Chapter 3
The Euro-Indian Ecosphere

Abstract This chapter examines the systemic performance of the KSI nations of the Republic of India, the European Union (EU), the Russian Federation, and the Federal Republic of Nigeria. It summarizes the key systemic priorities and the transformational forces at work in each, as the world evolves into a planetary society. All four KSI nations face significant divisive forces that risk compromising national integrity and stability. Both the EU and the Russian Federation are following a close trajectory that point to stronger cooperation and integration, as they become advanced knowledge societies before 2045. Grave humanitarian, socioeconomic and population challenges in India and Nigeria may require another 60 years before they join the ranks of fully developed knowledge societies. After 2080, India will likely dominate the Euro-Indian ecosphere, as it becomes a global superpower. Moreover, all four KSI nations are at the nexus of emerging an Arab and Central Islamic ecosphere, as well as an African one, the shapes of which will become more evident after 2040. Currently, these regions form a belt of chaos engendering notably high risks of anarchy and continued war conflicts that will likely persist over the coming decades. The years between 2020 and 2080 will be critical for development and peace not only for this ecosphere, but for a habitable and safer planet.

Keywords India superpower future · African humanitarian priorities · Transforming the European Union · Transforming India · Transforming Nigeria · Transforming Russia

There are four KSI nations in the Euro-Indian ecosphere that will influence the direction and future across Africa, Europe and the nations bordering the Indian Ocean. These include the Republic of India, the European Union (EU), and the Russian Federation, and the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Their systemic challenges are presented below.
3.1 India: The Ascent of the Ganesh?

The Republic of India (Bharat) has the potential to become a technologically advanced and preeminent civilizational state towards the end of the twenty-first century. Reflecting the beauty of the lotus, its national flower, and the formidable power of the elephant, its national animal, India will overcome its colossal challenges and may well surprise the world with its humanity and ingenuity. In the Hindu pantheon, Ganesh, with its head of an elephant, represents intellect, understanding and wisdom and is seen as the remover of obstacles and symbol of new beginnings (Brown, 1991). With the intellect and wisdom of its peoples and the energy and vibrance of its youth, India will emerge from and triumph over what seems to be insurmountable challenges and will play a critical role in the emerging planetary order of the next century.

3.1.1 Humanitarian Systems

3.1.1.1 Water

Aside from its extensive coastlines along the Indian Ocean, including the Andaman Sea, Arabian Sea, the Bay of Bengal, the Gulf of Munnar and the Laccadive Sea, India has extensive waterway systems of over 10,876 mi (17,181 km). Among its major river networks are the Brahmaputra, the Ganges (Ganga) and the Indus. India faces clean and safe water resource challenges (Amarasinghe, Shah, Turral, & Anand, 2007; Briscoe & Malik, 2006). At 1430 m$^3$/capita, India faces critical shortages of clean and safe water that affect over 81 million Indians. In the future, an additional 340 million will be at risk of water insecurity. As Victor Mallet (2017) stated: “If Ganga dies, India dies. If Ganga thrives, India thrives. The lives of 500 million people are no small thing.” In addition to the inequitable distribution of potable water across its vast territory, over 790 million Indians do not have access to adequate sanitation facilities with proper wastewater treatment. With the rise of temperatures, the rate of desertification is increasing, as seen in the expanding Thar Desert (Rajasthan). Yet the North and Northeast Indian states bordering the Himalayan Mountains have water reserves that could respond to the pressing needs of the more arid regions of India through water network systems. In addition, effective water conservation, management, and recycling; the expansion of desalination plants and technologies; and water sharing agreements with Nepal and China (Xizang Autonomous Region) will be important to India’s future.
3.1.1.2 Food

Although over 52% of India’s land is agriculturally productive, it produces only 25% of the food needs for its massive population. Over 30%, or 445 million, Indians face food shortages, hunger, and malnutrition that are complicated by ineffective food distribution systems throughout the nation (Pingali, Aiyar, Abraham, & Rahman, 2019; Tharoor, 2013). Increasing water shortages and nitrogen pollution of soil also threaten the available arable and productive lands that will exacerbate food supply challenges. More effective agricultural management, agronomic research and food imports may alleviate the growing scarcity. Harvesting ocean and sea resources of the Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean also has great potential to meet India’s future food supply needs.

3.1.1.3 Health Care

India has marginally good health outcomes at 61% of the Japan benchmark, yet it has a weak health care capacity at 6% of its potential. The nation remains very vulnerable to disasters, such as cyclones, earthquakes, environmental and technological accidents, massive floods, and pandemics. Infant mortality rates are among the highest on the planet. Over 575 million Indians do not have access to adequate and basic health care. In addition, extremely poor environmental health and high-population densities, infectious diseases across India have the potential of creating global pandemics. The major mortality causes in India include cardiovascular diseases, strokes, and respiratory diseases. Over 2.8 million Indians have active tuberculosis. With 2.2 million Indians who are HIV+, AIDS accounts for 67,000 deaths at a loss of USD 18 billion/year. High road trauma accounts for over 310,000 deaths and over 225,000 suicides annually. Together with homicides, India incurs a loss of over USD 158 billion of its economy each year.

3.1.1.4 Education

Despite a good literacy rate of 71%, India still faces significant challenges in assuring equal literacy opportunities across its diverse castes, ethnicities, genders, indigenous groups, socioeconomic classes, and states. An estimated over 415 million Indians remain illiterate and face significant obstacles to employment. Whereas, the highest literacy rates are in Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, and Tamil Nadu; the lowest are Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh. Yet, India has many well-developed and world-renowned universities, such as the Indian Institute of Science (Bengaluru), the Indian Institute of Technology (Delhi), the University of Delhi and the world’s largest Indira Gandhi Nehru Open University (Delhi).
3.1.1.5 Environmental Health

India is one of the world’s most polluted nations with a poor environmental performance score of 31. Household solid fuels, lead exposure, and particulate matter compromise air quality across India. Moreover, significant black carbon, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrogen dioxide, nitrogen oxide and sulfur dioxide emissions contribute to toxic air pollution, contaminate both plants and soil, and promulgate climatic changes. With poor environmental health at 9%, toxic atmosphere in India accounts for over 1.2 million deaths at an economic loss of life of over USD 335 billion annually. India’s most polluted states and notably toxic cities are in Bihar (Gaya, Muzaffarpur and Patna), Chhattisgarh (Raipur), Madhya Pradesh (Gwalior), Punjab (Khanna and Ludhiana), the National Capital Region of Delhi, Rajasthan (Jaipur), and in Uttar Pradesh (Agra, Firozabad, Kanpur, Lucknow, Prayag, and Varanasi). Declining ecosystem vitality at 45% is due to the lack of adequate biome and species protection and significant deforestation. These environmental problems adversely and directly affect the lives of over 905 million Indians.

3.1.1.6 Summary

At 50% India has marginal humanitarian resources relative to its immense population of over 1.4 billion. Over 730 million face serious shortages of either clean and safe water, food, education, health care, or sanitation. This presents a serious and urgent humanitarian crisis that may take at least 50 years to fully address. India needs to expand its food and water resources and supply, improve its health care systems, and raise its literacy rates, for millions of its people. Moreover, environmental degradation is adversely compromising the future and quality of life of well over 70% of its people.

3.1.2 Socioeconomic Systems

India has the world’s fourth largest economy with a GDP of over USD 10.5 trillion for its population of over 1.37 billion. Its six key economic regions, cities, and states include:

1. North India (Delhi) of over 440 million including the states of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand; the Union territories of Chandigarh, Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh; and the National Capital Region of Delhi.
2. South India (Bengaluru) of over 300 million in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and the Union territories of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, and Puducherry.
3. East India (Kolkata) of over 265 million in Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, and West Bengal.
4. West India (Mumbai) of over 200 million in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and the Union territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, and Daman and Diu.
5. Central India (Indore) of over 115 million in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh.
6. Northeast India (Guwahati) of over 55 million in Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura.

Bihar, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal are India’s key economic drivers. India has six megapolises that include Delhi of over 26 million; Mumbai of over 21 million; Kolkata of over 15 million; Chennai of over 13 million; Bengaluru of over 11 million; and Hyderabad of over 10 million. In addition, the following urban regions will likely become megalopolises towards the end of the century: Ahmadabad, Jaipur, Kanpur, Nagpur, Pune, Surat, and Visakhapatnam.

3.1.2.1 Fiscal Health

India has a low average income per capita of over USD 7800. Deprivation, endemic poverty, and massive unemployment present substantial challenges across India (Das, 2019; Drèze & Sen, 2013). With unemployment rates of over 9% and over 22% of the population living below the poverty level, over 450 million Indians live in acute socioeconomic distress. Structural violence in the form of caste and ethnic discrimination contribute to despair, inequalities, and poverty across India. India’s relatively wealthiest regions include Kerala, Punjab, and the National Capital Region of Delhi; the poorest include Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, and Odisha. At 6% of its potential, India has a very weak taxation system. Only 1% of Indians pay taxes, although they possess 60% of the national wealth (Crabtree, 2018). The equitable redistribution of increased taxes is key to ensuring the proper financing of education, health care, and social development for all Indians. The Government has the potential to increase its tax revenue base to over USD 5 trillion to reduce and eliminate socioeconomic disparities between classes and states across the nation.

3.1.2.2 Corruption and Crime

As Mahatma Gandhi stated: “The Earth provides enough to satisfy every man’s need, but not for every man’s greed” (Pyarelal, 1958). High corruption rates and poor governance transparency complicates India’s fiscal management and impedes the socioeconomic development across the land (Jalan, 2018; Sengupta, 2016). At a score of 41%, corruptive practices, such as bribery, embezzlement, gang formation, graft, human and illicit drug trafficking, money laundering, patronage and violent crime are endemic across India. This costs the Indian economy over USD 310 billion annually. Homicides account for close to 44,000 lives annually. Crime rates are
especially high in the National Capital Region of Delhi, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Uttar Pradesh.

3.1.2.3 Monetary Health

The Reserve Bank of India in Mumbai controls the monetary policy that impacts the export performance and national debt. With major exports of gems, pharmaceuticals, and refined petroleum oils, India’s export performance remains weak at only 2% of its potential of USD 13.5 billion. Although trade relations with the USA are relatively strong, India needs stronger export markets with China, the EU, Indonesia, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, and the emerging nations of Africa. India’s expertise in computer technology, engineering, mathematics, and sciences hold the promise of new export industries (Kant, 2018). These include agronomic innovations, biotechnologies, medicine, ocean technologies, renewable energy technologies, robotics, solar energy, space technologies, and super intelligence systems. India has a high debt-to GDP ratio of over 70% that compromises the socioeconomic development of the nation and expectations for improved living conditions.

3.1.2.4 Summary

At an overall score of 27%, India faces grave socioeconomic challenges that may take over 55 years to fully address. Its long-term national economy depends on the development and expansion of new export industries, the equitable redistribution of broadened tax revenues, and zero tolerance of corruptive practices and crime through the enforcement of strong laws. Cogent and effective national strategies are essential to eliminate poverty, while increasing productive employment opportunities, particularly for its energetic and talented youth.

3.1.3 Infrastructure Systems

3.1.3.1 Transportation Systems

Given its extensive coastlines and river systems, India has good seaport capacity with major ports in Chennai, Kochi, and Visakhapatnam in South India; Kandla, Mumbai, and Mundra in West India; and Kolkata and Pradip in East India. Yet overall, India has underdeveloped transportation networks at 46% of its potential. Despite its key airports in Delhi and Mumbai, its overall airport capacity is at 20% of its potential. Its railway capacity at 37% remains relatively weak for its immense population, while its roadway networks are surprisingly extensive for its geographical size. Moreover, India has a burgeoning and promising space industry with
advanced spaceports at Satish Dhawan in Andhra Pradesh and Vikram Sarabhai in Kerala.

### 3.1.3.2 Energy Systems

At 10% of its potential, India has insufficient hydro-electrical production energy to support its economic and the needs of its population (Mitra, 2019). More specifically, it produces 1.4 trillion kW h (5 trillion MJ) over of a needed 13 trillion kW h (47 trillion MJ). Its largest hydroelectrical power station is the Subansari Lower Dam in Arunachal Pradesh. Over seven nuclear plants with 22 reactors generate over 4% of the nation's electrical energy, including those in Bhimpur in Madhya Pradesh, Jaitapur in Maharashtra, Kovvada and Kavali both in Andhra Pradesh, and Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu. Aside from the possibility of imported hydro-electrical energy from China (Xizang Autonomous Region) and Myanmar, India has excellent potential to harness renewable ocean, solar and wind resources to meet its massive energy needs for the future.

### 3.1.3.3 Sociotechnical Systems

India has one of the world’s largest communities of netizens with over 478 million Indians, or 35% of its population. India’s noted Silicon Valley is in Bengaluru in Karnataka, but other noted technological hubs, include those in Chennai, Delhi, and Hyderabad. As a potential technological powerhouse, it will evolve to a full knowledge society by 2080, as it invests in innovative applications of nanotechnologies, robotic technologies, and super intelligence systems (Nilekani & Shah, 2016).

### 3.1.3.4 Public Protection and Security Systems

With 1.45 million in defence forces and 3.46 million in police services, India has close to five million personnel engaged in public protection and security. Yet India is at 36% of its potential of 13.5 million for its immense population. Although India can safeguard its territorial integrity, it faces challenges in effectively responding to national disasters and emergencies such as cyclones, droughts, earthquakes, environmental disasters, famines, flash floods, heat waves, landslides, nuclear accidents, pandemics, social unrest and mass violence, technological accidents, and tsunamis.

### 3.1.3.5 Summary

For its massive population and land mass, India has relatively underdeveloped infrastructures at about 32% of its potential strength. Stronger infrastructures will require the expansion of its airports and railway capacity and increased development of
renewable energy resources, as it develops its immense technological potential over the next 50 years.

### 3.1.4 Governance Systems

#### 3.1.4.1 Population Management

With a population density of over 1150 persons/mi² (44 persons/km²), India is one of the world’s most densely populated nations on the planet with immense pressure on scarce resources. This heavy-weight nation has a projected 2050 population of over 1.73 billion. With 642 million Indians currently under 30 years, India has a significantly young population. The construction of vertical sky cities, effective population management policies, land reclamation from its seacoasts, and new communities in Ladakh may help India cope with its demographic explosion. Yet emigration to open space nations, including Australia, Brazil, Canada, the Russian Federation, and the USA, will likely be the wave of the future for over 17 million Indians.

#### 3.1.4.2 Sociocultural Integration

At 62%, India is moderately integrated on both linguistic and religious lines. Hinduism with 80% or over 1.1 billion Indian adherents is the dominant cohesive force. Yet, Hinduism have evolved an elaborate caste social system that segregates its followers into Brahmans, Kshatriyas, Shudras, or Vaishyas. Moreover, Dalits, or untouchables, who compose over 16%, or 220 million, of the population are excluded from this caste system. Primarily in Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal, the Dalits face limited economic and social futures with limited and restricted employment options (Roy, 2017). In keeping with the immense diversity of India, over 200 million Indians are of the Islamic faith, particularly in Bihar, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal. Christianity has over 28 million adherents primarily in Goa and Kerala, as well as the Northeastern states of Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland, Sikhism have over 21 million adherents across North India with its religious center in Amritsar in Punjab. In terms of linguistic cohesion, Hindi is the key predominant language of over 40% or 550 million Indians primarily across the states of Central, East and North India. It is not as prevalent in Northeast, South and West India, where other major official languages prevail. These include: Marathi of over 115 million in Maharashtra; Bengali of over 90 million in West Bengal; Telugu of over 85 million in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana; Tamil of over 90 million in Tamil Nadu; Urdu of over 65 million across Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal; Gujarati of over 62 million; and Kannada of over 60 million in Karnataka. Over 9% of India’s population or over 123 million are Adivasi or indigenous peoples. These include the
Bhil of over 17 million across Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan; the Gondi of over 13 million across Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra; the Santali of over eight million across Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, and West Bengal; the Konkani of over 2.5 million in the Union territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, and Daman and Diu; and both the Ho and Kurukh peoples of over one million each in Jharkhand. Moreover, over 35% of the population in the eight states of Northeast India are Adivasi, including the Angami Naga in Nagaland and the Khasi in Meghalaya.

3.1.4.3 Sociopolitical Systems

As a federal democratic republic founded in 1947, India has a Parliament with a House of the People (Lok Sabha) and a Council of States (Rajya Sabha) with 29 states and nine union territories. The two major political parties with over 10% of the electoral support include the governing Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Indian National Congress Party. The formation of political coalitions, such as the governing National Democratic Alliance and the United Progressive Alliance guarantees a majority of over 50%. The Lok Sabha with 552 representatives appears to underrepresent the vast population of India. The Rajya Sabha with 250 state representatives are elected through state and territorial legislatures, or as Presidential appointments. Also, of the 29 states, 21 are under 58,000 mi² (150,220 km²) and one has less than one million people. Overall, inefficient bureaucratic structures and poor coordination complicate governance across India (Jalan, 2018; Ninan, 2016). At an overall 32%, India has weak women representation in Parliament and much needs to be done to advance the cause of women in Indian society (Dutta, 2015; Sengupta, 2016). Overall, India’s sociopolitical system is relatively weak at 46%.

3.1.4.4 Summary

At an overall score of 43%, India’s governance systems are weak. Although India has a high level of sociocultural integration along religious lines, its significant overpopulation and weak sociopolitical effectiveness presents serious governance challenges. Stronger representation of the Lok Sabha from the electorate, direct elections of the Rajya Sabha members, and greater gender parity in the Parliament would strengthen the Indian federal state.

3.1.5 Systemic Priorities

India’s prosperity and stability are of vital concern to all humanity who seek peace and social justice. With a systemic effectiveness score of 38%, India is very weak relative to its potential. The nation faces significant humanitarian, socioeconomic,
infrastructure and governance challenges that may take until 2060 to resolve. India’s long-term growth depends on investments in clean water systems, food production, health, education, innovation, and research. Fiscal responsibility, social inclusion and low-carbon lifestyles are also very important for India’s future (Agarwala, 2014; Chaube, 2019; Danino, 2011). India’s strategic governance priorities include the following. **Population management.** The assuage of high population density through the establishment of sustainable viable communities into less populated areas, seacoast reclamation and increased emigration to open space nations is crucial. **Water security.** Expansion of clean and safe water resources, water conservation and recycling, desalination plants and water networks across India remain important. **Environmental health.** Immediate and urgent action to reduce air pollution and lower environmental health risks is essential for all Indians and the planet. **Health care.** Improved access to adequate health care systems and the prevention of infant mortality, infectious diseases, road trauma, suicides, and tuberculosis remain important. **Fiscal health.** Zero tolerance of all forms of corruption and crime and the expansion of and the equitable redistribution of tax revenues are key to alleviating India’s humanitarian and socioeconomic challenges. Investment in new innovative industries and development of new global export markets would also increase the employment opportunities of Indians. **Food security.** Expansion of ocean food resources and substantial investments in transportation would strengthen the nation’s ability to feed its peoples. **Energy systems.** Substantial investments in hydroelectricity and renewable solar and wind energy resources will help drive technological development of India. **Governance systems.** Reform of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha through the increase of directly elected representatives, particularly of women and disadvantaged peoples would strengthen the Indian sociopolitical fabric. There is a great need for social justice to the Adivasi, Dalits, Moslems, Sikhs, and the diverse range of ethnic and linguistic minorities across India.

### 3.1.6 Transformations

The world-renowned Bengali poet Rabindranath Tagore (1916) stated: “Civilization must be judged and prized, not by the amount of power it has developed, but by how much it has evolved and given expression to, by its laws and institutions, the love of humanity.” India holds great potential and promise in the emerging new planetary order in the twenty-first century (Gaskarth, 2015; Ninan, 2016). Over for the next 70 years, as it grapples with its myriad of challenges, India will likely transform itself into a unique Federation that will shape the planet’s future.
3.1.6.1 Indian Ocean

The Indian Ocean and the Andaman Sea, the Arabian Sea, the Bay of Bengal, and the Laccadive Sea will be increasingly vital as sources of food and other resources for India. In the coming decades, productive economic and political relationships with Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Myanmar, as well as Australia, China, Indonesia, and Thailand will be critical to India’s future. The ability of India to foster effective cooperation, peace and strong partnerships in this region will be a promising development for a positive future of humankind in this century and beyond.

3.1.6.2 Hindu Supremacist Threats

The two largest political movements in India have competing views of the nation’s future. The Congress Party espouses secular republicanism with socialist leanings; whereas the governing Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) advocates a technological state with Hindu supremacy (Ambekar, 2019; Dasgupta, 2019). In a climate of humanitarian desperation, overpopulation, and intractable poverty, the BJP incurs a high risk of alienating Moslems and other religious minorities and engendering conflicts and communal violence. Moreover, a Hindu supremacist movement that seeks to create of a unified Hindu state (Akhand Bharat) from Afghanistan to Myanmar will foster international and regional tensions with its bordering Islamic nations of Bangladesh and Pakistan, as well as with China. India needs stable export markets to improve its socioeconomic performance and supremacist movements will not likely advance the cause of improved living conditions for its peoples.

3.1.6.3 Naxalite Threats

Since 1967, the Naxalite insurgency with its Maoist Communist tenets continues to pose challenges throughout the “Red Corridor” that includes the states of Central, East, Northeast, and South India with its over 735 million peoples (Shah, 2019). Its roots lie in rural despair and poverty of disenfranchised populations that see little hope to improve their miserable living and social conditions under the current conditions. Until India effectively deals with its massive inequities and social injustices, such insurgencies with its concomitant violence will continue to pose active threats and might create a different and ominous future for India.

3.1.6.4 Secessionist Threats

India faces many autonomist and secessionist movements across its diverse and vast territory. These include those in Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Jammu/Kashmir, Punjab (Khalistan), Nagaland, West Bengal, and South India (Dravida Nadu). Greater social justice and urgent improvement of living and socioeconomic condi-
tions of diverse peoples will assuage ethnic, linguistic, religious tensions and secessionist sentiments. Failing that, increased social anarchy, chaos and violent conflicts will ensue for the coming decades.

**3.1.6.5 Bengali Hot Zone**

India’s borders with Bangladesh and Myanmar will become particularly unstable over the next decades. By 2050, this small region will have over 450 million people including the Northeast India states with its over 60 million; West Bengal with over 120 million; Bangladesh with over 200 million; and Myanmar with over 71 million. High population densities, the immense pressure on scarce land and water resources, and the agitation of diverse indigenous groups make this region particularly vulnerable to massive conflict and violence. It is critical that all international and national measures foster peace, social justice and understanding through cooperation, partnerships, and solidarity among all the peoples in this volatile region. Clean and safe water, adequate food, access to education and health care and employment opportunities are of paramount importance and urgency.

**3.1.6.6 Kashmiri Hot Zone**

In 2019, India created two new Union territories of Jammu-Kashmir and Ladakh, with a Buddhist majority. Jammu-Kashmir remains an openly contentious conflict between India and Pakistan (Indurthy, 2019; Singh, 2013). Whereas Hindus form the majority in Jammu, Moslems are in Kashmir. Pakistan’s agitation to annex this region to its Azad Kashmir province has resulted in hostilities since 1947 with over 30,000 casualties. The lack of resolution compounded by the nuclear capabilities of the major contesters makes this region a global hot zone. The next 40 years will be important in resolving this situation constructively and peacefully.

**3.1.6.7 Eelam Conflicts**

The Eelam movement with its Tamil secessionist goal ignited three wars from 1983 to 2009 in Sri Lanka at a cost of over 100,000 lives and incalculable suffering. The next 30 years will require healing, reconciliation, and recovery in the pursuit of peace between India and Sri Lanka. With constructive and sustainable peace and development with India, the future may see rail, road and tunnel linkages between Sri Lanka and Tamil Nadu across the Gulf of Mannar.
3.1.6.8 Towards an Indian Federation?

India will be part of an emerging new planetary order in the twenty-first century (Gaskarth, 2015; Ninan, 2016). The colossal Indian challenge is and will continue to be unity in the face of immense linguistic, religious, and social class fault lines. Given its diverse and enormous population, India may eventually evolve into a larger Indian Federation between 2050 and 2090 that may include Nepal and Sri Lanka. Should India be effective in creating a diverse, harmonious, and progressive society, the path will be paved for the political integration with Bangladesh and Pakistan in the twenty-second century along the lines of the vision, espoused by Mahatma Gandhi. The path to this vision is fraught with many foreseeable setbacks that places enormous responsibility on its future leaders and peoples. Whatever happens in this crucial part of the planet will have far-reaching planetary consequences. The hope remains that India will be an emerging Ganesh where understanding and wisdom will triumph over its current immense challenges.

3.2 The EU: The Golden Stars Union

As in Friedrich Schiller’s poem Ode to Joy (1786): “Golden stars in the sky are the symbols that shall unite us.” The European Union (EU) with its immense population of over 453 million and with its advanced technological development will continue to be important and influential, as the world evolves into a planetary society. Its future impact will be felt globally and especially across Africa, the Russian Federation, the USA, and across the volatile Mideast region.

3.2.1 Humanitarian Systems

3.2.1.1 Water

The EU has one of the world’s longest coastlines and extensive waterways at over 41,000 mi (66,000 km), including those of the Atlantic Ocean, the Adriatic Sea, the Aegean Sea, the Baltic Sea, the Black Sea, the Gulf of Bothnia, the Gulf of Finland, the Mediterranean Sea, and the North Sea. Its major river network systems include both the Danube and Rhine rivers. Yet for its massive population, the EU has relatively marginal water resources at 4,000 m³/capita. An estimated over one million Europeans do not have access to clean and safe water and ten million lack access to adequate sanitation facilities. With climatic changes, over 42 million might be at risk of clean and safe water shortages by 2050, particularly in France, Italy, and Spain. Water conservation and recycling, desalination engineering, and water distribution networks will become increasingly important.
3.2.1.2 Food

The EU has over one the world’s largest and most productive agricultural lands. Yet ironically, an estimated over 13.5 million suffer from food insecurity and hunger across the EU. This is particularly evident in the lower socioeconomic classes and the poorer regions of Bulgaria, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, and Slovakia. More effective harvesting of ocean and sea food resources and more effective food distribution systems hold promise to alleviate shortages.

3.2.1.3 Health Care

The EU has excellent health outcomes at an overall score of 92% with high life expectancies and low infant mortality rates. However, an estimated 36 million still lack adequate access with variations within member-states, particularly in Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania, and Slovenia. Cardiovascular diseases and cancer are the greatest causes of mortality in the EU. The overall health care system capacity in the event of mass emergencies is moderate at 69% of its potential, placing the EU in a vulnerable position in the event of natural disasters, emergencies, and pandemics. Close to one million Europeans are HIV+ and there are an estimated over 11,500 deaths from AIDS annually. Road-trauma deaths are high across the EU with over 26,500 annually with relatively higher rates in Bulgaria, Poland, and Romania. Moreover, suicide rates are high and claim over 54,000 lives each year, markedly in Estonia, Finland, Latvia, and Lithuania. Road trauma deaths, suicides and homicides alone cost the EU economy over USD 155 billion annually.

3.2.1.4 Education

The EU has one of the world’s highest literacy rates at close to 100% with regional variations within member-states. The EU has first-class Universities known for its innovation and research including Heidelberg University, the Karolinska Institute (Stockholm), KU Leuven (Belgium), Ludwig Maximilian University (Munich), and Utrecht University. Yet, over four million across the EU are functionally illiterate and face obstacles to employment, particularly in Portugal and Spain.

3.2.1.5 Environmental Health

Overall, the EU has an environmental performance score of 75% with an average environmental health at 83% and ecosystem vitality at 69% overall. Member-states such as Finland, France and Sweden are key leaders in mitigating environmental risks. However, Bulgaria, Poland, and Romania appear to be laggards with high black carbon, carbon dioxide and nitrogen oxide emissions affecting air quality. Declining fish stocks and significant deforestation across the Union are also con-
cerns. In Romania, poor sanitation pose noted challenges, whereas Bulgaria has the added problems of household solid fuels and high methane levels. Overall, over 224,000 deaths annually are attributable to air pollution at an economic loss of life over USD 321 billion annually. Environmental problems adversely and directly affect the lives of over 113 million EU citizens.

3.2.1.6 Summary

With an overall score of close to 85%, the EU has excellent humanitarian capacity, notably in its agricultural and food resources, education, and health care. Yet over an estimated 30 million EU citizens still face limited access to at least one of their fundamental needs, including clean environments. Despite the achievements of the EU overall, the equitable distribution of these resources within the Union will remain a challenge for the next 15 years. Moreover, its environmental challenges particularly in some of its member-states need urgent attention.

3.2.2 Socioeconomic Systems

The EU has the world’s third largest economy at over USD 15 trillion in GDP. The key economic drivers of the Union include France, Germany, Italy, and Spain. Paris is the only megalopolis with over ten million people, but Berlin, Barcelona, Madrid, and Rome are likely to join the ranks by the end of the century. Its four key regions, cities and member-states include the following.

1. Western Europe (Paris) with over 190 million including the member-states of Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands.
2. Southern Europe (Madrid) with over 138 million including Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, and Spain.
3. Eastern Europe (Bucharest) with over 92 million including Bulgaria, Czechia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, and Slovakia.
4. Northern Europe (Stockholm) with over 32.8 million including Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, and Sweden.

3.2.2.1 Fiscal Health

The European Union does not have a fiscal policy. At best, the EU attempts to harmonize the fiscal policies of individual EU member-states. EU citizens have a good average income per capita of over USD 40,900. The EU has an estimated 8% unemployment rate and an additional 10% living below the poverty level. Over 18%, or over 82 million, EU citizens are in socioeconomic distress, particularly in Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Romania, and Spain. Moreover, there is notably high youth unem-
ployment in Ireland, and Spain (Soros, 2014), low economic growth in France and Italy, and intractable debt in Greece (Drozdiak, 2017). Most individual EU member-states have strong taxation systems with over 45% of individual member state GDP or over USD 9.4 trillion. However, the centralized EU operations is supported through only 2% of the total GDP of the entire EU. A stronger Union would require a substantial transfer of taxation powers and revenues from member-states to the federal EU level. The ability of the EU to assure equitable distribution and responsible deployment of public finances across diverse regions and socio-economic is severely hampered and its potential to respond to many fiscal challenges remains elusive.

3.2.2.2  Corruption and Crime

As a single polity, the EU has an overall moderate corruption rate of 64% and high governance transparency. However, there are significant variations across member-states from low corruption rates in Denmark, Germany, and the Netherlands at 82% to high rates in Bulgaria, Romania, and Slovakia at a cost of over USD 375 billion to the EU economy. Overall, the EU has low crime rates, except for Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. Across the EU homicide rates are at over 6,300 annually. Although the EU has a moral obligation to eliminate all forms of corruption and crime, including bribery, cybercrime, human and illicit substance trafficking and money laundering, its legislative powers to do remain limited.

3.2.2.3  Monetary Health

The European Central Bank in Frankfurt controls the EU monetary policy. Overall, the export performance of the EU is weak at 42% of its potential. The major European exports include aerospace hardware, agricultural products, hydro-electrical power, pharmaceuticals, and vehicles, including accessories and parts. Whereas the export performance of member states, such as Finland, Germany, the Netherlands, and Sweden, are excellent; those of Bulgaria, Greece, Portugal, and Romania remain very weak. Although China and the USA are the EU’s major export markets, the Union has significant export potential with Brazil, Canada, India, Mexico, Nigeria and other West African nations, and the Russian Federation. Innovation and research, particularly in biotechnology, genomics, mass transportation technologies, nanotechnologies, ocean and space technologies, pharmaceuticals, renewable energy technologies, and super-intelligence systems will be important in placing the EU at the forefront of new future industries. The EU has a significantly high public debt-to-GDP ratio of over 80%. Without debt mitigation and elimination, high living standards and valued social programs across the Union are at great risk. Future EU leaders will face arduous socioeconomic decisions in coming to grips with colossal debt loads.
3.2.2.4 Summary

At an overall score of 46%, the socioeconomic health of the EU is precarious and may take over 35 years to overcome. A more centralized and stronger Union has the potential to raise the overall socioeconomic health of all member-states equitably. Innovation strategies for the EU for the development and expansion of new export industries to large markets, especially with China, India, the Russian Federation, and the USA have the potential to boost employment opportunities for its youth and peoples and mitigate the socioeconomic distress of its future citizens (Gretschmann & Schepers, 2016).

3.2.3 Infrastructure Systems

3.2.3.1 Transportation Systems

At 94%, the EU has excellent transportation networks with superb airports, excellent railways, roadways, and seaports (including river and container ports). This is key in the cohesion and integration of the Union and sustaining effective supply distribution networks. Among its largest airports are the Amsterdam Schiphol, Frankfurt International and Paris Charles de Gaulle International. The EU has first class airport, rail and road networks throughout France, Germany and Italy and is complemented by world class seaports, including those of Belgium (Antwerp); Germany (Bremen and Hamburg); Greece (Piraeus); the Netherlands (Rotterdam) and Spain (Algeciras, Barcelona, and Valencia). The EU has among the world’s fastest rail lines including: the Deutsche Bahn ICE between Berlin and Munich; the Italo-Frecciarossa between Milan and Rome; and the Renfe AVE between Barcelona and Paris. The weakest transportation networks are in the member-states of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Slovakia. Moreover, the EU is proactively engaged in the space exploration through its European Space Agency with spaceports at Kiruna in Sweden and at Kourou in French Guiana, a territory of France.

3.2.3.2 Energy Systems

Overall, the EU has fair levels of hydro-electrical power production at an estimated 2.9 trillion kW h (10.4 trillion MJ) that meets 65% of its needs of 4.5 trillion kW h (over 16 trillion MJ) for its massive population. The largest hydroelectrical plant in the EU, includes the Iron Gates in Romania. The EU relies heavily on its over 111 nuclear reactors. France with over 58 reactors has the world’s largest at Cattenom, Gravelines and Paluel. Belgium, Czechia, Germany, Spain, and Sweden with over five plants each are also dependent on nuclear technology for electricity. Hydro-electrical energy needs will increase, as will the need for renewable energy sources through ocean, solar and wind energy technologies.
3.2.3.3 Sociotechnical Development

With almost 398 million netizens, the EU will become a knowledge society on par with Japan with advanced artificial intelligence technologies and robotics pervading every sector of its economy by 2035. Currently, however, there are over 50 million citizens, particularly in Bulgaria, Greece, Portugal, and Romania who have yet to become digitally literate.

3.2.3.4 Public Protection and Security

If one considers the defence and police forces of each member state, the EU has moderate public protection and security resources at over 50% of its potential of over 4.5 million. As participants of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) the territorial integrity of member states is protected (Simon, 2014). However, well-integrated EU public protection and security resources are not centralized and remain weak. There is an integrated Eurocorps contingent of only 6,000 from Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Romania, and Spain—a far-cry from a cogent unified force. Responding effectively to a range of Union disasters and emergencies, continues to be a major EU challenge. Such EU future crises that will compel a cogent Union responses will no doubt include avalanches, droughts, earthquakes, environmental disasters, heat waves, massive forest fires, nuclear accidents, pandemics, severe inundation and weather events, social anarchy and violence, terrorism, transportation accidents and volcanic eruptions.

3.2.3.5 Summary

Overall, the EU has good infrastructures at 62%. Stronger infrastructures will require increasing hydro-electrical and clean renewable energy resources and consolidating and expanding its public protection and security capacity as a Union force. Its future rapprochement and relationships with the Russian Federation will be of great importance, as it strengthens its infrastructure and expands its sustainability options (Aalto, 2016).

3.2.4 Governance Systems

As the former President of the European Commission, Jacques Delors (1991a) underscored: “If we fail with political union, then the historic decline of Europe, which began with the First World War, will resume.”
3.2.4.1 Population Management

With a population density of over 300 persons/mi\(^2\) (116 persons/km\(^2\)) and a projected decline to 385 million, the EU will still be overpopulated in 2050. Although member-states, such as Finland and Sweden, can accommodate more people in new sustainable communities, the next years will likely see over 5.5 million EU citizens emigrating to open space nations, such as Australia, Brazil, Canada, the Russian Federation, and the USA.

3.2.4.2 Sociocultural Cohesion

As a polity, the EU is significantly diverse and poorly integrated and lacks the sociocultural cohesion of homogeneous societies, such as Japan. With Brexit, English will lose its status as a lingua franca, while French and German will become more important primary languages, as will Italian and Spanish. With over 73% of its population being Christians, Christianity is and will continue to be the key sociocultural unifying force in the Union (Chaplin & Wilton, 2015). However, the number of the adherents to the Islamic faith is increasing. Currently, there are 27 million Moslems, primarily in Cyprus, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and Sweden. This is projected to be over 58 million, or 15%, of EU citizens by 2050. This will likely change the nature and stability of the future Union. Other ethnicities in the EU include the three million Basques and 8.5 million Catalans in Spain; and the seven million Bretons in France. Moreover, the EU has indigenous groups, the largest being the Romani peoples of over six million concentrated in Bulgaria, France, Germany, Hungary, Romania, and Spain. These peoples are often subjected to discrimination and may not be accorded the social justice they deserve, nor are they accorded any special national recognition. Two other indigenous groups include the Saami peoples of over 100,000 across in Northern Finland and Sweden and the Inuit of over 60,000 in Greenland (Kalaallit Nunaat), a Danish territory. Although the Inuit are self-governing, the Saami are not recognized with special status.

3.2.4.3 Sociopolitical Systems

As a federal economic and political union of 27 member-states (after Brexit), the EU has a European Parliament, a European Commission, and a European Council. The Council is composed of the head of each member-state and the President of the European Commission. There are three key political parties with over 10% of the electoral vote, including the majority European People’s Party, the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats and the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe. None have over 50% of the electoral vote and there is no mechanism to assure that one does. There are 705 Members of European Parliament (MEP), an excess of 260 with an estimated added cost of over USD 390 million annually.
Female MEPs hold over 62% of seats reflecting good gender parity. The EU does not have a Senate. The European Commission serves as the executive body, with 27 seats elected by MEP and is not directly by the citizenry. Of the 27 member states, three have under one million people and 19 states are relatively small at under 58,000 mi² (150,220 km²). Overall, the EU is socio-politically weak at 37%.

### 3.2.4.4 Summary

With an overall governance score of 61%, the EU is marginally stable and the next 20 years will determine its sociopolitical direction and future. The EU needs to reform its governance system by reducing the number of MEPs and the concomitant bureaucratic structures and layers. Most importantly, a stronger Union requires relinquishing considerable national sovereignty through the abolition of member-state Senates and consolidating these with one directly elected Federation Council. In short, the Union must become a European Federation—a quintessentially Federal polity, a quest that currently eludes it (Verhofstadt, 2017).

### 3.2.5 Systemic Priorities

As one of the founding fathers of the European Union, Jean Monnet (1950) stated: “There is no future for the people of Europe, other than in union. Make men work together to show them that beyond their differences and geographical boundaries, there lies a common interest.” The EU has world class education, health care and transportation systems with strong taxation at a member-state level. It is well on the way to becoming a knowledge society. Overall, the Union has low corruption and crime rates and good hydro-electrical energy resources. However, the Union has not yet evolved into a stable polity and remains weak. With its high public debt, it is marginally stable with many in socioeconomic distress and has not reached its full export performance potential. Its immense population will increasingly face challenging environmental health conditions, including clean and safe water shortages in the future. The years 2020–2060 will be crucial to the future existence of the EU as a political entity. One of the greatest challenges is that its member states are reluctant to fully cede political sovereignty to the Federal level. Brexit has been a major setback for both the EU and for the United Kingdom. The Union has not hitherto been able to present a united front in dealing with population management and socioeconomic issues, particularly in the matter of illegal immigrants and refugees. EU political cohesion is fragmented at best. It will take at least two to four decades for a stronger European identity to be forged and emerge considering its current ethnic diversity. Within this time frame, the EU will have to eliminate its significant public debt, while reducing food insecurity and hunger, poverty, and the socioeconomic distress of millions of its citizens. Expanding exports through new innovative industries and strengthening its public protection and security resources...
may also help to reduce unemployment. Planning for cleaner environments and safe water resources for all its citizens needs to become a top EU priority. Reducing consumption levels may well impact on the rates of environmental degradation and pollution that is also taking a toll on Europeans. In summary, with an overall systemic effectiveness score of 63%, the key strategic priorities for the EU include the following. **Population management.** Effective population control and management through the creation of new sustainable communities in Finland and Sweden, land reclamation from the seas, and building of vertical cities will be important. **Environmental health.** Measures are needed to eliminate air pollution and halt environmental degradation, while enhancing ecosystem vitality. **Fiscal health.** The transfer of significant tax revenues from member-states to the Union level and its effective redistribution to weaker regions will alleviate the difficult conditions of millions. Increasing employment opportunities through the diversification and expansion of exports to Brazil, Canada, China, India, Mexico, Nigeria and West Africa, the Russian Federation and the USA is indicated. **Food.** Redistribution of food resources to assure that all EU citizens have access to adequate nutrition is needed. **Health care.** Increasing the accessibility to all EU citizens have effective health care, while eliminating road trauma and suicide rates through prevention strategies remains important. **Water.** The expansion of water distribution networks and the construction of desalination plants will be increasingly pressing. **Public debt.** The implementation of effective measures to eliminate public debt is key to the economic future of its citizens. **Governance.** Substantial reform and streamlining of the European Parliament and the creation of a directly elected upper house in the form of a Federation Council would strengthen the polity. **Energy systems.** Diversification and expansion of clean and safe renewable energy resources will be central to healthier environments. **Public protection and security.** The centralization of public protection and security forces to effectively respond to EU disasters and emergencies will also foster a stronger transnational European identity.

### 3.2.6 Transformations

As Jacques Delors (1991b), the former European Commission President, underscored:

> It is not enough to have a strong economy to influence events. A community limited to a big market refusing to assume its responsibilities in the world will not be peaceful and will not be able to assure its children that they will live in security.

The next two decades will see major sociocultural and socioeconomic readjustments for the EU. In the last decade, Euroscepticism has been on the rise (De Vries, 2018; Mody, 2018) and contrasts with the Euro-optimism of the prior 40 years (Barzini, 1984; Checkel & Katzenstein, 2009; Galtung, 1981; Hackett, 1995; Leonard, 2006). Some maintain that the EU is in deep crisis and disintegrating (Fligstein, 2008; Krastev, 2017; Soros, 2014; Zielonka, 2014). Contributing to this
instability, many cite the inability to control the influx of illegal migrants and refugees; the inability to correct economic inequities across member-states; the inadequacy of the Union budget; the mismanagement of economic and monetary policies; the onerous EU bureaucratic regulations; the structural flaws of the euro; and the vested power of each member-state to veto federal legislation (Fabbrini, 2019; Hackett, 1995; Piria, 2012; Sandbu, 2017; Staab, 2013).

3.2.6.1 Towards a European Federation?

Clearly with Brexit, the EU is at a political crossroads. The architects of the EU, including Adenauer, De Gasperi, Monnet, and Schumann, would not be surprised with the growing resistance to federal integration (Fransen, 2001). They would likely have viewed this as a phase that will re-invigorate efforts towards consolidation that would lead to further legal and political integration in the form of a European Federation (Engelbrekt & Grousset, 2018). This would require the streamlining of bureaucratic regulations, a stronger European Court system, and unified European public protection and security forces (Ischinger, 2018; Simon, 2014; Verhofstadt, 2017). Such changes might induce other nations of the European Free Trade Association, such as Iceland, Norway, and Switzerland, to join the EU in the future. The alternative to a cogent European Federation is not promising. The fragmentation and disintegration of the EU would weaken the economy and lead to anarchy and chaos. This would worsen clean and safe water and food shortages, environmental degradation, and socioeconomic conditions. Most disconcerting in this scenario would be the prospect of civil wars and totalitarianism.

3.2.6.2 Eastern European Destabilization

The Russo-Ukrainian war since 2014 has destabilized the Eastern regions of the EU. Aside from the serious number of casualties of over 16,000 and the displacement of over two million peoples, the straining of relations between the EU and the Russian Federation over the Ukraine is a major cause for concern. Once hostilities end, the Ukraine will undergo a prolonged economic and social recovery period, if it is to apply to become part of the EU. Moreover, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania of the former Soviet Union are members of NATO that has taken a largely adversary stance to the Russian Federation. This raises regional tensions and is ultimately counterproductive to constructive peace for all Europeans. Moreover, the prospect that the Ukraine may join both the EU and NATO may compromise the prospect of peace in this region.
3.2.6.3 Balkan Region and Turkey

The former Yugoslav republics of Croatia and Slovenia are now member-states of the EU, as Serbia prepares to join by 2025. A hot spot that risks being politically unsettling in the region are the Balkan regional states of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, and Montenegro with their significant Moslem populations. An estimated 40%, or over seven million people, in the Balkan region live under socio-economic distress fueling ethnic tensions and the prospect of violence. The Yugoslav wars from 1999 to 2001 led to ethnic genocide and over 140,000 casualties with over four million people displaced. Both the EU, the Russian Federation and Turkey will be called on to stabilize and build peace in this region. With peace and social development, these states may well join the EU. In this scenario, Turkey may well again apply for full EU membership by 2060. This would signal a major shift in the sociocultural and sociopolitical nature of the EU. The addition of Turkish as a new major EU language and the potent strong Islamic faith that would profoundly transform the EU. These developments will require meaningful dialogue and reconciliation between different sociopolitical cultures and histories.

3.2.6.4 The Eurasian Union?

Given its long-term resource needs, the EU will have to contemplate a rapprochement with the Russian Federation based on their common values and shared history, rather than their differences. As the need for clean and safe water supplies, agricultural lands, food and energy resources becomes more acute, the EU will seek viable alternatives (Ischinger, 2018). The Russian Federation with its vast energy and resource potential will increasingly be important for future EU citizens (Aalto, 2016). The EU might strive for close and strong economic and political links to, if not integration and merger, with the larger Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) of Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and the Russian Federation by the end of the century.

3.3 The Russian Federation: The Eurasian Medvedeva

As Peter Conradi (2017) stated: “Russia is a gigantic country in land, people, scientific achievement and culture. Perhaps we have lost it because we have never really tried to find it.” The Russian Federation, with its prima facie symbol of the Medvedeva (Mother Bear), is one of the world’s greatest KSI nations and one undergoing massive transformations (Blinnikov, 2011; McFaul, 2015). With vast lands and resources in its Arctic and Siberian regions, it holds enormous future potential (Hill & Gaddy, 2003; Lagutina, 2019; Laruelle, 2015; Lipman & Petrov, 2012; Sakwa, 2019). This amazingly diverse nation spanning 11 time zones has 85
federal subjects, including 22 Republics, 46 oblasts (provinces), nine krais (special provinces), four okrugs (territories) and one autonomous okrug and three federal cities of Moscow, St. Petersburg, and Sevastopol.

3.3.1 Humanitarian Systems

3.3.1.1 Water

Bordering the Arctic and Pacific Oceans, the Russian Federation has exceptional water resources at over 31,000 m$^3$/capita. It has one of the world’s longest coastlines at 68,543 mi (110,310 km) along numerous seas, such as the Aral Sea, the Sea of Azov, the Barents Sea, the Bering Sea, the Black Sea, the Caspian Sea, the Chukchi Sea, the East Siberian Sea, the Kara Sea, the Laptev Sea, and the Sea of Okhotsk. Moreover, Russia has a vast number of major world river systems, such as: the Amur, the Dnieper, the Don, the Ishim, the Kolyma, the Lena, the Nizhniy Tunguska, the Ob-Irtysh, the Ural, the Volga and the Yenisei rivers. In addition, Russia has major lake systems that include the Baikal Lake. In spite of these enormous water resources, Russia’s vast territory includes arid and dry desert regions in the Caspian lowlands, the Russian Arctic, and the Ryn desert bordering Kazakhstan (Blinnikov, 2011). Over 5,500,000 Russians who do not have access to clean and safe water supplies underscore the distributional challenges the nation’s vast geographical expanse. Moreover, over 39 million do not have access to adequate sanitation facilities.

3.3.1.2 Food

Over 8% of the Federation is arable with rich productive agricultural lands, notably in the Central Chernozem (Black Earth), North Caucasus, and Volga regions. Yet there are significant challenges in distributing food supplies over its vast territory. Hunger and malnutrition remain a problem for over 8,200,000 Russians, especially for those living in the immense Siberian and Far Eastern regions. An additional 16,600,000 remain at risk of food insecurity. The Federation has the potential to expand its arable lands by over 600,000 mi$^2$ (1,554,000 km$^2$). Moreover, the nation can harvest more food resources from its massive rivers, seas, and ocean coastlines.

3.3.1.3 Health Care

The Russian Federation has good health care outcomes at over 78% of the Japan benchmark. Also, overall, the Federation has strong health care system capacity at over 80%. Yet the equitable distribution of health care resources across its vast territory may be problematic in times of natural disasters, emergencies, and pandemics.
Over 32 million Russians require improved access to adequate health care. Cardiovascular diseases and cancer are the greatest causes of mortality. High alcohol consumption accounts for over 50% of premature deaths. There are an estimated 1.5 million Russians who are HIV+ and over 30,000 annual deaths are attributable to AIDS. Moreover, the Federation has a high rate of road-trauma fatalities of over 25,600 and high suicide rates that claim over 37,650 lives annually. Road trauma, suicides and homicides cost the economy over USD 72.5 billion each year.

3.3.1.4 Education

At a literacy rate of 99.7%, Russia has an excellent educational system with noted post-secondary institutions, including the State Universities of Moscow, St. Petersburg University, and Novosibirsk University. Yet almost over 400,000 citizens are still illiterate, particularly in the North Caucasus Republics of Chechen and Dagestan.

3.3.1.5 Environmental Health

The Russian Federation has a fair environmental performance score of 64% across its vast lands. The most notably polluted and toxic cities include: Dzerzhinsk in Nizhny Novgorod oblast; Karabash “the black dot of the planet” in Chelyabinsk oblast; Moscow; Norilsk “the city which was killed” in Krasnoyarsk oblast; Rudnaya Pristan in Primorsky oblast, and St. Petersburg. Over 97,000 deaths are attributable to air pollution, including from carbon dioxide, methane, nitrogen oxide emissions and particulate matter at an estimated economic loss of life of over USD 92 billion annually. Ecosystem vitality at 56% is due to declining fish stocks, deforestation, and inadequate biome, marine and species protection. Environmental degradation directly and adversely affects the lives of over 52 million Russians.

3.3.1.6 Summary

At 78% the Russian Federation has good humanitarian resources for its citizens. Yet, the equitable distribution over the world largest territory poses significant challenges. Over the next 25 years, the nation should be able to address the needs of over 26 million Russians who lack access to clean water, food, health care or education. However, environmental degradation will likely remain problematic without urgent attention and more stringent control measures.
3.3.2 Socioeconomic Systems

The Russian Federation has the world’s sixth largest economy with a GDP of over USD 4 trillion. With over 142 million people, Russia’s only megalopolis is Moscow, although St. Petersburg may become one before the end of the twenty-first century. The key economic drivers include the oblasts of Krasnodar, Leningrad, Moscow, and Sverdlovsk. The Federation’s eight key regions, major cities and federal subjects include the following.

1. Central European region (Moscow) with over 38 million includes: Bryansk, Ivanovo, Kaluga, Kostroma, Moscow, Oryol, Ryazan, Smolensk, Tula, Tver, Vladimir, and Yaroslavl oblasts, as well as the Chernozem (Black Earth) region that includes Belgorod, Kursk, Lipetsk, Tambov, and Voronezh oblasts.
2. Volga region (Nizhny Novgorod) with 29.6 million includes: Kirov, Nizhny Novgorod, Orenburg, Penza, Samara, Saratov, and Ulyanovsk oblasts; the Perm krai; the Republics of Bashkortostan, Mordovia, and Tatarstan; and the Chuvash, Mari El, and Udmurt Republics.
3. Siberian region (Novosibirsk) with 17 million includes: Irkutsk, Kemerovo, Krasnoyarsk, Novosibirsk, Omsk, Tomsk, and Tyumen oblasts; and the Republics of Altai, Khakassia, and Tuva.
4. Southern region (Rostov-on-Don) with 16.1 million includes: Astrakhan, Rostov, and Volgograd oblasts; the Krasnodar krai; the Republics of Adygea, Crimea, and Kalmykia; and the city of Sevastopol.
5. Northwestern region (St. Petersburg) with 13.4 million includes: Arkhangelsk, Kaliningrad, Leningrad, Murmansk, Novgorod, Pskov, and Vologda oblasts; the Nenets Autonomous Okrug; the Komi Republic; and the Republic of Karelia.
6. Ural region (Yekaterinburg) with 12 million includes: the oblasts of Chelyabinsk, Kurgan, and Sverdlovsk; and the Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Okrug (Yugra) and Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug.
7. North Caucasus region (Stavropol) with 9.4 million includes: Stavropol krai; and the Republics of Chechen, Dagestan, Ingushetia, Kabardino-Balkar, Karachay-Cherkess, and North Ossetia–Alania.
8. Far Eastern Siberian region (Vladivostok) with 8.4 million includes: Amur, Magadan, Kamchatka, Khabarovsk, Primorsky, Sakhalin, and Zabaykalsky oblasts; the Jewish Autonomous Oblast; the Chukotka Autonomous Okrug; Republic of Buryatia; and the Sakha Republic (Yakutia).

3.3.2.1 Fiscal Health

Russia has a low average income per capita of over USD 27,200. With an unemployment rate of over 5% and over 13% living under the poverty level, over 26 million Russians are in socioeconomic distress. The highest unemployment rates and poorest regions are in the Krasnoyarsk, Penza, Samara, Saratov, and Volgograd oblasts, and Republics of Buryatia, Chechen, and Dagestan. The wealthiest regions
include Moscow and Tyumen oblasts and both the Komi and Sakha Republics, respectively. The Federation has weak taxation levels of 14.5% of its potential with a potential of USD 1.4 trillion/year.

3.3.2.2 Corruption and Crime

At 28%, the Russian Federation has high corruption rates at a cost of over USD 144 billion annually to its economy. Arms trafficking, bribery, human trafficking, money laundering, illicit drug trafficking, and poaching are endemic and lead to economic stagnation and political repression (Feifer, 2014; Gessen, 2017; Lourie, 2017; McFaul, 2015; Pomerantsev, 2015). Moreover, the Federation has one of the world’s highest crime rates with about 13,100 homicides annually (Oliker, 2018). The highest rates being those in the Moscow Metropolitan Area; Irkutsk, Moscow, and Sverdlovsk oblasts; Kermerovo, Perm, Primorski Kermerovo, and Zabaykalsky krais; and the Republics of Altai, Bashkortostan, Buryatia, and Sakha.

3.3.2.3 Monetary Health

The Central Bank of Russia in Moscow controls the monetary policy of the Federation. The export performance of the Russian Federation is comparatively weak at 24% of its potential of over USD 1.4 billion. Its primary markets are China and the EU. The major exports include gems and metals, iron and steel, machinery, mineral fuels, natural gas, oil, and wood. Yet, it has enormous potential in aerospace technologies (Zak, 2013), agricultural products (Schmitz & Meyers, 2015), arctic habitation technologies, genomics, renewable energy resources and robotic technologies. Russian expertise in engineering, mathematics, sciences, and technology hold great promise for innovative industries of the future. Moreover, Russia has great potential to increase its exports to the EU, as well as to Canada, India, Japan, Nigeria, Turkey, and the USA. The Federation has a comparatively low debt-to-GDP ratio of 17.5%.

3.3.2.4 Summary

At over 45% overall, the Russian Federation has weak socioeconomic performance that may take over 35 years to fully overcome. Stronger socioeconomic performance will depend on the broadening and redistribution of its tax revenue base, the development and expansion of its export industries and performance, the elimination of poverty, the increase of employment opportunities for its youth and peoples, and zero tolerance of corruption and crime,
3.3.3 **Infrastructure Systems**

3.3.3.1 **Transportation Systems**

Relative to its enormous size, the transportation networks of the Russian Federation are insufficient and underdeveloped at under 9% of its potential. This limits its internal distribution and supply chain systems making it difficult to transport resources to markets. Its railways are at 9% of potential, whereas airports are at 10% relative to its land mass. The nation’s two largest airports the Domodedovo and Sheremetyevo are both in Moscow. Its excellent seaports include those of St. Petersburg and Kaliningrad on the Baltic Sea; Murmansk on the Barents Sea; Novorossiysk on the Black Sea; and Vladivostok on the Sea of Japan. Yet, significant investments for the expansion of airports, railways, roadways, and seaports across the Federation are still needed. Such investments, particularly in Far East Siberia and Siberian regions, could open the frontiers for new viable and sustainable communities. It could also pave the way for key future projects, such as the Intercontinental-World Link of land and tunnel connecting Chukotka Autonomous Okrug with the State of Alaska across the Bering Straits. Finally, the Russian Federation is one of the world’s space industry and technology leaders (Zak, 2013). Its largest cosmodromes include Baikonur (leased from Kazakhstan until 2050), the Kapustin Yar in Astrakhan oblast, the Plesetsk in Arkhangelsk oblast, the Svobodny and the Vostochny in Amur oblast and the Yasny in Orenburg oblast.

3.3.3.2 **Energy Systems**

By world standards, the Russian Federation has good hydro-electrical power production with over 1 trillion kWe (3.6 trillion MJ), or over 70% of its population energy needs. Its largest hydro-electrical plants include: the Bogichany Bratsk, Krasnoyarsk and the Ust IlImskaya dams in Irkutsk oblast; and the Sayano-Shushenskaya dam in the Republic of Khakassia. The nation is also constructing the world’s largest Penzhin tidal power station across the Kamchatka and Magadan oblasts. In addition, over 20% of the Federation’s energy is generated through over 36 nuclear power plants including those in the oblasts (cities) of Kursk, Murmansk at Kola, Nizhny Novgorod, Rostov, Saratov at Balakovo, Smolensk, Sverdlovsk at Beloyarsk, and Tver at Kalinin. It has enormous potential in the development of solar and wind energy technologies across its vast territories and will remain a key energy exporter to China and the EU (Aalto, 2016; Wasilewski, 2015).
3.3.3.3 Sociotechnical Development

At over 80%, the Russian Federation has excellent sociotechnical capabilities with over 115 million netizens. There are great variations in Internet penetration across its vast territory with lower rates across the Far East Siberian, North Caucasus, and Siberian regions. With further technological development, the Federation will likely become a full knowledge society before 2040 (Ashmarina, Vochozka, & Mantulenko, 2020; Gorham, Lunde, & Paulsen, 2014).

3.3.3.4 Public Protection and Security

With over 1.8 million in the defence forces and police services, the Russian Federation has strong public protection and security resources relative to its population. However, the Federation’s enormous size still makes it vulnerable and it may be not able to fully protect its vast territorial integrity. The nation is hampered in its ability to effectively respond to a wide range of national disasters and emergencies across its expanses over 11 time zones. These range from blizzards, droughts, earthquakes, environmental disasters, ethnic and social violence and war, famine, heat waves, major inundations, landslides, massive fires, nuclear accidents, pandemics, social unrest, technological accidents, terrorism, tornados, and volcanic eruptions.

3.3.3.5 Summary

At an overall score 65%, stronger infrastructures in the Russian Federation point to the need for significant development of its airport, railway, roads, and seaport networks across its massive geographical expanse. This will be an increasing challenge given its relatively small and declining population size. By further developing its world hydro-electrical and renewable energy resources and capacities, the Federation has the potential to become a world energy powerhouse, as it becomes a first-class technological knowledge society.

3.3.4 Governance Systems

The Nobel Prize laureate, Alexander Solzhenitsyn (1973) stated: “The line separating good and evil passes not through states, nor between classes, nor between political parties either, but right through every human heart and through all human hearts.”
3.3.4.1 Population Management

Currently at over 142 million, the Russian Federation’s population will decline to 133 million by 2050. At a low population density of under 25 persons/mi$^2$ (10 persons/km$^2$) the Federation is significantly underpopulated with enormous capacity to accommodate more than 400 million in its vast frontier regions. These include: the Far Eastern Siberian region in: Amur, Kamchatka, and Magadan oblasts, Khabarovsk krai, as well as the autonomous okrugs of Chukotka, Yanao, and Yugra; the Northwest Arkhangelsk oblast; and the Siberian Irkutsk, Tomsk, Tyumen, and Zabaykalsky oblasts and Krasnoyarsk krai. Moreover, the Republics of Buryatia, Komi and Yakutia also have the potential to accommodate over 12 million immigrants from heavy weight nations, such as China, the EU, India, Japan, and Nigeria each decade.

3.3.4.2 Sociocultural Cohesion

The sociocultural cohesion of the Federation is high at 90% with Russian with its major cohesive force with its over 97% of its citizens. Among the over 22 other major ethnicities are: the Tatars of over five million, the Bashkirs of 1.2 million, the Chechens of over 1.4 million and both the Chuvash and Perms of over one million each. Christianity, particularly Russian Orthodoxy, with adherents of over 74% of Russians also has an important integrative role across the Federation. The Islamic faith remains quite prevalent with almost nine million forming the majorities in the Republics of Bashkortostan, Chechen, Chuvashia, Dagestan, Kabardino-Balkar and Tatarstan. The Jewish faith has an estimated 300,000 adherents in Moscow, St. Petersburg and across other major Russian cities. Whereas Russians are the majority in the autonomous republics of Crimea, Komi, and Udmurt, those of the Republics of Buryatia and Sakha (Yakutia) have non-Russian ethnic majorities. The Federation also has over 4.5 million indigenous peoples, mainly in the Siberian and Far Eastern Siberian regions. These include: the Adyghe and the Ossetians of over 600,000 each; the Maris and Yahuts of over 500,000 each; the Buryats (Mongolians) of over 400,000; the Udmurt at over 340,000; the Balkars, Ingush and the Karachay of over 300,000 each; the Tuvans of over 250,000; the Komi of over 220,000; the Evenks and the Kalmuks of over 75,000 each; the Altai of over 55,000; the Khanty and the Nenets at over 40,000 each; and the Chukchi at over 16,000. The Federation has given these groups due recognition and control over their resources as republics, oblasts, krais and okrugs.

3.3.4.3 Sociopolitical Systems

Since 1991, the Russian Federation has a Federal Assembly with a Duma of 450 seats and a Federal Council with 170 seats with two directly elected councilors per polity. Three major political parties command over 10% of the total electorate, including the governing United Russia Party with over 50% of the vote, the
Communist Party, and the Liberal Democratic Party. The Duma appears to have an excess of 308 seats relative to its current population amounting to an added cost of over USD 460 million annually. Fourteen republics and ten oblasts have relatively small populations of under one million, whereas there are 19 republics and 40 oblasts of under 58,000 mi² (150,220 km²). Moreover, at an overall 32%, the Russian Federation has poor female representation in its Federal Assembly. Its overall socio-political effectiveness is marginally good at 62%.

3.3.4.4 Summary

Despite a high level of sociocultural cohesiveness centered primarily on language, the Russian Federation, faces significant population capacity challenges with an overall weak governance score of 58%. The Federation would be strengthened through increased female parity in governance; consolidating its numerous krais, oblasts and okrugs into larger and more efficient polities; and streamlining its Duma and its concomitant bureaucracy. Most importantly, however, is the need to expand its ever-declining population base and the building of new sustainable and viable communities over its vast lands, particularly in its Northwestern, Siberian and Far East Siberian regions.

3.3.5 Systemic Priorities

The Russian Federation is a world KSI nation of superlatives and immense future potential, although its overall systemic effectiveness stands at 61%. The Federation’s governance priorities are multiple and include the following. Environment. Strict environmental laws and enforcement to halt ecosystem degradation and eliminate toxic air pollution is important to the Federation’s future. Health care. Immediate and urgent attention to reduce alcohol consumption, road trauma and suicides rates are essential. Increased and effective access to the health care systems, particularly in isolated communities across the Federation’s vast oblasts, okrugs and diverse republics are indicated. Effective prevention strategies for cardiovascular diseases, cancer and infectious diseases are also needed. Fiscal policy. The equitable redistribution of a significantly broaden tax revenue base to those living in poverty and those unemployed is urgently needed. Food resources. The Federation needs to significantly expand its productive agricultural lands and both ocean and river food resources for those facing hunger and food insecurity, but also develop new food export markets. Transportation policy. More effective supply chain distribution systems through the expansion of effective transportation networks, such as railways and roadways, and seaports, particularly in the Far East and Siberian regions are vital. Population growth. The development and expansion of sustainable communities for new populations, particularly in the Far East, Northwest, and Siberian regions are critical to the Federation’s future. Monetary policy. The Russian
Federation needs to develop, diversify, and expand its export markets to China, the EU, India, Japan, Nigeria, Turkey, and the USA. Corruption and crime. The zero-tolerance of all forms of corruption and criminality are important for the future socioeconomic health of the Federation.

### 3.3.6 Transformations

As Richard Sakwa (2019) states: “Russia has had many pasts and, given its size, centrality, and complexity, it will also have many futures”. The Russian Federation is at a crossroads in its evolution as a world KSI nation (Etkind, 2011; Kulik, Maslennikov, & Yurgens, 2019; Lipman & Petrov, 2012; Trenin, 2012). Aside from its internal national priorities, it faces external challenges, particularly in its Central European, North Caucasus and Siberian regions that will transform tomorrow’s Russia. Currently, the Russian military intervention in international conflicts is depleting and diverting its national energies and focus from internal urgent challenges. This will destabilize and weaken the Federation considerably and potentially making it prone to totalitarianism (Dugin, 2017; Gessen, 2017; Lourie, 2017; Pomerantsev, 2015). Russian irredentist movements in Estonia, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Turkmenistan, and Ukraine may become more prominent and compound the risks to peace and stability in the twenty-first century.

#### 3.3.6.1 The North Caucasus Cauldron

The unstable North Caucasus region remains the Federation’s soft underbelly. The Black Sea, Caspian Sea, and the Sea of Azov are important to the future of the Russian Federation (Friedmann, 2009; Sanders, 2014). This region has already seen great turmoil and war with casualties of more than 250,000 and over three million refugees since 1988. The Nagorno-Karabakh war (1988–1994) between Armenia and Azerbaijan; the Abkhaz–Georgian conflict (1989 to the present); the Chechnya wars (1994–1996; 1999–2000); the Dagestan wars (1999–2009); and the Russo-Georgia war (2008)—all underscore the volatility of this region. As the people of Abkhazia and South Ossetia seek recognition as republics, others including the Armenians and Azeris dispersed across several states seek national unity and redress of historical territorial claims. Moreover, since 2014, the Donbass wars have raged in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions as they seek independence from the Ukraine and close alignment as new republics within the Russian Federation. This current conflict has already cost the lives of over 16,000 and displaced of over two million. In the interests of human development and peace in the North Caucasus, the Federation will need to work assiduously with Turkey in the Black Sea region and both Iran and Kazakhstan in the Caspian Sea region.
3.3.6.2 A Euroasian Union?

The twenty-first century will likely see major strategic changes with closer economic and sociocultural ties between the Russian Federation and the EU. In 2014, the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) was formed with Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and the Russian Federation. Other members of the Commonwealth of Independent States formed in 1991, such as Azerbaijan, Moldovia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, may join the Union in the coming decade. A technologically developed Eurasian Union might evolve into an economic and political merger with the EU over the next 50 years. This might bring greater access to resources, political stability, and constructive peace to a continent fraught with historical, economic, social insecurities, and conflict for decades.

3.3.6.3 A Sino-Siberian Future?

The vast Russian Arctic Zone is over 2.3 million mi² (6 million km²) and accounts for over 20% of the Federation’s GDP (Lagutina, 2019). It includes Arkhangelsk and Murmansk oblasts; Krasnoyarsk krai; the autonomous okrugs of Chukotka, Nenets, and Yamalo-Nenets; and the Komi Republic along its Arctic Ocean coastlines. Its massive natural resources include cobalt, copper, natural gas, nickel, oil, and platinum reserves (Laruelle, 2015). Yet some maintain that the frigid Siberian regions constitute an economic albatross to the Russian Federation, draining enormous fiscal resources with no economic justification (Hill & Gaddy, 2003). They maintain that the over 25 million Russians in the Siberian regions should migrate west of the Urals and strengthen Russia’s identity as a European nation. Yet, its Arctic lands holds a key to the Federation’s future as a viable polity. If the nation is not able to sustain the development of these regions through increased population and significant investments, it will likely lose these valuable vast lands and resources to China and Japan by the latter part of the twenty-first century. Unless the population increases to the order of over an additional 400 million, it will likely lose Federation lands east of the Ob River, including its East Siberian, Far Eastern and Western Siberian regions. More specifically, this includes the Amur-Argun basin, Baikal Lake, the Lena River basin, and Sakhalin Island. Moreover, the Republics of Altai, Buryatia, Khakassia, Sakha, and Tuva may well secede from the Federation as independent nations or opt to join a larger Chinese polity.

3.3.6.4 Russian World Leadership

By its sheer territorial size, the Russian Federation remains and will continue to be an important world KSI nation, particularly in the circumpolar regions. However, with its declining population and its socioeconomic challenges, the Federation will find it difficult to control its vast geographical land east of the Ob River, particularly in the face of world population pressures. Moreover, like the USA, its military
misadventures and overextension threatens to deplete its economic and national strength and exacerbate its public debt. The Federation’s strategic future lies in a close rapprochement with the EU and the emergence of a greater Eurasian Union by the end of the twenty-first century. In that, the peregrinations of the Medvedeva (Mother Bear) may well find its true home in its European roots.

3.4 Nigeria: The Emerging Afro-Civilizational State

According to Leo Igwe (2012): “The darkest part of the night precedes the dawn. So, there is no need to despair for humanity in Africa. There is every reason to be optimistic and hopeful.” Zikism, the political ideology of Nnamdi Azikiwe, the Father of Nigerian nationalism, sought to eliminate religious and tribal prejudices (Azikiwe, 1961, 1968; Idike, 2000). This assertive and positive philosophy emphasizes a Renascent Africa through the assertive dignity of Africans and a liberation from their colonial past. This has allowed Nigeria to survive as a Federal nation, as it struggles with ethnic and religious divisions in its short modern history (Elaigwu, 2007; Falola & Aderinto, 2011; Hill, 2012). Nigeria has a great and promising future that will continue to transform Africa, despite its significant humanitarian and socioeconomic challenges (Okediran, 2018; Owhoko, 2017, 2018; Shadeko, 2013). Nigerians, particularly its 88 million youth, are the most enduring and important natural resource and may well be the kernel of an emerging Afro-civilizational state. Education, affordable hydroelectrical resources and access to the Internet will unleash forces that will be greater than non-renewable resources, such as gas and oil (Kolawole, 2014).

3.4.1 Humanitarian Systems

3.4.1.1 Water

Nigeria has good waterways of close to 2,000 mi (3,122 km) that includes major rivers, such as the Benue, the Cross, the Donga, the Gongola, the Kaduna and the Niger and the Gulf of Guinea that opens up to the Atlantic Ocean. While water resources are more abundant in Southern Nigeria, the Sahelian regions of the North are arid and dry. At 1,500 m³/capita, Nigeria has a critical shortage of clean and potable water resources that directly affects over 67 million citizens. Moreover, Nigeria has unsafe sanitation systems and problematic wastewater treatment that impact on over 150 million citizens across its vast lands. The construction of desalination plants; improved sanitation and wastewater treatment plants; water conservation and recycling; and water distribution networks from the South to the North may help alleviate Nigeria’s acute and urgent water shortages in the future.
3.4.1.2 Food

Although over 30% of Nigeria’s territory is arable and agriculturally productive; it is insufficient for its growing population of over 208 million. Although it can meet 70% of its food needs, it remains dependent on food imports. Over 66 million Nigerians suffer from acute food insecurity, hunger, and malnutrition. Rampant African swine fever has complicated this profile by destroying its pork supplies, an important food source in Nigeria’s southern states. Developing its sustainable ocean and river food sources may hold one of the keys to resolving these issues, whereas importing of massive food supplies may provide a medium-term solution.

3.4.1.3 Health Care

Nigeria has poor health care resources and outcomes with one of the world’s highest infant mortality rates. Over 208 million Nigerians are in urgent need to basic and effective health care. Health care is particularly poor in the states Adamawa, Bauchi, Gombe, Jigawa, Katsina and Sokoto. Its health care system capacity is critically weak and cannot respond to emergencies and national disasters and emergencies, such as drought, environmental accidents, ethnic violence and wars, major fires, massive inundations, pandemics, and terrorism. Hemorrhagic fever, infectious diseases, malaria, and respiratory diseases remain the major causes of mortality in Nigeria. Over 3,200,000 Nigerians are HIV+ that result in at least 160,000 deaths from AIDS annually at an economic loss of over USD 34 billion. Moreover, Nigeria has one of the world’s highest rates of road-trauma deaths that claim over 42,700 Nigerians annually, with suicides an additional 23,500 lives annually. Mortality rates from homicides, road trauma and suicides cost the Nigerian economy over USD 15.7 billion annually.

3.4.1.4 Education

At a literacy rate of 60%, Nigeria has a marginally good education system, particularly in the Southern states. The nation’s outstanding post-secondary institutions include the University of Ibadan, the University of Nigeria in Nsukka, Covenant University in Ota, and Ahmadu Bello University in Zaria. Yet, across this vast land, over 82 million Nigerians remain illiterate, mainly in the Northern states of Bauchi, Katsina, Sokoto, Yobe, and Zamfara.

3.4.1.5 Environmental Health

Nigeria is one of the world’s most polluted nations with a poor environmental performance index of 55%. Significant black carbon, carbon dioxide, and methane emissions contribute to its low environmental health score of 37% and accounts for
over 116,000 deaths at economic loss of over USD 24 billion annually. The Southern states of Anambra, Abia, Lagos, Ogun, and Oyo are among its most polluted, as are the northern states of Kaduna and Kano. Aba, Lagos, and Onitsha are among Nigeria’s and the world’s most toxic cities. The ecosystem vitality stands at 67% with Nigeria’s biodiversity and habitat in need of pressing need for adequate biome, marine and species protection. Overall, environmental degradation directly and adversely affects the lives of over 94 million Nigerians.

3.4.1.6 Summary

At an overall of 40%, Nigeria has poor humanitarian resources with inadequate food, water resources, health care and education for its burgeoning populations. It may take 60 years to overcome these problems. Resource inadequacy and maldistribution pose challenges for over 125 million Nigerians across its diverse and vast land. Moreover, both environmental health and declining ecosystem vitality require immediate urgent national attention.

3.4.2 Socioeconomic Systems

According to the Nigerian writer Yinka Kolawole (2014): “Give the poor and their children the tools they need, and they will fly over Nigeria, far above the dark clouds that cover it.” At USD 1.2 trillion, Nigeria has the smallest GDP of the 12 KSI nations. With a population of over 208,700,000, Nigeria has 36 states in six key regions, cities and states that include the following.

1. North-West (Kano) with over 54 million includes the states of Jigawa, Kaduna, Kano, Katsina, Kebbi, Sokoto, and Zamfara.
2. South-West (Lagos) with over 42 million includes the coastal states of Ekiti, Lagos, Ogun, Ondo, Osun, and Oyo.
3. South-South (Port Harcourt) with over 32 million includes the Niger Delta states of Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Cross River, Delta, Edo, and Rivers.
4. North Central (Abuja) with over 29 million includes the Middle Belt states of Benue, Kogi, Kwara, Nasarawa, Niger, Plateau, and the Federal Capital Territory.
5. North-East (Maiduguri) with over 28 million includes the Sahelian states of Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba, and Yobe.
6. South-East (Enugu) with over 24 million includes Abia, Anambra, Ebonyi, Enugu, and Imo.

Nigeria’s world megalopolis is Lagos of well over 10 million. Benin City, Ibadan, and Kano are likely to join these ranks by 2060. Nigeria’s main economic drivers are the states of Delta, Lagos, Oyo, and Rivers.
3.4.2.1 Fiscal Health

Nigeria has a low average income per capita of over USD 6,000. With an unemployment rate of 6% and 70% of Nigerians living under the poverty level, Nigeria is critically poor. Over 157 million Nigerians live in socioeconomic distress, particularly in the North states of Adamawa, Gombe, Katsina, and Sokoto. The relatively wealthiest are in the South states of Delta, Imo, Lagos, Oyo, and Rivers. Taxation systems in Nigeria remain very weak at 4% of its potential. The generation and equitable redistribution of an expanded tax revenue base of an additional USD 575 billion is crucial. This would help the nation meet its dire humanitarian challenges and raise millions out of acute socioeconomic distress and poverty.

3.4.2.2 Corruption and Crime

At over 26%, Nigeria has high corruption rates that detract from its socioeconomic development. High levels of bribery, criminality, cybercrime, embezzlement, extortion, gang formation, human and illicit substance trafficking, money laundering and theft mark Nigeria as having one of the world’s highest crime rates. Inter-communal violence, kidnapping, and terrorism are endemic across Nigeria, but especially in the northern states of Bauchi, Kaduna and Kano and the southern state of Rivers. Moreover, sea privacy is a significant problem along Nigeria’s Gulf of Guinea coastline. Corruption and crime cost the Nigerian economy over USD 44 billion annually. Also, Nigeria has one of the world’s highest homicide rates at over 20,600 annually, particularly in Lagos and in the Niger-Delta states.

3.4.2.3 Monetary Health

The Central Bank of Nigeria in Abuja controls the monetary policy of the nation. With its main trading partners of India and the USA, the major Nigerian exports include crude oil, natural gas, petroleum products and agricultural products, such as cassavas, cocoa beans, taros and yams (Campbell & Page, 2018). However, Nigeria’s overall export performance is very weak at 2% of its trade potential of over USD 2 trillion. Healthy export levels and international trade would help Nigerians break out of the cycle of high unemployment and poverty. The Economic Community of Western African States (ECOWAS) formed in 1975 seeks an economic integration of 15 nations and continues to hold promise in encouraging trade across West Africa. Moreover, the 2018 Kigali agreement that established the African Continental Free Trade Association (AfCFTA) will also certainly boost Nigerian exports, particularly to markets in the Congo, Ethiopia, South Africa, and the emerging East African Federation. No doubt increased transatlantic trade with Brazil, Mexico, and the USA, as well as global trade with China, the EU, India, and the Russian Federation, will also be important to Nigeria’s future. As the demand for non-renewable energy sources increases, Nigeria will be challenged to diversify and
develop new export industries, particularly in biotechnologies, solar and wind technologies. Nigeria has a low debt-to-GDP ratio of 23% and continues to monitor its debt load as it continues to develop.

3.4.2.4 Summary

Overall, Nigeria’s socioeconomic health is critically poor at 24% and may require over 55 years to fully overcome. Strong performance in the future will depend on the development of its export industries and performance, the expansion of its tax revenue base and the elimination of rampant corruption and crime. Moreover, increasing employment opportunities and eliminating poverty for its citizens, especially for its youth, is of paramount importance.

3.4.3 Infrastructure Systems

3.4.3.1 Transportation Systems

Nigeria’s transportation systems are critically underdeveloped at slightly over 12% of its needs and potential. Its railways at over 8% and airport systems at 12% are particularly weak. The nation’s ability to bring resources to market and to sustain effective supply distribution networks are severely hampered. Nigeria has good seaports along its Gulf coastlines, including those of Calabar, Delta, and Lagos that also has its most important international airport. Moreover, Nigeria has a space program with satellites launched from bases in the Russian Federation. As a development tool, space technology will require robust investments in science and technology that will drive the future Nigerian economy (Abiodun, 2017). Yet, the pressing needs for improved land transportation are manifest.

3.4.3.2 Energy Systems

Nigeria produces over 30 billion kW h (108 billion MJ) of hydro-electrical energy that meets less than 2% of its needs 2.1 trillion kW h (7.6 trillion MJ) annually. Its largest hydroelectrical plant under construction is the Mambila Dam in Taraba on the Donga River. Moreover, in collaboration with the Russian Federation, Nigeria is building Geregu, a twin-reactor nuclear plant, in Kogi to increase its hydro-electrical energy production. Importing hydro-electrical energy and gas resources from the Congo, and ECOWAS member states, such as Ghana and the Ivory Coast, Maghreb nations such as Algeria, will be increasingly important in meeting its energy needs. Nigeria has considerable potential in developing renewable energy alternatives, such as ocean energy along the Gulf of Guinea, and both solar and wind energy across its northern states.
3.4.3.3 Sociotechnical Development

With 42%, or over 88 million netizens, Nigeria remains relatively technologically weak. It may not reach sociotechnical potential nor become a full knowledge society for another 40 years. One can expect the technological advancements and change will be more evident in the Southern regions of the nation, where the literacy rates are higher.

3.4.3.4 Public Protection and Security

With close to 500,000 engaged in public protection and security, including over 135,000 in defence and 350,000 in police forces, Nigeria is at 23% of its overall potential of over two million. Its relatively weak capacity limits its ability to respond effectively to national disasters and emergencies, such as droughts, environmental catastrophes, epidemics, famines, haboobs, massive fires, floods, heat waves, landslides, severe storms, social unrest and violence across its diverse land.

3.4.3.5 Summary

Nigeria’s overall infrastructure remains weak and underdeveloped at under 20% of its potential. Despite good seaport networks, its insufficient hydro-electrical energy resources, weak sociotechnical capacity, and weak transportation systems detract from its overall strength. A stronger Nigerian infrastructure requires expanding and improving airports, railways, and roadways, and increasing its clean renewable energy resources, as it continues to develop its full technological potential. Expanding its public protection and security capabilities would also enhance and reinforce its overall infrastructures in the event of national emergencies.

3.4.4 Governance Systems

3.4.4.1 Population Management

Nigeria has over 208 million people and remains a youthful nation with over 59% of Nigerians are under 30 years. As a heavy weight nation, its high population density is over 594 persons/mi² (229 persons/km²). By 2050, Nigeria’s population is projected to be over 450 million. The Northern states of Niger, Taraba and Yobe are less populated and could see new sustainable communities in the future. Moreover, the future will see increased emigration from Nigeria to other West African nations, the Congo, Libya, South Africa, and Sudan. Moreover, open space KSI nations, such as Australia, Brazil, Canada, the Russian Federation, and the USA will also
increasingly allure over 2.3 million future Nigerians. Nigeria will also likely see the growth of vertical cities and land reclamation from its coastal regions.

3.4.4.2 Sociocultural Cohesion

Nigeria is nationally fragile and marginally integrated at 50% along linguistic and religious lines. English serves as the lingua franca for over 65% of Nigerians in over 250 ethnic and 500 linguistic groups. The nation is divided along religious lines with 55% Christians in the Southern states and 45% Islamic adherents in the North. The dominant ethnic and linguistic groups include: the Hausa-Fulani of over 71 million across the Northern states (Tsiga & Bhadmus, 2012); the Yoruba of over 40,500,000 across the South West states, as well as the states of Kogi and Kwara (Soyinka, 2007); the Igbo of over 35,500,000 throughout the South East states, the South-South states, as well as Benue; and the Ijaw people of over 20,300,000 in the Niger River Delta. Other key ethnic groups include: the Kanuri across the North East states; the Gbagyi in Kaduna and Niger of over eight million each; the Ibibio of seven million in Abia, Akwa Ibom, and Cross River; the Tiv of five million in Benue, Nasarawa, and Taraba; the Annang of four million in Awa-Ibom and Cross River; the Edo of over two million; the Igala of over 1,500,000 in Kogi; the Ebirra in Edo, Kogi and Ondo, the Iskiri in Delta, the Mupun in Plateau; and the Urhobo in Delta of one million each. The states of Benue, Cross River, Delta and Kogi are among Nigeria’s most ethnically diverse. This diversity, combined with high population densities and poverty, often provoke sporadic inter-communal violence that spreads across the nation.

3.4.4.3 Sociopolitical Systems

Nigeria with 36 states and one federal capital of Abuja is a federal presidential republic founded in 1960. Its bicameral National Assembly has a House of Representatives with 360 seats and a Senate of 109 members, three directly elected from each state. The two major political parties with over 10% of the electorate vote include the governing All Progressive Congress and the People’s Democratic Party. The coalition approach assures that over 50% of the electorate dominate the House. The House has an apparent surcease of 150 seats with an additional cost of over USD 225 million annually. At 6%, Nigeria’s National Assembly has weak female representation and poor gender parity. All Nigerian states have more than one million and are under 58,000 mi² (150,220 km²). Nigeria’s overall sociopolitical effectiveness is 61% of its potential.
3.4 Nigeria: The Emerging Afro-Civilizational State

3.4.4.4 Summary

With one of the world’s highest population densities and fastest growing populations, Nigeria remains a weak sociopolitical entity at 48%. Its deep sociocultural divisions along linguistic and religious lines compounds these challenges. Greater gender parity in governance, the consolidation of states and the streamlining of the National Assembly could strengthen the political fabric of the nation. However, integrating its disparate and diverse mosaic of over 250 ethnic groups and 500 languages into one unified national polity remains one of Nigeria’s ongoing feats that will define the future of all of Africa.

3.4.5 Systemic Priorities

As Kolawole (2014) stated: “When Nigeria succeeds in transforming itself, it will transform Africa.” Nigeria is a KSI nation with the potential to become preeminent colossus in Africa by the end of the twenty-first century. Its future prosperity and stability are of vital concern to all humanity in the pursuit of peace and social justice. Despite being the world’s sixth largest oil producer, inept economic and political leadership has adversely affected Nigeria’s finances and agricultural, education and health care infrastructures (Soyinka, 1996). With an overall national systemic effectiveness of 33%, Nigeria is facing grave and significant humanitarian, socio-economic, infrastructure and governance challenges that may take 50 years to resolve. Its national strengths lie in its ability to remain united under enormous internal fragmentation pressures. However, its critical national shortages of food, health care and clean water resources, its socioeconomic weaknesses and weak infrastructures are alarming. In addressing Nigerian strategic governance priorities below, the pursuit of excellence is essential to forestall mediocre efforts that may be insufficient (Achebe, 1966).

**Health care.** Urgent attention is needed to reduce infant mortality rates and preventable death rates from infectious diseases, AIDS, road trauma and violence across Nigeria.

**Water.** The expansion of clean and safe water resources through effective water distribution systems and investments in wastewater treatment facilities is needed in the Northern regions of Nigeria.

**Fiscal policy.** The alleviation of socioeconomic distress and poverty through the equitable redistribution of a broadened tax revenue base is pressing, as is the need for tolerance of endemic corruption and crime.

**Population policy.** Effective population management strategies and resettlement programs will be increasingly important.

**Governance.** The extension of equity and social justice to all Nigerians, regardless of ethnic group, gender, language, or religion is in keeping with the tenets of Zikism and needs to be consistently applied.

**Environmental policy.** Measures to halt environmental degradation and to eliminate pollution, particularly in Nigeria’s Southern states remain urgent.

**Education.** Increasing literacy rates and assurance of educational opportunities for its young people, especially of women, in the Northern states is needed.

**Food.** Expansion of food resources is needed through effective
agricultural productivity, the expansion of ocean and river food sources, and improved food supply distribution networks. **Energy.** The transition from non-renewable energy such as petroleum, to clean hydroelectrical and renewable energy sources using solar, ocean and wind technologies will be essential for Nigeria’s future. **Transportation.** Significant investments in building effective ground transportation networks across its vast land will help unite the nation and strengthen the food distribution capabilities across Nigeria.

### 3.4.6 Transformations

As Nigeria’s population exceeds 400 million by 2050, this KSI nation will impact the entire African continent, the EU, the Russian Federation and Brazil. As with many other African nations, the future of Nigeria is a race between socioeconomic development and sociopolitical disintegration. This is an epic battle of time pitting the forces of pending anarchy, chaos, and disintegration against the forces of positive social and economic development. The next decades will be difficult transitional years for Nigerians as they struggle to meet immense humanitarian, socioeconomic, infrastructural and governance demands. The effectiveness with which Nigeria meets these challenges will ultimately determine the fate of over 800 million West Africans by 2050 and will certainly shape the future of a planetary society.

#### 3.4.6.1 Secessionist Forces

Since its independence in 1960, Nigeria faced significant chaos, complexity, and internal divisions along ethnic and religious lines (Maier, 2009). Continuous ethnic conflict and unrest throughout Nigeria have their root causes in endemic corruption, the misappropriation of petroleum wealth, and scarce arable land and water resource (Achebe, 1966; Campbell & Page, 2018; Okonjo-Iweala, 2012, 2018; Smith, 2015; Thurston, 2019). The Nigerian Civil War, or Biafran war of 1967–1970, was the result of an Igbo secessionist movement triggered by deep resentment of the Igbo peoples across Nigeria. The ethnic tensions that erupted led to the genocide of the Annangs, Ibibios, Igbos and Ijaws and exacted casualties of over 75,000, the starvation death of over two million Nigerians and the displacement of over seven million (Achebe, 2012; Offodile, 2016). Although significant federal reform was enacted to create a more equitable and inclusive union, its people will not likely fully heal from its war trauma before 2030. The Federal state continues to confront many destabilizing and existential threats to its political integrity. These include the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) led by Igbo and Ijaw nationalists opposed to the oil export industry, and the Oodua nationalist movement in the Yoruba states of South West Nigeria. Moreover, deep religious divisions in Northern Nigeria, particularly in Borno and Yobe states, erupted in 2009 in the form of Boko
Harem (MacEachern, 2018). This radical group militates for an Islamic state in North East Nigeria as a West African province of a greater Islamic Caliphate. This movement has cost the lives of over 52,000 and displaced over 2.5 million Nigerians to date. As in previous internal conflicts, it will likely take two generations to fully recover and heal from its devastating human effects, after it ends. How Nigeria emerges from these challenges will mirror how other nations, such as China, the EU, and the USA, have emerged from their own historical civil strafes. Indeed, a stronger Nigeria and West Africa may well result in the long-term.

3.4.6.2 West African Federation?

Nigeria has enormous potential in becoming the lynchpin of the African continent uniting all West African nations. This will depend on whether the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) becomes a stable viable economic and political union over the next 30–60 years under Nigeria’s leadership. No doubt, the economies of the Nigerian states will become more integrated with those of its neighbours. For example, the socioeconomic development of the North East states will become more intertwined with Cameroun and Chad; the North-West states with Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger; South-East and South-South states with Cameroun and Equatorial Guinea; and both North Central and South-West states with Benin, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, the Ivory Coast, Liberia, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo. With cogent leadership, a political union with Nigeria will likely become the kernel of a wider West African Federation with over 800 million Africans. Such a union will take great and inspired national leadership, inexorable patience and time, and tremendous national focus against substantial odds and inevitable setbacks. Yet what happens in Nigeria is a microcosm of the planetary world that is evolving and that future generations will come to see and embrace.

3.4.6.3 West African World Leadership

The Gulf of Guine is Nigeria’s gateway to the Atlantic Ocean and to the world. Its future prosperity will increasingly depend on maritime trade with other coastal nations of Africa, as well as with Brazil, China, the EU, India, Mexico, and the USA. By its sheer energy and population size, Nigeria will be a potent strategic influencer that will impact the futures of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, and Sudan, as well. As Nigeria develops and overcomes its challenges, it will seek to define itself in the context of new African realities that will include a nascent East African Federation, an emerging Mashriq Union that will include Egypt and Libya, and a Maghreb union that will include Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia. Moreover, by the early part of the twenty-second century, this united West African polity will also become a cogent strategic KSI nation with direct impact on the futures of Brazil, the EU, and the USA. Moreover, it will become the kernel of a
major world civilizational state joining the ranks of China and India into the next century.

### 3.5 Euro-Indian Ecosphere

Both the EU and the Russian Federation are following a close development trajectory and might well become both integrated and stronger economies by 2040. Both will become highly technological societies by 2045. With focused and titanic efforts, India will likely overcome its current grave humanitarian and socioeconomic challenges and become a fully developed knowledge society by 2075. Nigeria is clearly a KSI nation in full red code currently. It will likely overcome its challenges by 2080 with significant support and assistance of stronger KSI nations and the international community. All KSI nations will require strong cohesive leadership and governance. The centripetal forces of division and chaos at work within these nations are significant and cannot be ignored. Moreover, these four KSI nations are at the nexus of a new rising Arab-Islamic ecosphere and an emerging African ecosphere. The risks of anarchy, chaos, and enduring violent conflict in this ecosphere are high over the next 60 years. From 2020 to 2080, both the EU and the Russian Federation will likely be a leadership model for not only for India and Nigeria, but also for the emerging Arab-Islamic and African nations. After 2080, however, India will likely eclipse and dominate the Euro-Indian ecosphere as it becomes a global superpower. This will only be interceded by a fully developed African Union and a cogent and united Arab Federation. The years between 2020 and 2080 will be critical for development and peace in this ecosphere and for the future of a habitable and safe planet.

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