

JEAN KRAMARZ

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Thank you, Michel. What are the lessons learned in this Covid crisis, which is certainly not over and what can we say about global governance from them? The first lesson, as Juliette just said, is that health is strategic. It does not mean that it is important or very important, it means that it should be treated like a military topic, meaning you have to invest in health well in advance to face a crisis. It is not when the crisis occurs that you check your stocks of masks and discover your supply chain is based in China. If health is strategic, it means that governments should over-invest in health to make sure that they have the right equipment and drugs and have secured their supply chain and it should be an ongoing effort. It should be a topic of national interest. Just like we have three months of oil stocks, we should have health stocks of drugs, devices and equipment and know how to operate them. We should also invest in people because if you do not have the people to staff the ICU beds then it is the same as not having any ICU beds.

If this is understood by governments, it will have an impact on the cost of health. It means that you invest for a peak, for a crisis and do not treat health as a commodity that you buy whenever you need it. Health is already too expensive in terms of a percentage of GDP and my guess is that it will cost more in the future because we will pay doctors and nurses more, as well as paying more for drugs because we will ask the pharmaceutical industry to relocate to new countries with higher production costs.

Is it good for international governance? I am not sure because it is the dilemma of prisoners; they should cooperate but as long as they do not trust the others they will not cooperate. I have this rather pessimistic view today but there is nothing preventing us to change it for the better through serious work by international organizations to create trust between nations. Now, it is not only trust between nations; we have also seen in this crisis doctors who do not trust doctors, populations not trusting governments, and this is a huge issue. As Christian said, when we have found the right vaccines and treatments, if doctors or the population do not believe they can be used then we will not solve the crisis.

How do we build trust in the 21st century in the time of metaverse, as was explained? I do not think you build trust by avoiding the social networks or reacting to them, you build trust by investing in social networks and this is another big lesson. How many of us are followers of World Health Organization or the French Ministry of Health, or do they even have an account on Instagram or YouTube? I do not know, but they should. I do not say that as a 14-year-old, but I just see that the main source of information for people, and not just young people, is not their parents, governments or the television news, it is the social networks. This is the second lesson; we do not do enough to be trusted on social networks.



The last lesson is about big data. You have one consistent move from countries, which is to protect their data and sit on their medical data as if it was a golden egg. It is very good for privacy reasons and of course, you must protect people and their medical data. However, there is power in big data to face crises like Covid that in my opinion is underused. In fact, at the same time as protecting privacy you should share medical data on a massive scale, not just the result of medical research. Of course, medical institutions share the results but they could share also the raw data to combine it into a big data pool so that people can work on it and work more rapidly on evidence-based medicine. In my opinion, this is a massive field of international cooperation because of course, I do not think we want Google or Microsoft to do this instead of governments, which is what will happen if nobody does it.

These are the personal lessons I have learned from this crisis.

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Thank you very much, Jean. I think you stressed three things. One is the need for anticipation. The second, you emphasized the complexity behind trust and the relationship between decision makers, science, and public opinion. Third, there was this issue that I agree is critical, of sharing data, pooling data together and you are basically saying we need a global CDC, in our terminology, and for me that should be the role of a strengthened World Health Organization in the future.