

## Rethinking the Future is Urgent – How we are going to live and work

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**COVID-19 is having an unprecedented impact on the world in terms of health, families and life through to economic and potentially other aspects of society. Many as yet unanswered questions exist about whether it was predictable, foreseeable, preventable and how manageable.**

That aside, COVID-19 can have a strategic and structural lasting benefit for mankind, unthought-of even last year. Global awakening and realisation are occurring. Rethinking how we are going to live and work is the immediate agenda with profound implications. Non-decisions are unthinkable. Treating 'now' as disruption, greater global integration, resilience, improvement, innovation and sustainability are available and urgently needed, leading to a better world.

The world has been induced into the greatest Vulnerability or Exposure in its existence. Critical supply-chains have become a web of inter-dependency and potential interruption, undermining sovereignty and security, and potentially producing the greatest trigger for global conflict in our history.

Globalisation has been a natural and positive development but globalisation without national governance and national resilience is a global risk. Every national risk management plan has suddenly become a temporary illusion. Beyond the Global Financial Crisis, natural disasters such as bushfires, COVID-19 and more, relying on traditional risk management processes has produced a dangerous failure to act faster.

This failure has exacerbated a failure by 'short-term' leaders to think outside obsolete machinery-of-government walls: both nationally and globally. Situational awareness is a myth, not only overlooked but also unchallenged by failed risk management processes.

The world needs to move quickly to bring about leadership paradigm change, namely:

1. Revising machinery-of-government thinking and structures, both globally and nationally, creating capability and interest in protecting against critical Vulnerabilities, Exposures, Dependencies and Assumptions – creating new Civics; and
2. Developing a new 'living' relationship between leaders and Risk for informed decision-making. This can be done without delay by adopting Strategic Risk Policy to provide 'the right information on the right issue at the right time' - which has been missing.

Strategic Risk Policy, developed by ARPI, a non-profit, professional body in Australia, offers that new relationship between leaders and Risk. Awareness is spreading through a Global Risk Policy Network formed by ARPI. Leaders can now work strategically with potentiality unmasked, before problems arise.

Risk has been redefined by ARPI to have a more contemporary meaning - impacts of decisions and non-decisions - operating in a new risk landscape reducing the number and severity of risks and wicked problems.

Further information is available at [www.arpi.org.au](http://www.arpi.org.au) and by contacting [academy@arpi.org.au](mailto:academy@arpi.org.au)

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