



Letters to the Editor

Some Comments on the Coronavirus Pandemic

By Yehezkel Dror

1. As of now, the global coronavirus pandemic is child's play compared to the 1918-20 Spanish Flu, which killed more than 50 million people from a much smaller global population—without long-term consequences.
2. Of the coronavirus, little is known. The numbers of sick and recovered are wild guesses; the duration of post-disease immunity is unknown; no vaccination is in sight; no effective treatment is known.
3. Ergo, no half-reliable model of coronavirus pandemic trajectory can be constructed. Pending more knowledge, only intuitive improvisation is the rule.
4. Unlike many other global issues, the United States is not leading the fight against the global coronavirus pandemic. Strange relations between the president and medical-epidemiological experts, the absence of national health insurance and institutions, hostility towards the WHO, and a federal system preventing a unified national policy make many countries wonder.
5. But the vast majority of countries share one dangerous characteristic: politicians were not really prepared for coping with serious global issues, as also demonstrated by their mishandling of climate change. This bodes ill for much more fateful global challenges that are sure to be posed by the emerging metamorphosis caused by potentially very dangerous, as well as promising, science and technology.

Recommended Reading

Crawford, Dorothy H. *Viruses: A Very Short Introduction*. 2nd ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018.

Dror, Yehezkel. *Steering Evolution: Eighteen Theses on Homo Sapiens Metamorphosis*. New York: Routledge, forthcoming.

McMillen, Christian W. *Pandemics: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016.

To achieve internal tranquility in wild times, which is needed for prudent judgment and action, I recommend to you:

Seneca, Lucius Annaeus. *Seneca's Letters from a Stoic*. Translated by Richard Mott Gummere. Mineola, NY: Dover Publications, 2018.

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Editors' Notes: We are pleased to provide readers with comments on the current global COVID-19 crisis by one of the world's leading Policy Scientists, Professor Yehezkel Dror, who is also a deep thinker on human evolution. *Bob Krone and Gordon Arthur*.

Introduction by the Editors

We have been blessed throughout the publication history of the *Journal of Space Philosophy*, beginning in 2012, with the volunteer service of 42 professionals in the Space community to act as reviewers and consultants to our authors. They have been listed in the final article of each published issue. We are proud to announce with this letter the addition of our latest Senior Consultant, Dr. Bernd Anton Schmeikal.



This Letter to the Editor is about Dr. Schmeikal.

Bernd Anton Schmeikal, born May 15, 1946, is a retired freelancer in research and development, qualified in Sociology with a treatise about cultural time reversal. He is a real maverick, still believing that social life can be based on openness and honesty. As a PhD philosopher from Vienna, with a typical mathematical physics background, he entered the Trace Analysis Group of the UA1 Experiment at CERN, under the leadership of Walter Thirring, in 1965. This was in the foundation phase of the Institute for High Energy Physics (HEPhy) at the Austrian Academy of Science.

He has always been busy solving fundamental problems concerning the unity of matter and space-time, the origin of the HEPhy standard model, and the phenomenology of relativistic quantum mechanics. In the Sociology Department of the Institute for Advanced Studies (IHS Vienna), he helped James Samuel Coleman to conceive his mathematics of collective action as a cybernetic system, and he gave the process of internalization of

collective values an exact shape. He implemented many transdisciplinary research projects for governmental and non-governmental organizations, universities, and non-university institutions, and several times he introduced new views and methods.

He founded an international work stream that, for the first time, worked under the name of the Biofield Laboratory (BILAB). Although close to fringe science and electromedicine, the work of BILAB had a considerable similarity to the Biological Computer Laboratory run earlier by Heinz von Foerster. Lately, he has applied Foerster's idea of a universal relevance of hyperbolic distributions (Zipf's law) in social science to the labor market. This signifies a last contribution to the research program of the Wiener Institute for Social Science Documentation and Methodology (WISDOM) under the sponsorship of the Austrian Federal Presidential Candidate Rudolf Hundstorfer.

Dr. Schmeikal is convinced that a unity of science and culture can be achieved, but that this demands more than one Einstein. Consequently, he sought cooperation with Louis Kauffman and Joel Isaacson.

Dr. Bernd Schmeikal's review and evaluation of Joel Isaacson and Louis Kauffman's Recursive Distinctioning (aka "Nature's Cosmic Intelligence") research and papers, published in the first issue of the JSP, Fall 2012, again in the Special JSP Issue on Recursive Distinctioning, Spring 2016, and again in the Fall 2017 issue, are very valuable contributions to this forefront science investigation of Nature's Cosmic Intelligence. Dr. Schmeikal, University of Vienna Professor in mathematics, linguistics, and physics is one of the world's distinguished scholars for this special field of universe autonomous intelligence. He begins his abstract with the statement: "This paper investigates a universal creative system," and ends it with "That is to say, our universe may be a representation of Isaacson's system, and entertainingly, with his US Patent specification 4,286,330, 1981, it seems he has patented creation."

Reports on the four annual KSI-sponsored Conferences for Recursive Distinctioning, to date, can be found in JSP publications. Dr. Schmeikal's latest book publication is *Nuclear Time Travel and the Alien Mind*, published by Nova Science Publishers, New York. In 119 pages, Dr. Schmeikal tells the historic story of unidentified objects, and the knowns and unknowns of advanced space-time warping time-travel technology. He includes a September 24, 1947 top secret letter of President Harry Truman to Secretary of Defense Forrestal, authorizing research into these matters, but confining ultimate disposition to be solely under the Office of the President. Dr. Schmeikal's discussions of the impacts of the extraterrestrial mind on past Earth events give a research variable as we attempt to understand and predict future outcomes of attempts at improving humanity's prospects (see Yehezkel Dror, JSP, Summer 2015 and Kepler Space Institute, book publication, 2019) as we humans proceed with exploring, developing and building human Space settlements.

Bob Krone and Gordon Arthur

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