

## THE IMPACT OF THE CORONAVIRUS EPIDEMIC ON HUMAN SOCIETY

From time to time, someone takes care to remind us of the fragility of the human being proven by all kinds of calamities that our biological support hardly faces, confirming each time the metaphorical statement of Blaise Pascal: "the human being is a thinking cane". There are very low limits of human adaptability to the environment, from a biological point of view. All alone, confronted with the requirements of the terrestrial environment, the human being possessed the ability to develop reasonings, actions or behaviours as reliable allies and this both sheltered and helped him propel his species. When the climate got cold, he took refuge in underground caves, and he subsequently discovered the protection of the furs of killed animals. This was the beginning of some preoccupations which nowadays lead to the refinement of fashion shows such as Chanel, Dior, Versace, etc. In Tudor Arghezi's "Song of the individual", a poem dedicated to the human mind as a means and explanation of the evolution of human civilization, essential aspects of the journey from the cave to the conquest of the atom and outer space are triumphantly retained.

On this infatuation background of the multipotent human being, mankind is shaken by Halley's comet, the Tunguska meteorite, the eruption of Mount Etna, solar flares, plague, cholera, Coronavirus etc. One should remember that the cosmic parameters (heat, light, air, water, climate, cosmic irradiation) favourable to the existence of life in general and of the human species in particular, present very large variation intervals during which the value range proper to the existence of life as we know it is extremely low. This is exactly the source of numerous cataclysms.

Created according to his own legends in the image and likeness of God, the individual considers himself to be very strong and therefore he settled at the forefront of the food chain

although scientists' calculations offered him a trophic index of only 2.2 (the same index belongs to the anchovy and ... to the pig). Therefore, from time to time, the appearance of epidemics brings into question the existence of invisible enemies (this is how Macron named them) who interrupt the glorious path of humanity which has become a source of nourishment for reluctant, without intelligence but rapacious and ruthless, beings.

Up to the discovery of the microscope and the works of the brilliant Pasteur the medical world floated in the unknown. Microbiology and inframicrobiology managed to mostly explain and control the contact of the human being with this invisible world. But the continuous assault and the naturally selected pathogenic agents are becoming more and more active, and their source is to be found in the environment.

Southeast Asia represents an area of great interest for scientists. From this area, the climate, heat and humidity parameters and the jungle with its nutritive offer created proper conditions for the development of life and led to a great diversity of plant, animal, bird, fish, but also fungi, bacteria and viruses. Let us not forget the fact that these living conditions contributed to the excessive development of the human community, therefore creating an East-West demographic pressure to which Indo-Europeanism represents a consequence in itself. This demographic pressure confirmed the sui generis globalization since the Neolithic, but continued in the Middle Ages through something that people called the barbarian invasion and continues even nowadays through the waves of Asian emigrants invading the West.

From an epidemiological standpoint the same Asian area is seen as a source, a pool of gestation, development and spread of pathogens that cause various epidemics and pandemics difficult to control. As I pointed out above, the Asian jungle

represents an authentic planetary scale cultural environment in which large diversities of cellular and intracellular forms develop, which possess unexpected capacities of genetical conversion with pathogenesis that surprise the medical world through their lethal and polymorph clinical manifestations, contagion and mass spread. I wonder whether a planetary committee would be suitable or not in order to deal with an eradication at the source of these repeated waves of viral diseases. This is the plausible source of Coronavirus – a natural one, all the more so as this scourge also appeared previously in the form of MERS or SARS, both producing acute respiratory failure and also representing coronaviruses of different genetic expression.

Without getting to the heart of the matter, mankind was surprised by the sudden appearance of the pathogenic agent as well as by the severe clinical forms that it developed. Confronted with the sudden attack, the virology labs have either looked for an answer or they simply offered a sum of statements: coronavirus, new virus, Covid-19 etc. They are all associated with its appearance in Wuhan – China, a city with one of the most powerful viral labs, subsidized by the Americans with 250 million dollars. The secrecy behind the moment of its outbreak as well as other elements argue the possibility of a laboratory product. The virus morphology analysis leads to the same idea as it bears on its surface some spots, structural elements, similar to the HIV virus. We also add the fact that, in America, the first treatments used in their combination anti-HIV molecules. Were they aware of something? Did the apprentice sorcerer trigger this pandemic?

Another worth noticing element is represented by the fact that in an authentic globalization, in the presence of some international institutions with globalizing functions, this epidemic proved that the entire world is not prepared to face such an epidemic attack. Chaos, panic, the unprofessional approach and the lack of protection means left their mark on the pandemic and will continue to influence its evolution for a long time from now on.

Romania represents a typical example of unprofessional approach regarding the pandemic and this lack of professionalism and organisation

as well as the insufficient material and human resource management lead to further calamities. But the worst element with unfortunate effects was and still remains the political interference having inexperienced people as vectors, who proudly and very arbitrarily approached the event where we should not neglect an elementary epidemiological fact: in an epidemic anti-epidemic protection prevails because there is the source of the disease. Hospitals were built using funds and hiring personnel and we are now waiting for them to become full of patients, instead of investing the same monetary and personnel resources into the primary protection of the population in order to diminish the number of contaminations and of patients. Other European states such as Germany, England, Sweden and others did the same. Meanwhile, there are more and more politicians who turned into occasional epidemiologists.

An insufficient but chaotic fuss, unsystematized on the objectives and means from the economic field makes the next day become uncertain for a large number of Romanian citizens. The European Union, which in such a state of emergency could have demonstrated its effectiveness, directs its funds to those who have, raising questions about its equal and non-discriminatory protective role.

The immediate, medium- and long-term consequences are difficult to predict and manage. Although short-term consequences might seem easier to predict, surprises could still appear at any time due to both the unpredictable development of the pandemic and the unexpected polymorphism of the clinical picture which might present various localisations – pulmonary, digestive or neurological, according to various specialists.

The experience so far presented some directions which will probably continue in the future: epidemic-sanitary consequences, economic consequences, consequences on social life and a strong imprint on the individual. I emphasized this fourth direction although it might be considered part of the social life because I believe that the most significant mutations will take place here and that they will confront politicians, governors and the authorities with a new human element, probably more determined in managing his own interests on all levels.

The pandemic equation presents too many variables in order to be mastered. Each country adds new, usually negative, influence factors. Romania also “originally” contributes to the risky management of this scourge. There are numerous errors that could be highlighted, but some of them are completely unforgivable: the absence of epidemiologists in the initial debut phases, which led to poor and unorganised anti-epidemic measures, the “asparagus” action during the isolation period, therefore violating the provisions of the military ordinances by carrying groups of people from one end of the country to the other, to airports that were too and unnecessarily far away, the unprofessional treatment of the returnee groups and their transport to Suceava with the well-known consequences (starting from the Middle Ages quarantine was organised at the border).

Economy stagnates, education stagnates and the population of Romania cultivates its fear and panic in confinement. Some people use this time to read, listen to music or tidy up their households or libraries. Weaker people committed suicide

while braver ones broke the blockade by exposing themselves to the harshness of the law through fines, quarantine etc. But this pandemic also stimulated humanitarian initiatives, the humanitarian aid organizations multiplied and the world seems more concerned about each other’s troubles. Alterity seems to be assimilated better and this promises that we will come out of this crisis more supportive and attentive to everything that takes place around us, but I am also afraid of a certain aggression or social radicalization because of this imposed social distancing.

Getting out of the coronavirus crisis presents strong correlations in the field of health, demography, economy and especially in social life. He hope that global and national authorities will be able to efficiently manage the disturbing factors that appear at all global, regional and national levels, excluding the spectrum of the four knights of the apocalypse: the Epidemic, the War, the Famine and the Death, which both in apocalypse and in history appear and condition together.

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