Reflections in the Age of Coronavirus (COVID-19)

As usual, comments are open and welcome.

I hope you are fine. Obviously, I invite this blog at home, where I am with my family. We are all healthy, but we try to stay in this location, to stay outside to protect ourselves and those around us.

As if the Earth stopped spinning, everyone stopped doing everything and most of all, it is important to limit and stop the spread of the virus, by practicing isolation for those who are infected and6 in the rest of us. All other activities are in suspense and with the exception of some essential services. All other activities are suspended and with the exception of some essential services. All other activities are suspended and with the exception of some essential services. All other activities are suspended and with the exception of some essential services.

This blog gives me the opportunity to share three reflections on this situation.

Opportunities for self-reflection

In isolation, being in the necessary conditions to stay in a free environment, is not present and allow some larger problems, we have the opportunity to reflect on the values and values. Both were reflected during the COVID-19 pandemic. Probably in the last days, there have been global talks about biggest, ordinary or purpose of levels that we have not encountered before. Now, these values and the scale are so much larger, opened in the public, and there is a context in which these issues are incredibly relevant to our survival.

Now, some situations from houses, hospitals and offices, from wherever we are, are doing the same time, having a face or less significant role in managing the crisis, we can then consider what is important to each of us, our connection and why, not for our species, the analysis can be as the more useful as our actions should be oriented toward protecting these values with priority.

Are we ready for what will happen next?

We end this answer as soon as we can hardly wait for the situation to resolve and for things to return to normal. We will be careful, though, since we get out of the house and the virus will be isolated, we will face a new wave of challenges.

For example, I understand that courts in many countries are already scheduling cases, registered in this period for the last two months. This is just an example of an effect of the efficiency of judicial procedures and courts. If we think about this effect from the perspective of the fact that before COVID-19, taking the time needed for legal issues was simply one of the objectives of the judicial reform, we better understand the deterioration of the problem.

Another example is the outcome of the situation on the economy and on the relationship between employees and employers. Already there are news about projects organized by unions to promote the interests of employees that are affected by the situation. It is also expected that the private sector will experience an increase in commercial disputes arising from delays in the execution of existing contracts.

The list of risks and vulnerabilities that start with illness, unemployment, bankruptcy and lost profits is long, unfortunately, but no doubt, in all economic management strategies are needed.

The natural strategic approach is collaboration

It is said that in the face of danger, natural instincts are more compassion or avoidance and less compassion or collaboration. This behavior is not related to the theory according to which the perception of one’s security and the conflict of values are present. Most agreements were taking into account and effective public policies were delayed in some jurisdictions, however, the COVID-19 experience has shown us in many cases that humanity can spontaneously participate in a global collaborative exercise.

If we see from the point of view of our personality, each person is unique. From a cultural point of view, every person is different. But COVID-19 reminds us that, from the point of view of those who are fair, from humans, we are all the same. When humanity has not been engaged, it seems more, more even, we have realized that we have the same interests (i.e. health, security) and we need to cooperate, regardless of religion, political views or the measures at hand.

Mediation can play a positive role

One of the effects that such global crisis situations create is instability, uncertainty and panic. In turn, human conflict-generating elements. Mediation can play a positive role in both preventing and resolving these conflicts. How? Since dispute resolution can also take place in the online environment, e.g. by Skype, mediation can be a viable solution.

The goal of using mediation can vary and can refer, for example, to the management of existing disputes, the decision-making processes among one or more or the implementation of strategic and communication processes in order to remove the barriers of the time. Information from one partner to another, following ground rules agreed by the stakeholders.

The technology offers remote communication tools that have been used successfully for many years. Now, however, not only the government meetings or the crisis-management groups are organized by video conferencing. The same solution is used successfully by educational institutions or the private sector.

This post gives me the opportunity to share three reflections on this situation.

Constantin-Adi Gavrila

Please refer to this post as: Constantin-Adi Gavrila, ‘Reflections in the Age of Coronavirus (COVID-19)’, Kluwer (Craiova Mediation Center Association)

As usual, comments are open and welcome.