Research Paper

Social Science



The Global Mind

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ABSTRAC

Starting about 50 years ago, our mankind met problems of a new scale – the global ones. These problems began quickly to accrue and some of them have become crucial for the very survival of the mankind. Their solution requires fundamentally new global approaches and methodology. The Global Mind Share project is elaborating such approaches in a form of global cognitive system based on common sense as an interdisciplinary lingua franca. This cognitive system – Global Mind – will allow to combine individual minds into Noosphere, a kind of neural network that could be considered as a super consciousness. Each and everybody are invited to join the project.

KEYWORDS

global problems, super consciousness, noosphere

In the 21st century, mankind finds with plethora of problems many of which are global in scope. In the past, most of our problems were limited in scope by country, nation, or religious group; however, starting in the last quarter of 20th century, the situation started changing. Some scientists began formulating problems related to mankind as a whole, such as the possibility of "nuclear winter" (Turco, et al., 1983) "limits of growth" in prospective (Meadows, et al., 1972), and the threat of "global warming" (Maslin, 2004). All these problems were discussed mainly among specialists until almost the end of the previous century. Only in the new millennium, thanks to the Internet and globalization, public opinion began to realize the importance of these and many other global problems.

Such problems include quite obvious ones such as the necessity for new sources of energy in the face of dwindling oil reserves; those opened for discussion like global warming; and those not even discussed, at least widely, like genetic degradation of our biological species as a result of amazing achievements in medicine and especially the sharp decreasing rate of child mortality that eliminated defected genotypes from the genes pool of humanity.

Many of our global problems are very important and urgent, and they need our collective efforts. People need to stand together to protect us and our biosphere (Fig.1).



Figure 1. Global protection against global problems.

In addition, the vast majority of global problems is essentially multi-disciplinary and has to be discussed and analyzed by specialists in quite different areas. Each of the subject areas has its own vocabulary and jargon not easily understandable by common people or even by specialists in other areas. To make such multi-disciplinary discussions effective, specialists should explain their problems and ideas in plain English so they are

very understandable by the public at large. Moreover, common people must be participants in the discussions because, on the one hand, future life for them and their children and grandchildren directly depends upon discussed solutions. On the other hand, such people could be very effective interpreters between narrow specialists in different areas.

Now, where could all these specialists and common people interested in this or that global problem come together? Nowhere would be better than online. Incorporation into the Internet network (Fig. 2) could be very effective, if not the only possible solution, for a meeting point.

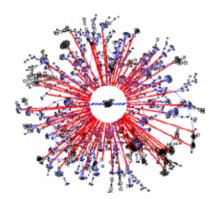


Figure 2. The Internet network.

There should be a place where all these people could meet and hear one another inside the Internet. Such a place already exists! It can be found on the web at www.globalmindshare. org. This site was established by non-profit organization called Global Mind Share founded by the author of this article and his friend and colleague Gary Sorrell. Its main goal is to maintain a global cognitive network. Such a network provides a tool to maximize the collective thought power of our planet to improve future prosperity and happiness for all people.

As the first step, we want everybody who is not indifferent towards the future of mankind to formulate the most important and urgent questions and/or problems which need immediate answers or solutions. Then, we are going to discuss possible answers to these questions and different approaches to solving these problems in the most effective, simplest, and least harmful way.

We encourage each and every one to submit at www.

globalmindshare.org questions or problems that he/she personally consider as the most vital for all of us now. To make these inputs more meaningful and less general, we would like to aggregate all the questions and problem into nine subject areas:

- Society and Politics
- Economy and Finance
- Environment and Climate Change
- Health and Medicine
- Education
- Human Rights
- Science and Technology
- Art and Culture
- Religion and Philosophy

We encourage all readers to formulate their question or problem relating to one or more of these areas or suggest additional ones if your input is out of the scope of these nine.

All the inputs are published on our dashboard if they meet simple and obvious Rules for Authors that can be found on the web site. Then, the inputs will be analyzed, aggregated, and prepared for voting. Finally, we will determine a list of the most important questions and problems that humanity faces now by free rank voting of the submitted inputs from all of you.

After this, we will collectively start the second and more important stage of the project looking for solution of the formulated and selected problems by openly discussing all the suggestions and ideas. At this stage, Global Mind Share will consolidate the power of each individual mind into one united cognitive system.

Thought power of such a system cannot be underestimated. Human cerebral cortex contains about 21-26 billions nerve cells (neurons) (Pelvig et al., 2008). These neurons have two kinds of branched projections – a few short dendrites and one long axon. Each neuron brings information to a cell body from other nearby neurons by dendrites and takes it away though an axon (Fig.3).

Figure 3 about here

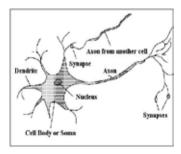


Fig. 3. Main parts of a neuron.

Combination of the billions such relatively simple nodes of neural network creates consciousness, memory, knowledge, and emotions in each of us (Fig. 4).

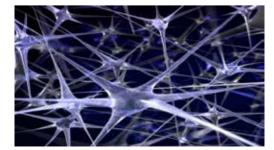


Figure 4. Neural network as a web of neurons. The human population worldwide is now about 7.5 billion

individuals (U.S. and World Population Clock, 2016). This is three times less than but compatible with the number of neurons in the cerebral cortex. Of course, not all of these seven and a half billion have the ability (by age or access to the Internet) or the intention to be combined into the global cognitive network. But if such network (functioning by principles of human computation (Michelucci, 2013)) combines even tens millions of nodes (and respectively up to 1 quintillion, i.e., 10¹⁸ neurons) it will be something outstanding and never appeared before in the observed history of the world. It would be a kind of super consciousness because each of these millions of nodes combines billions of neurons with his/her own consciousness, memory, knowledge, experience, and analytical skills (Fig. 5).



Figure 5. The first sparkle of global super consciousness. Only such a super powerful global mind that recalls "noosphere", a concept formulated by Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (Teilhard de Chardin, 1976), can solve the enormous problems that mankind will meet in the 21st century.

Do you, personally you, want to be "a neuron" of this super consciousness and to occupy your own place in the cognitive network (Fig. 6)?

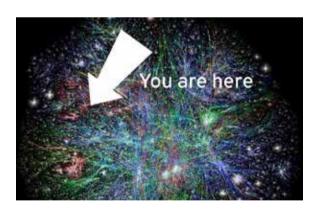


Figure 6. Your location in The Global Mind.

- It's up to you to step into your reserved place now. Decide if you want to be connected.
- 2. You are invited

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