

## Biography Professor Thomas Wintgens

Thomas Wintgens is Professor in Urban Water Management at the Institute for Environmental Engineering at RWTH Aachen University (Germany) since 2019. Previously he was professor in environmental and water technologies at the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland (2008-2019). He obtained both a habilitation and PhD degree from the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering of RWTH Aachen University. Thomas is active in the fields of advanced water and wastewater treatment, resource recovery and the combination of natural and engineered water treatment systems as well as on industrial wastewater treatment. He has coordinated several European projects on water technologies and is co-initiator of the European Umbrella Initiative on SARS-CoV-2 monitoring in wastewater.

### **SARS-CoV-2 surveillance in wastewater – international efforts**

By Thomas Wintgens (ISA RWTH Aachen University) and Frank-Andreas Weber (FIW @ RWTH Aachen)

The SARS-CoV-2 pandemic has caused unprecedented effects in different domains including public health and global economy. The detection and quantification of SARS-CoV-2 gene fragments in wastewater has emerged as an option to monitor the virus circulation in the communities connected to the respective sewer catchment. Several initiatives are under way in European countries and internationally to gain more insights to SARS-CoV-2 presence and to check the feasibility of a monitoring system. The webinar deals with an overview on current activities, particularly on the European level and present a German case study on SARS-CoV-2 analysis in wastewater treatment plants-