

Dear Nobel Prize Committees,

We write to you in great respect of the role the Nobel Prize plays in recognizing exceptional achievement for humanity. We write to thank you for the exceptional role you play for the world. And we write to you in pain. We are Covid-19 survivors. We are nurses and health workers, who have given every ounce of our being to save lives from this deadly virus. Too many of our co-workers died saving others. We are individuals who have lost loved ones to Covid-19. We come together from over 40 countries across the world.

We are aware that there are some calls for Dr. Özlem Türeci and Prof. Uğur Şahin, the founders of the pharmaceutical corporation BioNTech, to be nominated and awarded for Nobel Prizes.

Prof. Şahin and Dr. Türeci have provided exceptional leadership in creating a Covid-19 mRNA vaccine that is as effective as any on the planet, with the support of German and European public funds.

And yet it profoundly distresses us that they are even being considered for any Nobel Prize.

As we write today, the world is in an extraordinary crisis. 0.3% of Covid-19 vaccines have gone to low-income countries. Some three million more lives could be lost this year to people who do not have access to a Covid-19 vaccine. These could be our co-workers; our parents; it could be us.

Despite the great scientific achievement of BioNTech, Prof. Şahin and Dr. Türeci have in fact rejected efforts that would allow for billions more people to benefit from the science they have created.

Prof. Şahin and Dr. Türeci have refused to share their Covid-19 vaccine recipes with the World Health Organization (WHO) that would, ensuring quality control and regulatory oversight, allow for qualified manufacturers worldwide to make the vaccine. And they have undermined efforts by over 100 countries led by South Africa and India to lift intellectual property rules on Covid-19 vaccines that started precisely one year ago.

That is far from what, as Alfred Nobel described, those who "have conferred the greatest benefit to humankind". Faced with the chance to save millions of lives with their life-saving science, Prof. Şahin and Dr. Türeci have instead chosen to protect their monopoly to create billions of dollars in profits. They prioritized their profitable partnership with Pfizer, but we expected far better from them.

That is why it would be unconscionable that they be awarded any Nobel Prize. We people in poorer countries from Africa, Latin America and Asia put out a desperate outreached hand to Prof. Şahin and Dr. Türeci, asking they help save our lives – and instead they have turned their back to us.

We believe this can still change. Our message to Prof. Sahin and Dr. Türeci to whom we also share this letter, is a simple one: *we have nothing but respect for your scientific achievement. But we have nothing except despair for your subsequent failure to share that science with the world.'*

Were you to agree to share your science through the WHO mRNA hub in South Africa, and its Covid-19 Technology Access pool, and to support a comprehensive waiver of intellectual property rules, we will be the first to support your nomination for a Nobel Prize: as the individuals who used their extraordinary power to save millions of lives in every country in the world at this time of unprecedented human crisis.

In sincerity and solidarity,

Signatories:

1	Zulaikha Rafiq	COVID-19 Survivor	Afghanistan
2	Morgan	Healthcare worker	Australia
3	Odette Michel Best	Healthcare worker	Australia
4	Dr Aletha Ward	Healthcare worker	Australia
5	Tom Reddington	Healthcare worker	Australia
6	Khushi Kabir	COVID-19 bereaved	Bangladesh
7	Rokeya Kabir	COVID-19 bereaved	Bangladesh
8	Nadira Mallik	COVID-19 bereaved	Bangladesh
9	M. Abdul Matin	Healthcare worker	Bangladesh
10	Pablo Andres Rivero Grazielle Custódio	COVID-19 bereaved	Bolivia
11	David	COVID-19 bereaved	Brazil
12	Reaksmey Hong	COVID-19 bereaved	Cambodia
13	Charina Huot	COVID-19 Survivor	Cambodia
14	Francisco Olivares	Healthcare worker	Chile
15	Linna	Healthcare worker	China
16	Fabiola Rodriguez	COVID-19 bereaved	Colombia
17	Richard Stern		Costa Rica
18	Mandisa Zwane- Machakata	COVID-19 bereaved	Eswatini (Swaziland)
19	Nigus Simane	COVID-19 Survivor, COVID-19 bereaved	Ethiopia
20	Hailu Nurga	COVID-19 bereaved	Ethiopia
21	Rashmi Mistry	COVID-19 Survivor, COVID-19 bereaved	France
22	Anonymous	COVID-19 Survivor, COVID-19 bereaved	France
23	Saiba T Suso Mam Kumba Ndow	COVID-19 bereaved	Gambia
24	Sise	Healthcare worker	Gambia
25	Malte Radde	COVID-19 survivor	Germany
26	Adrian Schlegel	COVID-19 bereaved	Germany
27	Kaiser Gabi	Healthcare worker	Germany
28	Ohenewaa Brown	COVID-19 Survivor	Ghana
29	Emmanuel Baidoo	COVID-19 bereaved	Ghana
30	Gbene Ali Malik	COVID-19 bereaved	Ghana
31	Shobha Raghuram	COVID-19 bereaved	India
32	Babu Mathew	COVID-19 bereaved, Vaccine trial participant	India
33	Blessina Kumar	COVID-19 Survivor, COVID-19 bereaved	India
34	JaibuNisha.R	COVID-19 bereaved, Healthcare worker, Vaccine trial participant	India
35	Dr. Nitin Jadhav	COVID-19 bereaved	India

36	Shalmali Guttal	COVID-19 Survivor	India
37	Vijay Rukmini Rao	COVID-19 bereaved	India
38	S David Brynerd	COVID-19 bereaved	India
39	Kiran kumar	COVID-19 bereaved	India
40	Loon Gangte	COVID-19 Survivor, COVID-19 bereaved	India
41	James Pochury	COVID-19 bereaved	India
42	Smita Khanijow	COVID-19 Survivor	India
43	David Selvaraj	COVID-19 Survivor, COVID-19 bereaved	India
44	Sushovan Dhar	COVID-19 bereaved	India
45	David kire	COVID-19 bereaved	India
46	Anonymous	COVID-19 bereaved	India
47	Ramesh Kumar Singh	Healthcare worker	India
48	Asola	COVID-19 bereaved	India
49	Aditya Wardhana	COVID-19 bereaved, Healthcare worker	Indonesia
50	Rachmi Hertanti	COVID-19 Survivor	Indonesia
51	Meirinda Sebayang	COVID-19 Survivor, COVID-19 bereaved	Indonesia
52	Kieran Harkin	Healthcare worker	Ireland
53	Susan Smith	Healthcare worker	Ireland
54	Aaron Koay	Healthcare worker	Ireland
55	John Carroll	Healthcare worker	Ireland
56	James Larkin	Healthcare Researcher	Ireland
57	Ciara Conlan	Healthcare worker	Ireland
58	Anne Reilly	Healthcare worker	Ireland
59	Paul O'Raw		Ireland
60	Sean Farren		Ireland
61	Toni Pyke		Ireland
	John O'Loughlin		
62	Kennedy		Ireland
63	Helen Fahy		Ireland
64	Seamus ONeill	COVID-19 bereaved	Ireland
65	Michael Byrne		Ireland
66	Anne Heffernan		Ireland
67	Pat Murphy	COVID-19 bereaved	Ireland
68	Carmel Hamill		Ireland
69	Carol Dorgan		Ireland
70	Christine Kelly	Healthcare worker	Ireland
71	Gail nicolson	Healthcare worker	Ireland
72	Emanuela Lamieri	COVID-19 bereaved	Italy
73	Marie-Claire Wangari	Healthcare worker	Kenya
74	Allan	COVID-19 bereaved	Kenya
75	Ruth Sandimu	COVID-19 bereaved	Kenya
76	Crystal Simeoni	COVID-19 bereaved	Kenya
77	Timothy Wafula	COVID-19 bereaved	Kenya
78	Josephine Ireri	COVID-19 survivor	Kenya
79	Nickson Chepkwony	COVID-19 survivor; Healthcare worker	Kenya
80	Fatuma Matemu		Kenya
81	Deepak Xavier	COVID-19 survivor	Kenya
82	Nabil Ahmed	COVID-19 bereaved	Kenya
83	Sadia Kidwai	COVID-19 Survivor, COVID-19 bereaved	Kenya
84	Julie O	COVID-19 bereaved	Kenya
85	Thokozile Lungu	COVID-19 bereaved	Malawi
86	Crisis Home KL	Healthcare worker, Vaccine trial participant	Malaysia
87	Traore Tariba	COVID-19 survivor	Mali
88	Marco Alejandro Georgina Gutiérrez	Healthcare worker	Mexico
89	Alvarado	COVID-19 Survivor, COVID-19 bereaved	Mexico

	María Eugenia		
90	Velázquez Zaragoza	COVID-19 bereaved; Healthcare worker	Mexico
91	Elizabeth	COVID-19 bereaved	Namibia
92	Praman Adhikari	COVID-19 Survivor, COVID-19 bereaved	Nepal
93	Reshma Shakya	Vaccine trial participant	Nepal
94	Rajesh Didiya	COVID-19 bereaved	Nepal
95	Hari Bhusal	COVID-19 Survivor, COVID-19 bereaved	Nepal
96	Sujat Shramanera	COVID-19 bereaved	Nepal
97	Asmita Pandit	COVID-19 bereaved	Nepal
98	Anonymous	COVID-19 Survivor, Healthcare worker	Nepal
99	Pratap Maharjan	COVID-19 Survivor	Nepal
100	Geeta Pandey	COVID-19 bereaved	Nepal
	Bishnu Prasad		
101	Sharma	COVID-19 bereaved	Nepal
102	Mahesh Badal	COVID-19 Survivor	Nepal
103	Lily Thapa	COVID-19 Survivor	Nepal
104	Indu Adhikary	COVID-19 Survivor, Healthcare worker	Nepal
105	Shiva Paudel	COVID-19 bereaved	Nepal
106	Dilip Shrestha	COVID-19 survivor	Nepal
107	Bal Krishna Kattel	COVID-19 survivor	Nepal
108	Nilam Pun	Healthcare worker	Nepal
109	Barsa Thapa	COVID-19 bereaved	Nepal
110	Lumanti joshi	COVID-19 Survivor	Nepal
111	Asma Kiran	COVID-19 Survivor, COVID-19 bereaved	Pakistan
112	Asghar Satti	Healthcare worker	Pakistan
113	Dr Alia Haider	Healthcare worker	Pakistan
114	Irfan ilahi	COVID-19 Survivor, COVID-19 bereaved	Pakistan
115	Farooq Tariq	COVID-19 survivor	Pakistan
116	Dinah Fuentesfina	COVID-19 bereaved	Philippines
117	Angelica Pago	COVID-19 Survivor	Philippines
	Anthony Louie V.		
118	David	COVID-19 Survivor, Healthcare worker	Philippines
119	Jesus Rancile Cabas	COVID-19 Survivor	Philippines
120	Raymund Lauron	COVID-19 Survivor	Philippines
121	Joshua San Pedro	COVID-19 Survivor, Healthcare worker	Philippines
	Juan Dionisio Rafael		
122	Ferriols	COVID-19 Survivor, COVID-19 bereaved	Philippines
	Jamie Dominique N.		
123	Dasmariñas	Healthcare worker	Philippines
124	Randy Dacanay	COVID-19 Survivor, COVID-19 bereaved	Philippines
125	Leszek boczula	COVID-19 survivor	Poland
126	Jola boczula	COVID-19 survivor	Poland
127	Valentina Montanaro	COVID-19 bereaved	Portugal
	Maria Fernanda		
128	Salazar Rodriguez	COVID-19 Survivor, COVID-19 bereaved	Portugal
129	Michel Ndayambaje	COVID-19 Survivor, COVID-19 bereaved	Rwanda
	Jacqueline		
130	Nyirabyimana	COVID-19 Survivor, COVID-19 bereaved	Rwanda

131	Anonymous	COVID-19 Survivor	Rwanda
132	Belinda Ameterra Solanga Solly	COVID-19 bereaved	South Africa
133	Milambo	COVID-19 bereaved	South Africa
134	Irna Senekal	COVID-19 bereaved	South Africa
135	Geraldine Naidoo	COVID-19 bereaved	South Africa
136	Tian Johnson	COVID-19 bereaved	South Africa
137	Mabalane Mfundisi	COVID-19 bereaved; Healthcare worker	South Africa
138	Tokky Shingange	COVID-19 survivor	South Africa
139	Jens Pedersen	Healthcare worker	South Africa
140	Rafia Akram	COVID-19 bereaved	South Africa
141	Mbali Baduza	COVID-19 bereaved	South Africa
142	Linda Cooper	COVID-19 bereaved	South Africa
143	Mila Harding	COVID-19 bereaved	South Africa
144	Fatima Hassan	COVID-19 bereaved	South Africa
145	Vanessa Japtha	COVID-19 bereaved	South Africa
146	Maurice Smithers	COVID-19 bereaved	South Africa
147	Sasha Stevenson	COVID-19 bereaved	South Africa
148	Umunyana	COVID-19 bereaved	South Africa
149	Yanga Lucky Boy Edison	COVID-19 bereaved	South Africa
150	Mkhondwane	COVID-19 bereaved	South Africa
151	Boitumelo	COVID-19 survivor	South Africa
152	Jean Richter	COVID-19 survivor	South Africa
153	Dumisile	COVID-19 bereaved; Healthcare worker	South Africa
154	Ntsiki Mpulo	COVID-19 bereaved	South Africa
155	Ingrid Weideman	COVID-19 bereaved	South Africa
156	Kapil Narain	COVID-19 bereaved; COVID-19 survivor; Healthcare worker	South Africa
157	Candice Sehoma	COVID-19 survivor	South Africa
158	Leanne Brady	Healthcare worker	South Africa
159	Nikki Schaay Paula Rodríguez	Healthcare worker	South Africa
160	Notario	COVID-19 Survivor	Spain
161	Laura Girón	COVID-19 Survivor	Spain
162	Anonymous	Vaccine trial participant	Spain
163	Nuria Larrinaga Barea Elena Alfaro Ruiz-	COVID-19 bereaved	Spain
164	Clavijo	COVID-19 Survivor, COVID-19 bereaved	Spain
165	Paloma Notario Diaz	COVID-19 Survivor	Spain
166	Anonymous	Vaccine trial participant	Spain
167	Marta Iniguez	COVID-19 bereaved	Spain
168	Carlos Díaz	COVID-19 Survivor	Spain
169	Atria Mier	COVID-19 Survivor, COVID-19 bereaved	Spain
170	Anonymous Sandra Victoria	COVID-19 Survivor, COVID-19 bereaved	Spain
171	Salazar Espitia	COVID-19 Survivor	Spain

172	Maite	COVID-19 bereaved	Spain
173	Liliana Suarez Navaz	COVID-19 bereaved	Spain
174	Roberto Gil Gordon	COVID-19 survivor	Spain
175	Anonymous	Vaccine trial participant	Spain
176	Anonymous	COVID-19 bereaved	Spain
177	Luis Martinez Ros	COVID-19 bereaved; Healthcare worker	Spain
178	Nalini Ratnarajah Pubudini	COVID-19 bereaved	Sri Lanka
179	Wickramaratne	COVID-19 bereaved	Sri Lanka
180	Harry Prabowo	COVID-19 bereaved	Thailand
181	Sofien Asta	COVID-19 survivor	Tunisia
182	Joan Babirye Joseph Abubanks	COVID-19 bereaved; Healthcare worker	Uganda
183	Mwebaze	Healthcare worker	Uganda
184	Anonymous	COVID-19 bereaved	UK
185	Kathleen Zimak		UK
186	Matheus Rossetto	COVID-19 bereaved	UK
187	Anonymous	Healthcare worker	UK
188	Elizabeth Baines		UK
189	Sheila Cogley	Healthcare worker	UK
190	Eileen Mcmanus Paulo Roberto		UK
191	Rossetto	COVID-19 Survivor, COVID-19 bereaved	UK
192	Saphal Gurung	Healthcare worker	UK
193	Kazi R Begum	COVID-19 bereaved	UK
194	Alka Makwana	COVID-19 bereaved; Healthcare worker	UK
195	Zheyuan Xie	Healthcare worker	UK
196	Kazi Begum	COVID-19 bereaved	UK
197	Anonymous Tristan Quinn-	COVID-19 bereaved	United States
198	Thibodeau Reshma	COVID-19 survivor	United States
199	Ramachandran	COVID-19 bereaved; Healthcare worker	United States
200	Belle Koch	Healthcare worker	United States
201	Jacob Hyman	Healthcare worker	USA
202	Martha Tholanah	COVID-19 bereaved	Zimbabwe
203	Tanya Charles	COVID-19 bereaved	Zimbabwe
204	Glenda	COVID-19 survivor	Zimbabwe