

English transcript

Much ado about nothing: spot misleading science claims and explore rapid antigen tests and buffers

Bold parts mark the parts essential for the unit.

Speech by FPÖ MP Michael Schnedlitz, Member of the Austrian Parliament

I am now going to carry out a corona test live here during my speech, ladies and gentlemen, so that you can see how worthless and misguided these mass tests are.

However, this agenda item is not fundamentally about the corona tests, but also [about] the ministerial indictment brought by us Freedom Party against the Minister of Health, Mr. Anschober.

Ladies and gentlemen, in this relation with this ministerial indictment, you are here today, so to speak, the jury. Even if he is not here, to my left is the ministerial dock, our ladies and gentlemen and spectators at home, the Austrians, you are the witnesses. But what can be blamed on the Minister of Health, but also on his crony the Chancellor, the evidence, so to speak, is overwhelming. Starting with the absolutely absurd mass tests that are currently being carried out, which are nothing more than a large-scale redistribution of tens of millions of euros of taxpayers' money from the population towards the pharmaceutical industry, to the restriction and sell-out of our civil liberties. It cannot go on like this.

Ladies and gentlemen, and here I am already talking about mass testing.

I have brought here a test directly from a ministry, with which mass tests are also carried out in a ministry, and, ladies and gentlemen I present the "patient": commercial cola. And I am now going to carry out the test to the extent that I take this cola and apply it to the mass test that you also use.

Dear Sir or Madam, yes, this is nonsense this test, which you bought with taxpayers' money, with more tax money than would have been necessary to maintain the Heartcare system. And how worthless this test is, we will see at the end of my speech, when the result is available, ladies and gentlemen.

You talk about nonsense, the population pays for it. But further in the text:

Not only are you conducting a large-scale redistribution from taxpayers to the pharmaceutical industry and the like, your unstructured lockdown has triggered company bankruptcies, an economic crisis, a social crisis. They have destroyed livelihoods ranging from family businesses to the unemployed. Ladies and gentlemen, you are depriving our children of education, as we have already



heard today. And you force our children to wear masks, even though we now know that the masks in schools are of no use at all.

They no longer treat countless patients, thus producing a health emergency that sometimes has worse effects than the virus itself. You have failed to this day to increase bed capacities and staff in order to counteract the crisis. You haven't even started yet.

And, ladies and gentlemen, you have led and established our country into a dictatorship "light" and deprived Austrians of fundamental rights. It is unbelievable that you have taken away the civil liberties of the Austrians, you are right, Mr. colleague from the ÖVP. The freedom to move freely, the freedom to see family and friends, but also freedom of expression. Freedom of expression in the sense that if someone is rightly critical of your measures, then make the citizens of Austria, the Austrians, contemptible. You denounce the population as COVIDiots, as threats, as aluminum-hat wearers, for example, when the questionability of your tests is questioned and the correctness of your tests is questioned.

And in concrete terms, the Minister of Health has also unlawfully exceeded the limits of possibilities entrusted to him by issuing regulations that were not covered by law, ladies and gentlemen. The victims of your behaviour are the Austrians. Destroyed livelihoods, scolded children, destroyed companies, unemployed. A crisis that you have brought about, that is second to none.

Ladies and gentlemen, the test result of your waste of taxpayers' money is now available. And I may say, Mr President, that we may now have a problem because we have a positive corona test in Parliament. Namely, this, this cola has triggered a positive corona test. I don't know how you deal with it.

But ladies and gentlemen, with such things you throw tens of millions of euros of taxpayers' money out the window, instead of organizing for real protection for old people's homes and nursing homes. Instead of finally investing money in our hospitals and not letting the health budget starve.

Ladies and gentlemen of the government, you have absolutely forfeited your trust. You have shown that you cannot lead our country through this crisis, but only lead our country against the wall.

Here, this test alone shows how ridiculous your measures and your policies have become.

It is the Austrian taxpayer who has to pay for them. If you have even a little backbone, ladies and gentlemen, then step back as one.