

# Europe's Unvaccinated Minority Population is Falling Out of Society

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Unvaccinated people across Europe are being locked out of many parts of public life and treated as second-class citizens through the use of vaccine certificates/ vaccine passports. Governments are cracking down on the unvaccinated with ever stricter rules and restrictions as a form of coercion to compel them to take experimental Covid-19 vaccines. Tensions between those who are vaccinated and those who are not are rising as the unvaccinated are being falsely blamed for harming people's health, causing deaths, and threatening the economy.

Before Covid-19, Nicolas Rimoldi had never attended a protest.

But somewhere along the pandemic's long and tortuous road, which saw his native Switzerland imposing first one lockdown, then another, and finally introducing vaccination certificates, Rimoldi decided he had had enough.

Now he leads Mass-Voll, one of Europe's largest youth-orientated anti-vaccine passport groups.

Because he has chosen not to get vaccinated, student and part-time supermarket cashier Rimoldi is – for now, at least – locked out of much of public life.

Without a vaccine certificate, he can no longer complete his degree or work in a grocery store. He is barred from eating in restaurants, attending concerts or going to the gym.

"People without a certificate like me, we're not a part of society anymore," he said. "We're excluded. We're like less valuable humans."

As the pandemic has moved into its third year, and the Omicron variant has sparked a new wave of cases, governments around the world are still grappling with the challenge of bringing the virus under control. Vaccines, one of the most powerful weapons in their armories, have been available for a year but a small, vocal minority of people – such as Rimoldi – will not take them.

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Faced with lingering pockets of vaccine hesitancy, or outright refusal, many nations are imposing ever stricter rules and restrictions on unvaccinated people, effectively making their lives more difficult in an effort to convince them to get their shots.

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In doing so, they are testing the boundary between public health and civil liberties – and heightening tensions between those who are vaccinated and those who are not.

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