

COVID-19 Forum II: Introduction

2020-04-06 01:02:29

By

Since [the first installation of Somatosphere's COVID-19 Forum](#) was published on March 6, the cases of confirmed COVID-19 have risen more than ten times, from 100,000 to over 1.1 million, with coronavirus-related deaths rising from 3,400 to over 60,000. With daily new infections in China dropping to near zero, Italy, Spain and the USA have emerged as the largest hot-spots of the disease, and lock-down measures in one form or another have been imposed across the globe. At the same time, we have witnessed governments vacillating over anti-epidemic measures, debates over community testing and the use of masks, the popularisation of epidemiological notions such as “the curve”, China emerging as a “soft”, medical-aid power, balconies becoming stages of solidarity, and also stigmatisation, and the global economy taking a major hit, with millions loosing their jobs.

In the midst of this rapidly changing epidemiological, social, political and economic crisis, the second installation of Somatosphere's COVID-19 Forum carries interventions by anthropologists, geographers and historians reflecting on local and global developments in the now officially (WHO) declared pandemic. Since early March, a number of papers and initiatives have contributed to an expanding debate on the pandemic from social scientific and the humanities perspectives. This Forum hopes to further enrich these debates and foster an interdisciplinary dialogue on COVID-19 within and beyond the medical humanities.

The COVID-19 Forum II was edited by:

[Christos Lynteris](#)

University of St Andrews

Contributions:

[COVID-19 and its Impact on the Roma Community: The Case of Spain](#)
[Paloma Gay y Blasco](#) and [María Félix Rodríguez Camacho](#)

University of St Andrews; Universidad de Alicante

[Diasporic Cassandras: time, space, and ethos among transnational Chinese and Italians at the time of COVID-19](#)

[Teo Benussi](#) and [Ruiyi Zhu](#)

University of California, Berkeley; University of Cambridge

[Anthropocene Diseased: A Provocation](#)

[Mel Salm](#)

University of California, Davis

[COVID-19: Social Distancing in Context](#)

[Ria Sinha](#)

University of Hong Kong

[Model Evidence – the COVID-19 Case](#)

[Steve Hinchliffe](#)

University of Exeter

[Coronavirus, Cults, and Contagion in South Korea](#)

[Heather Mellquist Lehto](#)

University of Hawai'i at Manoa

[**I Heard it Through the Grapevine: On Herd Immunity and Why it is Important**](#)

[David Napier](#)

University College London

[**Containment**](#)

[Franck Billé](#)

University of California, Berkeley

[**Neglecting the Dead in Times of Epidemics**](#)

[Gregory Delaplace](#)

Université Paris Nanterre

[Seeing COVID-19, or a Visual Journey Through the Epidemic in Three Acts](#)

[Cristina Moreno Lozano](#)

University of Edinburgh

[COVID-19 and China's Health Code System](#)

[Chris Courtney](#)

Durham University

[Frontline. Primary Health Care and COVID-19 in Kenya](#)

[P. Wenzel Geissler](#) and [Ruth J. Prince](#)

University of Oslo; University of Oslo

AMA citation

. COVID-19 Forum II: Introduction. *Somatosphere*. . Available at: .
Accessed April 8, 2020.

APA citation

. (). *COVID-19 Forum II: Introduction*. Retrieved April 8, 2020, from
Somatosphere Web site:

Chicago citation

. . COVID-19 Forum II: Introduction. *Somatosphere*. (accessed April 8,
2020).

Harvard citation

, *COVID-19 Forum II: Introduction*, *Somatosphere*. Retrieved April 8, 2020,
from <>

MLA citation

. "COVID-19 Forum II: Introduction." . *Somatosphere*. Accessed 8 Apr.
2020.<>