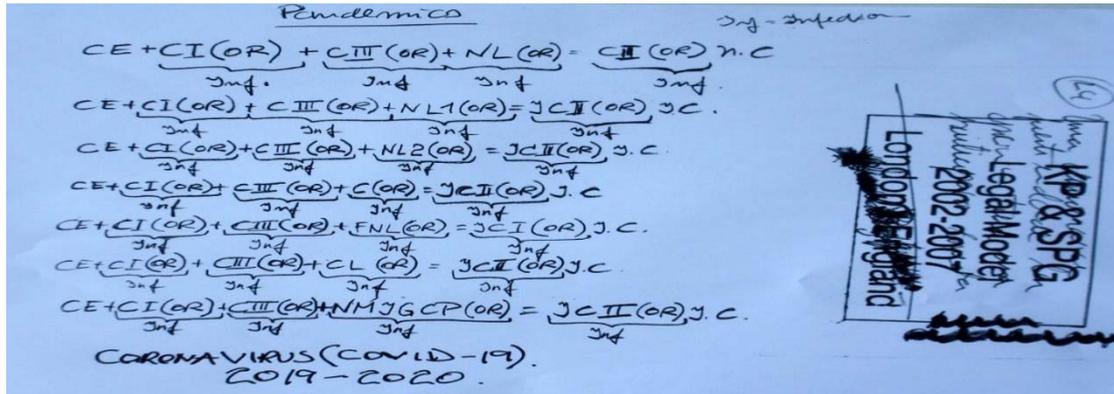


Press Release 280 Pysdens Solicitors London 2020

K. Pysden / S. Perez – Goldzveig and International Team.

<https://www.pysdens.com/index.php/press-releases/>



Disclaimer: This is not legal advice but general information. We do not advise any party to act based on the contents of this article without first consulting a solicitor with regard to the particular facts of their case. No liability is accepted by the writers in the event of loss by any party relying and/or acting on the contents of this article.

PYSDENS COVID-19: Mr Henry Paulson Former US Treasury Secretary - is it Possible to Understand Globalisation?

1. **Mr Henry Paulson - FT Interview:** On 17/04/20 Mr H. Paulson expressed concerns as to the future of world economy post COVID-19. In summary he asserted the view that post COVID-19 the laws and regulations of countries could create restrictions affecting the inflow and outflow of goods and services thereby interfering with the process of globalisation creating limitations for citizens, businesses and world organisations. He also stressed that in his view we must rescue the best features of globalisation otherwise restrictive policies would affect social stability.
2. **Globalisation:** many institutions, academics, politicians and world press use the word globalisation but what do they all mean by this term? Some assert that Africa was the origin of mankind, while others claim it is Europe therefore unless we find the origin of humans in each continent at the same point in time, we have to begin with saying that globalisation begins for mankind at the moment people began to leave Africa or Europe to live in other continents. Even this is not a sufficient definition of the origin

of globalisation as this ought to include other living species. Whales travel large distances to Baja California from Alaska for example. The animal kingdom has a large number of migrations. We are also aware that birds travel across continents in search for warmer temperatures. Therefore this lead us to the conclusion that globalisation is not just an exclusive activity to mankind and probably existed well before mankind as an activity. This is important because if we take policy decisions based on concepts that are not universally accepted, what kind of decisions are we taking?

3. **Human Globalisation:** at Pysdens together with our research unit *TheHouseofBranchofGold* and our international team, we have examined and still are examining what globalisation entails. We would tentatively conclude that our research has lead us to the same principle applied by Plato in his book “Republic” when he stated that need is the mother of all inventions. Humans have to interact in order to satisfy needs therefore we suggest that globalisation as far humans are concerned is nothing more than human interaction with its surroundings and others on a global scale which has been developing since people left their origin continent. From this starting point we contend that as long as humans have been on earth, they have been interacting with their surroundings and others to satisfy their needs. Although human interaction at least at the beginning of human existence may have appeared to be local on the face of it, it has never been as human interaction with surroundings and others has always been subject to the environment and the environment has always been subject to elements and processes of planet earth and beyond and in mankind’s race to harness its surroundings and control them to its requirements, the effects of human interaction local or global, have “polluted” the planet. The question therefore is, as time has passed, has human behaviour resulted from need or desire? We published our Commercial Guide III which deals with commerce, the law and the environment and in there we found a connection with globalisation in that global human interaction in certain cases has shown significant speed never seen before which, in turn, speeds up pollution with the assistance of technology using fossil fuels. In other cases the speed of globalisation is slower and even may not exist where small organisations have a low carbon footprint but sell their wares abroad or still have that low carbon footprint and sell to others in their village. Therefore on the spectrum of human interaction there are myriad different speeds and effects of developments. Therefore globalisation cannot be defined or even considered in simple terms because human interaction occurs at different rates in different amounts involving many various elements and processes.
4. **What does Mr Paulson mean by the best parts of Globalisation?** H.L.A. Hart the British legal philosopher said that in order to achieve social control in a large group it is necessary to have a general framework as the “main instrument”, which means that a general framework would work better than giving instructions to each individual of a large group. It is plain that humans behave in an immense variety of ways whether singly or in groups, and to have a framework designed to work for each one of them or each group, is impractical in terms of making sure that individual rules are followed according to each individual or group. On the other hand, general principles may be so wide that individual and group needs may be overlooked within that general scope. Both frameworks carry danger. In the case of globalisation, is it possible that governments are using a wide general definition of what globalisation is in order to create light touch regulations which have resulted in a world of open borders and low restrictions which, in turn, has assisted large commercial entities to grow and to develop

in an unrestrained fashion without consideration of how this is affecting the environment and the rights of smaller operations? This is why we need to be aware of what is meant by globalisation before we look at what are the best parts of it and what are the worst that need to be discarded.

5. **The Future of Globalisation:** COVID-19 is resulting in the national and global lack of medical equipment needed to fight the disease which causes chaos for governments and is putting in danger the health of patients and health personnel. The supply chain of what should be considered necessary goods and the insurance of it operating in times of catastrophe has been left unattended by numerous governments around the world. Before COVID-19 Chile is a country considered by many as an example of open commercial borders, which appears to be one of the best features of globalisation in Mr Paulson's view. Perhaps therefore he would agree with Chile's economic policy as an example of a best feature of globalisation. However, the citizens were not satisfied with the results of this open policy and it became the subject of massive protests against the neo-liberal economic approach which had affected the necessary supply chain of public transport which then led to destruction of the transport network, supermarkets and businesses leaving the citizens unable to access many basic needs. Therefore one has to question how this open border approach has been good for Chile's people. Other examples of pre-COVID-19 events arguably caused by globalisation such as the effect of Brexit in the UK and EU and the China/US trade war. These events were in motion when COVID-19 appeared and already affecting different people and different groups to different degrees and may yet prove to worsen the effect of COVID-19 and all stem from the tension between global dealings and who and how they actually benefit individuals and groups. We cannot continue referring to globalisation as if it were a unique phenomenon that can benefit all because human interaction has a narrow as well as a wider effect for mankind as well as planet Earth. There are complex cause and effect processes at work and human interaction needs management and that management should strive to be fair. The concept of keeping the "best features" of globalisation depends on from whose perspective that exercise is carried out which could not only be detrimental to many individuals and groups but everyone if the environment is allowed to suffer continuously in the process. We need to begin from the concept of human need rather than that of the "best features" of globalisation which have come a long way from need into desire which may take us all on a very damaging course particularly in terms of fairness and equity between people and groups and what happens to the environment in which we all live.

We at Pysdens Solicitors make every effort to keep our expenses to a minimum in order to pass our savings to our clients. Our fees are very competitive which, in times of economic difficulties, is important to consider. Our policy is to resolve disputes early rather than to litigate.

Disclaimer: This is not legal advice but general information. We do not advise any party to act based on the contents of this article without first consulting a solicitor with regard to the particular facts of their case. No liability is accepted by the writers in the event of loss by any party relying and/or acting on the contents of this article.

Note: In producing this press release by Pysdens Solicitors, the models published in books entitled "GUIDELINES TO CONSIDER IN RESPECT OF COMMERCIAL DEALINGS" (CI); "GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL LEGAL & COMMERCIAL STRATEGY" (CIII) and the draft "THE DARWIN PROJECT: UNIVERSAL CODE" (CIV) by S. Perez-Goldzveig and K.Pysden forming part of the research and development programme "COMMERCIAL GUIDE INITIATIVE" by S. Perez-Goldzveig and K.Pysden being part of "TheHouseofBranchofGold" were used with the authorisation of the authors.

Artwork by Pysdens Solicitors, PGB Artistic Productions.

Contact: sam.perez@pysdens.com

Pysdens Solicitors

Tower 42

25 Old Broad Street - 21/04/20

