

The effects of the American elections

Giulio Tremonti

Obama: 'This Is Not the Apocalypse'

by [Josh Feldman](#) | 6:48 pm, November 17th, 2016

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The New Yorker is out with a fascinating new interview between **President Obama** and **David Remnick** that took place in the aftermath of the election last week.

And the pervading theme of

the interview is the president's optimism that this isn't the end of the world. Literally speaking.

Remnick writes that Obama literally consoled staffers the morning after the election by saying, "This is not the apocalypse." The president himself told Remnick, "I don't believe in apocalyptic—until the apocalypse comes. I think nothing is the end of the world until the end of the world."

17th November, 2016, Berlin

President Obama:

"...it is not the apocalypse..."

"... the end of the world occurs when the world ends..."

It is true, but if it is not the end of the world, it is certainly the end of **a world**

15 July 1789 - 8 November 2016

An aggressive parallel: the same difference between a revolt and a revolution



Bastille



François de La Rochefoucauld



Louis XVI of France

Early in the morning the Duke woke the King up with the news of the “**Bastille**”

The King asks: “Was it a **revolt**?”

“No, your Majesty: it was a **revolution**”

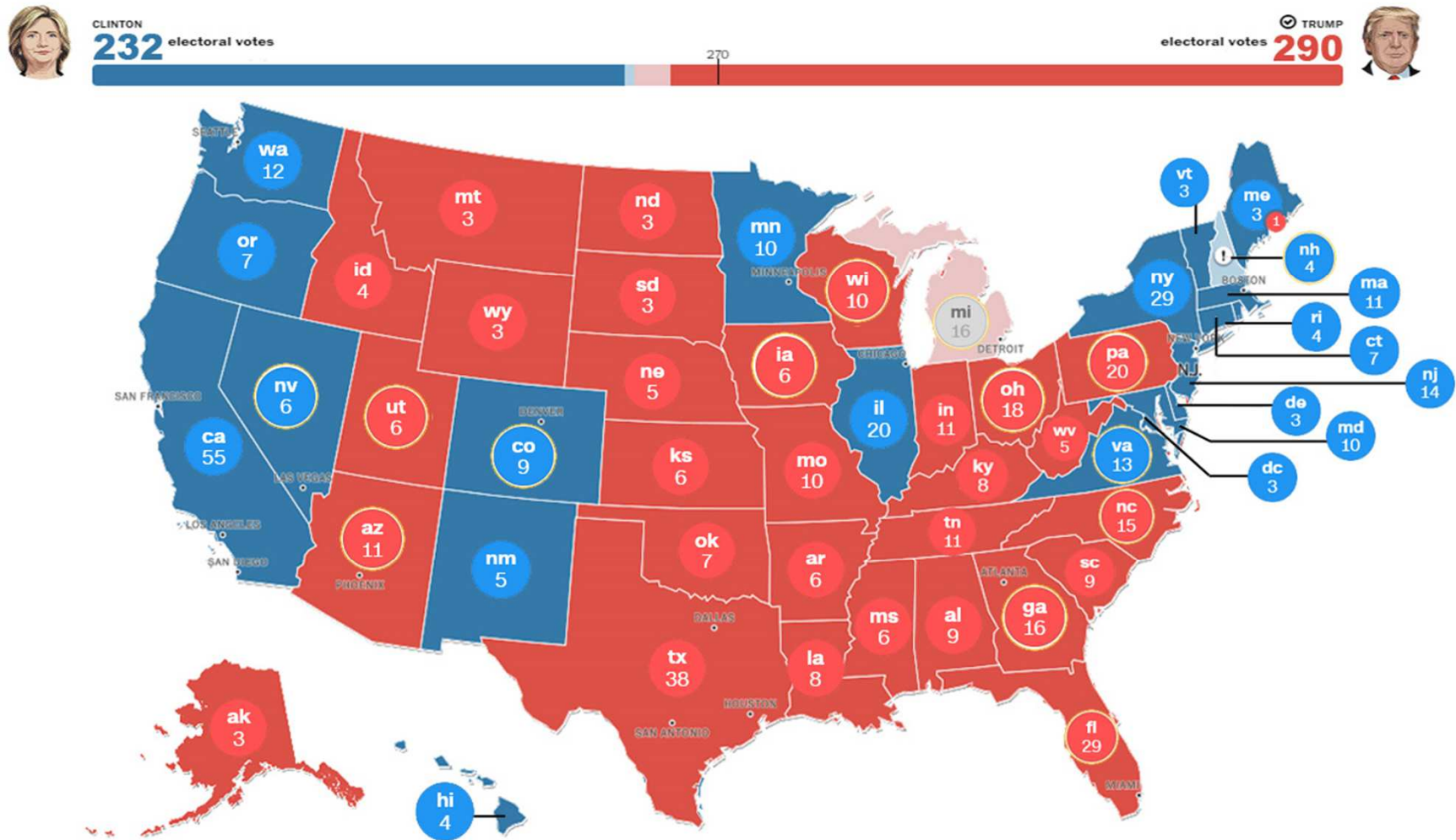
The King adopted the word revolution, but his sentiment was: at least it could be a revolt

This is the reason why he was guillotined.

The **map** of the “Ancient Regime”

The “**American vote**”

As you can see polarized between **Wall Street** and **Silicon Valley**!



Where is the change?

The end of “hubris”, the end of the vertigo of power, the end of the illusion of being at the “zero year” of humanity, the illusion to be able to create a brave new world and a new mankind: where everything must be “politically correct”.

The “Law” (somebody prefers to call it “regulation”) is always a good political **marker** of the extension of political power.

Latest regulations in the USA

President Obama has just set a new record for rules and regulations, his administration spitting out 527 pages worth in just one day, as he races to put his fingerprint on virtually every corner of American life and business.

According to the Competitive Enterprise Institute, the administration has just shattered the old record for pages of regulations and rules published by the in-house journal, the Federal Register.

At 81,640 total pages for 2016, it ranks first and 235 pages more than all of those published in 2010, the previous record.

Top federal register page counts

RANK	YEAR	PAGE COUNTS	POTUS
1	2016	81,640	Obama
2	2010	81,405	Obama
3	2011	81,247	Obama
4	2015	80,260	Obama
5	2008	79,435	Bush
6	2013	79,311	Obama
7	2012	78,961	Obama
8	2014	77,687	Obama
9	2004	75,675	Bush
10	2002	75,606	Bush
11	2006	74,937	Bush
12	2000	74,258	Clinton
13	2005	73,870	Bush
14	1980	73,258	Carter
15	2007	72,090	Bush

In 2015 European regulations were extended by more than **151 linear km**, approximately **30,900 pages**

Everything was regulated with the exception of the essentials: no real regulation on banks (Glass-Steagall), but regulation introducing gender-neutral toilets in federal buildings.

It is also the end of “politics” embedded in the global world

- the “white shirt”, a uniform instead of the soul?;

- aesthetics instead of ethics;

- thinking, replaced by “algorithms”;

- ideas, replaced by tweets;

- “futures”, instead of the future;

- and so on...

By the way it is also the end of the current “LEFT”

Athens, the meeting of the “European Left”

Which liturgy? Athens (Left) or Davos (World Economic Forum)?



It is a “Furious World” not for the first time

My latest book is called “Mundus Furiosus”

It is the second book to have this title



In any case the “copyright” has expired!

In the 17th century the world was “furious”, mainly because of the geographic discovery of The Americas.

Introduction of more business-friendly religions than Roman ones was an application for development of the economic areas of the new world.

The first Brexit (schism 1539 against the Roman Catholic Church), Roman Catholic Church at that time the equivalent of the European Union.

But not just because of these reasons. Widespread diffusion of printed books, which was the internet of those times.

Scientific revolution, from Ptolemaic to Copernican vision.

Moreover war, conflicts, the decline of the old political structures (mainly in Italy), the appearance of the new political entity represented by “Nation States” and “Empire States”.

The following century (17th century) was equally turbulent: wars, pestilence, probably a limited ice age (“global change” also at that time!) etc.

But, anyway, **two centuries!**

Today, after the last two decades, the world is equally “Furiosus”.

“Pandora’s Box” was opened. History was compressed and exploded, stressed in almost two decades.

Never before in history was a rally so intense and so quick!

- November 1989, Berlin: the collapse of the “wall”.

- May 1994, Marrakech: the WTO agreement (not only a commercial treaty but mainly a political one).

- January 1996, Washington: the dramatic impulse towards globalization coming from the Clinton Presidency. The emergence of “mercatism”, the last ideology of the 19th century. The world designed and organized on the basis of a unique uniform mercantile vision. This was the cradle of the last ideology of the 19th century: marked “sicut deus”, able to dominate everything existing: peoples, democracy, rule of law, etc.

- November 2001, Beijing: China (Asia) joined the WTO

- October 2008, New York: the explosion of the financial crisis. What is curious is that the mercantilist ideology was paradoxically reinforced because of the financial crisis, by a new political role that was given to financial institutions.

The losers becoming the winners.

Not people occupying Wall Street, but Wall Street (the financial powers and Central Banks) occupying the White House and the European Union.

A new world, not only on the financial **dominion**.

Indeed, the mercantilist ideology was supported and widened on the “web”, its fatherland.

Here the expected emergence of the “Digital Republics”.

Fatefully, globalization also has a “dark side”, the **financial** crisis became an economic **crisis** and as a consequence a **social** and at the end a **political** crisis.

Not surprisingly!



Reference id	08ROME1315	aka Wikileaks id #175954 ?
Subject	SUMMIT ON FINANCIAL MARKETS AND THE WORLD ECONOMY - LIKELY ITALIAN POSTURE	
Origin	Embassy Rome (Italy)	
Classification	CONFIDENTIAL	

Cable time Thu,
30 Oct 2008 12:45 UTC

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Italy will also likely Minister Giulio Tremonti has gone farther, stating publicly his desire to abolish hedge funds and create new roles for the IMF and the World Bank in supervising financial markets. Moreover, he is quoted, in the October 18 issue of The Economist as advocating radical reform of international finance and an expanded G8. (Comment: Tremonti has always expressed deep suspicions about the benefits of globalization, and a rather eclectic economic philosophy.)

In the magic world of “WikiLeaks”, I have discovered this extract.

I am sorry, but it seems I was right!

Some days after, the “**orthodox**” economic philosophy collapsed, with the financial crisis.

By the way, my political philosophy has been “unorthodox” for... the last 20 years:

“Nazioni senza ricchezza, ricchezze senza nazione” (1993)

“Il fantasma della povertà” (1995)

“Rischi fatali” (2005)

“La paura e la speranza” (2008)

“Bugie e Verità- La ragione dei popoli” (2014)

“Mundus Furiosus ” (2016)

Not exactly optimistic titles!

Now we have a problem, mainly in Europe: the pre-existing general crisis of Europe **plus** now the rise of “populism”.

In the last “*manifesto*” of the European “*elite*” (on the Italian side mainly Sandro Gozi) it is written:

“The root causes of Brexit and of Trump's victory are for the most part the same: the increase of inequality, the stall of the social elevator, the fear of loss of identity multiplied by the fear of mass immigration, abandonment of the social question, an inadequate educational and cultural system, mistrust of an elite obsessed with their own personal interests and of public institutions perceived as being costly and inefficient.

In both cases, the consequences for Europeans and for the world are significant”.

In the “manifesto” it’s clear that they understand everything...with the exception of the essential!

What caused the present situation?

Where was the “*elite*” at the time of the origin of the crisis and, at least, when the crisis started?

In my opinion populism is a very complex phenomenon.

Very complex.

A lot of factors: economic and social crisis, fear of the migrations, mistrust of the political class also a reaction **against** the excess of the global “regulation” aimed at removing history and traditions, local and basic values.

The problem generated by an excess, cannot be resolved by the **opposite excess**.

Some “**equilibrium**” between the two opposite excesses (i.e. globalization and tradition) could be required.

“Populism”!

Can Populism be demonised as a “malum in se”?

Or is populism “why the people are right”?

In any case **democracy** cannot be cancelled: we are not facing small numbers, but big and increasing numbers, we are not speaking of a multiplication on the territory of “tribuni plebis”, but indeed of democracy!

A large and increasing extension of new political bodies: new parties, new movements.

No illusion at this purpose!

What to do?

Just an example, based on a provocative question:

Is the building of anti-migration walls a terrible thing or a realistic political strategy?

The walls do not work effectively – we know – but are efficient in the communication of a message of safety to old and terrified European people!

Just to avoid the rise of new populist reactions.

Anyway in Europe problems cannot be **limited** to populism.

History is coming back and repeating itself.

For example, in Europe the return of the historic dialectic: “Sea Power **versus** Land Power”.

Or, from the European side, was **Waterloo** a debacle or a victory?

And for whom?

How to conclude?

Considering the status of our so-called “**elites**”, I am not optimistic.

As it was said after the First World War, by a terrible man (the mechanised painter): “if you think the impossible, it usually comes true”.