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Chapter 7 - Reconstructing for a New Age – 5-30

Chapter Seven - Reconstructing for a New Age

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Chapter Seven Reconstructing for a New Age

Introductory Note

The Nature of Survivors

The Start of This Project. The start of this project has roots that go back to the project's founder being enthralled with the concept of strategy having common principles applicable to diverse disciplines. The box that follows has an excerpt from page 146 of the trilogy's BOOK ONE, ***Common Sense Revisited: America's Third Revolution.***

The book by John McDonald, *Strategy in Poker, Business and War*(1950), was a journalist's presentation of applications of ideas embedded in the book *Theory of Games and Economic Behavior* by mathematician John von Neumann and economist Oskar Morgenstern. McDonald received valuable assistance from a diversity of experts in order to present the concepts in an intelligible form even for undergraduate students...

Making Use of Knowledge However Acquired

I really like the minimax strategy discussed in the book, and used it for my first book (co-authored by Richard Swesnik), *Real Estate Investment Strategy.*

The McDonald book, *Strategy in Poker, Business and War*, led to an interdisciplinary approach that took the website founder's research and writing to whatever the relevant discipline happened to be. After studying the terrorist attack of September 11, 2001 and writing about it, the founder was introduced to the nascent disciplines of complexity science and network science. The analytics were applied to complex adaptive systems. The key bit of relevant knowledge is that it wasn't the strongest that survived, it was the most adaptable.

When in the second decade of the twenty-first century, the founder started to use the [biological analogy](#) of human beings as a paradigm for understanding our democratic society, it turned out to be a good fit. More recently the principles from the founder's first book turned out to be quite relevant in the discussion of territory and time horizon.

Our Previous Discussion. Our previous discussion in Chapter 4 of this treatise deals with forecasting patterns to be expected over time when dealing with territory. That chapter, *If We Knew Then, What We Know Now*, happens to focus on Afghanistan. In this chapter, our focus is on the future of Ukraine and the United States of America.

In this chapter we are continuing to deal with the global issue of democracy. What we learned from the Afghanistan debacle was that sheer political power does not build democracy; it takes an amenable culture, and a time to build. The adaptation of the domestic culture to the changing global environment is critical to its survival.

What we would do well to learn is at that as the global leader in the development of democracy, we need to do a better job in educating our populace and leadership as to what it takes to flourish as a democracy. This third section's prologue, *Resilience and Regression of Democracy*, discusses Ukraine as an example of a resilient democracy. The previous chapter, *A Bit Beyond the First Year*, set the stage for assessing the feasibility of our reversing the regression of our domestic democracy.

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This chapter builds upon the point made in the fourth chapter; that what we do now is the then, of what is going to be the future of democracy. In the current case, we are dealing with the battle autocracy and democracy.

The unprovoked invasion of a sovereign territory by a terrorist leader of an autocracy that has unrealistic visions of a legacy in the tradition of earlier Russian leaders has led to our further support of a new democracy. The resilience of that democracy sets an example for us. That population has lived under autocracy, and appreciates their relatively new democracy. Our democracy has been regressing, and we will miss it when it is gone; and it will be gone unless we contain the aggressiveness of the Russian leader, President Vladimir Putin.

Reversing the regression in our democracy is a significant challenge. It is likely to take more than one generation. It will take a mixture of education and behavioral change in the sense of an evolving culture. The time to start is *now*. It is the *then* case of if we knew *then*, what we will know in the *now* of the future.

This part of the treatise, *Strategic Guidance Towards Improving Outcomes*, is devoted to the first part of the Biden administration's second year. The major events of that second year started with the unwarranted invasion of Ukraine by an autocrat for whatever his purposes. The next major event will be the outcome of the investigation by the Select Committee of the House of Representatives and the progress made by the Department of Justice. That will be discussed in *Part Four -The Second Half of The Biden Administration's Second Year*. That fourth part will also discuss the outcome for the midterm elections.

The nature of the problem we face includes a shortfall of education of the population, and the morality of segments of the population and its leadership. We need a substantially improved level of knowledge of the voting population in order for them to exercise the discipline over their elected representatives. We also need a greater morality of the elected representatives who care more about their political career and benefits than the interests of the voters with whom they presumably have a fiduciary relationship.

The existing two-party system is dysfunctional. Each of the parties has its own problems. We need a broader range of independent voters who can respond to platforms representing their interests. We need a unity for the common purpose of democratic representation. That includes legislation taking place based upon merits, as seen by a bicameral legislation as envisioned in a constitutional structure. That vision called for a Senate that took a longer perspective than the mood of the masses.

More About This Chapter

The Nature of Its Structure. The nature of the structure of this chapter is similar to the previous chapter in that it was posted in sections that were written at different times. The first part of the previous chapter was started immediately after President Biden's delivery of the State of Union address. The defense of democracy globally is a bipartisan issue that received across the aisle support.

The second part, *American Unity at the Core*, took more time to develop. The uncertainty was based upon the role that was going to be played by the legislature in taking responsibility in the battle between the foreign autocrats and our democratic institutions. Some progress was made; however, the evolution to better representation is under challenge by structural manipulation designed for party power at the expense of justice.

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Initially, chapter seven was going to be titled *After the Interim Report*. However, when it became apparent that the Select Committee investigating the January 6 insurrection would not be holding public hearings before May or even June, and the interim report might not be produced until summer time, the chapter was renamed. Additionally, it was again designed to become available in two parts, with a timely production and distribution of each part. What follows is the first part that includes this *Introductory Note* and the sections titled, *The Scale Has Changed* and then the section titled *Unity in Pursuit of Justice*.

By the summertime, the next section (***The Future of Our Great Experiment***) should be available for posting, but an interim report, from the Select Committee investigating the January 6 insurrection, may not be available. In that case, the next section (***The Future of Our Great Experiment***) may be posted as a standalone item. Then, after the interim report is produced, we can complete the chapter with its posting in stages similar to the way we have handled *Chapter Six - A Bit Beyond the First Year*.

At that point we will have most of the second year for posting and we can assemble in the form of a booklet the first seven chapters of the treatise, *Strategic Guidance Towards Improving Outcomes*.

The production and distribution plan is designed to facilitate improving the productivity of motivated learners interested in keeping current with the unfolding events, and doing so in the context of evolving complex adaptive systems affecting their quality of life; not only currently, but in the future. That understanding is critical to their making wise choices impacting the future of their quality of life as impacted by the political structure of our society.

Dealing With Uncertainty. Dealing with the uncertainty is a great challenge, especially in complex adaptive systems because of the evolutionary process. Additionally, the risk of contingencies increases over time. We use patterns of behavior of systems as a basis of assessing the likelihood of a variety of outcomes.

This calls for a paradigm structured for dealing with complex adaptive systems. We are continuing with the development of that approach. The next section does so with a shift from the domestic scale to the global scale.

We are still using the pandemic as an analogous model for understanding the evolution of complex adaptive systems. However, in light of the unwarranted attack on the sovereign state of Ukraine by an autocratic regime, we are adding the territorial dimension to the analogical model that expands the scale.

The Scale Has Changed

Update On the Pandemic

Although we are still using the pandemic as a foundational example (see Chapter One - The Pandemic as a Foundational Example) for applying nascent disciplines to deal with the threat to the survival of our American Democracy, we have two major updates. The first is an update on strategy for dealing with the pandemic. The second is not only an update on the Ukraine crisis, it is the addition of the Ukraine crisis as an analogy for dealing with the internal threat to our democracy. That internal threat is still our greatest crisis.

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The addition of the global scale in the aggression of the autocracy in Russia, endangering democracy in Ukraine and indeed Western civilization, has an impact on our opportunity to better understand the nature of dealing with crises over an extended time period, rather than simply focusing on the present.

We are including a discussion of the pandemic in China as part of our shift to global scale. This is essential because the evolving change in globalization emerging from the weaponizing of trade.

The Pandemic Strategy in China. The COVID-19 pandemic began in China around the beginning of the year 2000. The official reaction was a suppression of information. It was followed by use of isolation in order to restrain spread of disease. The testing and tracing approach was an interim measure that was followed by the domestic development of vaccine. Unfortunately, there domestic vaccine was not as effective as vaccines developed in the West.

With totalitarian control the Chinese authorities had a more powerful force for controlling behavior that found in the West. However, their vaccines were not as effective as ours, and apparently, they were not willing to concede the superiority of the Western developed vaccines.

At the time this is being drafted, the shutdown approach is being used in China. It is disruptive of the economy and the quality of life in general. All of this is relevant on a couple of points.

The first is that China as a totalitarian society. Although it is making economic progress for substantial portion of its population, it is also pursuing its rivalry with United States for global leadership in gross domestic product. Additionally, it has been engaging in territorial expansion. It is watching closely the success, or lack thereof, of Russia's invasion of Ukraine because of its own interest in Taiwan.

It appears that the rivalry of autocracies with democracies has the autocratic centers being led by Russia and China as compared to the democracies being led by USA and the rest of NATO. This brief introduction of the discussion of China is simply setting the stage for the later discussion of the future of democracy globally, and domestically.

The pandemic is a health issue in which China, as an autocracy, has an advantage in authority to control. However, its lesser quality of vaccines, and misuse of power in controlling information from the very start of the pandemic is now providing a substantial cost to its economy. These systems of health, information, technology, and freedom are related.

The Nature of Our Strategic Change. The nature of our domestic COVID-19 strategic change is shifting from focusing on defensive measures to focusing on some semblance of normalization. The third chapter (*Strategic Shift Announced for the Pandemic*) of this treatise) discusses the shift as introduced by the opening paragraph of that chapter.

On September 9, 2021, President Biden delivered a speech in which he announced a shift in strategy for dealing with the pandemic. Although that is not what he called it, that is what it amounts to in our analytical approach.

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If you would like a glimpse of salient points in that chapter, you will find a presentation in the box that follows. The page numbers will vary according to whether this treatise is a standalone item or an appendix to the first booklet.

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Our briefest statement is that there was a **shift from focusing on containment to focusing on defensive measures. The new strategic shift is an attempt to achieve some sense of normalization.**

The Latest Situation. The latest situation is largely an attempt at normalization heavily dependent upon the individual's choice associated in varying degrees with risk assessment. This is in the context of an evolving situation characterized by a diversity of regulatory authority.

The evolving situation an additional booster is that omicron variants are more communicable resulting in the advisability of an additional booster four months after the third shot.

The crisis is not over. The patterns of decision-making vary widely. They include variations in the role of governors and the role of a variety of local districts. The rate of infections is not the only variable under consideration. The extent of hospitalizations and hospital capacity come into play. Additionally, the federal government still has a role as with transportation.

That role was challenged in a lawsuit that reached a federal judge appointed by President Trump in the final days of his authority. She ruled against the mandate, and the appeal is in process. Her qualifications and reasoning appear quite questionable. It looks as though it is just the other case of the health issue being used for political advantage.

As our nation gains experience with different strategies, experiences at state and local situations vary with individual choices and environmental considerations. Patterns will evolve that will facilitate better strategies on constraining individual behavior by regulations and/or choice. However, the normalization attempt has shifted the COVID-19 situation from being viewed as a pandemic to now being viewed as an *endemic*, much in the same way that we consider the flu. For the flu, it is obviously an individual choice, but with lesser consequences than with COVID-19 for the individual and society.

There are numerous studies of death rates from a coronavirus and from the flu. Death rates for the coronavirus are significantly influenced by a wide range of variables, as are hospitalizations, a measure of the depth of damage even without death. The lessening of serious illness or death in the case of fl and u, is significantly influenced by an annual inoculation. For COVID-19 there is

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a variety of vaccination options as to type and a choice as to boosters, especially as to the number and timing.

The choice of individual strategy is heavily dependent on multiple levels of networks of state and local regulation in the context of federal regulation. Rationally, the individual's risk assessment as to vulnerability to hospitalization and death is critical. The extent of strategic analysis, if actually pursued, is highly varied. To the extent that reasoning that goes beyond feelings, the first variable is an assessment of consequences of being infected. For those people with prior medical conditions that impede resistance to the virus, and especially the aged, the first strategic element is vaccination with recommended boosters in accordance with professional advice.

The latest situation, as of this writing, is total deaths from the pandemic appear to be in the neighborhood of about one million for the domestic total and about 6 million for the global total. The latest variation is much more contagious than the earlier version, but less likely to lead to hospitalization or death. The future of further mutations is uncertain.

Technological advances are facilitating the use of vaccines for the younger age groups. That will significantly reduce infection rates. Nationally, it appears that about sixty percent of the population has had some infection, many of which were not symptomatic. Some of the symptomatic infections were somewhat like a cold. Others led to significant problems, including hospitalization that was a strain on local hospital facilities impacting others with different problems. Fortunately, the latest variant is less likely to lead to death, and outcomes heavily dependent upon other conditions in individual health.

Technological progress has been made in the ventilation systems such that the contagion impact can be reduced substantially, not only by airflow, but also by chemical content in the air. That is in its early stages, as is the medication for ameliorating the consequences of the infection.

The transition to an endemic doesn't mean the danger is over. We can expect that with the colder weather we will have another surge. That may even be preceded by the attempt of many to return to a normalization that no longer exists. We will continue with the updates. However, our expectation is that it will take some time for conditions to evolve in which there will be a new normalization that prevails for a substantial time.

Some expectations for that new normalization are discussed in the third booklet, ***Great all Danger Emerges: Democracy Challenged***. The box that follows contains a short excerpt. It is from page 55 BOOKLET THREE.

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Forecasting Co-Evolution

Forecasting co-evolution in America's political economy is highly uncertain for reasons just discussed in the previous section in forecasting outcomes from the current recession. The question becomes especially relevant, however, in the context of design.

Thus, the question on the table is how do we design processes to favorably influence outcomes? The approach we are taking here is to consider the potential for mechanisms for controlling land-use.

That booklet needs to be updated. We need to expand the team producing copy. Although volunteers are welcomed, we do have budgets for contract workers.

Update On the Ukraine Crisis

The immediately preceding chapter (*A Bit Beyond the First Year*) starts off with a section titled *Clues from the Ukraine Crisis*. The second section is titled *American Unity at the Core*. Since the motivated learner has probably just read that chapter, we might be tempted to go right into a further discussion of American strategy on dealing with the issues.

We will get to it, but the situation is incredibly complex because of the multiplicity of players in the system, and as the environment changes, the changes in relationships within the networks may alter positions.

The Multiplicity of Players. The multiplicity of players may be viewed from many perspectives. For our analytical purposes there are layers of networks related to the two primary sovereign states, Russia the aggressor in the war, and Ukraine the defendant. The character of the power distribution within the sovereign states is substantially different.

We will return to a discussion of the structural differences in the layers of networks between the Russian totalitarian structure and the Ukrainian democratic structure. At this point, the major consideration is that President Putin, as an autocrat, is on a crusade to restore some semblance of what was the Soviet Union, and has initiated wars to gain territory, and conducted them in violation of a variety of global standards, especially with the use of war crimes.

His opening negotiating position was designed to lessen the presence of American forces in Europe and to suppress the movement to the east of Western democracies, especially with any expansion of the membership in NATO. His strategy appears to be territorial expansion in bits and pieces as well as retarding eastward expansion of NATO.

All of this is in the context of political control of territory enabling economic and societal control in many dimensions. However, it goes well beyond the political economy because it deals in culture, especially because Russia has a rich cultural history in music and literature. Emigration from Russia has been increasing because of the retardation of freedom, especially in dealing with an aggressive war using a euphemistic phrase, *special military operation*. Demonstrators are imprisoned will for calling the *special military operation* a war.

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The brain drain is impairing their future quality of life. It seems that what may become known as the *Putin Folly* will generate the evolution of Russia to become a democracy.

The current autocracy is eroding its future. Putin started his negotiations with us and NATO with outrageous demands calling for a lessening of our military involvement in European affairs, assurances that Ukraine would not become part of NATO, and the eastward expansion of democracy in Europe would be retarded. It appears that he not only sought to retain his autocracy, but to build a legacy for himself in restoring Russia to becoming a leader in a reincarnation of some semblance of the Soviet Union.

What will evolve depends upon the emergence of events/conditions as a result of actions of various sovereign states. As to the withdrawal of American involvement in Europe, Putin has gotten the opposite. In regard to his attempt to erode the power of NATO, it has been strengthened by its unity and opposition to his atrocities attempting to gain can territorial control. Additionally, it looks as though Sweden and Finland may be on the path to joining NATO.

What we are witnessing is a crusade for restoration of territorial control, a fool's mission best suited for someone not familiar with the rise and fall of empires over the last four millenniums. The sad part is the quality of life for Russians is being eroded by the pursuit of power retention, a pattern that is a leader in that territory.

The Declaration Era Educational Press (DEEP) is the process of building a team of experts in a multiplicity of disciplines in order to facilitate a college level education in the arts and sciences in the form of what is known as a liberal education that includes not only the understanding of conservative and progressive philosophies, but the evolution of civilization including the advances of human societies especially in the era of the ancient Greek philosophers and the era of the Enlightenment, including the Scientific Revolution.

The current battle between autocracy and democracy may well be a part of a process that is calling for a New Age of Enlightenment. More this is discussed on the website that has a humongous array of citations designed to lead the motivated learner to pursue a deeper understanding not only of human behavior and societal structure, but also the functioning of the planet earth in the miserable performance human beings have made in dealing with the natural environment that affect our quality of life.

A simple way to make the point about the rise and fall of empires is to direct the motivated learner to a book titled "*Time Chart of World History: A Histone Map of Peoples and Nations for 4000 Years.*" It is authored by John B. Sparks. The chart is about 6 feet long and contains a discussion of fourteen identities.

Russia is included as one of the fourteen identities. The discussions are political history, and unfortunately did not include economic and cultural contributions to the quality of life of human beings.

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Ukraine has been under attack by Russia even before the incursion of February 24, 2022. The 2014 incursion separated some territory from the Ukraine. It was a prelude to what Putin had envisioned as a quickly executed win of control over Kyiv for the installation of a puppet government. That was a gross strategic error, and a botched military execution of the process. The result, as of this writing, is a shift of forces from the northern area to the southeast area, possibly with Putin's hope of at least winding up with Russia's recognition of two so-called republics in the southeast being accepted by Ukraine; not a likely outcome from Ukraine's perspective.

Each of the sovereign states has its own network for export. Russia's territory encompasses the largest geographic area. It generates a vast production from natural resources, especially with fossil fuels. It generally provides a substantial energy resource for the democratic regimes in Europe. It is also a substantial exporter of wheat. This adds to the complexity because of the diverse economic interests within NATO in general as well as the countries that are part of European Union.

As the events are unfolding, priorities are shifting among some of the countries in their relationships for trade with Russia. NATO as a defense organization has been cautious about activities that would escalate the nature of the war. They are however participated in varying degrees with the sanctioning process that is generating a global transition of trade networks.

At this stage it looks as though membership in NATO will be increased rather than being constrained. The fear that Putin is generating is stimulating a potential application for membership in NATO, a defensive network. Its article five stipulates that an attack against one member is an attack against all. That article was implemented when the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack by Al-Qaeda was made in New York and Washington.

NATO is organized as a defense organization, predominantly among democracies; with some member countries experiencing tendencies towards becoming an autocracy. It, nevertheless, is still the key organization for defense against autocratic regimes violating the sovereignty of NATO members.

The network of support for Ukraine extends beyond a selection of NATO members who have bold will and provided defensive armaments and weaponized trade. The outrage over Russia's resorting to war crimes and free societies weaponizing trade has added to the relatively low recent reversals of globalization.

The Global Transition. The global transition underway is in part attributable to transport problems generated by the pandemic, and in part attributable to weaponizing trade as a sanction designed to discourage aggression. Domestically, the story goes deeper with the previous administration's policy of *America First*, with reference to trade and other global relationships.

Globalization has a long history of starting with the silk trade. That was fostered by differences in the availability of resources. The modern approach of an economics perspective may well be

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rooted in Adam Smith's concept of the invisible hand. That is most famous having arisen from Smith's opposition to *mercantilism*, essentially protectionism of domestic industry from foreign competition. His opposition was significant because it was based upon the concept of [emergence](#).

The concept of emergence is discussed in the link to BOOK THREE's Appendix G – Invisible Hands Commentary. The following is a paragraph from page 182,

Smith's use of the term in his *Wealth of Nations* was linked to the concept of self-organization in the context of his advocacy of free trade as opposed to *mercantilism*. The context is thus the benefits to society during a slice of time as compared to the meaning of my creation of the term *the other invisible hand* which refers to emergent process producing the benefits (positive or negative) to society over an evolutionary period resulting from the changes in social capital.

The relevance of this is that the weaponization of trade is not only incurring a differential cost for the various nations that trade with Russia, it will have an evolutionary consequence as the isolation persists over time, assuming Russia's domestic population doesn't find a way for regime change.

The impact is not only in economic production because of fossil fuels as a source of energy, but also the availability of wheat as a fuel for human energy. The result is a considerable contribution to inflation. That, however, is better than a contribution to death rates in armed conflict.

Vladimir Putin's use of crimes of war is an act of terrorism. Terrorism is normally treated by isolation of the terrorist or otherwise terminating the terrorists' ability to terrorize. Our twenty-first century experience with regime change by brute force has been taken off the table, unless an act of war against us and/or NATO members necessitates it. The likelihood of a Russian internal regime change does not seem great in the near term, so our attention needs to be turned to the design of a bifurcation of global trade that we see in our interests, especially in our pursuit of justice.

That bifurcation relates to the isolation of Russia through sanctions, as well as corporate choices as to where to do business. The southern part of the planet is another matter.

We expect to be looking at the potential of the emergence of two sets of global systems with different technological standards and possibly the emergence of an alternative to the United States dollar as the principal media of exchange. That is alluded to in the next subsection.

What We Do Now. What we do now is the *then*, of what will lead to the global trade structure that will occur as the *now* at a later date. In the introductory note of this chapter, we made reference to "Chapter 4 of this treatise [that] deals with forecasting patterns to be in expected to over time when dealing with territory. That chapter, - *If We Knew Then, What We Know Now*, happens to focus on Afghanistan. In this chapter, our focus is on the future of Ukraine."

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As discussed, we would do well to learn is that as the historic global leader of democracy, we need to take the lead in understanding that what we do *now* is the *then* of what is going to be an important part of the future of democracy as an institutional arrangement and will.

There is a battle happening between autocracy and democracy, with the unprovoked invasion of a sovereign territory by a terrorist leader of an autocracy that has unrealistic visions of a legacy in the tradition of earlier Russian leaders.

So now, let us follow up on what we think might be a pattern in the evolution of the war, and the consequences of potential outcomes. A simplified illustration can illustrate potential patterns based upon considering what amounts to nodes in networks that relate to potential outcomes.

The first node, or agent in the network, is that the outcome of the war. What follows that is an array of other nodes, each with variables resulting in a multiplicity of patterns that could emerge. Potential outcomes are highly uncertain. However, a strategic decision based upon a minimax approach calls for making current choices based upon a longer time horizon with uncertainty greater than any isolated linear analysis of short-term cause and effect.

- The first set has to do with the outcome of the war. There are multiple variations. For simplicity purposes we are starting with three, each of which may have multiple variations.
 - Ukraine wins and Russia withdraws with a variety of follow-ups.
 - Russia wins and installed a puppet government, and President Putin rebuilds and continues his efforts to expand territorial control to achieve a legacy of restoring Russia's greatness.
 - A peace treaty is achieved where President Putin claims a victory resulting in control of enough of the southeast of Ukraine that leaves Ukraine landlocked.
- The second set has to do with weaponizing trade among the options for defending democracy against autocracy.
 - The first consideration is efficacy. The variations include timing and extent. Waiting until the border was breached to impose sanctions eroded its effectiveness. The nature and extent also have all will an impact on globalization, especially a long-term isolation of Russia.
 - The multiplicity of players has a significant impact on feasibility. The differential impact on NATO members is a significant consideration.
 - The structural impact on globalization over the long term is a significant element in the outcome of the evolution of the battle generated by autocracies in their attempt to undermine democracies. The weaponizing of trade is not only an economic warfare for political purposes, it is a sociological force affecting the evolution of the human population of the globe.
- The third set of nodes, or agents in the network, is armed conflict.
 - The first consideration is extent and nature of participation in the conflict. The USA and NATO is already in the role of providing supplies for defense. Additional gradations include no-fly zones, Black Sea confrontations in defense of a commercial access between Ukraine and global trade, and direct military confrontation with Russian aggression forces by the USA and/or NATO.

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- That first consideration is heavily dependent upon past and future behavior of the leader of Russia, President Putin. In order to deal with this, we need to delve deeper in the layers of networks impacting his behavior; and to do so with an understanding of evolution of his feelings and reasoning over time, not only in his personal development, but also in the changing environment that will impact outcomes.
 - Personal wealth has been a strong motivator. He and his cohorts have drained enormous wealth from the populace, and done so for personal gain. A great portion of the proceeds have been invested abroad and some are now frozen. The feasibility of an encore is impaired by the diminution of the scale of remnants left with the public, and the potential that they would not permit an encore.
 - The legacy of a leadership has been pursued by invasion of sovereign territories and devastation of man-made improvements leaving a prize of territorial control. The war crimes methodology has been employed, but clearly in the case of Ukraine, the intimidation attempts have been unsuccessful. It appears that he has lost his off ramp for concluding this war with the legitimate claim of success. He may continue to pursue a favorable legacy, but success in that endeavor does not appear likely.
 - His physical survival in the face of the pandemic has been strongly guarded. So far, he has survived the Ides of March in that sense that Julius Caesar did not survive. Whether he survives it in the sense of the debt he owes to the people of Russia is still an open question.

What we do now is heavily impacted by what our allies in NATO choose to will will will **and do**, as a group and individually. It is also heavily impacted by our leadership, not only in the administration, but also in the legislature.

Events Unfolding

Racing the Red Queen. In On May 28, the day this chapter was being finalized for sending to the book designer, the confluence of the week's events triggered the addition of this subsection to *The Scale Has Changed* portion of this chapter. The first of the major items may be viewed as what President Zelensky [said during the World Economic Forum on Wednesday](#) (sourced via Caroline Vakil on Wednesday May 25, 2022, 3:21 PM) as follows: "... that Ukraine would fight until it regained all of its territories — comments that come after former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger remarked that Ukraine's borders should remain as they were prior to the start of the Russian invasion.") In

[The story continues with a quotation.] "When Ukraine says that it will fight until it regains all its territories, it means only one thing: that Ukraine will fight until it regains all its territories. This is about independence and sovereignty," Zelensky said.

That set the stage for a May 27 *New York Times* front page article titled *U.S. and Its Allies Can't Agree On Defining Victory in Ukraine*. That article by David E. Sanger, Stephen Erlanger and Eric Schmidt includes a diversity of views by members of NATO. That is developed with a discussion of the evolving unity and of

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members beginning to fracture influenced by divergent dependence on trade. The American position seems to be hardening.

As will be discussed, the future of NATO is critical to the evolution of Europe's role in globalization. The requiring unanimous consent and will play a critical role in its future.

Earlier, on May 24, there was a *Wall Street Journal* article by Andrew Restuccia, Ken Thomas and Josh Chin titled *Biden Signals Policy Shift on Taiwan*. These articles when combined with the series of events in the week just ending as a draft is being started was reminiscent of racing the Red Queen of Alice in Wonderland; where there is a call for a constantly increasing pace just to stay even, especially with an evolving structure.

The combination of unfolding events is leading us to discuss some indications of the evolving nature of our political economy. The binding concept is *unity*. The development of that unity calls for a cultural evolution that expands our model using human biology as the core of societal biology, and then integrates territorial control and time dimension. The addition to the model is the concept of *pluralism*. Pluralism is used in the sense of the pursuit of justice; observance of rules in whatever form that they exist in the birth to.

This use of pluralism is the context as used by Isaiah Berlin. It is discussed in the box that follows.

An Enlightened Perspective

[Excerpted from [BOOK THREE's Appendix A](#) - Liberty and Justice for All Some]

An enlightened perspective encompasses the acceptance of pluralism. The concept, as discussed by Isaiah Berlin is "...the conception that there are many different ends that men may seek and still be fully rational..." The relevance, also as discussed by Isaiah Berlin is "We are urged to look upon life as affording a plurality of values, equally genuine, equally ultimate, above all equally objective; incapable, therefore, of being ordered in a timeless hierarchy, or judged in terms of some one absolute standard."

Acceptance of pluralism calls for some compromise in policy in order to accommodate differences in views. That compromise is an essential part of the democratic process. A major area for compromise is in the character and extent of policy to deal with liberty as positive liberty as well as negative liberty. The concept of liberty until the era of the Enlightenment was in a sense one of the absence of constraints on thought or action, hence negative liberty. However, liberty in another sense relates to the ability of an individual to pursue one's potential and have the power or resources of knowledge and/or money to command resources, especially those essential to some minimal standard of living as acceptable in the society, thus positive liberty.

For democracy, the rules may be constitutionally based and supplemented by norms. For global activities the enforcement is a different matter. Rules without enforcement of some sign some kind lack effectiveness.

We have entered an era in which trade is weaponized as a substitute for destructive physical events. We need to strategically examine the use of this process as to its effectiveness and consequences. We are moving into a new era of development of the human species that is still rooted in physical violence. The

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analytics of the first philosophical burst in Athens two and one half millennia ago focused on values and reasoning. The second great philosophical burst was in the Enlightenment era that focused on the source of authority and reasoning. A third burst of philosophical reasoning is emerging in the light of an information revolution and cultural evolution among increasing uncertainties.

A suitable paradigm is not in the library shelf. It needs to be developed. It started in the 20th century with an increasing effort to deal with nonlinear relationships ensconced in complex adaptive systems. It is exemplified by biological models in contrast to engineering models. It deals with information and energy transformed the power, not only for the individual, but also for society.

The unity of our Great Depression and our role in World War II was a model for *doing good*. It was followed by a model for *doing well*. Our unity evolved to divisiveness. The concept of democracy with the source of authority emanating from the people spread globally. Domestically, it made progress for a couple of decades, but for the last half-century it regressed.

Ukraine has set a new example of unity for the preservation of a young democracy. It generated constructive feelings for the institutional arrangements of democracy. Our regression was a bad example. The concept democratic concept spread widely, but was poorly implemented. It was not only the Arab Spring; it was insufficient processes for representing the interests of the population.

The outrageous mass shooting in Texas this week demonstrated the dysfunctionality of our democracy in its lack of unity and preserving physical safety of our children in schools. It is symptomatic of our shortfall in crisis strategy in the realm of unity for dealing with the common good.

There is a great deal more to be presented, some of which may emerge from links. But the uncertainty is still too great for the paradigms available. We are exploring the potential of a New Age of Enlightenment as events are unfolding.

The Defense of Sovereignty. The American position as articulated by Defense Secretary Lloyd J. Austin III on April 25 is quoted in the article as follows: “We want to see Russia weakened to the degree that cannot do the kinds of things that it has done in invading Ukraine.” Motivated learners should read the entire article especially the concluding section, *Zelensky’s Choice*.

Our focus here is not on the diversity of interests of the individual states as members of NATO, but rather on the concept of unity in what is emerging in the global structure in which autocratic regimes have been losing ground to democratic regimes for about three quarters of a century. This is fostering their attempt to undermine democracy in their pursuit of retention of power. Unfortunately, many democracies are also undermining the democratic structure by undermining the democratic processes in an attempt to gain political power.

The Evolving Global Structure. The confluence of articles with the multiplicity of variables just discussed in the preceding *What We Do Now* subsection of the *Update On the Ukraine Crisis* is a case in point. We have received some clues for variables that will influence patterns. There were at least two clues this week that deal with what was discussed as an illustration of linkages that might evolve. As noted in the previous section “The first set has to do with the outcome of the war.”

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Unity in Pursuit of Justice

Update On the Domestic Crisis

Our Basic National Structure. Our basic national structure is designed for the pursuit of justice. It started with the thirteen British colonies demonstrating against the tyranny of King George III, with the two major injustices being taxation without representation and the king overruling domestic self-government. The demonstrations led to a revolution and the creation of the Confederation.

The Confederation format presented a series of problems including finance and foreign relations. It took about a decade to transform the Confederation to a federation with the Constitution, the first ten amendments thereto providing protection to the individuals within the newly established federation the protection focused on their rights as individuals.

The use of political parties was not favored by the founding fathers, even though there were substantial divisions in ideology. They adopted the philosophy of pluralism. It dealt with, the presence of slavery in the South until the westward expansion provided a competition in adding additional states. The competition concerned the matter of slavery. It took a Civil War for major steps in the resolution of the issue; it was followed by three amendments to the Constitution.

That civil war was underway when what emerged to become what is known as the Republican Party. It was led by Abraham Lincoln who felt strongly about equality of opportunity, especially since it had been denied to his family in the acquisition of land in the Western expansion.

That equality of opportunity was rivaled by the tension in the Republican Party advocating protection of property. The latter prevailed for most of the time of the Republican Party; the three major exceptions being during the presidencies of Abraham Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, and Dwight David Eisenhower.

The Conservative View. The conservative view of the role of government has been generally held by the Republican Party since the time of Lincoln presidency. There were conservatives among the founding fathers, largely in light of the ideals articulated by Edmund Burke in his various writings.

The current Republican Party still has some conservative members subscribing to the founding concept of conservatism. The party however is dominated by Trumpism, a pursuit of power at the expense of the ideals articulated in the founding of the Great American Experiment, and the creation of the Republican Party.

The Republican Party has evolved in the last century and a half in two major stages. A capsule view of its first century is as follows:

On the penultimate page (341) of Heather Cox Richardson's, *To Make Men Free: A History of the Republican Party*, there is a paragraph as follows:

“The seeming endless circles of the Republican Party reflect the unresolved tension between equality and property in America. The Declaration of Independence established the

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nation on the principle that all men are created equal, and it seems to promise equality of opportunity to all based on equal access to resources and equal treatment under the law. Then the Constitution established that the nation was also based on the protection of property. These two principles, both central to American identity, came into conflict almost immediately when the founding fathers neglected to guard against the power of wealthy men to swing the government policies in their own favor. The Republican Party founders set out to rectify that oversight, only to be caught by it themselves.”

The last half-century is discussed on the motivated learner platform in the number of entries. A brief excerpt from [Our Democracy is Destroying Itself: Power Without Morality Is Cancerous](#). It is in the last page of that linked item that was written in late 2020. It is also quoted on the third page of [The Fifth Republican Revolution](#). It is excerpted in the box that follows:

“The First Republican Revolution was in the Reagan era centered around the 1980s. The Second Republican Revolution, led by Newt Gingrich, was in the 1990s. It was in the first decade of the 21st century that we had the Third Republican Revolution. The fourth Republican Revolution was arguably started in the second decade of the 21st century when the Republicans in Congress were hardening their obstructionism to the norms of democracy with a high point in refusal to act on President Obama’s nomination to the Supreme Court.”

The obstructionism has been increasing because the conservatism has lost control of the party to Trumpism. Two conservative Republicans are serving on the January 6 Select Committee. It is likely that they will in some way be part of what may become a Grand New Republican Party, if and when there is a [Fifth Republican Revolution](#).

The Liberal View. The liberal view is generally found in the Democratic Party, but the moderates outnumber the liberals. The Democratic Party has faced many problems in the last century, most of which were having to deal with problems created under Republican administrations which led to recessions.

The first leftover problem was the Great Depression in the 1930s. It was so bad that the vast majority of the population bonded together to deal with the problems; the major exception were some of the Republicans who referred to the newly elected president as “that man in the White House.” That that debacle led to “that man in the White House” leading a recovery capitalizing on an ability to have the administration perform much of the work that should’ve been done by Congress. A great deal was done with congressional support, but the pattern changed.

The twenty-first century liberals didn’t quite understand that the newly elected administration, along with a very thin margin in the legislature, did not have the power to deal with the whole nine yards at once. Some progress was made, but enough obstructionism was still present to enable the new administration to do what historically would have been handled by Congress.

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The Great Recession that grew out of the Housing Bubble and Capital Market Freeze, was an encore economic crisis. It was accompanied by the strategic air of the preceding Republican administration and attempting to build a democracy in Afghanistan, in the wake of having done a superb job in dealing with the Osama bin Laden led al-Qaeda, the Islamic terrorist group that attacked the United States on September 11, 2001.

In the intervening period, the last quarter of the twentieth century the Democrats abandoned the blue-collar voters in their anxiety to capitalize on the evolving Information Revolution. Republicans were quick to pick up on the opportunity, although it fostered the this or that approach. In the Dwight David Eisenhower era, the Republican Party had a broad spectrum of membership. After that, its pursuit of power was at the expense of platform evolving to winning even at the expense of societal norms for a free society.

The liberals in the generic sense, and that includes not only Democrats but moderate Republicans would do well to facilitate a return to the pursuit of the ideals articulated in the Declaration of Independence and delete some semblance of playing fair.

Conditions Essential for Unity in Our Democracy

The Paradigm Presented. The paradigm presented on DEEP starts with the biological analogy from the human body applied to the societal body. It is extended to focus on territory and time horizons. It is presented in a narrative form as an educational endeavor.

As discussed on DEEP, learning occurs in multiple ways. It starts by emulating behavior, but is enhanced by games and formal presentation. Of particular importance is one's own experience. That has some limitations elegantly discussed by Michael Lewis in his book *Moneyball: The Art of Winning an Unfair Game*. That book and others is discussed in Appendix for BOOK TWO. It contains the following excerpt from Chapter 4, "Understanding the System," of the main treatise, *American Democracy: Declaration, Pursuit, and Endangerment*, is as follows:

A contemporary statement is in a book by Michael Lewis that made the NY Times Bestseller list, *Moneyball*. The quote referring broadly to psychology and economics (really behavioral science) but particularly in the case of the baseball draft decisions, as follows:

There was, for starters, the tendency of everyone who actually played the game to generalize widely from his own experience. People always thought that their own experience was typical when it wasn't. There was also the tendency to be overly influenced by a guy's most recent experience: what he did last was not necessarily what he would do next. Thirdly – but not lastly – there was the bias toward what people saw with their own eyes, or thought that they had seen.

That context was that the illusions of some provided an opportunity for others with a better understanding of reality to build a better baseball team for less money. The context for our dealing with the same fundamentals of behavioral science is to build a society closer to the ideals espoused in the Declaration of Independence. In order to do that, we turn to discussing a few aspects of injustice in the American political economy preceded by some comments on premises and perspectives.

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We are in the process of developing a new paradigm that goes beyond the analogical use of human biology in order to better understand societal biology. The initial effort is discussed in the fifth chapter (Building a New Paradigm) of BOOK THREE (*American Democracy: The Declaration, Pursuit, and Endangerment*). That chapter has not been updated to include the territorial dimension discussed in this treatise. The third book implicitly contains the time dimension element in its discussion of the *other invisible hand*. It is in the [first chapter](#).

The paradigm is highly interdisciplinary. It blends a multiplicity of disciplines under a strategic umbrella designed to consider patterns likely to emerge from the evolutionary process discussed as *the other invisible hand*. It is a blending of what we have been discussing as the now is the *then* of what we discussed in the fourth chapter (*If We Knew Then, What We Know Now*) of this treatise, *Strategic Guidance Towards Improving Outcomes*.

Our Common Purpose. Our common purpose as a free society was outlined in the Declaration of Independence and codified in our Constitution and at its amendments. That Declaration of Independence was our *first revolution* leading to the Confederation. Our second revolution was the peaceful transformation from the Confederation to a federation in the form of what has become known as the *Great American Experiment*, a democratic republic with a source of authority initially limited to men of age owning property.

It was designed to accommodate pluralism. The Constitution prohibited an official religion, enabling a diversity in thought and practice. It also accommodated societal differences, initially without outlawing slavery.

The suffrage was expanded over time with constitutional amendments. The Civil War was an insurrection in some measure prompted by the advocacy for expansion of slave states engendered in the westward movement. The acceptance of slavery at the time of the conversion of the Confederation to the federation of *the* [sic] United States, it was a matter of accepting pluralism existing in the current conditions.

It is uncertain if and when there would have been a Civil War had the expansion of slavery not been an issue. In any case, the Republican Party was formed on the basis of equality of opportunity. It generated several constitutional amendments focused on equality of opportunity. However, the reality of Dixiecrats eroded the process.

The suffrage process continued with women getting the right to vote by nineteenth constitutional amendment, two decades into the twentieth century. The pursuit of justice has taken time, and has had its regressions. It happened again in the post-World War II era.

The analysis of *terrorist* attack of September 11, 2001 provided an introduction to the founder of this project of a series of nascent disciplines useful for understanding the evolutionary process that provided an external threat to our *Great Experiment*. It centered on complexity science, but involved a diversity of disciplines impacting the evolution of a system. That understanding was essential for developing a strategy to deal with the evolution of the system.

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About a decade later, when this project was started, there were two essays authored by the founder of this enterprise dealing with the regression of our democracy. The first was [Liberty and Justice for All Some](#). The second was [Divisiveness in America](#). Both are appendices to the first of the three books that comprise the trilogy. The trilogy's first book is now classified as BOOK THREE, *American Democracy: The Declaration, Pursuit, and Endangerment*. It was designed to lead to a Declaration of Reform based upon an interdisciplinary team effort to design process reform that would lead to a better achievement in the pursuit of justice, the hallmark of the Great American Experiment.

The second book written, *Perspectives for A Sense of Place: Voter Empowerment*, focuses on facilitating process enabling the individuals to better understand their role in the system, and to perform their responsibilities as well as their rights.

What is now referred to as BOOK ONE (*Common Sense Revisited: America's Third Revolution*), was designed as a hook to enlist motivated learners to pursue a broad-based learning about their rights and responsibilities in living in a free society. It was prompted by the outrageous passing of a so-called tax reform as the only significant legislation of the Trump administration's first year. The so-called reform exacerbated the deficit problem and simply rewarded political supporters for the newly elected president.

What was envisioned as *America's Third Revolution*, was a transition that resembled in some sense movement from a confederation to a federation. As the [first chapter](#) discusses, the domestic threat to our survival was greater than any form threat. Although the link will take you to the first chapter, the box that follows contains the opening paragraph.

Chapter 1
Beyond Common Sense
Stage Setting for the Drama
The Republican Tax Reform Leads to
America's Third Revolution

The internal threat to American Democracy is greater than any of the external threats. The decay in political structure and process triggered a rejection of The Establishment as represented by both of the two major political parties. The rejection of The Establishment was reflected in the 2016 election of a president representative of the decay that has occurred in the American culture, impinging upon the progress towards the ideals of political equality envisioned in the Declaration of Independence.

There was no clue at that time that the newly elected president would fail to observe the tradition of a peaceful transfer of power. We will be discussing the results of the House of Representatives inquiry into the January 6, 2021 assault on the Capitol. We will also be discussing the criminal procedures of the participants and wherever the evidence and due process of law leads the Department of Justice in the performance of its responsibilities.

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At this stage our educational endeavors are designed to gain a better understanding the system, and what it will take in education to better equip the electorate to perform their responsibilities in the selection of the representatives. The education of the representatives is also an issue; a significant point being that John Adams in advocating for a bicameral legislature expected the Senate to be composed of learned members who would serve in the tradition of royalty that looked out for the interest of their subjects. Prior to Donald Trump, the nation only had to presidential impeachment processes. Former President Trump match that number, with no convictions.

The drama will unfold. That link first chapter, readily accessible to the motivated learner, is divided into two sections. The first as noted in the box is "*Stage Setting for the Drama.*" The second as noted in the [table of contents](#) is "*Beyond Common Sense is the Uncommon Sense of a Complexity Perspective.*"

The two essays led to the start of this project in pursuit of our common purpose, the pursuit of justice in a free society, required the development of a paradigm that goes beyond the prevailing closed models used in linear analyses emanating from the age of Enlightenment and its associated Scientific Revolution. Simply put, Adam Smith's invisible hand was a case of emergence that was at the root of modern economics. The other invisible hand as discussed in the [first chapter of what is now book three](#) is a step towards the evolutionary process of complex adaptive systems.

The [fourth](#) and [fifth](#) chapters of BOOK THREE are relevant to *The Paradigm Presented* section that focuses on the analytics. The fifth chapter contains discussion of team formation intended to foster progress. By happenstance, in 2020, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences published a report from its Commission on The Practice of Democratic Citizenship. It is titled *Our Common Purpose: Reinventing American Democracy for the 21st Century*. That report is discussed in the entry on the platform page that is titled [Our Common Purpose](#). It contains a book review of that report.

The opening paragraph of the concluding comments section is as follows: "This review of, OUR COMMON PURPOSE: REINVENTING AMERICAN DEMOCRACY FOR THE 21 ST CENTURY, is posted on the Motivated Learner Platform of the Declaration Era Educational Press (DEEP) website as an encouragement to the websites readership to read the entire booklet, and to enhance their civic engagement. Their comments on the booklet, in the context of the presentations on this website, are welcome."

Trust or Other Form of Reliance. Trust, or other form of reliance, is required for pursuit of common interests. It is acquired through process and/or structure. It starts with caring about one another in family structure, and extends out beyond tribes to others, simply based upon humanitarian considerations.

The scale of the networks makes a significant difference. In small structures with close ties, such as family and friends, the trust is earned over time. In large structures such, business transactions, it may also be earned over time; however, formal agreements may become essential.

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In societal structure, the formal agreements may start with a rule of law. The preceding discussion of our common purpose is predicated upon the rule of law. However, not all behavior is codified in terms of legal enforcement. Indeed, a great deal of justice is achieved through the creation of social capital out of trust in the behavior of others. The integrity of the people involved is critical not only for the observance of the law, in form and intent, but also in the behavior of people relative to the norms of the society.

The nature of legal structure for society, and the nature of norms, vary by culture. The critical elements of Our Great Experiment start with the pursuit of justice within our sovereign territory. Its structure, as discussed, is heavily dependent upon the pluralism facilitating individual choices. The critical elements for liberty go beyond the negative liberty, the constraints for the common good, to the positive liberty, having an equal opportunity.

Our nation was founded on the pursuit of justice; and it made great progress over most of its first two centuries. That progress has been eroded over much of the last half-century. That erosion has provided us with the divisiveness that impairs our pursuit of justice. It is time to pursue substantial reform of the system in order to facilitate justice in not only negative liberty, but positive liberty.

Feelings and Analytics. We are driven by our feelings and analytics. There is an old saying that “emotions trump reason.” Our feelings and reasoning are processed in different parts of the brain. Sensory inputs may arrive prior to reasoning and are influenced by expectations. The process by which we behave is heavily influenced by the environment. That process varies by societal structure, and societal structures also evolve.

The evolution of process and structure has been accelerating in recent centuries. The two analogical models that we have been using, the pandemic and the thinking involved in the unwarranted invasion of Ukraine sovereignty will give us clues as to our nation’s unity in the pursuit of justice.

The next section, *The Future of Our Great Experiment*, is under development. Our earlier discussion provides some clues as to the future of our democracy. The clues that we have received thus far are briefly discussed here in the context of unity.

The main thing we learned from the pandemic, in the context of our local system designed to enhance the paradigm by which we can make better decisions for the **now**, in terms of the long-term consequences, the **now of the future**. Our population in the **then** that will be historically viewed in the future. What will be that assessment of the **then** with regard to our experiences?

At the time this is being drafted, we are approaching the middle of the third year of the pandemic, with a feeling by most of us that it been transformed to an endemic. At this time there has probably been about one million deaths. Our domestic death rate in our *Great American Experiment* for the COVID-19 nineteen is significantly higher than other advanced economies.

While it may still be early to tell how history will have recorded our behavior, here are some ideas to ponder. The first is that our democracy was designed to pursue justice, in the sense of overcoming the injustices of King George III. It was not designed for national health control.

Second, the then president focused his interests on being reelected, and not on a national strategy for dealing with the pandemic under conditions of division of responsibility with state authorities. The major exception was the excellent job he did in fostering a rapid provision of vaccine development and production.

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Third, in a society with freedom for information the then president intentionally misled the public with knowingly providing untruths. This was further pursued with a divisiveness using a health issue as a political issue.

As a result of these and other conditions, domestic unity was undermined.

By way of contrast, domestic unity was fostered in our nation's approach to dealing with the unprovoked invasion of Ukraine, a democratic sovereign state, by another sovereign state, Russia, under the leadership of an autocrat. The inhumanity that violated respect for sovereignty that moved to the stage of war crimes, generated an out for of support by other democracies.

The key point here is that the last few centuries the global environment has evolved such that a substantially increase in the percentage of global population has operated under the belief and behavior of expanding human rights. This is in contrast to authoritarian governments that dominated earlier periods in history.

Labeling the battle between autocracy and democracy is an oversimplification. Half of the representatives of democratic nations did not vote to remove Russia from the membership of the unit dealing with the abuse of human rights. Substantial portion democratic political economies not only have substantial trade relations with Russia, but some of them are in the regression similar to ours, a movement towards autocracy.

The driving force for aid to Ukraine is a respect for humanity. That force does not stand alone, because there is a regard for international law and norms. That global unity in opposing the unwarranted invasion of a sovereign state, is substantially buttressed by a long view protection of the institutional arrangements of sovereign states. The justice being pursued here starts with human rights and moves on to self-determination. It is the pursuit of justice.

We will proceed to finish this chapter with and analyses of some factors that will affect the future of our democracy. That will lead to the next chapter that will report on progress in the pursuit of justice dealing with the insurrection of January 6, 2021.