

# Thought-provoking reads for the New Year

*It was the year of vaccines, Delta... and now Omicron. How can public policy help us as we approach the third year of the pandemic? Ros Taylor, editor of LSE COVID-19, highlights ten posts from 2021 that shed light on the dilemmas policymakers face.*

*All of us at the LSE's School of Public Policy wish readers a peaceful holiday.*

**Billions of jabs have been administered, but overwhelmingly in richer countries. Why hasn't COVAX been able to vaccinate more of the Global South?**

[The rich countries that developed Covax have actively undermined it](#)

**How the TRIPS waiver would free Global South countries to manufacture their own mRNA jabs**

[Omicron's emergence is a wake-up call: the TRIPS waiver is crucial to get the most effective vaccines to the global south](#)

**Why some Ugandans are reluctant to be vaccinated**

['Only for African export': understanding vaccine hesitancy in a Ugandan town](#)

**COVID: blowing apart assumptions about how the economy can (and should) be managed**

[Five macroeconomic lessons COVID has taught us](#)

**More lockdowns or restrictions look painfully likely. But what motivates people to obey the law when it is mostly unenforceable?**

[When lockdown law is effectively unenforceable, what motivates people to obey it?](#)

**School and care closures place an enormous burden on women – but policymakers have barely acknowledged it**

[Too exhausted even to watch the news: a plea for COVID-19 policy that considers women](#)

**WFH is often comfortable for the middle classes, but it doesn't pull people out of poverty**

[Remote working doesn't pull people out of poverty](#)

**More than ever, we need the rich to pay their taxes. Creating a sense of mutual obligation can achieve that**

[A sense of mutual obligation means that even the rich should see the point of paying their taxes](#)

**Some predicted that the pandemic meant the end of the austerity era. Don't be so sure**

[Why austerity may be making a post-COVID comeback – in Britain, at least](#)

**Once again, SAGE's deliberations are under scrutiny. What principles should the government follow when acting on models?**

[How to respond to Omicron: lessons from Alpha](#)

For the latest public policy thinking on the pandemic, subscribe to the LSE COVID-19 blog's [newsletter](#).

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