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Comment by Andrew Targowski

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Dr. Andrew Targowski, president of the ISCSC from 2007 to 2013, provides a futurist’s perspective on Covid-19:

Pandemic 2020, triggered by the coronavirus, reminds us that life on Earth has been evolving for 3.5 billion years from a virus, which is just a deficient bacterium.

We humans in the last 6000 years are trying to be rational and civilized but we are not good enough to be immune to a pandemic. It is a loud voice of nature that is advising us today that we have a long way ahead to be healthier and wiser than a virus.

The Spanish Flu of 1918-1919 killed about 40 million people, those who did not pay attention to keeping distance and avoiding the crowds. In Pandemic 2020, we repeat the same mistakes.

However, some people in some American cities—those who are demonstrating widely these days — are trying to mitigate the political aspect of civilization, making it more friendly for everybody. Hence, Pandemic 2020 looks to be a wake-up call, appearing as it has simultaneously with calls to implement social justice, as life should be.

But at what cost?

Not killing 40 million by the virus but bankrupting 40 million small businesses by irrational behavior?

Are we wise enough to not repeat the Bolshevik Revolution? It took more than 70 years to learn about its outcomes and to correct them for the sake of about 200 million victims.

Is our civilization politically wise? Or should we keep developing civilization another 6000+ years, having in mind that the sky is the limit?

Is it possible? If not, what to do wisely now? What is lacking — technology, knowledge or wisdom, or conscious and willful leadership?