

# Weekly BusinessInsights

Extractive summaries curated from TOP TEN BUSINESS MAGAZINES to promote informed decision making  
Week 195 | June 04-10, 2021



## Weekly Business Insights Podcast (Experience this weekly magazine in audio)

**Shaping** : Ideas and forces shaping economies and industries



### The new geopolitics of global business

The Economist | June 5, 2021

#### 3 key takeaways from the article

1. Creative destruction often makes predictions look silly, but even by these standards the post-pandemic business world is dramatically different from what you might have expected two decades ago.
2. America and, increasingly, China are ascendant, accounting for 76 of the world's 100 most valuable firms. Europe's tally has fallen from 41 in 2000 to 15 today.
3. The magic formula has many ingredients. A vast home market helps firms achieve scale quickly. Deep capital markets, networks of venture capitalists and top universities keep the startup pipeline full. There is a culture that exalts entrepreneurs. Nevertheless, the recent erosion of political consensus in the USA and China is one reason this dominance could prove unsustainable.

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Topics: **Global Economy, Creative Destruction, USA, China**

## Leading & Managing



### The resilience imperative: Succeeding in uncertain times

By Nauck et al., | McKinsey & Company | May 17, 2021

#### 3 key takeaways from the article

1. 2020 was a wake-up call. To thrive in the coming decade, companies must develop resilience—the ability to withstand unpredictable threats or change and then to emerge stronger.
2. Developing resilience is easy to say but hard to define, and yet harder to do.
3. True resilience requires balanced focus on six dimensions: financials, operations, technology, organization, reputation, and business model. Firms with the capabilities to prepare for and respond to disruption dynamically are more resilient across the six dimensions.

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Topics: **Resilience, Business Sustainability, Business Performance**



### Eliminate Strategic Overload

By Felix Oberholzer-Gee | Harvard Business Review | From the Magazine (May–June 2021)

#### 2 key takeaways from the article

1. In the past few decades, strategy has become increasingly sophisticated and complicated. Nevertheless, hard work and sophisticated strategy lead to enduring financial success for some companies but not for others. The difference lies in simplifying strategy—by selecting fewer initiatives with greater impact—we can make it more powerful.
2. A strategic initiative is worthwhile only if it creates value for customers by raising their willingness to pay (WTP), creates value for employees by making work more appealing, and creates value for suppliers by reducing their operating cost.

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Topics: **Business Strategy, Business Model, Business Performance**



### Why Good Arguments Make Better Strategy

By Jesper B. Sørensen and Glenn R. Carroll | MIT Sloan Management Review | June 03, 2021

#### 3 key takeaways from the article

1. The core of every great strategy is a valid argument. Leaders should work to develop such an argument.
2. Valid argument should include what needs to be true for the strategy to succeed, and it should specify the resources (people, technology, finances, and even regulators) required to execute it.
3. Constructive debate, iterative visualization, and logical formalization are essential tools for arriving at such arguments.

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Topics: **Strategy, Leadership**



### How to run a meeting—rather than have meetings running us

By S. Mitra Kalita | Fortune Magazine | June 2, 2021

#### 3 key takeaways from the article

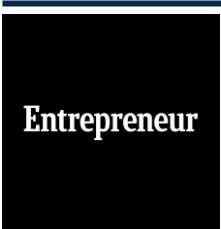
1. The pandemic exposed some terrible workplace habits. Chief among them: our dependence on meetings.
2. More than two-thirds of workers complain that meetings keep them from being productive.
3. Three key areas emerge as ways we can fix meetings right away: set the new rules for meetings, use technology to make meetings better and remember the point of meetings in the first place.

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Topics: **Productivity, Personal Development, Management**

## Entrepreneurship



### Harvard Business School Professor Says 65% of Startups Fail for One Reason. Here's How to Avoid It.

Bryce Conlan | Entrepreneur Magazine | June 08, 2021

#### 3 key takeaways from the article

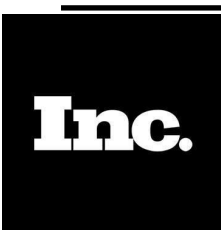
1. It's been said that the best time in your business is before you start building - when it's all blue skies and big dreams.
2. As soon as the rubber meets the road, however, you're in for some conflict. While the cause of that conflict can be as varied and unique as the co-founders, the most simple explanation is that in the founding venture, you're trying to bring two or more sets of ideals, values, perspectives, motivations, and a dozen other intangible, immeasurable qualities and merge them as one.
3. If misalignment is the problem, then alignment must be the solution which can be gained through understanding the sources of misalignment, variation in vision is one, and finding solutions which include getting to the market... faster, making the people buy vision, and unlock innovation.

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Topics: **Entrepreneurship, Startups, Conflict**



### How improvisation can develop leadership skills and help you think faster on your feet.

By Jason Hennessey | Inc Magazine | June 09, 2021

#### 2 key takeaways from the article

1. Learning (which also includes taking a course) and the practice of improvisation can make us better leaders.
2. The five reasons why everyone should develop and practice improvisation are: you improve in decision-making, adapt to situations in the moment, engage with others, get better at managing your nerves and anxiety and you develop a growth mindset.

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Topics: **Entrepreneurship, Critical-Thinking, Personal Development**

**Note: Purpose behind extractive summary and the key takeaways is to facilitate you in browsing a weekly issue. There are many nuances in possibly every article which can't be covered because of space limitations. For better understanding please read the full articles you find interesting in a weekly selection.**

Articles curated and summarized by M Arif Saleem. Enthusiastic professionals and teenagers are contributing voluntarily in recording the podcast of this e-weekly. These include my daughter Hamna, my son Meeran and few of my friends.

Motivation behind this sharing is to contribute in the development of a culture of 'informed decision making'. You can also contribute in this 'greater good' by forwarding this e-Weekly & Podcast to your fellows/friends and others.

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