This submission proposes a system aimed at increasing the individual citizen’s sense of belonging to community and concern about global issues while restoring trust in the way we are governed. It means reforming education to a mandatory system based on mentoring, AI and neuroscience spanning a life time. This will be achieved by leveraging the individual’s inner humanity to help through annual citizen’s commitments to the community together with a mandatory period of community service. A civic rating will assess their ability to vote or to be elected to public office. It includes a neutral and flat tax system, promoting innovation together with a reformed health care system and common income basis. All these factors will be in a transparent standardized database which will include a comprehensive view of the community’s needs and resources. The sum of these individual responsibilities and commitments will be more powerful and sustainable than decisions taken by centralised governance.
1. Abstract

A population of 7.4 billion, a figure that has quadrupled since the beginning of the 20th century. An enormous GDP of USD 75,544 billion, which benefits only around 1.6 billion individuals (approx. 20%–21% of the world’s population). Of this minority of 20–21%, 1% of the population controls 48% of this wealth. Against this background of huge inequality, climate change and the irreversible onset of the sixth mass extinction (driven primarily by humans), resulting from population numbers and economic needs, an urgent and radical revision of our economic model is required. This must include a method of controlling and ultimately reducing the world’s population. In view of the concentration of economic power, we might conclude that an action focused on the 21% of the population deemed to be the dominant or “middle” class could effectively modify our economic model. The model presented in this document focuses largely on this segment of the population. If implemented successfully, it could, over time, create a ripple effect on the most disadvantaged members of the population.

The implementation of “top down” regulations, resulting from the regulatory power enjoyed by international and state organizations, will always be outmatched by the increasing importance of technology, inequality, catastrophes, demography and human-made destruction. As in the case of anti-money laundering and anti-corruption legislation, responsibility for change must be vested in the individual and must draw on the need for meaning that characterizes the human condition. It is by understanding the nature of human biology as well as how to attain harmonious physical and emotional development, and thus the individual’s successful integration at a social and political level, that this awareness will take root. To ensure that this happens, it is important to foster an individual’s personal development, to give them the level of emotional, intellectual and information awareness appropriate to their involvement and comprehension, to encourage their contribution to the community and, finally, to validate their actions by giving them political power by modifying the fundamental structure of the democratic vote.

The model proposed here draws on the general principle of personal participation by each individual in managing the needs of their community. The said individual is designated “a citizen” here. The community, for its part, is deemed to be a group of people who are part of a territorial division in a society such as a neighbourhood, city, region, state or the planet, as well as the diverse components of this territory in terms of economics, geography, resources and needs.

This entails establishing a form of solidarity that is not financial in nature. This generates, first and foremost, the pleasure of giving of oneself. Secondly, there is the aspect of economic value, replacing financial resources provided by the state. Finally, for the beneficiary, the fact that the service is provided by a human being helps to promote integration (Eagleman) and is a source of emotional satisfaction. Pleasure – the engine of the innate action (Laborit) – enables this paradigm shift from a materialist society to a more inclusive and cohesive one that is more respectful of its ecosystem within the framework of a strong, sustainable and irreversible movement.

This participation, initially purely voluntary, can gradually change into a consultative democracy, or even a real participatory and direct democracy, made
possible by the use of new technologies. Depending on the extent to which this participation can be established, particularly in light of the political regime in which it is embedded, this model will enable individuals to strengthen their sense of belonging to their community and their awareness of its needs and difficulties. If partially implemented, it will be able to influence governments and to “take the pulse of the planet”. Finally, and ideally, it will become the engine of new, responsible, innovative and accountable behaviour.

Implementing such a change requires four lines of action.

The first line of action focuses on restoring a strong link between the individual and their immediate community. This is achieved by putting together a huge inventory of skills, resources and reciprocal needs. All of this data can be stored on a powerful server and made available online. Each individual shall have a “citizen profile”, similar to a Facebook or LinkedIn profile. This lists their skills and commitments vis-à-vis the community and provides an overall rating of their quantitative and qualitative participation in the life of the community. This rating, which would be known as a “civic rating”, would be a weighting factor with regard to the individual’s right to vote in the democratic system. At the same time, in order to ensure the informed and accountable participation of individuals in the management of their community, the environment must facilitate an understanding of the community’s needs, obligations and resources. This online environment would ultimately provide a space where individuals’ opinions can be expressed and taken on board when managing this community.

The second line of action reminds us that the personal development of each individual necessitates their continuing education, which includes providing them with certain resources. It also means rethinking the relationship between capital and labour, namely, the subordination of labour to capital.

The third line of action proposes significant political, economic and democratic evolution, already anticipated in the line of action mentioned above, but at a more politically engaged level. Such developments include modifying fiscal regulation in favour of a single, fixed rate of tax applied to each income stream; the participation of the individual in state budgetary decisions; and the implementation of an entirely participatory democracy.

The fourth line of action focuses on the technical implementation of this system. This “citizen model” could be conceptualized by a politically independent ad hoc working group that is, nevertheless, representative of states and cultures and has all the necessary expertise. Contributions could be made on an “open source” basis. This working group’s mission would be to finalize a “turnkey system”, to plan various implementation schedules at different speeds and to ensure that the system is promoted at both state and individual level.
2. Description of the model

1 RESTORING A STRONG LINK BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS AND THEIR IMMEDIATE COMMUNITY

The aim is to activate each person’s sense of common humanity and to become aware that our individual actions are responsible for the state of the planet. To achieve this, the empowerment and the commitment of the individual must be at the heart of any change.

1.1 THE CITIZEN PROFILE

1.1.1 Recording an individual's skills and experience

The citizen profile will be an expression of how pro-active an individual is in society; it will emphasize not only the individual’s qualification-based training and education but also their general skills and knowledge and availability as well as an appraisal of their involvement in the community.

1.1.2 The regular commitment of the individual to their community

Commitment fundamentally changes the success of any programme (Zander, Cialdini).

Individuals must display an ongoing commitment with regard to the citizen hours and training hours they propose to undertake in a given period. Acceptance of citizen hours by the beneficiary makes the commitment definitive and obligatory.

By providing choice, individuals can regularly examine the social, economic and environmental needs of their immediate community and, as a result of this analysis, feel that they are participating in and responsible for the running of this community.

The objective is to establish collective responsibility for the immense challenges facing our planet while, at the same time, creating the means to exercise control, make changes and enable individuals to take back decision-making power.

1.1.3 The principle of a civic rating

Certain actions, namely contributing a number of citizen hours and engaging in a number of training hours each year, will generate a number of fixed points, weighted by the age of the person. Criminal convictions will lead to a penalty.

In the spectrum between these two extremes, the system will enable the evaluation of the individual from a human and social perspective using a sophisticated system reminiscent of satisfaction surveys or the “likes” seen on websites like Facebook, based on criteria to be defined publicly [Translator’s note: The phrase is unclear in the original – this represents the translator’s best guess], and implemented by powerful algorithms as a guarantee of the impartiality and automatic nature of the rating. The purpose of the rating is to evaluate the role of the individual at a social level in society and enable the “masses” to sanction or simply expose deviant behaviours not policed by the judicial system. It is equally important to record valued or discredited behaviours or lifestyles (use of pollutants, responsibility for abusive environmental destruction and abuse of power, etc.).
This rating will indicate the individual’s democratic influence.

The objective is to make the principle of social responsibility as strong and revolutionary as the principle of equal rights.

### 1.2 THE OBLIGATIONS OF SOLIDARITY

#### 1.2.1 Citizen hours – an obligation to take the needs of others into consideration

For each individual, the citizen hours will entail taking action in order to contribute to the needs of society.

The objective is to oblige every person to offer “something” to another member of the community. An older person could spend time reading to small children (or vice versa); a young person with few qualifications could go shopping for an older person. A person who has technical training or a high level of education could offer their services or pass on their knowledge free of charge.

The system would be extremely flexible, sometimes competing with private paid services and having the distinct aim of supporting public services.

A significant number of citizen hours – between 120 and 832 – would be required every year. The exact number would depend on the number of hours worked by the individual or the paid services provided by them. For those who do not wish to cooperate, it will be possible to “pay” the community for the citizen hours that have not been performed, although this option is the least preferable one.

As the implementation of the system progresses, the citizen hours can extend to services rendered to communities outside the state.

The citizen hours are designed to “reconcile the individual’s goal with that of the group.”

(Laborit)

“Contact with others, thanks to the memory that we retain of them, touches us, and their humanity shapes ours.”

The citizen hours contributed can be validated by the system by logging in to the online civic environment.

#### 1.2.2 Establishing individual material solidarity in kind

In the context of optimizing resources, all kinds of recycling must become part of our daily routine. In each neighbourhood, premises would be available for the disposal of items people no longer want. It would also be a place where people could pick up unwanted items, such as food, which would be stored in refrigerators. The place would be open at all times and staffed by people performing their citizen hours. They would ensure that the items left there would be organized by type, while other people would be responsible for repairing or washing items. This type of “citizen shop” would not pose a threat to the traditional marketplace as some people will always want new or specific products. These types of shops could be small in scale so that they can offer a local service and be accessible to everyone, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
Similarly, in order to compete with certain existing economic systems, carpooling, apartment sharing and co-ownership of household tools should be encouraged and become a cornerstone of the system.

1.3 MANAGING RESOURCES AND NEEDS AND DEVELOPING THE COMMUNITY

1.3.1 The need to take stock of the community’s resources and needs to enable informed democratic management

The first step will be to design a model for the concept of community and the sense of belonging to this community. Depending on their place of residence, each citizen will belong to a certain number of communities. This will be indicated in their citizen profile.

Each community must register its needs and resources using a standardized presentation and classification system that will be defined in such a way that each individual can access it easily and locate their personal actions in this environment. As our knowledge and understanding grow, we will be in a better position to understand the “environmental cost” of all our actions and to personally assess the changes required for our community.

Any difficulties relating to the use and efficiency of the system will result from the ad hoc group’s capacity to “design the model and to translate the organizational complexity of human communities into a universal model in such a way that, over time, a Parisian could understand and then compare the consumption of resources in their neighbourhood to those of a neighbourhood in Beijing, access the chosen solutions and monitor “the actions of the citizen group” being implemented. There could be cases of rivalry, competition or other competitive pitches.

The idea is that the most brilliant minds on the planet will examine the problem and ultimately give a voice to the silent masses of the middle classes who are too isolated to change things, yet are strong in numbers and concerned with global issues.

1.3.2 Access to high-quality information

Building on the community’s inventory of resources, needs and consumption, an information model will need to be set up. Again, this objective will have to be underpinned by technical ability in the area of conceptualization. Today, it is still difficult to access an exhaustive, forthright and neutral explanation of any social, economic or environmental problem. The model must be able to provide for different levels of reading skill (from the very general to the expert) and to present existing contradictory positions in a detailed and factual way. The model must include technical information as required, adopt an apolitical stance and contextualize the relevant problem over time and in historical terms. The model must allow everyone to make a contribution, subject to having the appropriate expertise. It will be presented in such a way that the movement to which the contributor is linked is immediately identified, since the contributor’s citizen profile will be accessible.

1.3.3 Participating in the management and evolution of the community

The third element of the implementation of individual expression involves creating methods for consultation, expression and online voting. Again, it will be down to the ad hoc working group to model this aspect of the system, which will
also be underpinned by a principle of universality that will allow individuals from different states to understand what is happening in their neighbouring communities.

The decisions submitted for evaluation by individuals can either be proposed by the community or presented by any group of individuals that make up 5% of the community in question (e.g. neighbourhood, city, state). The “democratic” involvement of each individual will be visible in their citizen profile.

As part of a participatory and informed system of management, several concepts can be deployed progressively, permitting individuals to influence the day-to-day management of their immediate community, to suggest group actions, to participate in the management of larger communities (their city, region, country, etc.) or to sign up for collaborative solidarity action.

_This first section is characterized by the fact that all the measures proposed here could be implemented in any country without any major political or legislative change._


The revolutions proposed in this section aim to curtail the principle of dominance that governs and orders our human societies to ensure that everyone has a more fulfilled life, which will also ultimately help to improve socio-economic relations. These two consequences could lead to a reduction in violence, poverty, unemployment and public health problems and generate economies of scale that could be reutilized in the management of global risks.

Both the dominated and the dominant will find these revolutions difficult to accept, given that they will need to renounce many of the advantages they enjoy, attained either social rights or lobbying. However, the unique feature of these innovations is that they accommodate the capitalist system and preserve, even promote, the entrepreneurial spirit.

#### 2.1 RETHINKING AGE AND ASSOCIATED STRUCTURES

To steer the individual towards a level of awareness and participation more appropriate to the development of a less materialistic society and more respectful of the planet, it is necessary to _liberate the individual from having to meet their basic needs_, to make the acquisition of knowledge an ongoing requirement and to rethink professional social relationships.

The industrial development of our societies has produced social segmentation according to age and professional social stratum. This segmentation has had a material impact: school for children and teenagers, retirement homes for older people, rich and poor, benefits for children, back-to-work allowances, housing benefits, etc. Putting an end to this segmentation will open up unexpected opportunities for flexibility in socio-professional relationships. We could reimagine school by no longer sorting learners by age group (and also including “elders” who would like to go back to school), and instead organize according to the knowledge that people wish to acquire, for pleasure or work purposes. We
could give older people a voice and, by sharing their experiences or simply by their presence, they could take on the role of adult mentor for children or companion to the not so young. We could enable willing individuals (as part of their citizen hours) to help in a hospital, community centre, school or even a company (e.g. Providence Mount St. Vincent in Seattle).

In addition, public structures must fulfil a variety of purposes and be fully optimized. For example, a school could accommodate disadvantaged people at night, or be a place where a child could spend the night.

2.2 CONTINUING EDUCATION

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

Nelson Mandela

Training and education must, first and foremost, help children to become happy and fulfilled adults who understand and know how to use their body and mind and who have one single objective: that of integrating harmoniously into the community. This fulfilment, and not “social success”, must become our holy grail.

School needs to become a place of learning that focuses on experimentation and the dissemination of knowledge. It must be accessible to everyone, regardless of age. We could imagine classes catering for individuals of all ages. Such a model would encourage a multifaceted approach to the integration of knowledge and also greater “socialization”.

The fundamental principle of education will be the acquisition of knowledge that structures a person’s identity. This will not be linked to pointless grading (and is based on the ethos adopted by the AltSchool in Silicon Valley); only professions requiring technical knowledge or a code of ethics will require confirmation of quality; this could begin around the age of twelve. In this context, there would also be emphasis on continuous peer mentoring or support from “companions” not connected to school and thus children would learn, from their early years, to take on the responsibility that comes from a feeling of solidarity, thus preparing them for performing their citizen hours.

To encourage the dismantling of programmes and the explosion of demand for “knowledge”, prepared courses (video, computer learning programs, books) will be used. These will be supplemented by experts (professors and teachers as well as experts from the professional and scientific world) and overseen by engaged citizens.

The aim of the student’s course of study is to acquire “a capacity to work”, in a more or less technical or a more or less abstract way. This will, in turn, warrant the payment of a universal basic income. This education will also include a requirement for continuing education or training for a minimum of 120 hours each year (assessed over a period of three years). The balance of hours must always be positive.

2.3 MATERIAL FREEDOM AND THE SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT OF THE INDIVIDUAL

The romantic myth about all welfare benefits needs to be quashed: the diverse situations and the material environment that these aim to cover are a source
of injustice, inequality and disempowerment. Most importantly, these benefits thoughtlessly keep people in poverty, even without counting the daunting costs of management and monitoring. Thus, under the proposed model, each individual is offered a double liberty and, conversely, a double responsibility: each individual receives a monthly sum (the universal basic income) and a “health basket” that operates according to a voucher system. **We must have the courage to create a humane world and to simplify.**

### 2.3.1 A system of “health vouchers”

In a world where alternative and preventive medicine is flourishing, and particularly with the emergence of energy therapy from the East (e.g. China), the interaction between psychological well-being and the body as well as the line between essential and non-essential treatment is becoming very fluid. At a time when mental health-related illnesses kill almost as many people as cancer, we must reconsider what defines a necessary treatment whose costs must not be covered by the individual alone.

Rather than regulating treatments covered by social protection, let us allow individuals to take responsibility for their own bodies, while still maintaining a healthcare element for the most disadvantaged groups and ensuring care for their basic needs.

The system aims to provide individuals with a **“care package”** when they are born. They will be responsible for its management over time. The care package comprises three components: a certain number of treatment hours (surgical procedures, medical consultations, paramedical care, hours in a hospital environment); a component corresponding to the equivalent value in money for medication; and a third component corresponding to a number of diagnostic procedures (biopsies, blood tests, x-rays, etc.).

This system would have the advantage of requiring each individual to manage their vouchers, to take charge of the least costly treatments, where possible, and to take a pro-active approach to maintaining good health throughout their life. The monetary value of the treatment in question is not connected to the value of the voucher.

The vouchers can be transferred free of charge.

### 2.3.2 Universal basic income

The amount remains to be determined and must be sufficient for the particular society in which it will apply; in France, I would estimate EUR 950. This income will be received by everyone who is a citizen of a state, either by virtue of nationality or based on a combination of criteria of residence and contributions in kind to society and is subject to people being “willing to work”.

For the taxpayers, the total amount earned as a universal basic income over the course of a year will also correspond to a tax credit that can be deducted from outstanding tax, as the balance cannot be carried forward to the following year.

The quid pro quo to this universal basic income will be the fulfilment of the minimum number of citizen hours (see 1.2.1).
Within the framework of the civic rating and the health basket system, more points or health vouchers (terms and conditions and number to be defined) could be granted to individuals who, in one single year, perform 650 x 1.5 hours of paid work or services, 200 citizen hours and more than 200 hours of training.

2.4 THE OBLIGATION ON THE PART OF THE COMMUNITY TO MEET THE BASIC NEEDS OF ALL INDIVIDUALS

Basic needs are deemed to be food, clothing, minimum sanitation facilities (shower), a bed for the night and, possibly, primary healthcare. Guaranteeing that these needs are met is fundamental to the peaceful organization of a society.

In terms of public service provision in society, a sufficient number of community spaces, known as “civic community centres”, would focus on mutual aid and self-management. Individuals would have to commit to a certain number of specific tasks (cooking, housework, helping other people) on a regular basis. It is not a case of establishing hostels or publicly subsidized housing but rather creating a space with a relaxed ambiance that seeks to reproduce the atmosphere of “discussions around a campfire”. People will have a common room where they can meet; there will also be shower facilities and dormitories.

These civic community centres could, of course, be established in cities but equally, they could be set up in less populated areas. The centres are to be organized around a small exchange or subsistence economy and focus primarily on education. They will be designed by the ad hoc working group with regard to technical implementation and operation and aim to create a kind of social “glue”. The buildings themselves would not need to be substantial: prefabs or tents based on new technologies and materials could be used.

Every community in the developed states should be capable of rapidly setting up such a civic community centre if needed, and every citizen, by virtue of their education, should have experience of how such a centre is run and, according to their capacities, be capable of participating in its establishment.

2.5 LIBERALIZATION OF EMPLOYMENT

The existing organizational structures of employment have had their day. The objective of this reorganization is to offer individuals the opportunity to regain control of their lives and escape from the current system of dominance in order to become an active and responsible citizen.

The line between capitalists, individuals of independent means, financiers, employers, self-employed and employees is becoming blurred, while the perception of the drudgery of work, beyond demanding physical conditions or antisocial hours, is growing.

In order to encourage individual expression – the engine of each individual’s development – each of us must be able to choose the way a proposed service will be offered: as “work” within the framework of a subordinate relationship, by delivering services, or by way of citizen hours (and thus free of charge) for the benefit of society and therefore avoiding the diktat of taxes or social security contributions. The individual will no longer be protected by an employment contract but by the elements cited previously in this section.
It should be possible to make this choice in an extremely flexible way via the virtual civic environment. The beneficiary of the service and the provider of the work would simply need to log in to the referral site to validate their supplier/recipient relationship and its characteristics. Administrative bureaucracy would be swept away in a plan to simplify payment and to merge social security contributions into one, single, fixed-rate levy.

This section prescribes a variety of radical changes that could nevertheless accommodate existing lobbies and institutions globally. Such changes are possible, given strong political will, as they respond to the concerns of “the modern person” and adapt to the capitalist model and the elites, who, admittedly, will be rather shaken but will undoubtedly be able to dream up other challenges.

3 POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENTS

3.1 MODIFYING FISCAL RULES IN FAVOUR OF A SINGLE, FIXED-RATE TAX APPLIED TO EVERY INCOME STREAM

In order to abolish special privileges, lobbyists (who occupy 5 km2 in Brussels alone), all subsidies and tax loopholes, and to achieve equality and transparency of power, we propose that a single, fixed-rate tax is applied to all incoming financial flows and is no longer based on complicated calculations for determining the level of payment.

Such a modification of fiscal regulation would inadvertently create unemployment at many levels, but, as with all other changes, the people affected by this unemployment would have the opportunity to use their skills elsewhere, thanks to the proposals presented for the liberalization of work and citizen hours.

The issue of a tax on workers depends on the state's capacity to balance its budget.

3.1.1 Principle of objective economic equality

Individuals or legal entities making a lot of transactions will pay more tax, particularly those generating multiple financial transactions.

This will simplify the collection of tax from massive Internet companies or other global players: all revenue generated in a given state will be taxed.

3.1.2 Principle of neutrality, engine of creativity

Investment policies in the energy sector should not be subsidized by tax breaks: only regulation, through bans and sanctions, shall influence behaviour and investment decisions. Each financial or fiscal windfall represents a source of misappropriation of funds, waste or improper use and, above all, a complete lack of imagination, which is the most serious and most detrimental aspect affecting the protection of the planet.

3.1.3 Principle of neutrality, engine of civic engagement

Simplification and fiscal transparency could also reassert the value of paying tax (which, however, can never give rise to citizen points) and reduce tax fraud.

3.2 ASSESSING AND MONITORING THE USE OF PUBLIC RESOURCES

The individual must be able to influence the budgetary choices of their
community and their country; without this power there can be no direct or effective participatory democracy. Traditional parliamentary power is currently eclipsed by the special privileges enjoyed by elected representatives, their personal choices, “concerns”, corruption and the fact that politics has become a career.

In this context, all items (including health, pensions, employment) covered by a country’s budget (including local authorities) must be set out in a schematic and didactic schedule, allowing each individual to weigh up the budgetary choices for their country. The individual must be able to decide through their vote if they wish to allocate more of the budget to education or to culture, to defence or to health, etc. The budget must allow for the allocation of resources to meet the needs of the individual’s environment (region, city, neighbourhood), then at national level and finally it must allow the individual to contribute to decisions regarding international projects.

On the other hand, the annual nature of the budget vote could be a factor in the decline in public confidence due to the lack of continuity and coherence in commitments made; this is why the budget should be part of a “vision” for the future, chosen by the community and voted on for periods of three years with annual checks on the implementation of this “vision”.

3.3 IMPLEMENTING A FULLY PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY

As a consultative, informed and dynamic democracy is progressively established, the institutions of the state could gravitate increasingly towards a direct, participatory democracy until a kind of “ongoing referendum” is reached.

Over time – but without it being a condition for the implementation of issues presented here – the executive and parliamentary institutions could be revisited so as to move towards a reduction in the personalization of the functions in favour of a hub-and-spoke management model.

The role of head of state could be entrusted to a triumvirate, namely a government cabinet made up of three people, each with an equal voice, replaced one at a time and coupled with the principle of non-re-election and diversity.

A committee of thirteen seats representing thirteen issues (equivalent to ministries) will run the country and report to this “directorate”.

Each seat will represent a team of thirteen people, each individually responsible for an area of development. Each leader will be able to create a “sub-team”, comprising thirteen members, including the leader. The selection of members could be partly validated by a direct democratic vote. If necessary, decisions would be taken by a majority, without a casting vote.

At committee meetings, each seat would be “occupied” by three people from the team, none of whom could individually serve on the committee more than three consecutive times. In the event of a vote by the committee, each seat is entitled to just one single vote. The members of each team having a seat would have to reach “harmonious” agreement; if not, they will lose their position.

The members of each seat will be composed of five members drawn by lot from all the citizens in the country (except for those citizens who have expressed a wish
not to be eligible) and eight members will be elected by all citizens. In order to be elected, an individual must express a wish to be eligible for election. **In both cases, a minimum number of citizen points will be required.**

The draft decisions will be formulated under the auspices and responsibility of either the team (or sub-team) of the seat or by the committee, possibly by request of the directorate, or following a request from a group representing 5% of the citizens of the country. The decisions will be voted on according to a system that balances the influence of the directorate, the committee, the teams for each seat and all citizens. They will be put to a vote either “when they are ready”, when there is a certain demand, or after a certain period of time has elapsed.

These organizational principles could be applied to any type of community and implemented voluntarily if not prohibited by law.

**4 ESTABLISHMENT OF A TYPICAL ORGANIZATIONAL MODEL BY AN AD HOC GROUP AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION AT GLOBAL LEVEL**

This system and all its components will be created by an ad hoc group composed of multicultural experts. By proposing a turnkey system with variable levels of “top-down” implementation, executed by a politically unbiased group, it is more likely that the system will be adopted by a larger number of people and that grassroots identification will be stronger, de facto transcending problematic national challenges.

**The objective is that this model – a kind of toolkit – can be easily adopted and implemented, with all technical and organizational issues resolved, by every community, from the smallest to the most sophisticated, with varying degrees of implementation, depending on whether or not the system is backed by legislative commitment.**

A pilot environment in a voluntary community or small country could be put in place right at the start.

**4.1 ORGANIZING AN AD HOC WORKING GROUP**

**4.1.1 Human and technological organization**

The ad hoc working group will be “managed” by a “parent group” committee and a directorate.

The directorate will consist of three members who “will speak as one” on behalf of the group, without one single member having a casting vote.

The committee will have thirteen seats representing issues formulated in advance. The committee will have all the required expertise for the implementation of the proposed system. Each seat will represent a team of thirteen people, each of whom will be individually responsible for an area of development. Each of these leaders can create a sub-team, comprising thirteen members, including the leader, and so on.

During committee meetings, each seat will be “occupied” by three members of the seat’s team. In the event of a vote by the committee, each seat is entitled to just one single vote.
If deemed necessary for the harmonious development of the project, decisions could be adopted “democratically”, based on a vote that balances the weight of the directorate, the committee, the teams for each seat, each sub-team, all the active members of the project and possibly the “citizens”, who, in one way or another, have started to use the system.

Every effort will be made to provide online, real-time information about the overall functioning of the working group, its progress and its decisions and votes.

4.1.2 Funding
Funding will be provided via completely anonymous donations, which will be posted online in real time. Proposals regarding the usage of resources will be put forward by the committee.

4.2 THE ROLE OF THE COMMITTEE, HEAD OF THE GROUP
The head of the group will coordinate the entire project. Their mission will be to design and build the civic environment.

The head of the group is responsible for the technical and normative aspects of the civic environment and ensure a pleasant and user-friendly look and feel. The head of the group will standardize the following elements of the environment: processes for establishing citizen profiles; methods and criteria for ensuring the effectiveness of the civic rating; recording and validation of citizen hours; organization of the “shops” offering donated goods; inventory and management of community resources; intercommunity networking; charters and criteria for providing quality information.

The head of the group must resolve any issues surrounding hosting and data protection and access.

The system will be inspired by a combination of the models and techniques developed by companies like Facebook, Uber or Airbnb, which have become well-known, key players in less than eight years, and have millions, even billions, of users. In terms of access, use and implementation, their reach is global today; modelling the civic environment on such success stories will guarantee accessibility.

4.3 THE ROLE OF SATELLITE TEAMS
4.3.1 Shaping the system’s legal, economic and political requirements
Several teams will be responsible for the respective themes mentioned in sections 2 and 3 and will create the various innovations required. These teams will adopt a comparative rights-based approach, and their goal will be to establish economic, legal and practical regulations “at a universal, global level”.

These teams must direct their efforts towards the various pitfalls and problems that states or communities wishing to establish one or more of these issues could encounter. The teams shall do this by presenting typical solutions and creating an online space for reflection where the results of implementing such solutions by the countries or communities in question will be shared.

4.3.2 Implementation schedules will be rolled out at variable speeds
A team must propose complete and straightforward implementation schedules
that can be rolled out at variable speeds. At the very least, the model will work on
the issues outlined in section 1 and implement these to different degrees. These
issues shall be integrated into all political systems that ensure a minimum of
freedom of expression.

4.3.3 Promotion and implementation of the system
While some people will work on designing the system, others will act in a
marketing capacity to “promote” it to the state and to individuals.

Project development will include “satellite” installations in the form of key
communities like neighbourhoods, villages or mega buildings. These communities
can be part of the implementation mentioned above. There must be an option for
migrating the proposed system to a server belonging to any state that desires this.

The support of the pioneers of this system will be driven by a personal
determination to promote the system because they also believe that a more
humane and cohesive world that has greater respect for the planet is possible.

4.3.4 Outlining a new democracy based on the realignment of traditional
institutions
A team will document and standardize the principles outlined in 3.3.

4.4 CONTINUITY OF THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP
The envisaged model represents a profound shift and therefore the ad hoc working
group must expect its mission to evolve into a universal “council of the wise” that
will ensure the system continues to develop.

3. Motivation

CORE VALUES
The proposed model is committed to positioning human beings at the heart of the
desired changes, both as an engine of change and, at the individual level, as the
primary beneficiary of this change.

“Global risks” are still an abstract concept even for those people – convinced of the
need for change – who are fighting to contain the destruction of our ecosystem or
who are engaged in humanitarian causes.

Left to our own devices, after achieving what we set out to do, we return to
the comforts of consumer society, its benefits having – seemingly – become
indispensable.

Thus, real and lasting change can only be embedded within visible and shared
effort in the sense of a “design for humanity”. Responsible management of
the planet’s resources means abandoning certain selfish comforts and short-
term profit. This change must be accompanied by a feeling of satisfaction that
compensates for doing without these comforts.

Yet our ultimate reward, the apex of the hierarchy of pleasures, is to be found in
our relationships with other human beings, disconnected from any relations of
dominance.
This unique and beneficial interaction gains from an equally unique and desirable attribute: the lack of commercial value. In other words, “it cannot be bought”.

The entire system proposed here is committed to enabling individuals to reimagine their role in society as being something other than just an “agent of production” and, supported by the social system, and via their own actions, participating in a profound paradigm shift in the way that our society is run, leading to a more cohesive and inclusive society.

The concept of a cohesive and inclusive society, presented here, is not subject to any existing political standpoint, rather it aspires to great innovation.

The turnkey system – whose terms and conditions will be developed by an ad hoc working group – guarantees a universal, apolitical global presence, both in terms of horizontal and vertical organization.

**DECISION-MAKING CAPACITY**

The principle of the model proposed here focuses on the participation of the individual in managing a community’s resources and needs as well as its development.

This model, depending on the degree to which it is established in current systems, will, at the very least, empower individuals to strengthen their links with their community, and their sensitivity to its needs and difficulties. Partial implementation of the model will influence governments and assist in “taking the pulse of the planet”. Ultimately and ideally, it will become the engine of new, responsible, innovative and accountable behaviour.

The management of proposals, recommendations or votes is based on new technologies that will enable the implementation of this kind of participatory democracy.

**EFFECTIVENESS**

The objective of the proposed system is to enable participatory and informed administration that encompasses infinite possibilities for change.

Changes can be proposed by the state or by the democratic base via the registration of projects (actions must be proposed by groups having the required expertise). The effectiveness of any change will depend on individual support for the project, demonstrated by an advisory or legally binding vote.

The system is also designed to make education the key element of a personal development that works towards continuous social integration. However, the education system must not be thought of as a vehicle of social status in a society of production, but instead as a vehicle for the fulfilment of the individual that enables them to better integrate into their environment.

The system is also based on the fundamental requirement that society takes care of each individual’s basic needs and, at the same time, does not provide any monetary social benefits, which, albeit inadvertently, only disempower individuals and keep them in poverty. The most basic needs will be satisfied via civic community centres, community shelters providing a bed, shower facilities
and food, the establishment of “citizen shops”, namely visible and accessible
neighbourhood premises where unwanted items can be donated and where
everyone can come to pick up items, including food, since refrigerators will be
provided.

Additional basic needs could be satisfied by establishing a universal basic income
and a basket of health vouchers.

RESOURCES AND FINANCING
Once the system has been set up, the financial aspect of decision making will lead
to the usual budgetary issues for the state or community in question.

This system, which will be implemented by an ad hoc committee, is to provide
a global, turnkey solution financed by charitable and anonymous donations. A
belief in the effectiveness of the system and its capacity to inspire real change will
guarantee its funding.

TRUST AND INSIGHT
Three key elements of trust are: access to knowledge, clarity of information and
the citizen vote.

Support for and individual participation in any change entails individuals being
able to contextualize their own actions within their own environment. This
necessitates a clear, direct and concrete understanding of their community’s
needs, resources and problems. People must understand the environmental
costs, as well as the social costs, of any action and have the ability to decide which
changes need to be made in their community.

This will necessitate an inventory of the resources and needs of the community
in question, supported by a universal model that, over time, will enable
understanding and comparison of the communities of neighbouring states in such
a way that a Parisian could understand and compare resources and consumption
in their neighbourhood to those of a neighbourhood in Beijing, and then access
the chosen solutions and monitor “the actions of the citizen group” being
implemented.

Building on the inventory of community resources, needs and consumption, it
will be necessary for individuals to have access to reliable, transparent and easily
digestible information. Information must therefore be modelled in such a way that
it meets these criteria.

The participatory aspect of democracy is designed to make each individual feel
that their involvement is important, which will help to build trust.

The principles of trust and solidarity-based commitment aim to empower
individuals to broach difficult topics and changes relating to economic, population
and environmental issues.

Finally, in terms of technology, the proposed system is, in essence, based on new
technologies. This means that, when it comes to trust, the relevant experts must be
able to guarantee that this technology is reliable and cannot be tampered with.
FLEXIBILITY
The system is inherently flexible, and is designed to support individual involvement. The responsiveness and efficiency of the system will, in the long term, be linked to a combination of factors: social protection, education and the integration of active solidarity via citizen hours.

In this regard, a significant number of citizen hours will be required: in the order of 832 citizen hours per year for any individual who performs less than 100 hours of paid work or services in a year; 416 citizen hours per year for those who do less than 650 hours of paid work; and 120 citizen hours per year in all other cases. The number of hours could be assessed over a three-year period, on the understanding that the number of citizen hours performed must always be in credit. For those who do not wish to cooperate, it will be possible to “pay” the community for the citizen hours that have not been performed. This will be based on an hourly rate that is equal to the individual’s total income, divided by the number of hours worked in a year (this number of hours cannot be more than 1,800 and must be at a substantial minimum hourly rate). Use of the payment option will be limited (three times over a period of five years).

Initially, the civic rating and the citizen hours do not need to be implemented within a legislative framework. Thus, citizen hours would be rewarded by a basic right to benefit from citizen hours and to receive a favourable rating. In any event, the initial apolitical implementation is a prerequisite for the measures that follow and is the foundation for changing people’s mindsets.

PROTECTION AGAINST THE ABUSE OF POWER
The proposed model, depending on the degree of implementation, establishes the principle of the monitoring of state or community (city, region, etc.) action, and is, in essence, the principle of monitoring budget decisions.

At a very advanced level of implementation, the proposed system generates debate about ending privileges for both the “haves” (the dominant group) and the “have-nots” (the disadvantaged) and also about the appropriateness of fiscal or subsidy policies, which, in my opinion, result in serious paralysis in the field of innovation.

ACCOUNTABILITY
The system is supported by a civic rating of the individual, aiming to highlight the citizen’s social responsibility, irrespective of their financial situation, level of education or social status. This civic rating will also address each individual’s commitments vis-à-vis society and their capacity to fulfil such commitments, as it is this commitment that leads to social acceptance and cohesion.

For the most modest and impoverished among us, these commitments could be extremely basic. One scenario is that some people could start by simply being part of a civic community centre and having obligations as basic as showering and turning up for an evening meal.

For the more educated and possibly more affluent, this could translate into providing their expertise, free of charge, either on a consultancy basis or as training. This could be a dentist working for three hours a week to fulfil their citizen hours. This means that they would offer their services and infrastructure free of charge to people who need them during this time slot, which is noted in their citizen’s charter.
This citizen rating will address the “humanity and civic engagement” of each person in a different way to the present penal system. The objective is to incorporate the contributions that a person makes so as to create “a better world” within the democratic framework.

The purpose of the system is to punish deviant behaviour – minor or major – by taking on board the opinions of the “masses”. This is similar to the way that suppliers and clients mutually assess one another on websites such as Airbnb or Uber.

The assessment criteria still need to be conceptualized. Their implementation via the use of powerful, independent and failsafe algorithms will guarantee impartiality.

This rating, in the final analysis, will give democratic weight to the individual – a revolutionary situation.

This is indeed the basic challenge of the 21st century: enabling every human being to become an exceptional man or woman with respect for life on earth.

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