

Annette Klosa-Kückelhaus

## LEXICOGRAPHY FOR SOCIETY AND WITH SOCIETY – COVID-19 AND DICTIONARIES

**Abstract** Not only professional lexicographers, but also people without a professional background in lexicography, have reacted to the increased need for information on new words or medical and epidemiological terms being used in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. In this study, corona-related glossaries published on German news websites are presented, as well as different kinds of responses from professional lexicography. They are compared in terms of the amount of encyclopaedic information given and the methods of definition used. In this context, answers to corona-related words from a German question-answer platform are also presented and analyzed. Overall, these different reactions to a unique challenge shed light on the importance of lexicography for society and vice versa.

**Keywords** Lay-lexicography; professional lexicography; glossaries; general language dictionaries; neologism dictionaries

### Contact information

**Annette Klosa-Kückelhaus**  
Leibniz-Institut für Deutsche Sprache  
klosa@ids-mannheim.de