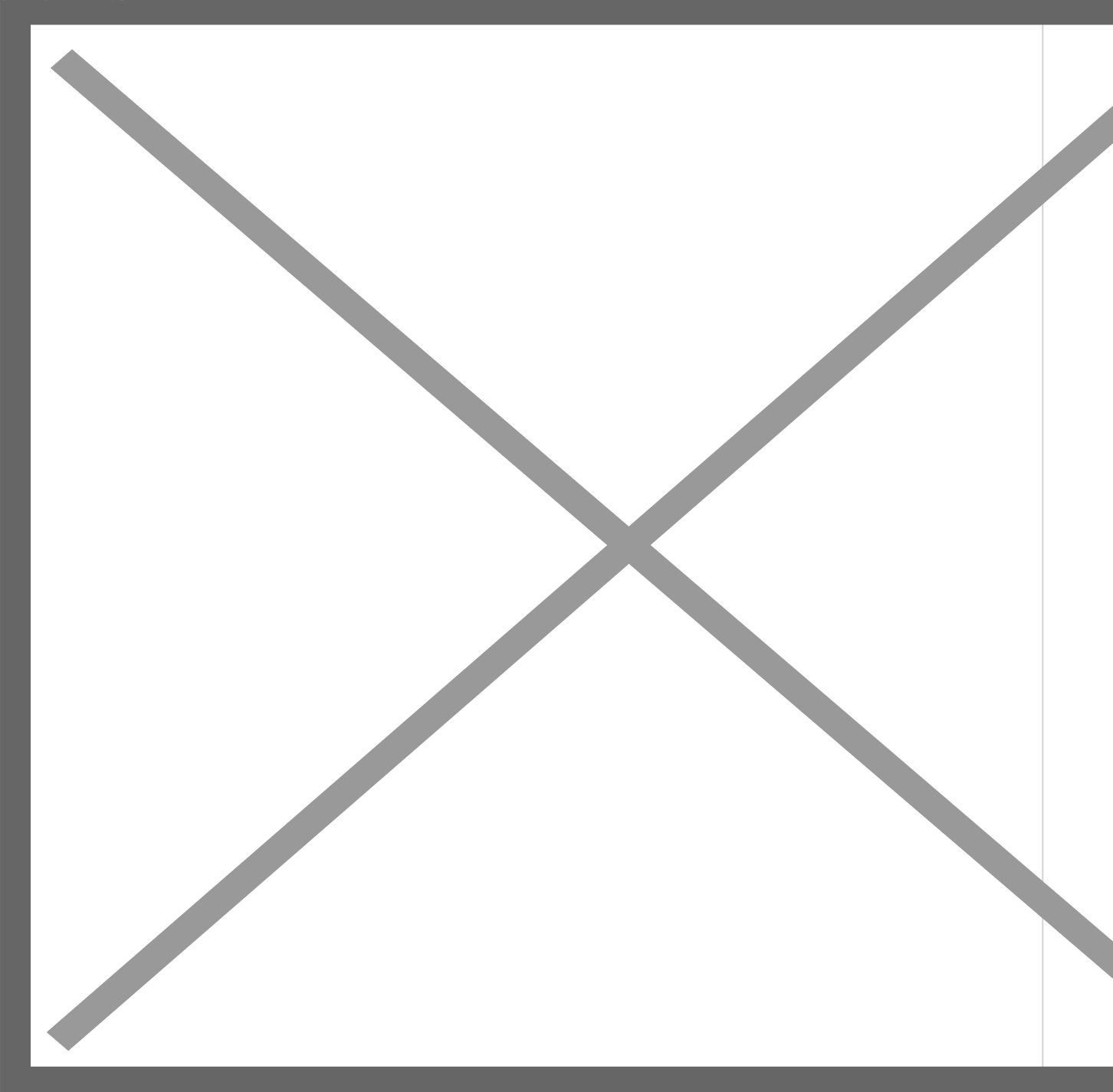


# *The fourth wave*

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By Guillermo Alvarado

The World Health Organization, WHO, warned that the European region of that entity is already under the effects of the fourth wave of Covid-19 infections, due in particular to deficiencies in the vaccination process and the relaxation of sanitary measures.

The number of new cases has been increasing for six consecutive weeks, while the number of deaths has been growing for seven weeks and hospitalizations linked to the virus have almost doubled in recent days, warned authorities.

The WHO Europe zone is made up of 53 countries, some of which are actually outside that continent, such as Israel, Turkey, Uzbekistan and others in Central Asia, but for administrative reasons they are included in that area. Photo: www.aa.com.fr

Hans Kluge, director of this regional office said that unfortunately they are once again at the epicenter of the pandemic, with very worrying indicators in Germany where in one week there were 19,700 cases, something not seen since April.

This country is in a very complicated situation, with a provisional government led by Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel, because there is still no new executive after the legislative elections in September.

Merkel lamented the high number of people over the age of 60 who are not vaccinated, in a country where the campaign against immunization has inexplicably been very strong.

Russia is also experiencing very difficult days due to the increase in the number of infections and deaths. In seven days this country registered more than 8,160 deaths and in neighboring Ukraine the figure in the same period was 3,800.

Due to the saturation of hospitals, last Thursday in the United Kingdom, the use of a medicine in tablets from an American laboratory was approved, which could improve the health of the sick.

The director of WHO-Europe affirmed that if the current course continues, that area could suffer another half a million deaths by February 2022, and called for reconsidering the mandatory use of masks in all countries, as well as resuming hygiene and social distancing measures.

This is another sign that the virus has not yet disappeared, it is only under control in certain places, but it remains a threat to all mankind, which is not doing enough to combat it, especially in terms of vaccination.



**Radio Habana Cuba**