32 | OUT OF OPTIONS
In large crowds like that at the Hajj in Mecca, a mass panic leaves no chance of escape.

44 | OUT OF THIS WORLD
Astrophysicist Laura Kreidberg studies the atmospheres of extrasolar planets.

54 | OUT OF THE ORDINARY
Seagrass meadows store gigantic amounts of sugar in the soil under their roots and sequester carbon dioxide.

60 | OUT OF COURT
Communities like the far-right Reichsbürger or biker gangs often resolve conflicts without the police or justice system.
Europe is currently seeing the biggest movement of refugees since World War II. Yet unlike in 2015, the refugees are not being turned away at the borders. What makes today’s situation different from then?

What are the rules by which schools of fish are organized, and what are the advantages of living in a collective? Researchers are using cutting-edge technology to try to answer these questions.

The movements of individuals in dense crowds follow the laws of physics. Calculations can help control gatherings and avoid mass disasters.

Some immune cells in the cluster go on the hunt for pathogens. Researchers are studying how such groups of hundreds of cells join together and dissolve again.

Artificial intelligence could help children to learn programming. The approach can also be transferred to other subjects.

Governments and companies are currently investing heavily in quantum information technology. Is the hype justified?

New telescope images put the black hole at the heart of our Milky Way in the scientific spotlight.

On parrots