

Public defence during the pandemic

Many doctoral students will be affected in different ways by the current situation, especially those who are currently planning their public defence. Even though public defences do not fall within the government's definition of gatherings and events (and hence are not affected by the prohibition of more than eight participants), we at KBH want to emphasize that they cannot be carried out like before.

In order to minimize the spread of COVID-19 and keep in line with current recommendations we stress the following.

- Decrease the number of physical participants. Public defences must be accessible via web casts, and the public/audience should be recommended to take part of the defence through their own computer. Technical support is provided by [Fixit](#) as long as the public defence takes place at KI with access to the KI network.
- Refrain from arranging any social events following the public defence.
- Visit KI's webpage for updated information and guidelines connected to COVID-19 <https://staff.ki.se/public-defence-during-the-covid-19-pandemic>

We all have a responsibility to do what we can to prevent the spread of COVID-19, both at KI and in society at large. This is done by following current recommendations, maintaining physical distance to other people at all times and staying at home if you or any member of your household have symptoms of COVID-19.

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