**The situation in the morning**

**A new lockdown must be well founded**

By [Mathieu von Rohr](https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=de&prev=_t&sl=de&tl=en&u=https://www.spiegel.de/impressum/autor-8a88df66-0001-0003-0000-000000005881) , Head of Foreign Affairs

Dear reader, good morning,

Today we are concerned with the question of which new measures Angela Merkel and the Prime Ministers are adopting. We look at Donald Trump's financial difficulties in the election campaign - and also deal with Friedrich Merz and Kim Kardashian.

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**This time we need better reasons**

Today is the **day of decisions** : Chancellor [Angela Merkel is](https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=de&prev=_t&sl=de&tl=en&u=https://www.spiegel.de/thema/angela_merkel/) pushing for new measures against the corona pandemic, she is discussing this today in a **federal-state switch** with the prime minister. [According to a survey](https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=de&prev=_t&sl=de&tl=en&u=https://www.spiegel.de/politik/deutschland/coronakrise-mehrheit-der-deutschen-haelt-lockdown-fuer-notwendig-umfrage-a-816eea88-66fa-4175-93ba-0abacc7d6484) , a **majority of Germans are in favor of a new "lockdown"** (an imprecise term because Germany has not yet had any curfews - but this seems to be taking hold).

The second lockdown is already here in the Bavarian parish church

Photo: Armin Weigel / dpa

Scientists have proposed different types of lockdowns: the ["breakwater"](https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=de&prev=_t&sl=de&tl=en&u=https://www.spiegel.de/politik/deutschland/corona-pandemie-karl-lauterbach-wirbt-fuer-wellenbrecher-shutdown-a-6f0358fc-e2b0-4747-be11-6ba5f69772db) ( **everything closed for two weeks** ; preferably by Drosten and, according to media reports, by Merkel) or a step variant: In the first step, **only people from two households are allowed to** meet **in one apartment** . A maximum of 15 participants would be allowed for funerals, weddings and baptisms. As expected, some country leaders are in favor of quick and decisive action (Markus Söder, Bavaria), some position themselves in the middle (Armin Laschet, NRW), [some are stubborn](https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=de&prev=_t&sl=de&tl=en&u=https://www.spiegel.de/politik/deutschland/corona-krise-bodo-ramelow-kritisiert-entscheidungen-von-bund-und-laendern-a-085e84e6-f40a-4826-b19f-39bb4979e249) and do not want to shut down anything (Bodo Ramelow, Thuringia).

The corona numbers are developing so dramatically that **new measures are urgently needed** - **but they also have to be well justified** . If, for example, restaurants had to be closed again, this would really mean the end for large parts of the industry - but so far there is a lack of data that shows that many people are infected in restaurants. This time, the **courts** will examine more critically what will be decided by ordinance - and if necessary, override rules if there is no good reason. For **democratic legitimation** , but also for **legal security** , it would therefore make sense for **parliaments** to come back into play during this phase of the pandemic .

Police officers and protesters clash at a protest in Turin

Photo: Claudio Furlan / AP

In **Italy** , where the population has so far adhered to all the rules with great discipline, there are [street protests against the latest restrictions for the first time](https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=de&prev=_t&sl=de&tl=en&u=https://www.spiegel.de/politik/ausland/corona-massnahmen-in-italien-ausschreitungen-bei-protesten-in-turin-a-67ac2178-4d12-47ef-a0da-16c31c6ffc01) (a kind of lockdown from 6 p.m.). In **France** , President **Emmanuel Macron has** announced a televised address for this evening at 8 p.m. It is quite possible that France (where the numbers are much more dramatic) will find itself in a new, real lockdown from tomorrow.

* [Bars should close, schools stay open: Federal government is pushing for drastic corona measures in November](https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=de&prev=_t&sl=de&tl=en&u=https://www.spiegel.de/politik/deutschland/corona-massnahmen-in-deutschland-bars-sollen-schliessen-die-schulen-offen-bleiben-a-312e9267-a0aa-411f-aed4-aa5db6b87c70)

**Trump re-enacted in 2016**

It feels like traveling back in time, we're back in 2016. [Donald Trump](https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=de&prev=_t&sl=de&tl=en&u=https://www.spiegel.de/thema/donald_trump/) and his helpers talk more and more about **Hillary Clinton** during their campaign **appearances** - a woman who has not held a political office for eight years. The president, who [is far behind according to surveys, is betting](https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=de&prev=_t&sl=de&tl=en&u=https://projects.fivethirtyeight.com/polls/president-general/national/) everything on the northeastern states of **Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin and Ohio** for the last few meters . Back then, four years ago, this strategy surprisingly worked.

Trump in Martinsburg, Pennsylvania

Photo: LEAH MILLIS / REUTERS

And this time? While Joe Biden is swimming in money, the President runs out of money. He is mainly investing the remaining money in the northeastern states, which helped him to victory four years ago. But whether it helps him to win that he talks about Hillary Clinton during his appearances and plays down [the corona pandemic](https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=de&prev=_t&sl=de&tl=en&u=https://twitter.com/Acosta/status/1321178584082452480) ?

It is understandable that Trump is betting everything on Pennsylvania: he can practically not win without this state - and neither is Joe Biden, by the way. I recommend [this very instructive tool from the US data website FiveThirtyEight](https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=de&prev=_t&sl=de&tl=en&u=https://projects.fivethirtyeight.com/trump-biden-election-map/%3Fcid%3Dabcnews) , with which you can run through various scenarios for the election outcome yourself. We shall see how it actually happens then.

And [here you can subscribe to our newsletter "The Situation - USA 2020",](https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=de&prev=_t&sl=de&tl=en&u=https://www.spiegel.de/thema/die-lage-usa-2020/) which provides you with stories and assessments from our team of eleven reporters in the USA every day from today until the election - and then comes weekly.

**Recommendation: Election report from Florida**

Florida icon image

Photo: Joe Raedle / Getty Images

Another important swing state is Florida with its 29 electoral votes - Trump must not lose it either. But he must tremble here too. This is due in particular to a group of voters who are particularly numerous here in the sunny south and who have traditionally voted reliably Republican: the pensioners. Our reporter Alexandra Rojkov visited "The Villages" senior housing estate in Florida this week - and nothing is as it used to be: **Many retirees have had enough of Donald Trump** , not least because of his failure in the corona pandemic. Read your report here:

* [Retirees uprising in Florida: In the golf cart against Trump](https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=de&prev=_t&sl=de&tl=en&u=https://www.spiegel.de/politik/ausland/florida-vor-der-us-wahl-2020-rentner-aufstand-gegen-donald-trump-a-0053e3ec-2389-431f-bcda-5f8c3a696df7)

**All against Merz**

The **Left Party** has now also canceled its **party conference** planned for the weekend - just like the CDU the day before. This somewhat invalidates the fears of the CDU candidate **Friedrich Merz** that the "establishment" robbed him of his sure victory in December. Merz has done himself a disservice with his **conspiracy theory** , criticism is pounding on him from all sides.

Roettgen, Merz and Laschet at a performance on October 17th in Berlin

Photo: ADAM BERRY / POOL / EPA-EFE / Shutterstock

The conservative **"Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung"** is obviously fed up with him. In the front page comment [, Jasper von Altenbockum writes today](https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=de&prev=_t&sl=de&tl=en&u=https://www.faz.net/aktuell/politik/inland/kommentar-ueber-die-cdu-merz-spaltet-die-partei-17022903.html) : "It's all sacrifice, populism, narcissism, foaming in one. There are enough statesmen of this kind in the world. Does the CDU need someone like that at the top? Merz has them Election of the CDU chairman made this one question: What type of party leader and candidate for chancellor do we want? "

Armin Laschet [, of all people,](https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=de&prev=_t&sl=de&tl=en&u=https://www.spiegel.de/politik/deutschland/cdu-armin-laschet-verteidigt-friedrich-merz-vor-trump-vergleich-a-6dff2ce0-6249-4d86-aa7b-8b2783e07bd2) defends his opponent - with the sentence: ["Comparing Merz with Trump is completely out of place"](https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=de&prev=_t&sl=de&tl=en&u=https://www.spiegel.de/politik/deutschland/cdu-armin-laschet-verteidigt-friedrich-merz-vor-trump-vergleich-a-6dff2ce0-6249-4d86-aa7b-8b2783e07bd2) . Repeating a comparison to contradict it is an elegant means of reminding you - or is that now a conspiracy theory?

* [Attack à la Trump: Merz beats Merz](https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=de&prev=_t&sl=de&tl=en&u=https://www.spiegel.de/politik/deutschland/friedrich-merz-gegen-cdu-fuehrung-attacke-a-la-donald-trump-a-2f04f2ee-70a0-4b0b-a59e-ff02d117d78f)

**Winner of the day ...**

Kim Kardashian

Photo: Willy Sanjuan / dpa

... is **Kim Kardashian** , who reported to the common people on Twitter about the celebration of their 40th birthday. Under the hashtag #humbled (also: # humble) [she posted glamorous pictures and wrote](https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=de&prev=_t&sl=de&tl=en&u=https://twitter.com/KimKardashian/status/1321151217482014726) : "After two weeks with several health checks and asking everyone to go into quarantine, I surprised my inner circle with a trip to a private island where we could just pretend everything was normal for a brief moment. "

She is "humbly reminded of how privileged" her life is: "We danced, rode bicycles, swam near whales, went kayaking, watched a movie on the beach and so much more".

We wonder why more people don't just take private jets to a private island instead of going into breakwater lockdown, and we hereby award Kim Kardashian the title "Marie Antoinette of the Corona Pandemic".

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**The latest news from the night**

* **120 years imprisonment for self-help guru Keith Raniere:** He is said to have used the Nxivm self-help group he founded to sexually exploit women. [Now the sentence has been announced for Keith Raniere, who had also succumbed to a well-known US actress](https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=de&prev=_t&sl=de&tl=en&u=https://www.spiegel.de/panorama/justiz/sekte-nxivm-120-jahre-haft-fuer-selbsthilfe-guru-keith-raniere-a-36dbb129-e1b0-4c14-99b0-bd503cbdd54c)
* **Trump's election campaign website hacked for a short time:** Unknown people manipulated Donald Trump's election campaign website and demanded payment of a cryptocurrency. [Now the perpetrators are being searched for](https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=de&prev=_t&sl=de&tl=en&u=https://www.spiegel.de/politik/ausland/donald-trump-website-von-wahlkampagne-kurzzeitig-gehackt-a-c817102f-0192-4e96-acfa-29eff7429585)
* **Gladbach gambled away victory against Real Madrid in stoppage time** : They had Real Madrid on the verge of defeat, but then Casemiro scored in stoppage time: Borussia Mönchengladbach could not bring a lead in the Champions League to the finish. [Yet again](https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=de&prev=_t&sl=de&tl=en&u=https://www.spiegel.de/sport/fussball/borussia-moenchengladbach-spielt-nur-remis-gegen-real-madrid-in-der-champions-league-a-ac0861db-db39-43c7-ac43-786e4f8085a7)