Davos ‘Great Reset’ plan has more holes than Swiss cheese

By Jennifer Oriel, The Australian, 14 September 2020

Money grows on trees. Somewhere between the unmarked plague graves of Italy and the hallowed halls of Elysium, cosmopolites have planted a seed to transform COVID-19 into an economic revolution.

Globalism is out of fashion in democracies, but its advocates are planning a comeback tour in January, where they will launch the Great Reset from the cradle of the rich and socialist Davos.

When globalists gather for the World Economic Forum in Switzerland each year, we expect virtue-signalling, motherhood statements and tremendously vital plans to talk more at the same time, same place, next year. But this time, next year will be different. The WEF website features numerous articles where the case for the Great Reset is made with a sense of urgency. One section reads: “There is an urgent need for global stakeholders to co-operate in … managing the direct consequences of the COVID-19 crisis. To improve the state of the world, the World Economic Forum is starting The Great Reset.”

Leaders who think they possess the power to change the course of history are unsettling, but those who believe they control the destiny of the world are deluded and invariably become violent when human nature gets in the way of their grand plans.

Improving the state of the world is a great ambition indeed, but the WEF has a plan. It is a program of radical economic change also favoured by the OECD and UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, former president of the Socialist International. They believe COVID-19 is an opportunity to make a new economic order designed by globalists, regulated by unelected officials and funded by workers whose taxes will pay the price for social justice activism and mass decarbonisation.

Of course, the Great Reset is not presented in such bleak terms. In June, a meeting hosted by the WEF showcased globalist solidarity. The Reset set includes Prince Charles, International Monetary Fund chief economist Gina Gopinath and major corporations including Microsoft and MasterCard. Al Gore has offered support for it, as well as Democratic former US secretary of state John Kerry.

To coincide with the event, the OECD released the report Building Back Better: A Sustainable, Resilient Recovery after COVID-19. Like the UN, it is presenting an economic plan under the auspices of a COVID recovery. It contends that building back better means “a focus on wellbeing and inclusiveness”. How nice, but where are the quantified targets and cost-to-benefit analysis? Whatever your position on the question of climate change, decarbonising the economy and decentralising electricity systems will require immense funding from states. The West is usually heaped with the financial burden of globalist reforms but, thanks to COVID-19, we are facing protracted economic depression. WEF founder Klaus Schwab wrote in June: “The changes we have already seen in response to COVID-19 prove that a reset of our economic and social foundations is possible. This is our best chance to instigate stakeholder capitalism.” The OECD asserts that post-COVID-19, economics must include alignment with emission-reduction goals, including net-zero greenhouse gas emissions. It recommends stimulus measures to ensure “social development
… is fully integrated with environmental objectives” such as those in the Paris accord and UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Green globalists know the exorbitant cost of their economic revolution will result in popular backlash. The West was heavily in debt before the pandemic. But consider that in March, the US Federal Reserve printed a trillion dollars in two days after stocks fell sharply. Time magazine pointed out that after the 2008 economic crash, the Fed printed $US1.4 trillion over a period of two years. In 2020, it added $US2.9 trillion in less than three months. The Congressional Budget Office found that US government debt will be about the same size as the entire economy by year’s end. Someone needs to tell green globalists hungry for Western cash that the cupboards are bare.

Globalists seem unaware of the impending financial crisis. Rather than curb ambitions for an economic reset, they are framing COVID-19 as a path to a better future. The sales pitch will be challenging, but the OECD suggests: “Where stimulus packages target environmental objectives, a focus on people’s wellbeing is also crucial to cement the social and political acceptance of environmental measures.”

To sell green globalism, people must believe it is a common good. Workers expected to pay for green capitalism with high taxes and shocking energy bills must come to believe that they want or need it. The art of persuasion is essential. Globalists are pitching their plan as pragmatic. They have adopted the slogan Build Back Better to embed their objectives in nation-states’ government policy. The phrase has been used for some time in a relation to a capacity-building approach to disaster recovery, and its rationale was basically sound; rebuilding after disasters would involve planning to ensure past structural vulnerabilities were not reintroduced. For example, policymakers sought to ensure that in tsunami-prone areas, critical infrastructure was relocated away from the ocean. Over time, however, building back better has come to reflect ideology, not pragmatic planning.

The UN has decided building back better means a transition to renewable energy and green infrastructure, social inclusion and gender equality, more social welfare and an international system to deliver the objectives. Most of us still think that COVID-19 is a virus and a vaccine is the solution. Stop right there. UN special force Guterres is on the case: “The pandemic is only demonstrating what we all know: that millennia of patriarchy have resulted in a male-dominated world with a male-dominated culture which damages everyone.” And the UN is demonstrating what we all know — that kind of nonsense makes people vote for Donald Trump.

The Great Reset sounds less like an invitation to thrive than a post-COVID oligarchy where globalists secure their jobs and wealth at the expense of ours. If you want our support for a green world order, Davos Man, show us the money.

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