

GENERATIONAL *justice!*

Intergenerational Fairness and Rights of Future Generations

Three principles of intergenerational equity form the basis of intergenerational obligations and rights

by Edith Brown Weiss

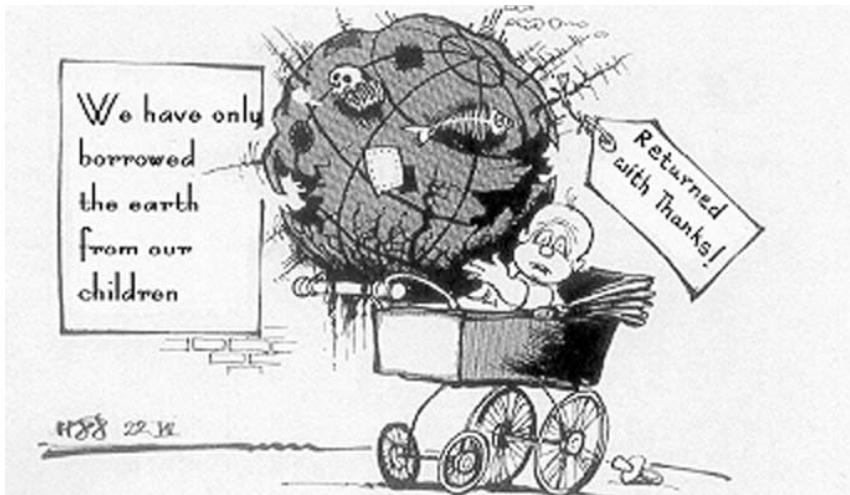
Sustainable development raises issues of intergenerational fairness, as well as ones of fairness among people today. In all that we do, we inherently represent not only ourselves but past and future generations. We represent past generations, even while trying to obliterate the past, because we embody what they passed on to us. We represent future generations because the decisions we make today affect the well being of all persons who come after us and the integrity and robustness of the planet they will inherit. We hold the natural and cultural environment of our planet in common with all members of the human species: past, present, and future generations. As members of the present generation, we

hold the earth in trust for future generations. At the same time, we are beneficiaries entitled to use it and benefit from it. We are also part of the natural system, and as the most sentient of living creatures, we have a special responsibility to protect its robustness and integrity. Three basic principles of intergenerational equity are proposed.

DIVERSITY IS ONE KEY PRINCIPLE

First, each generation should be required to conserve the diversity of the natural and cultural resource base, so that it does not unduly restrict the options available to future generations in solving their

(continued on page 5)



Saving the world

The poor outcome of the Johannesburg Summit is due to the obstructive policies by the US and other states during the preparation committees: A teenager's reflections on the Bali PrepCom
by Birgit Müller

As a 19 year old, fresh out of high school, and not yet two months in to an internship at FRFG, I was astounded when I received the offer to participate in the Prep Com IV for the World Summit on Sustainable Development. I had no experience to prepare me for what the event would entail, but I had a lot of imagination, idealism, and dreams

of saving the world...

In all seriousness, I could scarcely have imagined the frustration I would have at the convention. I could not have imagined that one member of the youth caucus would be so frustrated that she would return to her home country before the end of the meetings.

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*Joerg Tremmel, Germany;
Karuna Ganesh, India;
Tamara Weiss, USA*



Editorial

Take a moment and ask yourself: 'Will our grandchildren be grateful or disappointed with the deeds of our generation?' Hopefully you will find that, at the very least, you have tried to give them justice.

Intergenerational Justice means that the potential for future generations to satisfy their needs and meet their aspirations must be at least as great as that of generations wielding power today. For many, this is the core of the sustainability concept. Intergenerational Justice requires each generation to pass the planet on in no worse a condition than that in which it inherited it.

As we come back from Johannesburg and reflect on the developments since Rio, we ask ourselves the above question from the complementary standpoint: 'For what are we grateful and with what are we disappointed in over the last ten years of efforts made from the first global partnership to guarantee intergenerational justice?'

We continue to over produce and over consume in unsustainable patterns and with no regard to the needs of future generations, and we continue to live by depleting invaluable resources and polluting what remains.

We have taken few if any measures to preserve and guarantee the ecological integrity of our earth, and systems remain in place that continue destruction of local and global environments.

We have seen no improvement in social and health conditions and increased suffering of injustices and infringements of human rights.

We undertake extensive dialogues, resolutions, measures and agreements that do not become successfully implemented solutions but remained only words of good will, at best.

And yet, clearly, we as the world emerged

from Rio with an important sense of interdependency between not only us as humanity but as an earth system, and for the first time in history an acknowledgement that humanity is subject to natural laws above and beyond time marching forward. Is that fire still burning since Johannesburg?

In addition, let us acknowledge the important shifts in political and social climate since Rio. We are in the midst of extraordinary changes in long standing systems of governance and economics. It is recognised that corporate accountability, technological progress in information sharing, sustainable development and scientific research must be top priorities and will not monitor themselves.

Youth, who are direct victims of neglected generational justice issues, have mobilised with a new found empowerment. An organised and determined youth movement has increasingly strengthened its presence in the international arena and was especially influential at Jo'burg. The global partnership will expand to become a global intergenerational partnership.

The Foundation for the Rights of Future Generations is proud to join this partnership now still in infancy at Jo'burg. This issue is the first English edition of our magazine *Generational Justice!*, which is published annually in German. This edition's first section considers the urgent need for a sustainable system of global governance, whilst the second section offers a comprehensive, yet detailed introduction to the many themes of *Generational Justice*. To celebrate the important progress that is being made today, we present selected success stories of organisations that are putting sustainability into practice.

In the future, we envision this magazine serving as an international forum for intergenerational dialogue, as a conduit for solution sharing and collaboration, and as a center of resources and support for those working on issues surrounding generational justice. It will be distributed widely not only to our colleagues at Jo'burg but also to a general global English speaking audience. We welcome you in to this discussion forum and invite your contributions for our next issue.

On behalf of the editors of *Generational Justice*, the International Volunteers Office and staff at Foundation for the Rights of Future Generations (FRFG), we extend a warm and heartfelt thank you to all contributing authors for their assistance in producing this first English Edition of *Generational Justice!* Under enormous time pressure, we received the gracious contribution of internationally acclaimed professionals in the field of generational justice. The result of this collaboration has launched FRFG firmly in to the international arena to join hands with a global movement for generational justice.

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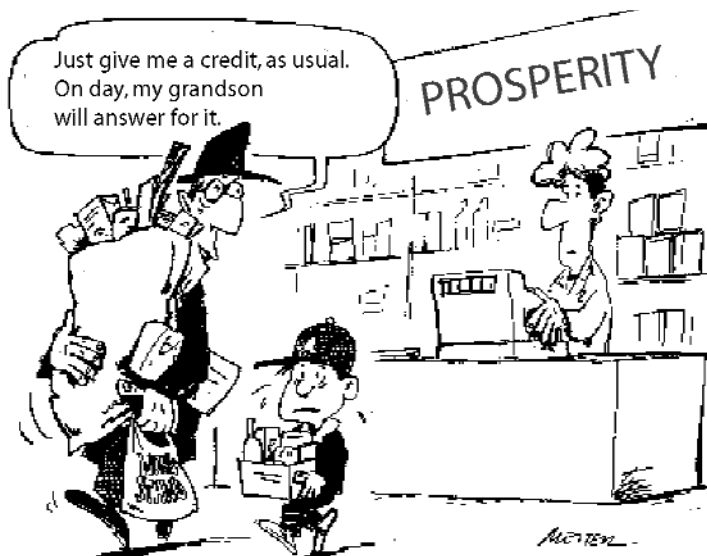
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Generational Justice - a Leading Concept for the New Century

Why this idea will become as important as Social Justice, *written by the Board of the FRFG.*

The concept of Generational Justice is a leading contender in the race to become the intellectual leitmotif of the dawning century. The demand for a new system of ethics, one that takes into consideration the rights of coming generations, is becoming increasingly more urgent, even as the aftermath of human actions extend further and further into the future. Justice between old and young is fast becoming at least as important a concern as that of social justice, i.e. justice between rich and poor.

The rights and interests of future generations have been invoked as valid arguments since the beginnings of the ecological movement. There are many examples of talk-shows in which representatives of the younger generation have demanded rights for the young, posing moral questions to their 'opponents' from the older generation: Is it just, that the young must inherit the man-made greenhouse effect, the ozone hole, and nuclear waste as the legacy of their forefathers? But Generational Justice encompasses more than ecology. Is it just, that unemployment figures among the young are higher than the figures for the entire population in many countries? Is it just, that under the present pension scheme in many nations, the young are in a far worse position than the older generation? That the young cannot elect their legislative representatives? That the young will inherit a highly indebted State? That the numbers of youth dependent on State benefits is more than the double the number of pensioners? Is it just, that among parliamentarians, in corporate boardrooms, and in the editorial boards of magazines, there is hardly any-



one to be found who is younger than forty years old?

The representatives of older generations may well counter: Is it just, that the old during their youth were seldom able to go on vacation, and more seldom yet to university? That today's young internet-entrepreneurs could become multimillionaires at the age of 25? That the post-war generation worked 80 hours a week to clear the debris of World War II, and from that rubble, were compelled to rebuild their lives from nothing? Clearly, the standpoints of both sides are indisputable. Therefore, the definition of 'Generational Justice' cannot be easy. It is hardly helpful, in this regard, that 'Generational Justice' has already become a byword in the agendas of many political parties, although the demand remains hollow, since neither is the concept defined precisely, nor is there any practical conception of how justice is to be achieved.

consistent with other connotations of the word 'justice.' If we talk about 'gender justice,' we mean that men and women should be treated equally. If we talk about 'racial justice,' we also mean the absence of arbitrary discrimination.

The definition of intergenerational justice can be further broadened in scope: Not only should future generations not be worse off, but it is also morally imperative, and therefore politically desirable, that their lot be improved. Generations to date have experienced increasing affluence and improving living conditions and justice would require them to ensure that this remains possible for future generations. Were the idea that children should be better off than their parents to be lost, a key incentive to action by parents would disappear. Each generation would want to inherit the Earth in at least as good a condition as it has been in for any previous generation and to have at least as good access to its resources as previous generations. This requires each generation to pass the planet on in no worse a condition than that in which it inherited it.

INTERgenerational Justice: (Generational Justice)

Justice among generations (at least two generations are involved)

Temporal Generational Justice:

Justice among young, middle-aged and old persons living today.

Intertemporal Generational Justice:

Justice among people who lived in the past, who are alive today, and who will live in the future.

DEFINING GENERATIONAL JUSTICE

The term 'Intergenerational Justice' appeared for the first time in an UN document in the Berlin Commitment for Children (Article 14). But what does 'Intergenerational Justice' (used synonymously with 'Generational Justice') actually mean? One working definition might be based on the principle of equality, understanding the term to mean that no generation should be treated better or worse than another. This approach is

Therefore the definition of Generational Justice is:

Intergenerational Justice means that the potential for children and future generations to satisfy their needs and meet their aspirations must be at least as great as that of generations wielding power today.

IN WHAT AREAS IS GENERATIONAL JUSTICE IMPORTANT?

Comparisons and evaluations in the context of generational justice relate to all elements of a collective legacy. These elements include not only the ecological base on which life depends, but also the socio-political, economic, and physical infrastructure, physical and educational capital of nations, savings and debts, jobs and social institutions, and psychological factors of child upbringing in various cultures. A harmonious balance among generations would also need to take these aspects into account. The broadly defined *capital* to be preserved and enhanced for coming generations includes the following:

Human Capital

Health, education, skills and knowledge

Man-made Capital

Machinery, infrastructure, and institutions as well as financial assets

Social Capital

Stable relationships between individuals and groups within society

Natural Capital

The stock of environmental assets which are important for supporting human life, for the generation of well-being as well as for amenity and beauty.

There is an exhaustive ongoing debate

INTRAGenerational Justice: (Justice within one generation)

Social Justice:

Justice within one country between rich and poor.

International Justice:

Justice among various countries, independent on economic distributions *within* these countries.

Gender Justice:

Justice between men and women.

Further Forms of Intragenerational Justice:

Justice between families and the childless, healthy and unwell, employed and unemployed, hetero- and homosexuals, members of various ethnic and religious groups.

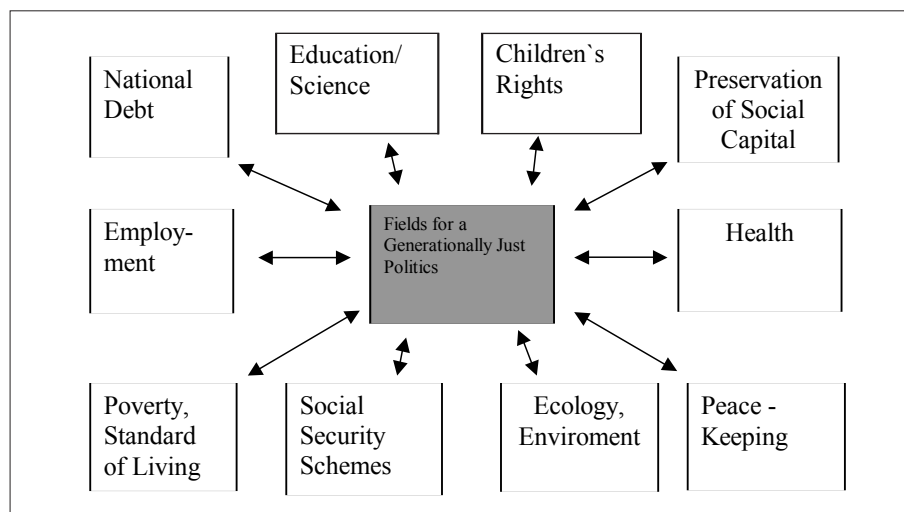


Figure: Areas of Application of the Concept of 'Generational Justice'

regarding the extent to which different types of 'capital' can be substituted for one another, but there is little doubt that they are strongly interdependent. Importantly, it is only through preserving the natural capital base that we can ensure that we do not diminish the options available for future generations to use other capital bases in ways that best suit their needs.

GENERATIONAL JUSTICE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Further, it is important to distinguish between the closely intertwined concepts of Generational Justice and Sustainability. A problem that becomes apparent at this stage is that there exist more than a hundred definitions of Sustainability, many of which diametrically contradict one another. From which one of these definitions is Generational Justice to be demarcated? Sustainability originally developed as an overarching theme that could bridge the spheres of 'environment' and 'development,' and has evolved during the 1990s into a universally acknowledged byword for a desirable future. Simultaneously, the number of themes that have come to be treated within the bracket of 'Sustainability' has also accordingly escalated. Significant examples include the themes of Gender Justice, social equality and culture. Thus Sustainability comprises Intergenerational Justice AND more and more aspects of Justice within the present generation. This development has positive aspects, perhaps most importantly the Agenda 21 Processes, through which participative visions for a desirable future are evolving. At national levels, Sustainability strategies have enabled important goals to be defined quantitatively, provided with implementation deadlines, and be

made accessible for public scrutiny. This encourages a long-term perspective and is without question an important step forward. However, an important negative aspect of this development is that both ecological goals and Generational Justice play a decreasingly important role in the reflections on Sustainability. For instance, the German national sustainable development strategy, adopted in April 2002, has effected a shifting of emphasis, leading to a reduction of the contribution of environmental ideals to the concept of Sustainability. Already, the German expert council on the environment, in its critique of the German governments's Sustainability strategy, has pointed out that the new definition does not emphasize enough the importance of Nature as the foundation of life and of production. In this respect, Germany follows a trend that is also evident in the Sustainability definitions of other countries, for instance in that of the British government, which defines Sustainability as 'a better life for all, now and in the future.'

The environmental faction has lost the conceptual battle around the concept of 'Sustainability.' The frictional tensions among economy, society and ecology inherent in the new definition can sometimes lead to the complete exclusion of the ecological dimension in national, international and transnational policy. We must also get accustomed to the fact that a 'government converted to Sustainability' will usually assess intragenerational justice to be more important than generational justice. In the eyes of most citizens, the present definition of Sustainability as 'vision for a better life,' manifests itself more productively in crime-fighting, rather than in environmental protection. The themes of a local

Agenda 21 are even dependent on actual trends and events, be they those of September 11th, 2001. These aspects of present day sustainability strategies are not necessarily negative, but they have limited consideration of the environment. Sustainability has now mutated into a hypercomplex challenge which, as the expert council for the environment lamented, can even 'bring into effect much demanded economic priorities that oppose the establishment of steps required for environmental protection.'

At the international level, it is remarkable that the last global conference focussed purely on the environment was held as long ago as in 1972 in Stockholm. At the Rio Conference in 1992, and even more so in 2002 in Johannesburg, the environment has been diluted among other themes. In principle, this development

is also valid, since most developing nations are unprepared to assent to ecological goals when poverty alleviation and development aid are not on the agenda. Yet, the road from Rio to Johannesburg shows that through the concurrence of other themes, the environment is increasingly being relegated to the background.

From the above discussion we can derive the following prognoses for the future: Sustainability will not lose its meaning, but will gain a different one. Ecological movements will increasingly avoid the term. Other terms, comprising the notions of Ecology and indeed Generational Justice will increase in meaning as they become shifts in emphasis or even polar counterparts of Sustainability. The concept of sustainability will continue to include that of Generational Justice, but

in the future it will no longer be at its core. He that clamours for Generational Justice must no longer also demand sustainability.

The term „sustainability“ is neither self-explanatory, nor does it arouse strong emotions. Despite enormous efforts of the government to spread the term, for instance, only 15% of Germans are able to make use of it. These factors are dramatically different in the case of Generational Justice. This concept immediately captures the imagination, causing one to think and setting free the energy to act. The concept of Generational Justice, is then qualified to be a new model for society.

FRFG Board of Directors, written by Jörg Tremmel with remarks from Falko Maxin, Laura Memmert and Adrian Schell

Intergenerational Fairness...

(continued from page 1)

problems and satisfying their own values, and should also be entitled to diversity comparable to that enjoyed by previous generations.

QUALITY AND ACCESS ARE CRUCIAL

Second, each generation should be required to maintain the quality of the earth so that it is passed on in no worse condition than that in which it was received, and should also be entitled to overall environmental quality comparable to that enjoyed by previous generations. In implementing this principle, trade-offs are inevitable.

Third, each generation should provide its members with equitable rights of access to the legacy of past generations and should conserve this access for future generations.

These principles, options (diversity), quality, and access, allow future generations the flexibility to operate within their own value system and do not require one generation to predict the values of another. They promote equity among generations by respecting both the rights of future generations not to be deprived by the present generation's preferences for its own well being and

the rights of the present generation to use the environment free from unreasonable constraints to protect indeterminate future needs. The principles are reasonably definite and clear in application to foreseeable situations. Finally, they are shared by different cultural traditions, and generally acceptable to different political and economic systems.

These principles of intergenerational equity form the basis of intergenerational obligations and rights that are held by each generation. They are complemented by intragenerational rights and obligations among members of the present generation, which also derive from the intergenerational rights and obligations.

POVERTY ITSELF IS A POLLUTER

While it is important to focus on future generations, it is also essential to address the equity concerns among communities within the present generation. Poverty is a primary cause of ecological degradation. Also, as an ecosystem begins to deteriorate, the poor communities suffer most, because they cannot afford to take the measures necessary to

control or adapt to the degradation or to move to more environmentally robust areas. Moreover, they have neither the capacity nor the desire to fulfil intergenerational obligations when they cannot even attain basic human needs from the earth today.

Intergenerational rights and obligations are integrally linked. The rights are always associated with obligations. They are rights of each generation to receive the planet in no worse condition than did the previous generation, to inherit comparable diversity in the natural and cul-



tural resources bases, and to have equitable access to the use and benefits of the legacy. They represent in the first instance a moral protection of interests, which must be transformed into legal rights and obligations.

DO FUTURE GENERATIONS HAVE RIGHTS?

It has been argued that future generations cannot have rights, because rights exist only when there are identifiable interests, which can happen only if we identify the individuals who have interests to protect. Since we cannot know who the individuals in the future will be, it is not possible for future generations to have rights.

This paradox assumes that rights can only be rights of identifiable individuals today. But intergenerational rights are not in the first instance rights possessed by individuals. They are, instead, generational rights, which are held in relation to other generations - past, present and future. This is consistent with other approaches to rights. To evaluate whether the interests represented in these rights are being adequately protected does not depend upon knowing the number or kinds of individuals that may ultimately exist in any given future generations, although to be sure the number of people will affect the implementation of the rights.

One might still ask whether it is not preferable to speak only of obligations toward future generations without corresponding intergenerational rights. Can intergenerational obligations exist without rights? While rights are always connected to obligations, the reverse is not always true. The obligation of the present generation to future generations might constitute obligations or duties for which there are no correlative rights, because there are no determinate persons to whom the right attaches. The 1997 UNESCO Declaration on the Responsibilities of the Present Generation Towards Future Generations sets forth such obligations.

The existence of rights focuses discussion on the welfare of generations, what each generation is able to have and to enjoy, in a way that obligations alone may not. If obligations of the present generation are not linked with rights, the present generation has a strong incentive to bias the definition of these obligations in favour of itself at the expense of future generations. Intergenerational rights

have a greater moral force than do obligations. The expression of this idea can be seen in the Petition and Bill of Rights for Future Generations that the Cousteau Society presented to the United Nations. The petition was signed by over nine million people in 106 countries.

The content of intergenerational rights is framed by the principle of intergenerational equity. Within this constraint, each generation has the responsibility to set criteria for defining the actions that infringe upon these rights. Appropriate criteria would be whether activities have a significant impact, either spatially or over time, whether the effects are irreversible or reversible only with unacceptable costs, and whether the effects will be viewed as significant by a substantial number of people.

Intergenerational rights may also be linked to certain procedural norms, which are important to achieving the substantive norms. For example, generation of and access to information, public participation in decision making, community involvement in hazard prevention and emergency management, and long term environmental impact assessments (from the perspective of future generations) are emerging as potentially important instruments for achieving intergenerational equity.

Enforcement of intergenerational equity is appropriately done by a guardian or representative of future generations as a group, not of future individuals, who are of necessity indeterminate. In a 1993 case before the Philippine Supreme Court, the Court recognized standing for forty-three children as representative of themselves and future generations to challenge widespread timber leases granted by the government. The perspective of intergenerational fairness views obligations to future generations as owed to all the earth's future human inhabitants, whoever they may be. This opens the possibility that all major policy decisions deserve to be scrutinized from the point of view of their impact on future generations. It offers a useful and broadly acceptable theoretic

cal underpinning to sustainable resource development. It leads, for example, to long term intergenerational impact assessments, research and development on issues such as the transport and fate of groundwater pollutants and technologies for using natural resources more efficiently, consideration of the ease and cost of maintaining facilities as important criteria for project development, and education of children. Finally, it is essential to develop effective techniques for ensuring representation of future generations in the market place. The discount rate, which is the primary tool by which we consider long term effects, has been inadequate for considering costs and benefits more than a decade or two away. But if we posit that future generations have a normative claim to the natural and cultural environment they inherit, appropriate economic instruments should be able to be developed which take better account of the entitlement.

Rights of future generations provide a normative framework for implementing environmentally sustainable development. They mean that we do not have to rely on a sense of noblesse oblige by the present generation, but rather that we are implementing a fundamental entitlement of future generations. It is an entitlement which we ourselves, as members of the present generation, held in relation to our ancestors and which we need now to protect for our descendants.

Edith Brown Weiss is Francis Cabell Brown Professor of International Law, Georgetown University Law Center.



Honestly, do you really think there was anybody getting in his car while knowing about that?!

In Defence of Future Generations

Antonio Oposa sued the Philippine Government on behalf of future generations - and won.

by Antonio Oposa

GEOGRAPHIC FACTS

The Philippines has a land area of 30 million hectares. According to its topography and according to its forestry law, at least 50% of the land area must have forest cover. Scientific estimates indicate that at the turn of the 20th century, i.e., the country had a forest cover of some 20 million hectares. In fact as late as in the mid-1950s, the Philippines had a virgin tropical forest cover of some 16 million hectares.

After the Second World War, however, and especially during the 1960s and 1970s, the pace of deforestation quickened as it was used as a convenient tool for political patronage. In 1988, a satellite picture of the Philippines's virgin forest cover indicated that only about 800,000 hectares remained. As an official policy, however, logging was only allowed in virgin forests.

In 1989, government records indicated that logging concessions (also known as Timber License Agreements (TLAs) were granted to some 92 corporations (many of which had inter-locking directors) covering an area of almost 3.9 million hectares. Records were also available to the effect that some 100,000 hectares were being deforested every year.

THE LEGAL ACTION

A policy shift was needed. The question however, was how to use the law to advance this needed policy shift with the end in view of conserving the remaining virgin tropical rain forests of the country. With the help of some non-government organisations (among them the Philippine Ecological Network (PEN) and the Tanggol Kalikasan (Nature Defenders) - the legal arm of the Haribon Foundation then headed by the late Maximo Kalaw Jr), an unusual legal action was brought in a court of law. In March 20, 1990, some 43 children, claiming to act on behalf of their generation and on behalf of generations yet unborn, filed a class suit against the Philippine Government to legally force the latter to cancel all the logging concessions in the country.

The Government filed a motion to dismiss the suit on the ground of, among others, that petitioners-children did not

have the legal standing to sue in a court of law. On this ground and on the belief that this case involved a political and non-justiciable question, the trial court dismissed the case without a hearing. Petitioners-children elevated the case to the Supreme Court on a question of law: Whether they had the legal standing and personality to sue to defend their environment. They grounded their petition (and the existence of their 'environmental right') on a provision of the 1987 Philippine Constitution which states that:

"The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature."

The Government countered that this right is nebulous, at best. As a matter of fact, claimed the Government, the right is not even stated in the section on the Bill of Rights but was found only in the section on the General State Policies and Principles. It was during the appellate stage that the petitioners became aware of the work by Professor E.B. Weiss on the concept of inter-generational responsibility and had the chance to submit the theory to the Supreme Court for its consideration.

THE RESOLUTION

In July 1993, the Court promulgated its unanimous and full-court decision which clarified that the suit was based on the concept of inter-generational responsibility, that is, the responsibility of the present generation to the future generations. The Court said that:

"We find no difficulty in ruling that they (petitioners-children) can, for themselves, for others in their generation and for succeeding generations, file a class suit. Their personality to sue in behalf of succeeding generations can only be based on the concept of inter-generational responsibility ... (to make the natural resources) equitably accessible to the present as well as to future generations."

In ruling on the concrete and specific character of the right to healthful environment even if it is not stated in the Bill of Rights, the Court said:

"While the right to a balanced ecology is

found is the Declaration of Principles and State Policies and not under the Bill of Rights, it does not follow that it is less important than any of the civil and political rights. Such as right belongs to a different category of rights altogether for they concern nothing less than self-preservation and self-perpetuation, the advancement of which may even be said to predate all governments and constitutions. As a matter of fact, these basic rights need not even be written in the Constitution for they are assumed to exist from the inception of humankind.' 'If they are now explicitly mentioned in the fundamental charter, it is because of the well-founded fear of its framers that unless this rights are mandated by the Constitution itself the day would not be too far when all else would be lost not only for the present generation, but also for those to come - generations which

It is difficult to say what is impossible, for the dream of yesterday is the hope of today and the reality of tomorrow.

Robert H. Goddard

stand to inherit nothing but parched earth incapable of sustaining life.'

THE CONCLUSION

Although the matter resolved was purely on the legal issue of the children's standing to sue, something happened during the pendency of the case. While the case was on appeal in the Supreme Court, the DENR cancelled all logging concessions in virgin forests. In 1992, a new law was passed that declared the remaining virgin forests of the country as part of the national integrated protected areas system reserved for perpetual protection - for the benefit of the present generation and of generations yet unborn.

Antonio Oposa is the lawyer who initiated the case wherein he named his three children - then aged 4, 2 and 1 years old -- as the main plaintiffs in the legal action.



The Prerequisites for Global Governance

Democracy, and not sovereignty, is the real issue at stake in the quest for a generationally just system of global governance.

by Daniel Skinner

Before a fruitful discussion about building a system of global governance can be undertaken, it is essential to address current attitudes that prevent efforts already in motion from being successful. Otherwise, all future efforts will come up against the same walls. We must meet two major criteria first:

1. Nationalism, ethnocentrism and other artificial and racist divisions must be eliminated.
2. The survival of humanity must be elevated to a position of the highest universal concern and purpose.

Without removing these conceptual impediments to progress in both the minds of the decision makers of national governments and the constituents who elect them, all treaties, organisations, conventions, and other efforts at establishing an international order will grow limp and die.

Under the current international system—essentially anarchic collection of states with their own interests—international organisation is as strong as the collective will of its components. Therefore, attempts to reorganise that system are hindered only by the degree of enthusiasm with which individual states work toward goals. These states must see a unified purpose that is clearly more important than the gains of any one specific nation, and work together in good faith.

In fact, nations that attempt to thwart the movement towards global governance and accountability must be shown by deed and word that they not only will be left out, but also will be left behind if

they refuse to join the effort. When dealing with states, the certainty that their actual power will decrease without the support of the international system will be far more persuasive than theoretical discussions about antiquated conceptions of sovereignty; showing these states that their own conception and self-interest is at stake is essential.

But still, democratic nations that cry 'sovereignty' must be dealt with on their own terms, if only rhetorically. First, they must be shown that nations are in fact not at all threatened by global governance. Moreover, they actually stand to benefit from it mightily, particularly from the benefits of living in a more stable world with a distribution of wealth that is broad and decreasingly volatile. Second, rejecting the sort of institutions of global governance that are being developed impedes the spread of the very values most nations purport to uphold. Exposing these large contradictions in the ways states promote themselves and behave will increase the diplomatic ripple effect.

As it stands now, the term 'global governance' is paradoxical. Most members of the international system view international organisations as appropriate instruments of change only when using them in self interest. Without binding mechanisms of enforcement states can ignore or even undermine them if participating means a possible loss of aggregate power or a breach of their perception of 'sovereignty.' Importantly, this mode of thinking appears to prevail regardless of whether the act is germane to universally accepted values, for

example those in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

HOW DO WE BREAK THE MOULD?

The sovereignty argument is clearly mired in antiquated thinking, and those seeking to build a system of global governance have common sense on their side. But many progressive activist groups have dug their own conceptual graves by arguing that corporate globalisation impedes sovereignty. However unintentional, the anti-globalisation movement has given ammunition to isolationist governments by focusing on the right of a nation to build higher walls instead of universal values that raise the expectations of human sustainability. The problem with the particular brand of globalisation embodied by institutions such as the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and International Monetary Fund (IMF) is not inherent in the concept of globalisation itself. Globalisation is a good thing—but not the particular brand of unaccountable corporate elitism that has been chosen by the richest nations. The policy makers of these organisations have reduced the standards they claim to champion to please various corporate interests. The result is that these organisations are forcing people everywhere to accept standards that yield the highest profit margin rather than striving for true human benefit. With this in mind, activist groups should focus on working toward a meaningful, more democratic form of globalisation instead of being mere anti-globalists, which seems eerily isolationist. Anti-globalists often assume that nations generally are better at maintaining high standards and providing for people, irrespective of any system of values that they should be forced to uphold.

Working toward a common economic goal and making the development of all nations a priority would create an international system of the highest quality. But such a system would have to exist without the unsanctioned elevation of the corporate leader to the level of de facto policy maker. This new approach would clearly be less appealing to those obsessed with profit.

As we can see now with the US reaction to the establishment of the International



Criminal Court (ICC), a new system of global governance will require international institutions that the large powers cannot single-handedly control. Moreover, the independence and power of these new institutions-the very inability of any one nation to block the will of the international community-is what makes them likely to succeed. Global governance has thus far only been able to develop weak institutions because some nations never wanted it to succeed. We should not be surprised that some nations are feeling the pressure that comes from breaking this cycle.

IS SOVEREIGNTY REALLY THE ISSUE?

If we are to believe the US bureaucrats now working diligently in Washington to sabotage the ICC, sovereignty is the major issue about which they are concerned. The new court, they claim, will be used unfairly to target Americans-particularly American soldiers-and denies Americans important constitutional guarantees. Purveyors of these myths have been misguided by a government that is playing against the emotions of its citizens and a media is echoing its lies. But above all others is the claim that the ICC will infringe upon the sovereign right of the

"I will be as harsh as truth, and uncompromising as justice ... I am in earnest, I will not equivocate, I will not excuse, I will not retreat a single inch, and I will be heard."

(William Lloyd Garrison)

US to try its own citizens if they were accused of committing one of the crimes under ICC jurisdiction.

The contrast is clear. Sovereignty is used as the main argument against the ICC, an institution embodying values that will protect people of all socio-economic levels, and without regard for national, religious, gender-based or ethnic classification. It will clearly add to the effort of global governance and only grow stronger through future generations. Moreover, the values and procedures in the ICC statute are rooted in a democratic process with layers of checks and balances, and conform to judicial standards of the highest internationally accepted level.

On the other hand, claims that sovereignty is being infringed upon by the WTO are ignored and brushed aside by governments. Unlike the ICC, the values of the WTO appear rooted in profiteering and the so-called 'infinite wisdom of the marketplace,' but are indeed largely unknown; decisions are made behind closed doors and without democratic accountability.

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE ICC: SOVEREIGNTY REVEALED

The ICC is a complementary body of justice. This means that the jurisdiction of the court is limited only to situations where the domestic courts of a nation are 'unable or unwilling' to prosecute. As long as the accused are given a fair trial conforming to internationally recognised standards, the accused would never be transferred to the ICC. The ICC, then, could only prosecute US citizens if the

American legal system was found to be so flawed that a trial of the accused American was deemed a 'sham.' Democracies with sufficient legal processes, then, have little to worry about from the ICC, and in so vehemently opposing the court, the US government is displaying a remarkable degree of doubt about the quality of its legal system. Being a complementary court, the ICC also has the feature of affording the accused every right guaranteed under the domestic laws of the accused's state. An American would be granted a trial by jury before the ICC would even enter into the picture. Moreover, US military tribunals have never afforded the accused a trial by jury.

So why is the US government going to such great pains to spread mistruths about the ICC? I don't believe, as policy makers suggest, that the US is truly concerned about Americans prosecuted by the ICC. In fact, the threshold for crimes prosecuted by the ICC is quite high, and probably would not have applied even in the most questionable cases of American (and NATO) military actions. The only reasonable conclusion is that the US government values outdated philosophical positions more than common sense efforts to create a more humane world. The fact that this stubborn position may in fact result in aiding and abetting war criminals does not seem to rest heavy on the current Administration's conscience. Simply, there is no will for global governance if it requires a reciprocal responsibility by the US.

Daniel Skinner is a freelance journalist.

Globalisation? Don't Worry, The States Stand Their Ground!

Contrary to widespread fears, economic globalisation does not mean the end of a meaningful role of the state.

by Heiko Tepper

Globalisation is not merely a unifying process; it also segregates. Many academics have argued that globalisation widens the north-south divide, with industrialised nations coming closer and actively participating in today's capitalistic globalisation. Developing countries, on the other hand, are excluded from the process, and must bow down to the economic and political dictates of the globalising powers if they wish to benefit even in a small way from the growing wealth of the north. In this article, I refer only to the players in this globalised world, and hence to industrialised na-

tions, when considering the present and future role of the state.

GLOBALISATION PROMOTES SOCIAL FRAGMENTATION

Whilst on the one hand modern communications technology is bringing the world closer together, on the other hand, the state as a cohesive community is disintegrating into millions of individuals. The internet enables them to form associations based on common interests of wide description, transcending the bounds of national identity and all-

legiance. Such transnational integration often promotes socio-political fragmentation. Thereby, what is threatened today is the idea of an exclusive and virtually self sufficient national culture. Geography and identity are becoming disjointed. Further, unlike in the past it is not states, but private entrepreneurs, bankers and brokerage firms that are developing transnational interests. The global economy is becoming increasingly uncontrolled and uncontrollable.

Based on this, it appears that the state, regardless of size and political or military power, is losing sovereignty regarding

its own domestic, foreign, or even cultural policies and the right to act accordingly. The former dependencies between policy and economy are turning upside down: government policies no longer determine social and economic processes. In fact, governments act pursuant to the demands of the market economy.

However, urgent international and domestic problems result from states' inability to establish public order, construct infrastructure, or provide minimal social services. Newly emerging private actors act as a moderate cushion for these consequences, but they cannot substitute broader state action. Despite the fears to the contrary, the role of the nation state continues to remain vital in today's world. The logic of nation states and that of power and counter power still is effective and will hold for a long time to come.

"Liberty means responsibility.
That is why most men dread it."

(George Bernard Shaw)

WORKING WITH THE GLOBAL SYSTEM, INSTEAD OF DESPITE IT

Even within the principles of globalisation, states play important roles in guaranteeing 'national competitiveness.' Governments intervene in economic practice to help nationally based firms. States can do a great deal to make national economies attractive to potential investors. They can support education

and training, provide infrastructure, increase efficiency and reduce cost of services subject to regulatory constraints, improve working labour markets, and finally, reduce social overheads charged to labour. In the United States, for instance, an intellectual and managerial consensus has grown around making the American economy strong and 'competitive' in the face of outside threats, notably from Japan. The term used by Lester Thurow, 'positive nationalism,' captures this new approach which, on the one hand draws on an understanding of the globalisation process, but on the other hand is firmly based on national identities and loyalties.

Control of the military remains another essential function of the state. Physical territory and its boundaries no longer mean what they once did. Access to agricultural land and raw materials no longer serve as the only basis for modern industrial or knowledge based prosperity. Yet, states show extraordinary sensitivity to their territorial integrity (e.g. break up of Yugoslavia, Japan and the Kurile Islands, the Spain-Moroccan conflict). Territory may be only symbolically important, yet symbolism is powerful and it helps to keep nation states in the game. Systems of international law are also subject to high symbolic nationalistic weightage. The nation state still also has substantial discretion over the distribution of income by setting the level and composition of taxation and public expenditure. States can choose to have a big or small public sector and the public sector pie can be cut in many ways

to produce different combinations of transfer payments, public services, public sector pay and public investment.

NATIONAL IDENTITY AND THE STATE

Thus, the role of the state today is essentially to preserve national identity. This must happen symbolically, to strengthen the popular sense of identification with national enterprises, and practically, to uphold effective national influence over location decisions, the movement of capital and selection of the tax base.

The nation state is still the primary source of loyalty for most people. No one willingly accepts the mandate of an international organisation that subverts what they consider their vital interests. Transnationalism can earn respect only if it is seen as a way of achieving, or at least not impeding national interests. On the other hand, a nation that is unwilling or incapable of protecting its own working people because it is bound to intellectual abstractions such as open markets and globalism, is doomed to internal turmoil. Transnational activities cannot in themselves be viewed as a panacea for the ills of the world. They are simply methods to advance the interests of people organised into national societies. Where they do so, they will be embraced. Where it fails to do so, they will be rejected.

Heiko Tepper *works*
with FRFG



Finance

State Debt for the Public Good?

By forcing future generations to pay for today's short term benefits, state debt is a form of gross generational injustice.

by Andreas Becker

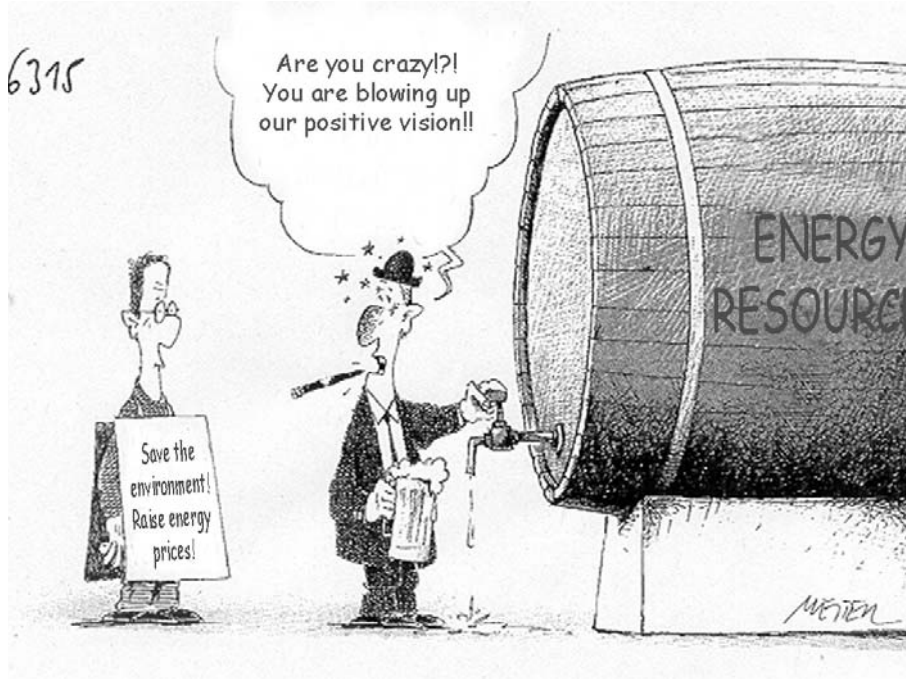
The principles for expenditure, revenue, and debt policy ensue from the hypothesis that subsequent generations must have at least as much opportunity to satisfy their needs as previous ones. Expenditure is to be structured in a manner that at the very least preserves ecological, social, and non-monetary capital, while providing young people with sufficient education. The following principle holds especially true for revenue policy: the profiting generation is prin-

cipally responsible for financing public benefits (exceptions form intergenerational pacts).

DEBT OR INVESTMENT?

With the aid of these principles, the paper upon which this article is based examines seven widely accepted arguments per public debt for intergenerational equity. The conclusion: there is practically no legitimate reason for cross-generational debt with the exception of un-

usual burdens. The most common argument states that new debt is offset by investment with positive future payback. However, if new debt is authorised equal in sum to activated investment, the funding of the investment object is completely shifted into the distant future, although this object provides utility immediately upon completion. While the expense of an investment (and respectively the interest debt) increases with time, the value of the investment object



STOPPING THE PROCESS: PRESERVING CAPITAL

The political demands for intergenerationally equitable financial policy need to be directed toward ending the premature usage of subsequent generations' resources as well as the methodical reduction of outstanding debt. For that purpose, debt as a financial instrument is to be legally ruled out with two exceptions: debt for concrete investment projects with prescribed repayment within the period of use should be permitted with limitations; additionally, liabilities may be permitted for unusual financial burdens arising from unexpected situations, which, as a rule, do not occur in every generation. Anti-cyclical economic policy may only be financed through reserves and not through debt. Furthermore, it is necessary to establish as legal requirement that nonmonetary capital be at the very least preserved, that ecological capital be protected, and that education be organised such that young people and subsequent generations have at least as much opportunity as their parents did. In this manner, the restructuring of national finances by measures that violate intergenerational equity should be prevented. Further demands ensue for the transparency of national finances and the efficient implementation of funds, as well as with regard to revenue and expenditure policy.

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depreciates. Moreover, it is unjust to include subsequent generations in the expense of contemporary investments if they don't receive financial compensation for the effective cross-generational burden of current behavior (e.g. for

If you think you are too small to be effective, you have never been in bed with a mosquito.

(Anita Roddick)

long-term environmental damage or for the violation of the intergenerational education pact). Furthermore, there are few investments that provide utility over more than one generation (30 years), since comprehensive maintenance to the sum of new investments are then usually required. Finally, it must be considered

that from generation to generation, non-monetary capital is to be at the very least preserved—a task to be fulfilled by the respective current generation. Not even in the case of high educational expenses is debt justified, because education is an obligation guaranteed by an intergenerational pact.

Debt has a multitude of cross-generational consequences. If an outstanding public debt is not repaid, subsequent generations end up paying infinite interest for past benefits over an infinitely long period of time. In the present, debt and the resulting burden of interest lead to overproportionate reductions in those expenditures which would have future utility. The compulsion for economic growth arises from the pressure of debt with fatal consequences for the environment and market economy.

Your Contributions for our Work

FRFG is a non profit organisation with many enthusiastic helpers and sponsors, and numerous active projects, yet very limited financial resources. With FRFG's expansion last year, we appeal to you to assist us further in enabling us to continue working towards a better future. At this time,

FRFG is working on the following main projects:

- Magazine 'Generationengerechtigkeit!' (cost per issue: Euro 10.000)
- Generational Justice Prize 2003/2004, 15.000 Euro
- Book Project 'Handbook Generational Justice', 8.000 Euro
- Seminar „Generational Justice as leading motif for businesses“, 25.000 Euro
- International Volunteers Office 10.000 Euro

Every contribution helps, and there is no such thing as 'too small' a donation. If you would like to specifically support one of our projects, please identify the project name, and stating the intended purpose 'donation,' you can easily debit money from your bank account in favour of: SRzG, Account no. 6602983, Ökobank e. G (Bank Code 50090100) Swift: GENODE55SGZ You will receive a tax deductible donation certificate.

Standpoint: Can Intergenerational Justice be achieved without improving our democracy?

The Dilemma of Short-Term Politics

Changes in Constitutions of most countries are needed to guarantee Justice between Present and Future Generations,
write Jörg Chet Tremmel and Martin Viehöver

The principle of democracy can, in its traditional and narrow form, conflict with the maxim of intergenerational justice. Nevertheless, it is not the principle of short legislative periods itself that must be changed, but more provisions for the rights of future generations must be introduced in existing institutional practices.

If the influence of the electorate in politics, which is the very essence of liberal democracy, is to be maintained, terms of political office must be short, with frequent elections. The need to appease the electorate in regular five year or similar intervals means that politicians direct their actions according to the needs and desires of the present citizens-their electorate. Thus, the interests of future generations are all too often neglected. However, today's hi-tech advancements mean that the consequences of our present undertakings, such as nuclear energy installations or high carbon dioxide emissions, will project into the far future and can have a deeply negative influence on the quality of life of several future generations.

At no time in history before today has the generation wielding power had so much formative influence on the future. Considering the enormous advance in technological knowledge, humanity can alter the face of the earth on a much bigger scale than at any previous point in history. Yet, regrettably, the enormous advance in technical knowledge has not been complemented by increased morality and far-sightedness amongst decision-makers. This gives rise to an acute moral and ethical problem, that of intergenerational injustice.

In the words of former German president, Richard von Weizsäcker, 'every democracy is, generally speaking, founded on a structural problem, namely glorification of the present and neglect for the future. It is an indisputable fact that we cannot and do not want to be ruled differently than by representatives elected for a fixed amount of time -with no more leeway at their disposal than precisely their legislative terms of office for what

they offer as solutions to our problems. We are not saying that the entire political representation has no sense for long-term future tasks. It is only faced with the problem of having to acquire a majority.'

But given the short-term structure of today's politics, how can such long-term thinking, which may not have immediate positive economic consequences, be incorporated into our political decisions? Today's decision-makers will not be held responsible for the long-term effects of producing atomic waste, or exploiting resources. On the other hand, the voice of the unborn cannot be directly incorporated into democratic structures. This fundamental dilemma of democracy leads to a preference for the present, and thus to a structural disadvantage for future generations.

However, it would be folly to conclude that abolishing our present system of governance-liberal democracy-would be a viable or even desirable solution. Liberal democracy is responsible for an establishment that is actually for the people instead of one that is above the people. Human rights are guaranteed by the power of the electorate and the accountability of the leaders. Short terms of office, in particular, are the reason why such accountability and relevance to daily needs become possible. To do away with liberal democracy, even if such an alternative were feasible, would in itself be to do irreparable injustice unto present and future generations.

THE NEW FUTURE ETHICS AND THE CONSTITUTION

Rather than assigning blame to the entire structure of liberal democracy, then, we must look for ways to improve existing democracy to cope with the new problem of generational injustice. This can happen by the long term creation of a new system of future ethics which are then embedded in the constitution, and by institutional measures to protect the rights of future generations.

We need a new, future-oriented system of ethics to safeguard the prospects of generations to come. Like any moral

shift, building new ethics is a time consuming process. Nevertheless, empirical research shows that people's degree of assumption of responsibility for the future has increased since the late 1960s. This changing world view must be sufficiently translated into changes in positive law in national constitutions and international law. By guaranteeing in the constitution future generations the right to satisfy their needs, and by creating public awareness about generational justice, this right will become a criterion according to which the electorate chooses between the policies of potential legislators. This will encourage the executive to make important decisions keeping in mind the rights of future generations. Further, constitutional guarantee would mean that judicial action can be taken against those who infringe on these rights of future generations. Thus, a combination of ethics and legislature will ensure that future generations are not exploited.

The Foundation for the Rights of Future Generations (FRFG) and Youth for Intergenerational Justice and Sustainability (YOIS) therefore aim for constitutional change in order to increase protection for the rights of succeeding generations in comparison to the current constitutions. In particular, the principle of ecological sustainability must be grounded in the constitution. We have made a start with the constitution of the Federal Republic of Germany, wherein our study groups have identified Art. 20 A GG as the one which must be expanded. We published the concrete proposal for the rephrasing of the article in *Zeitschrift für Rechtspolitik* (Journal of Legal Policy) Our conclusions, including precise recommendations for the changed article, have been forwarded to the Government. This is a start, but is by no means sufficient. The need for action has been widely recognised: new constitutions and outlines for constitutions from 1990 onwards more frequently expressly incorporate a protection for future generations.

For instance, the South African' constitution, adopted in 1994 after the end of apartheid, reads as follows:

Standpoint: Can Intergenerational Justice be achieved without improving our democracy?

„Article 24: Environment

Everyone has the right

a) to an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being; and

b) to have the environment protected, for the benefit of present and future generations, through reasonable legislation and other measures that

(I) prevent pollution and ecological degradation

(II) promote conservation; and

(III) secure ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources while promoting justifiable economic and social development.“

Younger democracies have an 'advantage' over older ones as their constitutions also incorporate the ethical developments and shifts in common sense since the 1970s.

A THIRD CHAMBER?

Another solution sometimes proposed is a third chamber which can influence the decisions of the other chambers of parliament in favour of future generations. This institutional solution is discussed in literature under the terms 'Ecological Councils,' 'Future Councils,' 'Sustainabi-

lity Councils' or 'Third Chambers.' These institutions are either directly connected to parliament or form an independent further branch of legislative. New institutions like this would, however, only make sense if they could comprehensively guard the interests of future generations, and thus at least have right to veto. Without this competence, they would only extend the existing advisory councils. The newly founded Sustainability Council of the German parliament, for instance, has no legislative powers. The 'Foundation Future Council' in Switzerland pursues the idea of a 'Future Council' that has just these competences. Their model has, however, no answers to the question of whether this Council is to be appointed by parliament, provided by NGOs or elected by the people. Yet these proposals are, apart from election by the people, democratically problematic if the Council is to have legislative competences. Conversely, representatives that are legitimised by the people would not differ from normal parliamentarians and thus not mean much of a development. In contrast to this, the rights of future generations could be fully protected by guaranteeing

them in the constitution, with full democratic legitimacy. To achieve this, acceptance amongst a majority of the population, as well as the active participation of legislators would be necessary preconditions. The flourishing new system of ethics will play an important role in achieving broad social consensus for generational justice.

In an analogy to the principle that an individual's freedom ends where another individual's freedom begins, the freedom of each generation is limited by the freedom of future generations - according to a basic ethical maxim of Hans Jonas. The good fortune of present generations is bought with the misfortune of future generations. Establishing ecological intergenerational justice as a constitutional right is the fastest and most effective way to end this injustice.



Jörg Tremmel, Chairman, FRFG and **Martin Viehöver**, Chairman, YOIS-Europe

Real Democracy

Today's prevailing system of 'liberal democratic capitalism,' must become really democratic in order to ensure generational justice.

by Michael Hasty

As the world teeters into what could easily become - through war, chaos, or ecological catastrophe - humanity's last century, there is a desperate awareness, especially among the young, that the institutions that have brought us to this point are inadequate to the challenge of even the immediate future. Nearly a decade ago, over two thousand of the world's leading scientists, including a majority of the living winners of the Nobel Prize, signed an urgent "Warning to Humanity." They were sounding an alarm that, unless the human race reversed its political and economic direction within the next two decades, the trends were such that global disaster would be unavoidable.

Although there have been some modest reforms since the document was issued - notably, the Kyoto Treaty on Global Climate Change - nearly halfway to the

scientists' deadline, humanity's wrong direction remains essentially unaltered. And the momentum is increasing.

THE ANTI-GLOBALISATION MOVEMENT

Responding to the intransigence that has blocked any substantive solution to this crisis, what might be called a coalition of the dispossessed - farmers and workers, women and environmentalists - has loosely united in a movement for 'global justice.' They are drawn together by the realisation that the problems they face stem from a common source: a structural concentration of wealth and political power that has resulted in gross economic inequality, an imbalance in the cultural and planetary ecology, and a too-narrow range of options available to address the future.

Although the dominant political econo-

my has traditionally been described as a system of 'democratic capitalism,' the sheer scale of transnational corporations and the unbalanced structure of international institutions, with the support of a global military-industrial complex and a sophisticated corporate propaganda system, overwhelm most aspirations to human-scale democracy.

Recognising this fact, the global justice movement (as a collective entity) has either taken to the streets in public demonstrations to express its opposition to 'corporate globalisation;' or represented 'non-governmental' organisations at international conferences, in the hope of influencing the debate. But although these may be empowering actions in themselves, few would mistake a street corner or a place at the conference table for an actual seat in the halls of democratic power.

Standpoint: Can Intergenerational Justice be achieved without improving our democracy?

THE ROAD TO 'REAL DEMOCRACY'

In the limited space left to me, let me offer two suggestions - one strategic, and one tactical -- to help move the world closer to real democracy.

Strategically, it may be more effective if the 'anti-globalisation' movement were more focused on creating democracy than in seeking justice. Justice, including intergenerational justice, should be a natural consequence and right of democracy, not a virtue to be sought from established institutions as a corrective to their inherent flaws. Asking for justice automatically puts us in the position of supplicants to a system that by its very nature produces injustice, as even the most unabashed apologists for capitalism free-

ly admit. A primary focus on democracy would also have the dual effect of helping to strip away the illusions of the general public about the 'democratic' nature of existing global institutions, while simultaneously giving a decentralised and leaderless global democracy movement necessary practice in creating truly democratic forums.

RECONNECTING GEOGRAPHY AND IDENTITY

Tactically: in a virtual world, we need to reconnect with a sense of place. Obviously, this suggestion has more relevance to industrialised citizens. But just as a cybercommunity has no real geography, a cyberdemocracy is no substitute for grassroots politics. We need to

organise ourselves both globally and locally, at the community and village level. The most effective political tactic is face to face campaigning. With voter turnout in decline around the world, we can use this vacuum as an opportunity to promote an agenda of reinvigorating democracy. It goes without saying that a younger generation of activists would have the most energy, creativity and desire to exercise this tactic. They also have the most at stake.

Michael Hasty is *Editorial Columnist for West Virginia's oldest newspaper, the Hampshire Review.*



How modern liberal democracy is failing future generations

The author argues that since generational injustice is a by-product of labour exploitation, 'democratic capitalism' must be replaced by direct democracy in order to guarantee generational justice.

by Jura Pinter

To ensure that future generations can satisfy their needs and wants at least to the level at which the presently living people can do so - to ensure a condition of intergenerational justice - we need to understand why this project could fail. Various suggestions have been made as to why current developments in society are unfavourable for future generations. Much of the popular writing on the issue suggests that the problem is the result of a moral failing, a failing to realise real obligations towards future people. I suggest that such an approach is misguided. It rests on shaky philosophical foundations, most notably the claim that there can exist moral obligations towards non-existent entities. Rather, intergenerational injustice is better seen as a side-effect of a different form of injustice - the exploitation of labour. If the problem of labour exploitation is appropriately addressed, the intergenerational problem would go away with it. The solution, however, will require a radical reform of the present systems of political and economic control.

INTERGENERATIONAL INJUSTICE AND CAPITALISM

Intergenerational injustice is commonly understood as the relative decrease of the potential of future generations to sa-

tisfy their needs and wants. This phrasing obscures an important fact about the structure of this injustice - that the decrease is one of average potential. Intergenerational injustice does not harm all future people. For some, the potential for satisfying needs and wants will continue to increase significantly. These are the future generations of the capitalist class. They will control an ever-greater relative share of the world's resources, and they will achieve this through the continued exploitation of labour. Labour exploitation creates surplus value that becomes their self-perpetuating capital. However, if all that was going on was the redistribution of resource control, the average potential to satisfy needs and wants would not decrease. It decreases because the resources themselves are shrinking. This happens since capitalists have to keep developing new means of production, with only short-term benefits in mind, in order for labour exploitation to continue. If production development were not directed towards enabling labour exploitation, it would not have its present destructive character. It would not be bound to short-term rationality only. Therefore, if labour exploitation is abolished, both the inequity of control distribution and the destruction of resources would cease -

the problem of intergenerational injustice would be solved.

CAPITALISM, POLITICS AND INJUSTICE

The question now is one of how we can make this happen. Labour exploitation is the basis of capitalist production relations. If we are to remove it, we will clearly need to abandon the capitalistic regulation of economies. Such an economic reform requires great political action and co-operative planning. Unfortunately, this sort of action does not seem to be possible within the boundaries of modern liberal democracy. Representational government, the key feature of liberal democracy, necessarily hinders the removal of capitalism. In representational government it always happens that those who are better positioned in society have a disproportionately large impact on political outcomes. They are the ones whose wishes political representatives most readily follow. They also happen to be capitalists who would not be interested in seeing capitalism dismantled. For thorough reform to occur, a new political system, one not based on the effective smothering of the political voice of the underprivileged, would be needed. Modern liberal democracy is grossly failing future generations.

ALTERNATIVES

There is a number of possible political alternatives. Direct citizen participation in policy-making through extended referenda, coupled with public control of the economy seems like a particularly inviting one. Direct democracy would pro-

mote social discourse and bonding, so the motivational connections to the society's future would become stronger. Public control of the economy would prevent the speedy destruction of resources that future generations will need. They would ensure that all future people

can lead fulfilled lives.

Jura Pintar studies biology and philosophy at Harvard University, USA.



Society

Poverty, Fertility, and Opportunity: Factors for Intergenerationally Sustainable Development

The best way to promote the welfare of future generations is to alleviate present core poverty and deprivation,

by Clark Wolf

People frequently associate 'intergenerational justice' with the concept of sustainability: if we wish to avoid violating our obligations to future generations of human beings, surely one of the things we must do is to insure that our institutions are 'sustainable.' But 'sustainability' is a complex idea, which, in different contexts, may be given quite different meanings with dramatically different practical implications. In ordinary language, the term 'sustainability' is usually associated with the idea that we might leave future generations with earth undiminished in its productive capacity, its ecological integrity, and its ability to respond to human needs. Our hope for sustainable policies and sustainable societies expresses a hope that the opportunities of our descendants will not be inappropriately curtailed by the actions and policies we pursue at present. This hope is admirable, but it is also regrettably vague, for our interest in promoting present and future human welfare or meeting future needs may come in conflict with the goal to leave an undiminished resource stock, or with the hope that present policies will avoid resource depletion and protect the integrity of the earth's ecosystems. When policy choices call for tragic trade-offs, what should we do? Without a more specific understanding of our goals, we will be at a loss.

SUSTAINABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT

One important part of our common sense conception of 'sustainability' is well captured in Gro Harlem Brundtland's recommendation that we should aim to "meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs." This conception of sustainability may be minimal and incomplete, since justice may require that we do more than simply work to meet basic needs. But it is plausible

sible to regard basic need-provision as a minimal standard that should be met first, regardless of other aims we may pursue. It may be desirable to insure that future generations will be wealthy, that the world they inherit will be beautiful, and that their lives should be rich and full. But surely justice requires at least that present policies should be appropriately responsive to future needs. But other conceptions of 'sustainability' focus on other values. When speaking of 'sustainable economic growth,' policy makers often refer to economic growth that can be expected to continue at the same rate over some relatively finite period of time. While economic growth (that is, the right kind of economic growth) is desirable, other things being equal, economic 'sustainability' of this kind is sometimes inconsistent with sustainability in Brundtland's sense. If we hope to do justice to future generations, we should certainly avoid sacrificing future needs in our efforts to achieve short term, or even finite-term economic growth. Our hopes for development projects in poor countries are complex: we want these projects to promote human welfare and to improve the lives of the poor, but we also want these projects to be sustainable- we want our present efforts to improve people's lives to be consistent with our hope that future generations will also inherit adequate opportunities and prospects for a good life. If present and future generations are in conflict, with claims over the same finite stock of resources, then the prospects for real sustainability might seem bleak. Future generations are not here to assert their claims, and where there is conflict they are sure to lose out. Fortunately we do not typically face a tragic choice between present and future needs.

THE HERITABILITY OF POVERTY

In most cases, the best way to promote the welfare of future generations is to work to alleviate present core poverty and deprivation. There are several reasons for this: First, children's prospects are deeply influenced by the circumstances of their parents' lives. So when parents are better off, children will be better off as well. Poverty and deprivation are similarly heritable. It is just as important to 'recognise the implications of poverty for human fertility: evidence conclusively shows that human fertility rates rise when people are destitute and when basic needs are at risk. Since children's opportunities are partly determined by the opportunities available to parents, families that are better off are likely to have fewer children, and the children they do have are likely to be much better off. Evidence strongly suggests that development projects that focus on improving welfare and opportunities for women and girl children have the most dramatic influence on core poverty and fertility. Sustainability and intergenerational justice are complex and abstract goals, difficult to achieve. With such vague goals in mind, it may be hard to know where to start. But if we hope that development projects will promote sustainability, there is no reason to be at a loss on this account. By instituting development projects and policy interventions that aim to improve the opportunities of the poor, and especially those that improve the lives and opportunities of poor women in developing countries, we promote both present and future interests. It's not a bad place to start.

Clark Wolf is Associate Professor in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Georgia.



Eco Tourism

Four Horizons Lodges Australia

www.fourhorizons.com.au

Four Horizons is a development of self-catering eco-lodges in the Watagan Forest overlooking the famous Hunter Valley wine country. It is an area of natural beauty, recently declared a National Park. The 2-story lodges were designed through a collaboration between the architect/owner Lindsay Johnston and the nearby University of Newcastle's Centre for Sustainable Technology. The secluded lodges have treetop views and use solar power and rainwater. A worm farm recycles food waste; grey water from the main house is recycled into a vegetable garden.

The design features were refined using Life Cycle Analysis and thermal monitoring. They include a 'fly-roof' (like a fly sheet on a tent) to help neutralise the summer sun, and careful use of orientation and thermal mass. External insulation and cross-ventilation keeps the buildings cool in summer and warm in winter. Energy consumption in each lodge with full occupancy is projected at just .76 GJ/sq.m/year.

Four Horizons received Advanced Eco Accreditation under the Australian National Ecotourism Accreditation Program (NEAP). The lodges received the 2000 Royal Australian Institute of Architects NSW Premier's Award for Architecture and the main house received the 1997 RAI Environment Award for its autonomous low energy design.

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Microcredit

Grameen Bank Bangladesh

www.grameen.org

Professor Muhammad Yunus, the founder of the much celebrated 'Grameen Bank' and its Managing Director, reasoned that if financial resources can be made available to the poor people on terms and conditions that are appropriate and reasonable, 'these millions of small people with their millions of small pursuits can add up to create the biggest development wonder.'

Grameen Bank (GB) has reversed conventional banking practice by removing the need for collateral and created a banking system based on mutual trust, accountability, participation and creativity. GB provides credit to the poorest of the poor in rural Bangladesh, without any collateral. At GB, credit is the poverty and it serves as a catalyst in the overall development of socio-economic conditions of the poor who have been kept outside the banking orbit on the ground that they are poor and hence not bankable.

Such a banking system is not merely socially just, but by its people-centred approach with low interest rates, relieves future generations of the burden of debt while improving their economic condition.

Grameen Bank has now become a national institution that provides credit to the rural poor in Bangladesh. It is today also owned by the poor, whose paid up share capital amount to Taka 200 million. Credit provided by Grameen in 1994 exceeded the total amount of all other financial institutions and NGOs put together in Bangladesh. Grameen is committed to the goal of alleviation of poverty and empowerment of the rural poor. What is needed is patient start-up capital: 99 percent of the loans are repaid. After 20 years, Grameen is a commercially profitable bank. But more important, it saves its borrowers' lives.

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Finance

Impax Group UK

www.impax.co.uk

Impax Group plc (Impax) is a leading financial advisory and asset management Company quoted on the Alternative Investment Market of the London Stock Exchange. The Group provides financial services within the environmental infrastructure and technology (EIT) sector, particularly alternative energy, waste management and water treatment. Impax manages/advises over £90m of investment funds and has structured, advised on and arranged over US\$300 million of debt and equity for projects and companies in the environmental infrastructure and technology sector.

Impax Asset Management Limited (IAM) provides fund management and advisory services to investors, with particular expertise in managing portfolios of listed stocks & private equity in the EIT sector. IAM originated the ET50, an index comprising 50 of the largest 'pure play' environmental technology companies from 14 countries. These companies provide a value-added solution to environmental problems through technology: For example, wind power mitigates climate change; flue-gas clean-up equipment reduces acid; and recycling technology combats the inefficient use of materials.

Impax Capital Corporation Limited (ICC) is a corporate finance advisory house providing finance advisory services to companies across the EIT sector. ICC has raised equity, senior and junior debt for a number of renewable energy projects including Europe's largest straw-to-energy plant; Europe's largest poultry litter-to-energy plant and the UK's first fully integrated waste management facility. Impax Capital Asset Management, a division of ICC, is currently raising £30 million for a fund to invest in clean power projects in Europe.

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Protecting Phases of Educational Development to Guarantee Generational Justice

A generationally just definition of the fundamental right to education must not be confined to training, but must include all phases of educational development, *by Tamara Weiss*

Education, and, more broadly, educational development, are critical but neglected aspects of our campaign for sustainable development and intergenerational justice. It is progress that green education projects for the younger generation are beginning to gain popularity, but it is just as important to educate middle and older generations that are now in the workforce and making executive decisions affecting future generations. This article is a preliminary outline to use concepts of generational justice and human rights to explore the concept of an intergenerational human right to education and educational development. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted and proclaimed by General Assembly, United Nations, defines the right to education as follows:

EDUCATION AS A HUMAN RIGHT

1. Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.

2. Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The concepts behind sustainable development and, more broadly, of generational justice, demand that the present generation be educated as an intergenerational human right. Such education is also part of this generation's obligation to protect the rights of future generations and to guarantee generational justice. Available, compulsory basic education, in such subjects as alternative energy sources, water management, and green economics, should be part of an intergenerational human right to education. It is an education that will build capacity and empower the individuals within our present generation to protect the rights of future generations.

The Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) has recognized that education for sustainable development is a life long process, that it needs to be understood as part of a broad new vision

of education. To put this concept into practice would require restructuring and reform of formal education. The CSD meeting in New York, USA in 1996, stressed the importance of basic education for all, the value of traditional knowledge, and the potential for technical and vocational education and training in the promotion of sustainable development in key economic sectors. This CSD meeting was the first to consider Chapter 36 of Agenda 21: Promoting education, public awareness and training. It is described in Connect, the UNESCO-UNEP Environmental Education Newsletter.

DEFINING EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The approach for further refining the concept of intergenerational education comes from deconstructing educational development and viewing it through an intergenerational lens. Educational development has multiple phases and all phases are critical. The phases form a continuous dependent system that is the basic learning cycle for human development. Using a historical approach implicit in the intergenerational lens and in protecting generational justice, education is seen as only one of several phases of educational development. Thus an intergenerational human right to education is more accurately titled an intergenerational human right to educational development. Educational development, using a historical approach, includes all of the following phases: preliminary scientific research, study that yields new insights and development, understanding of these insights and developments, application of understanding, evaluation of the application, revision based on evaluation and new scientific research, new insights, and so forth. It is thus our obligation to future generations to continue these phases of educational development in order to, at the minimum, reach generational justice, and to conserve the record of our development to protect the right of future generations to access the legacy of the past generation (a generational justice issue detailed by Prof. Edith Brown Weiss in her book *In Fairness to Future Generations: International Law, Common Patrimony, and International Equity*, 1989).

WHY EACH PHASE OF EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IS IMPORTANT

As the present generation works to realize its own right to education and to protect the rights of future generations, it is important that we devote equal attention to each phase of the educational development cycle or we will fail in all of our efforts. For example, to conserve the diversity of natural resources and maintain the quality of our earth (also detailed in the above reference by Prof. Edith Brown Weiss), we must conduct research on ways to extract and use them more efficiently and to handle pollution, educate people of all ages on how to apply and use this knowledge and ensure that they have the means to do so, evaluate the efforts and engage in further research, etc. This occurs across generations. When the human right to education is revised to include present and future generations as well as all phases of educational development, then it follows that there is an intergenerational human right to education and that this right must be protected within every generation and for future generations. Additionally, the intergenerational human right to education is an intergenerational right to all phases of educational development (scientific research and study, revision... etc.) and this right must be protected within every generation and for future generations. Generational justice will thus be built in to the infrastructure of the society of future generations. Generations will have their right to access their legacy while at the same time be empowered to improve conditions from one generation to the next and guarantee their future generations justice. This multifaceted approach to promote generational justice will significantly influence the social and cultural system that gives rise to sustainable living and generational justice by investing in education and educational development as the key to long term results.

Tamara Weiss is a graduate student at Teachers' College, Columbia University, USA.



A Generationally Just Educational System

What is the actual condition of the German educational institution, and what developments are needed to make the system more generationally just?

by *Daniel Memmert*

This article questions how closely facets of the German educational system adhere to the principles of Generational Justice. The article asks: what is the actual condition of the educational institution, and what developments are called for to make the system more generationally just?

Before relating the principles of education and Generational Justice, it is necessary to clarify what is meant by these terms. One standpoint on education broadly refers to it as the knowledge and skills that enable professional groups and individuals to manage their lives. At one end of the continuum are content for specific disciplines, and at the other, general capabilities such as intelligence, creativity, problem-solving strategies. There is increasing need to pay particular attention to the latter field of 'General Education' to equip individuals with the ability to cope with the rapidly changing future.

Further, using the definition prescribed by FRFG, actions are considered (inter-)generationally just when 'the opportunities for future generations to satisfy their needs are at least as great as those of preceding generations.' There is certainly the need for education systems to become generationally just. Under the present system it is the middle and older generations that determine course contents, personnel structures, the time span of education and qualification guidelines for entry into the workplace. Secondly, the long, complicated procedures for reorganising the prevailing educational system limit its potential to anticipate the general conditions of future generations, and to respond with reasonable changes in the current system. The present-day young generation is then obliged to feel indebted to the older generation for effecting any such changes at all. In short, preceding generations are responsible for the educational standards of present and future generations.

Have preceding generations considered whether the educational institutions in place today guarantee Generational Justice to present-day students? Three kinds of German teaching institutions are analyzed below with regard to Generational Justice:

Tageseinrichtungen (day care centers), Schulen (secondary schools) and Hochschulen (colleges). Each of these is analysed from three angles, using indicators that are deliberately defined broadly, to consider how just these institutions are to generations of the 'past,' 'present,' and 'future.' The indicators selected are educational institutions' applicant ratios, as well as instructor: pupil ratios, international comparisons, ie. the international competitiveness of institutions and their students, and the actual outcomes of scientific research surveys. For all the indicators, the data cited is that compiled by the German Federal Statistical Bureau (last updated: 1997-1999).

The findings of the survey can be grouped in seven areas that are applicable to all three types of institutions.

ORGANISATION:

The present German educational system is highly decentralised, with individual Bundesländer (states) retaining control over their own educational policies. Numerous factors speak against this system, and for a centrally regulated educational system. Apart from good high school graduation percentages and test results in countries with centralized systems (PISA: e.g. Finland, Sweden), these include generationally just factors such as financial savings due to efficient management, and equal opportunity in employment facilitated by standardised criteria and procedures. Further, centralised decision making processes provide greater flexibility to employ new goals, course contents and teaching methods.

FINANCE:

Organisations and Countries must make available more funds for education. Germany currently ranks among the bottom half of nations in terms of public spending on education.

PERFORMANCE INCENTIVES:

It is clear that work and pay structures for educators, teachers, lecturers and professors must be reformed to reinforce performance orientation.

PERFORMANCE UPKEEP:

The problem of professional 'burnout' must be addressed in order to protect

our educators and lecturers, as well as to secure the quality of the education provided by them. Related to this issue are student-teacher relations as well as student: educational institution ratios.

PERFORMANCE CONTROL:

Regular quality assurance measures (i.e. Benchmarking or Total Quality Management) must be implemented in order to maintain standards in education. Such measures have long been used in industry and it is imperative that they be introduced in universities, a process that has recently begun to take root. Valid, external controls of teaching quality must be developed and appointed.

QUALITY ASSURANCE:

Continuing education for all educators must be intensively encouraged so that they continually update their knowledge of their subject, and of didactic methods. Such education must include learning new methods pertinent to specific subject areas, as well as teaching pedagogy or learning psychology. These arrangements must form an integral part of the year's agenda, encompassing programs over a number of weeks.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT:

The evolution of new professions and corresponding new educational needs must be anticipated at an early stage so the educational process may respond readily to these demands. Responses can include the introduction of new educational content within existing structures, the integration of further fields of learning, or the development of new courses of study.

Hopefully the study of these seven convergence aspects will spur active discussion about the present educational system and the steps necessary to make generationally just educational politics. In the words of Czech President Václav Havel, we must 'arouse slumbering potential, offer it direction, and put it into action.'

Daniel Memmert is a PhD student in Sport Science at Heidelberg University, Germany.



Arts Education

PhotoVoice UK

www.photovoice.org

Background: PhotoVoice was founded in September 1999. It is an international non-profit organisation, based in London, U.K. PhotoVoice specialises in photographic training for marginalised groups of people around the world. Working alongside both international non-government organisations and local groups, Photovoice provides in the field training in photography and documentary skills for those whose views are marginalised within society.

Success Story:

In June 2000 PhotoVoice began a project training a group of HIV+ women in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, in photography, working with the organisation Femme Foundation Plus. The project created income generation for the women and a medium through which the women could express their lives living with HIV. They hoped to promote better understanding of HIV and its consequences both within Kinshasa and across Africa and to fight against the stigma they suffer as HIV positive women. Femme Foundation Plus was founded in 1994, by a group of Congolese women infected and affected by the HIV pandemic. When confronted by the misery and affliction of widows infected with AIDS they decided to engage in the fight against the disease by denouncing the discrimination and marginalisation from which these women suffered. They adopted a philosophy of 'Positive Action' against AIDS by promoting the understanding of the disease through educational seminars, income generating activities for people affected by AIDS and through sociological and psychological support of people and relatives affected by the disease. FFP is the first organisation in the Democratic Republic of Congo where its members publicly recognise their condition and advocate openly to be treated with greater tolerance and human dignity.

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Business Education

Sustainability Education Center USA

www.sustainabilityed.org

Background: The Sustainability Education Center was created in 1995 to provide educational materials and professional development focused on sustainability. The Center explores the relationships between economic and ecological systems, as well as justice in local and global contexts. The goal of the Center is to prepare young people and citizens with the knowledge, skills and attitudes which will enable them to meet their own needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own.

Success Story:

Business & Entrepreneurship Education for Sustainability (BEES) is a full-year introduction to entrepreneurship and business, currently being developed for the Brooklyn Superintendency of the New York City Board of Education in the United States. BEES introduces students, teachers and administrators to the many ways that entrepreneurship, both in business and in civil society, can lead the way towards a healthier, more sustainable society. Participants are introduced to the economic and scientific realities that demonstrate why such leadership and participation is necessary. They learn new content from a variety of discipline perspectives that enables them to understand the changing social, economic and ecological contexts within which business and civil society are operating; they will be immersed in the business practices of a dynamic, emerging community of socially and ecologically minded entrepreneurs known as "eco-entrepreneurs", "green" businesses and "smart" not-for-profit organizations; they will be exposed to the sustainable business practices of mainstream corporations, and will have the opportunity to learn firsthand from the experiences of these pioneers. Interdisciplinary curriculum units integrate the content and pedagogy of BEES into established courses, in ways that help teachers attain content and performance standards.

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Science Education

Schumacher College UK

www.schumachercollege.gn.apc.org

Background: Schumacher College was founded in 1991 upon the twin convictions that the world view which has dominated Western civilisation has serious limitations, and that a new vision is needed for human society, its values and its relationship to the earth. Through interdisciplinary studies, the College aims to explore the foundations of that new vision.

At the College, a unified residential education involving physical work, meditation, aesthetic experience and intellectual inquiry creates a sense of the wholeness of life.

Success Story:

Schumacher College has become world-renowned for the quality and relevance of its short (2-4 week) courses, taught by distinguished thinkers and scientists, who include Fritjof Capra, Lynn Margulis, James Lovelock, Vandana Shiva, James Hillman and Theodore Rozsak. The college offers rigorous enquiry to uncover the roots of the prevailing world view; it explores ecological approaches which value holistic rather than reductionist perspectives and spiritual rather than consumerist values. It also offers a learning experience that is consistent with a holistic philosophy.

In addition to short courses on a variety of themes, Schumacher College, in partnership with the University of Plymouth, is launching the first postgraduate programme in the world to offer an MSc in Holistic Science. Taught by both permanent and visiting scholars, this new programme has the goal of providing an integrated framework of study and research that recognises the changes occurring in science as it goes beyond interdisciplinarity to the understanding of complex wholes and their emergent properties. These changes are also responses to the limitations of conventional science in dealing with crises in the state of the environment, in food production, health, community structure, and quality of life. Need-based financial assistance is available.

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Implications for a Generationally Just Health Policy

Modern health policy must take into account a holistic definition of health, changing morbidity profiles and the age pyramid.

by Angelika Werner, Thomas von Langerke

Generational Justice is achieved when the opportunities for future generations to satisfy their requirements are at least as great as those of preceding generations. With reference to health policy, this means that there is a greater need for present generations to understand their target areas for improvement. A significant target for consideration is at the very least, to maintain the health status of the population at constant levels, but ideally to improve the current condition. In this context, health, is today no longer defined as the absence of disease, but, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO), as complete physical, spiritual and social wellbeing. However, the health status of a nation has traditionally been defined in terms of health statistics, most importantly numbers related to morbidity and mortality, such as prevalence and incidence of disease, life expectancy, and infant and maternal mortality rates. In Germany, as in other western countries, the last decades have witnessed a rise in life expectancy, along with a significant decline in infant and maternal mortality. These traditional statistical measures of health have, in the context of developed countries, lagged behind progress, and no longer suffice to adequately describe the health status in developed countries. Furthermore, the threat posed by formerly devastating diseases such as tuberculosis, measles, and other quickly progressing and often lethal infectious diseases, has subsided. In their place we are faced today with chronic degenerative diseases, for which no

definitive cure can be found. Thus, the life and health of the population is threatened today by ischaemic heart disease, malignant tumours, diabetes, or rheumatic ailments. With successful treatment these chronic illnesses allow patients to live for decades with little immediate threat of mortality, but can strongly influence daily routines and quality of life. Thus, increasingly more meaning can be attributed to quality of life indicators and subjective indicators of health status. These include social and economic implications of illness and physical impairment, such as reduced earning and professional capacity, as well as frequency of hospital or outpatient treatment, in terms of illness cost analysis. It is absolutely essential that all the determinants of both health and illness be comprehensively analysed, for only then will health policy be successful in meeting the demand for health, prevention, treatment, nursing care and rehabilitation.

CHANGING POPULATION PROFILES

A generationally just health policy must be as concerned with the maintenance and recovery of, and the demand for the health of the present and subsequent populations, as for preceding generations. It is of greatest importance to take into consideration the development of the 'Age Pyramid' and its effect on health and illness. Present generations must make the effort to improve the health status of future generations. Such effort

Those who dream by day are cognizant of many things that escape those who dream only at night.

Edgar Allan Poe

must be made both in health care application and in research, through prevention of avoidable diseases and early diagnosis of curable illnesses, as well as through scientific, in particular, public health research. In implementing this it is important to ensure that the share of national expenditure allocated to health is not increased, for this would only endanger the achievement of other goals in finance, education and environment policy. At the very least, potential goal conflicts must be discussed and negotiated in this context; such approaches to integration make for a generationally just healthy policy. To conclude, such approaches must take into account the backdrop of a 'globalised world,' wherein global media coverage of health issues and international partnerships for health (global governance) offer absolutely essential perspectives for a global generationally just health policy.

Angelika Werner and Thomas von Langerke are at the GSF Research Centre for Environment and Health in Neuberberg, Germany.



Population

Human Population Growth and Environmental Carrying Capacity

The different pressures of population, consumption and technology on the environment must be analysed and the results used to frame sustainability strategies.

by David L. Trauger

Conservationists have long understood the relationship between human populations and the abundance and distribution of living resources. In 1994, some scientists began calling human population growth and its impacts the most pressing social and scientific issue of all time. Population and environmental linkages are extremely complex; research into them is

only in the beginning stages. Family planning and environmental politics are contentious areas, and personal views on these issues often influence scientific research and public discussions. Despite intense current international discussion, population and environment relationships defy clear and comprehensive understanding.

IMPACTS OF POPULATION AND CONSUMPTION

Most scientists agree that the overall human pressure on the environment is a product of three factors: population, resource consumption, and technology. A comprehensive approach to understanding the population-environment rela-

tionship must include all three.

In 1971, two scientists (Paul Ehrlich and John Holdren) formulated the IPAT equation to integrate the three primary factors in human interaction with the environment:

$$I = P \times A \times T, \text{ or}$$

Environmental Impact = Population x Affluence (level of consumption per person) x Technology

Obviously, the IPAT formula is a simplification. But it provides a way to begin to understand the complex population-environment relationship. As population growth is slowing, consumption growth is emerging as the dominant factor increasing our pressure on the environment. According to the World Bank in 1999, average world income per person is rising at around 1.4 percent a year, whereas world population is rising at around 1.2 percent per year. Economic growth and increased consumption reinforce each other. Greater consumer demand fuels economic growth. Increased affluence allows people to consume more. Moreover, consumption is not just pursued for need or convenience; it is also a means for people to express social status and power. For these purposes, consumption appears to have no practical upper limit.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

The population-environment debate is strongly polarized. On one side is the 'Malthusian Crisis' position, which holds that rising human populations result in increased pressures on resources, which builds to a catastrophic level, causing

economic and social collapse, and hence a decline in the population.. In this scenario, sustainability is forced on us by nature. Malthusian advocates usually suggest that catastrophe can be avoided as long as humanity heeds the warning signals and takes the necessary steps in time.

To accomplish great things, we must dream as well as act.

Anatole France (1844 - 1924)

On the opposing side is the 'Economic Adaptation' approach, wherein humans adapt to the problems that our development produces without grave setbacks. According to this view, increased population stimulates economic growth by increasing labor, markets, and the rate of innovation; technology will solve all global problems, including environmental ones.

The major flaw with both the Malthusian and the Economic Adaptationist approaches lies in the belief of their proponents that they will always hold true. In reality, both may be true of different civilizations at different historical periods, but a comprehensive theory must be able to account for both approaches. One new alternative is the 'Pressure-State-Response Model'.

The Pressure-State-Response Model characterizes human interaction with the environment on a systems level. Changes in the environment caused by human activities act as feedback from the global system. Our response in turn changes the pressures we place on the environment, and the cycle starts all over again. However, overly simplistic solutions can often lead to further problems. Therefore, the key to this systems-based approach is good scientific understanding

of the problem, its impact and alternative solutions.

Despite difficulties in estimating the earth's carrying capacity, the eventual necessity of a steady-state population at some level has been evident to many for a long time. Therefore, the complex relationship between population, consumption, and technology - together with the choices that we make about the quality of life - will determine the number of people that the Earth can support sustainably. The central question is: What kind of world do we wish to leave for those generations who come after us?

There is growing support for the basic aim of sustainable development of meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations. This is simply a matter of intergenerational equity; if we behave in ways that are not sustainable, we are effectively stealing from future generations. A serious ethical conflict evolves between a right to have children and a right to a decent life of present and future generations. If carrying capacity is exceeded, and a decent life is no longer possible for all, restrictions in the right to have children must be accepted. Under these conditions, societies may have to control population to protect future generations and the sustainability of Earth.

Yesterday is but today's memory, tomorrow is today's dream.

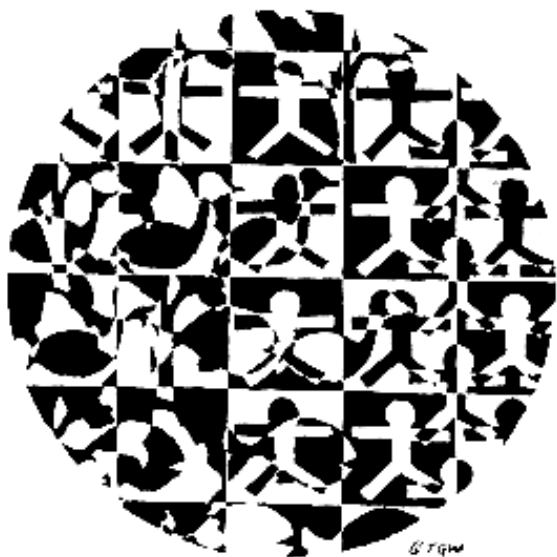
Kahlil Gibran

In the meantime, current national and global trends in land development and population growth necessitate a substantial increase in research about the population-environment linkage and accelerated protection of critical areas for conservation of biological diversity. In the words of Ian Lowe, the reconciliation of ecological and economic considerations is the central moral and political issue of our time.

David L. Trauger is Director of Natural Resources Programmes, Northern Virginia Center, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Falls Church, USA



This article is adapted from Michelle Orzech and Jim Baird. *Balancing Act: Population, Consumption and the Global Environment*. 2001. Izzaak Walton League of America. Gaithersburg, MD, USA.



In the Maze of the City

Living conditions in the big cities of many developing countries are perpetually worsening. Over 17 Million people live in megacities such as Sao Paolo or Mexico City. This has grave consequences with regard to basic provisions for people.

by Stefanie Ettelt

For long, people living in cities were generally better off than their rural compatriots. In the meanwhile, however, an alarming change in trends has been occurring: Nearly all growth in global population in the future will happen in the cities of developing countries, according to the estimates of the Population Department of the United Nations. Already today about 47% of the world's population-around 2.9 Million people-live in cities. This distribution does, however, show great regional variation. Whilst in developing countries, about 40% of the population is urban, the number is greater than 75% in industrial nations. It is estimated that by the year 2030, two thirds of the world's population will live in cities-around 4.9 million people. This implies that an additional 2 million people will be living in the urban areas of developing countries. Even assuming that population growth rates will decline from 2.9% to 1.8% over the next 30 years, the populations of these cities within this timespan will probably double.

INCREASING CHILD MORTALITY

Evidence has been mounting since the late 1970s that rapidly increasing populations are overtaxing the capacities of cities in some regions. Although quality of life in the cities of developing countries has generally been more favourable in rural areas-thanks to a greater provision of health and education services-the situation has been aggravating in the last decades. Particularly alarming are the rising infant and child mortality rates in

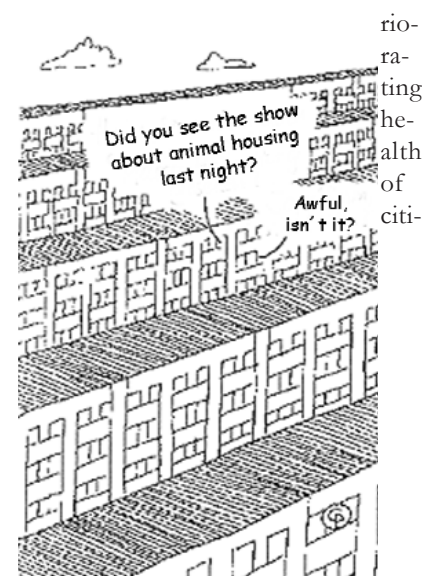
some Latin American and sub-Saharan African cities. This serves as an indicator for the deteriorating overall health conditions of the population, as well as for growing poverty. Meanwhile, infrastructure and facilities are often better in small towns than in the formerly more progressive mega cities.

The rapid growth of cities in developing countries has two main reasons: rural-urban migration and high fertility rates. The lure of greater economic opportunity draws people villagers to the cities. In addition to these economic migrants are war and crisis refugees. In some regions these latter even form the major contribution to the growth of cities. By and large, however, the rapid growth of cities can be directly traced to high fertility rates.

Many countries lack the financial means to cope with the rising needs of a growing population-or else they poorly administer their resources. Most significantly, many essential investments in health and education have had to be postponed due to lack of funds. A vicious circle is created by poverty, unemployment and under-provision of essential facilities. Experts state that even under improved economic conditions, the situation in many states will make hardly any progress so long as the population also grows at present rates.

TRAFFIC CHAOS AND AIR POLLUTION

Environmental problems are concentrated in big cities. Beside lack of garbage and sewage management facilities, air pollution is the key factor in the dete-



zens. There is a growing trend for people to purchase their own automobiles; the number of cars in cities around the world is rising. Increasing traffic causes increasing air pollution, along with the associated health risks. The World Bank estimates that by 2020, there will probably be 816 million vehicles plying the roads worldwide-in comparison to 580 million in 1990. Road traffic is responsible for about 30% of the total emissions contributing to the enhanced greenhouse effect. Alongside the growing numbers of cars, inefficient fuel consumption mechanisms and increasing traffic jams in cities are also responsible for the growing quantities of exhaust fumes. The average car in Bangkok spends 44 days a year in traffic jams.

Stefanie Ettelt works with the German Foundation for World Population (DSW)

Saving...

(continued from page 1)

I would never have believed that I and 300 others would walk backwards through the convention center in silence, protesting the similar trajectory of the international community's commitment to sustainability from Rio to Jo'burg, and further that that protest would be stopped by none other than UN Security. Why did all of this occur? Why the wal-

king backwards, the frustration, the burn out?

Would it be too simple to just answer 'because of the actions taken by the United States'?

The United States, Canada and Australia put every paragraph in brackets, including time targets and other concrete figures for action plans that would fight poverty, famine, disease, and illiteracy.

'Voluntary Actions' and 'initiatives' (non committal notions are magic words) were brought in by the United States instead of specific programs, with discreet relief. Consequently, negotiations were blocked. Their aim was the abolishment of all Type 1 Outcomes. Instead, proposing 'partnerships', which are independent, voluntary, and ineffectual.

The answer to the above question is yes.

Youth

It is too simple to blame only certain countries, and above all it is irresponsible.

So while much of my frustration was directed towards those countries who seemed to be actively working against anything protecting generational justice, one cannot negate the complicity of other countries. With their silence, their unwillingness to oppose, their lack of readiness to risk short term goals for more important long term results, the path was paved for undermining of value of the Chairman's text.

The true responsibility for my own and nearly everyone's frustration, for the inadequacy of the final resolution which is to be passed in Johannesburg, lies with each and every government. Every single Government that, due to indifference or unwillingness, refused to protect the rights of its present and future citizens is to blame.

Everybody seemed to have forgotten why he or she was at the Prep Com, the purpose and aim for the meeting. They had forgotten it while staying in a 5 Star hotel (the usual accommodation for government delegates), forgotten the issue of poverty eradication and starvation while eating a delicious meal served at a side event, located in the Hyatt. Time to remind them. It is the role of the youth, among others, to do so. Consequently the slogan of the Youth Caucus: 'Remember, it is us you are negotiating!'

And so I ask the question: 'Why didn't the UN choose to support local economies instead of locating the conference and accommodations at the Sheraton, Hyatt, and Hilton. Even respecting the UN's decision to support large, multinational chain hotels, have they ensured that these are managed with social and environmental responsibility and the business ethics of the triple bottom line?' To ask such disagreeable, unwelcome questions, to provide animated reflections... that is why as many youth as possible should take part in arrangements like the Prep Com. On the one hand it is an event that serves to educate youth, and on the other hand it prepares the youth as the decision makers of tomorrow. The younger generation is most affected by the negotiations in Bali and Jo'burg, and they have the most to lose. That is why they see the problems so clearly, to such depth, and with such dark foreboding. This gives youth the power to fight ardently for a solution. They are indispensable for creative, innovative input at Prep Coms, and will also offer bitter but definitive criticisms.

For these reasons and more, youth participation is critical. It is incredible and sad that in Bali there were less than 15 out of 170 States that had official youth delegates that were sponsored by their state. It is disturbing that two young delegates from one country were each offered one double room in a four star hotel. I assure you that both young members of the delegation felt ashamed, not happy, about their incredible huge

pool and big rooms. Rather we would have been honoured to have simple, clean accommodation as well as the company of two more youth delegates financially supported with the savings. We would have been especially pleased if those two youths were from a developing country, in an effort to lessen the inequality between youths from the north and the south who attended the Caucus. Further, all delegates from this country (besides youth) fly business class. The cost of flying business class is directly comparable to an economy ticket for a youth. Clearly, we are not on the right path towards creating generational justice through global governance!

Yet, there is some success. There is Paragraph 153, the last paragraph in the Chairman's paper, that was proposed by youth. This paragraph deals with youth participation and demands youth councils. The last word is, if nothing else, symbolically, ours.

Youths: 1% of the Prep Com, 50% of the world, 100% of the future. Hear our voice!

Hope dies last. Nearly 100 youths sacrificed the beach and palm trees of Nusa Dua, and even the night life in Kuta, in order to sit in the stale, air conditioned rooms of the hotel to discuss issues and solutions late in to the night. Jo'burg - give me hope! I know that my participation, youth participation, is the key!

Birgit Müller is the Board Secretary of YOIS-Germany.



Youth Employment: An Imperative for Generational Justice

by Fred Clark

'Today a rickshaw puller also says that if I have to pull a rickshaw for two extra hours per day so that my son can learn to speak two words in English, I would consider myself successful. He is not able to think that he is pulling a rickshaw and after the education that he is going to get his son, his son would not remain suitable even for pulling a rickshaw. It is difficult to understand what other things his son could be doing.'

So spoke India's Minister of Labour, Dr. Sahib Singh Verma, at a recent event in India. The dilemma of the rickshaw puller is at the heart of the notion of 'generational justice' as it applies to employment. It raises the fundamental question of 'what should we wish for our children?' Is it just to question, as the Minister of Labor appears to, if it is realistic for the rickshaw puller's son to yearn for something other than pulling a rickshaw?

Generational justice is a core principle in the work of the Youth Employment Summit (YES 2002), a global event that has launched a Global Campaign for Youth Employment. The YES Campaign's goal is to create 500 million sustainable livelihoods for youth, especially youth facing poverty, by 2012. A key channel for this to occur is for senior leaders to recognize the creative leadership of youth, and for youth to present credible development alternatives to their

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Urban Eco Awareness

Green Map System USA

www.greenmap.org

Background:

The Green Map System is an award-winning locally directed, globally linked public relations service for the home-town environment. Each Green Map is unique yet all utilize adaptable framework and globally designed Icons to identify, promote and link the different kinds of green and cultural sites in communities. Today, Green Mapmakers are active in 36 countries and in more than 70 cities and rural areas.

Success Story:

One example of the international impact of Green Map has occurred in Kyoto, the spiritual home and ancient capital of Japanese. As this city condenses Japanese culture, the Japanese philosophy and the attitude to the nature can be found in the urban structure, the construction of shrines and temples, the lifestyles, etc. Although the 'disruption of Kyoto and its nature' occurs everywhere recently, making effort toward eco-friendly society has been taken on as a native assignment as well as awakening.

In 1997, Kyoto proudly hosted the 3rd United Nations conference on global warming from Dec. 1 to 12.

We then design forum, the network of ecology-minded designers who hope to make contribution to environmental issues, made 'Kyoto Green Map' for COP3. The activities were reported in 4 major Japanese papers, on TV, and radio. Over 165 projects are led by people of all ages and backgrounds - their fresh, 'regionally spiced' perspectives encourage discovery and personal involvement, social responsibility, more sustainable, culturally enriched lifestyles, and the transfer of successful greening initiatives. Youth Mapmakers gain valuable experience in communicating critical issues to their peers and older community members, too.

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Urban Mass Transit

ZipCar USA

www.zipcar.com

Background:

Zipcar is an environmentally responsible company with a mission: to offer members affordable 24-hour access to private vehicles for short-term round-trip use as an efficient means of complementing the public transportation network. Services similar to those being offered by Zipcar are in place in 450 European cities, serving more than 150,000 members.

Success Story:

ZipCar reduces car usage of individuals by as much as 50%.

Because people have to pay the full cost of using the car each time they drive, they choose to drive only when it makes economic sense. The results:

- Fewer greenhouse gas emissions and particulates.
- Less roadway congestion.
- Preserves green space as fewer parking spaces are required to meet the driving needs of the same number of people.
- Uses existing parking spaces more efficiently.

Each car share vehicle replaces 4 to 8 privately held cars. Once people join the service, they sell their old car or avoid buying new cars. This allows older cars to be more frequently replaced with new ones that have stringent pollution controls.

Zipcar adds an important link in the transportation network of the city, enabling residents to get rid of their cars and still meet their transportation needs. It also hopes to promote community as members within a small geographic area share a common resource.

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Urban Transportation

Smart Car Germany

www.smart.com

Background:

In July 1998 the production of a new type of car - the so called Smart - began. Smart is a co-production of Mercedes Benz and Swatch. The main aim of the two companies was to create an ecologically-friendly car with a low fuel consumption. This product is a major step forward in corporate efforts to reach EU standards of emission control and environmental sustainability.

Success Story:

Constructors of Smart were able to produce a car which consumes petrol at a rate of between 4-6 litre per 100 kilometres and respectively only 3,4 litre Diesel for 100 kilometres.

A further important success for conserving environmental resources in the construction of Smart Car is that it is built with the intention of recycling a large part of the car. Moreover, mostly harmless, non toxic substances and materials are required in the production of the car.

In the year 2000 more than 100 000 Smart Cars were sold, and this market expanded in 2001.

There remains the disadvantage that the Smart Car is created for only two persons, but there is hope for the future. For the year 2004 a four-seater Smart Car is intended.



2002 Smart Car

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Youth...

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elders. YES views itself as a unique platform where the 'rubber meets the road', where energy and innovation meet the strategic perspective of age.

At the 2000 Millenium Assembly, YES Youth Advisor Bremley Lyngdoh, 24, outlined the challenge of youth employment for the General Assembly. "Livelihood is a broader category than employment and more in line with the actual manner in which many young people in developing countries organize themselves and their activities in order to survive. Adaptability and dynamic livelihood capabilities are the key to generating sustainable livelihoods. Dynamic livelihood capabilities can be thought of as enterprising behaviour in a developing context."

The institutional challenge is to improve the effectiveness of the non-formal training system in order to mediate the latent potential of young people into productive social and economic activity, while understanding their current livelihood conditions and capabilities.

Governments need to address key global policies that affect youth employment and livelihood. They need to take strate-

gies that promote self-employment and entrepreneurship, school to work programmes and work-based training. Partnerships with the private sector need to be strengthened and the use of new information and communication technologies to support youth employment and training must be encouraged. The youth themselves must be empowered to generate the solutions to youth employment and their best practices and success stories must be acknowledged at all levels to support further replication of such initiatives from the grassroots to the global level."

It was at the launch of the YES-India Network, July 23 2002, where India's Minister of Labor mused about the prospects of the rickshaw driver's son. It was on St Valentine's Day in 1963 when President John F. Kennedy perhaps spoke most eloquently to the rickshaw driver's ambition for his son. "The future promise of any nation can be directly measured by the present prospects of its youth."

The issue of credible development alternatives bears further analysis, for although the world gets smaller each day in the "global village" sense, many areas of the world remain as distant from each ot-

her culturally and psychologically as ever. The mechanism identified by YES to push back the barriers of cultural and political resistance is to focus on the mantra of 'what works'. If an idea works in Location X, it does not guarantee success at Location Y. However, at the core of each idea is something that is fundamentally appealing that can be identified by others.

Therefore YES's mantra is to identify and disseminate what are referred to as 'effective practices in youth employment' in each culture and region. Success deserves to be publicized, recognized and used a model for others to follow. A huge gap in development identified by YES is to point to these successes and make a powerful argument for others to replicate 'what works'. It sounds like common sense and it is.

For more information on the Youth Employment Summit please visit the YES website.

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Fred Clark
Communications
Manager YES 2002



The Johannesburg Summit: What Will Change?



New York, 25 September- When the United Nations General Assembly authorized holding the World Summit on Sustainable Development, it was hardly a secret- or even a point in dispute- that progress in implementing sustainable development has been extremely disappointing since the 1992 Earth Summit, with poverty deepening and environmental degradation worsening. What the world wanted, the General Assembly said, was not a new philosophical or political debate but rather, a summit of actions and results.

By any account, the Johannesburg Summit has laid the groundwork and paved the way for action. Yet among all the targets, timetables and commitments that were agreed upon at Johannesburg, there were no silver bullet solutions to

aid the fight against poverty and a continually deteriorating natural environment. In fact, there was no magic and no miracle- only the realization that practical and sustained steps were needed to address many of the world's most pressing problems.

As an implementation-focused Summit, Johannesburg did not produce a particularly dramatic outcome- there were no agreements that will lead to new treaties and many of the agreed targets were derived from a panoply of assorted lower profile meetings. But some important new targets were established, such as: to halve the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation by 2015; to use and produce chemicals by 2020 in ways that do not lead to significant adverse effects on human health and the envi-

ronment; to maintain or restore depleted fish stocks to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield on an urgent basis and where possible by 2015; and to achieve by 2010 a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity.

But Johannesburg also marked a major departure from previous UN conferences in many ways, in structure and in outcome, that could have a major effect on the way the international community approaches problem solving in the future.

"The question is, will Johannesburg make a genuine difference?" asked Summit Secretary-General Nitin Desai. "That has to be the test for an implementation conference."



For the first time, outcome documents were not the sole product of the Summit. While the negotiations still received the lion's share of attention, the Summit also resulted in the launch of more than 300 voluntary partnerships, each of which will bring additional resources to support efforts to implement sustainable development. These partnerships, tied to the government commitments, provide a built-in mechanism to ensure implementation.

And there was a new level of dialogue in Johannesburg between all the stakeholders, especially between governments, civil society and the private sector. Beyond speeches and platitudes, the participants in the Summit were forced to confront the needs and the arguments of other actors in a truly interactive dialogue.

"Johannesburg gives us a solid basis for implementation and action to go forward," Desai said. "Although the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation is only some 50 pages long, in many ways it is more targeted and more focused than Agenda 21. We have agreed on global priorities for action and we have agreed to take action."

United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan told the press on the last day of the Summit, "I think we have to be careful not to expect conferences like this to produce miracles. But we do expect conferences like this to generate political commitment, momentum and energy for the attainment of the goals."

Commitments were made in Johannesburg- on expanding access to water and sanitation, on energy, improving agricultural yields, managing toxic chemicals,

protecting biodiversity and improving ecosystem management- not only by governments, but also by NGOs, intergovernmental organizations and businesses, who launched over 300 voluntary initiatives.

Follow-through on these commitments will be the yardstick of success or failure, according to Mr. Annan. "We invited the leaders of the world to come here and commit themselves to sustainable development, to protecting our planet, to maintaining the essential balance and to go back home and take action. It is on the ground that we will have to test how really successful we are. But we have started off well. Johannesburg is a beginning. I am not saying Johannesburg is the end of it. It is a beginning."

By any indication, there was substantial interest in the Summit. One hundred world leaders addressed the Summit and all in all, more than 22,000 people participated in WSSD, including more than 10,000 delegates, 8,000 NGOs and representatives of civil society, and 4,000 members of the press.

"We knew from the beginning of the Johannesburg process that the Summit would not produce any new treaties or any single momentous breakthrough," Desai said. "But the results of the Summit have been far more comprehensive than any previous outcome. We have put together not only a work plan, but we have identified the actors who are expected to achieve results."

"People forget that there was no agreement on energy at Rio and issues such as production and consumption almost did

not make it into Agenda 21, and- although it did- it was only a very general statement. At Johannesburg, we agreed on a 10-year programme on production and consumption, a concept that not only will affect the developing countries, but the development of the richer countries as well."

"We have also achieved a high level of specificity in the outcome document, particularly with regards to the targets and timetables," Desai said. "I know some may have wanted more, but fulfilling these commitments will require new and additional resources."

Desai also cited the partnerships as an important outcome of the Summit. "One of our major challenges is making sustainable development go to scale, to make something that has worked in a dozen places work in a thousand places." Desai said the partnerships offer a way to get away from the donor-driven frameworks of the past, and allow representatives from developed and developing countries to sit down together to formulate plans when something has to be done.

"For those of you who have worked in developing countries, you are always at the receiving end of prescriptions and conditionalities. We need a shared programmatic structure framework and the partnerships help meet this need."

"Some people have said that the partnerships are corporate-led," Desai said. "This is not true. The vast majority are led by non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations. But even if there is corporate involvement, that is not a bad thing. We will not be credible if we don't have the participation of business. We need to bring the energy of corporations into our agenda if we are going to make good on our commitments."

Desai warned, however, that the partnerships were not a substitute for government responsibilities and commit-





ments and that the partnerships are solely intended to deepen the quality of implementation.

Not everyone was pleased with the outcome of Johannesburg, particularly some NGOs who felt the Summit did not go far enough in setting targets for increasing the use of renewable energies. Jonathan Lash, World Resources Institute President, said, "We have missed an opportunity to increase energy production from non-polluting sources like solar, biomass, and wind, and to provide the many companies taking action to reduce emissions with a secure framework for their actions."

But Lash noted, "This Summit will be re-

membered not for the treaties, the commitments, or the declarations it produced, but for the first stirrings of a new way of governing the global commons - the beginnings of a shift from the stiff formal waltz of traditional diplomacy to the jazzier dance of improvisational solution-oriented partnerships that may include non-government organizations, willing governments and other stakeholders," said Lash.

From governments, Danish Prime Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen, who is currently President of the European Union, said, "The conference has concluded a global deal recommending free trade and increased development assistance and had committed to good governance as well as a better environment." He added, "Now the time has come for implementation, at the national and international levels. It is time to deliver."

Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, Chairman of the Group of 77- which represents 132 developing countries - said he would have liked the Summit to

achieve much more. Because of time restraints, he said, the generalities that had been set out could be seen as retrograde. He would have preferred emphasis on human rights, such as the right to housing, health, drinking water, life.

Small Island Developing States (SIDS) had also hoped for more. Julian Hunt, Minister of International Trade and Civil Aviation of Saint Lucia, speaking on behalf of SIDS, said that small islands needed more help to confront the trade aspects of globalization, and that efforts to promote the use of renewable energy were frustrated by multinationals who demand a quick return on their investment.

United States Secretary of State Colin Powell called the Summit a "successful effort." He said, "I think it shows that we have a shared vision of how to move forward. I think it shows that the world is committed to sustainable development. He added, however, that the real challenge "is not just what is said in the statement, but the actions that will take place in the months and years ahead."

The Millennium Development Goals: The current situation

by Astrid Dannenberg and Dorothee Pohlmann

On the United Nations Development Summit ("Millennium Summit") in September 2000, 147 heads of Governments and states met to discuss the challenges for the United Nations in the upcoming decades intending to define the world organization's role in the 21st. century. They recognized that globalisation must become a positive force for the world's population. The heads of state acknowledged that progress is to be based on sustainable economic growth which must focus on the poor, especially on human rights issues. To help track the progress made, the United Nations Secretariat and the specialized agencies of the UN system, as well as representatives of IMF, the World Bank and OECD defined a set of time-bound and measurable goals and targets for combating poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy, environmental degradation and discrimination against women. International experts also selected relevant indicators to be used to assess visible progress over the period from 1990 to 2015.



UNIC Bonn

Each year, the Secretary-General will prepare a report on progress achieved towards implementing the Declaration, based on data regarding 48 selected indicators, aggregated at global and regional levels.

The so called Millennium Development Goals (MDG) are:

Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

- Reduce by half the proportion of people living on less than a dollar a day
- Reduce by half the proportion of people who suffer from hunger

Achieve universal primary education

- Ensure that all boys and girls complete a full course of primary schooling

Promote gender equality and empower women

- Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education preferably by

2005, and at all levels by 2015

Reduce child mortality

- Reduce by two thirds the mortality rate among children under five

Improve maternal health

- Reduce by three quarters the maternal mortality ratio

Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

- Halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS
- Halt and begin to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases

Ensure environmental sustainability

- Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes; reverse loss of environmental resources
- Reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe

drinking water

- Achieve significant improvement in lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers, by 2020

Develop a global partnership for development

- Develop further an open trading and financial system that is rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory. Includes a commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction-nationally and internationally
- Address the least developed countries' special needs. This includes tariff- and quota-free access for their exports; enhanced debt relief for heavily indebted poor countries; cancellation of official bilateral debt; and more generous official development assistance for countries committed to poverty reduction
- Address the special needs of landlocked and small island developing States
- Deal comprehensively with developing countries' debt problems through national and international measures to make debt sustainable in the long term
- In cooperation with the developing countries, develop decent and productive work for youth
- In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries
- In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies-especially information and communications technologies

In the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by the General Assembly (A/RES/55/2), the heads of states pledged to reach these goals until 2015.

Now, two years after signing the declaration,

United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan warned that the world is about to fall short in meeting the objectives, described above. Presenting his first annual progress report on implementing the Millennium Declaration, he warned that prospects for reaching the MDGs on current trend are "decidedly mixed", with marked differences between and within regions.

For example, the target to halve the proportion of people whose income is less than \$1 a day within the respective time-frame has largely been met in East Asia and the Pacific, but Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and parts of Europe and Central Asia are falling short. The percent of population living on less than \$1 a day has risen in Europe from 2% to 4% in the years 1990 until 1999, while it has decreased from 28% to 14% (same time) in East Asia and the Pacific, for which the target has been reached in this region.

"Progress must be made on a broader front", the Secretary-General urges in the report. For this reason, a Millennium Campaign will be initiated to make the commitments better known throughout the world and to ensure that they are in the focus of the global action.

In his speech on the Day of the United Nations Kofi Annan emphasized that there are lot of chances to accelerate the progress mentioned above: If people worked together each individual should and could participate in the fruits of the MDGs' realization. In view of the fact that these goals for 2015 can only be achieved if the methods practised during the last 10 years will be improved the Secretary General stressed the role of the citizens. Only if people watch and insist that the things that have to be done are

carried out the respective countries will try harder to implement the Millennium Development Goals.

Therefore, it is true that it is the task of the governments to do the necessary things to meet the targets, but it is equally true that every single citizen must feel in charge of urging governments and of reminding them of their promises given in 2000. Each of us is, in many ways, responsible for the future of nations and people who - until now - have not been granted the option of participating in the progress offered by globalization. Furthermore, the state of affairs of the MDG also shows the importance of a sustainable development. Had we or, respectively, our forefathers been aware of this importance, we could have avoided many problems we are confronted with today. And if now we do learn to observe the principles of sustainable development and accordingly to thoroughly and soon start solving these problems, the following generations will have to deal not only with more hunger, disease, and poverty, but also, as a consequence caused by these problems, with wars and social riots.

For further information see www.uno.de/sg/millennium/ziele/index.htm, www.uno.de/sg/millennium/index.htm or www.un.org/millenniumgoals/index.html.

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Astrid Dannenberg and Dorothee Pohlmann are both students and work at the moment at the International Volunteers Office.

FRFG

What is the Foundation for the Rights of Future Generations ?

WHO WE ARE

The Foundation for the Rights of Future Generations (FRFG) is a practice-oriented think-tank on the interface of academics and politics. In 1997, it was founded by a group of students that worried about the future and wanting to promote the concept of intergenerational justice - in terms of ecology, society, and economy. To FRFG, intergenerational justice means that today's youth and

Yesterday is but today's memory, tomorrow is today's dream.

(Kahlil Gibran)

future generations must have opportunities to meet their own needs to at least the same extent as the generation governing today. Examples of present dis-

crimination of the future generations include progressive ecological destruction, youth unemployment, national indebtedness. FRFG aims to provoke, challenge, and ultimately, stimulate politicians to recognise the rights of future generations and to implement measures to protect these.

HOW FRFG TAKES ACTION

FRFG takes action whenever the chan-

ces of succeeding generations are reduced by measures of the current political establishment. It becomes active by working out youth congresses, petitions to Members of Parliament, complaints of unconstitutionality, press releases or announcements, to mention only a few. In addition, FRFG advises German politicians on issues of sustainability. As for the year 2000, the Foundation organised the European Youth Congress (EYC) in Hanover and was invited by several governments to present the results. FRFG was awarded the Theodor-Heuss-Medal for its engagement in the field.

HOW FRFG ENCOURAGES SCIENTIFIC DEBATE

FRFG strives to be at the cutting edge of the scientific debate about intergenerational justice and sustainability. As a leading research institute in this field, FRFG aims to participate in enhancing and publishing the knowledge of intergenerational justice and sustainability worldwide. Living in times when these topics are increasingly used as main slogans of political parties and social

groups, serious, scientific and practical consideration and awareness building about these issues is much more crucial than ever before. That is why FRFG has been shifting its focus from practical to discursive action as a think-tank in order to develop solutions in the mentioned areas. The results of our work are published as generally intelligible books and position papers that conclude precise recommendations and possible future scenarios. The results of the research are publicised in different fora and published to the media via press-announcements. Since January 2001, we have published the quarterly magazine *Generationengerechtigkeit!* with this issue being our first English publication of *Generational Justice!*. Moreover, for the first time in 2002, FRFG awarded the *Generational Justice Prize* to the author of the best academic paper on the question how *Generational Justice* could be included into the Constitution. Above all, the Foundation emphasises the younger generation, because it is convinced that young people have creative, but also practically oriented solutions to intergenerational

justice. In this sense, FRFG cooperates closely with the Youth organisation, Youth for Intergenerational Justice and Sustainability (YOIS).

WHO SUPPORTS US

FRFG is supported by a board of trustees that comprises Professor Dr. Rolf Kreibich, Professor Dr. Ortwin Renn, Professor Dr. Ernst-Ulrich von Weizsäcker, Professor Dr. Franz-Josef Radermacher and Dr. Jürgen Borchert. Furthermore, a scientific and an entrepreneurial advisory council with highly reputable members assist the work of FRFG.

WE NEED YOU

We are always looking for people and organisations that want to work with us on reasonable solutions for *Generational Justice*. You may become a regular sponsor by joining our association of supporters. On request we will be pleased to send you more detailed information on FRFG as well as the latest issue of our magazine '*Generational Justice!*'. Please contact us at info@srzg.de or visit our English web page at www.srzg.de.

Symposium on 'Generational Justice' in Tutzing, Germany

The Foundation for the Rights of Future Generations, YOIS Germany and the Evangelical Academy, Tutzing held the symposium 'Generational Justice' from July, 5 to 7, 2002 at Schloss Tutzing, a castle of great beauty and historical significance right on the lake Starnberger See.

As 'Generational justice' becomes an oft-repeated slogan in political and scientific discourse, it becomes imperative to discuss and clarify the implications of this theme both in academic and practical terms. With this aim, more than 80 participants at the Tutzing symposium engaged in debate on the many facets of

intergenerational justice.

Panel discussions on 'Intergenerational Justice within different disciplines' and 'The dilemma of short-sightedness in political decision-making' engaged the panelists and the audience alike in heated debate on youth participation, social responsibility, age of franchise, national education systems and the conflict between generations, with discussions extending well beyond midnight. Panelists included leading academics in several spheres and politicians from major German parties. An English language lecture by Dr. Clark Wolf of the University of Georgia, USA, introduced the participants to the philosophical origins of intergenerational justice, and its role in the international debate. Further, workshops on how intergenerational justice could be achieved in practice in various spheres, including global governance, education and environmental policy, witnessed involved small group discussions among youth and university professors alike. Equally exciting was the presentation of the first 'Generational Justice Prize' by the German Minister for Justice to Anemon Bölling and Doris

Armbruster for their theses on how intergenerational justice could be more clearly guaranteed within the German constitution. All in all, the event was a great success. Excellent weather allowed youth and academics alike to enjoy the lake and the verdant grounds of the castle. The symposium was enormously successful in stimulating discussion and exchange of ideas among members of different generations. FRFG's next Symposium, will be on 'Generational Justice as a Leading Motif for Businesses.' It will stimulate debate on the nature of an intergenerationally just economic policy, what corporations are already doing to make their practices more sustainable, and what incentive systems could be implemented to facilitate corporate intergenerational justice. We look forward to this next Symposium, to be held in Arnoldsheim, Germany in September 2004 and hope that it will be equally successful as Tutzing!

FRFG Board of Directors,



The FRFG International Volunteers Office

What is the 'International Volunteers Office'?

The International Volunteers Office (IVO) allows interns and volunteers from around the world to work together on different projects concerning inter-generational justice and sustainability. Moreover, the participants build a community of living, a lively forum of debate, and strong social ties. They are developing interpersonal and intercultural communication skills that enable them to develop a more complete understanding of the complexities of the world in which they live. Recent interns have come from Eastern Europe, USA, India, China, Africa, and Germany. The group at the IVO consists of volunteers and students, who stay between 6 and 12 months, and the head of the office, Jörg



Tremmel. FRFG believes strongly that this opportunity, especially for youth, is incredibly important in the movement to achieve Generational Justice.

Support for the IVO program comes from a variety of sources. The office enjoys in kind donations, including computers, a television, a car, and financial support, from a variety of companies (Taunus Sparkasse, Neckura Insurance, Mainova, Dimension Data). Volunteers benefit from free subscriptions to several newspapers and magazines, including Spiegel, FR, FAZ, and Süddeutsche. FRFG has received official endorsement of the Mayor of Oberursel, and was awarded the Oberurseler Medall of honourable citizenship for the IVO program.

The FRFG's International Volunteers Office organises seminars and workshops on different topics. Articles and papers are compiled into books intended to inform and advise politicians and business managers, including CEOs. The first English Edition of this magazine will be published in Fall 2002.

Interested in joining the International Volunteers Office at FRFG?

THE BOARD, TRUSTEES, VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF OF FRFG ARE GRATEFUL TO THE ROBERT BOSCH FOUNDATION FOR THEIR SUBSTANTIAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE PUBLICATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE FIRST ENGLISH EDITION OF GENERATIONAL JUSTICE!

International Volunteers must have a genuine dedication and interest in inter-generational justice and sustainability, as well as a high capability to interact with high level politicians and executives. Volunteers work individually as well as in teams with their colleagues, who will come from a great diversity of backgrounds. If you are interested in doing an internship or working as a volunteer, send us your CV with cover letter. Relevant supplementary materials are welcome.

International Volunteers Office

SRzG, Postfach 5115

61422 Oberursel

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info@srzg.de

Handbuch Generationengerechtigkeit (Handbook: Generational Justice)

FRFG is currently working on its latest book-Handbuch Generationengerechtigkeit-slated in for publication in English in Autumn, 2003. Handbuch Generationengerechtigkeit brings together contributions from leading academics in a number of the spheres surrounding the theme of generational justice, and will serve as a comprehensive guide for incorporating generational justice into political, economic, social and cultural practice.

The first part of the book traces the philosophical roots of the concept of 'Generational Justice.' Several approaches-philosophical, theological, and ideological, have been taken in analysing the roots of Generational Justice. The second part of the book poses the question of what a generationally just political system could consist of. The book con-

siders the different spheres that interact with the relationship between successive generations, covering the politics of environment, finance, employment, education, culture and health. The third part of the book probes the institutional embeddedness of the notion of Generational Justice, and how this could increase through the evolution of a generationally just frame of mind. It further investigates how an institutional anchoring of Generational Justice can help resolve the tension between the principle of liberal democracy and the need for generational justice.

This book comes in the wake of FRFG's successful publications: Ihr habt dieses Land nur von uns geborgt (You have only borrowed this nation from us, 1997), Die 68er-Warum wir Jungen sie nicht mehr brauchen (The '68 Generation-why

we youth don't need you any more, 1998), and Was bleibt von der Vergangenheit? Die junge Generation im Dialog über den Holocaust (What remains from the past? The young generation in dialogue about the Holocaust, 1999). The German version will be published in March 2003, the English one is to follow three months later.



"Turn on to politics, or politics will turn on you."

(Ralph Nader)

WHO WE ARE

YOIS is an independent youth movement that unites young people who want to build a better future for today's youth and future generations. We offer young people a chance to discuss issues of importance and then influence and lobby political decision-makers.

Our goal is a sustainable and intergenerationally just society. Sustainability will be achieved as soon as no generation lives at the expenses of the following ones. An intergenerationally just society will be attained when each generation has got the possibilities to develop as far as the previous one. Other ideas of justice like e.g. social justice or gender justice are not left aside but they do not belong to the actual area YOIS concentrates its activities on in order to reach its aims.

We are aware of the fact that most problems today cannot be solved on a national level. Therefore YOIS also acts on the International and European level.

WHAT ARE WE AIMING AT?

We aim at influencing political decision makers and lobbyists who tend to decide with a short term perspective while postponing problems into the future and invite them to consider that many complex problems need long term strategies. But also we seek the dialogue with entrepreneurs in order to convince them that the challenge of building a sustainable future brings them a benefit today

and guarantees that their company will still exist when their grandchildren enter the job market. Last but not least we also seek the dialogue with other "youngsters" or youth activists that so far do not think much about the problems we address. We therefore try to mobilize all social forces and to get them around one (conference) table.

OUR PRINCIPLES / WORKING METHODS

YOIS is a non-profit, non-partisan youth movement with its headquarters in Hamburg, Germany. Planned activities and reports are published on our websites www.yois.org or www.yois-europe.org which are used as an open forum for discussions and information exchange for our members. Besides this do we also communicate through mailing lists. Active members participate in organizing European, national or local projects and come together in preparatory meetings.

HOW DO WE REALIZE THE "NON-PARTISAN" CHARACTER?

In general it means that we invite all people to add their opinions to the topics we address and to participate in our discussions if they accept our discussion guidelines. For example, if the heads of states and governments discuss in the World Economic Forum the problems of the world and representatives of several NGO's discuss the same problems from a different perspective in the World Social Forum, then we would try to bring the different perspectives together in order to find the best solutions for our goals. But this is just an example, in practice would it rather look like that we invite youth representatives from different

political or educational background to discuss our topics on a global, European, national or local level.

OUR MEMBERS

The members of YOIS are mostly students between 16 and 32 or graduates from many different political and educational backgrounds. We have "youngsters" that are seventeen and are very active or even competent but also more experienced ones close to thirty that contribute with their knowledge and pass on their experience towards the younger ones. Beside there are some members above 32 that also support our work ideally and financially. Everybody can join regardless of age if he or she accepts our goals and working methods. Members below the age of 32 have active and passive voting rights and are "ordinary members". Older ones are "extra-ordinary members" and can give advice to the young leaders.

OUR ADVISORY BOARD

The advisory board of YOIS consists of renowned personalities that support our work and give us advice if needed. Currently are these: Prof. Dr. Dr. Franz-Josef Radermacher (Computer Science and Operations Research), Prof. Dr. Ortwin Renn (sociologist), Prof. Dr. Hans-Joachim Schellnhuber (professor for theoretical physics), Prof. Dr. Max Tilzer (biologist) and Prof. Dr. Ernst-Ulrich von Weizsäcker (biologist). A more detailed description of these personalities can be found here. Besides these official supporters do we also have renowned personalities that give their support without being named in public.

For more information, see

www.yois-europe.org

Proday

Proday is a global network that encourages schools and young people to engage in sustainability. Four project rounds have already been realised since the creation of the school-network in 1996, each of them dealing with topics on the broader field of sustainable development: "Ten Years after Chernobyl" in 1996, "50 Years after the Human Rights Declaration" in 1998, "Sustainable Development - Ways towards a Culture of Freedom" in 2000 and "Rio+10 - Youth take Action" in 2002.

Each year Proday motivates young people and teachers to organise projects on a local scale in line with the respective UN-world summits taking place at that time. Support is provided via the internet based project platform www.proday.org. The interactive website offers general information, educative material and opportunities to exchange ideas and opinions. The results of each project round are presented to the public on June 5th which is the world Pro(ject) -Day.



PRODAY 2002 RIO+10 - YOUTH TAKE ACTION

2002 Proday concerned the World Summit on Sustainable Development, which was held in Johannesburg at the end of August /beginning of September. More than 200 schools participated in this Project round. A broad range of activities was organised including painting contests, tree planting, presentations and conferences and even a dance for peace of all cultures. On the web-site www.proday.org all young people were



invited to address their wishes to the country delegates at the world summit in Johannesburg. A summary of these wishes has been translated into 25 languages and has been published, together with pictures of the local actions that took place on the 5th of June, in form of a brochure. This brochure was sent to the delegates before the summit.

PRODAY 2003 INFORMATION SOCIETY - YOUTH BRIDGE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

The Proday topic for 2003 is in line with the UN World Summit on Information Society, that will take place from December 10th until December 12th in Geneva. A main point of Proday 2003 will be the creation of school partnerships between North and South in order to bridge the Digital Divide that separates people with and without access to in-

formation technology.

The partners will support each other in the areas of Empowering and Monitoring making use of ICT.

QUALITY OF COMMUNICATION AND CONTENTS

An important aspect of the school partnerships is the access to communication devices; in certain cases this also includes to create a connection of one or both schools to the internet in the first place. The concept can be best described by taking an exemplary project concerning Biodiversity: common actions could consist of similar educational units dealing with the significance of biodiversity. Analyses conducted and elaborated by each school locally can be presented to the public by means of the internet. Together the partner schools can organise projects in order to conserve biodiversity by, for example, creating a herb garden, or a biotope. This is related back to the global level through reference to relevant UN documents: The students can download information about biodiversity and work out what is important according to their situation.

The result is a win-win-situation for all participants. On a small scale a "global deal" will be made in the form of a co-financing system. This raises the awareness that a similar process is needed on

a global level in order to reach a more even spread of wealth.

RESULTS

Until the end of 2003 more than 100 southern schools are to receive an internet connection by means of the school partnerships, a number which is planned to increase up to 2000 by 2005, when the second round of the UN summit takes place. A Best-Practice-Brochure will be published in September 2003, and will present exciting replicable projects alongside the wishes of young people, concerning the Geneva conference.

ORGANIZATION

Proday is organised by YOIS, a youth organization independent of party politics, which strives for intergenerational justice and sustainability, and the Global Contract Foundation, whose aim is to support the scientific analysis of global contracts leading to the establishment of a Sustainable Global Governance System. Pedagogic support is provided by the 'Oberstufenkolleg', an experimental school at the University of Bielefeld, Germany.

CONTACT

Maike Sippel? maike.sippel@yois.de

EYC 2002

From September 20 to September 26 2002, in Sofia, Bulgaria the annual European Youth

Conference, organized by YOIS Europe e.V. (Youth for Intergenerational Justice and Sustainability) took place. This year, the conference was under the title "United Europe

towards Sustainability" and was held under the patronage of Mr. Romano Prodi, President of the European Commission. Partners of YOIS Europe for the EYC 2002 were AEGEE Europe, AEGEE Sofia, JEF Bulgaria, AIESEC Bulgaria, and Rotaract Sofia. The main sponsors of the conference were the European Youth Foundation (Council of Europe) and the Aachener Stiftung Cathy Beys.

The EYC 2002 gathered together 40 young opinion leaders, from more than 20 European countries. During the six working days the participants focused on



Participants of the congress

the questions of how a Sustainable and United Europe should look like in 20 years and by which means this vision can be achieved. The related issues were discussed in five study groups: ecological sustainability, financial sustainability, corporate social responsibility, youth participation, and education. The participants were grouped in the study groups according to their qualification and motivation. The task for the participants was

to work out a vision and to agree on recommendations how this vision could be achieved. The opening of the EYC 2002 took place in the main hall of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ochridski". The participants were welcomed by Mrs. Dolores Arsenova, Bulgarian Minister for the Environment and Water, by Mr. Dimitar, Vice-Rector of Sofia University and by the Presidents of the partner organisations.



Official Opening

After an introductory speech about Sustainability by Martin G. Viehöver the participants were brought to the conference center, which was outside of Sofia in the Vitosha mountains. On the third day of the conference, a panel discussion took place in the Sofia University with the topic "Europe's role in achieving Sustainability". Panelists were Dr. Barbara Dubach, Advocacy and Communications Director of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), Prof. Dr. Jonko Jotov, President of the Bulgarian Association for the Club of Rome, and Bremley W.B. Lyngdoh, international outreach director of the Global Youth Action Network. Dr. Barbara Dubach gave an exhaustive presentation of the activities of the WBCSD especially in the context of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, where the WBCSD organised several events even together with Greenpeace. Dr. Dubach pointed out the importance of a shared responsibility for

achieving sustainability between business, governments, financial markets, NGOs, consumers, citizens, and the media. Prof. Jonko Jotov pointed out that the young generation will be the main actors towards a sustainable development. In his opinion, a United Europe should play the role of "Best Practice" but that Europe is not ready for this role yet due to the missing systematic approach in European policies. Bremley W.B. Lyngdoh pointed out the importance of youth participation and education in achieving Sustainability. He gave some examples how youth made a difference in various meetings. The panel discussion was moderated by Martin G. Viehöver, President of YOIS Europe. On the fourth day, it was possible to exchange ideas between the study groups in a plenary sessions in order to work out the linkages between the discussed topics. Finally, a drafting committee - selected by the study groups - worked out a draft of the resolution, which was then

discussed and adopted on the last day of the conference. The young people envisaged "a United Europe, where environmental, social, and ecological policies are integrated in balanced harmony and all actors practice the culture of sustainability for the benefit of present and future generations." Particular suggestions for the accomplishment of this vision were stated in the document and will be sent to politicians and businessmen. The resolution can be downloaded from www.yois-europe.org.



The organisers

Rally

Next
English Edition (Fall
2003) :

**Ecology and
Generational
Justice**



Art. 20a (new): Protection of the Rights of Succeeding Generations

- (1) The Federal Republic of Germany protects the rights and interests of succeeding generations within the bounds of the constitutional order through the legislative and according to law through the executive and the jurisdiction.
- (2) It guarantees that harmful substances pollute the natural media, namely soil, air, water and atmosphere, only to such an extent as these can decompose due to their natural regenerative capabilities in the respective period of time.
- (3) It guarantees that renewable resources are not exploited to a greater extent than they are capable of renewing themselves. Non-renewable raw materials and energy resources must be used as economically as is possible by a justifiable expenditure.
- (4) It guarantees that no sources of danger are constructed which could lead to harm that cannot be undone or only undone by unjustifiable expenditure.
- (5) It guarantees that the existing variety of the fauna and the flora as well as ecological systems is not diminished by human activity.
- (6) Offences against paragraphs 2 and 5 can be compensated for in the case of international environmental hazard by a quantitatively and qualitatively comparable compensation abroad.

Magazine Personnel



Sonja Weber

(Krefeld, Germany)

Following my high school graduation last summer, I started my studies in occupational therapy but found out that I wanted to do something different! Right now, I am now looking forward to study law or politics. In the meantime, I've enjoyed working with FRFG. Since I took part in a one-year German-American exchange program I am very interested in US affairs.



Fabian Johr

(Unna, Germany)

20 years old, following my high school graduation I have been travelling and interning with FRFG. My work was to coordinate the magazine. I enjoy riding my skateboard, meeting

friends and drawing cartoons. Before starting studies I will join social service for a year. I've enjoyed visiting the Johannesburg summit in August.

Alice Altissimo

(Osnabrück, Germany)



20 years old, I am interested in sustainable development and interned at FRFG. Mainly, I am interested in environmental control. In my opinion, it is very important that the following generations learn to respect the environment. I enjoy travelling, getting to know new cultures and meeting people from all over the world. I enjoy learning languages and reading, and study European studies.



Andrea Attig

(Aschaffenburg, Germany)

20 years old, I study French Cultural Studies and Intercultural Comm-

munication (France-Germany), law studies and Italian language and literature in Saarbrücken. Next year I will probably spend six weeks in Italy as well as nine months in France.

Dear Reader,

Your opinion matters!

We want to improve 'Generational Justice!' with your input. Send your comments to:

GJ-Editors, Postfach 5115, 61422 Oberursel, GERMANY, Fax 06171-952566, Phone 06171-982367, Email info@srzg.de

Please tell us of any friends to whom we can send two trial issues free of cost. If you have made use of this offer yourself, then please understand that we cannot send you any further trial issues. We would be delighted should you choose to subscribe to our magazine for just ? □ 25 a year.

Magazine Personnel



Karuna Ganesh
(Mumbai, India):

is 18 years old, studies Medicine at Cambridge University in England, and is strongly committed to idealism, sociopolitical action, and theoretical biochemistry. An alumna of the United World College of the American West, she relishes the perspectives she has gained from living on three continents, and from interacting with people from across the globe. At FRFG, Karuna has been co-editing the first English edition of "Generational Justice".



Tamara Ginger Weiss
(Bethesda MD, USA):

In New York, I worked as the NY program director for the national non-profit organization Youth Venture. Its mission is to enable youth to create lead, and launch their own community minded organizations and-or socially and environmentally responsible businesses. I am pursuing an MA in Education at Teachers College, Columbia University, and graduated with a BA from Georgetown University. In addition, I enjoy Studio Art, running and biking. With Karuna and Jörg, I am co-editing the first English edition of the magazine 'Generational Justice'. I am 24 years old.



Birgit Müller
(Mainz, Germany):

is 19 years old, and has volunteered with FRFG since her Abitur in 2002. She has been motivated by her work with SRZG, particularly since her participation, via YOIS-Europe, at Prep Com IV for the World Summit on Sustainable Development. She has recently been elected to the Board of YOIS-Europe, and will continue to work for youth participation, and sustainable education and global governance. Having returned from a magical trip to Bali, Indonesia, she hopes to travel some more until the commencement of her university studies in law in October.



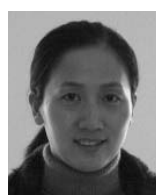
Claudia Schindler
(Mainz, Germany):

is 24 years old, and studies Education as well as General and Comparative Literature at the University of Mainz. She finds her tasks as an intern with SRZG interesting, for they offer her many new perspectives. Claudia is responsible for the layout of the magazines and flyers of the FRFG. *'So that possibilities may arise, the impossible must continually be sought.'* (H. Hesse)



Heiko Tepper
(Neustadt, Germany):

is 36 years old, studied Public Service Political Science and Recent History for 8 years at the University of Koblenz-Landau and the Friedrich-Schiller University, Jena, and received the degree of Master of Arts in November, 2001. His numerous travels around the globe have, over the years, made him a *'person with multiple homelands.'*



Hai-Ping Wang
(People's Republic China):

is 27 years old and is studying for a master's degree in 'World Heritage Studies' at the Brandenburg Technical University. She enjoys the opportunity to engage with current affairs and to work on interesting projects at FRFG, as well as acquiring new knowledge and working with colleagues from different countries. She loves being a volunteer here! Hai-Ping carried out the initial groundwork for the English edition of the Foundation's magazine.

Christine Götz
(Kempten, Germany):

is 21 years old and is studying Political Science and History at the University of Regensburg. She is working as an intern at FRFG in August and September. She likes working with other young people and is excited about her new experiences, stimulation for her academic work, and for this foretaste of professional life.

FRFG Board



Jörg Tremmel
(Oberursel, Germany)

Chairperson of the FRFG Board, studied Business at the European Business School and Political Science at Frankfurt University. He is now writing his doctoral thesis on 'The Factor of Population in Strategies for Ecological Generational Justice.' *'Some dream, some do, some do both.'* (Anon.)

Falko Maxim



(Berlin, Germany)

Board Member of the FRFG since January 2002, is 20 years old and studies law at HU- Berlin.

Laura Memmert



(Heidelberg, Germany)

Board member of the FRFG, is 28 year old and is a busy assistant doctor at the Child and Youth Psychiatry Hospital. She has been the Board Secretary since the past three years.

'Vivre les malheurs d'avance, c'est les subir deux fois.'

In order to ensure that mistakes don't happen again, you must have the courage to make them once.

Adrian Schell



(Bad Homburg, Germany)

Board member of the FRFG, is 25 years old, studied law, and is presently a junior lawyer in the Frankfurt District Court. He is responsible for the Generational Justice Prize.

"The challenge in bridging the gap between science and decision-making is in blending reasoning with vision."

(Federico Mayor Zaragoza at the International Meeting of Science Editors)

FRFG- Foundation for the Rights of Future Generations
Postfach 5115
D-61422 Oberursel
Germany

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I hereby apply to become a member of the 'Foundation for the Rights of Future Generations' and to be accorded the privileges of sponsorship. ☐ 25.00- / ☐ 50.00-

☐ **Application for YOIS Membership**

I hereby apply for membership of 'Youth for Intergenerational Justice and Sustainability-Europe' ☐ 10.00- / ☐ 15.00- / ☐ 25-*

☐ **Double Application for Membership of FRFG and YOIS**

I hereby apply to become a sponsor of the 'Foundation for the Rights of Future Generations' and to be accorded the privileges of sponsorship, and to become a member of 'Youth for Intergenerational Justice and Sustainability-Europe' Annual Contribution ☐ 75.00-; Under thirty years old ☐ 40.00-; Under twenty years old ☐ 35.00-

☐ **Annual Subscription to the magazine Generationengerechtigkeit! / Generational Justice!**

I hereby subscribe to the magazine at the annual rate of ☐ 15.00-

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| <input type="checkbox"/> War Prevention and Peace Keeping | <input type="checkbox"/> Conversation among Generations | |

*Every member is invited to make an annual contribution according to his/her means. The minimum contribution for YOIS is ☐ 10.00- for those under twenty years, ☐ 15.00- for those under thirty, and ☐ 25.00- for those who are older. For FRFG, the minimum contribution is ☐ 25.00- for those under thirty years, and ☐ 50.00- for those who are older. Organisations can become sponsors of FRFG or members of YOIS for an annual minimum contribution of ☐ 100.00-. Please fill out the following standing order for direct debit from your bank account. For youth and young adults interested in active participation, we recommend membership of YOIS, and FRFG membership if you wish to play a supporting role.

Place and Date

Signature

STANDING ORDER FOR DIRECT DEBIT

I hereby authorise the Foundation for the Rights of Future Generations (FRFG), and/or YOIS-Europe, to debit annually my sponsorship donation or membership fee to the amount of _____ Euro from my/our account, until this is revoked. If my/our account does not contain the necessary funds, the Bank in which the account is opened has no obligation to honour this agreement.

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