I. WERE STRONG NPIS EFFECTIVE IN SCANDINAVIA?

Hypothesis explained with data:

There are two main reasons why it seems strong NPIs were not the optimal strategy for Scandinavian countries to fight against the COVID-19:

1) There is a huge possibility that people's own voluntary decision about how they behave is shaping more their behaviour than what the governments are telling people to do.

   - People's behaviour strongly changed during a period when implemented NPIs stayed the same. These changes strongly correlates with the current increase of the newly reported infected and deaths!

2) There are many reasons why COVID-19-pandemic does not spread as fast in Scandinavia as in many other countries.

   - Scattering the deaths in millions and the change in traffic, we notice Scandinavian countries has the easiest time.

   - Later on, explanatory variables will be investigated (population density, age distribution, education, average number of family members, ...)

Moral:

After getting data from the first wave of COVID-19 pandemic in Europe, it is clear optimal strategies fighting against the pandemic should have been different for different countries. The aim of this study is to concentrate on analysing the optimal strategy of Scandinavian countries dealing with future pandemics. Google's traffic data, data of infected and deaths and data of implemented NPIs are used in the model.

- https://www.google.com/covid19/mobility/
- https://ourworldindata.org/coronavirus-source-data
- https://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/research/research-projects/coronavirus-government-response-tracker

Remarks about this approach:

1) European countries are compared with another to understand the nature of NPIs. Therefore, we get many data points. It still makes sense to compare these data points because Europeans had in many ways similar strategy to deal with the pandemic compared with f.e. Asian countries.