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SENSE OF FUTURE OR LEARNING FROM LIFE

BACKGROUND OF THE IDEA

The idea of this paper comes out from the question: Why this time can be described as the time when young generation is underestimated? This question has arisen from life.

Youth unemployment rate in Europe is 35–50%! Can we consider unemployment as the way to reject an individual from the community? Unemployment is the biggest personal disaster for an individual, isn't it?

Young generation is often called jobless generation. If we know that Alexander the Great built his Empire while he was in the age of 23 to 33, and his contemporary peers still live with their parents in that age — the question is what happened? Did biology change? Did technology change? Did civilization change? Should we understand the issue of youth unemployment as the question of current momentum and technical question, or is it the question, which comes out from the essence of this civilization model — Western civilization, before all...

"Something is rotten in the state of Denmark", says Shakespeare.

Something is rotten in this civilization.

Do we come to an end of one civilization context?

Can we understand contemporary migrations, colons of thousands of migrants, boats overloaded with people heading from Asia and Africa to Europe as the warning?

Is the population map given below the warning?

Map is showing how would state borders look like if they would represent the size of population, not the size of territory as now. Can we stop migration by building walls in the long run? Should we think more of integration?

Aren't these two facts: youth unemployment and new great migration — serious research platform for all of us, researchers? Should we deal with such life issues

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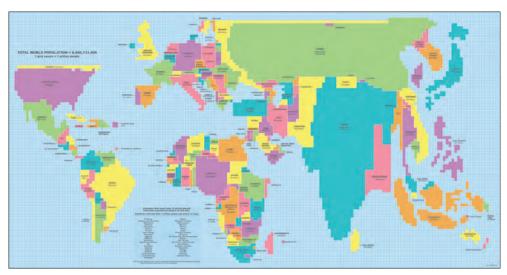


Illustration 1: Population map Source: https://www.flickr.com

or should we write lifeless papers for publishing in Journals listed in Science Citation Indices?

Should we just describe the world we live in, or should we learn from the world we live in? Karl Marx wrote: "The goal of a philosopher is not to describe the world, but to change it!"

GLOBALIZATION

All of this brings us to the question: Can we think of globalization as of description of today's world, or the globalization is the creation of new civilization and the big change of current civilization model?

Is the globalization this essential difference?

Is the globalization this new civilization context?

I don't think that globalization is this techno-technological addition to current model of civilization... It is the new civilization. Or better said — it is a dawn of civilization?

What does globalization change in my opinion?

- 1. It changes the dominant paradigm;
- 2. It changes sources of growth and development;
- 3. It changes the role of education, i. e. the role of school.

1) THE CHANGE OF PARADIGM

Economy is the base of today's paradigm. Many people call this economic imperialism. Economy is the base of society. Material values are the base — spiritu-

al values are the overhead. All of us from ex-socialistic countries know that model very well.

Homo economicus is in the essence of understanding of our world. National state is the fundament of organization of human life.

However, what happens with this paradigm in information society and in the globalization environment, with growing interdependencies? Paradigm, which considers the economy as the base of society, is transforming into paradigm where culture is the base.

Homo ludens, the man of the game, is taking the role of homo-economicus, as the main actor of social change. In this paradigm an individual is not the raw material for building society and collective, but it becomes the subject. Instead of an individual subordinated to society, the focus is moved to an individual who is a researcher, who transforms himself into the subject, and the initiator of changes. Without doubts, this mutation will have both positive and negative consequences, as it equally emphasizes freedom and alienation...

In my opinion, new paradigm is destructing national state. The survival of national state becomes harder, which is confirmed through growing public debts in all states, including the most developed ones, and high unemployment of young people. The borders of national states cannot survive the pressure of public debt and unemployment, not to mention climate change and pollution.

2) CHANGE OF THE SOURCES OF GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Change of paradigm necessarily changes the sources of growth and development in the society. Culture is in the center. Culture is the totality of human activities. Culture is related to spirit. It is related to engagement of the spirit.

On one hand, it is the set of values, customs and practices, which make the totality of life of specific group of people. However, I understand it as the set of producing skills. Technology is also the expression of culture. Attitudes toward economy, society and work all originate from culture. Niche said "the development capital of one society is the capital of will and spirit, not capital understood as isolated money or technology".

The culture leads to so-called culture industry. Creativity and innovation become drivers of development. Ideas are the most convertible market goods today. And ideas don't recognize limits... "Imagination is more important than knowledge", as Einstein said. Contemporary time confirms his thought.

Return to culture is return to genetic roots of life. Culture is created by the species of Homo and Homo sapiens during around 200.000 years. People has survived for very long time in history without production, they collected fruits and herbs, and hunted in order to provide food. In the time of leisure they had been occupied with art, music, and magic... Current anthropological research rates so called cave art very high. Human beings started to produce 12.000 years ago, when agriculture was discovered as human activity. Production gave birth to economy. Thus, we must have in mind that culture preceded economy and that the change of paradigm, which happens, is just the return to our human roots in new conditions.

3) DOES GLOBALIZATION LEADS TO THE END OF EDUCATION? DOES IT LEAD TO THE END OF SCHOOL? DO WE FACE THE END OF EDUCATION? IS GLOBALIZATION HEADING TO THE END OF SCIENCE?

Can current monopolistic position of school and science survive in information and globalized society? Can we predict the directions of change? Let us not forget that formal education has started in France in 1498. However faster development of education started in 17th century. Enlightenment was the movement which promoted formal education. School is created as an institution which will replace the role of church: to develop ideologies aimed to provide power and political authority to the ruling elites. Did something change today? Why current curriculums are full of ideology? What does current state accreditation bodies for accreditation of school and university curriculum do? Why private universities are still undesirable in Europe, which is the cradle of current civilization? Doesn't education institution still leave most of population out of their reach? According to UNICEF data more than 60% of children who enroll primary education now will not reach the level of education, which is considered mandatory in the countries of their origin, but will drop out before that. However, the minority will get 20–30 years of formal education.

The real problem is that changes in the real world are much faster than changes in the schools and at the university. This gap will, I am sure, completely change current school system and the understanding of its role. Will the revolution of information technology and globalization bring us to the end of science?

Education will release from closed spaces. Internet is making the process of losing importance of knowledge even more rapid. People are finding the way to avoid bureaucratic obstacles. People will be accepting the approach that knowledge is personal experience, which means that the only way to get the knowledge is not to learn about life, but to learn from the life.

I am not talking from the perspective of debates if there were some unexplored areas, or if theory of everything and theories of specific professions would make the science to lose its subject of research. I don't believe in this.

I believe that the end of science has come, when we speak about the science as isolated spiritual activity of life. The science is facing the challenges of its internal integration but also integration with other spiritual activities of human kind. It is becoming more obvious that we cannot come to the truth with partial, isolated activities.

INSTEAD OF CONCLUSION

The only way to reach essential truth is through unity and synergy of four, now separated fields of spiritual life of a human being:

- Science:
- Philosophy;
- Arts;
- Religion.

The question is: how can we integrate these?

I don't have the final answer, however similar to previous questions; I have the feeling and intuition about the future challenges we will face.

When we are aware of the challenges — we made the first step toward the solution.

But, first we have to realize that these tectonic disturbances in current civilization model are the challenges and problems of young generation and migrations. It is illusion to think that these problems can be solved only in the context of the current way of thinking and in current institutional framework in the society.

I didn't give you the picture of future, but I talked about the sense of future. It is more intuitive, then empirical approach. This is my thinking out of concept, "out of box"! In this time, there is no constructivism clichés. Complexity and uncertainty, along with growing speed of changes are the main features of contemporary world. In this world, you should dream more. You should not just wait and watch, but you should have more ideas!

As previously noted, we will have to face two big challenges:

- 1. Youth unemployment
- 2. Migration.

However, instead of conclusion, I want to put emphasis on something else. In contemporary fast changing world rapid changes cannot be avoided. It is usually said that the adaptation to changes is needed in order to survive. My opinion is that an individual and society have to go one step further if they want to develop. I will make an analogy with examples from the evolution of species, in order to illustrate this point. What is my message?

The truth is that one must adapt in order to survive. If the one doesn't take a step to adapt to changes and continue to act as in the past by inertia — it will disappear. That is what happened to dinosaurs for example.

If the one adapts, but after the changes take place; if it adapts to the changes expost, it will not develop but remain at the same level of development. The analogy from animal world is zebra, which remained the same in its evolution path.

However, if the one is capable to adapt to the changes, but to introspectively adapt those changes to his/her needs then he/she develops. Thus, human ancestors developed from monkeys to Homo. The ability to look the world around you, notice changes and anticipate changes in order to adapt processes of change in the environment you live to your own needs is the precondition to develop in contemporary world.

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