

You are cordially invited to attend the Science Tuesday on **31 January, 2022 at 13:00** when Dr. **Bruno Škrinjarić** will present the paper

## **Corruption as an obstacle to pandemic response: A COVID-19 case study**

The paper is joint work with Dr. **Jelena Budak** and **Allison Carragher**. Please join the ZOOM presentation using the link below:

<https://zoom.us/j/98950929913>

### **Abstract:**

This research explores the relationship between corruption and disastrous COVID-19 pandemic outcomes on the European continent by investigating whether countries with higher levels of corruption were less successful in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic. Data were analyzed using exploratory factor analysis and structural equation modelling techniques. Results showed that corruption prevalence and poor bureaucratic quality decrease trust in government and this effect is persistent notwithstanding the socioeconomic conditions in a country. Trust in government is empowered by stringency index and is positively associated with the number of new people vaccinated and less fatal outcomes of COVID-19 infection. Our findings indicate that corruption seriously undermines trust in the government and its institutions in a country and through this mechanism prevents the suppression of the pandemic.

### **About the speaker:**

**Bruno Škrinjarić** is a research associate at the Institute of Economics, Zagreb, Croatia. His research interests include public policy evaluation, competence-based models, productivity analysis, online privacy concern and corruption nexus. He holds a PhD in Economics from the Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, and an MA and BA in Economics from the Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Zagreb, Croatia.