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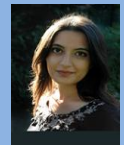
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Multi-polarity will increase. Within regions there will be the protection of possibly essential products. Neoliberalism will lose at the international economics level but also on the issues with Keynesians, as it is clear that money has not to be earned by the state, but is created.



Dr. Kamal Makili Aliyev
South Caucasus/Azerbaijan

While COVID-19 pandemic rages globally, a lot of attention has been concentrated on the risk groups of population based on the age (older groups of the population) or on the existing medical/health conditions. However, there are other objective factors that can put large groups of populations at risk. For example, if a population is affected by armed conflict. While the attention of the states is focused on the internal situations with their respective COVID-19 outbreaks and the financial and aid resources are directed primarily to medical healthcare systems, states affected by the armed conflicts are now particularly vulnerable. Unfortunately, when it comes to an armed conflict, our region of South Caucasus hosts several of them. The situation is not in the extreme yet by far. However, severe worsening of the situation can be exacerbated by the intrinsic vulnerability of South Caucasus due to the 'simmering' armed conflicts. Thus, more attention should be paid to the establishment of peace for the good of all those affected by humanitarian needs as well as the pandemic. States need to come together in these difficult times, despite their previous rivalries and focus on the needs of the vulnerable populations.



Mona Kanwal Sheikh

Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS)

“The Corona pandemic will probably be the 9/11 of this decade: a global event that affects us so much that it will end up expanding and challenging our perception of security, and the way to deal with threats. Suddenly, everyone, every citizen, plays a crucial role in defeating the new threat, and must take up the duty of protecting the nation state - not just the trained vanguard of soldiers. The current crisis will also alert us towards the significance of transnational threats that we can't really detect with drones and spies. The pandemic leaves many ripples in the pond, and will undoubtedly leave an impact on many dimensions of global politics: it justifies autocratic crisis-policies overruling principles of democracy, liberalism and human rights, reinvigorates inequality and sectarian nationalism, questioning the internationalists among us and our ability to unite across borders when it really matters. Not least it provides ideological ammunition about the approaching apocalypse to millennial movements, hence boosting rather than overruling other types of security threats.”



Shehzad H. Qazi

China Beige Book International

“The coronavirus pandemic has plunged the world into the worst recession since the 2008 financial crisis. The economic fallout is hurting not just developed markets but also emerging and frontier markets, which have the added disadvantage of lacking strong institutions and well developed medical infrastructure to cope with the current crisis. At a broader level, the pandemic has also exposed the challenge of dealing with closed off and authoritarian states like China and Iran, where vital information on the spread of the virus cannot be credibly determined by the international community. On the other hand, it has also given a boost to nationalist and protectionist sentiment in the west, especially the United States, where there is increasingly momentum to "de-couple" from China economically and especially when it comes to the manufacturing of pharmaceutical and healthcare products, now deemed to be of the highest national security importance.”