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# Inequalities and Post-Pandemic University Education: Adopting Complexity and Teaching to Build Sand Castles

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Natale G. De Santo

## Abating inequalities

Michael J Sandel, Professor of Political Philosophy at the University of Harvard, asked, in April 2020, to remove present inequalities in America where the best colleges of the country still give access to the richest families, so they just care for students originating in the top 1% of families in the

country (New York Times, April 13, 2020).

The quest for equity is also very strong in Europe. By the end of 2019 Aldo Schiavone, in a book entitled "Eguaglianza" (equality), stressed that the concept of equality was born in Europe where it is considered a constitutive character, a principle of the world that has been lost before the turn of the 21st century. In Europe there is a minority of very rich, fortunate persons who are structured in a pyramidal fashion and embedded in a mass of persons who have difficulties to build a pension for age and cannot resist sudden needs due to disease or loss of work (1). On September 10, Aldo Schiavone, speaking at a meeting concerning the "The 2 Cultures" at Biogem (Ariano Irpino, Italy), confirmed that inequalities will grow after pandemics.

## Economy is a consequence of the history of science

Thomas Piketty, in a recent interview (2), explained that our times favour *l'économie des inégalités* and that "the entire world shall be "rethinked" in a more equitable and sustainable way after the pandemic. Every society shall investigate its inequalities, find reasons for them; otherwise the political and social building will crush" (*Capital and Ideology in the Twenty-first Century*, 2017).

However, Sandel, Schiavone and Piketty may be wrong, or at least too pessimistic. In fact, Claude Allègre, Professor of Geology at the University of Paris and Minister of Research in the Government of Lionel Jospin, in *Dieu face* à la science (1997) answered the question "Did science

progress in the Western world since capitalism flourished there?" His answer was "science and capitalism developed in symbiosis and today we think that economy is relevant for the progress of science. However, in the early twenty years of the last century, in the world, there were less than two hundred physicists. Their discoveries did not depend on economy but by their imagination. History of science is not dependant on economy; economy is a consequence of the history of science".

## A world of foxes or hedgehogs?

We do not yet know the outcome. In *Fragment XXIV* of Archilochus, we read "The fox knows many things, but the hedgehog one big thing", meaning that the fox uses many tricks to escape hunters and dogs, while the hedgehog only one, but at this it is the best of all. Archilochus had many followers, among them Erasmsus of Rotterdam (1470-1530) who translated the above passage in Latin "multa novit vulpes, verum echinus unum magnum" in *Adagiorum collectanea*, and Isaiah Berlin (1909–1997) who in the tale *The hedgehog and the fox* (1953) described writers and thinkers either as hedgehogs (one principle to explain everything), or foxes (utilising many possibilities) (3).

Watson and Crick celebrated reductionism in biology in 1953 by defining the structure of DNA. The peak of reductionism was however achieved with the demonstration of the Higgs mechanism and Higgs boson-hypothesised in 1964, when the "God particle" was detected at CERN in 2012-2013 (3).

At the beginning of the 13th century, universities in Europe were based on the *trivium* (literally the place where three roads meet), which included Grammar, Rhetoric and Dialectic and on quadrivium (the place where four roads meet), which included Arithmetic, Geometry, Music and Astronomy, as described in the seventh book of Plato's Republic and represented the so-called liberal arts. These disciplines represented the basic curriculum for the study of Theology, Medicine and Philosophy (4). According to

<sup>1.</sup> Schiavone A. Eguaglianza. Einaudi, Torino, 2019.

<sup>2.</sup> Ciccarelli R. Thomas Piketti: il socialismo partecipativo per la crisi che verrà. Il Manifesto, Rome, 2020 June 9.

<sup>3.</sup> De Santo NG. Nephrology between Reductionism and Complex Systems: the Role of Philosophy – Review of Evidence and Opinion. Eur J Mol Clin Med 2020; 7(1): 35.45

<sup>4.</sup> Martins PN. Descartes and the paradigm of Western medicine. An essay, Int J Rec Adv Sci Tech 2018; 5(3). 32–34.

Nicholescu and Ertas (5), there was a "big bang" and the number of disciplines rocketed to 8,000 in 2012. The decision for fragmentation is wrong, as the rapid advance of communications means that a connected world is driven by complexity. "The new education has to invent new methods of teaching, founded on logics. The old classical binary logic, that of "yes" and "no", i.e. the logic of the excluded middle, is no more valid in the context of complexity" (4).

## Adopting complexity as a method

For Edgar Morin, we have to learn how to learn, that is learning by separation while linking at the same time, through a process of contemporary analysis and synthesis. We have to learn to overcome linear causality (cause–effect) by learning reciprocal, relational, circular causality—the latter encompassing feedback and recursion. Furthermore, we should be aware of the uncertainty of causality. Causes do not always lead to identical effects since the reaction of systems may be different. Last but not least, different causes may be conducive to identical effects. Thus, we have to rise to the challenge of complexity arising from all fields of knowledge and action. To meet the challenge we have to create a new thought" (Edgar Morin, Einsegner a vivre. Manifeste pour changer l'education, 2017).

## Building sands castles

Nicholas A. Christakis, Professor of Social and Natural Sciences and of Medicine at Yale has explained his attraction to the towers made of minute silica crystals. "Some people like to build sand castles, and some like to tear them apart. There can be much joy in the latter. But it is the former that interests me. You can take a bunch of minute silica crystals, pounded for thousands of years by the waves, use your hands, and make an ornate tower. Tiny physical forces govern how each particle interacts with its neighbours, keeping the castle together; at least until the

this is the part that I like the most: you step back and look at it. Across the expanse of beach, here is something new, something not present before among the endless sand grains, something raised from the ground, something that reflects the scientific principle of holism". He is aware that "The properties arise because of the connections between the parts. I think grasping this insight is crucial for a proper scientific perspective on the world. You could know everything about isolated neurons and not be able to say how memory works, or where desire originates. It is also the case that the whole has a complexity that rises faster than the number of its parts" (Christakis, <a href="www.edge.org">www.edge.org</a>).
"Universities are the places where we do things that will

force majeure of a foot appears. But, having built the castle,

"Universities are the places where we do things that will be discussed in the media twenty years from now" stated Umberto Eco to the students of the University of Bologna on the day he celebrated his 70th birthday. We have to be aware that our universities have the talents and the skills to maximise the effects of education. However, at the time when the economy of knowledge flourishes, we have to support them more than in the past. In "post-pandemic university" a crucial effort is required to achieve a diffuse status of excellency, not just for few and not just in a few places and not just in a few disciplines. In addition, students should be empowered to give solutions for the present but receive a dual education for the short and long period of time. There they should also learn how to achieve another peak of development in their field after having achieved a peak. This means that they will also learn how to walk the valley between peaks that have downward and upward routes (6).



5. Nicholescu, B, Ertas, A. The Need for Transdisciplinarity in Higher Education in a Globalized World. Transdisciplinary Journal of Engineering & Science 2012; 3: 118. DOI: 10.22545/2012/00031

6. Ceruti M. Il tempo della complessità, Cortina, Milano, 2018, p.144.



## Oscar de Beaux (1879-1955) and the Origins of Biological Ethics

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Prof. Franco Pedrotti

According to Marcus Hall, the American environmental historian, the origin of an ethical sensibility toward nature can be traced to the second half of the 1800s, when the first national parks were established in the United States (1). The first Italian national parks, Abruzzo and Gran Paradiso, were founded with a similar

desire to protect animal species at risk of extinction. Among the European pioneers of this sensibility were Hugo Conwentz (Germany), Paul Sarasin (Switzerland), Pieter G. Van Tienhoven (Holland), Jean Massart (Belgium) and Roger Heim (France).

However, one of the first to develop this theme in an explicit form was Oscar de Beaux, who in 1930 published, in Italian, the work Etica biologica. Tentativo di risveglio di una coscienza naturalistica [Biological Ethics. An Attempt to Arouse a Naturalistic Conscience] (2) followed a few years later with the English translation (1932) and two German editions (both in 1933).

Professor Oscar de Beaux (Florence 1879 – Torre Pellice 1955) was a zoologist who specialised in the study of mammals. In 1934, after a few years at the University of Florence, he was nominated Director of the "Giacomo Doria" Civic Museum of Natural History in Genoa. He had been actively working for the protection of nature since the 1920s, starting with efforts to restore the population of the European bison that had disappeared from the Bialowieza forest in Poland, by reintroducing bison from zoos. He also worked to protect the brown bear of the Alps (which survived in a very limited area of the Alps), deer, the ibex of Eritrea and many other African and European species.

De Beaux not only conducted research on animal species, many of which were gravely threatened by hunting and environmental changes, but also explored problems related to their conservation. Regarding the European bison, he

thought that man is not in the world to destroy or exploit nature - which results in the progressive impoverishment of nature and man himself - but to conserve and value it both materially and morally, and to manage, with wisdom, that which he himself cannot create. His considerations on the brown bear, analogous to those on the European bison, were based on the observation that the phenomenon of the "living organism" is something higher and more admirable than any human production of art or any technical invention. This is demonstrated by the fact that man can make discoveries, conduct analyses and develop applications, but cannot create anything. It follows that when man destroys a form of life, he irreparably eliminates something that is not his, removing what he did not create and can never restore: he transgresses the fundamental form of what de Beaux called "Biological Ethics."

According to de Beaux, biological ethics is the study and definition of a moral position of man regarding living beings that are not of the human species, starting from the moral premise that man was not able to create the species. Plants and animals have a, more or less, passive position in terms of their environment, while man occupies an eminently active one, therefore becoming the only powerful force altering the biological equilibrium. There is only good to be gained from active protection and safeguarding, a certain moderation of man's freedom, or in other words, moral thoughts and actions toward non-human living beings. This means acknowledging and practising biological ethics as a culture of life in general, whose principles are captured in what de Beaux called the "commandment": take care that no animal or plant species disappears from the face of the earth.

The work of de Beaux concludes with the wish that man might, in this way, become the wise administrator of life on earth rather than the mindless destroyer of natural resources that could be useful and essential for himself.

In the same years that de Beaux, in Italy, was dedicating himself to the theme of biological ethics, an American naturalist and conservationist, Aldo Leopold, was addressing the same problem in his articles and books. In his 1933 article, "The Conservation Ethic" (3) he asserted that to find a solution to the problematic relationship

<sup>1.</sup> Hall M., 2020 - Aldo Leopold's correspondence with Oscar de Beaux: A dispatch from the annals of environmental ethics. Campobasso, Società per la storia della fauna Italiana "Giuseppe Altobello" (in print).

<sup>2.</sup> De Beaux O., 1930 – Etica biologica. Tentativo di risveglio di una coscienza naturalistica. Trento, TEMI.

<sup>3.</sup> Leopold A., 1933 - *The conservation ethic*. Journal of Forestry, 31(6): 634-643.

between human society and use of the earth, we must return to the principles of what he called the "ethics of the earth." Hall suggests that the thoughts of de Beaux might have influenced Aldo Leopold, because the work of de Beaux preceded the first articles of Leopold. Thus, Hall concludes, "It is possible that the conservationist philosophy of the American developed, not only in the midst of the wild mountains of New Mexico or along the sandy shores of the rivers of Wisconsin, but also sunk its roots in the Apennines, in the midst of the olive groves and Dante." De Beaux and Leopold were in contact and exchanged correspondence. In his February 13, 1934 letter to de Beaux, Leopold expressed his appreciation for *Biological Ethics*, for which de Beaux thanked him in a February 26, 1934 letter. (1)

De Beaux spoke of Biological Ethics, Leopold of Ethics of the Earth. Marcus Hall also compared the ethical systems of the two naturalists. Independently of each other, both felt the need to face the problems and dilemmas inherent in biocentric management of nature. Their works offer different answers to how man should proceed in managing nature exclusively in the interests of nature. De Beaux was interested in all living beings, Leopold in everything that is wild. De Beaux held that animal species deserve to be saved, on the basis of respect for the sacredness of all living beings, and Leopold defended the biological balances between various species.

Exactly ninety years from the publication of the first edition of *Biological Ethics*, we can see the value and validity of de Beaux's thoughts in an increasingly compromised and degraded world. It is a pity that today there are very few people, even among environmentalists, who know the principles of biological ethics and seek to apply them to the grave, and ever greater, problems of the Earth that will loom, ever more threateningly, over all of humanity.



## Professor Shaul G. Massry, The Legend

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Prof. Janusz Ostrowski

November will see Shaul Massry's 90th birthday. This Los Angeles-based internist and nephrologist, author of hundreds of original papers and books, honorary member of many national scientific societies, doctor *honoris causa* of many medical universities, and editor of many renowned medical journals is the character whose life and

achievements we attempt to present in this article. There are few better places to do this than the lately-established *Bulletin of the European Society of Professors Emeriti*.

Professor Shaul G. Massry was born on 30th November 1930 in Basra, Iraq. Showing remarkable talents since his

early days, Shaul studied medicine in Bagdad and at Hebrew University Hadassah Medical School in Jerusalem. Next, in 1955, he worked for Eben-Schmuel Health Center in the

Negev, Israel. In this centre, which he managed since 1958, his first publications appeared on the impact of hot climate and other physical factors on renal excretion, the circulatory system and adaptation to the bodily effort. In 1961 he took on a position at Beislison Medical Center at Tel Aviv University. (1)



Professor Shaul Massry

<sup>1.</sup> Eknoyan G., Klahr S. Shaul Massry: A Man of the World and a Scholar for All Seasons. Am. J. Kidney Dis. 1995; 5: 797-800.

In 1965, S. Massry headed for the USA to work at Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, DC. Then, his scientific career took off alongside such giants of nephrology as George Schreiner and John Maher. In 1966, he settled down in LA working for Renal and Metabolism Section Cedars Sinai Medical Center. In 1974, Massry became professor and Head of the Clinic of Nephrology at the University of Southern California. In 1999, he started work as emeritus professor at Keck School of Medicine. In 1973 and 1974 he obtained the American titles of specialist in internal medicine and nephrology, respectively (2).

Massry cooperated with many European centres, both in the west and behind the iron curtain. His centre offered apprenticeship schemes to many outstanding nephrologists like Kiyoshi Kurokawa, Eberhard Ritz, Hartmut Malluche, Marian Klinger or Mirosław Smogorzewski. The LA centre was also popular with other Polish researchers acting as visiting professors. S. Massry has visited Poland on many occasions during conferences in many Polish cities.

It was in 1996 when Massry and his wife Meira established the Meira and Shaul Massry Foundation granting an award named after him for achievements in medical sciences. Since 2009, the Foundation has been administered by the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California, USA. The importance of the award is evidenced by the fact that it has been awarded to twelve future Nobel laureates in the field of physiology and medicine.

S. Massry's research interests concern crucial issues of electrolyte disturbances, including calcium, phosphorus and magnesium, the pathophysiology of chronic uremic syndrome, with particular emphasis on the effect of parathyroid hormone as a uremic toxin. He has also dealt with the treatment of chronic renal disease with haemodialysis and transplantation. In all these fields, he is considered a world-class authority (3).

Massry is the author, or co-author, of more than 600 papers published in renowned medical journals like *Kidney International, American Journal of Physiology, Journal of Clinical Investigation, Journal of the American Society of Nephrology* and others.

He has co-authored several important books including Textbook of Nephrology with Richard Glassock, Nutritional Management of Renal Failure with Joel Kopple, or Therapy of Renal Diseases and Related Disorders with Wadi Suki. He has also acted on editorial boards of *Kidney International*, *Nephron*, or *Renal Physiology*. In *Mineral and Electrolyte Metabolism* and the *American Journal of Nephrology* he was the editor-in-chief.

S. Massry is a member of International Society of Nutrition and Metabolism in Renal Diseases, International Society of Nephrology, American Society of Nephrology, International Society of Uremia and Toxicity, International Association for the History Nephrology of which he is a founding member and ex-President. He has also been the President of National Kidney Foundation.

For his scientific achievements, he was awarded honorary membership of many societies of nephrology in: Israel, Germany, France, Italy, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Hungary, India, Belgium, Slovakia, the Czech Republic and Poland. He has also received prestigious awards from communities outside the US. Among them are Leo Ambard Gold Medal at the University of Strasbourg, France, Domenico Cotugno Gold Medal at the University of Bari, Italy, Paolo Moscagni Gold Medal at the University of Siena, Italy, Rinecker Gold Medal at the University of Würzburg, Germany, Karol Marcinkowski Medal Of the Medical Academy in Poznań, Poland, the Gold Malpighi Medal at the University of Messina, Italy, the Honorary Medal of the Adana University in Turkey and the Alfonso Borelli Medal for Acid Base Balance from the University of Naples. He has also obtained honorary doctorates from universities in Bologna, Padua, Messina, Marseille, Prague, Košice, Pesc, Szeged, Varna and in Poland in Katowice, Poznań, Lublin and Gdańsk. He is also an Honorary Fellow of several national Academies of Sciences as well as the Royal College of Physicians in Ireland and London (4).

It is a daunting task to summarise such a rich life in such a short paper. To say that Shaul Massry is outstanding and unique is to say nothing. His life and impact call for a bigger format. I am certain that this legendary figure would perfectly lend himself to a work prepared by a professional biographer. Now, however, taking the opportunity of Shaul Massry's birthday, let us wish the Professor many more years in good health safe in the knowledge of great achievements and great recognition from the word's medical community.



<sup>2.</sup> Heidland A., Kokot F., Kopple J. D. Shaul G Massry, Los Angeles, USA. Nephrol. Dial. Transplant. 1996; 11: 901.

<sup>3.</sup> Ostrowski J., Rutkowski B. Honorary Members of the Polish Society of Nephrology. Part X – Professor Shaul G. Massry. Forum Nefrologiczne. 2015; 2: 148-152.

<sup>4.</sup> Massry S. Curriculum vitae. 2015.

## Ortensio Zecchino from Frederick II of Hohenstaufen to Molecular Biology and Genetics An intense journey through Academia, European and Italian Parliaments

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Giovambattista Capasso

Professor Ortensio Zecchino (Figure 1) was born at Asmara (Eritrea) in 1943. In 1966 he completed university studies at the Faculty of Law in Naples. He was lecturer in the History of Penal Law at the University of Urbino, and subsequently full professor of that discipline (1984-1998) at the University Federico II in Naples. He has been Professor of History

of Medieval Law at the University Suor Orsola Benincasa in Naples, at LUMSA university in Rome and, since 2010, at the Link University Campus in Rome.

A renowned expert on the Holy Roman Emperor Frederick II of Hohenstaufen, he has been chairman of the Celebration Committee for the 8th Centenary of his birth (1984-1988) and has published significant books including Federico II Enciclopedia Federiciana (3 volumes, Treccani Institute, Rome, 2004-2008). Since 1991 he has directed the European Center for the History of Normans and, from 2011, a series co-editor of "Sources and studies on the Norman civilization" (Publisher Rubettino). He is a recipient of the Honorary Degree in Letters from the University of Caen (2000) and of the International Prize Federichino by

the Gesellschaft für staufische Geschichte at Goppingen in Germany (2018).

His political activity has been intense and successful. Elected to the European Parliament for the 1st legislature (1979) -1984), he was a member of the Committee that nurtured the so-called Spinelli Project for the institution of the European Union. From 1984 to 2001 he was Senator of the Italian Republic, and Minister of Education and Science from 1998

to 2001. As Minister he promoted the signature of the Magna Charta Universitatum during the meetings (1998) for the Celebration of the 8th Centenary of the University of Bologna and started the Bologna process - a series of agreements between European countries that ensure comparable standards and quality of higher education in Europe - that were signed by the representatives of 29 European countries in Bologna on June 19, 1999. The document, Declaration of Bologna, was signed "to establish a completer and more far-reaching Europe, in particular building upon, and strengthening, its intellectual, cultural, social, scientific and technological dimensions". It also promoted "Adoption of a system essentially based on two main cycles, undergraduate and graduate. Access to the second cycle (graduate education) shall require successful completion of the first cycle lasting a minimum of three years.

> The degree awarded after the first cycle shall also be relevant to the European labour market at an appropriate level of qualification. The second cycle should lead to the master and/or doctorate degree as in many European countries".

> Professor Zecchino lives in Ariano

Irpino, a small town in Southern Italy - located at a cross point of the Roman Road Appia - linked to the Assizes of Ariano (1140 AD) summoned by Roger II, King of Sicily. At the beginning of this century Ariano was an economically depressed area. Professor Zecchino decided to use his political and academic skills to establish an institution that

could generate economic growth in that territory. This was the origin of Biogem (Biology and Molecular Genetics) that started in 2006 with a presentation by Rita Levi Montalcini.

The idea behind Biogem's birth is certainly original. Founding a research centre conceived as a possible driving force of development, as well as a promoter of scientific culture, is truly a courageous act in an area without technological infrastructures. It is also clear evidence of the



FIGURE 1: Professor Ortensio Zecchino

strong bond that President Zecchino has with his native land, a sentiment common to many other eminent fellow citizens. From a purely scientific point of view, Biogem is a research centre where the generation of mouse disease models is the cornerstone of scientific activity. This approach, with the progressive introduction of mathematical and computer models, will, perhaps, have little appeal, but, today, it still represents the required approach towards translational

medicine, a prerequisite for personalised and precise medicine. As a consequence of this choice, Biogem has one of the largest animal houses in Europe, capable of hosting up to forty thousand small animals. In addition, in Biogem it is possible to generate mouse models of human diseases through sophisticated genetic engineering techniques, to be studied with the most advanced technologies to discover their molecular secrets.

The original idea, in order to develop, needed a special person. To give birth, grow and affirm this creation of his, Ortensio Zecchino brings out the best in himself: managerial ability, a spirit of initiative, diplomatic arts, understanding of the present and vision of the future - all qualities that are emphasised by his strong humanity. The result of his constant and enlightened work is the foundation of a research centre that is

slowly reaching the goal for which it was designed. Currently, Biogem's scientific research spans several topics that include translational nephrology, stem cell biology, genes and the environment, molecular oncology and precision medicine, as well as an important sector of bioinformatics. An onconephrology section has also recently been opened which aims to identify biomarkers of neoplasms in renal transplant patients. In addition, a European project has been launched to define the causes of impaired cognitive ability in patients with renal insufficiency. The winner of the Nobel Prize for Medicine, Renato Dulbecco, after having visited Biogem, said: "In the next decades biomedical research will have to assign a function to all genes and discover their role in diseases. Biogem has the infrastructure and skills to integrate significantly in this international effort". This judgment was shared by other illustrious Nobel laureates.

There is no need, here, to go into the scientific results that Biogem has achieved in recent years, and we are convinced that the best is yet to come. Instead, we would like to underline the feeling you get when you arrive to Biogem (Figure 2 and Figure 3): you immediately notice that there is a mind that has

worked to make Biogem a beautiful structure to see and visit. This aesthetic aspect is also the work of President Zecchino who wanted to give this research centre a touch of beauty and harmony. The garden, at the entrance, with the skillful combination of rare plants and archaeological finds, is always cared for with its "Irpino" green lawn. The internal garden, adorned with centuries-old olive trees, pervades a sense of peace, typical of the ancient Benedictine monasteries. It

is an ideal place to free your mind and conceive new ideas; it is lifeblood to the field of scientific research.

Along the corridors, and in the various rooms, you can admire the photographic works of Zecchino, a passionate photographer always looking for the "illuminated shot". Thanks to these photos Biogem is placed in its geographical context: the Irpinia land with its ancient traditions, slow rhythms and the simplicity of its people.

Inside the research centre there is also a museum space dedicated to the beginnings of geological history. The interactive museum illustrates the origin of life on Earth and the emergence of the human species.

And then there is the annual memorable event: the meeting "The Two Cultures", conceived and wanted as a meeting point of the two humanisms, mirror of the spirit of Ortensio constantly

turned to seek a synthesis between the aspiration to spirituality with the need of the materialisation of the human being. Many Nobel Prize winners have participated - Mario Renato Capecchi (2010), Oliver Smithies (2014), Werner Arber, Takaaki Kajita and Erwin Neher (2016), Kurt Wütrich (2017), Jean-Marie Lehn (2018) and Timothy Richard Hunt (2019), as well as many prominent European philosophers, historians, physicists, biologists, ecologists, writers, and physicians.

The politician who, in the fullness of his maturity, decided to put himself at the service of science is an example to be imitated; researchers, especially the young, found in him a point of reference, especially in these times with an uncertain present and a future to be redesigned. We are sure that, thanks to Ortensio Zecchino, Biogem is there and will be there.



FIGURE 2: Biogem



FIGURE 3: Biogem

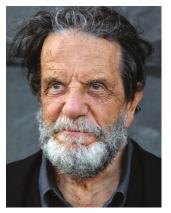


# Phase Transitions: During the Second Half of the Twentieth Century

## Massimo Pica Ciamarra

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Massimo Pica Ciamarra

1. Solid / liquid / gaseous / plasma: transitions or "phase changes" of matter passing through "critical points" in both directions.

Even in architecture, there are "phase changes" and "critical moments" in which, what has been in the air for some time, coagulates, solidifying into facts or date symbols of the spread of

tensions, towards a different concept of living environments. In architecture, the "phase changes" have little to do with shapes, styles or languages because, according to Aulis Blomstedt's dated aphorism, the architectural form is like an iceberg whose visible part is only a sign of a wider and deeper reality. There is no hierarchy between the states of matter. The "phase changes" of living environments - leaving aside the nostalgic ones - usually have a progressive character. Human adventure is punctuated by revolutions and new ways of thinking. "Sapiens. From animals to gods" is the acute title of a recent history of humanity in which the evolution of the ability to understand, of mentalities and of organisations, is traced.

Communications, accumulation of experiences, collaborations, connections, culture: Homo sapiens is a particular social being even if afflicted by individual pathologies. After the generalised lock-down and a few months of substantial absence, the greenery began to emerge from the pavement of the squares, the sea became transparent and crystalline, and the intrigued animals found themselves crossing spaces forbidden to them. Above all the air you breathed was different, as were the images of the Earth from space.

- 2. In the second half of the 1900s there was no shortage of three "phase changes", significant, even if not epoch making:
- the first occurred at the end of the International Congresses of Modern Architecture (CIAM) and the abandonment of the schematics that animated the "Athens Charter",

- the second occurred with the awakening produced by "The limits of development": research promoted by the Club of Rome and which precedes the 1973 crisis,
- the third occurred at the fall of the Berlin Wall and the "Deconstructivist Architecture" exhibition, towards the end of the 1980s.

Between the end of the CIAM and the great energy crisis, there is an interval of time similar to the one which separates the "Sunday walking season" from the fall of the Berlin Wall. So, years after the great energy crisis, a new and substantial change in ways of thinking occurred in the late 1980s. At the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the "Deconstructivist Architecture" exhibition seemed to sense the fall of the Berlin Wall and the need for a new International Style capable of demonstrating the inevitable triumph of capitalism over "overseas" models. Thus, a long season began of objects catapulted into various realities, apparently magnificent and upsetting, in reality, far from the needs of individual contexts; various mannerist sculptures, abstract with respect to the issues that building must solve.

The third phase was exhausted thanks to the 2007-08 recession which, among other things, brought frugality and de-growth back into vogue. A dense cloud of events does not help to identify key dates in recent decades, while the IT revolution now interconnects everything and everyone by making infinite amounts of data and information available. The "Team X: A Utopia of the Present" exhibition was underway in Paris, in December 2008, at the Cité de l 'Architecture et du Patrimoine, where the "Déclaration des Devoirs de l'Homme" project was born. Accelerations and surges of the twentieth century supported "Collapse - how societies choose to live or die" (1) In the midst of the crisis, "Spillover" (2) showed how man's domination of the environment is the most dangerous contemporary pandemic and that the physical, chemical and biological characteristics of the planet are increasingly conditioned by human presence. Not long after it, "Laudato si" (3)

<sup>1.</sup> Diamond J. Collapse - how societies choose to live or die. London: Viking Penguin; 2005.

<sup>2.</sup> Quammen D. Spillover: Animal Infections and the Next Human Pandemic. New York: W. W. Norton Company; 2012.

<sup>3.</sup> Pope Francis. "Laudato si' ". (English: "Praise Be to You!"). Segrate: Piemme edizioni; 2015.

denounced the logic that destroys nature and exploits the weakest; intertwined environmental and ecological crisis with the social crisis; it had comforting results on a global scale which, however, later decreased and contradicted each other. In 2016 "Reporting from the front" was the theme of the Venice Architecture Biennale; "Taking Care - Designing for the common good" was the theme of the Italian Pavilion. However, reality did not change. Frugality and resilience remained slogans.

3. The Covid-19 pandemic will result in a new "phase change". No doubt, although it is not clear how, it will manifest itself and its effects in various regions of the world. It is, however, evident that the major outbreaks of the pandemic have found space in particularly polluted territories and that. within these same areas. the pandemic has not spread homogeneously. Hence the positions taken by various archistars naively aimed at proposing the decisive principles of decentralisation and rediscovering the role and potential of the smaller centres: something has been which clear since the dawn of the "IT revolution" which, in areas with high population density characterised by intense networks of centres with modest distances between them, laid the foundations (but only foundations) for a

relative territorial indifference and for the recovery of the smaller centres.

It is amazing that, only today, the positive role of villages and smaller towns is recognised. For decades it has been clear that the IT revolution has generated consequences opposite to those of the revolution due to the automobile. The latter favoured disruptions, dispersions, isolations and autonomies everywhere; while the IT revolution had different consequences in different contexts: elsewhere it has favoured isolation and dispersion. In the "city land" it supports the rediscovery of the smaller centres, where aggregations and social relationships are decidedly more intense than in megalopolises or metropolises.

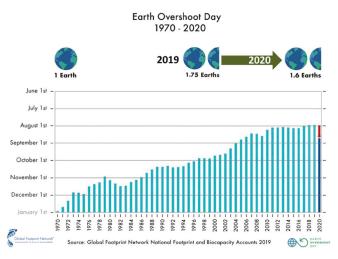
4. From an economist's point of view, man's main invention is the city, regardless of its spatial qualities (4). He looks at the city as a phenomenon. However, the Mediterranean and European culture expresses an idea of a city which is very different from those of other regions of the world and "The Hidden Dimension" warns that "the experience is perceived through sensory filters arranged according

> to cultural conditions: it is different from that of those who live in different cultural environments" (5) Two years after this introduction to proxemics, "Le droit à la ville" took hold in Europe (6). In the contemporary condition, the urban is not a "city", but a pathological set of monads that enhance functional separations, banality and absence of identity.

> The current pandemic will bring about profound Sometimes changes

changes in the processes of regeneration of living environments. intangible Covid - 19 prevail over physical ones. In our context, "Civilising 2020 the urban" points to a different future, also by tracing networks of nonhomogeneous centrality, of various scales and in easy relationship with each other. Each of these centralities PHASE TRANSITIONS can be part of the "city of 5 minutes" aimed at banning cars from the city, perhaps

using systems of "pedestrian acceleration". In early February 2020 - it was not even suspected that Covid-19 could invade Europe - news arrived at a short distance of each other that the Mayor had promised to transform Paris into a "city of 15 minutes" and that Copenhagen had realised the sustainable city of the future based (like the Caserta urban plan, 2007- not implemented) on the principle of the "city of 5 minutes" with "ecological shuttles"- electric or



Earth Overshoot Day 1970-2020 (Global Footprint Network / Advancing the Science Sustainability)

### **TIME LINE**



Time Line - Phase Transitions

<sup>4.</sup> Hall E.T. The Hidden Dimension. New York: Bantam Doubleday Dell Publishing Group Inc; 1966.

<sup>5.</sup> Glaeser E. Triumph of the City. London: The Penguin Press; 2011.

<sup>6.</sup> Lefevre H. Le droit à la ville. Paris : Ed. Du Seuil ; 1968.

hydrogen fed. Hence networks of public spaces and "places of social condensation" whose identities are strengthened through continuous adjustments and stratifications.

Architecture is politics: regenerating the current environments of life requires vision, new mentalities, commitment to "moral rearmament", immense resources. Only communities convinced that the quality of their environments will positively affect the various aspects of life will be able to do this: well-being, safety, economy, health, sociality, happiness. This can be true if - acting on a local scale - regenerating is a simultaneous premise of social equity and an even micro contribution to the immense environmental issue. In fact, one cannot ignore the intimate relationship between pandemics and something which has seemed progress and modernity so far.

5. The "phase change" due to Covid-19 cannot be solved by trivial slogans and formulas: it will start from changes in ways of thinking, from the abandonment of obsolete references, from a mental regeneration that spreads, creating new sensitivities. At the end of the 1950s, the break from the principles of the Athens Charter gave way to different actions united by a common feeling on the themes of the transformation of living environments.

Yona Friedman's "Architecture Mobile", the "Metabolism" movement in Japan, the origins of "Team X" - whose thrust does not yet seem to be exhausted - belong to that climate. Fifteen years later, the theses of the Club of Rome and the great energy crisis of '73 gave way to a strong reconsideration of environmental and ecological issues: it just happened when the era, in which the planet's resources were still sufficient for its inhabitants, ended.

In 1970, the very idea of "overshoot day" (which is the calculated date on which humanity's resource consumption for the year exceeds Earth's capacity to regenerate those resources that year) did not exist. For fifty years, it approached: in 2019, it had reached July 29th. In 2020 for the first time, it moves back. Thanks to Covid-19, with a powerful, comforting leap back it even reverts to where it was fifteen years earlier. The overshoot day, however, would have fallen on May 16th if the entire world population had lifestyles similar to ours.



# Our Unstable Present and Future: 2. Migration

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Tibor Szabó

Many scholars have dealt with the theory (and in part) practice of migration since the beginning of the century. The main issues are those of sovereignty, hospitality, and multi- or pluri-culturalism. In my view the current historical period could be called the *New Migration Age* because of the many new

phenomena that have appeared. Particularly, because migration touches most of the peoples of the world. It is a consequence of freedom of movement, for in the present phase of globalisation it is very easy to travel and also migrate (or settle), in some cases *en masse*. All such move-

ments are facilitated by the new open international borders that have characterised the world since 1989, including East Central Europe. True, some societies and states are closed to migrants – including some Arab states, Australia, and others-but the majority remain open. Thus there are few impediments to mass migration or resettlement. We should not forget that war and various conflicts in different parts of the world make these problems ever more grave.

## Theories of international migration

Khalid Koser has undertaken important work on the migrant question (1). According to him there are two categories of migrants: voluntary and enforced. In the latter category are people forced to flee their countries by political, ethnic, religious or gender conflicts, discrimination, or ecological

<sup>1.</sup> Kosher K. International Migration. A very short introduction, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2007.

disaster. These people are refugees. Thus migrants and refugees are not the same. It is important to bear in mind the distinction, for it can influence the way host countries interpret and react to the migrant wave. The problem today is with illegal mass migration, not with refugees fleeing insecurity. Illegal migrants may generate risk and danger to the security even of multiethnic host societies. As a consequence in some Western European countries there are many "no go zones," while at the same time new, extreme right-wing parties contribute significantly to an increase in extremism. According to Khalid Kosher these parties, or movements, usually impede migrants or refugees from exercising their political, social and sometimes even human rights. In everyday life, including education, the presence of migrants and refugees generate many cultural, social, religious or linguistic problems. Scholars in particular have to take the lead in resolving these problems in order to prevent confrontation and conflict (1).

This new international situation was been analyzed by the Catalan scholar Manuel Castells in his famous book *The Information Age* (2). According to him the world consists of a "network system" in which no one part is detached from another, one in which former borders have disappeared, one in which people can move from one country to another without hindrance. In social theory a relatively "new term" has appeared: the so-called "traveller" or "passenger" who does not stay for long in any one country. This denotes a new way of life for many people.

The phenomenon of the "passenger" or migrant has been studied by Jürgen Habermas from a liberal point of view (3). He has found that the migrant's way of life and culture in terms of expectations resembles that of everyone else, in terms of the politics of equal rights and mutual appreciation. Therefore the majority of a nation's population has to recognize migrants' rights, and assure them possibilities for education, employment, and the ability to practise their traditions. The aim of peaceful coexistence between minorities and the majority is to facilitate "ethical integration". Habermas distinguishes between integration and assimilation. He is opposed to aggressive (inner) forms of assimilation which oblige migrants to abandon their traditions, but he favours "formal assimilation" that requires recognition of the host country's constitutional principles and cultural traditions. Nowadays, when the countries of the "New World Order" are closely interconnected, the "obligation to assist" has to be accepted by all who have the resources to do so. Even if, as a consequence, the migration wave results in

We may observe how an author changes his mind regarding immigration from Étienne Balibar's book Europe: crise ou fin? (4). In 2015, he labelled "Anti-European" and "ultranationalist" those countries that declined to receive illegal immigrants, and refused to believe that such immigrants may include jihadists. But following the terrorist attack in Paris on December 6, 2015 he began to link the "migrant crisis" with "Islamic terror". By the end of the book he wrote "after that, nothing will be as before," and "the worst is yet to come". Correctly, in my view.

Due to the significant increase of international actors (multinational companies and firms) capitalism runs up against the problem of territoriality. In consequence of current, far-ranging economic and political processes, today, inequality in economic, financial, social and cultural terms has become increasingly transparent. In the opinion of Étienne Balibar some measure of global control is necessary, because open borders have brought "new subjects" - those "adventurers", "nomadic citizens" and "mobile travelers" who are different from earlier migrants (4). There is a need not only to control, but also to limit and restrict the movement of persons within a given territorial space. Balibar is aware that freedom of movement creates conflict, even of a racial nature, between immigrant and host peoples. Instead of the alien being admitted and accepted in society, he is often regarded as a social or religious enemy.

Hospitality towards immigrants and aliens had become a significant issue in France much earlier. The French philosopher Jacques Derrida said that *hospitality* is a fact and concept concerning the irrevocable coming of another (*l'autre*) (5). The host person is always exposed to the danger of a visitor menacing his identity. Yet, even in this situation, the visitor should be accepted, though always with important preconditions.

## Benefits and challenges

Are there benefits of international migration? According to some experts global migration could have a positive effect particularly in relation to human understanding. The diversity of peoples, cultures, languages, customs and traditions can exercise a positive influence on mankind's life in common. It is important for people to have the possibility to go abroad and find work without restriction. Free choice of residence is a fundamental right and an essential principle

fundamentally modifying the social (ethnic) composition of a nation. Hence multiculturalism involves possible *dangers*, even *menaces*, though at the same time opportunities also.

<sup>2.</sup> Castells M. *The Information Age: Economy, Society and Culture*, vol. 1., The Rise of Network Society. Oxford, Blackwell Publishing, 2010.

<sup>3.</sup> Habermas J. Kampf Anerkunnung im demokratischen Reichstat, Frankfurt am Main, Suhrkamp Verlag, 1996.

<sup>4.</sup> Balibar É *Europe: crise ou fin?*, Lormont, Éditions Le Bord de l'Eau,

<sup>5.</sup> Derrida, J – Dufourmental A Of Hospitality, Stanford University Press, 2000

in the European Union. Generally speaking some migrants have high qualifications that benefit the receiving country. In other cases, as now in the EU, they can be useful in doing work that people in host countries are unwilling to do.

Thus the "global village" begins to look very small, and all of us should collaborate in various constructive projects to enhance international relationships. Other benefits of the globalised world include a certain type of homogenised social network, and mutual understanding of fundamental world problems, such as demographics, the production and distribution of food among continents, the growing lack of energy and drinking water, environmental pollution. Many NGOs are devising programs to address these issues.

The phenomenon that, at the present time, in our globalised world is most threatening, and yet also delicate, is without doubt, international migration. Migration (forced or voluntary) has always been typical of peoples and categories within nations in different eras of mankind's history, but since 2015 new, illegal, mass migration has created some very strange situations.

Yet despite some positive factors, there are many security threats to the host countries. First of all, the illegal crossing of a country's borders constitutes a challenge, even a danger, to state sovereignty (1). In the majority of cases criminal gangs are involved in transporting illegal

immigrants to host countries. Consequently delinquency and crime are growing. This situation could lead to other challenges, such as xenophobic reaction on the part of the host country's population, and the rise of new, extreme right, political parties or movements. In the workplace immigrants are frequently exploited, creating other tensions in society. They are often denied access to public services. Some may, under cover of assisting illegal immigrants, utilise them for the illegal transport of drugs. According to some negative stereotypes, irregular migrants or refugees are viewed as carriers of infectious diseases such as AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and Covid-19 etc. Such fears cause them to be marginalised in society. In general, public opinion in host countries is divided on how to diminish risks posed by illegal migrants. On one hand, some want to guarantee the security of state borders, and control migration; on the other hand, there are those who want to guarantee the human rights of migrants. Consequently, today the fundamental choice is between security and human rights.









## Retired People as Career Resource Tools in Botswana

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Hildah L. Mokgolodi and Michael Gaotlhobogwe - Department of Educational Foundations at the University of Botswana - have published a review on "Retired professionals as a career resource tool for schools in Botswana: effective partnership education" in *Mosenodi Int J Educational Studies*, 2020; 23(1): 59-67. The paper shows that "a partnership between retired professionals and education in career development is a cost effective, innovative, and influential strategy towards addressing this need".

The study departs from the fact that a regression in career education occurred in Botswana and this might be devastating at a time of knowledge-based economy. Analysis of relevant literature in the years 2005-2019 suggests "benefits that can be attained from utilising retirees' competencies to develop career skills of children in schools", based on Theory of Continuity, Experiential Learning Theory and the life design of the Career Construction Theory".

They hypothesise the utilisation of "retired professionals as a career resource in career development of young people who partner with the retirees as, not only mentors but to enhance reflection and intergenerational collaboration". "Learners, especially disadvantaged ones, could be matched with appropriate mentors. These mentors could nurture young people's learning and be there to give continuous emotional support, and to work on their behaviour. The

mentors would be expected to instill socially-expected behaviour in Botswana and to develop career search and preparation skills". Of course, "appropriate pairing of mentors with learner needs has been identified as an excellent strategy to reduce inequalities in educational opportunities".

Hildah L. Mokgolodi - "a researcher approaching early retirement"- also studied "Retired Educators' Career Transition as a New Life Role of Underwriting Career Development in Botswana" and published it in the Journal of Population Ageing 2020. https://doi.org/10.1007/s12062-020-09303-5. The study was performed in 16 retired (for at least a year) educators living around Gaborone. They were 45-72 years old, 20% were still teaching. The study shows "the frustration of non-recognition of retired educators' potential" and highlights the capability of retired educators to teach and train. Retired educators could transition to mentoring young people's career development. Employing retired educators is seen "as a strategy that the country can use to develop soft-skills such as decision-making, interpersonal, leadership, cognitive and socio-emotional skills in the development of careers".







## Women's Talent Award at Locri, Italy

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The 2020 Women's Talent Awards are assigned to Italian women of extraordinary capabilities by Il Cenacolo della Cultura e delle Scienze (Cenacle of Culture and Sciences), a cultural association directed by its president, Dr. Giovanni Filocamo, former President of the Tribunal of Locri, and Dr. Luigi Mileto (vice-president) with the patronage of the Municipality of Gerace. The Cenacle of Culture and Science is structured in two sections: (i) Mathematical, Physical and Natural Sciences, presided over by Francesco Salvatore and (ii) Moral Science, Letters and Arts, presided over by Vincenzo Ferrari.

The event took place at the Locri Garden Club on Saturday August 8, 2020, and was conducted by Lorenzo Calò, Professor of Nephrology at the University of Padua, with the help of Professor Claudia Salvatore (testimonial). Many outstanding personalities in Science and Economics were present, among them Professor Arturo De Vivo, Pro-Rector of the University Federico II of Naples, Paola Altucci President of the National Committee of Warrantors for Research and Science, Professor Santo Marcello Zimone, President of the Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria, Professor Aldo Ferrara, President of the Association of Manufacturers and Enterprises of Calabria, Professor Giuseppe Passarino, the Vice-Rector of the University of Cosenza, Professor Massimo Pica Ciamarra Editor in Chief of "Le Carré Bleu", feuille internationale d' architecture and Professor Francesco

Salvatore, founder of CEINGE for Advanced Biotechnologies.

The list of recipients included the following university professors: Paola Altucci (Naples), Enrica Capelli (Pavia), Antonia D. Cappellini (Milan), Annalisa Capuano (Naples), Angela Costabile (Rende), Marianna Gensabella (Messina), Laura Giurato (Rome), Paola Helzel (Rende), Francesca Mallamaci (Reggio Calabria), Marianna Mauro (Catanzaro), Maria B. Melone (Naples), Rosa Musolino (Messina), Maria L. Panno (Rende), Francesca Pentimalli (Naples), Mariella Russo (Locri), Claudia Salvatore (Campobasso), Paola Salvatore (Naples), Annarita Trotta (Catanzaro), Enza M. Valente (Pavia) and Amalia Virzo (Naples).

The list of recipients was completed by Marianna Alessi (Nephrologist in Padua), Lucia Cascavilla (Chief of Ophtalmology, Milan), Giovanna Lanza (Practitioner at Ardore), Emmidia Multari (Cardiologist in Locri), Claudia Rossi (Physician in Bologna), Stefania Muzzi (Computer Engineer in Catanzaro), Adriana Villamena (Freelance translator in Naples), Mrs Lucia Arcuri (Locri), Cecilia Perri (Chief Diocesan Museum at Rossano), Giselda Stella (Magistrate at Paola) and Mariella Costa (sculptress living and working in Roccella).







## The Efforts of the Enrollment and Advocacy Committee

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Dennis V. Cokkinos on behalf of the Committee.

The European Association of Professors Emeriti, was founded in 2016 in Athens, Greece, with the aim of bringing together Professors Emeriti from all over Europe but other continents as well.

The requisites for being appointed a Professor Emeritus, specifically in Italy, are well described in the previous Bulletin by our President, Professor Natale Gaspare De Santo.

As also stated in Wikipedia, the term Emeritus is designated a honorific title conferred to a Professor who has meritoriously completed his university career and has contributed significantly to his alma matter in both academic and administrative aspects. The word comes from the latin verb merere which means to deserve. It was used in the early 18th century by English speakers as an adjective for Professors who had retired from office according to the Merriam-Webster dictionary. According to the University of Sheffield, Emeritus Professor is an honorary title, recognizing distinguished academic service at the University of Sheffield. It is a prestigious award and is not therefore conferred lightly; the title of Emeritus Professor may be conferred upon fully retired Professors or Honorary Professors who meet the eligibility criteria and following formal recommendation to, and approval by, the Vice-Chancellor.

According to the University of Cornell statutes: Any member of the professorial staff who retires after ten years full-time equivalency in the rank of university professor, professor, or associate professor and who has rendered distinguished and meritorious service to the University, may be appointed Professor *Emeritus* by the President after recommendation by the members of the particular department and the dean of the college or school faculty to which the retiring member belonged.

Our Association is secured on robust roots. However, it needs to grow. The only way to achieve this is to involve

and interest more colleagues into its goals and aspirations.

Up to now we have been engaged in many endeavours founding various committees, such as the Italian and Hellenic National Committees, the Ethics, Enrollment and Advocacy and Arts and Culture Committes.

We are currently approaching many European Universities, but have also established a formal link with the Professors Emeriti College of British Columbia. We are in the process of establishing links with the International Society of Cardiovascular Pharmacotherapy and the aforementioned Universities of Sheffield, Cornell and Columbia, and also "Europeana", a European Network of Digital Innovation.

We are regularly sending the Bulletin and the electronic edition of the Proceedings of our First International Congress held in June 2019 in Athens, under the general title: The Capital of Knowledge.

But we need to expand further. We do not think we are forming just another Association, but a Society of dignified friends, which has, as its purpose, the continuation of our main vocation, that of instructing, teaching and mentoring.

To attain these goals, we ask for your help. Each one of us can disseminate the crucial promotion to other colleagues. We need all of you to further provide our services to our Society all over Europe and the World.

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## Minutes of EAPE Council Meetings

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## Council Meeting June 15, 2020

The Minutes of the teleconference on 15th May were approved.

- Advocacy Committee: A new letter will be forwarded looking to increase the number of members of EAPE. Analogously it is intended that there will be a paper, in the next issue of the Bulletin, illustrating the advantages in becoming a member of EAPE.
- Ethics Committee: a possible first draft of a position paper of EAPE on Ethical Issues of Science has been presented by the Chair of the Ethics Committee. All those present at the teleconference agree on the need, expressed by the presenter, for contributions to the position paper from the Boards of EAPE and from the Committee, but also from any member of the Association wishing to enrich the first draft. Luigi, as Chair of the Committee, announced that after the conclusion of the position paper another will follow which will pay attention to the ethical aspects of Covid-19 experience, including social involvement, responsible behaviour, dramatic choices (which patients have to be saved when special hospital places are lacking ?); how much does social isolation weigh on opportunities of work?, and a refound respect of nature and potential new life styles.
- EAPE Bulletin: This was the main subject of discussion from different points of view: a) outsourcing: to open the Bulletin to advertisements with the added advantage to be more linked to the economy market (typical example the pharmaceutical industry) but with need to consider ethical concerns relating to some advertisements, b) next issues: Natale De Santo communicated that he has already collected several articles on different topics (state of medicine in UK, European Universities facing Covid-19, algae: a new natural resource).

## Council Meeting July 13, 2020

The Minutes of the Teleconference on 15th June were approved.

• Member numbers check: Georgia Drosatou informed the group that the official membership is in excess of those who paid; so there is a need to stimulate members to pay the registration fee.

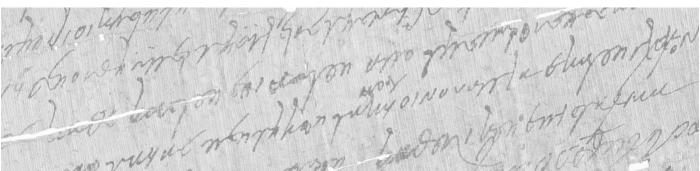
Correlation between National and European Association or Groups: It is concluded that the members of the National Committees (this is the correct name) of EAPE must be members of EAPE too (at the moment this is the case for the two official National Committees of EAPE which are the Greek and Italian ones). On the contrary, in the case of the National Associations of Professors Emeriti, the two subscriptions are independent one from the other.

Les Ebdon commented about the contacts with other Associations and Institutions with a view to have them as partners to take part in the next European Calls.

Luigi Campanella communicated that he is in contact with APRE, an Italian Agency instituted to support and stimulate the participation to European Calls. From EAPE Luigi has learned that, in the very near future some calls are awaited concerning European culture, history and traditions. Luigi will provide Les and Maria with the name and mail address to which questions about future calls can be forwarded. Luigi declared that he had mailed this information to the involved colleagues.

Natale De Santo commented on the new issue of the Bulletin.





## FORTHCOMING CONGRESSES

## "Psychological Trauma: Global Burden on Mental and Physical Health"

George N. Christodoulou

Professor Emeritus of Psychiatry, Athens University
Email: <a href="mailto:Profgchristodoulou@gmail.com">Profgchristodoulou@gmail.com</a>

The World Psychiatric Association announces a Thematic Virtual Congress on this topic to take place Online, on December 10-12, 2020, from the city of Athens, Greece.

The invitation is signed by Dr. Afzal Javed, President Elect WPA, President of the Congress; Prof. Helen Herrman, WPA President; Prof. Thomas G. Schulze, WPA Secretary for Scientific Sections, Chair of the Scientific Committee; Prof. Dimitrios Ploumpidis, President Hellenic Psychiatric Association, Chair of the Organizing Committee and by Prof. George Christodoulou.

Professor Christodoulou is Professor Emeritus of Psychiatry of Athens University, President of the Society of Preventive Psychiatry, Honorary President of the Hellenic Psychiatric Association and Past President of the World Federation for Mental Health.

Professor George Christodoulou will give a plenary talk on "Disasters as traumatic events: their psychological impact on a global scale".

He will propose a new classification of Disasters into Natural, Human-made, Economic and Biological Disasters. The latter two categories are those that we are experiencing at the present time. The Covid-19 pandemic is concurrently a biological and an economic disaster due to its serious economic consequences. For certain countries, like Greece, the biological disaster is superimposed on the economic disaster that occurred earlier and is still continuing.

Professor Christodoulou will also discuss the results of research carried out on 602 subjects using telephone interviews, and the administration of research instruments measuring various psychological and psychopathological parameters (Triantafillou E, Tsellos P, Mrvoljak I, Christodoulou N, Anagnostopoulou N, Christodoulou GN) and their effect on quality of life.

Findings show that negative feelings such as anxiety and worry associated with the pandemic, and related factors such as restrictive measures, reduced social contacts, fear of being infected/infecting others and job insecurity correlate negatively with Quality of Life (QoL). The most vulnerable groups in terms of QoL were the elderly-

in-retirement, people not working or interrupting their professional activities, single, divorced, widowed, those with low financial and educational level, patients with mental and physical disorders and people who reported triggering tensions within their families.

Professor Athanasios Fokas, from the University of Cambridge, UK, is a member of the Academy of Athens and a well-known mathematician and medical doctor. He will be the second speaker on the Greek side and will discuss *Stress in a global, multidimensional perspective*. Professor Fokas is well-known for his broad, holistic view of phenomena and his efforts to promote collaboration and interaction among various disciplines. He has studied the pandemic using mathematics and has predicted the present second wave of the epidemic.

Visit Congress website: www.wpathematic.org

Meeting Secretariat:

Erasmus Conference & Events S.A. - 6, Drosini Str, 166 73 Athens, Greece - info@wpathematic.org - www.erasmus.gr



#### ■ INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

The Bull Eur Assoc Profs Emer is a multidisciplinary journal fostering the idea that the vocation for research and teaching is for life and protecting full use of the human capital of professors emeriti.

The Bulletin adopts the Vancouver style. Authors are invited to visit the website of the Association and read the last issue.

Manuscripts shall be in good English in Word, font 12, with good illustrations and shall be emailed to the editor in Chief, Natale Gaspare De Santo MD.

• Email: nataleg.desanto@unicampania.it

Original manuscripts (Word file) around 900-1100 words shall include affiliation(s), email and phone numbers of the authors. A portrait of the 1<sup>st</sup> author is required. 1 Figure and 1 Table (emailed on separate sheets) and a maximum of 6 references and a minimum of 3 are allowed. References must be numbered and ordered sequentially as they appear in the text. When cited in the text, reference numbers are to be in round brackets.

Manuscripts related to news about emeriti and their associations shall be limited to a maximum of 500 words, and up to 3 references; no portrait of the author is required, but 1 Figure or 1 Table can be added.

All manuscripts undergo editing.

At the end of the article number references consecutively in the order in which they are first mentioned in the text. For articles with more than 6 authors, list the first 3 authors before using "et al."; For articles with 6 authors, or fewer, list all authors.

#### **JOURNALS**

1. Journal article published electronically ahead of print: Authors may add to a reference, the DOI ("digital object identifier") number unique to the publication for articles in press. It should be included immediately after the citation in the References.

Bergholdt HKM, Nordestgaard BG, Ellervik C. Milk intake is not associated with low risk of diabetes or overweightobesity: a Mendelian randomization study in 97,811 Danish individuals. Am J Clin Nutr 2015 Jul 8 (Epub ahead of print; DOI: doi:10.3945/ajcn.114.105049).

2. Standard journal article. List all authors when 6 or fewer; when 6 or more, list only the first 3 and add "et al." Abbreviate journal titles according to *Index Medicus* style, which is used in MEDLINE citations.

De Santo NG, Altucci P, Heidland A et al. The role of emeriti and retired professors in medicine. Q J Med 2014;107: 407-410

3. Committee on Infectious Diseases, American Academy of Pediatrics. Measles: reassessment of the current immunization policy. Pediatrics 1989; 84.1110-1113.

#### **BOOKS and other MONOGRAPHS**

1. Personal authors

Antier JJ. Jean Guitton. Milan, Paoline, 2002

2. Committee report or corporate author

World Health Organisation. Good Health Adds Life to Years. Geneva, WHO, 2012.

3. Chapter in book

De Santo NG. The priority: broadening the boundaries of paediatrics and turning basic science into cures. In Erich J, Corrard F, De Santo NG, ed. This I think should have priority in child health care services. Joachim Barke, Hannover 2018:69-71.

4. Agency publication

Committee on Infectious Diseases, Report of the Committee on Infectious Disease, 22nd Edn. American Academy of Pediatrics. Elk Grove Village, 19991; 319-320.

### **IINTERNET REFERENCES**

1. Website

Plato. Laws.http://data.perseus.org/itations/um:cts:greek-Lit:tlg034,perseus-eng1:3.666 (accessed May 14, 2020).

2. Online journal article

De Santo NG. The Impact of Covid-19 on Education and Science Florence in the XIV century -after plague, famine, death and depopulation- generated Renaissance Scholars such as Filippo Brunelleschi, Giovambattista Alberti and Leonardo An Achievable goal for our Universities. Bull Eur Assoc Prof Emer 2020; 1(2): 19-20. (accessed 14 May, 2020)

