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**NEWS** | 17 March 2022

## Scientists struggle to probe COVID's origins amid sparse data from China

Origin investigations typically take years, but some researchers say China is delaying the process for political reasons as international tensions rise.

[Amy Maxmen](#)

The logo for City Journal, consisting of the letters 'CJ' in a stylized, white, serif font.

EYE ON THE NEWS

# Journalists, or PR Agents?

Why science reporters don't report fairly on the origins of Covid-19

Nicholas Wade

March 20, 2022

Covid-19

# Lab accident is 'most likely but least probed' COVID origin, State Dept. memo says



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Posted on March 28, 2022 by Emily Kopp

# TopHap: rapid inference of key phylogenetic structures from common haplotypes in large genome collections with limited diversity

Marcos A Caraballo-Ortiz, Sayaka Miura, Maxwell Sanderford, Tenzin Dolker, Qiqing Tao, Steven Weaver, Sergei L K Pond, Sudhir Kumar  [Author Notes](#)

*Bioinformatics*, btac186, <https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btac186>

**Published:** 24 March 2022    **Article history** ▼

“We can estimate that proCoV2 existed 7.7–10.8 weeks before the December 24, 2019 sampling date of Wuhan-1. This places the progenitor of SARS-CoV-2 to have evolved in mid-September to early-October 2019, many weeks earlier than the mid-November 2019 date proposed by Pekar et al. (2021).”

## INVESTIGATION

# “This Shouldn’t Happen”: Inside the Virus-Hunting Nonprofit at the Center of the Lab-Leak Controversy

Chasing scientific renown, grant dollars, and approval from Dr. Anthony Fauci, Peter Daszak transformed the environmental nonprofit EcoHealth Alliance into a government-funded sponsor of risky, cutting-edge virus research in both the U.S. and Wuhan, China. Drawing on more than 100,000 leaked documents, a *V.F.* investigation shows how an organization dedicated to preventing the next pandemic found itself suspected of helping start one.

BY KATHERINE EBAN

MARCH 31, 2022

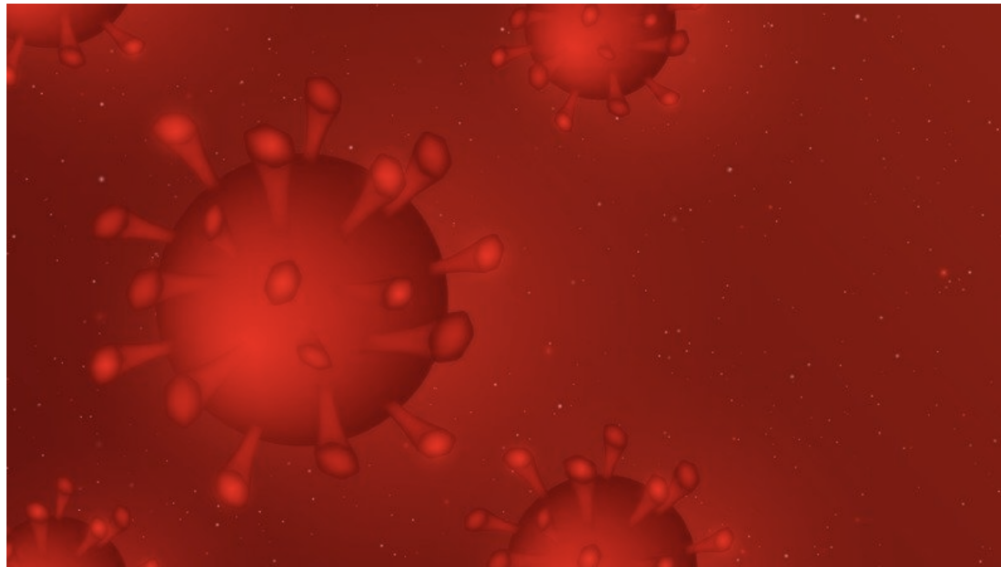
P. Daszak, 2016: “This is terrific! We are very happy to hear that our Gain of Function research funding pause has been lifted.”

On 11 Feb 2020, at 9:01 am, Ian Lipkin <[REDACTED]> wrote:

It's well reasoned and provides a plausible argument against genetic engineering. It does not eliminate the possibility of inadvertent release following adaptation through selection in culture at the institute in Wuhan. Given the scale of the bat CoV research pursued there and the site of emergence of the first human cases we have a nightmare of circumstantial evidence to assess.

Ian

# Call for action to control gain-of-function research of concern (GOFROC)



Helen Esther MUNDLER a lancé cette pétition

## GOFROC: CALL FOR ACTION

04.04.2022

129 ont signé. Prochain objectif : 200 !



Quand elle atteindra 200



signatures, cette pétition aura plus de chance d'être **inscrite comme pétition recommandée** !



Helen Esther MUNDLER a signé la pétition

Paris, 75005  
France



☐ Oui ! Dites-moi si cette pétition est victorieuse et comment je peux en aider d'autres

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Research Paper

# Thus spoke peptides: SARS-CoV-2 spike gene evolved in humans and then shortly in rats while the rest of its genome in horseshoe bats and then in treeshrews

Jaroslav Flegr , Daniel Zahradník & Michaela Zemková

Pages 96-104 | Received 23 Feb 2022, Accepted 18 Mar 2022, Published online: 10 Apr 2022

 Download citation

 <https://doi.org/10.1080/19420889.2022.2057010>







# LOOKING FOR TROUBLE

Trapping bats with Supaporn Wacharapluesadee, who hunts for viruses to understand and prevent pandemic threats

14 APR 2022 • BY [JON COHEN](#)

# Wuhan lab can delete data in 'explosive' legal agreement with U.S. lab

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Posted on [April 20, 2022](#) by [Emily Kopp](#)

A memorandum of understanding between the Wuhan lab and the Galveston National Laboratory at the University of Texas Medical Branch states that each lab can ask the other to return or “destroy” any so-called “secret files” — any communications, documents, data or equipment resulting from their collaboration — and ask that they wipe any copies. This right is retained even after the agreement’s five year term ends in October 2022. All documents are eligible for destruction under the agreement’s broad language.