

The situation of COVID-19 in Albania through numbers and a probable prediction

Assessment of the Academy of Sciences that is continuously following all the issues related to the progress of pandemics in our country and elsewhere

The Albanian Academy of Sciences along with the commissions and research units like the Health Commission, Mathematics-informatics Commission, Biology Commission and the Economy Commission, Nano-and Biotechnology units are monitoring the progress of pandemic and the related consequences of COVID-19 based on the respective field of expertise in close collaboration with the European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities (ALLEA).

A week ago, the Health Commission and the Mathematic-informatics Commission after a long discussion and consultation concluded that this the most critical phase as it is related with the intense circulation of the SARS-COV-19 and made an assessment of what is expectable. Based on the latest data about the spread, consequences and treatment of pandemics, we would estimate that:

About Albania

The peak of the curve is expectable with the subsequent flattening of the curve in the next weeks.

Albania is characterized by a moderate spread of pandemic, which could be considered a positive fact. Until March 26, the daily increase was 18-19%. Today, the daily rate dropped to 7%. This could be explained by the measures put in place to limit the spread of virus COVID-19 at the right time and the commitment of the population to respecting them. The recovery rate in our country goes up to 29% of the infected people and this is comparable to Germany and Denmark, with 28 and 31% recovery cases, respectively. The recovery rate in Italy is 16, 6%, and in most of other countries the rate is under 10%.

These data report that the peak of the pandemic curve is expectable with the subsequent flattening of the pandemic curve in the next two weeks. These rates make the situation to be kept under control and to be manageable by our health care workers and health care system.

In addition, these data show that the medical treatment proved to be successful. On the other hand, our high number of mortality rate is a call for an early detection of severe cases, their diagnosis and careful medical treatment.

Kosovo and the Western Balkan countries

In Kosovo and other western Balkan countries The number of infected people varies from one country to another, from 561, in Bosnia and Herzegovina to 126 in Kosovo. There are positive data for Kosovo and North Macedonia. Bosnia and Montenegro have not reached yet the increase rate lower than 10%

Europe and the most affected countries

Pandemics inhibition

After the horrible emerging pandemic outbreak two weeks ago, the last week finally marks the inhibition of pandemic as the increase rate has been under 10% for five days now.

Unfortunately, this has been associated with a mortality rate, because the health system in Spain, France, Germany, etc. has been overloaded since the beginning of the pandemic outbreak. Italy and the Lombardy region in particular, where most of the cases were imported from, has finally entered the most critical phase. The daily increase rate has been 4% for days now. However, the mortality rate from SARS –COV-19 remains higher, which is out of predictions for mortality index by SARS-COV-19.

Worldwide panoramic view of the situation

China, South Korea and Japan continue to be close to the end of pandemic. Europe faces most severe pandemic outbreak and the consequences of the novel pandemic. New York and London are the new hotspots in the USA and Europe, respectively. The daily increase rate of new pandemic cases has been 30-40%. Fortunately, these two countries face a decrease rate of new cases. Now, the daily increase rate is 10% in New York.

The first conclusions drawn

The pandemic is being controlled. Albania is making quick steps towards the peak of the curve with subsequent flattering of the pandemic. Respecting the measures placed to limit the spread of virus and following the advices of the experts and a higher number test would be the key to the triumph against COVID-19. The progress is so far in line with predictions. The mathematical simulations made the members of the Mathematics-informatics commission show either the best variant or to the maximum variant would be manageable.

What's next

Once the pandemics is over, social-economic development would of great interest and a concerning issue to all the stakeholders. The public opinion, scientific and the health care community is wondering what will strategy for complete dominion of the pandemics be.

Once the situation in the hotspots is over, massive tests would be appropriate as it is the only way to track the infected people. Today, quick tests are being investigated and used for quick and accurate diagnosis and medical treatment purposes.

The Academy of Sciences will continue to monitor the situation along with the commissions and research units.

The members of Academy attentively analyze the data provided and the results obtained so far. Some of them are part of the commissions and research units, willingly sharing the information with regard.

Great efforts are being made in parallel to improve the protocols and medical treatment of the disease and to reduce the rate of transmission rate of the virus from one person to another. The most important health care institutions are involved in vaccine production in the shortest possible time.

The commissions of the Albanian Academy of Sciences and her research units are committed to following the latest developments in close collaboration with the colleagues at the forefront of the fight against COVID-19 and are continuously exchanging and discussing the information with them.

The Albanian Academy of Sciences and the members of Health Commission Prof Arjan Harxhi and Prof Perlat Kapisyzi who are at the forefront of the fight against corona virus and, Prof. Alban Ylli, Prof. Edvin Prifti who are tracking the infection cases in the Albanian territory, provide guidelines for the mitigation of the pandemic.

They are closely collaborating with Acad Petraq Petro and Prof Erida Gjini, members of the Mathematics –informatics Commission, Acad Arben Merkoçi, Prof Arjola Bacu, members of the Biotechnology Commission, and Acad Anastas Angjeli, Prof Adrian Civici, members of the Economy Commission are continuously informing the population across the country.

Albanian Academy of Sciences and the commissions

Information about the scientific contribution to coping with pandemic is available at:

<https://allea.org/coronavirus/>

<https://www.interacademies.org/.../World-academies-call-for-g...>

<https://www.ingsa.org/covid/contribute/>

<https://globalyoungacademy.net/gya-covid-19-statement/>

<https://www.leopoldina.org/.../coronavirus-pandemie-in-deuts.../>

<https://www.leopoldina.org/.../ad-hoc-stellungnahme-coronavi.../>

<http://aecardiffknowledgehub.wales/.../call-for-reviewers-ra.../>

<https://www.samw.ch/.../Topics-A.../Intensive-care-medicine.html>

<http://www.lma.lt/news/850/645/>

<https://institution.pan.pl/.../443-the-polish-academy-of-scie...>

<https://knav.nl/.../videoregistratie-bijeenkomst-het-nieuwe-c...>

Reliable information about COVID 19 is available at:

<https://www.who.int/.../global-research-on-novel-coronavirus-...>

https://ec.europa.eu/.../health-rese.../coronavirus-research_en...

<https://www.sapea.info/coronavirus/>

<https://ec.europa.eu/.../european-commission-signs-letter-sch...>