

POST

# The Hill Article: "Covid-19 will accelerate AI's replacement of humans as factor of production"

April 14, 2020

Ceres AI ramping up as demand for automation, virtual, remote, and digital environmental management increases

Ceres AI spending 33% more ... “ramping up” development as demand for environmental artificial intelligence, automation, virtual, remote, and digital workflow increases in the wake of Covid-19.



# **COVID-19 will accelerate AI's replacement of humans as factor of production**

BY J. MAURICIO GAONA, OPINION CONTRIBUTOR — 04/13/20 11:30 AM EDT  
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192 COMMENTS



As the world speeds toward an unprecedented economic recession (

Prior to COVID-19, the often-contested race between human productivity options and machine productivity advantages appeared less definite. In the last two decades and with aim of making humans highly productive, promoting general wellbeing and increasing business competitiveness, several ideas gained traction—namely, telecommuting ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlbypzpQi9](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdX hnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlS4B59yZptU4DLNXS_tyFSEeNolbeoJW_p_Vj8UBaPWNi9Qh mfjofpoD-pz3szTjMaG12hrEKOJAiYRsKdrG5y2XeprgWQXztO1bH26fBBzK5qjZ6N1eNNtzLQ-KjR gdUn3oqAxK2S4f7Lp-rjKA3oehpnBBsLGAX&c=&ch=), <u>remote work</u> (<a href=)

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BBGTRpcZi33tIWbq7XKwtbYAGYM4NKR1uJv7\_T55jmnZg-rYZUVo7RGJW7TgRgdE9A==&c=&c  
h=), and **coworking spaces** ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlQoe12E12\\_Kzu2bihTmd18yaXheZ6t3VOAmS-Tlp42pStooaBMlibBX9wEqGd8vXFF4sfxteC37849oX9WcHEQMztFRqTdWzuOXfxx3n\\_k3gg9ysgxlEOD-YxnqtmnNOKHzyL9cpuzxBKkZ86-Subw==&c=&ch=](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlQoe12E12_Kzu2bihTmd18yaXheZ6t3VOAmS-Tlp42pStooaBMlibBX9wEqGd8vXFF4sfxteC37849oX9WcHEQMztFRqTdWzuOXfxx3n_k3gg9ysgxlEOD-YxnqtmnNOKHzyL9cpuzxBKkZ86-Subw==&c=&ch=))). **In fact, billions of dollars have been invested** ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlyW41ueLFTafmE-A2bOkCzR7ZoeIf2xPnvMQVS1SLewnupM54p6GuQUpF-GOj\\_z7nxSktO-OSulbd2zwSYefToVZWbESHaDjnbe09pRkR\\_GAIXY8VqRknsA==&c=&ch=](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlyW41ueLFTafmE-A2bOkCzR7ZoeIf2xPnvMQVS1SLewnupM54p6GuQUpF-GOj_z7nxSktO-OSulbd2zwSYefToVZWbESHaDjnbe09pRkR_GAIXY8VqRknsA==&c=&ch=)) around the world in real estate (“co-working spaces”) to enable people to commute to their workplace by either just taking an elevator or walking a few blocks from home. Yet the very nature of the COVID-19 virus imposing social distancing as precautionary measure has made remote work our last available option to move on with our lives.

Prior to COVID-19, moreover, investment in artificial intelligence (AI) was already on the rise, going from \$12 billion in **2017** ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5Pl4Ky4yNosKnO82onW471DRMf9KEzpdiaZa5C82CEaGuE4HCkGL3iHwoOrJO9o--UFlgrmUkW6rTuL9Q4fa6XqOvGJE52jPWnsnLAhEN3a\\_qCDXaHFuGK7v6QIKBdTicU-8L5kOTru\\_VnaDVYS092U8kGy\\_xpO5bipLaYPSoPBHoOueIsDV5UrXo5TfYwiPctVx&c=&ch=](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5Pl4Ky4yNosKnO82onW471DRMf9KEzpdiaZa5C82CEaGuE4HCkGL3iHwoOrJO9o--UFlgrmUkW6rTuL9Q4fa6XqOvGJE52jPWnsnLAhEN3a_qCDXaHFuGK7v6QIKBdTicU-8L5kOTru_VnaDVYS092U8kGy_xpO5bipLaYPSoPBHoOueIsDV5UrXo5TfYwiPctVx&c=&ch=)) to **projected \$60 billion in 2021** ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5Pl4Ky4yNosKnO82onW471DRMf9KEzpdiaZa5C82CEaGuE4HCkGL3iHwoOrJO9o--UFlgrmUkW6rTuL9Q4fa6XqOvGJE52jPWnsnLAhEN3a\\_qCDXaHFuGK7v6QIKBdTicU-8L5kOTru\\_VnaDVYS092U8kGy\\_xpO5bipLaYPSoPBHoOueIsDV5UrXo5TfYwiPctVx&c=&ch=](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5Pl4Ky4yNosKnO82onW471DRMf9KEzpdiaZa5C82CEaGuE4HCkGL3iHwoOrJO9o--UFlgrmUkW6rTuL9Q4fa6XqOvGJE52jPWnsnLAhEN3a_qCDXaHFuGK7v6QIKBdTicU-8L5kOTru_VnaDVYS092U8kGy_xpO5bipLaYPSoPBHoOueIsDV5UrXo5TfYwiPctVx&c=&ch=)). **These figures don't count private** ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlaApgsVRHTnqktKuvP1Fc\\_4x3mmm4KZ\\_4hbdaK2tEsmJUSoyZFoucKrKxSyK\\_jlXH8zqRRfOFVmqy9JCEz-Sgn3Upv6t4oezUHPwDnprOhvBViMVy3hyJpAJ9cNS1qaov](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlaApgsVRHTnqktKuvP1Fc_4x3mmm4KZ_4hbdaK2tEsmJUSoyZFoucKrKxSyK_jlXH8zqRRfOFVmqy9JCEz-Sgn3Upv6t4oezUHPwDnprOhvBViMVy3hyJpAJ9cNS1qaov))

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Instead, this trend reflects massive investments in current artificial intelligence (machine and deep learning) and, gradually, major investments in future AI—

**quantum artificial intelligence** ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJGlKGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlP28\\_tRgksn3O8FoQpU4WQ-Of8r7JkyuI31NF6tVT1aUphrReDdEBQl1io47-ORDz1IAM6rDRFrZNJSb6ZFwARbN1XKhdf54mvhb\\_xBBO\\_DT5nDvnUJ53kjJVGvNZbT9X&c=&ch=\)](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJGlKGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlP28_tRgksn3O8FoQpU4WQ-Of8r7JkyuI31NF6tVT1aUphrReDdEBQl1io47-ORDz1IAM6rDRFrZNJSb6ZFwARbN1XKhdf54mvhb_xBBO_DT5nDvnUJ53kjJVGvNZbT9X&c=&ch=))) (**QAI**) and **quantum computing technology in United States** ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJGlKGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMpK71LReV9U\\_T\\_Xq\\_gX4lPkc2PEN6tCDbYW9-Z-L7St8CYuKRYLkFtntJCh2yi\\_jeWF7qQO8MeahrubbLp6pbRxYEHGa-xSmovYYQ2d\\_wNMsjYWY5RPuOwhz8kMkB7R36Oig8YI\\_C8U88Q4fS2oltbA-LJOxmHmN\\_ytEQLFFPe\\_aPTqJenKTJKuB4VRKodaAxcg==&c=&ch=\)](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJGlKGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMpK71LReV9U_T_Xq_gX4lPkc2PEN6tCDbYW9-Z-L7St8CYuKRYLkFtntJCh2yi_jeWF7qQO8MeahrubbLp6pbRxYEHGa-xSmovYYQ2d_wNMsjYWY5RPuOwhz8kMkB7R36Oig8YI_C8U88Q4fS2oltbA-LJOxmHmN_ytEQLFFPe_aPTqJenKTJKuB4VRKodaAxcg==&c=&ch=))), **China** ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJGlKGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PIL\\_isIKbE1cbm9TLP2mFpGQ4VBHZqaxrYQ05M\\_FGKYMOYJz7IRVw9FM\\_UQt8LfB4GEDypcFtLyxNcjKZrGRSKG3u2H2KAT2Sy49qPZwNY7BdSApdurT4uySJAhmJEgvgHfQ6brklqIe7VgUlKNUKky89xqkRhyZQOhG1bi8VKLFQX5xSthpRx3QeTQU\\_2-A1&c=&ch=\)](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJGlKGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PIL_isIKbE1cbm9TLP2mFpGQ4VBHZqaxrYQ05M_FGKYMOYJz7IRVw9FM_UQt8LfB4GEDypcFtLyxNcjKZrGRSKG3u2H2KAT2Sy49qPZwNY7BdSApdurT4uySJAhmJEgvgHfQ6brklqIe7VgUlKNUKky89xqkRhyZQOhG1bi8VKLFQX5xSthpRx3QeTQU_2-A1&c=&ch=))), **Canada** ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJGlKGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlJoyqUoHZXNKOX\\_eRqzFdf\\_sKglCuh3K6qJDfDJ1Rs5\\_ym4FZ3YS1tABU344PG6ejft3RMvyTtiYxXYp769w\\_h2gZjkn5fCiHoqWm3r9Hm6q3PGkpV3EZsbRchDmm-I8vM4D6y5\\_Ezua2RRXNoJgRUA==&c=&ch=\)](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJGlKGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlJoyqUoHZXNKOX_eRqzFdf_sKglCuh3K6qJDfDJ1Rs5_ym4FZ3YS1tABU344PG6ejft3RMvyTtiYxXYp769w_h2gZjkn5fCiHoqWm3r9Hm6q3PGkpV3EZsbRchDmm-I8vM4D6y5_Ezua2RRXNoJgRUA==&c=&ch=))), **Japan** ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJGlKGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PIL7V\\_Q1feEbBiR4dZTULSk\\_ke46j94htNxfxcawm3pQUz\\_afQ18j\\_oHZX470-jUEuxid7tGgKHxD-eooLIZoWA\\_qpeFmO5q5sAesXViEiMLpo-ktkGiREkm9Q9cKwuWzCcQ7i1sjrUFSCR5N2zSLaE64VKD7T9cuOuyyKhsJ8b2Ufa7t99hmKFrMkQe-v41sw&c=&ch=\)](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJGlKGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PIL7V_Q1feEbBiR4dZTULSk_ke46j94htNxfxcawm3pQUz_afQ18j_oHZX470-jUEuxid7tGgKHxD-eooLIZoWA_qpeFmO5q5sAesXViEiMLpo-ktkGiREkm9Q9cKwuWzCcQ7i1sjrUFSCR5N2zSLaE64VKD7T9cuOuyyKhsJ8b2Ufa7t99hmKFrMkQe-v41sw&c=&ch=))), **India** ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJGlKGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PIL\\_NXC8SdePtPSDtOrRoYuTosH6eokxL-p7gAct1TS8Cg](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJGlKGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PIL_NXC8SdePtPSDtOrRoYuTosH6eokxL-p7gAct1TS8Cg))

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**Germany** ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlGRviEaJsQG-K1r6Y4rOJAK4rGvFINXjq8aqFww74PILhT1Y74jWPkOSzIFZpLauxRFUihxwqtnXX4jWhz2ob5ioTmVBSI9lKUuhVG77EjBUQniohuydyctQG1X1Nl38auMOSuwop\\_QyY7m2V2IC3n74mjRVxpGpfQLoPQk62UVpSER9SgtdxAxJill9SvUNnhqoaUmGNkXMCDb\\_3hCXPwotgE4Z8R3CM&c=&ch=\) and Russia](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlGRviEaJsQG-K1r6Y4rOJAK4rGvFINXjq8aqFww74PILhT1Y74jWPkOSzIFZpLauxRFUihxwqtnXX4jWhz2ob5ioTmVBSI9lKUuhVG77EjBUQniohuydyctQG1X1Nl38auMOSuwop_QyY7m2V2IC3n74mjRVxpGpfQLoPQk62UVpSER9SgtdxAxJill9SvUNnhqoaUmGNkXMCDb_3hCXPwotgE4Z8R3CM&c=&ch=) and Russia) ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlSPYuMOxWGVMGHSx\\_Wb\\_EWDocfd8jsWnodeSVyYK-p4jBeX2psV8Rv4-Oy44sOEnN6Y8mdyndaX2tf6Qp9HCFcfKgH1ZLFbqvGbn8FKpQW6fr6JN\\_4ePGFUqM7e7eyOymPA9v7BxEIqo=&c=&ch=\).](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlSPYuMOxWGVMGHSx_Wb_EWDocfd8jsWnodeSVyYK-p4jBeX2psV8Rv4-Oy44sOEnN6Y8mdyndaX2tf6Qp9HCFcfKgH1ZLFbqvGbn8FKpQW6fr6JN_4ePGFUqM7e7eyOymPA9v7BxEIqo=&c=&ch=).)

Make no mistake, as companies are losing billions of dollars across the globe, COVID-19 will be the triggering event leading to the acceleration of AI's replacement of humans as factor of production.

Most governments, international organizations, companies, and universities have now transitioned to remote work. And by now, people interacting within these organizations have learned about the restrictions and, quite likely, the psychological effects such limited interaction produces. In fact, notwithstanding direct benefits ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlvZyvTrjFC6l4vkCfqGp5FKg3hqH-Za2Bw2Af2ETL6U5Cr7GQnHN0GPILU3910xTJAWFopVdSEwZxrHhfuCABxLpXec6DXvr6UNTOHxNAQsElrAcFz766kzQmqLNWeYcqtPFDBLuGB\\_vqclABHJiueHkoaYkc12ctWBWSdCFOflwHHldzE-szszpc34eEiiCVqKk6YRrEILjMRxrFx54Qh2RH8xD1C-zo&c=&ch=\) \(less commuting time, stress reduction, creativity boost\) and incidental advantages](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlvZyvTrjFC6l4vkCfqGp5FKg3hqH-Za2Bw2Af2ETL6U5Cr7GQnHN0GPILU3910xTJAWFopVdSEwZxrHhfuCABxLpXec6DXvr6UNTOHxNAQsElrAcFz766kzQmqLNWeYcqtPFDBLuGB_vqclABHJiueHkoaYkc12ctWBWSdCFOflwHHldzE-szszpc34eEiiCVqKk6YRrEILjMRxrFx54Qh2RH8xD1C-zo&c=&ch=) (less commuting time, stress reduction, creativity boost) and incidental advantages) ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5Pl3hFr3qnAOroPVJO2NR5ZXyQu-dNdkduh7QojqUwTDEoM2GP100J9m2RhUl7dcDprcxRysruunPduJm53MGC8OHj6\\_RKHN4JciBtM6S8Q0oPbqYHqyJZrCC-RiP-yLt3MBS2LiZSHPyXzooBPQpoMk8szAu\\_NRJB&c=&ch=\) found in remote work](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5Pl3hFr3qnAOroPVJO2NR5ZXyQu-dNdkduh7QojqUwTDEoM2GP100J9m2RhUl7dcDprcxRysruunPduJm53MGC8OHj6_RKHN4JciBtM6S8Q0oPbqYHqyJZrCC-RiP-yLt3MBS2LiZSHPyXzooBPQpoMk8szAu_NRJB&c=&ch=) found in remote work) (reduction of environmental, operative, healthcare, and liability costs) research on

the **psychological impact** ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlmgheXmM9NQ\\_y9Q6cPAi93R34T5MglVTfxtvWVmDGdL4MD2MZTf1DYfUhTmEINw9ZMjB-DZeV2JoVbmWw7KXdWdaiDb\\_oroDPYUbVgjuqrqXWm-AeSJMdzvlzAPmkfR&c=&ch=](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlmgheXmM9NQ_y9Q6cPAi93R34T5MglVTfxtvWVmDGdL4MD2MZTf1DYfUhTmEINw9ZMjB-DZeV2JoVbmWw7KXdWdaiDb_oroDPYUbVgjuqrqXWm-AeSJMdzvlzAPmkfR&c=&ch=)) of **remote work** indicates that **isolation** ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5Pl1snjhND1UkpFq4ZicMv6mZOjoq2tj3Sm4qY9TcWJLKnaTQbpWz4K2bw6zwCQVTLAUveI\\_6oR4TGMrWnhL7NradxnqF9yq3tYQ1yvG3-dVcLtdwd6XYG6fDW4IACNnn-d&c=&ch=](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5Pl1snjhND1UkpFq4ZicMv6mZOjoq2tj3Sm4qY9TcWJLKnaTQbpWz4K2bw6zwCQVTLAUveI_6oR4TGMrWnhL7NradxnqF9yq3tYQ1yvG3-dVcLtdwd6XYG6fDW4IACNnn-d&c=&ch=)), **depression** ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5Pluh68cGoAxN94jNj8AoR44g8y61zs-NuVLxBvHgD5R9T\\_RLJ3cm1TifIs9L\\_hCrmhIgeYmmnSLALDO7fBemdL2S4oWFropMsgKhqdTkINK1l\\_ldIwNY2rhDXqOZOanrSQWoEOrDm64zWyXkVjxtcdFzgHbmma5oMu6TJTa9KjWcnQpHXwofm2vQiC93\\_h13Ru&c=&ch=](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5Pluh68cGoAxN94jNj8AoR44g8y61zs-NuVLxBvHgD5R9T_RLJ3cm1TifIs9L_hCrmhIgeYmmnSLALDO7fBemdL2S4oWFropMsgKhqdTkINK1l_ldIwNY2rhDXqOZOanrSQWoEOrDm64zWyXkVjxtcdFzgHbmma5oMu6TJTa9KjWcnQpHXwofm2vQiC93_h13Ru&c=&ch=)), **passive leadership** ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlfR\\_VFlotgPUEs-uCQDnf6P4mmzauhQXErT\\_z-njWxFzm3DoFhTNw2Vytmyjh8S6J-nBfeKQciBZNBPTJ-Q33lhtTFLZjRuK4ArHRPfpZPuPKbo2i9QLKYvQ2y2SoottNRLhZifxwAY8rVML7MU7OYoR-SJ\\_hOUgmOcnHnxWqSZhI=&c=&ch=](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlfR_VFlotgPUEs-uCQDnf6P4mmzauhQXErT_z-njWxFzm3DoFhTNw2Vytmyjh8S6J-nBfeKQciBZNBPTJ-Q33lhtTFLZjRuK4ArHRPfpZPuPKbo2i9QLKYvQ2y2SoottNRLhZifxwAY8rVML7MU7OYoR-SJ_hOUgmOcnHnxWqSZhI=&c=&ch=)), and **lack of communication** ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5Plv78RMsZf7NL3KfONpCP-rlFaPPPSI5z5Ipl5\\_6rL5zQDwlRzcQJz7DkjtWiv\\_xpxooA3Th5R9AIzboHoCZoMkHGFHWcWof\\_NZRjte74oHUM85gc6VFtOzTAer\\_USC3n1eWbY4pdFZj8sdmgAYeQA5FVi6ht2RMtaPAIWBQR95hoaMOhKn2KExfUXBrpY\\_\\_&c=&ch=](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5Plv78RMsZf7NL3KfONpCP-rlFaPPPSI5z5Ipl5_6rL5zQDwlRzcQJz7DkjtWiv_xpxooA3Th5R9AIzboHoCZoMkHGFHWcWof_NZRjte74oHUM85gc6VFtOzTAer_USC3n1eWbY4pdFZj8sdmgAYeQA5FVi6ht2RMtaPAIWBQR95hoaMOhKn2KExfUXBrpY__&c=&ch=)) (decreasing teamwork efforts) are some of the most consequential effects.

Despite **existential, human rights, and socioeconomic concerns** ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlIXC-J9ZncvBJWWTDx8RCjmr3j975k5mrIaJrlKvUIilkCwGQb1JfkhQMOoQVtHLJkEB2vTr14SkIXHrPY1G\\_PeWaqRV7APEv4d75lpHLo2vlwjfv1oqHFjh8CyPsO8w4o3dtjW5Sy7tZSGbznr5XYZSsYNzxCQmSKKv47szmoBT-sTgtLXeBg-IrqKW2YV5YBwkIWZOqGA=&c=&ch=](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMqjqMjompmbGi5PlIXC-J9ZncvBJWWTDx8RCjmr3j975k5mrIaJrlKvUIilkCwGQb1JfkhQMOoQVtHLJkEB2vTr14SkIXHrPY1G_PeWaqRV7APEv4d75lpHLo2vlwjfv1oqHFjh8CyPsO8w4o3dtjW5Sy7tZSGbznr5XYZSsYNzxCQmSKKv47szmoBT-sTgtLXeBg-IrqKW2YV5YBwkIWZOqGA=&c=&ch=)) about automation, the premise promoting an automated world is rather simple and, in many ways, unavoidable. That is, unlike humans, machines do not get sick and, thus, will not

stop production—particularly when this one is needed the most. In the midst of a pandemic and in a fully automated world, machines could provide humans with a much-needed uninterrupted chain of food supply and healthcare-critical equipment (tests, ventilators, masks, gloves, hospital beds)—as well as **automated** ([http://r2o.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMQjqMjompmbGi5Plt--RwVoNp-Ds1OiFowXQ5N-kQYJjeQLEYchttL41XE2vTBVzVshmj9Vx3ENJgoydvK8KTo-WloUjPDdXZel7KRUwH5C8BTNgl3Au\\_iwtj7GqPPMjEG5C8uRFRzYnptrE5p\\_KjVLhktvJkhRrQamw==&c=&ch=](http://r2o.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMQjqMjompmbGi5Plt--RwVoNp-Ds1OiFowXQ5N-kQYJjeQLEYchttL41XE2vTBVzVshmj9Vx3ENJgoydvK8KTo-WloUjPDdXZel7KRUwH5C8BTNgl3Au_iwtj7GqPPMjEG5C8uRFRzYnptrE5p_KjVLhktvJkhRrQamw==&c=&ch=)) and **remotely supervised** ([http://r2o.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMQjqMjompmbGi5Plv1sADWxKWDSKqzxZ6rddWhVksJkoKQmthPr4SjVAMv5iFqyTert\\_4GS-T7zznIyuyesP\\_yGwRYoB7PMx5uq8cmDryTfjH87zSTAgR-z2-WNkD1vLU-bcQFwXXQ2y8lia8bSBBZppm2qhzNmxlZg8VqXZMhnA-Ki\\_PBBGXUpNx2ByaN4QZmo-SOrYG1Tv7BBF&c=&ch=](http://r2o.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMQjqMjompmbGi5Plv1sADWxKWDSKqzxZ6rddWhVksJkoKQmthPr4SjVAMv5iFqyTert_4GS-T7zznIyuyesP_yGwRYoB7PMx5uq8cmDryTfjH87zSTAgR-z2-WNkD1vLU-bcQFwXXQ2y8lia8bSBBZppm2qhzNmxlZg8VqXZMhnA-Ki_PBBGXUpNx2ByaN4QZmo-SOrYG1Tv7BBF&c=&ch=)) medical attention with minimal or no risk of infection to medical workers. The benefits—both in human lives saved and in uninterrupted economic activity—are, at least in the short term, indisputable.

Still, the effects of this replacement in the long term and in relation to human interaction, functionality, and purpose are far more complex. What would we do with the millions of humans who will not **transition** ([http://r2o.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL\\_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMQjqMjompmbGi5PlrYPAioVW8Goos1xflo5Fs31EV1eIh5oNnpoyIX\\_7mvHf7lt8knZ7w4AehzuHspyJnsbiHNwIOMnOTHHSFkRhddBNTPrmdDAaejx1qYHgdnWUBRzHcJ6bYWou\\_Je4ataP7YO7iKkPsoe1Mrm6hHWwekykr216cBtdFDeBLpu6R9f-mEJkHKsEiViVHFVX2Iv42zknZXbeLaXipghrQ9Nt9Ghurh\\_otR&c=&ch=](http://r2o.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001iF3nHEL_7BJG1KGzDrYS-2E2Ft96jOju5RFrdXhnKJcZQUgJMQjqMjompmbGi5PlrYPAioVW8Goos1xflo5Fs31EV1eIh5oNnpoyIX_7mvHf7lt8knZ7w4AehzuHspyJnsbiHNwIOMnOTHHSFkRhddBNTPrmdDAaejx1qYHgdnWUBRzHcJ6bYWou_Je4ataP7YO7iKkPsoe1Mrm6hHWwekykr216cBtdFDeBLpu6R9f-mEJkHKsEiViVHFVX2Iv42zknZXbeLaXipghrQ9Nt9Ghurh_otR&c=&ch=)) towards other creative, highly-specialized, or managerial tasks? How could a fully automated world assure continued consumption, human dignity and sources of revenue to all its inhabitants—as well as socioeconomic equality among people and countries? Unfortunately, these concerns are unlikely to be at the forefront of the upcoming-

accelerated automation process. After all, the decision-making process of modern humans, their political systems, and their leaders are not characterized by their long-term perspective.

In the post-COVID-19 world, the numbers reflecting the pandemic and its economic impact will likely become the justification for a shift of paradigm in human production.

Making determinations about our future during the most uncertain present will thus require not merely competence but wisdom. Return to normalcy is a self-deception.

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