Mired in uncertainty, are leaders equipped to make the right choices? The 2021 Global Peter Drucker Forum will zero in on the enduring questions raised by a year of catastrophe.

We will focus on two trends that events have thrown into stark relief. First: uncertainty in our world has reached the point where the forecasting most organizations still rely on is useless. Second: our digital age has fostered a near-religious faith in technocratic approaches – of which the pandemic has promptly made a mockery by exposing the futility of relying solely on data-driven models and scientific knowledge to dictate solutions in highly complex settings. We will put up for discussion the fashionable view that there is a great “reset-button” we can push to usher in a better future. As Peter Drucker taught us, major institutional change, and even more so transitions in society as a whole, require a delicate balance between continuity and change – a profoundly human capability.