As states of emergency are declared throughout the world in response to the spread of COVID-19, concerns arise as to the use – and potential abuse – of power in a time of crisis. In this Symposium, comparative country reports examine the use of emergency powers from the perspective of democracy, human rights, and the rule of law.

**Hungary’s Orbánistan**

**Canada the Good?**

**Israel’s Perfect Storm**

**New Zealand – Lockdown Bubbles**

**Brazil – Authoritarianism Without Emergency Powers**

**Italy’s – Adjusting Along the Way**

**America – A Nearly Failed State**

**France – From One State of Emergency to Another**

**Bulgaria – An Excuse to Solidify Autocracy?**

**Australia’s State of Emergency**

**State of Disaster in South Africa**

**Ireland’s Response to COVID-19**

**Indonesia’s Battle Over the Meaning of Emergency**

**Portugal – Coping with COVID-19**

**India’s Executive Emergency**

**Norway’s Fight Against the Virus and the Rule of Law**

**Hong Kong – Fear of Unaccountability vs Fear of a Pandemic**

**Greece – Coronavirus Crisis-Law**

**Turkey – Fighting COVID-19**

**Nepal – An Ordinary Response?**
Mexico – Emergency Powers

Finland – Best Practice and Problems

Colombia – A Problem and a Modest Proposal

The United Kingdom – Right Restrictions or Restricting Rights

This Symposium is hosted by Verfassungblog and Democracy Reporting International under the re:constitution program supported by Stiftung Mercator, and coordinated by Joelle Grogan.