**Restricting population movement during COVID-19:**

**ethics and justifications**

**8th November 1.00pm-2.00pm (London time)**

In the COVID-19 pandemic, varying approaches to restricting population movements have been implemented globally with the aim of limiting transmission and providing time to scale up diagnostic, prevention and treatment capacities. However broad restrictions, including lockdowns, are associated with significant social and economic burdens, which are inequitably distributed. This seminar reviews questions about when and how restrictions can be ethically justified in a pandemic, and when they should be lifted.

**Chair**

* [Dr Voo Teck Chuan](https://medicine.nus.edu.sg/cbme/people_uri/voo-teck-chuan/), Assistant Professor, Centre for Biomedical Ethics, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore, Singapore

**Panel**:

* [Dr Roberta Andraghetti,](https://www.paho.org/en/pahowho-collaborating-centres/spotlight-series-international-health-regulations-and-travelers) Regional Advisor – International Health Regulations, PAHO Health Emergencies Department, Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), Washington DC, USA
* [Ms Martina di Folco, MSc (Res)](https://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/people/martina-di-folco)| Policy and Engagement Officer, Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker (OxCGRT), Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK
* [Prof. Ruipeng Lei](http://english.hust.edu.cn/info/1053/1372.htm), Professor of Bioethics Executive Director, Center for Bioethics, Vice Dean, School of the Humanities, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, China

The following questions will form the basis of the seminar’s panel discussion. Seminar attendees are invited to submit questions in advance of the seminar when they register or during the live discussion.

1. In contexts where there is high COVID-19 vaccination coverage, can broad restrictions, including lockdowns, be justified?
2. What are the ethical considerations associated with the use of targeted restrictions and lockdowns (e.g., of unvaccinated populations; of vulnerable populations)?
3. With profound inequities in vaccination coverage internationally, what are the ethical considerations associated with the continued use of travel restrictions?