

## Covid Aftermath

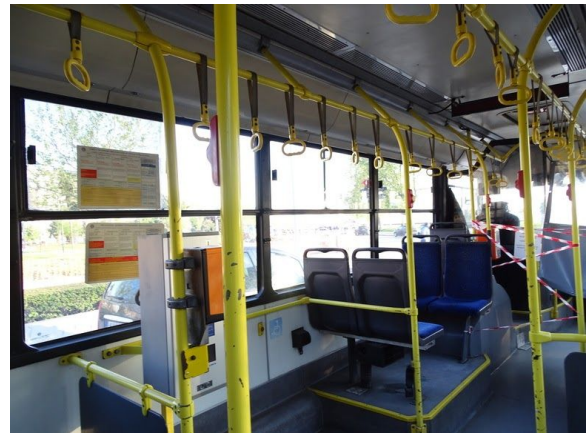


While the most technological countries are occupied with mitigating the consequences of the pandemic, Belarus turned out to be the only country within the EU who did not introduce the lockdown at all. Their governor decided that it will cause people to panic. Also Belarus is known to be a very poor country who seems not able to afford expensive curfew measures. Sweden also hopes that citizens will get herd immunity on themselves. However, gradually lockdown measures are being waived by governments. Small businesses are getting operations on the streets. Less restrictions will prevent people from walking near the sea, as in Thessaloniki where access to paralia will be restored by May 4. By mid-June local University will resume onsite classes.

## Flights



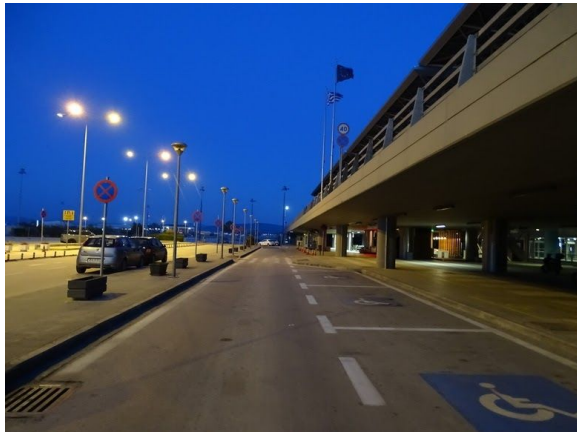
A friend of mine suggested getting to the nearest airport in person to clarify with available destinations. I followed the advice and found myself in the evening commuting in an empty bus to the local airport with laptop and camera.



When I arrived at the destination and went out of the bus I understood that I am the only person who went out there. The airport building was not light. They must be saving energy. After entering the building through wide open doors that were supposed to be automatically closed I found two flight operators. They explained that the only regular flight from Thessaloniki happens once a day in direction to Athens.



When I tried to hang out with my laptop using the Airport wifi. Approximately after an hour of searching for connecting flights from Athens to anywhere, a group of guards surrounded me asking where I am from. After getting basic responses, they pointed out that I can work with a laptop searching for tickets from home and advised, not to get another time caught by them in the Airport not having a ticket, as otherwise they will have to compose a paper and fine me for violating the regulations that are in force.



There was also one stranger who got to the bus back to Thessaloniki which I took to get back. However, getting back as the bus was getting people from bus stops they accumulated almost to a pack of dozen.

## Aftermath

It appears that governments tested a way to mitigate the crisis that emerged due to globalization and industrialization. Nature has had relief from humans polluting it for almost a month. What will persist probably, after lockdowns are lifted is total surveillance and control. It appears that people will lose certain freedoms and that many disrupted areas including economic areas will not recover soon. The pandemic has shown that many countries especially in Europe are not ready to face existing challenges and they do not have a mechanism to deal with major threats. Probably it is a disadvantage of democracy. Perhaps certain countries with totalitarian regimes will deal better with issues like the pandemic. However, I believe that within time regulations and governmental systems will improve and that will allow us to address challenges in a coherent way. Moreover, based on the studied mistakes, it will be possible soon to design reactions to such challenges that will be more effective.