

Humanity II

Humanity is in a civilization bubble, which can collapse just as did the ancient Maya, the Roman Empire, and the Russian Empire of the czars.

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Humanity has gotten itself into a mess, and the mess itself prevents a cure. Bad policies, such as environmental destruction, which had previously been done on a small scale, are now happening on a large scale. Humanity is in a civilization bubble, which can collapse just as did the ancient Maya, the Roman Empire, and the Russian Empire of the czars.

We have gotten ourselves into a fiscal mess, with trillions of dollars of liabilities for future medical care and social security. We have a tax system that damages the economy, and we have a monetary system vulnerable to high inflation. Governments world-wide are deep in debt, and politics becomes a battle in which special interests feed at the expense of the public.

The political systems of mass democracy that create the problems prevent their solution. We need to start over from scratch. We can do that by establishing Humanity II.

Humanity II would be a virtual world governance structure. It would have a constitution, elected officials, and policies, but it would not at first exert power. The task at first would be to gather members. Where there are enough members in some location to exert political clout, members of Humanity II would be candidates in elections. When they form a majority, they would then reform the system to Humanity II. Eventually, the world would be converted to Humanity II.

You can join Humanity II by sending an email message to me at fred at foldvary.net saying you want to be a member. We will need a membership secretary, a webmaster, and a treasurer. The first members will be invited to be regional chiefs. I will be the first president, and then when Humanity II has the first 12 members, we will hold elections for president.

Humanity II will be a bottom-up democratic organization. Its initial platform and constitution will be the same as that of the Free-Earth Political party. All voting will take place only in small groups, which elect higher-level councils.

Humanity II will depend on local activists for new members. Activists can write letters and blogs, and hand out flyers. They can hold meetings and get on television. If you just want to be a member and do nothing, that is OK, but the organization will grow by members talking about it and encouraging family and friends to join in.

There are no dues in Humanity II. The chiefs will donate their services, and members can donate funds. When the membership size becomes large enough, Humanity II will offer tax-deductible donations. There will also be voluntary contributions tied to the ownership of land value. Members will be invited to pay one hundredth of one percent of their land value or one fifth of a percent of their property's annual land rent to Humanity II. That will establish the principle of sound public finance, serving as a model for when the world becomes Humanity II.

Humanity II is a serious project, but most people will not at first take it seriously. It will be seen as utopian. Cynics will scoff. Others will say that we already have social movements, such as the libertarian, geoist, and

environmental movements. But the problem there is that there are many such organizations, and what is need is one unified global total-reform society.

Another problem is that potential members will object to some parts of the Humanity II constitution. They may not like the small-group voting, or land-based public finance, or the ethical concept that one be free so long as others are not harmed. The platform can be debated, and there will be people who disagree and decline to join when invited. The basic question is, what is better, the current system or Humanity II? The real choice is not between utopia and Humanity II, but between today's mess and a new beginning.

Did you ever make a mistake and wish you could go back and correct it? It is not too late for humanity to correct its past errors, but time is not on the side of the status quo. Just as the economy was being pulled down the river into the financial waterfall of 2008, our civilization is vulnerable to terrorists, environmental disaster, nuclear war, and economic ruin. Social evolution has led to this global failure, and we need to go back to the drawing board. I don't see any other way out. Will you join Humanity II?

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Economist

FRED E. FOLDVARY, Ph.D., (May 11, 1946 — June 5, 2021) was an economist who wrote weekly editorials for [Progress.org](#) since 1997. Foldvary's commentaries are well respected for their currency, sound logic, wit, and consistent devotion to human freedom. He received his B.A. in economics from the University of California at Berkeley, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in economics from George Mason University. He taught economics at Virginia Tech, John F. Kennedy University, Santa Clara University, and San Jose State University.

Foldvary is the author of *The Soul of Liberty*, *Public Goods and Private Communities*, and *Dictionary of Free Market Economics*. He edited and contributed to *Beyond Neoclassical Economics* and, with Dan Klein, *The Half-Life of Policy Rationales*. Foldvary's areas of research included public finance, governance, ethical philosophy, and land economics.

Foldvary is notably known for going on record in the *American Journal of Economics and Sociology* in 1997 to predict the exact timing of the 2008 economic depression—eleven years before the event occurred. He was able to do so due to his extensive knowledge of the real-estate cycle.

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