

Review of: "[Commentary] Global Governance and Sustainable Development: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The Commentary is well written and supported by adequate existing research. It is a normative piece of work in which Stefano has provided stern warnings that unless we look after our natural environment, social inequalities, etc., pandemic like COVID-19 will create further havoc on the existence of mankind in the future. The world has seen heavier losses of human lives in developed countries compared to developing countries due to COVID-19 pandemics. On the other hand, while developed countries stand high in terms of UN HDI, as per the Global Footprint Website, most of these countries are in the red zone in terms of their non-sustainable consumption of resources, compared to developing countries, most of which are in the green zone. More studies are needed to explore whether authoritarian regimes are better at managing pandemics and loss of human lives compared to democratic regimes, considering their environmental management system as the moderating variable/factor. For example, Italy and Great Britain both are democratic countries but have experienced huge losses of human lives due to COVID-19. Is it because of their higher level of non-sustainable consumption of natural resources? The Commentary has provided some literature evidence that there were a lesser number of COVID-19 related deaths in developing countries compared to developed countries. More studies are needed to explore whether the lesser number of COVID-19 related deaths in developing countries is because most of these countries stand in the green zone as per the Global Footprint Website.