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From the very beginning of the world, the word “history” has been enriched by many events we either study or still remember. The 20th century, as to mention the closest period we come from, was dominated by a chain of events that heralded significant changes in world history. Some of them, such as World Wars, space explorations, the creation of intergovernmental organizations, cultural homogenization, the birth of technology, still show a strong influence today, although many of those were only temporary. The Roaring Twenties was for many a symbol of excitement, innovation, redefining roles of gender, race and class. Our everyday social life is based on many of the changes that occurred during those years. For example, the technologic inventions of the 1920s, such as the commercial radio broadcasting, commercial aviation, use of telephones, early computing devices and genetic research, are a huge part of our routine.

Nowadays we are facing a critical issue, that one day will be remembered as the “Coronavirus pandemic”, which is completely revolutionizing our lives by locking people down in their homes, and closing local business all around the world. In my country, Italy, precautions were taken a month after Australia, and two weeks after the Republic of China, whereas the rest of the European countries, such as France, Spain, Germany or Portugal, are still working on effective measures to take in order to avoid the spread of this deadly virus. In the United Kingdom, Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, recently stated *“I think, looking at it all, that we can turn the tide within the next 12 weeks and I’m absolutely confident that we can send Coronavirus packing in this country. But only if we all take the steps that we’ve outlined, that is vital.”* However, the steps he decided to outline did not chase the ones Italy, for example, has taken weeks ago in a very serious way. In fact, he opted not to stop public transportation, not to avoid gathering in cities’ centers, and not to lock people down in their homes.

In 2015 The Vatican published *“The Encyclical Letter Laudato Si’ of The Holy Father Francis on Care For Our Common Home”*. In chapter four, the Pope states *“It cannot be emphasized enough how everything is interconnected. Time and space are not independent of one another, and not even atoms or subatomic particles can be considered in isolation. Just as the different aspects of the planet – physical, chemical and biological – are interrelated, so too living species are part of a network which we will never fully explore and understand.”* and also *“Every violation of solidarity and civic friendship harms the environment”*.

I consider these frames universal; in fact, I could link them to every relevant moment that gave an important addition to the word “history”, including this global emergency affecting us in this critical moment. As the Pope writes, it is very important for us citizens of the world not to forget that we are part of a “network” that interconnects the whole system we are living in and that *“every violation”* could wreck everything we are building to make things work in an efficient way. If I had to give it a practical meaning, I would see it as a specific message to those who find hard to complete the easy and little tasks the experts are giving us, in order to face this crisis and go back to normality.

Some of the standard recommendations to prevent infection spread, include regular hand washing, covering mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing and avoid close contact with anyone showing symptoms of respiratory illness. Each country is working hard to make sure rules are respected, but also tried to close the borders in order to avoid non-essential travel, for example, the president of the United States and the prime minister of Canada, Donald Trump and Justin Trudeau, agreed to bar travellers crossing the border in common.

According to the World Health Organizations’ daily news Canada and the United States are not the only countries who are temporarily closing the airports; in fact, many states not only started campaigns to reduce travelling, but also decided to cancel any upcoming events, such as fashion shows, concerts, sport competitions, to cut down foreign and unnecessary imports, and to convince people locking in their homes and going out only for basic necessities. I have been personally affected

by this kind of restrictions, by the time that the Italian Rugby Federation (FIR) decided to suspend all training sessions, activities, competitions and tournaments until the situation will decline.

As a boy, one of the things that most touched me about this situation is that The Union of European Football decided to postpone the UEFA EURO 2020, and also to put on hold all competitions, including friendlies, for clubs and national teams for both men and women. In a recent interview Aleksander Čeferin, UEFA's president, declared "*We are at the helm of a sport that vast numbers of people live and breathe that has been laid low by this invisible and fast-moving opponent. It is at times like these that the football community needs to show responsibility, unity, solidarity and altruism.*"

This is also the year of the Olympic Games, which will take place in Tokyo. However, due to this situation, the Japanese organizers and the International Olympic Committee are still trying to figure out whether or not to confirm the happening of this great event. A month ago, they affirmed "*There is no need for any drastic decisions at this stage*"; while yesterday they were asked to postpone the event because "*Athletes are unable to prepare adequately as a result of the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic.*" The board member Yamaguchi said "*The Olympics should not be held in a situation people in the world can't enjoy. As far as I can tell, athletes in the United States and Europe are unable to train as normal and finish their qualifying matches. That makes it impossible for them to appear well prepared at the start, with all the associated risks.*"

Trying to compare two different moments in history, commonly known as Age of Anxiety and contemporary humanity, I see that these two periods are somehow interrelated. The Age of Anxiety was made up of many horrific events, which determined later on how nations were built and alliances were concluded in the world. It was both a war period and a great one of invention of many technologies. On the other hand contemporary humanity can be considered as a child of post Anxiety era. This period has seen a greater improvement in life conditions, in fact, unlike the Age of Anxiety, it has revolutionized human living. Many gadgets were invented to make our life easier and moving faster. According to my actual studies, the main figures of the Age of Anxiety have been William Golding, Aldous Huxley and George Orwell. The first one, for example, experienced war in its cruelty, in fact, this changed his view of life and his way of writing. In Golding's novel "Lord of the Flies", written in 1954, the characters deal with the dark side of human nature, showing those innate defects that can destroy not only a single individual, but an entire society. In order to introduce the different strengths and weaknesses that characterize the society, he uses Ralph as a democratic leader, Piggy as the voice of reason, and Jack as the authoritarian leader. Huxley gave an even more pessimistic vision in his novel "Brave New World", in which he represents an anti-utopian world where mankind has been dehumanized and scientific progress has dramatically advanced. In his work, John represents a "natural man", who defends the beauty of literature and becomes a victim of scientific experiments, while Mustapha Mond embodies the idea that humankind's ultimate goals are stability and happiness, as opposed to emotions, human relations, and individual expression. Lastly Orwell, in his work "Animal Farm", decided to write an allegory of the Russian Revolution. More generally, the novel stands for any human society, be it capitalist, socialist, fascist, or communist; in fact, it possesses the internal structure of a nation, with a government (the pigs), a police force (the dogs) and a working class (the other animals). There is another novel by George Orwell, "Nineteen Eighty-Four", which was written with the purpose of warning readers of the dangers of totalitarian government. The author portrays the perfect totalitarian society, in which government monitors and controls every aspect of human life by placing posters with signs reading "*BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING YOU*".

A thing that really changed from the Age of Anxiety to the contemporary time is the holistic vision, that, according to the World Economic Forum, it is "*a vision that promotes and propels people to consider spirituality, health, intellectualism, relationships, finances, benevolence and legacy*".

Nowadays, especially in this period of pandemic, the world has a new way of seeing things and achieving goals. The world is more pragmatic, it looks for easy, but effective solutions. If we only think that times ago nobody would have never thought we could study throughout the Internet, imagine now that we are actually moving forward with our studies from a screen to another. Thanks to this schools' block, the category that has seen the greatest benefits is the environment, in fact, during these days, in which we are taking part in online courses, we do not need to travel all the time, and this implies a reduction of the overall carbon output indirectly. It also allows the decrease of paper usage, so that a plenty of trees could live on. With online tests instead of paper tests and online assessments instead of paper assessments, online courses are a more environmentally friendly educational methods.

History is the record of events that happened in the past. Every country or nation has its own one, the world itself has its history. If we analyze closely all those historical events, they have something in common whether it is war, peace, progress or revolution, they all share some characteristics. They have a general tendency to repeat themselves. Thucydides, an Athenian historian from the 4th century BC, once quoted "*History repeats itself*". So I decided to consider, for example, the plague, Alessandro Manzoni writes about, in 1630, the cholera, happened in 1820, the Spanish flu, which characterized the Roaring Twenties, and the actual COVID-19. These events are both similar and different in ways, but none-the-less are proof that history does indeed repeat itself. Another two episodes I can find similarities with are the Great Depression in 1929 and the Global Crisis in 2008. The Great Depression was the biggest economic crisis that the world has ever experienced. The depth and length of the crisis and the suffering that it caused is legendary. Therefore, when the global financial crisis struck in 2007, many rushed to proclaim that we were about to experience another depression on a similar scale. The Global Crisis left people unemployed while the lucky ones who retained their jobs experienced drastic fall in income. As a result, the economic downturn played a significant role in decline in wealth of consumers, collapse of huge businesses and decline in financial activities. During that period, the economic activities around the globe declines, as the international business went down and bank credits services tightened. In chapter five from "*The Encyclical Letter Laudato Si of The Holy Father Francis on Care For Our Common Home*" Pope Francis asks questions to the reader "*What is the purpose of our life in this world? Why are we here? What is the goal of our work and all our efforts? What need does the earth have of us?*". In the actual society, as we face difficulties such as this pandemic, we live connected to one another. If I had to answer Pope Francis' questions, our job is to help the community as much as we can in order to reach a healthy and prosperous world.