

AFECO Monthly Newsletter

April 2020

Information on the Coronavirus

Since the Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) is spreading throughout Europe we would like to inform all students to regularly check the University of Bonn [website](#). The information provided on the website will be updated regularly. You have all been informed before that the start of summer term has been postponed to April 20th. After this date we still expect restrictions on meetings of larger groups. This is why more teaching units will be held remotely including more at home learning units. All information on this will be communicated via email and/or in the eCampus groups.

AFECO Application Deadline: April 30, 2020

The **deadline for AFECO applications** for the intake term 2020/2021 is **April 30, 2020**. Spread the word amongst friends, former study colleagues and anyone who may be interested in joining the AFECO Master program. More information on the application procedure can be found [here](#).

Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) - What you should do!

Social distancing: (or as I like to call it, **spatial distancing**): If possible, stay at home and reduce everything that you do in your spare time or move it to your own four walls. If you have to get out, for example to work or get groceries: keep your distance! The BzGA advises leaving 1 to 2 meters of space to other people. This also applies to queues.

Structure: Structure your day and week in advance. From getting up in the morning, working or studying and meals to leisure activities such as reading, watching movies or series, listening to podcasts, planting a balcony, yoga, relaxation exercises...

Stay active: A round of jogging or cycling works wonders. Alternatively check out the large number of fitness apps or videos to stay active at home. The Hochschulsport of the Uni Bonn also offers [CyberMoves](#) around the clock. Check it out!

Contacts: If you are in home office or even in quarantine, arrange a phone call with friends and family. Chats or online forums also help against loneliness. If you are in need to tell someone about your worries, there are three telephone counseling numbers you can call in Germany. Find more information [here](#).

Ideas: The newsletter team did some brainstorming on things you could do at home and ended up with the following list.

- Watch some free concerts e.g. on [dringeblieden.de](https://www.dringeblieden.de). They show concerts and other stuff live from around Cologne, or on [The Good News](#);
- Start some DIY projects that you always wanted to do but never had the time e.g. [DIY Tin Can Lanterns](#), [DIY Lampshade Ideas](#);
- Learn a language using apps or Rosetta Stone (where you can get a free account being a student of Bonn University);
- Skype with friends and play games with them like Kniffel or online games like [Skribbl](#). The Wache in Bonn also offers an [online pub quiz](#) every Thursday at 20.15;
- Watch theatre plays online e.g. from the [Berliner Schaubühne](#). They sometimes have subtitles in English or other languages;
- Find cultural live streams from Bonn on [BonnLive](#);
- Go on a virtual tour through a [museum](#);
- If you want to have a good overview on events, have a look at [Krautreporter.de](#), they recommend the best events every day;
- Find online deals of free usage of apps, websites, software etc. [here](#).

We are sure you have lots of ideas too, enjoy your time and stay safe!

How can you help?

If you have some spare time and are motivated to help, here is a list of things you could do. However, always remember to stay safe and weigh up the risks. Everyone has to decide individually if they are able to help.

Help people in the risk groups e.g. to run their errands. Find those in need e.g. in the Facebook group [Nett-Werk Bonn](#). In the group you will find a list in which you can enter your name and postcode. Those helping are then assigned to those seeking help. Other sides serving as mediators are: [Freiwilligenagentur Bonn](#), [Gemeinschaft Online](#), [Quarantänehelden](#), [Nachbarschaftshilfe NRW](#)

Help farmers to bring in their harvest and do other work that now needs to be done. To make things easy for you, there are websites for this purpose: [wir-haben-es-satt.de](#), [bauersuchthilfe.de](#) and [daslandhilft.de](#) Registration is in German, but once you're through it, I am sure they will also communicate in English.

Teach some pupils on corona-school.de This platform matches students and pupils following the slogan "Learning despite Corona". Students help pupils to do their homework or to prepare for examinations like their Abitur. Use your time and knowledge to help those in need.

Help supermarkets to deal with the changing buying behavior. Find job offers at the usual websites. This way you can help and earn some money while you're at it.

Support local businesses e.g. by ordering online [from shops in Bonn](#).

Donate some money if you want and are able to, find projects e.g. on betterplace.org.

Maibaum Tradition

There is the tradition in the Rhineland to set up trees, more precisely birches, in the night from 30th of April to the 1st of May. Normally it is the men who surprise their beloved with such a tree, draped with a wooden heart on which the woman's name is written. But as this year is a leap year, it is the women's turn. So don't be surprised if you see those trees everywhere in Bonn on May 1st. Maybe you want to follow the tradition yourself...? You go girl!

Internship and Job Opportunities*

[Student Assistant \(SHK/WHF\) \(9-10 hours/week\)](#), Cluster of Excellence "Phenob -Robotics and Phenotyping for Sustainable Crop Production

[Student Assistant \(studentische Hilfskraft\)](#), Zentrum für Entwicklungsforschung (ZEF)

[Student – Sustainability Certification](#), 4C Services GmbH, Köln

[Internship Assignment Global Climate Action](#), United Nations, Bonn

[Praktikum bei fairafri mit Schwerpunkt Sales & Operations](#), FAIRAFRIC, München

[Werkstudent \(m/w/d\) administrative Kundenbetreuung](#), GLOBALG.A.P., Köln

[Praktikant im Bereich Nachhaltigkeit \(m/w/d\)](#), Bayer, Leverkusen

Check out the ILR [website](#) for PhD positions and other post-graduate job opportunities.

*job descriptions in German require fluent German skills

ILR Testimonial: Niklas Müller AFECO student and founding member of INFINITY Bonn

There are some interesting student projects in Bonn. This week's newsletter introduces an organization that was founded in 2018 and of which Niklas is one of the founders. INFINITY Bonn deals with sustainability in business and daily life. Thankfully, Niklas has agreed to answer some questions for us (Nina & Iyanu) and he explained in more detail what INFINITY Bonn is all about:

Q: Please explain what the Infinity project is.



INFINITY Bonn is a charitable organisation of students from the university of Bonn. We are committed to enable the local community to live a more sustainable lifestyle. Our approach consists of three elements. Firstly, we ask experts to hold presentations about sustainability. Secondly, we organize workshops to collect ideas on how you can make a change. At last, we use this knowledge to develop business projects like the BonnBottle to actually have an impact on the local community.

Q: How did you get involved in the Infinity Bonn group?

One and half years ago, I got an email of Mr Ebbers about a group of Bachelor Students, who wanted to launch a new initiative called INFINITY Bonn. I was interested, joined the first meeting and became a founding member a few weeks later. Actually, INFINITY is an initiative founded in Mannheim in 2015. However, some of the founding members already graduated and established the umbrella organization INFINITY Deutschland with a view to spread their ideas to other German cities. To date, there are INFINITY groups in Bonn, Heidelberg, Stuttgart, München and Frankfurt (Oder).

Q: How did you get the idea of the Bonn Bottle and where can one buy it?

Indeed, INFINITY Mannheim developed the MaBottle before. So, we decided to copy their idea but used our own design based on famous buildings and districts of Bonn. At the beginning of the next semester, you can find us at the "Mensa Poppelsdorf" and the "Mensa Nassestraße", where we will sell our BonnBottles. We will post the exact dates on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) as soon as possible. If you are interested to join us, feel free to write us a message. We are always happy to welcome new members, because they bring in new ideas.

We want you to contribute!

A big thank you to **Anna, Max, Leonie, Annika, Sophie, Madita, Amelie, Estera, Iyanuoluwa and Nina** who contributed to this issue of the newsletter. Contact us at afeco.info@ilr.uni-bonn.de to learn how you can contribute!