

ON LINE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

Credibility of scientific expertise and decision-making

New challenges for health risk governance in a changing world

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ABSTRACT COVID-19 SESSION - THURSDAY 21TH JANUARY 2021

Science, emergency and decision making, an experience in the Covid-19 Scientific Committee set up in France

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During the pandemic, decision makers chose in many countries to “follow the science” and created dedicated scientific task forces. In France, a “scientific council Covid19” was established in March in order to advise the government. Much commented from its inception, it has often been viewed as an ad-hoc political option. What was the actual role of this instance and how could it work in practice during the pandemic? Based on an experience from inside, the presentation will exemplify some dilemmas of the concrete work done in the French scientific task force. Insisting on the contribution of social science in such a critical context, it will question a few dimensions of the pandemic, such as the temporal appreciation of situations, the scarcity and diversity of available knowledge and the relationship between policy making and the citizens in exceptional circumstances.



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