



*The Corona challenge and good government  
Its all about trust!*

Hans-Henrik Holm

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What should we worry about?

- Declining trust because of Corona?
- Unless we all trust mistrust is better.
- Does the media build trust or destroy trust?

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It should be simple

- Good and effective government is something everyone wants
- But what is good government?
- Is it hard to define?
- We have studied good government for a long time.
- Plato and Aristotle and a long row of great thinkers have defined it for us. **An example from Italy from 1338**
- 1338. Civil war in Denmark: No government. Jutland declared independence

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Good governm

**Common good**

- Peace and Justice
- Prudence and magnanimity
- Temperence and fortitude

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Good governm

**Fælles gode**

- Fred og retfærdig lov
- Omtanke og omsorg
- Mådehold og mod

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Is there a lesson in the Corona crises?

- What is good government today?
- Who has done well ?
- What do State leaders say?
- To be wrong when you could know better
- **What do we need to worry about?**

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Corona leadership

Our life depends on leaders

- In USA Trump and Biden, In UK Boris Johnson and Mette Frederiksen.
- Government makes a difference?
  - Theory
  - Data

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Some common ways to explain State success: But do they explain corona?

- The strong and rich do best: Ressources : USA
- Political system: Authoritarian systems do better
- Economic system: ex Capitalism is more effective
- Values: It is about the values :Ex Weber: The protestant ethic  
Asian values, Danish Values?

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No trust, instead fear: Example Congo

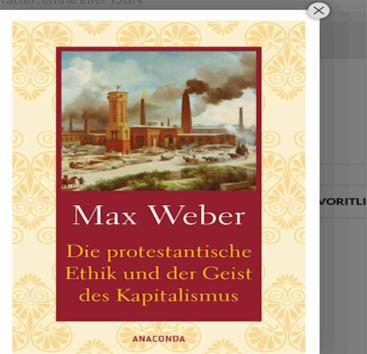


**FRAGILE STATES**

LOTHAR BROCK, HANS-HENRIK HOLM, GEORG SORENSEN & MICHAEL STOHL

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Rationality and contracts build trust



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And the Corona data says?

Bloomberg Analysis

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Resilience indeks top: The best place to be during Corona  
10 indicators on health and economic impact

RANK CHANGE	ECONOMY	BLOOMBERG RESILIENCE SCORE	1-MONTH CASES PER 100,000	1-MONTH CASE FATALITY RATE	TOTAL DEATHS PER 1 MILLION	POSITIVE TEST RATE	ACCESS TO COVID VACCINES
1 -	New Zealand	85.8	0	0%	0	0.7%	246.8%
2 +1	Taiwan	82.4	1	0%	0	0.7%	296.4%
3 +4	Australia	81	1	0.3%	36	0%	229.9%
4 +2	Norway	77	213	0.8%	75	2.3%	172.4%
5 +5	Singapore	76.2	4	0.4%	5	0%	89.5%
6 +11	Finland	75.8	218	0.9%	88	2.9%	172.4%
7 +5	Japan	74.5	54	1.2%	22	6.2%	119.9%
8 +4	South Korea	73.3	38	0.9%	13	2.9%	70.8%
9 +1	China	72	0	0%	3	0.1%	76.6%
10 +1	Denmark	70.5	1,093	0.4%	176	3.6%	172.4%
11 +2	Canada	70	481	1.5%	375	8.0%	613.3%
12 +2	Vietnam	69.7	0	0%	0	0.1%	5%
13 +1	Hong Kong	68.5	34	0.8%	17	0.2%	99.7%
14 +1	Thailand	68.5	1	0%	1	0.3%	18.7%
15 +5	Ireland	67.3	182	1.5%	436	3%	172.4%
16 +1	U.A.E.	65.6	363	0.2%	84	6.8%	35.8%
17 +4	Israel	62.4	521	0.7%	355	2.6%	137.6%
18 +4	Russia	61.7	527	1.9%	341	5.7%	107%
19 +4	Netherlands	61.3	1,206	0.8%	615	12%	172.4%
20 +4	Bangladesh	59.2	34	1.6%	44	10.2%	5%

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Do authoritarian governments do better against Corona? No!

Bloomberg's Covid Resilience Ranking tells a different story: democracies have made up the majority of the top 10 since the debut of this Ranking in November. Success in containing Covid-19 with the least disruption appears to rely less on being able to order people into submission and more on governments fostering a high degree of trust and societal compliance.

When citizens have faith in the authorities and their guidance, lockdowns may not be needed at all, as Japan and South Korea showed through most of the year. Though fierce winter waves are definitely challenging those more open approaches now.

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RANK CHANGE	ECONOMY	RESILIENCE SCORE	CASES PER 100,000	FATALITY RATE	DEATHS PER 1 MILLION	POSITIVE TEST RATE	COVID VACCINES GIVEN PER 100	
39 +24	Ireland	47.2	2,088	0.7%	597	12.2%	183%	2.46
40 +13	Sweden	47	1,496	1.8%	1,090	20.2%	183%	1.42
41 +7	Romania	46.9	523	2.8%	921	13.4%	183%	2.16
42 +2	Portugal	46.7	2,323	1.6%	1,000	18.6%	183%	2.26
43 +11	Indonesia	45.6	104	2.5%	101	23.9%	50%	0.05
44 +2	Iran	45.3	219	1.6%	682	11.4%	5%	0
45 +16	Pakistan	44.3	29	2.4%	51	5.2%	26%	0
46 +10	Brazil	43.4	655	1.9%	1,018	-	64%	0.08
47 +23	Egypt	42.4	31	5.1%	87	-	61%	0
48 +17	Nigeria	41.2	19	0.7%	7	16.5%	5%	0
49 +3	Argentina	41.1	660	1.5%	1,034	29.7%	70%	0.64
50 +8	Czech Republic	39.8	2,548	1.6%	1,426	16.3%	183%	1.76
51 +8	Colombia	38.2	871	2.1%	1,002	28.4%	33%	0
52 +14	South Africa	37.8	736	3.3%	684	21.7%	6%	0
53 -	Mexico	30.8	287	7.5%	1,156	41.1%	119%	0.43

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Resilience

government would act as the outbreak evolved.

Investment in public health infrastructure also matters. Undervalued in many places before 2020, systems for contact tracing, effective testing and health education bolstered the top performers, helping socialize hand-washing and the wearing of face masks. This has been key to avoiding economically crippling lockdowns, said Anthony Fauci, the U.S.'s top infectious diseases official.

Social cohesion has been a major differentiating factor in this pandemic, according to Alan Lopez, laureate professor and director of the University of Melbourne's global burden of disease group.

"If you look at Japanese society, the Scandinavian societies, there's very little inequality and a lot of discipline in them," said Lopez. "That would translate into a more cohesive response by the country and that's why they're up there at the top."

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What has created good corona policy?

- 1. Governance built on
  - trust
  - competence
  - community
- 2. The choice of strategy - Sweden vs South Korea, Taiwan

Is there a recipe?

How do heads of government explain the countries response to Corona?

- Washington
- Finland, Germany
- Beijing

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Corona strategy: What a difference a leader makes

Merkel: European and international cooperation, the strength of diversity, is what brings progress.	Xi: Shared future for mankind collaboration
Trump: Medical miracle Everybody calling to thank me	Sanna Marin: Trustworthy authorities democracy

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Trump:

- "Normally developing a vaccine takes up to 10 years," "Thanks to Operation Warp Speed, we developed a vaccine in just nine months.."
- "The world will benefit, and everybody's calling to thank me."

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Germany Merkel's message

Uğur Sahin and Özlem Türeci from Mainz, the founders, told me that people from 60 countries are working for their company. I can think of no better example of how European and international cooperation, the strength of diversity, is what brings progress.

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Sanna Marin /Finland/SISU

- "We have a well-functioning healthcare system, trustworthy authorities and a stable democracy, skilled and competent teachers, advanced digital capabilities, the ability to adapt quickly to unexpected situations and mutual trust in society, all of which has helped us to cope amidst the crisis,"

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Conclusion

- - Top ten are societies in Northern Europe and Asia
- What do the governments say is the solution?
  - Technology.
  - Cooperation nationally and internationally + Diversity
  - Will- SISU
  - Trust and credibility

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Our life and welfare depend on decisions that are made

- What if leaders take a wrong decision even in situations where there are known alternatives: What has been said:
  - Waiting to lock down because of the economy
  - It is just a fluke
  - Old people die anyways
- History lesson:

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The March of Folly

- Troy
- World War
- Vietnam war
- Iraq war
- And now? Corona
- Brasil, USA?

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Who do we trust: Would it have been different? Would less than 500.000 have died?

Read his book and decide

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The right leader and a high level of trust

- The trust issue
- Why so difficult
- 1338 and 2021:

**Common good**  
Peace and Justice  
Prudence and magnanimity  
Temperance and

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The end of history or “the end of trust?”

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We are born trusting. We learn to distrust

1. The Danish philosopher Løgstrup points out that we are born trusting. Distrust is learned.
  - Sovereign life statement. (livsytning) We can not live in society without trust and it is natural to trust.
2. Bad government destroys trust. Instead we rely on kinship/ local group/ church etc.

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A current bestseller

THE SUBTLE ART OF NOT Giving a Fuck

more compassion and more humility. It's a book about moving lightly despite your heavy burdens, resting easier with your greatest fears, laughing at your tears as you cry them.

This book will not teach you how to gain or achieve, but rather how to lose and let go. It will teach you to take inventory of your life and scrub out all but the most important items. It will teach you to close your eyes and trust that you can fall backwards and still be okay. It will teach you to give fewer fucks. It will teach you to not try.

**THE SUBTLE ART OF NOT GIVING A FUCK**

A COUNTERINTUITIVE APPROACH TO LIVING A GOOD LIFE

**MARK MANSON**

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