Arabia	20	0	1
Poland	20	0	0
Oman	18	0	9
Pakistan	18	0	2
Argentina	17	1	0
Chile	17	0	0
Ecuador	15	0	0

Georgia	15	0	0
Croatia	14	0	0
Estonia	13	0	0
Costa Rica	13	0	0
Hungary	12	0	0
Azerbaijan	11	0	0
Peru	11	0	0
Macao	10	0	10
Albania	10	0	0
Belarus	9	0	3
Latvia	8	0	1
North Macedonia	7	0	0
Mexico	7	0	4
Slovakia	7	0	0
South Africa	7	0	0
Brunei	6	0	0
Maldives	6	0	0
Afghanistan	5	0	0
Dominican Republic	5	0	0
Luxembourg	5	0	0
New Zealand	5	0	0
Tunisia	5	0	0
Bosnia&Herzegovina	5	0	0
French Guiana	5	0	0
Malta	5	0	0
Senegal	4	0	1
Bulgaria	4	0	0
Serbia	4	0	0
Morocco	3	1	0
Cambodia	3	0	1
Bangladesh	3	0	0
Colombia	3	0	0
Moldova	3	0	0
Nigeria	2	0	0
Burkina Faso	2	0	0
Cameroon	2	0	0
Cyprus	2	0	0
Faeroe Islands	2	0	0
Martinique	2	0	0
Saint Martin	2	0	0
Andorra	1	0	0
Armenia	1	0	0
Jordan	1	0	0
Lithuania	1	0	0
Monaco	1	0	0
Nepal	1	0	1
Sri Lanka	1	0	1
Ukraine	1	0	0
Bhutan	1	0	0
Channel Islands	1	0	0
Gibraltar	1	0	1
Vatican City	1	0	0
Liechtenstein	1	0	0
Mongolia	1	0	0
Panama	1	0	0
Paraguay	1	0	0
St. Barth	1	0	0
Togo	1	0	0

- Despite warnings over mass gatherings and the spread of the coronavirus, the mayor of a small town in France has defended a record-breaking rally of people dressed as Smurfs that went ahead in France over the weekend.

- In Greece, the government has just announced that all schools and universities in the whole country will shut down for the next 14 days.

Funding opportunities for researchers

The Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) - Call Open on Therapeutics and Diagnostics Combatting Coronavirus Infection

- https://www.euresearch.ch/index.php?id=499&tx_ttnews%5btt_news%5d=1168&no_cache=1&user_id=51472&job_id=4718

SNF - Special call for research into coronaviruses

- http://www.snf.ch/en/researchinFocus/newsroom/Pages/news-200306-call-special-call-on-coronaviruses.aspx

Wellcome Trust:

- https://wellcome.ac.uk/funding/schemes/epidemic-preparedness-covid-19

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