Preventing the Next Pandemic

A New European Health Security Council or Prime Ministerial Committee

An All Industry Sectors Platform Initiative?

By Prof. Mark Eyskens and Rio Praaning Prawira Adiningrat
Brussels, 18 August 2020
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Post-COVID-19



Forecast of COVID-19 economic damage (World Bank. Global Economic Prospects, June 2020)

Global GDP contraction of 5,2%

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East Asia and the Pacific GDP growth of 0,5%

Deepest recession in decades

Latin America GDP contraction of 4,7%

Europe and Central Asia GDP contraction of 4,7%

North America GDP contraction of 6,2%

South Asia GDP contraction of 2,7%

Middle East and North Africa GDP contraction of 4,2%

Sub-Saharan Africa GDP contraction of 2,8%

E.g. UK economy shrinks by record 20% in April (Financial Times)



Forecast of AMR economic damage

100 trillion Dollars in additional healthcare costs & loss of productivity

(UK Review on Antimicrobial Resistance, 2016)





Insurance

Expected global loss of USD 203 billion

Tourism

Estimated global loss of USD 80 billion in Q1 2020

Aviation

Worldwide loss of passenger revenues in 2020: USD 113 billion

Hospitality

in monthly hotel occupancy rates for May 2020 globally compared to May 2019

Transport

Global freight forwarding market expected to contract by 7.5%

In most cases: worst crisis ever faced

Bloomberg, IATA, Ti-Insight, UNWTO, STR

"For me, it is crystal clear – we need to build a stronger European Health Union" Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, State of the Union Address September 2020



BUT: European Parliament wants more Direct Action particularly on API pollution and AMR

European Parliament resolution on a European One Health Action Plan against Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) (2017/2254(INI)) of 13 September 2018

European Parliament Resolution on the EU's public health strategy post-COVID-19 (2020/2691(RSP)) of the 7th of July 2020

"Calls on the Commission to propose the **creation of a European Health Response Mechanism (EHRM)** to respond to all types of health crises, to strengthen operational coordination at EU level, and to monitor the constitution and the triggering of the strategic reserve of medicines and medical equipment and ensure its proper functioning"

European Parliament Motion for a resolution on a strategic approach to pharmaceuticals in the environment (2019/2816(RSP)) of 9 September 2020

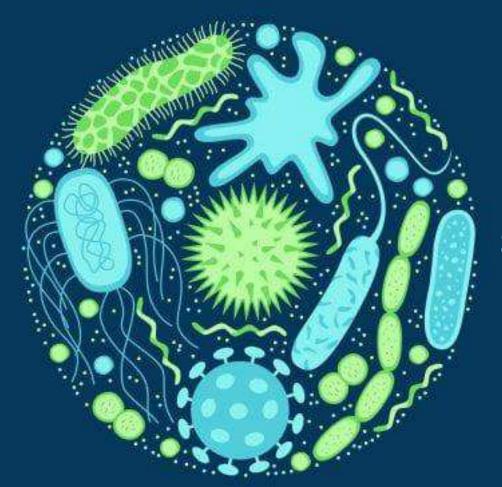
"Parliament on September 10, 2020 declared that the COM insufficiently acted and presented a serious delay in developing concrete actionable plans and targets from the 2019 Communication. With a Motion for a Resolution, MEPs stressed for more careful use of medicines, the development of greener manufacturing and better waste management in the EU



2020

700 000 annual deaths globally

1.5 billion per year in healthcare costs and productivity losses



2050

At current resistance rates, the total GDP effect in OECD, accounting for increased healthcare expenditure, would amount to 2.9 trillion USD by 2050. Globally it could push up to \$100 trillion

10 million deaths annually

Could push 28 million more people into poverty

Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in *numbers*



AMR is caused by overuse of antibiotics in agriculture and healthcare

AMR has left us with but a few effective antibiotics. However, a systemic failure prevents the invention and production of new ones.

The current system makes health security a business of companies.

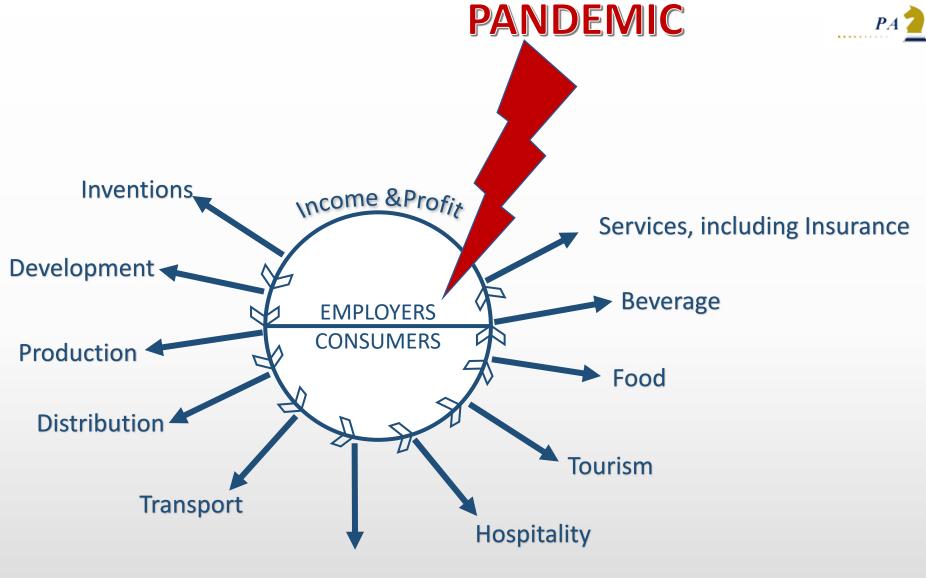
The pharma business is obviously for profit. In its letter of 10/01/2007 the Commission misjudged their role and trusted them with Europe's Health Security. This must change. Now.

Before an AMR Pandemic surprises us all.

"It is now evident that Public Health and the Economy are one and the same"

Lord Jim O'Neill (former Commercial Secretary to the UK Treasury, former head of the 2016 UK Review on Antimicrobial Resistance, and former Chief Economist for Goldman Sachs) speaking at a PA webinar on AMR, 4 June 2020.





Ports: sea/air



The European Commission has shown its limits in dealing with COVID and AMR

"There is little evidence that the health burden of AMR has reduced."

15 November 2019: EU Court of Auditors Report on DG SANTE's work to

tackle AMR (despite spending 1,5 billion Euro mainly on studies)

16 September 2020: European Commission President Von der Leyen does not

mention one coordinating body to prevent/prepare for next Pandemics



PREVENTION of Pandemics: NOT TO BE MIXED WITH OTHER HEALTH ISSUES

Current plans to fund DG SANTE with 9 bn Euro include over 10 *other* priorities → ineffective, untransparent, unplayable

All industrial sectors need <u>only one</u> FOCAL POINT that has <u>only one</u> task: the prevention of <u>any next pandemic</u>

What is needed:

- Highest level of coordination and management
- Securing sufficient medicine (repatriation of EU Industries, Strategic Reserves, development of new medicines including alternatives)
- Immediate Policy Measures to curb the threat of AMR

Institutional Renewal



Existing 2013 Health Security Committee 'promoted' to a Health Security Council at Prime OR! Ministerial level

- New Prime Minister level Council. May require a change to the Treaties. May take time
- Has its own DG and budget

Health Security Prime Minister Committee

- Prime Ministers lead, meet every six months or monthly in times of crisis; Ministers of Health meet monthly
- Committee has its own permanent staff and budget
- Prime Ministers/Health Ministers in the lead
- NEW Directorate-General or Permanent Staff
 - ❖ NEW and unique budget
- ❖ Industrial-Consumers-Expert/Council in supervisory role
- ❖ Only focus: prevent/prepare for/pre-empt any next pandemic

Institutional Renewal



Science and Civic Society
Advisory Council

Health Security Prime Minister Committee

Full-time Staff + Budget

Monitoring and assessing future pandemics

Coordinating/directing EU and MS pandemic prevention/preparedness

Developing/producing and stocking of strategic medicines (vaccines, new antibiotics, alternatives to antibiotics)



Timeline

2013 Establishment of the current EU Health Security

Committee. Main focus: response to biological

weapons use

2013-2020 Indecisive discussion on broadening of role

2020 All industry sectors present emergency proposal to EU

national parliaments, European Council, European

Parliament, European Commission: morph the EU

Health Security Committee into an EU

Health Security Council or Prime Ministerial

Committee



Timeline

October 2020	Immediate preparatory steps towards All
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Industry Platform on EU Health Security Council or Prime Ministerial

Committee on Pandemic Prevention

November 2020 Start of the Platform

November 2020 Formal memorandum signed by all major European industry sectors and

relevant industry associations calling on all EU institutions to establish EU

Health Security Council on Pandemic Prevention

December 2020 URGENCY DEBATE in European Parliament on Platform call

December 2020 Decision by German EU Presidency (Angela Merkel) to start formal multi-

stakeholder EU working group on the establishment of a new EU Health

Security Council or Prime Ministerial Committee on Pandemic Prevention

PA Europe and PA Asia provide holistic and integrated advice. They have a triple security focus:

Water Food Jobs



The PA International Foundation adds its own experience and networks. It initiates and organizes top-level conferences, (global) webinars, multi-stakeholder platforms and academic chairs. In the past 5 years its focus is on combating emerging diseases – in particular a potential Antimicrobial Resistance pandemic, a multiple of the danger that the coronavirus represents. In 2014 PA published its first global AMR top expert poll: over 80% demanded immediate action to prevent a devastating pandemic in the next 2-5 years.



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