

Review Article

Evaluation of the handling of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Capitalist and Socialist countries: A Systematic Review

ABSTRACT

Background and Objective: The world was divided into two major ideologies of power, involving countries of socialist and democratic capitalism, which presented different ways of dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. Each major power claims to be the best informed and resolute in handling the pandemic. In this sense, this study aims to analyze the success factors in coping with the pandemic in countries with capitalist and socialist government regimes. **Methods:** This study uses a systematic review of the literature, using the PICO strategy for the construction of the research question, the bibliographic search and the best available scientific information in the systematization. **Results:** Summarize the main results described in Table 2, indicating how many articles presented better and worse results in socialist and capitalist countries. **Conclusion:** Socialist countries, despite acting in a repressive and authoritarian way, had better results in facing the COVID-19 pandemic, compared to capitalist countries. Care is needed when interpreting these results, due to the risk of manipulation of information adopted in socialist countries, due to the control of the media and government bodies.

Key Words: Handling Covid-19, Socialist Country, Democratic capitalism Country, COVID-19 pandemic

INTRODUCTION

The existence of the COVID-19 pandemic that started in the city of Wuhan China has undeniably become a means of propaganda for two major schools of thought, namely socialism and capitalism, each of which has shown successful steps in dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic and is trying to compete for influence in the world^{1,2}. This leads to mutual attacks between countries with Democratic capitalism and socialist views.

The Democratic capitalism side believes that the socialists are deliberately spreading disinformation about the number of victims of the COVID-19 pandemic in order to make the handling of the COVID-19 case appear more successful in socialist countries, while countries with Democratic capitalism understanding claim to be more successful in handling the COVID-19 case^{3,4,5,6}. The occurrence of political feuds in dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic can disrupt the region's overall stability⁷. Apart from being a propaganda platform for the existence of socialist and Democratic capitalism ideology, the COVID-19 pandemic is also used to influence each other, as is the case in vaccine productin, which is polarized into the Democratic capitalism block (aztra zeneca, pfizer, and moderna) and the socialist block (asinovac, sinofarm, sputnik V^{8,9}

The world recognizes Vietnam as a socialist country that has been quite successful in dealing with the covid-19 pandemic and can be considered as propaganda of socialist ideology, with a monoparty system that has proven to be more effective in dealing with the pandemic. 19 outbreaks^{10,11}. Socialist countries tend to impose coercive policies on their citizens to force them to comply, so that it is easy to mobilize the public to obey and comply with policies; even military mobilization can be used to oversee the handling of the covid-19 pandemic^{12,13,14}. The successful handling of the COVID-19 case in a socialist country is carried out by the government vertically integrating regulations and involving all government stakeholders, in the hope that handling the Covid pandemic will not affect the joints of people's lives^{15,16} - Whereas in Democratic capitalism countries, all policies for dealing with covid must be clarified and discussed with all stakeholders involved in a democratic manner, giving the impression that the handling is slower^{17,18}.

Democratic capitalism countries can handle the Covid pandemic properly without violating human rights principles^{19,20,21,22} (This numbering must be standardized). People in Democratic capitalism countries, particularly in Europe and America, believe that a thorough evaluation process accompanied by appropriate policies will be able to preserve democratic principles^{21,22}.—Democratic capitalism countries are divided into two government systems: presidential and federal (state). Many observers believe that democracy with a presidential system is far more effective in dealing with the covid pandemic. The presidential system's causative element^{23,24}, allows policies to be carried out vertically so that they can be distributed up to area²⁵.

Some argue that the covid pandemic has no effect on a country's understanding/ideology because the system for detecting, monitoring, and dealing with the covid pandemic must be carried out globally and uniformly. Policies that are implemented consistently and are not influenced by ideological perspectives. Because COVID-19 is a worldwide virus-borne disease, it spreads regardless of region, climate, situation, geographical area, or human race. The Covid-19 handling policy must be strictly enforced in a comprehensive and global manner^{26,27}. (review this sentence).

Overcoming the covid pandemic will be successful if it includes cultural aspects or the creation of a new culture in society, so that the principle of community mobilization in handling the covid pandemic is more optimal^{28,29,30} and the need for the role of politicians' participation in connecting political governance networks with local cultural aspects of the community the covid pandemic also affects the relationship between the government and its people, so that policies do not cause the effect of tension between the people and the government, which in the end will result in a decrease in the value of compliance and obedience to handling the covid pandemic^{31,32,33}.

METHOD

The selection of articles to serve as research subjects was based on an evaluation of how the COVID-19 pandemic was handled in capitalist and socialist countries, and this study used a literature review of several research findings³⁴

1. Data Selection

Based on a literature review, data were chosen with an emphasis on the theme Evaluation of the handling of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Capitalist and Socialist countries. The research must adhere to a number of requirements for experimental and quasi-experimental research design, as well as initial and follow-up data. Through the evaluation component for managing the COVID-19 Pandemic in Capitalist and Socialist countries, the measurement results can be seen. The research that formed the basis of the data used in this study took place between 2005 and 2022. The PICO (Population, Intervention, Community, and Outcome) concept was applied to the keyword search^{35,36}. Elsevier Science Direct, Google Scholar, Sage Pub, and PubMed all allow for electronic searches using the terms "handling COVID-19". Table 1.shows the PICO Components in Article Review, as follows

Table 1. PICO Components in Article Review

PICO	Key Word
Population	Socialist country, democratic country
Intervention	Socialist state policies for handling covid, democratic state policies for handling covid, the speed of handling covid, potential mutual influence of socialism and democracy
Comparison	Social media, the internet, training, workshop,
Out Come	Obedience, Culture, understand the best ideology of handling covid
Methodology	Socialist country, democratic country, excecutive and legislative council Comparison

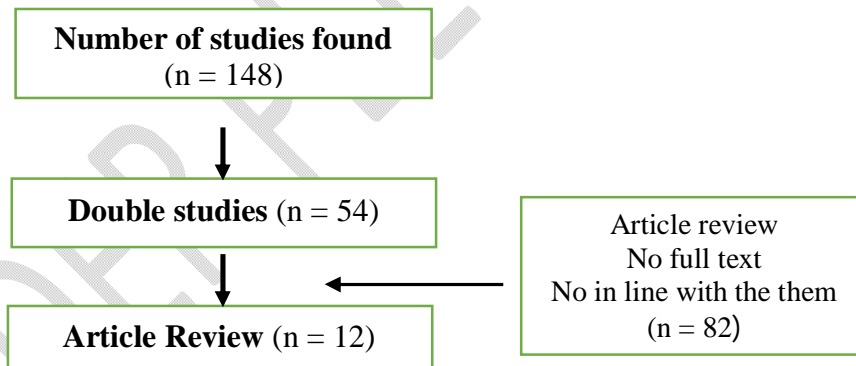


Fig. 1. Data Extraction (Articles relevant to the purpose of research)³⁷

2. Data Extraction

Based on the title and abstract, the chosen articles must be pertinent to the study's goals. The following information was extracted from the data: the target population, the type of intervention, the technique used, the findings, and the evaluation design, such as experimental or quasi-research, the comparison of findings before and after intervention, the length of follow-up, and the measurement of findings (Fig. 1)³⁸

3. Data Synthesis

The data synthesis is presented as tables that are organized according to the research designs, the number of samples, the research setting, the elements of the intervention methods, the parents, and the outcome. They used a narrative systematic literature review to analyze the data and present an objective, theoretical analysis of the research findings³⁹.

RESULT

The evaluation of handling the COVID-19 pandemic in capitalist and socialist countries is presented in the article that follows. as a guide when selecting an intervention strategy that will be effective. There are 12 articles available that describe intervention methods.

Research Design Description : Most of the interventions for handling the COVID-19 pandemic use randomized controlled trials (RCT) designs and experimental studies with control groups that receive intervention and no intervention (placebo-controlled studies) with post-intervention follow-up..

Description Evaluation of the handling of the COVID-19 Pandemic Intervention : The COVID-19 pandemic disaster has affected the entire world for more than two years. The country and its people now have a new set of habits as a result of this pandemic condition. During the pandemic, new forms of global capitalism and socialism emerged as a result of new patterns of behavior brought about by attempts to address the crisis. The degree of economic inequality in the world is increasing, and with it, the vulnerability of its citizens to both economic and health-related disasters. As a result, new COVID-19-related vulnerabilities were created, which allowed both capitalists and socialists to exert their influence on the world stage. In this instance, they assert that they have the best plan for dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic and its associated technology⁴⁰

Lams L, 2018 Socialism is characterized by its one-ideology policy, authoritarianism, participation in domestic and international propaganda politics, lack of attachment to one's own wealth, and unwavering adherence to governmental programs and policies. Another feature of a socialist state is cooperation between the head of government, the military, and the ruling party in creating stability through coercive measures so that there is no opposition in the country. It is frequently reported in the international community that socialist countries are very quick to deal with the Covid pandemic, whereas Democratic capitalist countries seem slow to handle it. At the beginning of the Covid pandemic, because countries with democracy capitalism were slow to respond, this was due to the fact that they had democracy capitalism as their system of government. Policies that ought not to go against the fundamentals of democracy hampered democracy. The government is required to create regulations that uphold democratic principles and values.^{41,42,43}

Levitsky and Way (2010), the characteristics of capitalist democracy are free elections, broad protection of civil liberties, and adherence to the liberal system. Democratic capitalist state government systems can be divided into two types: State Democratic Capitalism with a Presidential System and State Democracy Capitalism with a Federal System. A policy can be carried out to the smallest area in a presidential system, while the capitalist democratic state system experiences

difficulties because each country is divided into different parts. So that the policies of the Federal Democratic System in each state are not the same, Democratic capitalist countries are bound by the principle of protecting human rights. The Covid-19 pandemic response policy is therefore quicker because it is not centralized from the central government because the capitalist system with the federal system has its own policies ⁴⁵

Jackson JC, Caluori N, Abrams S, Beckman E, Gelfand M, Gray K , 2021, In the handling of the COVID-19 pandemic case, nations with low levels of cultural flexibility are much more vulnerable than nations with high levels of cultural rigidity. A culture of "gotong royong" is promoted when issues arise in a society with a high degree of cultural tightness. In socialist nations, which have a stronger sense of nationalism than democratic nations, which tend to be more individualistic, a mindset and culture of intercommunal cooperation as well as a united front in the fight against the COVID pandemic emerged earlier. ^{30, 45}

Jessen et al 2020 and Kagoro 2016, The theory of power according to Foucauldian is that power is not something that must be owned, but rather power must become a strategy in society that must involve various parties in solving a problem, such as in dealing with covid, where power works in conjunction with society and academics must participate. This theory evolved into a biopolitical theory as a result of considerations regarding the covid pandemic's prevention and management. The requirement for administrative and legal regulations to set requirements and restrictions on the use of contentious technologies that modify or change (human) nature, as described in biopolitical theory. Despite the fact that numerous studies have claimed that democratic nations will inevitably give rise to a new authoritarianism. In capitalist democracies, this theory can be applied as a more adaptable tactic; however, it does not imply authoritarianism in the management of COVID. Democratic capitalist nations can use a special recipe to ward off new authoritarianism: a thorough understanding of biopolitical theory. By dividing a large community into smaller communities and carrying out routine activities, the Covid pandemic response strategy avoids the need to lock down the entire area. So that community activities can run smoothly, with health protocols and regulations that have been established and tried by local government authorities, community-solving policies and strategies can be started at the family level and expanded to the larger community ^{46 47}

Petridou, 2020 and Lindström, 2021, The theory of power relations also discusses the relationship between the people and the ruling regime, as the ruling regime does not only take policies that must be followed by its people, but can also combine various strategies that can support the policies that have been taken, such as giving trust to the government under it to be given authority in dealing with the covid pandemic (decentralization), developing a culture of consensus on every policy including, consequential policies, and so on. ^{48, 49} Another factor to consider is the quality of state or regional leaders in determining policies that can reduce the occurrence of negligence in dealing with the Covid pandemic, as this can also be used as a measuring scale to see the level of obedience and adherence of the people to the policies implemented by their leaders. ⁵⁰

Table 2. Summary of article review (48)

Writer of a Journal	Yao, Li , Wan, Howard, Bailey , Graff ⁵²
Title of an ARTICLE	Democracy and case fatality rate of COVID-1 at an early stage of a pandemic: a multicountry study
Name of the journal	Environmental Sciences and Pollution Research 8694–8704 (2022)
Investigate Theory	Multiple Analysis
The outcome of research	The democratic index value was relatively higher at the start of the pandemic for countries with Democratic capitalism
Writer of a Journal	Chatukulam, Tamarangalam
Title of an ARTICLE	Chatukulam, Tamarangalam The Kerala model in the time of COVID19: Rethinking state, society and democracy ⁵³
Name of the journal	World Development Volume 137 2021 105207
Investigate Theory	Multiple Analysis
The outcome of research	the concept of a state in India's territory that is considered capable of handling covid, with a low economic level but they are more successful than other countries, with the key model of success 1 being lands reform, equal distribution of health services, wage work arrangements, the role of left parties, Education, political competition with a multi-party system (Did this article address the research question?)
Writer of a Journal	Achim, Văidean, Borlea, Florescu, Muntean ⁵⁴
Title of an ARTICLE	Democracy and The Covid-19 Pandemic. A Cross Country Perspective Within Cultural Context International
Name of the journal	Journal of Business and Society, Vol. 22 No. 2, 2021, 546-573
Investigate Theory	Investigative
The outcome of research	Inequality between parties with high levels of income demonstrates a much higher value of capitalism than inequality between parties with low income, giving rise to inequality in the process of democratic justice. There are three cultural dimensions that influence changing people's behavior, namely (individualism vs collectivism, masculinity vs feminism, certainty vs uncertainty) (Did this article address the research question?)
Writer of a Journal	Scott L. Greer, Elizabeth J. King , Elize Massar da Fonseca and Andre Peralta-Santos
Title of an ARTICLE	The comparative politics of COVID-19: The need to understand government responses ⁵⁵
Name of the journal	.GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH 2020, VOL. 15, NO. 9, 1413–1416
Investigate Theory	Multiple Analysis
The outcome of research	Response to COVID-19 cases: social policies for crisis management and recovery, regime type (democracy or autocracy), formal political institutions (federalism, presidentialism), and state capacity (control over health care). Describe how you dealt with the issue of the COVID-19 pandemic

Writer of a Journal	Michael A. Nelson ⁵⁶
Title of an ARTICLE	The timing and aggressiveness of early government response to COVID-19: Political systems, societal culture, and more
Name of the journal	World Development 146 (2021) 105550
Investigate Theory	Multiple Analysis
The outcome of research	150 countries were studied, socialist countries were in the slow category when it came to dealing with covid, unitary states were far more successful than federal countries, and there was no relationship if female leaders were far more successful in dealing with covid than male leaders). It is not the purpose of the study to discuss gender issues
Writer of a Journal	Tim Bütthea, Joan Barceló, Cindy Chenga, Paula Gangae, Luca Messerschmidta, Allison Spencer Hartnettd and Robert Kubinecc
Title of an ARTICLE	Patterns of Policy Responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic in Federal vs. Unitary European ⁵⁷
Name of the journal	Democracies SSRN 2020
Investigate Theory	Multiple Analysis
The outcome of research	a comparative model in Europe for dealing with the covid pandemic, involving democratic countries that are federal in nature, such as Germany and Switzerland, and unitary states, such as Italy and France. Overall, federal states are more likely than unitary states to have heterogeneous policy responses. There is conflicting evidence on whether federal or unitary state policies respond more effectively to the severity of the COVID-19 crisis at the local level. → As there are conflicts in the evidence of the results, it is necessary to assess whether this study should not be excluded.
Writer of a Journal	Norrlof Carla
Title of an ARTICLE	Is covid-19 a liberal democratic curse? Risks for liberal international ⁵⁸
Name of the journal	Cambridge Review of International Affairs, 2020 Vol. 33, No. 5, 799–813
Investigate Theory	Descriptive Analysis
The outcome of research	Mortality cases that are much higher in Democratic Capitalism than Socialist countries are explained because of policy factors that must be based on the international order of democracy, thus affecting the intensity of democracy in the country, in addition to the lack of accurate data on citizens across borders between countries.
Writer of a Journal	Susumu Annaka
Title of an ARTICLE	The Truth and Myth of the Advantages of Authoritarian Countries to COVID-19 American Political ⁵⁹
Name of the journal	Political Sciences Association Jan 08, 2021 version 3
Investigate Theory	Comparative Study
The outcome of research	According to a study of 163 countries, authoritarian countries are far more successful at covid detection, with a greater number of tests for citizens than democratic capitalism countries.

Writer of a Journal	Mohan J Dutta, Christine Ellers and Pooja Jayan,
Title of an ARTICLE	Culture-Centered Processes of Community Organizing in COVID-19 Response: Notes From Kerala and Aotearoa New Zealand ⁶⁰
Name of the journal	ORIGINAL RESEARCH 2020
Investigate Theory	Investigative Research
The outcome of research	Socialist understanding with transformative community patterns in Kerala, India, and Aotearoa New Zealand is far more effective than Democratic capitalism understanding. One of the common themes emerging from the policy for handling the COVID-19 pandemic is participatory community-based, culture-centered approaches, pandemic communication, state control, and caring communities.
Writer of a Journal	Sammy Badran, Bryan Turnbull
Title of an ARTICLE	The COVID-19 pandemic and authoritarian consolidation in North Africa ⁶¹
Name of the journal	Journal of Human Right Volume 21, 2022 - Issue 3
Investigate Theory	Comparative Study
The outcome of research	The momentum of the covid pandemic was used as the basis for making authoritarian policies and as a tool to suppress political action that was opposed to the ruling regime in Morocco and Egypt.
Writer of a Journal	Kayı, Sakarya
Title of an ARTICLE	Policy Analysis of Suppression and Mitigation Strategies in the Management of an Outbreak Through the Example of COVID-19 ⁶²
Name of the journal	Infect Dis Clin MicrobioComparison 1 2020; 2(1): 30-41
Investigate Theory	Investigative Study
The outcome of research	The United States, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Germany, Italy, Turkey, South Korea, Singapore, Japan China, North Korea and Russia, were used as models for implementing policies for handling Covid. These countries represent democratic socialist and capitalist countries, as well as mixed models that can be applied.
Writer of a Journal	Gjerde LE.
Title of an ARTICLE	From liberalism to biopolitics: investigating the Norwegian government's two responses to Covid-19 ⁶³
Name of the journal	European Societies 2021, VOL. 23, NO. S1, S262–S274
Investigate Theory	Investigative Study
The outcome of research	Research was conducted in Norway in handling the covid pandemic, they changed the pattern from liberalist rationality and then switched to biopolitical rationality

Intervention Methods, The majority of intervention strategies contrast the response to the COVID-19 pandemic between democratic and socialist nations, comparing the former's strict

cultures to the latter's lax ones. Democracies don't seem to hold a competitive advantage over socialist nations. The Covid-19 pandemic will be better fought in democratic nations with a federal system because of their independence in enforcing laws.^{46, 47}

DISCUSSION

Target Population

The global community's political, medical, and economic landscape have all been altered by the COVID 19 pandemic. Economic disasters and health crises are becoming more common due to the rising level of economic inequality in the world, which also makes people more susceptible to new social vulnerabilities brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. In order to have more sway over the world, capitalism and socialism have both become more politicized. In order to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, both ideologies assert that their approaches are superior. To evaluate the handling of COVID-19, the community must abide by strict guidelines. In a socialist system, government policies in handling the COVID-19 pandemic will be strictly implemented, which must be obeyed by the people with a one-command pattern, so that policies are more easily implemented. However, in a democratic system, other considerations, such as individual freedom, freedom of speech, fundamental democracy, and human rights are very influential in policy making in society, so the handling of the COVID 19 Pandemic among democracies seems to be slowe.^{40, 41,42,43}

Intervention Method

Lams L 2018., Socialism is distinguished by its single ideological policy, authoritarianism, participation in domestic and international propaganda politics, lack of attachment to one's own wealth, and steadfast adherence to government programs and policies. The cooperation of the head of state, the military, and the ruling party in establishing stability through coercive action to prevent opposition in the nation is another characteristic of a socialist state. The Covid pandemic is dealt with swiftly by socialist nations, according to frequent reports in the international community, but Democrat capitalist nations take much longer. Democracies appeared to be acting slowly during the COVID 19 Pandemic's early stages because of regulations that went against their fundamental principles. The democratic principles and values must be upheld by government laws and regulations.^{41,42,43}

Yao, 2022. Investigated the handling of covid in 149 countries worldwide, including 47 high-income countries with complete infrastructure in handling the covid pandemic, but it was revealed that the death rate of its citizens against the covid pandemic was also high, because the government's ability was not ready. Those who were not vigilant at the start of the Covid pandemic caused many countries with high Democratic Capitalism index scores to have ambiguity in setting policies; they are shackled in making policies that do not harm the principles of Democratic Capitalism, resulting in inconsistent policies in dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic⁵² This is also consistent with research conducted in the Indian state of Kerala, which states that despite having a low income, Kerala is more successful in dealing with the Covid pandemic than regions or countries with higher

incomes, in contrast to research conducted by Achim, 2021, examining 185 world countries, consisting of 54 high-income countries and 131 low-income countries, shows that high-income countries with high democracy index values have dealt with the Covid pandemic. The handling is better for developed countries than developing countries because there are cultural requirements as well as a determinant of success, so it is hoped that by participating in presenting culture in the policy of dealing with the covid pandemic, people's behavior will be influenced. This study, however, does not go into detail about the studied state ideological system.⁵⁴

In addition to categorizing countries based on their level of democracy and income, it is necessary to discuss how countries respond to the covid pandemic based on their ideological understanding. Greer SL, King EJ, da Fonseca EM, Peralta-Santos A, 2020, asserts that the type of regime (democracy or autocracy), formal political institutions (federalism, presidentialism), public administration systems, and state capacities must all be considered in crisis management, handling, and recovery of the covid pandemic (control). Many studies have attempted to exam.⁵⁵

Michael Nelson, 2021, the 150 countries studied produced socialist countries that were slower to deal with infectious disease pandemics than Democratic capitalist countries, while presidential systems of government fared much better than federal systems of government. This is further supported by a comparison of two European countries with presidential government systems, namely Italy and France, as well as countries with federal government systems, Germany and Switzerland, with results showing that countries with presidential government systems are far more effective than countries with federal government systems. The presidential government system was far more successful than the federal government system in the 150 countries studied. This was also supported by a comparison of two European countries with presidential government systems, Italy and France, as well as two countries with federal government systems, Germany and Switzerland.⁵⁴ According to Carla Norrlof, 2020, the case of mortality due to the Covid-19 pandemic is much higher in democratic capitalism countries than in socialist countries, which is explained by the fact that in democratic capitalism countries, all policy factors must be based on the international order of democracy, causing policies to be slow to implement⁵⁶, while the presidential system of government is more effective because the resulting policies can be directly implemented throughout the country's territory, in contrast to the state system, the real power lies with each state, so synchronization steps are required first between the resulting policies of the state government itself, which is slower in terms of speed/time than the presidential system of government.^{57,58}

Sammy Badran, Bryan Turnbull, 2022, the similarity in handling the Covid pandemic in both socialist and democratic countries, both carry out social control for their people, control the internet together, manipulate information about Covid victims within the territory of their respective countries, this can understandable because both socialist capitalism and democratic efforts to prevent unrest due to the COVID-19 pandemic and can be used as a means of propaganda, but can also be negative if used to control or weaken political opponents⁶¹

In dealing with the Covid pandemic, additional new policies are required in addition to the policies that have been issued; it is hoped that they will be able to become a synergistic step in dealing with the Covid pandemic. According to Kayı and Sakarya, 2020, in a study of 13 countries, we cannot

rely on just one policy option to combat the Covid pandemic. The biopolitical system, namely by combining existing policies with expert guidance from academics⁶⁰, experts will go into the field to formulate steps to resolve the covid pandemic, so that state policy is a technical step, while operational steps are based on instructions from experts / academics, so that state policy is a technical step, while operational steps are based on instructions from experts / academics. as a result, state policy is a technical step, while operational steps are based on expert / academic advice.⁶²

CONCLUSION:

The countries that apply a single policy vertically, countries with a socialist spirit fared better in dealing with the Covid pandemic. Countries with socialist understanding were more responsive in handling the covid pandemic than Democratic Capitalism countries at the start of the pandemic, even though the policy was pursued in an authoritarian and repressive manner, the obedience and obedience of a society can be created by the presence of pressure/coercion or by coordination/cooperation between the people and the state. It is hoped that socialist countries will not maintain their authoritarian and repressive principles, and that democratic capitalist countries will not slip into a new authoritarian state in dealing with the covid pandemic. Mixed policies, such as biopolitical strategies, will be required. The importance of information transparency and participation

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