

Will COVID-19 pandemic cause the collapse of capitalism? Post-capitalist views of the future.

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COVID-19 pandemic has brought a great crisis to the hitherto from of capitalism, exposing its weaknesses and shaking the international community. Neoliberalist approach to health care focused on minimizing capacities and capabilities of the system through focus on rapid delivery and less storage. Because of globalization, the western world became dependent on several suppliers from the other side of the globe. Initial shock caused shortages in supply on many basic products, especially medical equipment. The capitalist world, orderly, hungry for money, destructive to the environment was turned upside down.

While governments have been trying to manage the situation, citizens discovered a new way of life – they worked from home, baked their own bread, learned new manual skills, and connected with nature. And while states are slowly beginning to focus on rebuilding previous neoliberal order to avoid economic clash, many citizens are not interested. Younger generations of Millennials and Generation Z turn into post-capitalist ideologies. They re-discovered the value of localism, communing, collective efficiency. They value horizontal instead of vertical governing, and most importantly, they put a particular pressure on environmentalism. Slow food, slow life and sustainability became an attraction that beats corporate style of work, thus puts happiness of a person and the planet over workaholism.

Because of the pandemic, post-capitalism became a threat to the neoliberal order. Despite its attractiveness to the individual, it threatens economic stability of the entire world. It has not yet determined how to ensure stable wages allowing desired living conditions to all citizens, employment, well-working healthcare.