Disincentives for vaccine refusal

As the world adjusts to living with COVID-19 and its variants such as omicron, the need to boost vaccination rates is paramount. Some countries are attempting to force the hand of people who are less willing to be vaccinated by pivoting from incentives to disincentives.

Perhaps the most major disincentives are vaccine mandates, curbing the ability of anyone unvaccinated to move freely in public spaces or to access public services. But, as with the plethora of rewards for vaccination, it remains to be seen whether these have the desired effect. Some experts have warned that, conversely, the heavy-handedness risks alienating and polarising these pockets of the populace for good.