

Some reflections on
“The Perspectives of the XXI
Century – The Gordian Knots
and Alexandrian Solutions”

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1. Introduction

The crisis of the world financial system, which is worrying people and governments as well as businessmen around the world in the recent weeks is confirming, that the intention of The Club of Rome presented in 2007, to create a platform for exchange of views of experts with the aim to elaborate the framework of a New Path for World Development, was absolute on the target of the Club's mission. The Conference in Warsaw is one of the high-level experts meetings organized to fulfill this task.

The papers prepared as the base for discussion on the Conference are really excellent – the Authors are going very deep into the subject, touching wide range of problems. The presented concept of the gordian knots and the proposed way to solve them by implementation of Alexandrian Solutions is looking very promising. However, the globalization and the complexity of the social processes are making the implementation of such way of solving problems very risky. Besides of that, the gordian knots defined by Opala and Rybinski (6) and the economic and social processes discussed in the papers do not cover some very important aspects of the subject of the Conference. Some reflections on these aspects are presented below.

2. The processes missed

2.1.

Professor Bohdan Jałowiecki (2) – commenting the book of Jacques Attali, and professor Antoni Kukliński (4) in their papers are presenting very interesting description of the world's development in the previous centuries, including the XXth century. What is strange in their comments, is that both authors overlooked the process described by Patrick Buchanan (1) as “Death of the West”. Buchanan has also been overlooked by Andrzej P. Wierzbicki (13), who mentioned many authors who wrote on the changes of the civilization, caused by the growing role of media and telecommunication. Buchanan wrote his book based on the experience of the United States of America, but – since the USA have been the leader of the western world in

the recent decades, as it has been stated by both of the Authors – the process of social destruction streamed to the other Western countries, with tragic results as it was the case in the United States. As Buchanan is describing it in his book, **the intellectual socialist revolution**, initiated by the “Frankfurt’s School”, exploited the media, including the cinema and TV, to transform the Americans by changing their minds and their values to a total different ones. This is explaining the question put by professor Bohdan Jałowiecki, why Attali named Los Angeles – the center of the American cinema industry - as the “heart” of the world since 1980.

The socialist intellectual destruction went very deep into the minds of people of the West – and is explaining:

- the lack of personal and business ethic, the real reason of the recent crisis of the American Wall Street and many other financial institutions of the West,
- the negative attitude of the Western women to the birth of children,
- the lack of need to create families,
- the fall of the christian church,
- the destruction of the educational role of the schools,
- the destruction of the ethic and moral of individuals.

As the outcome of that long lasting process, which destroyed the confidence and trust between people, between banks, institutions and corporations, the global financial crisis has started recently. “Capitalism Has Left the Building” (9), and governments had no choice but to nationalize the main banks and financial institutions, using for that purpose horrible big funds, which they do not have, as most of the national budgets are in deep deficits.

Professor Nouriel Roubini (7) says: “The crisis was caused by the largest leveraged asset bubble and credit bubble in the history of humanity, where excessive leveraging and bubbles were not limited to housing in the U.S, but also to housing in many other countries and excessive borrowing by financial institutions and some segments of the corporate sector and of public sector in many and different economies: an housing bubble, a mortgage bubble, an equity bubble, a bond bubble, a credit bubble, a commodity bubble, a private equity bubble, a hedge funds bubble are all now bursting at once in the biggest real sector and financial sector deleveraging since the Great Depression”.

Since the negative social and intellectual processes which damaged the USA went on also in Europe, they brought as one of their result the aging of the whole European population, named by Paweł Opała and Krzysztof Rybiński (6) as the second Gordian knot.

Unfortunately, that disease came also to Poland, and - besides of the falling rate of birth, the crisis of the family, the crisis of the catholic church, the destruction of the system of education - the process of destroying all possible authorities is still on its way. How deep went the destruction of the values of the Polish young generation presented Jacek Kurzepa in his book "Zagrozona niewinność"(5)

2.2.

On that way we are coming to the second process, which has been missed by the Authors – **the destruction of the democratic system**, mentioned much wider, than described by Paweł Opała and Krzysztof Rybiński (6) in the third Gordian Knot – "The rise of China, the failure of democracy".

The failure of democracy can not be considered only in connection with the rise of the new superpower – the China. The rise of China has been presented in an excellent way in particular by Opała and Rybiński in their contribution (6). However – we are having to do not only with a failure of democracy, we see that the democracy has in fact been destroyed in the leading democratic countries, causing their fall as world leaders. Professor Bohdan Jalowiecki (2) is naming the outcome as "degeneration", professor Antoni Kukliński in (4) is describing it as "the drama of the Western Civilization" and – following Oswald Spengler – "Untergang des Abend Landes", with "the crisis of the will of life, the crisis of innovation and the will to power".

Professor Kukliński's remark on the arrogant version of unilateralism, presented by the President of the United States of America George W. Bush, is bringing us closer to identification of the real reasons of the fall of democracy in the Western World. The reasons are based on the changes in the minds of people in the recent decades – result of the success achieved by the mentioned above "Frankfurt's School", which initiated the intellectual socialist revolution: as professor Bohdan Jalowiecki is stressing in (2), people do not elect, as it was since before, representatives who defended the interests of their class, but those, who promise global happiness and confidence and who are looking nice on the TV. The result is catastrophic:

the power is granted to people, absolutely not prepared to carry on their duties in governing the countries. The globalization and the media, the computer & telecommunication revolution are making these duties much more difficult, thus requiring higher level of knowledge and experience. Unfortunately, the practice is showing rather a total different picture, with devastating results.

There are two very good examples of that:

George W. Bush, deciding to go into the war with Iraq, brought the budget of the United States of America for many years to a deep deficit and to the situation, in which China, who is buying since years the US Treasury Bills amounting now to trillions of US Dollars, is in a position to destroy America in a very easy way: using not the military means of power, but buying assets of the key American banks and corporations (process already going on). The decision, taken recently by the US Congress following the request of the US President, allowing the US Government to use 700 bln US Dollars to save the US financial institutions and Banks from bankruptcy within the prevailing global financial crisis, in a situation of the deep deficit of the US Budget, is putting the United States of America much deeper in hands of the leaders of communist China, who de facto are financing the US war in Iraq and Afganistan. It seems, that because of lack of knowledge and experience George W. Bush did not realize, that taking these decisions he is de facto selling the United States of America to the government of communist China.

The second example of lack of knowledge by politicians in power has been presented by professor Andrzej P. Wierzbicki (13). The example is concerning Poland: her council of ministers decided in 1991 to diminish the State budget financing of the science institutions from 1,2% to 0,7% of the GNP; another council of ministers diminished in 2007 the State budget financing expenditures of the science institutions further - to the shocking level 0,33% of the GDP, with devastating result to the Polish science institutions.

The question arises, what is the real reason for getting to power by persons, who are absolutely not prepared to carry on in a responsible way their duties in governing the country, what is resulting in the fall of democracy?

The answer is lying very deep – in the way these people have been broadened up and educated, and this in the decades which past in the XXth century, within the framework presented by professor Antoni Kuklinski (4), but under influence of the intellectual socialist revolution disease, mentioned above in

this paper. Professor Bohdan Jalowiecki in his contribution (2) presented the way, the young generation has been and is still broadened up under dominance of the TV and other media. The internet and the computer replaced practically the parents. It should be added, that some decades ago it was firstly the American cinema industry, with Los Angeles and California as the capital of the modern American society, which changed the minds of the young generation, representatives of which came to power some decades later, shaping America according to ideas, brought to the United States by the “Frankfurt’s School”.

As mentioned earlier, the main idea of the “Frankfurt’s School” was to destroy capitalism intellectually by changing the attitude of people to the personal and business ethic, with the intention to erase it. Looking for the roots of the global financial crisis we can see, that the lack of personal ethic is making people thinking, that spending more than one is earning is the normal way of life. The billions of dollars of credit cards debts not paid back, mortgage loans taken while earnings received are not allowing to repay the interest, not saying about the mortgage loan itself, purchase of cars and other goods on credit – all this is showing the attitude of the average Americans in the recent decades – “take from live everything what you can, do not look what will happen tomorrow”.

Unfortunately, this approach has been taken also by the irrational high remunerated “big cats” – the presidents of the banks, financial institutions, corporations, as well as by the ministers – members of the government, and the US President himself. As the Special Report of “The Economist” (12) is showing, “governments bear direct responsibility for some of today’s troubles. Misguided subsidies, on everything from biofuels to mortgage interest, have distorted markets. Loose monetary policy helped to inflate a global credit bubble”. The misleading decisions have been taken by particular members of the governments and by members of the Parliaments including the US Congress – some of the paragraphs of the Paulson’s Act are clearly showing lack of ethic and fight for individual gains rather than of knowledge on the real situation of the United States. “The Economist” is quoting the President of France, Nicolas Sarkozy saying, that the world needed to “bring ethics to financial capitalism”.

The crisis of the political, social, intellectual and business leadership, caused by the ideological disease prevailing in the United States and in Western Europe in the recent decades, emerged also in Poland in the period since

1990, after the big change in the history of Poland, introduced by Solidarity Trade Union led by its Leader Lech Walesa. Professor Antoni Kuklinski in his paper (3) is describing this crisis as result of lack of strategic thinking of the particular governments of the Newly Born Poland and is naming it as the tragedy of Poland's development.

2.3.

Besides of the destruction of the personal and business ethic the other main target of the intellectual socialist revolution initiated by the "Frankfurt's School" was to **destroy the christianity and its main global institution – the catholic church** – seen as the intellectual base for the capitalist system because the role religion is playing in life of individuals (the thesis of Karl Marks: religion - the opium of the nations). Also this target has been achieved within the recent decades of the XXth century: the falling authority of the church in the countries of the West, the falling number of people attending masses, young people not interested in learning and implementing in their live the decalogue and other principles of the catholic religion – all this contributed to the situation, in which millions of people, declaring their membership to the catholic church, do not see doing wrong by cheating the government in tax and rental purposes, cheating their bosses or their neighbours, using abortion as the easiest way to solve the problem of pregnancy, or making sex not with the legal husband. As professor Bohdan Jalowiecki is stressing (2), this situation is convinient for the islam – the religion of the poor, of which its fundamental parts see the destruction of the Western christian world as the only way out from their fate – from the poor life.

Why is understanding of this process so important? Because problems caused by aging of the population of Europe can not be solved with succes by the mass migration from the poorer countries (the second path mentioned by Opala and Rybinski, commenting the second Gordian Knot). The big demographic potential of the muslim countries means, that the migration to Europe would come from these countries. Confrontation of the catholic or christian population with the stream of muslim immigrants will create very big problems because of different approaches of both religions: the muslim population will bring in their values, their way of life and their habits, which are total differrent to the christian ones. The construction of new big moshees in Germany, France and the U.K. is creating a situation, in which thousands of muslims will be coming together, and in a very short time the big crowds of muslims will create political parties and formulate political

requests. Profesor Antoni Kuklinski in (4) is correctly stressing within the triangle of leading religions, that “the religion will be an important element of the global scene and a potential participant in the creation of the global order”. However, the picture will not be painted by the fundamentalistic atheism, but by the confrontation between the rising power of islam and the loosing power catholic church. And it will not be the confrontation of the differrent kind of faith: it will be the confrontation of total differrent way of life and total differrent approach to life and death. That difference made the idea of the President of USA George W. Bush - to introduce the Western style democracy in Iraq and in Afganistan – not realistic from the very beginning.

These reflections on the processes missed are bringing us to presentation of further Gordian Knots to the four formulated already by Opala and Rybinski (6).

3. Further Gordian Knots

New media and New technology destroing the personal and business values and ethic

The fifth Gordian Knot should be seen in context of exploitation of the media, cinema industry and the new technologies by the “Frankurt’s School” to change minds of the Americans according to the aims of the intellectual socialist revolution - the desease, which with the new media and technology brought the “Death of the West” also to Europe. It became easier to transform the minds of the young generation by this desease beccause the new technology brought dramatic changes in the way of life, which was more attractive than to observe the old, boring rules of behavior, followed by their parents and grandparents. Within this process also the professional approach, requiring deep knowledge of the subject, has been treated in the same way – as boring. The rising necessity of the professional approach has been stressed in particular by professor Wierzbicki (13).

Rising national feelings pressing to get into own national state

Within the contradictory social, cultural and economic processes going on in the world, the tendency based on tribal egoism to get out from the multilingual State and create own state with one language and one feeling on the nation is in coming. Professor Bohdan Jalowiecki in (2) is showing

Kosowo, Baskon Land, Catalonia, Scotland and other small nations fighting for their independence. The result – the further division of Europe – is not strenghtening this part of the world, in its fight for the right place in competition with other big world players, in particular with China.

Different values and traditions of dynamic Islam in its aggressive move into Western countries and societies

European countries, which in the recent decades “imported” thousands of Muslim immigrants to close the gap resulting from aging of the local population, are having already big problems to cope with the muslim’s population habits and in particular with education of the children. As mentioned earlier, the problems will rise with completion in the big cities of Europe of the new big moshees, where thousands of muslims will be gathering for their religious activities. It will be only a matter of time, when these gatherings will be transformed into political meetings. The example of Iraq is very clear in that matter. In a democratic state, a not big group of determined people can in the beginning only try to influence the behavior of the government, but in the next step it will aim to take over the power and the control over the other parts of the society.

Globalisation and the falling role of the multicultural State

There is a contradiction between the recent activities of the governments, trying to get control on the global financial crisis by nationalizing the key banks and financial institutions and by pumping mountains of money into the financial system, and the long term process, described by professor Bohdan Jalowiecki (2) as a global privatization of all possible state institutions. Professor Jalowiecki brough as the best example the position of FIFA – the International Federation of Football Associations, which is creating its own laws functioning above the laws of the particular countries, generating astronomic incooms, regulating international transfer of players, dictating governments on where to construct stadions and how the stadions should look like, where to build roads, hotels and airports – all this justified by preparation of the next global show for the global public. There is no doubt, that this long term process will prevail, and as Jaques Attali is saying, in the future other international institutions will gain power similar or greater than FIFA is disposing right now.

4. Conclusions

The presented reflections are showing, that the reasons of the current situation in Europe and its prospects in the coming decades must be seen much deeper – the reasons are in the minds of people of Europe, minds changed totally in the recent decades under influence of the American disease, described by Buchanan as process of “Dying of the West”. The obvious defeat of the capitalist system, reflected in the prevailing right now global financial crisis, and nationalization of banks taken by governments as a remedy to get the crisis under control also in Europe is demonstrating the paradox: the crisis has started in the United States of America – in the country, which is having most of the Noblists in economy. Nobody can explain, why all banks lost right now the confidence and trust one to another – the only explanation is lack of personal and business ethic, prevailing in all circles of the banking communities of the West – result of the American disease mentioned earlier.

Because the reasons are so deep – in the ethic, in the moral behavior of people and in their minds - the main efforts to solve the problems identified in the Gordian Knots must be directed to the way, the young generation is broadened up and educated. It is a long and difficult way to go, within “processes of long duration and turning points” as it has been stressed by professor Antoni Kuklinski (4). On that way, implementation of Adrian Solutions must be considered very cautious.

Let us hope, that wise people will prevail in the process of creation of the new global order, and will ensure, that Europe will be getting the right place on the New Path of World Development.

The main actions needed to be undertaken urgently are:

- Creation of an international group of scientists with the aim to elaborate plan of action directed to turn back the destruction caused by the ideology of the “Frankfurt School”
- Introduction of the expression “Death of Europe” as basic into the Club of Rome Plan of Action within the New Path of Development
- Introduction of Laws forbidding demoralization of youth by film and TV means

- Creation of European Movement for Family, promoting family as the basic form of life of individuals and of nations
- Putting the Motherhood as the most favourable role of women in the society and the main way to achieve happiness in their life
- Introduction of new approach in educating and broadening up girls and boys in their future role as parents

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