Ageing in the digital world – What is the role of solidarity?

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Digital divides

[image: www.project-sherpa.eu]
Digital divides

Access
digital skills

Voice

[image: www.project-sherpa.eu]
Two Studies @ Uni Vienna

Austrian Corona Panel Project

https://viecer.univie.ac.at/coronapanel

Solidarity in times of Pandemics (SolPan)

https://digigov.univie.ac.at/solidarity-in-times-of-a-pandemic-solpan/

The Coronation of Austria: Part 14

By Barbara Prainsack, Bernhard Kittel, Sylvia Krizinger, and Hojo Boomgaard, on behalf of the Austrian Corona Panel Project, University of Vienna, Austria [contact: coronapanel2020@univie.ac.at]

Covid-19 wise, things could be better in Austria. New infection rates have risen throughout February, and while free testing opportunities are widely available, calling the vaccination rollout “slow” would be an understatement: Fewer than 6% of the Austrian population had received their first dose by 1 March. …

Read more - 3 min read
Older adults during Covid-19

Not only challenges but also important strengths!
Digital practices during Covid-19

Challenges

• lack of access
• a lack of interest
• physical barriers and difficulties
• for some, reliance on seeing faces
• Being targeted by cybercrime and mis/disinformation

Facilitators

• knowledge of technologies
• support from family and friends
• accessible technologies
• social motivation


Moore, Ryan C., and Jeffrey T. Hancock. "Older adults, social technologies, and the coronavirus pandemic: Challenges, strengths, and strategies for support." Social Media+ Society, 6, no. 3 (2020): 2056305120948162.]

[image: https://www.healthyagingpoll.org/]

Increasing tech polarisation


Figure 6: Tech usage polarization among the five senior segments. Source: Ericsson ConsumerLab Analytical platform, Senior study, October 2019. Base: Online population aged 65-74 years within Canada, China, Germany, Italy, Japan, Sweden, UK, and US.
Solidarity is a practice by which people accept “costs” (financial, social, emotional, or otherwise) to support others with whom they see themselves as connected in some way.

[Prainsack & Buyx 2011; 2017]
Three tiers of solidarity

Tier 1: person-to-person solidarity

Tier 2: group practices

Tier 3: institutional level

Reciprocity

blue: practices
grey: institutionalisation
Solidarity during Covid-19
Ageing in the digital world: **Realising solidarity**

1. inclusive narratives
2. digital tools and environments appropriate for all age groups
3. ancillary measures: social and psychological support
4. end poverty!
Thank you for your attention!

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