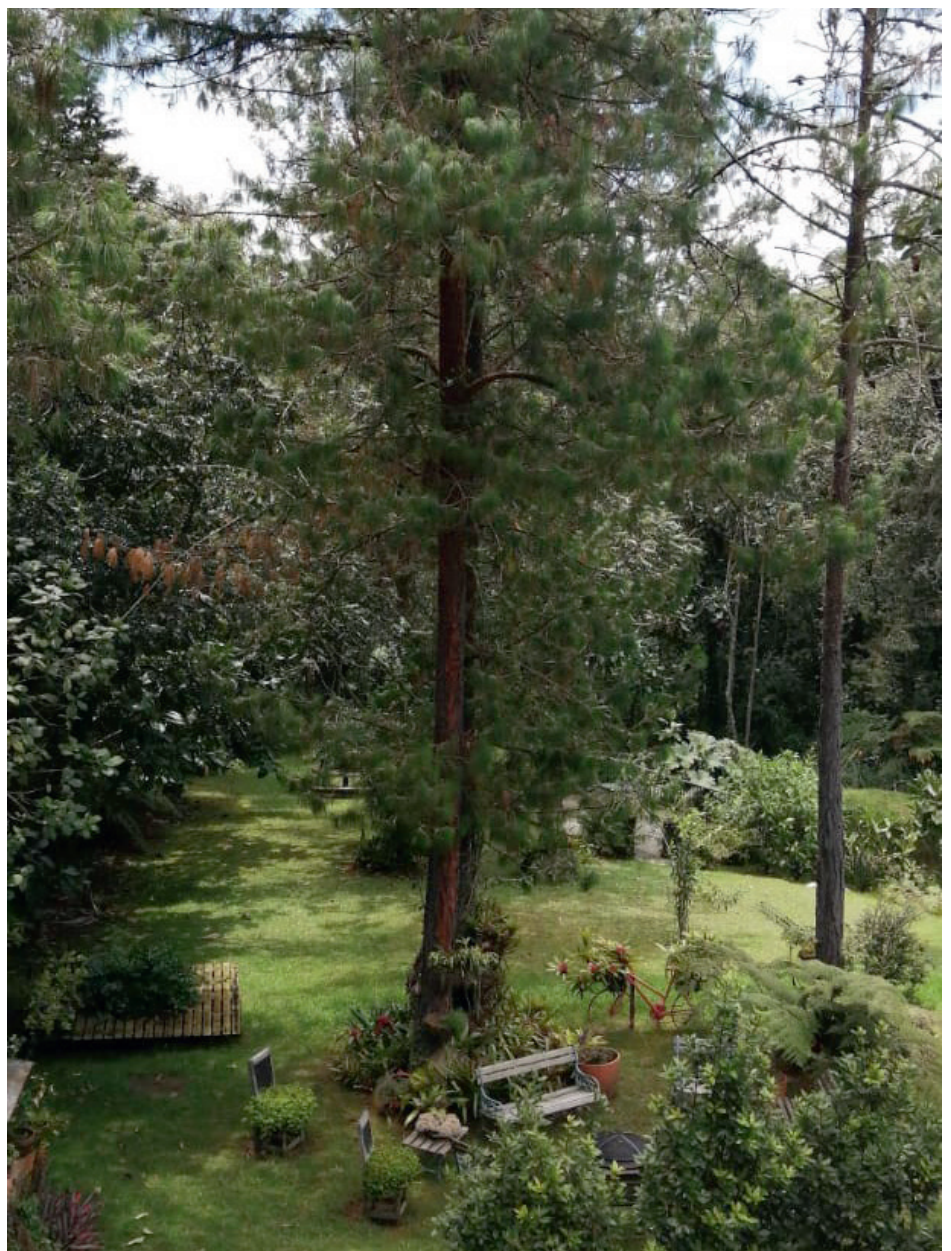


# A timely questionnaire

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Since the end of February 2020, one topic – the coronavirus or COVID-19 – has kept people around the world in check. There is hardly anyone who is not affected by it. People are confronted with drastic measures apparently designed to protect their health. But as these measures are implemented questions arise that go further, for us personally and the world. The situation calls for critical reflections on who we are, what values we consider important and what kind of society we want to live in. The Philosophicum therefore is asking people from different countries to briefly pause and think about the current time, themselves and their society.

You will find the new answers published at regular intervals on our website [www.philosophicum.ch](http://www.philosophicum.ch).

Participants can answer anonymously should they wish and are invited to add a photo of the view from their window.

### **1 What has been the biggest change for you lately?**

That I don't have to go to work at the University but still have virtual classes. So having to change them. A decrease in my income because I can't work in my other occupations.

### **2 What are you thinking about these days?**

Work mostly, even though it looks like it would be less time working and not having to go to other places it ends up being much more to do. So, most of the time I am either working or thinking about the things I have to do.

### **3 What has changed in your everyday life due to the measures relating to the coronavirus pandemic?**

Not going out, but I don't really see it as a problem, and adapting the classes for virtual teaching.

### **4 Could the indirect consequences of the coronavirus pandemic have a larger impact on your country than its direct consequences?**

I think that it's already showing something that has always been here, all the social problems. For example the problems in the jails, all the people that live hand to mouth and are already in very difficult situations

### **5 Are there any changes in your life caused by the coronavirus pandemic that you wouldn't want to dispense with anymore?**

No, not really. I think that I can adapt to them

**6 Which changes do you hope will soon disappear from your life?**

I really like working from home so I hope I can keep doing it, but related to that what I hope would disappear is the amount of working hours and the fact that it is very hard to establish limits on availability. There is communication everywhere, everybody is talking and hopping to be answered all day long.

**7 Have you gained any new insights about yourself, your environment or society due to the coronavirus crisis?**

I have. I don't think that we have to use the car every day or be together in the same place always. I have reduced shopping and established new priorities. Also I hope that we now really understand the importance of things like the humanities and not only what reflects economic growth.

**8 What does «being human» mean to you?**

That's a difficult one. I don't know whether I have an answer to that but I don't have a very good concept of the human being. So I think we are the problem, so being human should mean to realize that and do something about it.

**9 In your view, what could be the greatest stupidity of humanity?**

Being overly success-oriented and identifying that only with economic aspects.

**10 What are your feelings and thoughts about the future in 30 years?**

Sometimes, actually most of the time, I hope we, as humanity, will not be here. It would be the best for the rest of the planet. But if it is not possible, I hope that moments like the one that we are living now make us rethink what we are doing and change our ways of life.