# The FRIAS Blog „After Corona"

## Content

## I. Blog "After Corona"- Concept Note

The unprecedented Corona crisis has fundamentally changed our lives – people are dying, the threat of infection is ubiquitous, most countries are locked down. The fear whether friends, family or oneself will fall ill or even fall victim to the disease, and whether the health care systems will hold up to the challenge, is always present. People work from home, communicate digitally, and direct contacts are limited to core families. The physical space in which people live shrinks tremendously, socializing is possible only digitally or from a distance. Sport clubs, pubs, theaters, cinemas are closed. Many leisure activities are discontinued, people are individualized.

The way we work has changed fundamentally – most people work remotely, those who do not are exposed to the threat of infection. Many people lose their jobs, their livelihood, their very existence. For those without or with grown kids Corona leads to a slowdown of activities, for those with small kids work has become much more stressful. The kids face the home schooling and parents-all-day challenges.

The political discourses have changed, more than ever people are dependent on the – often limited - wisdom of our political decision-makers. Desires of a strong leader have resurfaced; under the threat of infection people are prepared to give up civil liberties; but also the roles of the state and of the market are being reevaluated. At the same time fears are rising that corona leads to a permanent reduction in civil liberties. National borders have been closed, which goes in tandem with a reconsideration of the advantages of globalization, international migration, and an open world.

While it is not clear *when* the pandemic will come to an end, it is clear that at some point it will. Restrictions will be eased and finally dismantled. Businesses will reopen and economies will start over. People will go about their businesses; normal lives will be restored. But when all dead are buried and all ill are cured, will we continue our lives the way we did before the crisis that is upon us now? How will society have changed? How do we meet each other? How do we regard the

foreign(ers)? What will the crisis have done to the social cohesion of societies, the way we work and produce, the way we think, our polities, the leaders we elect? Will the corona pandemic mark a watershed event or will it be "only " a deep, but transitory change of the way we live?

These and many more questions that did not occur to us or did not make it to this concept note are at the focus of our project "After Corona". We invite informed, intelligent speculations about selected aspects of change, or fundamental alterations, that (will) have occurred and are likely to persist after the end of corona.

We ask people from the FRIAS community (current fellows and alumni/ae), from the University of Freiburg, and beyond to contribute to the blog hosted at the FRIAS website.

## II. Formats and Stylesheet

We invite blog posts following the genre of scientific essays, which feature a strong hypothesis or opinion and a concise argumentative structure.

### a) Publication formats

We invite you to send in your thoughts in the following formats:

- (scientific) blog articles (see more information see below.)
- Videocasts
- Podcasts
- Pictures

### b) Length and structure

We hope to receive contributions of between **5,000 and 15,000 characters (including spaces)**, which equals to **about 800 to 2,500 words**.

Regarding the structure of your article, we would like you to observe the following suggestions:

1. Web genres such as blog post are received differently than regular scientific formats on paper. In general, readers do not read word for word, but scan the text. **When composing and formatting your posts**, please keep this in mind and
   - break up large paragraphs into **smaller paragraphs**.
   - use bullet points and lists.

2. **Headlines, subheaders and short intro texts** are an effective means of attracting readers and to create an immersive and engaging reading experience. For that,
   - choose expressive and concise headlines.
   - use subheadlines for labelling your paragraphs.

### c) Citation

In several cases, you will probably cite other researchers or articles. Please feel free to do so. However, we would like you to follow the **MLA (Modern Language Association) in-text citation system**, which is easy to follow for both authors and readers:

- Please use in-text citations, which you include into the main part of your article when using a quote or paraphrasing a piece of information. These in-text citations are found directly next to the quote or paraphrased information and contain the author's last name and the page number.
- The complete citation is located at the end of the text, under "works cited", e.g.

   In the book, *The Joy Luck Club,* the mother uses a vast amount of Chinese wisdom to explain people's temperaments. She states, "each person is made of five elements….Too much fire and you have a bad temper…too little wood and you bent too quickly…" (Tan 31).

   ***Cited Works:***

   Tan, Amy. The Joy Luck Club. Penguin, 1989, p. 31.

- You are also highly welcomed to recommend a selection of further reads to your audience. Please list them separately under a headline such as "Recommended reads".

## d) Grammar and punctuation

We practice the **serial comma**. For list items, place a comma after the second to last item in the list, before the coordinating conjunction. For instance:

> a frog, a bog, and a log
>> NOT a frog, a bog and a log

We use **em dashes**, not en dashes. When breaking up clauses and phrases, use an em dash with spaces around it.

> These are some crazy em dashes – crazy like a fox. (em dashes with spaces)
>> NOT These are some crazy em dashes–crazy like a fox (em dashes without spaces)
>> NOT These are some crazy em dashes-–crazy like a fox. (en dash)

Spell out all **numbers** less than 10. Keep all numbers 10 and above as numerals.

> I have 11 style guides, four of which are irrelevant.
>> NOT I have 11 style guides, 4 of which are irrelevant.
>> NOT I have eleven style guides, four of which are irrelevant.

Exception to the above rule: Any time a number precedes the word "percent," keep it a numeral.

> 5 percent of the probands were tested negative.
>> NOT Five percent of the probands were tested negative.

Please try to use as few **abbreviations** as necessary. When introducing an abbreviation that might not be self-understanding for your audience (such as UN, WHO, etc.) for the very first time, please add its meaning in spaces, e.g.

> Several of the UBIAS (University-based institutes for advanced studies) institutions have taken specific measures to digitize their community lives.

When referring to an abbreviation already explained, you do not need to spell out the abbreviation again, e.g.

> Most of the UBIAS directors consent that the current crisis might lead to a wave of digitization whose effects will be traceable long after Corona.

## e) Pictures and Illustrations

We welcome any graphical elements that illustrate your article. However, copyright laws require us to follow some rules.

General:

- Please make sure, you are allowed to use the picture. In terms of copyright law, this should be a picture that you have taken yourself or for which you have the usage rights (e.g. by having bought a licensed picture).
- In each case, make sure to name the author(s).

Photographs:

- When people are depicted in a photograph, you need to make sure that the privacy rights of the depicted are not violated.
- For public figures (e.g. politicians such as chancellor Angela Merkel or experts being in the public focus such as virologist Christian Drosten), it is not necessary to get their consent to the publication as long as they are depicted in their official function.
- For private persons, you need to get their consent first, before publishing their picture on our Blog. Please keep that in mind, when for example taking screenshots of a Zoom conference to illustrate the way communication has changed due to Corona.

## f) Example of how your blog post could look like

FRIAS
After Corona

Picture by:
Kaytlin Baker
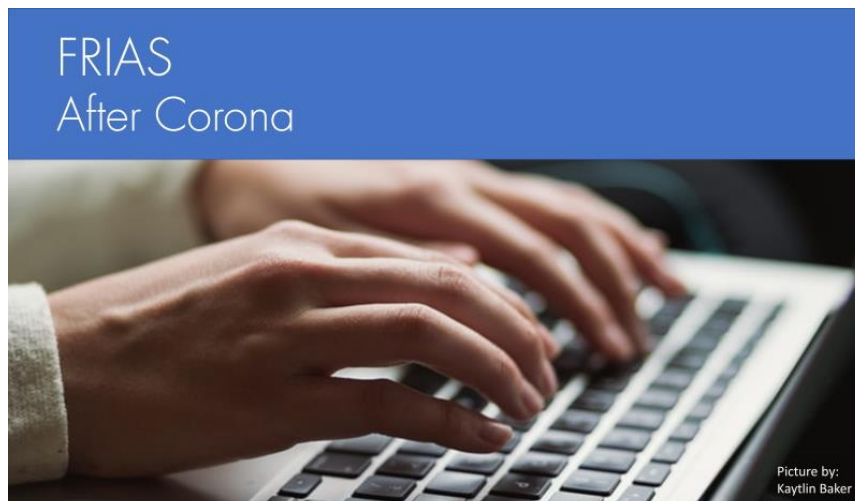
# Academic Writing in the Times of Corona
## How Corona might promote open access

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**Publishing BC (Before Corona)**
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**Publishing AC (After Corona)**
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**Cited Works:**
Smith, John: The scrolls of the ancients. Cambridge University Press 2019.

About the Author

**Dr. Anne Smith**
is an expert in the field of open access and digital humanities. Working as an associate professor at the University of Oklamaha, she is currently a FRIAS Fellow researching the influence of digital media on traditional library structures.

Visit her FRIAS profile: www.frias.uni-freiburg.de/fellows/smith

**Tags**
History, digitization, digital humanities, open access, academia

# III. Contact

This blog is administered by Verena Spohn. If you would like to contribute an entry or have a question, please contact her at Verena.Spohn@frias.uni-freiburg.de.

If you have further inquiries you may also contact FRIAS directors Günther Schulze (guenther.schulze@vwl.uni-freiburg.de) or Bernd Kortmann (bernd.kortmann@frias.uni-freiburg.de)


We are looking forward to your contributions!

The FRIAS team