

## COVID-19 AS A NEW CHALLENGE FOR RESILIENCE OF FUTURE CITIES

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### **Abstract**

Resilience of cities is crucial part of the Safe City concept. This article takes a look into resilience and we identify its new challenges that arose in the light of Covid-19 pandemics. The pandemic is testing hard the resilience of countries and cities, their ability to protect the health of citizens and the functions of Safe City concept as a whole. From now on, cities will need to deal with these challenges in their safety strategies as well. Half a year of fight against the pandemics is behind us. Thus, we can evaluate, how did Slovak cities succeeded in achieving the major tasks of resilience in nowadays situation. Among them is the assurance, that the city systems will not crumble because of needed and introduced restrictive measures. This article describes the connection between systems of Safe City concept, and how does this connection create the resilience within the city. Concept Safe City and closely related concept Smart City, they both contain components, that can greatly help during the pandemics by shifting nearly all aspects of systems functionalities into virtual space. This can rapidly slow down the spread of illness. However, city systems can not be fully shifted to this space, and some will suffer negative consequences from doing so. This article is an outcome of ongoing research at the University science park of the University of Žilina. Preceded by studies on Safe City and Smart City concepts, research now continues by defining and strengthening the resilience of cities in the times of worldwide crisis.

**Keywords:** Cities Resilience, Safe City Concept, Crisis Management

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