



**Global
Challenges
Foundation**

Global Municipal Congress

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Global Municipal Congress – elected on municipal ballots and devised to evolve governance that enforces law to protect the environment and substitute policing for war. The Congress is mandated to invent governing devices like a national monetary deposit security system, geographical territories that create world citizens and world law through refugee resettlement, and cross-boundary political parties that evaluate political candidates on the basis of evolutionary five and fifty year plans for security and stability. This effort aims to shift power and smash national barriers to global democracy.





1. Abstract

Purpose – To Achieve a Global Rule of Law and the Democracy to Keep It Accountable

A Global Municipal Congress (GMC) is proposed, elected on municipal ballots. The assignment is to evolve a global democracy that in time will enable global governance to be accountable and thereby feasible.

The challenge is to enlist people in enough countries to create an expandable model of democratic governance that side-steps national opposition yet pressures nations to protect instead of endanger humanity. Cities and towns are agencies accessible enough to populations to start the process. End-time threats of habitat spoliation and nuclear war make the effort a do or die imperative.

SOLICIT LOCAL GOVERNING BODIES TO INITIATE THE FIRST STEP

A Resolution will be sent, world-wide, to local governing bodies of hundreds of cities, towns, and counties, and to peace, environmental and other public interest NGOs. Where adopted by a governing body, the Resolution will schedule an election to choose a local representative to the GMC. The purposes of the GMC will be limited for five years to advocacy of eleven projects:

A weapons reduction plan that pressures nations, proportionately, in verified stages, to reduce the manufacture, sale, purchase, possession and deployment of war-fighting armaments and to base security, progressively, on globally enforced policing.

Coordinated steps to conserve and protect the earth's atmosphere, land, water, and natural resources.

Coordinated steps to protect against disease, pandemics, starvation, denial of natural resources, overpopulation, and poverty.

Cross-border election districts and districts based on similarities of needs that in time will enable GMC to accommodate population and geographic hugeness.

A global security deposit system, modelled on commercial transactions. National deposits will be held by an international body empowered to impose fines when nations violate arms control rules, CO2 emission regulations, economic exploitation, or other global law. Earnings on deposits return to the nations, so costs for non-violators will be minimal.

World Citizenship based on helping to achieve democratically accountable world law enforcement. Employment in global governance, mastering languages, residence in multiple countries, hosting visitors, leadership toward global governance, earning university degrees, etc., will enlist ever larger numbers of people to cooperate across borders.

World City status based on electing a representative to the GMC, and partnering to address global problems.



Global law enforcement that evolves toward regional police forces and away from military coalitions and superpower unilateralism.

“Norms” and “customs” in international affairs, qualifying under Article 38 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice for enforcement by the International Court. Nations will be encouraged to observe or respect the norms. As discussed in John A. Perkins’ *The Prudent Peace: Law as Foreign Policy* (Chicago: U of Chicago Press, 1981) (Ref. 1) nations unilaterally and in groups can advance enforced global law by generating norms.

Seize the tragedy of 65 million refugees to create non-national territories whose residents are world citizens protected by international law and committed to abstain from war fighting. The territories – “Worldland” – will serve as a model for security through law and enlarge resources to replace the war system and counter national administrations governments that back-step from progress like the Paris Climate Change Agreement.

A new kind of political party, the Long Term Political Party, for use in all countries, that evaluates candidates without party distinction, based on adherence to fifty year goals and five year staging goals, consistent with policies evolved by the GMC.

EVOLVE ACCOUNTABLE WORLD LAW ENFORCEMENT

These projects constitute an action agenda for a generation aware that climate change, modern war, disease, and resource depletion threaten civilization and even human existence. The assignment is to generate evolutionary steps toward accountable global law in a staged time frame. If a long-term assignment seems daunting, consider that seventy-three years have slipped by with no dependable prohibition on nuclear weapons, and that the goal to leave half of fossil fuel in the ground, can only be despaired of.

One essential is to escape the debilitating fear of impossibility because all the details cannot be imagined. Figuring what to do and doing it must evolve together. Later stage details will depend on early stage experience. The challenge is to put an evolutionary mechanism into action, something sovereignty-bound nations resist. Their incapacity to progress beyond the League of Nations and United Nations has put us where we are today. To endow the effort with a mechanism for evolution is central. A governance model that cannot be achieved, like an elected world parliament, will never generate solutions. The GMC model is achievable because it starts small and can elude national suppression.

A second essential is to demand more from everyone – time, effort, intelligence. Civic invention is not an assignment for Presidents and Prime Ministers, constrained by what is politically feasible. To go global, national constraints must be escaped, like earth’s gravity for space explorers.

The bright side is that the technology of communication and transportation now can monitor and analyse events everywhere, devise response, and move enforcement resources overnight. Rather than imagine some ideal like a parliament that is infeasible because nations will never surrender enough sovereignty to empower it, an evolutionary process must achieve stages to a global level of democratic federalism. GMC offers an unlikely, and by today’s standards even far-fetched, path for aware populations to end run constraints of the nation



system and start an evolution to, not world government, but accountable world law enforcement. Driven by experiment and necessity, political feasibility will be achieved to update the war-based nation system, regulate profit-driven global capitalism, and make existence fit for space age populations.

The GMC does not aspire to create the absurdity of a global election day with seven billion ballots cast. It aims to recruit segments of every population to experiment with cross border democracy and achieve enough influence over nations, business, and power holders to, in time, assure security and well-being for all.

2. Description of the model

Purpose: To Evolve Together Global Law and Global Democracy

Global enforced law that will rescue humanity from climate change, war, pandemic illness, resource depletion, and over population, is a condition precedent to human longevity. Global rules, though, will stay out of reach until a global democracy is invented to keep rule making accountable. The League of Nations and United Nations have proved that until the endangered populations find how to pressure them, the nations will never permit global democracy to start. The Global Municipal Congress will empower populations to pressure nations to accept the constraints of law.

TO INVENT GLOBAL DEMOCRACY USE CITIES AND TOWNS

Cities and towns are the place to start, because:

National security concerns block surrender of enough sovereignty to begin evolution toward accountable world law.

Power holders in both democratic and autocratic nations must be side-stepped for populations to cooperate across borders. As President of the Chicago Council on Global Affairs Ivo Daalder wrote, “Once the global gatekeepers, national governments are increasingly seen by local leaders as avenues too narrow and too obstacle-strewn to reach the rest of the world.” (Financial Times 6/16/17) (Ref. 2)

Political organizing must begin at a level accessible to populations, a level that can nurture, train and empower more of the human race than nations have.

By 2050 two-thirds of humanity will be city dwellers.

The process must be staged and experimental – global democracy and law enforcement cannot be imagined, validated, or adopted except by trial and error that only smaller units than nations can achieve.

A world with conflict contained, war prevented, weapons—especially nuclear weapons—reliably prohibited, and threats from environmental ruin, exploitation of natural and financial resources attacked in a dependable manner. No one has experienced such a world. Its components must be imagined. To free people by constraining their nations sounds counterintuitive. No one will listen without being shown, as architects say, plans and specifications. Three components of civic order underlie this proposal:



International Law that reliably governs manufacture, sale, and use of weapons, and practices that destroy habitat, violate territorial integrity and human rights, and exploit people and resources. Law enforcement, including the administrative, judicial, and enforcement arms with which domestic law is enforced, articulated through regional subdivisions to embrace all peoples, empowered to compel nations, corporations, and ungoverned subgroups, to adhere to law. Ballot enabled democratic control that keeps rules current and enforcement accountable.

Technology enables humanity finally to control events worldwide. We can be in instant awareness of what is happening everywhere. Law enforcement resources can respond to crisis within hours. Failure now to achieve feasible goals is inexcusable.

THE INCAPACITY OF NATIONS TO UNDERTAKE RADICAL EXPERIMENTS

In the field of security, nations operate outside of law. No nation can be first to subordinate firepower to external constraint. The United Nations as the nations require it to operate cannot impose reliable enforced law on members. Prof. Hans Kohn, labeled nationalism a “deeply divisive force” that “hardly helps to promote cooperation among people at the very time when for technological and economic reasons they grow more and more interdependent.” Prof. Hans Kohn, *Nationalism* (Princeton: D. Van Norstrand, 1955, p. 90) (Ref. 3) Another scholar, Elie Kedourie, writes with reference to when the world was refashioned on national lines, “it has created new conflicts, exacerbated tensions, and brought catastrophe to numberless people.” Elie Kedourie, *Nationalism* (4th Edition, Oxford: Blackwell, 1993, p. 133-4) (Ref. 4)

William Pfaff calls nationalism “intrinsically absurd” (17) and judges it has “consistently overridden principles of international solidarity and political or religious universalism” (24), William Pfaff, *The Wrath of Nations*, (N.Y.: Touchstone/Simon & Schuster, 1994) (24) (Ref. 5).

Philippe Delmas in *The Rosy Future of War* (N.Y.: Free Press, 1997 (Ref. 6) judges the UN useless to stop war because “an international system based on sovereignties cannot be a system with real power.” (194)

Security’s components must be crafted by agencies working across borders to penetrate national exclusivity in foreign policy and security matters without compromising any nation’s security. Armaments must be relinquished in stages, and replaced by progressively safer police weapons. Law enforcement access must be assured to disabled states where subgroups attack one another, violent movements like Al Qaeda, ISIS, the Taliban and Boko Haram organize, crime syndicates flourish, and competing external states intervene to expand spheres of influence.

Such initiatives, too radical to vet through national electoral process, necessitate trial, error, and time. They need political agencies accessible to individuals yet global in reach. Nations have proved for over seventy years that they are incapable of treating doomsday weapons differently than crossbows, gunpowder, tanks, poison gas, and airplanes. New weapons strengthen the arsenal. National governments will use a better weapon to kill more soldiers (and, increasingly, civilians) and generate more wealth. Never forget wealth. Some large number of people must reevaluate nations as the sole security bulwark. Some number of



us will have to influence events in ways not yet tried. Accessible power to begin resides in city halls and town office buildings.

National governments remain essential at levels appropriate to the size and complexity of populations, but conceal a double trap. Self-glorification, preoccupation with sovereignty, unholy alliances with commercial interests, and holy alliances with religion, incubate war. Nations are useless as a political arena for radical security initiatives. No aspirant for head of state will hazard a promising candidacy or a party's fortunes on unproved, much less untried, ideas, even when public readiness exists.

Consider the natural gas industry. Acclaimed as a bridge fuel from coal to renewable energy, profits and national competitions have stimulated international traffic in liquefied natural gas (LNG). Despite the methane generation that LNG conversion involves, as well as shale gas exploration that poisons water, triggers earthquakes, and necessitates invasive, leaking pipelines, natural gas has become not a safety enabler but an enabler of danger.

POPULATIONS ARE READY

The Chicago Council on Global Affairs commissioned opinion polls that compared public views on foreign policy goals and threats, with views of foreign policy experts in government, media, universities, and interest groups. Benjamin Page and Marshall Boulton analyzed the data in *The Foreign Policy Dis-Connect: What Americans Want from Our Leaders But Don't Get* (Chicago, U of Chicago Press, 2006) (Ref. 7):

Most Americans appear to believe in elements of what can be called “global governance”: webs of international laws and institutions that serve broad U.S. interests while also furthering the interests of people worldwide and sometimes constraining the United States. . . . They favor a variety of diplomatic and multilateral measures to combat terrorism; express a high level of support for the United Nations; favor various concrete measures to increase the UN's capability and effectiveness; and back international treaties—several of which have been rejected by U.S. government officials—concerning the control of nuclear weapons, the prohibition of land mines, measures against global warming, and the International Criminal Court. (p. 139)

Here is cosmic dysfunction. Populations, nations, civilization, all at stake, yet nations are frozen. Cities and towns are the only political agencies through which leverage might be found. They could influence national policies as individuals cannot. They are accessible political bases for individuals who lack the sponsorship of wealth, mega media, or corporate power.

NOT WHAT SHOULD HAPPEN BUT HOW TO MAKE IT HAPPEN

Any “plan” not capable of execution is a wish, not a plan. A plan that acknowledges that staging, experiments, and preparation will have to precede initiation, leaving accomplishment for others, is still only a wish. A plan that omits the populations' role in political enablement omits the democracy that ensures security without autocracy. A plan that omits either **enforced** law or democracy to keep enforcement accountable is naïve and useless.



START WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

In finished form, global democracy is not imaginable. The nations would discredit any plausible model. Yet security will depend upon global accountable enforcement power. Accountability and law enforcement must evolve together. The trick must be for cross-border democracy to penetrate national boundaries while not challenging sovereignties or compromising such security as nations cobble together, undependable though it may be.

In *The Causes of World War Three* (New York: Ballantine, 1960) (Ref. 8) C. Wright Mills insisted that politics must address the necessity for a “wilful making of history.”

The root error of judgment involved is the insistence that any vision, demand, hope must be such as to be immediately realizable this week, or at furthest by the next election. If this insistence is dogmatic, as it usually is nowadays, then all political thinking is simply stopped. It is replaced by mere calculations of clique and party strategy. (p. 115)

To define security, the environment, and economic stability as local issues, would invigorate the public. Instead of waiting sheep-like for the worst, people would rise to necessity and make feasible what is held to be impossible. Machiavelli cites “the diversity of the genius of her citizens” as the resource of republics that “enables the republic better to accommodate herself to the changes of the times than can be done by the prince” (*The Prince and the Discourses*, New York: Modern Library, 1940, 442) (Ref. 9).

Citizens aggregated globally through cities and towns might do for democracy what corporations did for business. The modern corporate form, barely a century old, organized, focused, and magnified individual capacities. Stock ownership collected and directed wealth. Management organized talent. Corporations employed the economies of mass resource exploitation and marketing. Heralded as the apotheosis of economic freedom, capitalism more accurately is the triumph of organized aspirations, abilities, and needs.

Through an analogous revolution, city and town governments could empower fragmented, manipulated, and powerless individuals. The essentials are forums for debate, education, talent recruitment, vote assembly, leadership structure, and power exercise. Individuals will enjoy greater incentive to be informed and exercise judgment when they possess a political arm small enough to have a personal hand in directing, while large enough, by harnessing municipalities, to influence state, nation, and world. War now touted as a regrettable expression of human nature or man’s highest expression of civic devotion might yet join cattle rustling as stuff of novels instead of a universal calamity of species threatening dimensions.

HOW TO DO IT

A handful of donors will fund distribution of the Global Municipal Congress (GMC) Resolution set forth below to a few hundred city, town and county governing bodies in enough countries to assure broad representation and a variety of experience and wisdom. Copies will go to local chapters of organizations active on behalf of peace, health, education, religion, and the environment. A letter will urge them to ask the local governing body to hold a public hearing and adopt the



Resolution. In a few months enough base level governments will be on board to start a multi-decade evolution toward world democracy.

Governing bodies of a few municipalities in a half-dozen countries can jump-start the project in advance of the elections that the Resolution provides for. Each might appoint a member to help frame the Global Municipal Congress. They can announce that their municipal election ballots in subsequent years will include a line to elect a representative to follow-up Congress meetings. That will break the ice. Not world government. Not pacifism. Not unilateral disarmament. Not an invasion of national sovereignty. Democracy.

No nation needs to sanction municipal conferences, no significant funds need be appropriated, no treaties signed, no constitution drafted. Required are only cities and towns in a few countries to elect a body that will formulate steps toward a security apparatus strong enough to enforce environmental protection and police arms reductions. The conference needs no legal standing. The point is to gain experience with differing electoral systems, with tiers of representation that huge population numbers eventually will require, and the novel experience of representing at the same time populations, municipalities, regions, and nations (their peoples, not their governments). Over a decade, the body will acquire institutional wisdom and develop precedent. It will address the security aspects of racial, religious, ethnic, and class preoccupations. It will unite people. It will advise the United Nations and, depending on the confidence accrued, ultimately subsume portions of the UN's jurisdiction, advising or replacing the General Assembly.

If a nation's policies impede city participation, the national government can be invited to designate some of its cities and towns for participation, subject to promising access for monitoring and verification of open candidacy, nomination, and election.

The trick is to build in increments, to invent global democracy as we go along. The goal is accountable enforcement that protects rather than encroaches on domestic governance. Six decades brought all populations to the moment on 9/11 when national vulnerability deepened. A subnational enemy seized the technology of aircraft. We are in a race of time to prevent such an enemy obtaining nuclear weapon technology. This is a hole that we might get out of in another few decades— not quicker, but with greater certainty than attends such security measures as competitive national coalition building.

Note the obvious. The GMC has no power. It cannot tax, it passes no laws. It cannot impose its will on nations or its constituency populations. It thinks. It discusses. It invents. It educates. It pressures the nations. Its assignment is to evolve eleven components of world security.

RESOLUTION

(For adoption by City Councils, Boards of Alderman, Town Boards of Selectmen, County Commissioners, and other governing bodies at each nation's lowest governmental level.)

Resolved, that at the next city (or town or county) general election that will take place not sooner than 120 days after the date hereof, and at each subsequent election unless and until this body votes to discontinue, a space will be provided



on the ballot to elect a representative to a Global Municipal Congress that will hold its first annual meeting within six months after at least one hundred members have been elected representing at least 5 million citizens of at least 20 countries. As a condition of authority to act for this electorate, the elected representative must pledge to insist that the Global Municipal Congress take positions on and encourage nations with respect to the following matters exclusively, with no amendment to this Resolution sooner than the fifth annual meeting.

1. WEAPONS CONTROL

A global program proportionately, progressively, and verifiably over staged five year periods to reduce the manufacture, sale, and possession of war fighting weapons. Realistic strength of war fighting capacity will remain proportional as security, progressively, shifts to global law enforcement.

2. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Actions to conserve and protect the earth's atmosphere, land, and water resources against exhaustion, exploitation, and unjust allocation; said actions to be described for execution and verification over staged five year periods.

3. HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Actions to protect health of the world's population against negative impacts of disease, pandemics, starvation, denial of natural resources, war, over-population, and exploitation of essentials like water and agricultural resources.

4. CROSS-BORDER ELECTION DISTRICTS

Design, for discussion, and for trial after the fifth annual meeting, supranational representative bodies, large constituency districts and layered representative bodies—district assemblies electing some of their number to regional assemblies, which elect some of their number to global assemblies. While initially centered in cities and towns, constituencies will expand to embrace all populations and some of the constituent districts would cross national boundaries. Sample ideas for the evolution of manageable global constituency formation include these:

Rotate constituency representation. A geographic area could enjoy representation at the world level for five or ten years and then be unrepresented for five or ten years, or shifted for a time from representation by direct election to representation as a component of a larger region or through representatives in regional assemblies. Draw some voting districts with regard to identity of interests. People sharing a desert region, a watershed, an agricultural area, or neighboring urban areas might vote together on regional security policy, on advisory, or regulatory bodies. People exploited in a common way, or by common corporate interests, or deprived of common kinds of natural resources (e.g., Nigerian Ogonis and Canadian Inuits) might combine resources in a specialized parliaments. Cultural groups separated by national boundaries might achieve common representation with respect to security issues.

5. SECURITY DEPOSITS THAT GUARANTEE INTERNATIONAL LAW COMPLIANCE

Develop a proposal based on security deposits, the enabler of business transactions, based on the fact that money deposits, assets at risk, that can make an even unreliable company fit for a transaction, could reign in war-driven nations as well.



Every nation will deposit significant sovereign wealth with an international agency. The agency will declare a deposit forfeited in whole or part in the event an adjudicatory body rules the nation guilty of weapons control violations, boundary transgression, aggressive military mobilization, human rights violations, aiding terrorism, or environmental threats.

Deposits will be based on population, wealth, and budgets. Each nation will make its own investment decisions about its deposit's assets. Earnings will be paid to the depositing nation. Cost will be minimal for non-offenders. The fear of public outrage at a government's squandering of assets by triggering fines will inhibit inclinations to violate international law.

6. WORLD CITIZENS

Create a World Citizenship that offers rewards as a stake in the system of global law enforcement. World Citizenship might confer travel, employment, educational, tax, and purchasing advantages without a surrender of national citizenship. Qualification will be earned in a variety of ways so that individuals can tailor plans to qualify in a manner consistent with lifestyle, agendas, and schedules. As examples, credits toward qualification could include:

Command of languages. Residence in multiple countries. Host foreign visitors. Pay a tax surcharge to support global charities or peacekeeping costs. Employment by global employer like the UN, World Health Organization, World Bank, or UNICEF. Earn a university degree in world citizenship, with courses in, history, language, comparative government, international law, and peace enforcement. Participate in programs like the elected Global Municipal Congress.

The Citizenship program will conform with the recommendation of former U.S. Senator Bill Bradley, who citing citizenship conferred by communities and nations, wrote, "[Y]ou no longer can be a responsible member of a smaller community without being a world citizen, too. . . . Being a citizen of the world does not mean weakening our attachment to our personal communities, but rather strengthening our attachment to the rest of humanity" (*The New American Story*, New York: Random House, 2007, 50) (Ref. 10).

World citizens will mount pressure to make

National governments accept certain "norms" as international law, inviting other countries to follow suit, qualifying the rules for World Court enforcement.

Initiate outlawing of particular weapons, and destructive environmental and health practices, including oversight and verification on manufacture, financing, and marketing, and imposition of penalties for violations.

Recommend steps for elected bodies to promote global governance, weapons control, and peace enforcement and recruit supporting candidates for city, town, county, and state elective office who will include the proposals in campaign literature.

Provide curriculum materials for schools, teacher training, and advocacy with school boards to promote environmental protection and war prevention.



7. WORLD CITIES

Create a World City designation, for cities that earn qualification when they:

Hold GMC elections; Sponsor citizen, employment, investment, and cultural exchanges; Adopt sister cities and exchange students, faculties, employees, and tourists; Maintain global centers—institutions to host travelers and facilitate mutual understanding and cooperation.

8. ENFORCE GLOBAL LAW

Create a plan for global law enforcement without reliance on armies and war fighting. Employ modern technology of communication and transport, and deploy police forces regionally, progressively enabled as nations proportionately reduce their war fighting weapons and armed forces. Develops administrative and judicial systems concurrently.

Enforcement will extend beyond relations between nations to disorder within dysfunctional nations.

9. ENLARGE THE RULE OF LAW BY ADHERING TO CUSTOMARY LAW

Urge nations to enlarge international law, utilizing Article 38 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice which provides that, in settling disputes in addition to treaties, judicial decisions, and the “teachings of the most highly qualified publicists of the various nations,” the International Court shall apply “international custom, as evidence of a general practice accepted as law; [and] the general principles of law recognized by civilized nations”.

In *The Prudent Peace: Law as Foreign Policy*, (Chicago:U. of Chicago Press, 1981) (Ref. 1) John A. Perkins asserts the rule offers nations a powerful tool. A nation can choose to add its weight to creating a norm or custom, as well as prevent a practice or policy from becoming a custom. Any country can announce that it will follow particular rules respecting, for example, nonintervention, self-determination, and rights of access to resources, urge other nations to follow suit, and so move toward strengthening the rule adhered to.

10. WORLDLAND

Use refugee resettlement to address both war and climate change. If some of the land being converted to corporate mega-farming and oil and gas fields were used instead for resettlement, millions of displaced households could earn a living, build communities, and invent geography dedicated to security and safe habitat.

Worldland will belong to all, but within its borders, rights belong to residents. No national government owns the areas. An international trusteeship, Worldland’s immediate purpose is to settle refugees. Long term, it experiments with influencing the nation system without compromising any nation’s sovereignty.

The United Nations buys areas around the world with minimal populations but suitable to create cities and farms. A U.N. agency builds housing, industry, and schools, but the areas are planned to conserve natural environment. U.N. control devolves to elected governments.

Worldland citizens take an oath to never create armed forces beyond local police. The U.N. pledges protection of territorial integrity and human rights, backing the



pledge with an international police force. Volunteer nations pledge financial and administrative guarantees of the U.N. undertakings. Sponsor nations, hopefully all nations, promise to extend citizenship rights to Worldland citizens, for commerce, education, and employment. Sponsor nation citizens enjoy the same rights in Worldland.

The world citizenship oath to practice democracy and never create armed forces will include other commitments:

- Always vote.
- Attend pre-election Deliberation Day. See Bruce Ackerman and James S. Fishkin, *Deliberation Day*(New Haven and London: Yale U. Press, 2004) (Ref. 11)
- Achieve an environmentally balanced existence that demonstrates how species survival can be achieved without erosion of habitat essentials.
- Never impose by law on religious beliefs or practices.
- Know two or more languages.

Worldland will not be trumpeted as other than refugee resettlement. But, while we are at it, experiment with world citizenship, by-passing the nation-based, self-perpetuating war system that enfolds profits, employment, politics and hatred.

NOTE: Worldland locations must not be created at the expense of areas like rainforests, whose exploitation already endangers the planet.

11. LONG-TERM POLITICAL PARTIES

Recommend that public action groups in every nation create a Long Term Party with two sets of goals. Fifty year goals will include peace, a stable environment, and economic and social justice. Five year goals will offer staged or progress plans to address the fifty year goals. Both sets will be revised to take changed circumstances into account, adjust priorities, and respond of political realities.

Election candidates at all levels will be invited to seek Party endorsement. Candidates opposed to one another could be endorsed, or candidates could be sorted into first, second, and choices.

A year ago the most concrete, specific, calculated global directive ever heard was broadcast. Leave half the known fossil fuel in the ground. Or else. Not what should happen but what must happen. Not what would please God or ensure justice, or help some needful part of humankind, but a condition for human survival. To forego jobs and profits from extracting all that fuel produces the most discouraging rule ever laid down, because no nation is equipped to carry it out. It refers to the world, but the world is fractured. No supreme law maker or enforcer exists. No global-political organization exists. Of the world's population, only a relatively few are aware of the rule. Election campaigns for two, four, and six year terms of office are nearly useless for generating significant, immediate steps to achieve such a long term goal. The same is true for politics that can replace the war system that enfolds business, employment, politics, religion, hatreds, and ballyhoo, with a system of democratically accountable enforced law that includes administrative, judicial, and policing arms.

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Compliance with the eleven projects until at least the fifth annual meeting will be a condition for GMC candidacy and election, and for GMC's continued authority to act. Thereafter, by two-thirds vote, GMC may amend its rules so long as its purposes and methods serve security and will-being of populations.

All GMC votes shall be counted twice, once by delegates voting in person and then by the number of residents in each municipality or other election district. No vote shall pass without a majority count by both methods.

When more than one thousand delegates are elected to GMC, the next annual meeting shall divide into two groups of equal size, containing proportionate numbers of delegates from constituencies of all sizes. This shall be repeated if necessary, until the fifth annual meeting. If delegates exceed one thousand at the fifth or a subsequent meeting, the GMC may devise a different election system. The revised system may enlarge electoral bases, employ a tiered system of election to regional bodies that then would elect a smaller GMC, create cross border election districts whose voters share common interests, rotate representation, e.g., giving each participating municipality three years on and three off for GMC membership, or create another method that ensures populations a voice independent of their nations.

At the first annual meeting the GMC shall elect, for two year terms, an administrative committee empowered to prepare, for GMC consideration, other committees, for scheduling, continuity, communication and publicity, research, fund raising, education, publications, and monitoring and enforcing fairness, democracy and accuracy of all elections to the GMC.

(End of Resolution)

Note re Worldland

Major land appropriations like the following four illustrate Worldland feasibility:

A Financial Times series, "The Great Land Rush," (March, 2016) (Ref. 12) reported that Ethiopia granted a farming corporation owned by a Saudi-Ethiopian tycoon a fifty year lease of an area almost as large as Belgium. The corporation brought in 4,000 workers to transform mostly unoccupied bush land into a modern, technologically driven farming operation, FT concluded. "This remote spot is a frontier in a contest for land that stretches from Myanmar to Saskatchewan." In Australia, New Zealand, Cambodia, Argentina, and Bolivia, a Shanghai company is creating mega farms, with land areas up to six and seven times the size of Manhattan.

A land rich family in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia offered free land to anyone who would settle there and work for the family's business for five years. Fifty thousand responses ensued (NYT 10/21/16, by-line Craig S. Smith) (Ref. 13).

Some twenty-five years ago Shell Oil and other petroleum companies plundered the tribelands of 500,000 Ogoni people in the Niger Delta. As the oil found its way into heating oil tanks and gasoline around the world, the Ogonis were killed, dispersed, corrupted and the Delta despoiled. The World Wildlife Fund classifies Niger Delta today as one of the top five polluted places on earth (FT, March 2, 2017) (Ref. 14).



Two areas in Oklahoma, each the size of Connecticut, have been turned into earthquake regions by oil and gas producers who have injected industrial wastes below the surface. ("Oklahoma Acts on Oil and Gas Wells," Michael Wines NYT 3/8/16). (Ref. 15) Shale oil field development in the United States, Argentina, Australia, Mexico, China and other countries exploit tens of millions acres of land. (NYT March 4, 2017 report on life and death of Aubrey McCclandon) (Ref. 16)

Land is a finite resource. If experiments to escape the war-based, profit-driven nation system are to be tried, now is the time, while vast swathes remain procurable as these examples prove.

National geography as compact, always has been a fiction. Colonialism embraced many degrees of bi-, semi-national geography. The United States accommodates non-contiguous Hawaii and Alaska as states, and extends qualified citizenship rights to off-shore Puerto Ricans. Balkan boundary compromises calmed Serbian/Muslin conflict. Examples are endless of adjusting and bypassing boundaries. The only thing unique about Worldland is its remedy for statelessness, and recruiting populations pledged to peace.

A doubter might find encouragement in UNESCO's new "Space nation...available to all citizens on earth." As with Worldland, *supra*, the aim is to escape earth nations' "law of the jungle" to quote the UNESCO Science and Space Committee chair Igor Ashurbeyli, a Russian. (Financial Times, 10/13/16, Michael Stothard) (Ref. 17)

Enlist City Populations

An unspoken aim is to draw environmental, peace, and other activists into electoral politics. Too many have been content with telling powers that be what "should" be done instead of getting power and **doing** it. Politics, which ought to be everyone's avocation today, is looked down on. National politics gets attention, but responsible power at that level is inaccessible, thanks to money, gerrymanders, and media domination. Every town and city that adopts the GMC Resolution will draw activists into a political arena, where they belong, by hundreds of thousands worldwide.

The municipal global ballot will repair one of today's worst democratic malfunctions – the inability of any national political party to deliver on critical issues. Those issues, have been commandeered by global economics, internet enabled ideology, terrorism, and nation-based military strategies. Populations that need to coalesce are fragmented among small, one-issue parties and advocacy groups. No single party can deliver on the critical issues, so people stream to limited causes they can unite around, instead of forming coalitions to confront broader issues and achieve the power to act.

Similar problems, issues, and solutions in geographically disparate cities around the world will generate city groupings and stimulate cross-border collaboration, e.g., seacoast cities threatened by rising sea water; communities dependent on dwindling fishing resources; cities beset with religious struggles; cities like Aleppo, Raqqa, and Mosul in dire need of rescue, directed at employment, migration, infrastructure loss, and cultural preservation; cities beset by industrial fracking, smoke, water or other pollution.



GMC delegates will cause the eleven projects to penetrate local meetings of political parties, religious groups, neighborhood associations, and school curriculums. Delegates will report on GMC studies, procedures, methods, successes and failures. Populations will start to resist the affront of serving as missile targets. Recalcitrant nations will be subjected to pressure from their populations.

Much peace-oriented NGO work is accomplished by or through local governments. In the early 1980s the Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign persuaded 769 U.S. city councils, county councils, and town meetings to pass nuclear freeze resolutions (Chadwick Alger in *The Constitutional Foundation of World Peace* (Albany: State U. of N.Y, 1993, 261) (Ref. 18). Fifty cities and counties passed freeze votes by popular referenda, and 154 cities supported a comprehensive nuclear test ban. Nuclear-Free America reported in July 1989 that 4,279 communities in twenty-three countries had declared themselves nuclear-free zones.

Philip Bobbitt concludes: “This move to the primacy of persons as individuals and as members of self-chosen groups rather than only as nationals has several other implications for global governance. . . . [I]t ought to be possible for individuals to be citizens of more than one state and for their states to be members of more than one regional group” (*Terror and Consent: The Wars for the Twenty-First Century*, New York: Knopf, Bobbitt 2008, 508) (Ref. 19).

3. Motivation

ASSESSMENT CRITERION NO. 1: CORE VALUES: THE GOOD OF ALL MANKIND AND EQUAL VALUE OF ALL HUMANS

Equal value of humans, interpreted not just as equal worthiness and equal rights, but as a reference to ability, is Lesson One for rescue. To undervalue civic capacity erodes participation and disables democracy. If I underrate my capacity to think and act, I cede control to others. If others underrate my capacity, they justify their preference for control by those most like themselves in wealth, training, ethnicity, or religion. Whatever I can do for the common good, I must do because global salvation depends on everyone learning more and doing more.

The constraints of population and geographic hugeness and diversity render individuals less effective and invite undervaluation of human ability. Humans control too little of their world. Instead of calling for smarter decisions we blame “human nature” and think an instinct for violence makes war inevitable. Underestimation produces a world that declines an essential fruit of democracy, the opportunity to do one’s duty and contribute to humanity’s well-being. Civic action to protect the habitat and end war, to achieve democratic regulation of wealth and destructive ideology, starts with a better assessment of everyone’s civic ability.

The solution is to empower individuals at the global level by creating leverage for them where they live, instead of hoping that their voices will penetrate cacophony in national capitals. This is another way to say “global democracy.” To invent a form of global democracy that empowers humans without belittling or threatening their nations, even autocratic nations, is the millennial challenge.



ASSESSMENT CRITERION NO. 2: DECISION MAKING CAPACITY WITHOUT CRIPPLING DELAYS

To evolve yet not delay seems counterintuitive. Sixty years have passed since Granville Clark and Louis B. Sohn wrote *World Peace Through World Law* (Ref. 20). Their call for global elections, policing, and disarmament have advanced us barely a step toward war prevention. A crippling delay! If the nations would not accommodate a reasonable world parliament plan then, they will not today. The lesson: – global governance must start at a lower level, end run the nations. Cities and towns start an evolution to democracy that cannot be stopped because too many people in too many nations are part of it. Accept the necessity for staged evolution, and a few dozen cities and towns in each of as many countries could hold the first session of the Global Municipal Congress (GMC) within a year.

An early assignment is to promote progressive, proportional disarming. The GMC will review how verification has proceeded under treaties, and how to assure phased, verified arms reductions without compromising any nation's security. Consider the effect on national policies when GMC representatives come home after research and discussion with counterparts from other countries about topics like these:

Verification and compliance. Interplay between justified secrecy of military research, armaments levels, and preparedness, and the need to achieve reliable inspections. Enforce inspection regimes as to (i) refusals to permit inspections, (ii) discovery of violations. Penalties for violations: (a) forfeit national security deposits pledged to secure compliance; (b) employ international or regional forces.

The GMC will review city targeting, asking nations:

What cities do you target and what level of assurance would justify detargeting, pledging no assault on cities, and accepting verification inspections? What would you offer as security to assure compliance with promises to detarget, and what reciprocal steps would you require?

It will review compliance with and confidence in existing treaty framework, including:

Force level reductions. Weapon maintenance, replacements, and improvements. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, Outer Space Treaty, and SALT II.

Comparable prompt agendas respecting climate change, pandemic sickness, and poverty come quickly to mind.

Capacity to achieve the “last chance” goals that now are so pressing will require accountability to justify empowering global law-enforcement. The GMC's eleven Projects will assure attention to the following:

Review democracy exercised in electing delegates to the GMC. Offer procedures for holding elections to the GMC, and inducements like the chance to help mold GMC's growth and policies. Adopt means to ensure bona fide elections through monitoring elections and credentialing delegates. Make representation proportional to constituencies and their nations. Study the extent to which population blocks might be composed of more than one nationality, one ethnic group or geographic area without respect to nationality.



ASSESSMENT CRITERION NO. 3: EFFECTIVENESS: GOVERNANCE MODEL CAPABLE OF HANDLING CHALLENGES AND RISKS AND ABILITY TO IMPLEMENT DECISIONS

Climate change expands the influence and effectiveness of populations by compelling political action at the global level. Municipal populations will be available for political deployment as never before in the policy struggle over energy use.

Municipal resources to teach about climate change are endless. Cities offer inducements for property owners to plant sterile spaces like building roof tops, pave streets with material that steers water into the soil, influence transportation fuel technology, induce use of solar and wind power with tax reductions, outlaw diesel trucks, perform energy audits, and provide low interest loans to remediate excess emissions. All of which increases citizen ability to evaluate national policy and comprehend the global dimensions of our problems.

A significant resource for influencing nations to end war is the vast amount of military assets that can be used to promote safe peace keeping plans. Weapon arsenals, armed forces, military bases (the US has some 900 worldwide), and weapons industries are chips with which to bargain. Absence of proposals that demonstrate how proportionately and reliably to evolve global policing is attributable to lack of empowered advocates, a role the targeted municipalities will undertake through their Global Municipal Congress.

Cities and towns have long experience in internationalism. An elected global congress will be novel only in its insistence nations have not aspired high enough. That aspiration is overdue is obvious from President Eisenhower's admonition in 1956 to a nascent program called People to People International: "If we are going to take advantage of the assumption that all people want peace, then the problem is for people to get together and to leap governments—if necessary to evade governments—to work out not one method but thousands of methods by which people can gradually learn a little bit more of each other" (Dwight D. Eisenhower 1956, Public Papers, GPO, 750) (Ref. 21). The governments Eisenhower wanted evaded were the national governments.

People to People International led in 1967 to creating Sister Cities International (SCI). According to the SCI website, in 2017 over 2,000 partnerships exist, involving 145 countries. More than one thousand U.S. cities have foreign partners. Significant in the effort to end the Cold War, was the twinning of twenty U.S. with twenty Soviet cities. The forty governments sent delegations back and forth, generating confidence in Washington and Leningrad that friendship was safer than hostility.

In just 20 years, as of August 1, 2017, Mayors for Peace—organized by the mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki—grew to 7,439 cities in 162 countries and regions. Its 2020 Vision Campaign aims for the elimination of nuclear weapons by 2020. Mayors for Peace website (Ref. 22).

After George W. Bush rejected the 1997 Kyoto Protocol seven hundred American mayors signed an agreement to follow the Protocol. Benjamin Barber's *Cool Cities* (New Haven, Yale Press, 2017) identifies seven "Environmental Cities Networks" organized from 1990 to 2005, that have enlisted thousands of cities in a variety of global projects (pp 74-76) (Ref. 23).



The U.N. 2014 Climate Summit launched a “Compact of Mayors” from eighty-four cities with a combined quarter billion population.

In 2016 the first meeting of the Global Parliament of Mayors assembled representatives of seventy major cities and two dozen urban networks of smaller cities. Barber (supra, pp 86-7) reports that hundreds of Mayors meet via “smart screens.” See also Benjamin Barber’s *If Mayors Ruled the World* (Ref. 24).

The logical next step is to enlist municipalities in the one power source that can stand up to armies and wealth – democracy’s ballot.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION NO. 4: RESOURCES AND FINANCING: HUMAN AND MATERIAL RESOURCES AND EQUITABLE FINANCING

The municipal ballot – town and city – is a ready-made, world-wide resource for yoking populations. The first step, to show the ease, practicality, and one hopes, popularity of recruiting local politics for global rescue, requires volunteers in a small fraction of the world’s cities and towns. Invention and progress depend as much on citizen initiative as having a competent mayor, governor, or president.

Here is an example of municipal defeat of national war planning. In 1981 the Reagan administration decided to warn the Soviet Union that the United States was not afraid of nuclear war. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced a nuclear attack relocation plan, pursuant to which presumed targeted cities were matched with assumed safe havens. Populations were instructed, on alarm, to grab deeds to their houses, leave behind pets and firearms, and drive to a designated, presumably non-targeted city. Dozens of cities and towns in the United States, Canada, and the British Isles prepared booklets and adopted resolutions opposing municipal war planning, recognizing that the evacuation proposals amounted either to planning for nuclear war on the assumption that such a war was winnable, or were a bluffing game with the Soviet Union. FEMA quietly shelved its evacuation plans.

Lesson: Municipalities possess resources that can inspire people to accept the political assignment of assuring allocation to humanity’s end-time perils.

Peace and arms control, environmental advocacy, and social/justice NGOs of all kinds have contributed to public understanding of humanity’s perils. They are not, though, adequate to stop environmental plundering or the war system. They preach what should happen but neglect to instruct and motivate followers politically to make it happen.

As to financing, the initial distribution of the Resolution to a few hundred municipal governing bodies and local NGOs can be paid with donations. As the project gets underway and enlarges, financial support will spread to participating cities and towns.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION NO. 5: TRUST AND INSIGHT: TRANSPARENCY AND INSIGHT INTO POWER STRUCTURE AND DECISION MAKING

Representatives to the Global Congress will carry home realities that only first person experience can earn. The assignment will involve not just annual trips abroad, but reporting back how problems around the world are being solved and how foreign towns and cities differ. They will engage with local media, attend local



organization meetings and inform school populations. They will invite delegates from other cities to visit, based on relationships formed, local population family ties abroad, and issues in common like trade, tourism, security, and civic action.

The inherent problem of lack of trust that representatives from authoritarian countries may invoke will offer its own contribution to insight. Local democracy will be tested by comparisons. The extent of public support for other countries' governments will be learned. Autocratic national governments may require some wooing and pressure like consumer and tourist boycotts to allow their cities to participate, but in the end will not want their cities excluded from a popular global movement.

In "Cool Cities," supra, Benjamin Barber says, "Nations are too large for participation and engagement but too small to control the global centers of power...Cities are closer to us, more human in scale, more trusted by citizens." (p. 67)(Ref. 25) Barber's Chapter 15, "Trust Among Cities" details three sample indices that demonstrate tests that can enable cities to judge one another's climate sustainability efforts, adopt goals, and earn one another's trust: the Leed Index, the Star Communities Index, and the Siemens Green City Index.

Martin Wolf (Financial Times 7/12/17) (Ref. 26) writes "Yet humanity's affairs are now too interwoven and their impact far too profound to be the by-product of purely national decision-making."

ASSESSMENT CRITERION NO. 6: FLEXIBILITY: MECHANISMS TO ALLOW REVISIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS

The effort will not work absent flexibility on multiple levels. The selection process will vary, but so long as a power transfer to populations does not immediately affect the nations, resistance will be minimal and the effort will remain experimental and flexible.

The purpose is to bolster security by addressing humanity's endangerment from climate change, war, pandemics, periodic starvation, and resource exhaustion. With adequate political attention, populations will accept the necessity for change, cede flexibility, even force flexibility, nationally. Initial creation of the GMC involves no power transfer, but the elections, after time and in many nations, will generate a new kind of political power, possessed by multitudes and enabled by modern systems of communication, instruction, and organization.

As the effort spreads, GMC will develop rules to balance factors like city size, nation size, populations participating. It will limit the number of representatives as participant cities grow in number. Electoral districts will enlarge, and the effort may grow multi-layered, with areas that could take turns attending GMC annual meetings.

The five year prohibition on amending the GMCs purposes and procedures is essential to develop leadership and habituate thinking by participants to a global planning process. City, town, and county governing methods vary so much that, the system will have to be adaptable and flexible from the outset. The stated anticipation of adaptations at the end of five years of experiment advertises the need for modification to balance consistency, enlargement, and experience.



ASSESSMENT CRITERION NO. 7: PROTECTIONS AGAINST ABUSE OF POWER: A CONTROL SYSTEM TO PREVENT INTERFERENCE WITH NATIONS OR FAVOURING SPECIAL INTERESTS

GMC commands no military force, levies no taxes, passes no laws. It holds the power of democracy. Representatives will have a power of persuasion that comes from the ability to speak for a multitude. When representatives from varied constituencies agree on a policy their coming together will contribute to persuasiveness.

The potential abuse is nations meddling. Nations will want their cities to reflect national policy, and representatives elected to the GMC will be inclined to support their nations' policies. On the other hand, resistance to national control will be enhanced by citizens exercising citizenship at the local level.

This is not an effort by democracies to undermine autocratic national governments. Respect for historic and cultural configurations and practices of governance must be respected. In an age of end-time perils, to achieve cohesion of disparate components is today's sine qua non for every kind of governance.

This is not to say that grim struggles do not await any serious effort to overcome power wielders whose aggrandizements of money and glorification depend on stoking hate and natural resource destruction. A great virtue of the ballot is that it enables peaceful political struggles. But the more important enabler will be invention of a new social configuration. Margaret Mead wrote that while war is despaired about as an "ingrained habit of most of the human race," in fact war is a defective "old invention". "... (I)n order to invent new forms of behaviour, which will make war obsolete, it is a first requirement to believe that an invention is possible," (in *The Future of Peace in the Twenty-First Century*, (Durham: Carolina Academic Press, 2003, 104-5) (Ref. 27).

GMC will be that invention. It will:

Furnish targeted populations a way to cooperate across boundaries and influence nations to eliminate or govern the end-time threats that out-of-control practices and policies impose on humanity.

Commence an evolutionary search for enough global democracy to permit a staged progress to accountable global law enforcement, with the administrative, judicial, and policing powers to assure civilized human longevity.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION NO. 8: ACCOUNTABILITY – HOLD DECISION MAKERS ACCOUNTABLE

The ultimate mechanism to rescue civilization must shift responsibility and power to populations. Otherwise the inevitable crush of ever greater law enforcement as dangers mount, will sacrifice freedom. The effectiveness of political accountability depends on the number of people who undertake to share responsibility. The GMC Model generates involvement, first by mobilizing municipal governing bodies and second by empowerment of populations through ballot access.

Autocratic rulers will be pressured to cooperate, much as they prefer to keep their people away from honest ballot casting. They will be pleased when the GMC criticizes capitalist democracies for hypocrisy about the greatest good for



the greatest number, something fast being exposed when it comes to resource exploitation, CO2 release, and war. In addition, countries that experience denigration for their autocracies will want to avoid being singled out for not cooperating when it comes to global emergency.

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