# PRACTICAL ASPECTS OF STUDENT VOLUNTEER WORK DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AS A MEANS OF DEVELOPING ENTREPRENEURIAL ACTIVITY

## Anastasia D. Arefyeva, Deerfield Academy

### ABSTRACT

Aim of the study: Volunteer movements as a response to the coronavirus pandemic have sprung up around the world. People provide psychological assistance for free, deliver and manually create personal protective equipment for doctors who are now in urgent need, bring medicines and food to the elderly, take animals whose owners are ill for overexposure. Russia did not stand aside. For example, several dozen online chat rooms have already been created in Moscow, where volunteers have gathered to help doctors, elderly people and anyone who is in a difficult situation due to the spread of the coronavirus. Many of them are already actively providing assistance

**Methodology:** To help the authorities and people came volunteers involved in the most popular areas. As a rule, this is targeted assistance in the delivery of food and medicine to socially vulnerable citizens in need, participation in conducting RAID and preventive measures together with the Ministry of internal Affairs, explanatory work with the population about the existing restrictions, volunteering in quarantine centers, during disinfection, and sewing masks.

**Conclusion:** As it happens, the coronavirus pandemic has become an effective promoter of volunteerism as a movement. And many people do this at the call of the soul, without asking for gratitude. And not because they want to please someone in power, put a check mark on their resume. This is a good trend, which is now evident in the country, which, according to sociologists, is in the group of States with an insufficient level of development of volunteer activities.

**Keywords:** Entrepreneurship, Innovation System, Risk Management, Stock, Component, Formation.

### INTRODUCTION

If you go deeper into history, you can clearly see how each global epidemic changed the world. For example, as a result of the plague pandemic in the fourteenth century, which killed a third of the working-age population of Europe, the price of labor increased. Ordinary workers received a pay increase of two to three times what they received before the plague. In 2003, the SARS epidemic in China caused the growth of online Commerce. Over the past two decades, humanity has learned to close almost all its needs via the Internet (Audretsch, 2020).

The COVID-19 epidemic will also have consequences. This is not only about medicine, but also about politics, Economics, and ecology. The longer the restrictions that we are now obliged to observe last, the higher the chances that temporary changes in our lives will be fixed foreve).

### METHODOLOGY

SARS-CV-2 coronavirus will go down in history not only because of the systematic and unpredictable impact on the human body and rapid spread in the global dimension. This is the first experience when a purely biological factor caused an almost solitary life in the social plane and revealed a super-powerful effectiveness in influencing the political, legal, socio-economic sphere, inter-state relations and lifestyles, which received the name "*Coronacriza*" in the expert community (Brown, 2020).

Significant differences in the development and course of COVID-19 morbidity between countries that have similar climatic and social conditions and use both similar and different models of anti-epidemic measures, once again confirm the weak predictability of the impact of SARS-CoV-2 on the human population (Giones, 2020). As a result of the continuous increase in active cases of the disease on a global scale for almost half a year, there are still General disappointing expectations about the likelihood of subsequent waves of pandemics. Even the fading of the pandemic in Europe does not remove the problem of high epidemic risks from the agenda, which will continue to negatively affect consumer and business behavior (Ketchen, 2020). And the global progress of the pandemic will hinder the recovery of global mobility, which will sharply weaken the positive effect of the integration of world markets while fully preserving the risks of global interdependence.

The global course of coronacrizi confirms the integrity of this phenomenon, in which there was a combination of biological, socio-political and economic dimensions, in each of which the "*pandemic*" develops according to its own laws inherent in these areas (Liu, 2020).

In the public consciousness, the coronavirus has acquired an independent existence, dictating the behavior of national communities, in which the imperatives of health and life clearly prevail over the previously unshakeable values on which democratic procedures and institutional models of the market economy were built (Martinez, 2020). The limited scale of the pandemic has made it possible to prevent such value changes from taking hold. However, coronacriza has already caused significant institutional changes, which, given the uncertainty of the development of the biological dimension of coronacriza, will long affect a number of key elements of political and economic life: the implementation of democratic procedures, the organization of public communications, priorities and forms of interstate relations, consumer behavior and preferences, ways to attract and use human capital, the organization of medical and anti-epidemic provision, and so on (Neumeyer, 2020). Since such changes often ran along fault lines that delineated outdated ineffective interaction models, many new institutional forms have every reason to become components of the "new normal" even after the COVID-19 pandemic becomes history. This, however, does not apply to the models of authoritarian control and national isolation formed during the coronacriz period to the extent that they perform an "Immunostimulating" role for national communities, they will give way to the "immunity" of the network social capital, which is being formed on an international scale within the framework of Globalization 3.0.

The manual mode of quarantine shutdown of economies led to a sharp collapse of economic indicators. However, it is also impossible to manually start the system after months of downtime. The duration of the post-crisis depression will largely be determined by the need to adapt economic players to new opportunities and restrictions in the markets of goods, investment, labor, and intangible capital, and to build adequate business strategies (Ratten, 2020). Financial investments by themselves would have limited effectiveness because of the unsuitability of the institutional models generated in the process of coronaries (Ratten, 2020).

Anti-crisis policies of States should reach far beyond the financial support of the economy, promote business adaptability to post-crisis institutional realities, restore mutual trust of economic actors based on the ability to maintain stability and economic activity even in the event of a repeat of pandemic or other crises generated outside the economy. Therefore, one of the key areas of anti-crisis strategies is the development of anti-epidemic stability of economies and communities, which should protect against the spread of infectious diseases in industrial activities, social interaction, and everyday life (Rizvi, 2020).

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

When I tried volunteering, I soon got a response that made me stay. I felt like I was doing something meaningful. I've been missing this for a very long time and it's nice. I was afraid of the coronavirus changes, because my mother had problems with work. I started to think in a panic that our family would run out of money and that it would be difficult. So I imagined myself in the place of those who are in need during a crisis. I decided that I would help them and score karma points. I don't really believe it, because it's esoteric. But when you do something useful for others, you get the feeling that you are also worthy of good. I don't think it increases my chances of a good life in the future. But now I have confidence in myself and in the future (Vladimirovich, 2019).

One person receives calls, another sorts them, and the third person discounts money to buy food. All the others are volunteers, although some also help take calls. We already have more than a hundred people in the team, but it's still not enough. Of these hundred people, not all are active, and the applications themselves are scattered unevenly. For example, there is a light green branch where only one person works. We have to go there in raids from other areas and deliver a lot of applications at once. On average, we receive between 50 and 90 requests per day. During this time, we distributed 1000 sets of products (Abramov, 2016).

We have a separate channel where all requests are received. In it, you accept what is convenient for you and act. After you buy food and drop the check, you get a refund (Bacq, 2020). I don't know exactly who is funding this, but we get a lot of donations. I think that donating about the same people as we have volunteers. We don't ask what the situation is for those who ask for help. This is all based on trust – if a person has asked, then we will bring it to them. And if he doesn't need it, then let it be on his conscience (Clarkson, 2020).

There are definitely cheaters, but I don't want to blame anyone in particular. I read in the chat that there was a young man who came out on the porch with a cigarette, did not say "Hello" or "thank you". So it was obvious that he was not one of the needy. But these are not very many, 5-10 percent maximum (Hernández-Sánchez, 2020).

The chat has a universal list of products for any application: potatoes, sausages, pasta, fruit, cucumbers, milk, butter, bread, and all the most standard. Usually you follow the list for the first few days, and then you start improvising. Because the list includes, for example, water, and pensioners, as a rule, do not drink purchased water. That's why I don't buy water (Kuckertz, 2020).

This list is not suitable for everyone. There are Allergy sufferers and diabetics who can't do much. Often people ask for something special to bring and you adjust the list. My friend was told once: "*If you can, buy celery*!" Celery was the last thing she expected to hear from a pensioner.

We are guided by a thousand rubles per purchase. Sometimes I get more than that. There was a case when I wanted to buy additional products, because the person is waiting for delivery for a very long time. At the same time, I did not pay extra out of my own pocket once. If you run

out of money, you are always met halfway. Sometimes other volunteers pay for their own food in full, but I can't afford that (Maritz, 2020).

There are different people among the volunteers. At the very beginning, there were mostly young people like me, and then adults and well-off people began to appear. Many are over 30 years old, and there are members of religious organizations (Mirza, 2020).

I also invited my friend to the project. We met on tinder, she had all the photos from pickets. And in the description: "If there is time to sit here, then there is time to protect the rights of political prisoners." Soon I invited her to volunteer with me in "*Mutual Aid*". Just then, a lot of applications were accumulated on the green branch. And I wrote to her that I would not physically take out all these deliveries alone, so she joined me. At first, she went with me just like that, and the next day she signed up for a chat and also became a volunteer officially. Now the two of us go through applications. I felt that I had done something important (Ratten, 2020).

The first time was one of the most motivating, in a way it was my duckling syndrome. Then I had a day off from work. I saw two applications in Izmailovo and went to them. Then there was a request in the center near the Kuznetsky bridge and I decided to stop there on the way. There was a grandfather who was smiling sincerely and didn't understand that he didn't owe us anything for food. I kept saying it: "*Thank you very much, I don't know how to thank you.*" He lives in a room in an old communal apartment on the third floor of a high-ceilinged building. I think it was physically difficult for him to go to the store. After meeting my grandfather, I felt that I had done something important and useful that gave meaning to my existence (Ratten, 2020).

Since then, I have managed to help 30 more people. In 90 percent of cases, these are pensioners, sometimes large families. There are unusual requests: one elderly woman not only asked for food, but also complained of loneliness she lives with her own son, who does not communicate with her. And she asked the volunteer who came to her if he could advise a psychologist. Recently, a certified psychologist joined our team, and his contacts were passed to grandma. It touched me (Ratten, 2020).

It was also interesting to deliver food to a 30-year-old man on Vykhino. We thought it was going to be a crumbling granddad. And there was a very cheerful man who also wished us to stay fit and healthy, to live to 90 years.

People often talk about their lives. There was a case when there were 3 applications in one house. The first applicant left, but the other one didn't open the door for us. The third woman opened the door to us, and in the end we gave all three orders to her alone. And she told us about the other two (Scheepers, 2020). They say that a sick grandmother lives on the first floor with an alcoholic son who fought in Afghanistan. She told us not to bring her food, because her son would drink it all. She said that she buys food and comes to feed this recumbent grandmother. And the last time she answered: "I haven't eaten for so long, thank you very much!". We meet such starving people and, unfortunately, not a few.

### CONCLUSION

There are people who just can't leave the house and they have to rely on someone's help. I recently took help to my grandmother, who said she was afraid to leave the house because she didn't have masks or anything. I delivered the order to her on Friday, and she's been waiting for it since Sunday. Such unpleasant situations occur because we do not have enough volunteers. I don't know how she got through this week.

But not everything is so sad and depressing. Sometimes they say very inspiring things in the spirit: "*Happiness to you and your Zhukov*!". There was a grandfather who waited four days for an order. When we finally got there, he started telling us how he'd had cancer twice. One doctor told him: "*Real life in the country, what do you care about all this urban, from this all the diseases*!". And he moved into the house of some friends of his in the village, lit the stove. Wakes up in the morning, sees a happy fat fly crawling on the ceiling. And thinks: "*here is life*!"

Passes are issued only to state volunteers. We are not issued because we are not registered as an NGO. It's a good thing I have a work pass. Sonia also made a pass through dostavista, a courier aggregator. You register there, send the documents, and formally apply for a job. They give you a certificate that you work. In this help, specify the company name and INN that you need to get a pass to mos.ru. So anyone can get this pass. Our volunteers were stopped by the police and allowed to pass with this pass.

#### REFERENCES

- Abramov, R.A. (2016). Regional economic policy based on industrial sector clustering in the context of sustainable development. *Research Journal of Pharmaceutical, Biological and Chemical Sciences*, 7(2), 2100-2106.
- Audretsch, D.B., & Moog, P. (2020). Democracy and Entrepreneurship. Entrepreneurship: Theory and Practice. https://doi.org/10.1177/1042258720943307
- Bacq, S., Geoghegan, W., Josefy, M., Stevenson, R., & Williams, T.A. (2020). The COVID-19 Virtual Idea Blitz: Marshaling social entrepreneurship to rapidly respond to urgent grand challenges. Business Horizons.
- Brown, R., Rocha, A., & Cowling, M. (2020). Financing entrepreneurship in times of crisis: Exploring the impact of COVID-19 on the market for entrepreneurial finance in the United Kingdom. *International Small Business Journal: Researching Entrepreneurship*, 38(5), 380–390.
- Clarkson, B. G., Culvin, A., Pope, S., & Parry, K. D. (2020). Covid-19: Reflections on threat and uncertainty for the future of elite women's football in England. Managing Sport and Leisure. https://doi.org/10.1080/23750472.2020.1766377
- Giones, F., Brem, A., Pollack, J.M., Michaelis, T.L., Klyver, K., & Brinckmann, J. (2020). Revising entrepreneurial action in response to exogenous shocks: Considering the COVID-19 pandemic. Journal of Business Venturing Insights, 14. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbvi.2020.e00186
- Hernández-Sánchez, B.R., Cardella, G.M., & Sánchez-García, J.C. (2020). Psychological factors that lessen the impact of covid-19 on the self-employment intention of business administration and economics' students from latin america. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 17(15), 1–22.
- Ketchen, D.J., & Craighead, C.W. (2020). Research at the Intersection of Entrepreneurship, Supply Chain Management, and Strategic Management: Opportunities Highlighted by COVID-19. Journal of Management. https://doi.org/10.1177/0149206320945028
- Kuckertz, A., Brändle, L., Gaudig, A., Hinderer, S., Morales Reyes, C.A., Prochotta, A., & Berger, E.S.C. (2020). Startups in times of crisis A rapid response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Journal of Business Venturing Insights, 13. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbvi.2020.e00169
- Liu, Y., Lee, J.M., & Lee, C. (2020). The challenges and opportunities of a global health crisis: the management and business implications of COVID-19 from an Asian perspective. Asian Business and Management, 19(3), 277–297.
- Maritz, A., Perenyi, A., de Waal, G., & Buck, C. (2020). Entrepreneurship as the unsung hero during the current COVID-19 economic crisis: Australian perspectives. Sustainability (Switzerland), 12(11). https://doi.org/10.3390/su12114612
- Martinez Dy, A., & Jayawarna, D. (2020). Bios, mythoi and women entrepreneurs: A Wynterian analysis of the intersectional impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on self-employed women and women-owned businesses. *International Small Business Journal: Researching Entrepreneurship*, 38(5), 391–403.
- Mirza, N., Naqvi, B., Rahat, B., & Rizvi, S.K.A. (2020). Price reaction, volatility timing and funds' performance during Covid-19. Finance Research Letters.
- Neumeyer, X., Ashton, W.S., & Dentchev, N. (2020). Addressing resource and waste management challenges imposed by COVID-19: An entrepreneurship perspective. Resources, Conservation and Recycling, 162. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.resconrec.2020.105058

- Ratten, V. (2020). Coronavirus (covid-19) and entrepreneurship: changing life and work landscape. *Journal of Small Business and Entrepreneurship*, 1–14.
- Ratten, V. (2020). Coronavirus (covid-19) and social value co-creation. *International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy*. https://doi.org/10.1108/IJSSP-06-2020-0237
- Ratten, V. (2020). Coronavirus (Covid-19) and the entrepreneurship education community. Journal of Enterprising Communities. https://doi.org/10.1108/JEC-06-2020-0121
- Ratten, V. (2020). Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and sport entrepreneurship. International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behaviour and Research. https://doi.org/10.1108/IJEBR-06-2020-0387
- Ratten, V. (2020). Cultural, lifestyle, and social entrepreneurship. *Journal of Small Business and Entrepreneurship*, 1–8. https://doi.org/10.1080/08276331.2020.1789933
- Rizvi, S.K.A., Mirza, N., Naqvi, B., & Rahat, B. (2020). Covid-19 and asset management in EU: a preliminary assessment of performance and investment styles. *Journal of Asset Management*, 21(4), 281–291. https://doi.org/10.1057/s41260-020-00172-3
- Scheepers, C.B., & Bogie, J. (2020). Uber Sub-Saharan Africa: contextual leadership for sustainable business model innovation during COVID-19. *Emerald Emerging Markets Case Studies*, 10(3), 1–18. https://doi.org/10.1108/EEMCS-05-2020-0165
- Vladimirovich, M.I., Nisonovich, S.M., Sergeevich, S.M., & Aharonovich, A.R. (2019). Regional differentiation of support of youth innovative entrepreneurship system in the Union state. Academy of Entrepreneurship Journal, 25(Special Issue 1).