

HPCG High-Performance Coaching
Newsletter #27, Ralf Wolter



Dear Reader,



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“Business Continuity in our professional and daily lives”

Russia’s offensive war against the Ukraine has illustrated the urgent need for a “Plan B” - not just in Germany where we are desperately dependent on Gas supplies, but also in our individual lives.

Coincidentally, I am currently working on a BCM program for a client (Business Continuity Management, i.e. guidelines for an organization to ensure that in case of incidences, the critical business functions may continue or resume within an appropriate timeframe). It’s a really challenging task as it illustrates that everything is connected - you eliminate a single asset and suddenly realize how many processes it impacts. When proposing the initiative 18 months ago, most people said, “oh dear, another of these unnecessary activities, this project will never fly”. Well, it turns out that I have not heard such comment for quite some time now.

The concept of a Plan B is not limited to business processes, it has relevant impact on our personal daily lives. We all remember various shortages during the Corona pandemic: toilet paper in Germany, baguettes in France, weed in the Netherlands, and guns in the USA (feel free to draw your own conclusions from these interesting differences).

Broken supply chains have reached every area of life - last month when I wanted to order dog food online, I got the message “currently unavailable” - not sure if our dog would be excited if he suddenly gets mostly vegetarian food from our plates...

No matter the example, it all comes down to the question: what is your Plan B?

From a practical point of view:

- Do you have enough food and water at home - just in case?
- Regarding your job: what if utilities at home or work are suddenly not available – or you cannot afford them in the same way as you used to?
- What if your company/employer goes out of business?
- On a – positive - personal level: what makes you happy that cannot be taken away from you, and that does not depend on someone else?

It can help to reflect on how open-minded we are when plans are suddenly changing. Am I willing to adjust to unwanted situations? Research proves: **humans can adjust really well, even in difficult situations**. So, it all comes down whether you *want* to adjust. Because no matter how much we plan, there will always be uncertainties in life. And after all, within every uncertainty there is a hidden possibility.

If you want to start preparing for disasters, here are two links:

https://www.bbk.bund.de/EN/Home/home_node.html

<https://www.ready.gov/kit>

I leave you with this quote of wisdom:

“God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.” ~ Reinhold Niebuhr

Have a nice weekend! And if you need to work during the weekend, make sure that it is fulfilling.

Best regards,

Ralf Wolter

HPCG® Founder, Coach and Consultant

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