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## How COVID-19 and Long COVID Changed Individuals and Communities

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## **Message from the Guest Editors**

We are organizing a Special Issue devoted to presenting how three years of COVID-19 have changed the attitudes, awareness, and behaviors of human beings as individuals, communities, and institutions toward the COVID-19 virus, illness, and therapies (e.g., vaccine).

Three years after patient zero, people are still dealing with repeated infections and the persistence of symptoms after the acute phase of the disease (i.e., long COVID-19). COVID-19 vaccines have been central topics of public debate around the world in the last two years and increased knowledge and competencies in health-related issues, as well as reinforced "extreme" point of views (e.g., conspiracy theories). Currently, there is another alarming issue, namely the non-adhesion of people around the world to screening (e.g., swab tests), conscious self-isolation, and maintenance of some social restrictions of common sense. In this context, the role of health institutions and public sector organizations in fostering citizens' trust and managing information flows seems to be crucial, especially in digital environments.

