

# WEEKLY NEWS UPDATE

*The latest news summarized by Pia Zekay*



# AIEES

AUSTRIAN INSTITUTE FOR  
EUROPEAN AND SECURITY POLICY

## GLOBAL HEALTH

**STUDY REVEALS HIDDEN  
POTENTIAL OF  
VACCINATION COVERAGE**

**FRANCE LAUNCHES NEW  
RULES**

**AUSTRIA PLANS ON  
BOOSTER VACCINATIONS**

## EUROPE IN THE WORLD

**IPCC REPORT WARNINGS  
FOR EUROPE**

**COMMISSION EXTENDED  
DEADLINE FOR FACEBOOK  
ANTITRUST CASE**

**POLAND COMPLIES WITH EU  
COURT OF JUSTICE RULING**

**COUNTRY FOCUS: UKRAINE**

# COVID IN NUMBERS AUSTRIA

Confirmed infected: 664,133

Confirmed recoveries: 646,937

Deaths: 10,751

Hospitalized: 176

In Intensive Care: 40

New Infections This Week: 389

Total Number of PCR Tests Administered: 15,176,001

Total Vaccinations: 9,999,272\*

\*Vaccinations recorded in the e-vaccination card



# AIES

AUSTRIAN INSTITUTE  
FOR EUROPEAN AND  
SECURITY POLICY

# GLOBAL HEALTH

A recently published study by the University of Vienna revealed some hidden potential on how to expand the vaccination coverage in Austria. According to the researchers, efforts should focus especially on women and addressing skepticism rather through an open dialogue than information campaigns.

On Monday France launched new rules for traveling and restaurants. People aged 18 or older are required to give proof about vaccination, a negative test, or being recovered from a Covid infection when using trains and planes or when visiting restaurants or health facilities. Moreover, vaccinations are now mandatory for people working in hospitals or care facilities.

Austrian Health Minister Wolfgang Mückstein announced that Austria is going to start administering booster vaccinations on October 17th. This will be about nine months after the first people received their first jab. Currently, around 60 percent of the Austrian population received at least one shot.



# AIES

AUSTRIAN INSTITUTE  
FOR EUROPEAN AND  
SECURITY POLICY

# EUROPE IN THE WORLD

The United Nations' IPCC published a new report on climate change with the physical science basis, assessing the status quo as well as giving an outlook on future scenarios. The report predicts a faster rise in temperatures in Europe than the global average, extreme weather conditions will increase and wildfires, as well as floods, will occur more frequently, even when the 1.5-degree goal of the Paris Agreement is met.

The European Commission has extended a deadline to make a decision on the case of Facebook acquiring a US customer service startup to investigate its impact on international competition. The acquisition of the startup Kustomer might give Facebook's an unfair advantage in the online advertising domain.

The Polish Minister of Justice said in an interview that the country "should not remain a member of the European Union at all costs" and sharply criticized the Union over its rule of law principles. Last week Poland announced it would comply with the European Court of Justice ruling and froze the Disciplinary Chamber to restore independence.



# AIES

AUSTRIAN INSTITUTE  
FOR EUROPEAN AND  
SECURITY POLICY

# COUNTRY FOCUS

## UKRAINE

The Ukrainian police started investigating whether the Belarusian activist Vitaly Shishov, who was found dead in a park in Kyiv, was murdered. Shishov was the head of a Belarusian NGO based in Ukraine that helps people fleeing Belarus and prosecution. Belarusian opposition leader Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya tweeted that “it is worrying that those who flee Belarus still can’t be safe”.

This incident marks a new low-point regarding the bilateral relations between Ukraine and Belarus. Only in July this year Belarus accused Ukraine of supporting “coup-plotters” with weapons. Russia has been another difficult neighbour for Ukraine ever since the unlawful annexation of the Crimean Peninsula in 2014, Russia repeatedly attempts to intimidate the country.

Ukraine is part of the European Union’s Eastern Partnership initiative aiming to strengthen the ties between the Union and its neighbouring countries. Together with Moldova and Georgia, Ukraine pursues to be considered as a potential candidate for EU membership. Indicating that Ukraine is seeking a European perspective despite the security and stability challenges in the country.



# AIES

AUSTRIAN INSTITUTE  
FOR EUROPEAN AND  
SECURITY POLICY