EFG COVID-19 Panel Questions

1. What is the current and forecasted progress of the epidemic? What is the latest thinking on the effectiveness of different mitigation strategies and interventions, both pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical ones? How do different methods for fitting models to data and the consideration of behavioral responses affect these predictions? [Primary responders: James Stock and Marc Lipsitch]

2. How have the effects of the pandemic as well as government lockdown measures differed both across people within countries and across countries? What have been the key dimensions of heterogeneity within countries, e.g. socioeconomic status, workers in different occupations, age, urban vs rural, etc.? Comparing across countries, which countries have been hit hardest and which strategies have worked best? [Primary responder: Gianluca Violante]

3. In your view, what are the likely long-run consequences of Covid-19 for the economy assuming that it is eventually beaten? As a thought experiment, if a vaccine were discovered and widely distributed by the end of the year, would there still be scarring effects or would things go back to normal? How does this depend on your view about whether the crisis mostly impacts “demand” or “supply”? [Primary responder: Veronica Guerrieri]