
XII WORLD CONFERENCE OF THE
WORLD FUTURES STUDIES FEDERATION

IN COLLABORATION WITH THE
CENTRE CATALA DE PROSPECTIVA

BARCELONA, 17-21 SEPTEMBER 1991

**ADVANCING DEMOCRACY AND PARTICIPATION
CHALLENGES FOR THE FUTURE**

CONFERENCE OFFICE
CENTRE UNESCO DE CATALUNYA
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WELCOME TO CATALUNYA

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Centre Català de Prospectiva, I am pleased to welcome the participants in the XIIth Conference of the World Futures Studies Federation.

As professionals of future oriented studies, we have gathered to share in each other's research work on the subject of advancing of democracy and participation. We are concerned at the aging of the formulas invented during the nineteenth century, which still govern the practices of the democratic control of power in our age. There is a visible lack of interest amongst developed societies in the participation of citizens in public life. Most people feel that their opinions can not modify the shape of society and that the most important decisions have been cornered by the powerful financial, technological and political aristocracies. The way in which political, military, industrial and technological structures are articulated tends to make democratic practices minimal. Democracy becomes a corrective factor but fails to fulfil the decisive role that in theory corresponds to it. In the so-called developing countries there are added difficulties. First of all, political and economic dependence reduce their sovereignty to little more than an empty formality. Secondly, the development model is often based on purely economic criteria that do not take social needs, environmental protection or respect of human rights fully into consideration. Thirdly, the democratic way of life is copied from the west and is not rooted in these countries' cultural identity or adapted to a human context which is very different from the one characterizing western societies.

Legitimate aspirations towards new forms of democracy and participation manifest themselves in a variety of ways both in developed countries and in poor countries. The emergence of democratic experiences in central and eastern Europe and the evolution of many South American, African and Asian countries offer new perspectives for justice, freedom and peace.

We begin our conference by stating our wish to contribute to a more democratic future. We would like to imagine that in a few years' time we will have managed to eliminate many of the obstacles that still

prevent effective participation by the inhabitants of Planet Earth in the life of their people and in the shared administration of common responsibilities. This hypothesis is not the only one possible. We could imagine catastrophic, totalitarian or perhaps technocratic futures. We could be fearful of population growth, of the confrontation between cultures, of economic inequalities, of military arsenals, of ecological degradation. But we would like to think that it will be possible to dominate the play of the disproportionate forces that we can see today and that condition the future. We understand democracy as the set of conducts and structures that allow us to act on determining factors and domesticate them in such a way as to make human coexistence free, fraternal and joyous. We dare to believe that the future can be democratic and that our decisions today can bring us closer to democratic experiences that will make the future more rational, more pleasing and more humane.

I think there are three immediate contributions by which we can commit ourselves to advancing democracy and participation. The first contribution consists in increasing awareness of our human dignity, increasing the desire to become free and co-operative, and increasing the deepest forces of our character so as to fight with hope, with constancy, with calm, with energy, with lucidity, with a sense of criticism, for the democratic, free, solidary future we want. Religions, humanist philosophies, the great legends of our different cultures can be sources of inspiration in the renewal of our conscience, our desire, our energy. Moral generosity, a sense of dignity, fidelity to real values, grow in the secrecy of our spirit when we expose ourselves to the influence of the people, the writings, the communities and the practices that encourage us, pacify us, arouse us and inspire love in us. In an intellectual world affected by nihilism and in societies alienated by commercialism, superficiality and dissimulation, we should foment all those experiences that liberate the human spirit, its creativity, the inexhaustible power of generosity, of resistance, of moral energy.

The second contribution consists in the affirmation of one's own cultural identity, on both an individual and a collective level. In the nineteenth century, interesting forms of political democracy were invented. It is now up to us to try out new forms of cultural democracy. The plurality of cultures, as stated in UNESCO declarations, is the common heritage of the whole of humankind. The political units being built on a continental or world level must serve all the cultures that exist in these territories and reach agreements for the democratic exercise of common responsibilities --in other words, with the participation of all cultures. The demographic or economic weight of certain cultures can never justify any type of cultural or political domination. All societies, however large or small, and their respective

cultures, are equal in dignity, and we shall have to create structures to organise cultural democracy and make participation viable. All current state borders will have to be looked at in a new light and the units of the future political mosaic will be the peoples. In this respect, we see the fragmentation of the Soviet Empire and the processes of autodetermination of peoples and cultures of all continents as signs of progress. We remember the Indian peoples of South America and all those who have been silenced by the dominant cultures as regards either territory or ideology. Let us from this very moment inscribe ourselves joyously in our particular cultures and reach out to other cultures.

The third contribution consists in furthering global viewpoints and international co-operation. For the first time in the history of humankind local decisions have universal effects and scenarios are appearing in which it is vital that we exercise universal responsibilities. Until recently, only poets expressed invisible interdependencies. Today, interdependency is visible and, in many fields, quantifiable. The democracy of the future will be built if all human beings are allowed a proper perception of global problems and if structures are created that make participation in global decisions viable. Perhaps we can say that what is needed is a revolution in our perception. We must familiarize ourselves with global challenges. We must exercise a critical and optimistic function. The world can change globally and will change if we put our minds to it. There are people who believe in local changes, but who are fatalistic at a global level. We must liberate these attitudes. On a global level there are alternative, better and workable models. In the operative aspect we shall have to substantially reform the United Nations, relying on the existence of democratic continental organisations and on the growing role of international non-governmental organisations. It is possible from this very moment to start thinking along these lines.

I hope these reflections will stimulate our conference's investigations into the furthering of democracy and participation. I am convinced that we have chosen an important topic and that the winds of history will lead to moments of great responsibility. A great Catalan poet, Miquel Martí i Pol, says in one of his poems,

*Del fons dels anys ens crida, barbullent,
la llum d'un temps expectant i frondós.
Convertirem el vell dolor en amor
i el llegarem, solemnes, a la història.*
(The clamouring light of a pregnant, verdant age
calls us from the depths of time.
We shall turn the old pain into love
and leave it, solemnly, to history)

We are holding this conference in the capital of the Catalan nation. These lands have fought hard to achieve democracy and participation, and have understood that they had no future without a great moral force, without a clear affirmation of their cultural and political identity, and without whole-hearted participation in the construction of Europe and of the international community. We fully realise that we are only half way: sometimes we are not brave enough, sometimes we do not declare our wish for sovereignty clearly enough, sometimes we do not contribute enough to the design of a Europe and a world of freedom and solidarity --in other words, of democracy.

I sincerely believe that our conference will help us all to advance democracy and participation. Let us think of the millions of men and women of all cultures prepared to listen to wise, constructive words. Let these words be a stimulus for our professional honesty, our lucidity and our courage.

Welcome.

Fèlix Martí
president of the Centre Català de Prospectiva

COMMITTEE OF HONOUR

Mr JORDI PUJOL, President of the Generalitat de Catalunya

Mr JOAQUIM XICOY, President of the Catalan Parliament

Mr FREDERIC MAYOR ZARAGOZA, Director General of UNESCO

Mr PASQUAL MARAGALL, Mayor of Barcelona

Mr JOSEP LAPORTE, Minister for Education of the Catalan Gouvernment

Mr JOAN GUITART, Minister for Culture of the Catalan Gouvernment

Mr JOSEP BRICALL, Rector of the University of Barcelona

Mr JOSEP M. VALLES, Rector of the Autonomous University of Barcelona

Mr GABRIEL FERRATE, Rector of the Polytechnic University of Barcelona

Mr ENRIC ARGULLOL, Rector of the Pompeu Fabra University

Mr RICARDO DIEZ HOCHLEITNER, President of the Club of Rome

Mr PERE DURAN FARELL, President of the Spanish Chapter of the Club of Rome

Mr FRANCISCO MARTINEZ MARTINEZ, President of FUNDESCO

Mr JESUS MONEO, Member of the Club of Rome and former President of the "Instituto Español de Prospectiva" (Presidencia del Gobierno)

Mr HERIBERT BARRERA, Vice-president of the Interdepartmental Commission for Technological Research and Innovation, CIRIT (Generalitat de Catalunya)

Mr JOAN ALBAIGES, President of the Centre UNESCO de Catalunya

SPONSORS



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FUNDESCO

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

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UVAIS AHAMED (Sri Lanka)
MAGDA CORDELL MCHALE (USA)
KATRIN GILLWALD (West Germany)
ROBERT JUNGK (Austria)
PENTTI MALASKA (Finland), Secretary General of the WFSF
ANA MARIA SANDI (Romania)
ALEXANDER TOMOV (Bulgaria)
ALLEN TOUGH (Canada)

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE

FELIX MARTI, President, Centre Català de Prospectiva, Chairman
GLORIA RIERA, Vice-Secretary-General, President's Office of the
Generalitat de Catalunya
EULALIA VINTRO, 3rd Deputy Mayor, Barcelona City Council
ANTON CAÑELLAS, President of the Social Council of the
Autonomous University of Barcelona
LLUIS RAMALLO, President of the Spanish Commission for Co-
operation with UNESCO
ADOLFO CASTILLA, President of the "Centro Europeo de
Prospectiva y Previsión Tecnológica"
JOAQUIM MALUQUER, Secretary of the Catalan Group of the
Club of Rome
OLEGUER SANSANEDAS, Televisió de Catalunya
JULI RAFELS, Centre Català de Prospectiva
ALBERT OLIVA, Centre Català de Prospectiva
JORDI SERRA, Centre Català de Prospectiva

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

MIQUEL ANGEL AGUARELES, Faculty of Pedagogy of the
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JOSEP BERNIS, Col·legi d'Enginyers Industrials de Catalunya
JOSEP M. BLANCH, Department of Sociology of the Autonomous
University of Barcelona
MERCE BOTELLA, Department of Sociology of the Autonomous
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LLUIS CLAUDI, Centre Català de Prospectiva
ANTONI ESTRADA, Department of Sociology of the Autonomous
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JOAN GOMIS, Justícia i Pau
JOSEP HUGUET BIOSCA, Historian
MIQUEL MARTINEZ, Faculty of Pedagogy of the University of
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MARTI OLIVELLA, Ecoconcern
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EUGENIA SALVADOR, Institut d'Estadística de Catalunya
MONTSERRAT TRESSERRA, Department of Sociology of the
Autonomous University of Barcelona

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Coordination: MIQUEL MARTI, General Secretary of the Centre
Català de Prospectiva.
JOSEP ANTON, SUSANNA MARTI, ELIES LEFRANC
KOUAMOU, ROSER DOMENECH, CARME GIBERT, MARIE
AMELIE PONCE, ONNO SEROO, GLORIA MARCE, MARIAM
CHAIB, NATALIA BOTINAS

Press Service: LLUIS AMIGUET

Informatic Service: MONTSERRAT QUESADA

PROGRAMME

MONDAY, 16

Arrival of participants

- 14,00h. Meeting of the WFSF Executive Council
Youth Hostel Martí Codolar
- 17,00h. Tour of Barcelona
- 19,30h. Reception at the Catalan Parliament
- 21,30h. Return to hotels (by coach)

TUESDAY, 17

- 07,30h. Breakfast at hotels
- 08,00h. Depart hotels for Bellaterra (by coach)
- 09,00h. Official inauguration
Speakers:
Josep M. Vallès, Rector of the Autonomous University of
Barcelona
Fèlix Martí, President of the Centre Català de Prospectiva
James Dator, President of the WFSF
Pierre Weiss, UNESCO
Josep Laporte, Minister for Education of the Catalan Government
- 10,00h. Welcoming concert:
Cor de Cambra del Palau de la Música Catalana
Director: Mtre. Jordi Casas

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- 11,30h. Plenary Session
THE FUTURES OF DEMOCRACY AND PARTICIPATION IN
THE LIGHT OF RECENT CHANGES AND OPPORTUNITIES
Speakers:
Chair: Harlan Cleveland (USA)
Margarita de Botero (Colombia)
Jorge Alberto Lozoya (Mexico)
Ashis Nandy (India)
- 13,00h. Lunch
Restaurant of the Faculty of Science
- 13,00h. Meeting of the WFSF Executive Council
- 15,00h. Working groups
- 17,00h. Meeting of the WFSF Executive Council
- 19,00h. Free working groups
- 20,00h. Evening Meal
Restaurant of the Faculty of Science
- 21,30h. Catalan folk dances, by de group "L'esbart de Rubí",
at de Cerdanyola theatre "L'Ateneu"
- 23,30h. Return to hotels (by coach)

WEDNESDAY, 18

- 07,30h. Breakfast at hotels
- 08,00h. Depart hotels for Bellaterra (by coach)
- 09,00h. General Assembly of the WFSF
- 09,00h. (For non-WFSF members taking part)
Projection of documentaries on Catalan geography, history, at and
science.

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- 11,30h. Plenary Session
THE FUTURES OF DEMOCRACY AND PARTICIPATION IN
THE WFSF
Speakers:
Chair: Ibrahim Abdel Rahman (Egypt)
Igor Bestuzhev-Lada (USSR)
Katrin Gillwald (Germany)
Rolf Homann (Germany)
Anthony Judge (Belgique)
Robert Jungk (Austria)
Mika Mannermaa (Finland)
Michael Marien (USA)
Kaoru Yamaguchi (Japan)
Peter Mettler (Germany)
Wendy Schultz (USA)
- 13,00h. Lunch
Restaurant of the Faculty of Science
- 15,00h. Working groups
- 19,00h. Free working groups
- 20,00h. Coaches leave for the Palau de la Generalitat
- 21,00h. Reception at the Palau de la Generalitat
- 23,00h. Return to hotels (by coach)

THURSDAY, 19

- 07,30h. Breakfast at hotels
- 08,00h. Depart hotels for Bellaterra (by coach)
- 09,00h. Working groups

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- 11,30h. Plenary Session
THE FUTURES OF DEMOCRACY AND PARTICIPATION IN
EVERIDAY LIFE
Speakers:
Chair: Ana M. Sandi (Romania)
Ricardo Diez Hochleitner (Spain)
Mihailo Markovic (Yugoslavia)
Eleonora Masini (Italy)
Godwin Sogolo (Nigeria)
Alvin Toffler (USA)
- 13,00h. Lunch
Restaurant of the Faculty of Science
- 15,00h. Working groups
- 19,00h. Free working groups
- 20,00h. Coaches depart
- 21,00h. Reception at the TV3 television studios (Catalan Television)
- 23,00h. Return to hotels (by coach)

FRIDAY, 20

- 07,30h. Breakfast at hotels
- 08,00h. Depart hotels for Bellaterra (by coach)
- 09,00h. Leave Bellaterra for different cultural visits
Girona-Figuera
Montserrat-Sant Sadurní
Tarragona-Delta de l'Ebre
Sitges
Montseny
- Lunch during outing
- 20,00h Evening Meal
restaurant of the Faculty of Science
- 22,00h. Arrive at hotels

SATURDAY, 21

- 07,30h. Breakfast at hotels
- 08,00h. Depart hotels for Bellaterra (by coach)
- 09,00h. Presentation of final reports
- 13,00h. Lunch
Restaurant of the Faculty of Science
- 13,00 Meeting of the WFSF Executive Council
- 15,00h. Olympic tour
- 18,00h. Plenary Session at the Llotja de Mar (Pla de Palau. Barcelona)
WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED ABOUT THE FUTURES OF
DEMOCRACY AND PARTICIPATION
Speakers:
Chair: Pentti Malaska (Finland)
Antonio Alonso (Mexico)
Jordi Serra (Catalonia)
- 19,00h. Closing Session
Auro Sarmanto (Finland)
Fèlix Martí (Catalonia)
James Dator (USA)
- 20,00h. Reception offered by the City Council
- 21,30h. Return to hotels (by coach)

SUNDAY, 22

Departure

ADVANCING DEMOCRACY AND PARTICIPATION. CHALLENGES FOR THE FUTURE

WORKING GROUPS

GOVERNANCE

Tatu Vanhanen (Finland)

The idea of this working group is to discuss the problems and prospects of democracy in different parts of the world and ways of improving the institutions of democratic governance. Is the number of democracies in the world increasing? If so, in which parts of the world? What kind of democratic governance is emerging from the struggle for democracy and from the crises of political systems? What strategies could be used in attempts to improve democracy and participation? Most papers are connected with these aspects of democratic governance.

Depending on the final number of presentations, each speaker can use about 15 minutes to summarize his/her paper or to introduce his/her major arguments. After that, participants will have an opportunity to discuss the matter and to present questions and comments. Papers will be presented and discussed under two major themes.

ECONOMY

Erzsebet Gidai (Hungary)

Amongst the issues to be discussed by this group are, first of all, the transition to democracy in Eastern Europe, the chances for economic participatory democracy, and monetics as an instrument to improve democratic participation; secondly, country studies, including China's economy in relation to Asia-Pacific in the 1990s and the Estonian way to market economy; thirdly, the effects of

urban policy on the economic geography of large urban areas and the present and future situation in Chinese rural areas, and finally, company studies, including the influence of research, development, investment cost on the growth of specific profit in the chemical industry.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Bart van Steenberghe (Netherlands)

The concept of "civil society" (and in its wake "citizenship") has gained momentum over the last years and not only for analytical reasons, these "new" concepts also have a critical undertone. The present preoccupation with the condition of citizenship and civil society affirms a sense of crisis and uncertainty, but the same preoccupation also conveys signs of constructive response to the new realities. In other words these concepts carry a certain appeal; they show a society that should be strived for, as is in particular the case in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, or that should be defended, an aspect which came forward in the debates in England.

Moreover they are often linked with the overall topics of this conference: democracy and participation.

So it is appropriate that in this conference special attention is devoted to the exploration of citizenship and the civil society.

However, since we are a conference of futurists the main focus should be on the future dimension of these concepts. They should be seen as an ongoing project. Some societies like the ones in Central and Eastern Europe just have started this project which means that the content of such a new societal model still is somewhat undefined. The debates on citizenship in Western Europe show that we deal here with dynamic entities, whose frontiers are not yet fixed.

It is to be hoped that in this workshop different forms of civil society will be developed as inspiring images for the future.

COMMUNICATION

Magda Cordell (USA)

For many years, futurists have understood that a major source of social change in the present and over the foreseeable future were new communication and information technologies. In many ways, the "future" described by futurists in the 50s and 60s is already here, at least for some sectors in some parts of the world. Even greater changes are likely as these technologies become more ubiquitous. But it is important now for us to consider the personal, social and environmental impact of the even newer and emerging communication technologies which are currently under development, or might soon be, especially in terms of ways in which they might be used to change, enhance or restrict opportunities for participation and democracy in decisions of an individual or social concern. Of course, not all problems of participation and democracy in communication are technologically based. Old inequities, privileges and silences persist and may be growing which seem to have no basis in new communication or information technologies at all. Or do they? These issues too will be considered by our group.

EDUCATION

Uvais Ahamed (Sri Lanka)

*Education-challenges for the future.
Childrens education and development.
Participatory learning.
Culture, education and the future.*

YOUTH

Jordi Serra (Catalonia)

Rather than having a formal "working group" structure, this group is aimed at generating an "assembling-dispersing" dynamics. This will provide participants with a forum in which to discuss their opinions as well as a general view of the Conference, but emphasizing a critical approach to the subject of the Conference from a youth point of view. This process could result in some kind of "Young Parallel Conference".

The Youth group is for people under 30 and older experts in youth questions.

CULTURE

Eleonora Masini (Italy)

On the basis of case studies presented by participants, this group intends to look at the following issues:

- 1. What place does democracy and participation occupy in different cultures?*
- 2. Does contact with other cultures help or hinder the development of democracy and participation? Which cultures hinder or develop democracy and participation in coming into contact with other cultures?*
- 3. What futures can we foresee for democracy and participation in a multicultural society? What consequences can we foresee from the indications emerging from point 2?*
- 4. What actions could support democracy and participation in the different cultures and multicultures?*

ENVIRONMENT

Margarita de Botero (Columbia)

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Josep Bernis (Catalonia)

- 1. To look into the relationship between new technologies, production processes and environmental side effects. Participation and political consequences.*
- 2. Evaluate the contribution of the main areas of research (superconductivity, nuclear fusion, elementary particles, biotechnology, ...) to the creation of new useful formulas for social organization.*
- 3. The possible application of scientific theories (theory of relativity, quantum theory, irreversible processes, etc.) to historic and prospective analysis of socio-political events.*
- 4. Technological developments in the fields of communication, computer sciences, transports, energy, public network services, productivity, biology, and their influence on stimulating positive socio-political commitment.*
- 5. Communication and telecommunication technologies as an instrument to enhance decisions-making process as opposed to conventional mechanisms of formal democracy. Tendency towards political decentralization.*
- 6. Contribution of planetary engineering projects to the speeding up of global interdependence, solidarity and democracy.*

POPULATION AND HEALTH

Raimondo Cagiano (Italy)

This group will organise its sessions around three main points:

- 1. The confrontation between extreme positions as regards population and health, and the past, present and future of these extremes as a result of past, present and future decisions.*
- 2. The progression from human survival to quality of life, from the struggle against mortality to the aging of populations and the search for improved health and better quality of life; the costs, the consequences of this progression and the implications of decisions in rich countries in respect to poor countries; the long-term implications of current decisions in demography and social order.*
- 3. The role of education, information and modern orientations against the prevailing ideas of stationarity both in population and in social policies; a future-oriented approach against a conservative and stationary approach for a new international social equilibrium.*

These topics should each be dealt with in accordance with the overall theme, "Advancing Democracy and Participation: Challenges for the Future". Thus, in each instance, questions about the future of democracy and participation should be foremost in the discussion. Historical and present matters, and those not focussing on democracy and participation, should be minimized as much as possible.

FUTURES STUDIES

Rick Slaughter (Australia)

This group will look at the reasons why we study and/or teach Futures Studies and what it is we study and/or teach, giving examples of concepts, methodologies, materials, etc., and then going

on to discuss issues concerning the intellectual enterprise of futures studies and its current status. Following this we shall look at case studies from different countries and cultures and outlines of curricula and programmes. On the last day we shall deal with the presentation of futures concepts and ideas and key constraints and how to tackle them. What is the potential of futures studies? Why is this potential still so far from being realized? Review and overview. Summary of key ideas. Actions required. Where do we go from here?

CUTTING EDGE IDEAS

Allen Tough (Canada)

A single four hour session to look at a panorama of fresh and profound ideas that may have a significant impact within the field of futures studies and maybe even beyond.

Finding a Path to a Positive Future

A single four hour session to explore the feasible paths, priorities and agendas that are most likely to lead humanity to a reasonably positive future.

GENERAL INFORMATION

CONFERENCE SITE

**Facultat de Ciències de la Informació
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
Campus Universitari de Bellaterra
BELLATERRA (20 kms from Barcelona)**

RECEPTION DESK

The reception desk of the conference is located at the entrance of the Amphitheatre of the Faculty of Mass Communication (Facultat de Ciències de la Comunicació), and is open from the 17th until the 21th of September 1991, from 8.30 a.m. to 8.00 p.m. The telephone number of the secretariat is 5811742. Before and after the dates mentioned above, the secretariat operates from Centre UNESCO de Catalunya.

NEWSLETTER

Everyday throughout the conference, a newsletter will be published and will be available at the secretariat everyday during the plenary session. News items from participants to the conference will be welcome and anyone wishing to have something published should hand it in the day before at the secretariat. Publication of such articles will be subject to technical possibilities.

NOTICE-BOARD

Within the premises of the conference center, notice-boards will be available to participants for any piece of information they consider to be of public interest. These boards could also be used to put up personal notice.

MEDICAL SERVICE

Fully registered participants to the conference are guaranteed free access to medical service put at their disposal by the organizers of the conference. These participants are also covered by an insurance against accidents. Those concerned should inquire about this service at the reception desk.

TRANSPORT

A free coach service will be provided to transfer participants to and from the conference sessions in the morning and evening, as well as for all the activities included in the programme. Travelling time between hotels and conference site: Barcelona hotels, 1 hour; Martí Codolar, 45 minutes; Torrebonica, 30 minutes.

Public transport to the Centre of Barcelona runs as follows:

- From Martí Codolar guest house: line 3 of the underground train. Station: Montbau. A single ticket cost 75 pessetas.
- From Torrebonica guest house, by Renfe railwayline. Station: Torrebonica. a single ticket cost 165 pessetas.
- Regina, Almirante and Rialto are situated in the Centre of Barcelona.

PRESS SERVICE

The conference has organized a press service that will be carried out with the collaboration of students of the Faculty of Mass Communications of the Autonomous University of Bellaterra.

TELEPHONE AND POST-OFFICE SERVICES

Participants to the conference can make use of public phone boxes available on the University campus. These boxes work with coins. Phone calls can also be made from hotels at the expense of participants. The post-office located on the campus is open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.. It is closed on Saturdays.

EXCHANGE

Money may be exchanged at the office of the "La Caixa" located at the senate building (rectorat) of the Universitat Autònoma de Bellaterra, or at the office of "La Caixa de Catalunya", situated in the building of the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences. Office hours: from 8.30 a.m. to 2 p.m., and from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Closed on Saturday.

COMPUTER SERVICE

Participants to the conference will have free access to 8 computer terminals which will supply them with the abstracts of plenary sessions and different working groups as well as other forms of information.

RETURN TICKETS BOOKINGS

Bookings can be made at the secretariat of the conference.

HOTELS

ALMIRANTE. Via Laietana, 42. Barcelona. Tel. 3199500
REGINA. Bergara, 2. Barcelona. Tel. 3013232
RIALTO. Ferran, 42. Barcelona. Tel. 3185212
TORREBONICA. Torrebónica. Terrassa. Tel. 7853100
MARTI CODOLAR. Vall d' Hebron, s/n. Barcelona. Tel. 4291801

REGISTRATION FEES

WFSF members	25 dollars
Non members	50 dollars
OUTING (20/9)	10 dollars
MEAL TICKETS	10 dollars

(Each ticket is valid for one midday or evening meal)

PAYMENTS

All payments (Registration, Meals and Hotel) will be made at the reception desk installed by the organisers at the conference site.
Tuesday, 17: 8,30-13, 15-20h.

LANGUAGE

The Conference language will be English

At the inaugural and closing sessions Catalan will also be used, with simultaneous translation.

PUBLICATIONS

In addition to a preconference collection of abstracts indicated above, a final report will be presented to participants at the end of the Conference.

A book based on the conference will be published before 31 December 1991.

SWIMMING-POOL

Participants to the conference are free to use the swimming-pool of the University Campus in Bellaterra. The identity card for the conference which will be given to each participant will be valid as a pass to the swimming-pool.

BARCELONA

Barcelona is one of the great cities of Europe. We are familiar with her history over the last two thousand years. In Barcelona we can find everything from the finest Romanesque frescoes to the artistic work of Picasso and Miró, from the most beautiful examples of civic Gothic, Baroque and Neo-classical art to the uniquely original forms and decorations of Modernism, an artistic style known as Art Nouveau in France and Belgium, Art Nouveau or Modern Style in Britain, Liberty in Italy and Jugendstil in Germany. The great architect Gaudí built his most important works in Barcelona. Casa Milà, known as "La Pedrera" (The Quarry), the Parc Güell and the Palau Güell are all included in UNESCO's World Heritage list. The temple of the Sagrada Família is another example of Gaudí's work. Other universally known Catalan artists and musicians include Pau Casals, Salvador Dalí, Antoni Tàpies and Montserrat Caballé. But Barcelona is also a great, multi-dimensional city. Three million people are concentrated in the urban area of Barcelona, the most important economic centre in the countries of Catalan culture, which include Catalonia, Valencia and the Balearic Isles.

Barcelona is the capital of Catalonia and the site of her home-rule institutions: the Catalan Parliament and the government of the Generalitat. The political life of Catalonia is regulated by the Statute of Autonomy, approved in 1979 within the framework of the Spanish Constitution of 1978. The language of Catalonia is Catalan. Spanish is also official.

In 1992 Barcelona will be the setting for the Olympic Games. The city is preparing for the event with an extensive programme of urban improvements and with special cultural activities.

OUTINGS

MONTSERRAT/SANT SADURNI

The Monastery of Montserrat, founded in 1025, is the home of a Benedictine community. Montserrat is one of the signs of Catalan national identity. The monastery has an exceptional library. The choir school of Montserrat is the oldest in Europe. Sant Sadurni is one of the world centres for the production of sparkling wine, known in Catalonia as "cava".

EBRE DELTA/TARRAGONA

The city of Tarragona, which is famous for the Roman remains to be found there (amphitheatre, Arc de Berà, Torre dels Escipions), is situated 100 kilometres from Barcelona. The delta of the River Ebro, one of the most important rivers in Catalonia, is one of the most ecologically unique natural areas in Catalonia, and is protected as a natural park.

SITGES

Sitges, one of the friendliest towns on the south coast of Catalonia, is a tourist centre frequented by artists and cultural innovators. The Cau Ferrat museum is remarkable for its extensive collection of ironware from the thirteenth to nineteenth centuries. It also contains paintings and drawings by Rusiñol, Casas, Joan Llimona, Miquel Utrillo, Nonell, Anglada i Camarasa, Picasso, Zuloaga and Regoyos.

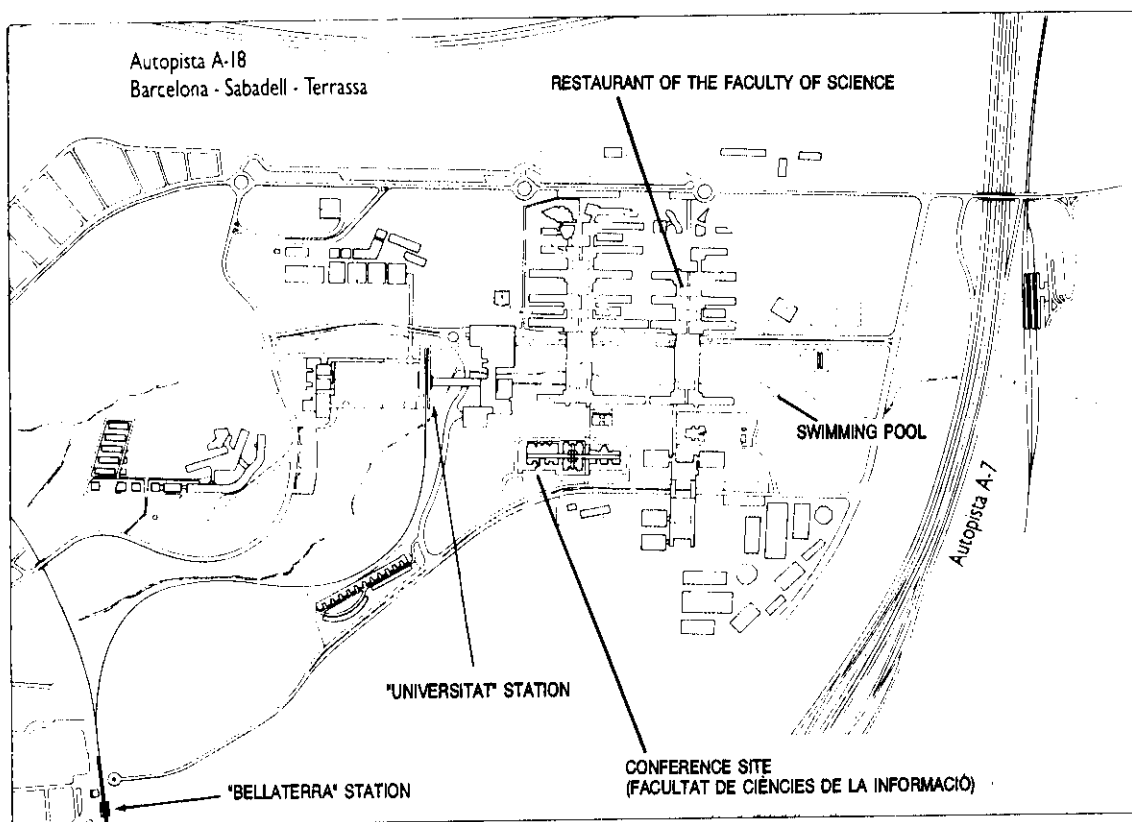
GIRONA/FIGUERES

The city of Girona, 100 kilometres from Barcelona, stands out for its Romanesque and Gothic buildings (Galligans; Pia Almoina and Cathedral, respectively). In the old part of Girona is the Call, the part of the city where the Jews lived as a stable community for 600 years. In Figueres, the Museu Dalí exhibits a representative sample of the work of the surrealist painter Salvador Dalí.

MONTSENY

One of the most remarkable aspects of the Montseny massif is that, in spite of being situated in the Mediterranean region, the three main biogeographical regions of Western Europe are represented on different scales, so that one can say that our mountain is a synthesis of the landscapes of the Old World.

UNIVERSITAT AUTÒNOMA DE BARCELONA
CAMPUS UNIVERSITARI DE BELLATERRA



CAN VISIONARY PEOPLE DECOLONIZE THE FUTURE ?

James A. Dator, president of the WFSF, is an expert in alternative futures studies. He'd been teaching video-production in Honolulu's University (Miami) and he doesn't care at all to say that he has no interest in his personal and cultural past. Only the immediat present and what modern societies can do with their future is in his mind...

- You say that men have to decolonize the future to built a real democracy. What do you mean by real democracy?

- In my opinion, real democracy is perhaps unattenable at an immediat futur. But it means self-government, direct democracy at a global level, with everyone participating in all of the areas that influence their lifes. So it's an ideal standing to which no government at the present time is close.

- To talk about futury in our society means talking about problems like demographic explosion, population getting old, changes from country to urban way of life... does the prospective consider all those elements or it just analyzes the technological advances?

- Future studies are extremely broad. One of the challenges we have simply as an organisation is that we have so many different people concerned about all of the things you mentioned and many more. In different part of the world problems for men and women are not the same. That makes a challenge to come together to talk about the futur. But it means that whoever gets to talk first sets the tone for further discussions, so there are always many things left than said.

- Which field do you put "culture" in?

- We consider this as an important cathegory. We have projects about futur culture because we think that preserving certain cultures that wish to maintain their identity, understanding the interpenetration between different cultures and the conflict, as well as the enrichment that will bring, encouraging the development of new cultures that never existed before... that makes an independent field for our studies.

- You become from a society based in the mass-media marketing... do you feel in peace with your past, Mr. Dator?

- I am optimistic about communication technology being used for democratizing purposes. But mass-media at the present time are strictly used for manipulation.

Ask for my past, I don't know anything about it, I don't know about my cultural background. And I have no personal interest in it.

In the other hand, I know I have been manipulated by the video in my own life, but I teach video production, so I know the tricks that are used. In my opinion, understanding the mass-media grammar

and knowing how they do things to give an impression of reality is one of the major ways to deprive yourself of manipulation, and also try to have a broad and deep contact with reality, know something else than what you see in TV.

- You talk now about present and future... what about the past?

- Our past had been colonized and we didn't have any chance to participate. It is in relation to what I said about mass-media: they colonize our minds, they say what we have to think... We imagine life and education were more independent... so we have to be free and decolonize our ideas. And understand that futur is something we can influence with our power...

We rest a little bit confused about our immediat future and quite surprised with those opinions. We are afraid of all the possibilities and alternatives it offer to us. And we wonder if we are right studying our past, considering the present and making plans for the future. Maybe prospective can help us...!

*Rosa M^a Masdeu
Laia Boves*

SALUTACIÓ

En representació del col·lectiu que represento, vull donar la més cordial benvinguda a tots els participants en la XII Conferència Mundial de la "World Futures Studies Federation".

La institució que represento és un centre públic universitari vinculat a les àrees de coneixement de la comunicació social que té com a objectiu prioritari la formació de professionals de les diferents branques del món de la comunicació (periodisme, publicitat, relacions públiques, comunicació audio-visual...). Entenem que aquets professionals han de conjuminar una formació tècnica adequada i una capacitat crítica i interpretativa perfectament desenvolupades. Des del punt de vista de la docència, la nostra responsabilitat social és fer possibles aquets objectius pedagògics. Estem convençuts que uns llicenciats formats amb aquesta filosofia podran enfortir la cultura política democràtica.

Permetim que els hi digui que per a nosaltres és motiu d'orgull actuar com amfitrions d'aquesta conferència. I ho és tant pel sòlid prestigi de les institucions que l'organitzen i li donen suport, com per la temàtica que serà tractada.

La situació internacional mostra, dia rera dia, la necessitat urgent que existeix de consolidar i, sobretot, d'avançar en la definició i aprofundiment de fórmules democràtiques de convivència social. Cal redefinir l'articulació del poder econòmic (nacional i trans-nacional), del poder polític, així com la relació entre els diversos grups culturals, ètnics i nacionals. Sembla bastant obvi que aquesta re-definició hauria de representar una aposta més decidida per la descentralització i la defensa de la diversitat igualitària. Sigui com sigui, el que per a nosaltres sí que és evident que les comunicacions col·lectives tenen un protagonisme social de primer ordre. I també estem convençuts que repensar la política amb l'objectiu precís i inajornable d'aprofundir el sistema democràtic demana incorporar com a temàtica clau la reflexió crítica sobre el funcionament dels sistemes de comunicació social.

Comunicació i democràcia són dos conceptes condemnats a vincular-se d'una manera cada cop més estreta. En la pràctica social i en l'anàlisi social.

En el convenciment dels resultats d'aquestes jornades de treball satisfaran abastament les expectatives inicials, i per acabar aquesta salutació de benvinguda, els hi desitjo que l'estància entre nosaltres sigui del tot agradable.

Dr. Enric Martín i Otto.

Degà de la Facultat de Ciències de la Informació.

A TOTS ELS CONGRESSISTES

Considero un privilegi poder adreçar-me, en nom de l'equip de direcció i de tot el consell del Departament de Periodisme d'aquesta Universitat Autònoma, als membres de la World Futures Studies Federation desplaçats a Barcelona. A tots ells i a tots els participants en aquestes jornades sobre democràcia i participació la nostra més cordial i encoratjadora benvinguda.

Poques vegades el Departament de Periodisme ha tingut l'oportunitat de poder viure de tan aprop i de poder contribuir en la celebració d'unes jornades d'aquestes característiques. La variada procedència dels assistents, la seva qualificació i, certament, el prestigi de la W.F.S.F., fan que la celebració entre nosaltres del debat sobre "Advancing Democracy and Participation. Challenges for the Future" constitueixi un esdeveniment i que sigui un honor poder compartir amb vostès aquesta setmana.

Confio en que la nostra contribució organitzativa pugui resultar - així ho esperem - eficaç. Al respecte, permetin-me que destaquï la contribució de la professora Dra. Montserrat Quesada, responsable del servei informàtic i auspiciadora del servei de premsa de les jornades.

No és gaire habitual que els principis inspiradors d'una associació

-internacional en aquest cas- i que els motius i la intenció d'un debat puguin ser compartits per tanta gent amb tanta unanimitat. Sàpiguen que ens sentim solidaris de les seves preocupacions i dels seus objectius. Solidaris també, doncs, del seu esforç.

De la nostra petita talaia estant, el Departament de Periodisme treballa també amb la intenció que la seva activitat docent i investigadora contribueixi a vitalitzar i en vigorir la democràcia. Estem convençuts que la lluita per una informació plural, encaparrada en la veracitat i oberta a totes les temàtiques i a totes les opcions, és condició indispensable per al lliure coneixement del món que ens envolta i, per tant, condició per a la democràcia i per a la participació... Però vostès d'això en són experts. Tinguin només en compte que aquesta declaració de complicitats no és pas retòrica, sinó que respon a les pretensions reals de la nostra institució.

Comptin amb nosaltres per tot allò que els calgui; durant aquests dies i en endavant. Serà un plaer poder assistir-los.

Que en el marc d'aquest món canviant que l'estiu i la tardor ens proporcionen, els vents d'aquest país - que encara malda per drets democràtics fonamentals - els siguin favorables. Aquest és el desig sincer del Departament de Periodisme.

Molta sort i una felicitat i profitosa estada.

Dr. Joan Manuel Tresserras

Director Dpt. Periodisme - U.A.B.

PARTICIPEU - HI !

Aquest vol ser un oferiment a tots els assistents a la XII World Conference a fer ús del servei d'informació que hem creat per a l'ocasió.

Es tracta d'un servei de lliure accés que permet la consulta d'informació i l'intercanvi d'opinions, peticions o simples suggeriments entre els participants en la Conferència. Teniu doncs a la vostra disposició un equip de 20 terminals informàtiques, a punt per a consultar des del programa general de la Conferència, amb totes les modificacions actualitzades, fins a un taulell d'anuncis obert a tot tipus de continguts.

Hem treballat molt per tal que l'accés a aquest servei sigui raonablement senzill i l'usuari no tingui cap mena de dificultat per manipular el programa informàtic, tot i que desconegui el funcionament habitual de les Bases de Dades.

Vull també agrair l'immens entusiasme que està mostrant el nucli grup d'estudiants de la Facultat, treballant fora d'horari i col·laborant en les tasques informatives que pot generar aquesta XII Conferència. Gràcies a la seva predisposició per treballar com a periodistes professionals durant aquesta setmana, podem tenir ara a les nostres mans aquest diari electrònic.

Dra. Montserrat Quesada

Responsable Servei Informàtic CC. I.

The Journal

XII WORLD CONFERENCE

18 SEPTEMBER 1991

FREE PRESS

ABOUT DEMOCRACY LIMITATIONS

Ashis Nandy, a psychologist and also an scholar focused on politics in India, talked yesterday morning about democracy limitations.

- Is democracy a system that doesn't work?

- No, it does work, and I would suspect that it works better than probably all of the systems. The external enemys of democracy have apparently been defeeted, but certain internal problems of democracy have emerged and democracy has not been able to find yet a solution.

**- You were talking about corruption, as an exem-
ple...**

- What I meant is that at the moment democracy is producing increasingly less qualified people to lead human beings. They are not best qualified to govern, but they can manage the media well, so they have a better chance to be elected by the voters that take interest in politics only during elections. Political parties should become

more like political parties and less like electoral machines. They should take care of real needs of society. But there is also the fact that the public is less concerned with political process. This is a problem basically created by mass cultur.

- Is there any political alternative to this issue?

- There is no political alternative to democratic system, but there is an alternative to this media domination. I am talking about a new kind of political participation where the parties become much more active... and active in a different way.

- Is this possible? Could it become a reality?

- I'm not talking of anything utopian. Everybody must be concerned about these problems. This is the advantage

in an open system. If we can think of this problems sitting here, I don't see why some clever politician also will not think about it! I'm talking about political possibilities.

- In how long will we see it?

- I do not know. It will come through the political process. It might come in several years, sonner or later, but it will come suddenly, like it happened in East Europe; we know they are still having problems, but the changes are also real.

- Is this the victory of democracy?

- It is the victory of democracy as a principle, as a concept...

Then let praise democracy and congratulate the people who supported it!

DAILY ABSTRACTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

Governance

Tatu Vanhanen (Finland)

Five papers were presented at the working group on Governance in the afternoon session on Tuesday. Dusan Ristic, Yugoslavia, started by a paper discussing some problems of democracy in Eastern Europe. In the discussion different opinions were presented on the suitability of his proposals on structural reforms.

Maté Szabó, Hungary, analyzed the first serious crisis of Hungary's new democracy, so called taxi-drivers blockade. He paid attention to certain authoritarian characteristics of Hungary's political culture.

Vucina Vasovic, Yugoslavia, talked on the ways to formulate new

institutional solutions to Eastern Europe by combining consociational and polyarchic characteristics with some other elements of democratic governance.

Seppo Remes, Finland, presented four different scenarios on possible future developments in Eastern Europe. The point emphasized in his presentation was that the future is open in many respects, and it depends on factors which are more or less unpredictable.

In the end, Rolando R. Dizon, Philippines, talked on the future of democracy in the Philippines.

Futures Studies

Rick Slaughter (Australia)

The first session of the Futures Studies track considered the knowledge base of futures. Four speakers presented their views of this important topic. Dr. Linda Groff outlined her work in the USA and, more recently, in Japan. She drew attention to the themes of consciousness, evolution and empowerment which serve to cut through the complexity of the global system in ways which are personally and professionally productive.

Jane Page, from the University of Melbourne, Australia, gave an overview of her work on futures iconography: the analysis of images, symbols and metaphors relevant to the futures field. She drew on classical examples in order to discuss more contemporary images from science fiction and other sources.

Dr. Michael Marien discussed a number of issues including his classification of types of futurists and the complex, cross-cutting character of futures work. He addressed the key question of how to increase support for futures work in education. Finally, Dr. Rick Slaughter spoke briefly to the notion of futures concepts. He suggested that such concepts provide the means to think with about futures. They therefore have an important educational role. He showed a number of OHP slides which can be used to illustrate futures concepts. There followed a spirited discussion within the group about these and related ideas. Rick summed up by suggesting that SCHOLARSHIP was extremely important in providing a sound intellectual foundation for futures studies and futures education.

Science & Technology

Jordi Bernis (Catalonia)

11 participants: M. Ausot, J. Bernis, Ll. Claudí, M. Domènech, J. W. Forje, L. Iñiguez, J. Muñoz, Pak Chang Hee, J. Platt, P. Pujol, V. Sizov.

6 communications: Invariances and determinism in global forecasting by John Platt. The prospective as the base of heuristic engineering by Lluís Claudí. The rhetoric of institutional discourse about biotechnologies: social implications by M. Domènech, L. Iñiguez, J. Muñoz, P. Pujol. The discourse about new reproductive technologies and its social implications in democratic societies by M. Pujol, J. Pujol. Monetics, an instrument to improve democratic participation by M. Olivella (co-presented at the Economy working group). Global/local

(glocal) strains. Dynamics of irreversible processes as a serviceable approach by J. Bernis.

Two first impressions: 1) Growing continuity and intensity of the communication space pushes for quicker and deeper political involving of people. On the other side, it pushes, too, for cultural intromission and homogenisation against the consolidation of local features and interpersonal relationship. 2) The consequences of biotechnology on the economy of raw material producing countries (new materials replacing natural products), have to be confronted with its economical advantages in meeting the needs (food) of rapidly growing population in developing countries. Two sides of the same coin.

NEW BOOK ON ALTERNATIVE WAYS OF STUDYING THE FUTURE

A new book on futures studies from the Alternative Future Project, Norway will be sold with a 25% conference discount here in Barcelona. The title of the book is "On Alternative Ways of Studying the Future. International institutions, an annotated bibliography and a Norwegian case." The price of the book is 1450 pesetas. Please contact Kjell Dahle in the working group of FUTURES STUDIES.

The Journal

DAILY ABSTRACTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

Communication

Magda Cordell (USA)

Three presentations were discussed: Milos Zeman (Czech & Slovak Rep): "The Post-Totalitarian Transition: Risk and Opportunity"

Kaoru Yamaguchi (Japan): Decision Modeling: Global Warming as a Case Study (Need to obtain title of paper)

Jim Dator (U.S.): "I Want My ITV" Milos Zeman presented the voucher proposal currently planned for his country. Essentially, these vouchers to be offered give the impression that when cashed in, will "make each person a millionaire." Jim Dator compared this to the early 1980s advertisements in the U.S. attempting to convince pension holders to invest in the stock market. The bottom line for both

situations? Everyone is not going to become millionaires.

Kaoru Yamaguchi outlined his proposal for overcoming policy debates over issues such as global warming. He argues that these debates often get caught up in disagreement over whether or not the event will occur. In a decision model, he moves beyond this dilemma by breaking each of the arguments into both the (1) the possible consequences, and (2) the actions which might be taken in spite of the lack of certainty. In doing so, he suggests that we move from stand-offs to reasoned actions where the costs and benefits of certain strategies can be weighed and effected.

Jim Dator provided an overview of his latest thinking on the evolution and direction of participation, democracy, communications, and communications technologies. He re-visited his (and others') previous work on the subject, in particular the technologies which continue to shape communications (e.g., television, news media, virtual reality, and others). He also offered that it is almost impossible to not participate because of these technologies and the culture we've built up around it.

The group will continue its discussions tomorrow with presentations by Tony Stevenson (Australia) and Ken Hamik (U.S.).

Youth

Jordi Serra (Catalonia)

Endangered species or already disappeared?

It seems that in the WFSF there are not a lot of young people participating and the question is: WHY? Some reasons could explain this:

- The traditional gap between theory and practice in the WFSF, which disenchant young people looking for tangible results in the short term.

- The lack of alternative ways to involve new people apart from the usual "Teacher brings Student", is also a limiting factor.

- Promotion inside WFSF should be easier and faster in order to prevent the frustration of the expectations of young members.

During these days, we will attempt to develop these points and also to deepen them. These are our current impressions which are subjective; however, the data from the polls we have distributed will help us to objectify these reflections.

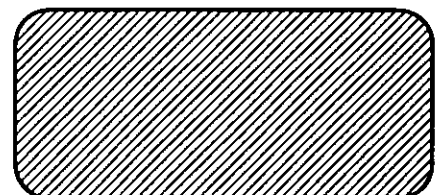
Environment

Margarita de Botero (Columbia)

Discussion in this group covered general issues of sustainable development and ecological destruction in both industrialised and non-industrialised countries. The group discussed a paper presented by Ian Lowe, "Developing a green-print for sustainability". It focussed on two main ideas presented in the paper: local self-reliance and encouragement of local control over capital and production. Using the example of the "green-print" for sustainable development of the Australian state of Tasmania, the group discussed the different strategies for identifying economic activities which would not damage the biophysical environment. The approach differs fundamentally from conventional economic planning by taking account of the capital stock of natural resources to develop an economic strategy which is genuinely sustainable. The group recognised that wise choices can only be made if there is a solid base of

information and a recognition of real needs. Widespread local involvement leads to informed choices and the real prospect of a wise balance between the desire for improved material well-being and the long-term maintenance of ecological systems. Local participation in decisions about patterns of development offers a real opportunity for sustainability.

The group recognised that is and urgent task to develop a new ethical foundation on which to build a society which will live in harmony with nature, rather than attempting to dominate nature. The ethical bankruptcy of many modern societies does violence to our fellow humans as well as to nature.



The Journal

DAILY ABSTRACTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

ECONOMY

Erzebest Gidai (Hungary)

Three presentations were made in the working group:

- 1) "Monetics, an instrument to improve democratic participation" by Marti Olivella of Barcelona,
- 2) "The current prospects for participation in Estonia" by Malle Enok an Estonian economist, and
- 3) "Can Urban Policy Induce Changes in the Economic Geography of Large Urban Centers" by Ljubinko Pusic of Yugoslavia. Following the respective presentations, participants were allowed to ask questions, or to ask questions.

A part of the discussion focused on the connections between the theories and applications of the disparate subject matters, or the relationship of the specific topics to the notion of a wholistic and integrated future. The majority of the discussion however, focused on Olivella's concept of "Monetics," or "telematic" money, which he argued would modify the rules of the social game to permit more democracy and participation. According to the paper, the cashless society would put more information in people's hands and improve market self regulation, make fiscal control and redistribution automatic and reduce the crimes and offenses of anonymous currency such as drug

trafficking arms smuggling and election rigging.

Intense discussion and debate occurred about these representations, especially as it related to redistribution in those advanced market economies whose economies are organized along rigid class lines. Under the "Monetics" formula, politics would be formally separated from economics, such that members of one

sector would be prohibited from formal participation in the other sector. While participants came to no conclusions about whether "Monetics" would automatically result in improved Democracy there was interest in the subject matter. Equally, participants did not resolve whether Urban policy can or can not change the economic geography of the Urban Centers in Europe, America or Japan.

Finally participants saluted the Baltic states for the achievement of greater Democracy, the economic models of participation are not yet clear enough to render a comprehensive evaluation.

CULTURE

Eleonora Masini (Italy)

The following issues were discussed:

A) The separation, in the past two hundred years, of the political and economic fields from the cultural areas was discussed as one of the causes of recent explosive events in the world.

B) The "vacuum" in belief terms which is also felt in many places is another cause.

C) The need for identity has made people turn to culture in search of it.

D) At the same time the use of culture to marginalize or oppress was also touched upon.

These trends seem to be important indicators for the future.

FREE WORKING GROUP

Current Futures Research Session

During the free working group sessions on Wednesday and Thursday from 7-8 we will continue discussing current futures consulting projects. These sessions are intended to explore futures work that is not presented in academic journals.

We will discuss the characteristics of consulting groups which both enable and prevent them from conducting projects which enhance democracy and participation contact.

Sharon Rodgers for more information, or see the notice board.

LET'S PARTICIPATE!

This intends to be an offer to all the participants at the XII World Conference that use the information service we have created for the occasion.

It is a free-access service that allows to consult informatically and to exchange opinions, requirements or simple suggestions amongst the participants of the Conference. You have at your disposition an equipment of 20 informatic terminals, ready to be consulted from the general program of the Conference, with all the up-to-date modifications, and even a newspaper open to any kind of subject.

We have been working hard to make the access to this service reasonably simple and so that the user does not find any difficulty to manipulate the

informatic programme, even if he is not used to the normal functioning of the data base.

I would also like to thank the great enthusiasm showed by students Laia Bobes, Claudia Rahola, Muntsa Tarrés, Laura Vergés and Mar Hernández, from this School that are here out of working hours and collaborates to the informatic tasks that may generate this Conference. Thanks to their predisposition to work like professional journalists during all the week we can have now in our hands this electronic newspaper.

Dra, Montserrat Quesada

CC.I. Computer Service Responsible

THE JOURNAL XII World Conference

This newspaper has been created for the XII World Conference of the World Futures Studies Federation. A group of students from the Faculty of Mass Communications of the Autonomous University of Barcelona will work as reporters taking and writing information pieces about the most important events. The project's direction is under the responsibility Dr. Montse Quesada, lectures of the Journalism Department, and the laboratory's technician Txema Zubiri.

XII WORLD CONFERENCE

19 SEPTEMBER 1991

FREE PRESS

PROSPECTIVE IS WORKING FOR OUR SONS

Allen Tough is the coordinator of Cutting Edge Ideas group, probably the most innovator working group.

This working team has tried to be the engine for the more innovative ideas during the congress. Tough is teaching Future Studies at Toronto University and also has time enough to grow up two kids and practising hiking and mountain bike.

-Mr Tough, the name of your group "Cutting edge ideas", to be honest, it sounds like repetitive in a Future Studies congress.

-Ja, Ja. Well, I would like to be really innovative and I think that there is a place for us in this congress. We believe that we could find out the way to think of the future in a very aggressive way.

-Tell us which is the most "cutting edge idea" of your team.

-Sure. I would like to mention the "image" method. We are trying to work on that field: images of the Future. For instance, in Pakistan. -¿Pakistan?

-Yes, in Pakistan. We have been thinking of the future image of Pakistan and it is...well. It is pretty bad.

-You mean that there is not an optimistic view of the future for this country.

-I mean that the prospective for this country is not very happy. We have been working hardly to find out that there are very few chances of good solutions for Pakistan. To be completely honest I must say that the image we have got is one of poverty, hunger and uneducated people.

-Let's talk about ethics and prospective. We are thinking all the time about what the picture of the future will be. Why not to talk about what the picture of the future must be?

-Well. This is something very interesting that should be pointed out. I do believe that it is necessary

to adopt a more ethical attitude towards prospective. I think that we cannot be just observers of the things to happen. We must try to transform them, to improve them.

-Give us one concrete way of improving this future.

-Sure. I will give you the most valuable key to transform this world: think of your kids, think of our kids, think of the new generations and try to work for them. Be generous.

-Why future generations?

-Because you are not going to work for this generations because now improvement looks so far away. But you will work hardly for the new generation, you will believe easily in the times to come. Everything could be done if we work fifty, seventy five years ahead.

-Mister Tough one could say that you are talking about the old utopic dreams. Do you have just a dream?

-Well. I do have a dream. But think of democracy now. Think of this congress. and, please, now try to imagine how the world looked like ten years ago. How did it look like twenty years ago?

The victory over dictatorship seemed so far away. just one generation ago! Democracy was then just a dream and many many people around the world we have the same beautiful dream! The dream must continue.

Laila Bobes

ABOUT PLENARY SESSION

The futures of democracy and participation in the World Futures Studies Federation (WFSF) was the central theme of yesterday's plenary session. The goal was to evaluate the actual problems of the WFSF, looking to find solutions for the future. Many people had the opportunity to expose their opinions.

During the two hours long meeting, some complains were appeared over and over like the lack of participation and sometimes of information given to the new members. On the other hand, the speakers asked the WFSF to try to find the way to collect funds in order to support other local futurist organisations, to organise more local activities (that will help global activities) or to give economic support to interesting people who cannot afford going the conferences (specially people coming from the Third World countries).

Some speakers stressed the importance to allow younger members of the WFSF to participate not only in the workshops but also in the plenary sessions. It is also important, if the WFSF is looking for democracy and participation, to accept more representation rather than more memberships. An interesting proposal was made to convert the Federation in a new social movement that could be called "The Defenders of the Future", to involve many people on defending the future generations. Other proposals were made but, as one of the speakers said, maybe two hours are not enough to decide the future of the WFSF.

DAILY ABSTRACTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

Governance

Tatu Vanhanen (Finland)

Five papers were presented at the working group on Governance in the afternoon session on Tuesday. Dusan Ristic, Yugoslavia, started by a paper discussing some problems of democracy in Eastern Europe. In the discussion different opinions were presented on the suitability of his proposals on structural reforms.

Maté Szabó, Hungary, analyzed the first serious crisis of Hungary's new democracy, so called taxi-drivers blockade. He paid attention to certain authoritarian characteristics of Hungary's political culture. Vucina Vasovic, Yugoslavia, tal-

ked on the ways to formulate new institutional solutions to Eastern Europe by combining consociational and polyarchic characteristics with some other elements of democratic governance.

Seppo Remes, Finland, presented four different scenarios on possible future developments in Eastern Europe. The point emphasized in his presentation was that the future is open in many respects, and it depends on factors which are more or less unpredictable.

In the end, Rolando R. Dizon, Philippines, talked on the future of democracy in the Philippines.

Communication

Magda Cordell (USA)

The Communication group discussed two presentations. Tony Stevenson presented the findings of research into the transfer of new soil conservation practices in cane farming areas in Northern Australia. He proposed that communication in sustainable rural development is part of a complex social, cultural and economic process in which it is difficult to share meaning among people from different microcultures or mindscapes.

Participation demands a convergence of mindscapes which may result more from active learning than from an improvement in communication alone. Jerushi Tomita explained that change in social trends and development was often slow and certain complex. Jim Dator discussed.

Ken Hamik led a discussion on the increasing use of communication technology networks and their role in giving wider distribution of information and allowing its use in conflict resolution and group decision making.

He proposed that "information wants to be free" and that access will be found. This led to a discussion of the potential limitations to information access. Also prompted the question of whether computers were more clever than the human brain.

Meng Jurong proposed that human participatory action cannot be independent of information. She discussed tactics to allow developing countries to cope with the information explosion, appealing for assistance and understanding from the international community.

Owning the lack of money and advanced systems, developing countries cannot get accurate, timely information for decision making in order to be competitive. She said it was a challenge for human participation and cooperation that information processing developed evenly across the world.

Science & Technology

Josep Bernis (Catalonia)

We have been discussing four of the papers presented to the group. Lluís Claudí has stressed the need of building-up the future objectives by the means of consensus among the social actors (as how for instance, it has been done in the case of the prefiguration of the EEC) to assure that creativity techniques make innovation efficient. M. Domènech et al. have pointed out the changes in traditional values introduced by biotechnology and new reproduction techniques as well as several aspects on existing doubts in respect to their implementation. Josep Bernis has expressed the new angles that science of chaos and dynamics of irreversible processes will bring to the understanding and forecasting of socio-political events and processes, in particular on the case of local/nationalist features. Acknowledge: The group kindly begs to the communicants which have not yet presented their papers to do so at the morning session, as their arguments could be taken in account in the discussions.

Economy

Erzebest Gidai (Hungary)

In the working group on the "Economy" we had 4 presentations about the following eastern european countries: Bulgaria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and a modern analyses about Eastern-Europe. The main points of presentations and discussion were:

- The eastern-europien countries in transitions time have only taken the first steps needed to reorganize their systems and usher democracy.
- One of the main problems is the conflict is privatization, the backwardness in the economic and social level, and the international debt-problem, and the technological gap.
- The presentations mentioned new socioeconomic models for a society in transition and different scenarios, not the neoliberal way for development, but human centered development.
- There also was a serious discussion about the future of the small nations and about the struggle for independancy in the eastern-european countries.

The Journal

DAILY ABSTRACTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

Civil Society

Bart van Steenbergen (Netherlands)

Three topics which had to do with civil society and citizenship were discussed at length.

We started with the difficult relationship between citizenship and nature. In the traditional idea of citizenship, rights were limited to human beings but it was argued that citizenship should be expanded to non-human creatures. This came forward in the paper of Chris Jones, who made a plea for a form of eco-democracy, which would synthesize participatory organizations and some social movements like feminism and the ecological movement.

Bart van Steenbergen made in his paper on 'citizenship and nature, a pair apart' a similar plea for a global green citizen. There was however also objection against this notion of expansion of the concept of citizenship, since it would make an unclear concept even more vague

and unworkable.

Moreover the question was raised what the meaning is of such a new relationship with nature, since there is no pure nature left and we could say that the whole world is an artificial environment.

The second topic dealt with citizens participation, involvement and competence. Here the papers were of a more practical nature. Peter Mettler informed us about his project on the mobilization of citizens, which raised the question of the effectiveness of mobilized grassroots movements and the danger of frustration after rising expectations which can come out of different forms of future workshops.

Marie Louise Pfeiffer gave a report on her activities to launch a number of future creating workshops by the the German trade unions. It was emphasized that the relationship with the overall topic should

be found in the attitude of civil courage and taking your fate in your own hands as real citizens, which is the goal as well as the outcome of the launched workshops. It should be emphasized here that these successful activiteis were based on the ideas of Robert Jungk.

Thirdly we discussed the role of organized religion in the context of the civil society. On the one hand it was stressed and admitted that the (Catholic) church has played a positive role in preserving elements of a civil society in former authotarian and totalitarian states in Latin America and Eastern Europe, but at the same time the recent activiteis of the Vatican to promote a christian socociety seems to contradict the development of a civil society based on autonomous and independent citizens.

Population and Health

Raimondo Cagiano (Italy)

We started our work with a discussion on the mutual influence of economic and social conditions in countries.

The first outcomes we carried out were that responsibility stands on different levels: the responsibility of individuals for themselves and for their immediate environment, but also for the society they are living in. On the opposite side, there is also a responsibility of the society even for any single individual, covering every field of social life including insurances, health care, employment and so on.

We realized that even in democracy responsibility at any level should be higher than freedom.

We still remain with the open question about where are the borders of individual freedom in democracy.

We made a thorough comparison on the question mentioned above between "democratic" countries and countries in transition.

Culture

Eleonora Masini (Italy)

The group had about 32 participants in two days with fluctuations of presences, at different moments. The presentations of the first day were by Ashis Nandi and Magda Mc Hale, of the second day by Antonio Alonso Concheiro, Godwin Sogolo, Viorika Varga and Jordi Serra.

The second day the discussion started from the inputs of the first day and centered not on the ideal of democracy related to a possible culture but rather on the contradictions between democracy and cultures (the distinction between democratic procedures and goals of democracy was made).

The assumption was made that democracy is becoming more and more tyded to the political field and away from cultures and, as a consequence, from different spheres of human life.

The question of how a responsible citizen develops if the different areas of his/her life are not based on

democratic behaviour (family, work, state, intergovernmental organization) was discussed.

The pararel behaviours emerging in the same society, one related to tradition, the other to western imported dempocratic principles thus producing tensions and conflicts, was discussed. The importance in the vacumm of believes, of, on one side reaching nihilism and on the other network of cultures, emerged.

Finally is "fashion" for the young one of the alternative future cultures at the gloval level?

DAILY ABSTRACTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

Futures Studies

Rick Slaughter (Australia)

Pentti Malaska chaired the second session of the Futures Studies track. He introduced the topic of Philosophical Issues in Futures Research. He pointed out some of the key differences between the approaches of futures research and empirical science. His diagrams showing some of these distinctions were discussed.

Mika Mannermaa drew on his paper entitled "In Search of an Evolutionary Paradigm for Futures Research" to highlight some underlying assumptions and propositions of the approach. He used the language of systems dynamics, complexity and multiple realities to substantiate the argument. Even though the presentation took nearly an hour, he barely had time to scratch the surface, as it were. However, there were some points of correspondence with the final paper.

Rick Slaughter touched briefly on some key aspects of critical futures study in relation to the theme of "Worldview Design." He suggested that careful attention to the grounding of worldviews and ways

of knowing, while difficult, provided access to new social and cultural options. Among these are ways of moving toward sustainability and setting up the notion of a wisdom culture (as a focus for action/vision/research).

While the three papers each represented work in progress and showed a number of important differences, the degree of overlap was noticeable. Each looked beyond a predictable, materialist, positivist view toward more systems-oriented, culturally-grounded and metatheoretical developments. As befitted a session on philosophy, the ideas were demanding and sometimes controversial. However, if futures study, futures research are to address some of the deeper systemic problems and possibilities of late industrial life (and beyond) it will need theories and approaches at this level to complement and support its more accessible components. While time was short, each of the three papers illustrated some of the problems and potentials of high quality futures work.

Education

Uvais Ahamed (Sri Lanka)

In yesterday's session Dr. Hyon-Sup Choi discussed his paper on the cultivation of democratic values through social education with special relevance to the Republic of Korea.

It is important in the Korean context for everyone to understand the concept of modern democracy. The education system has to be adequately stretched to provide this understanding to those who are in their forties and fifties. This is specially important because there is a strong tendency to perceive democracy within the classical conceptual framework. In this respect it is important to extend education to cover out-of-school adult education as well.

The task of social education to cultivate values and attitudes of

modern democracy is how to cope with the following factors. Firstly, traditional culture which has influenced Koreans to refrain from participation. Secondly, the restrictive conditions of Korea which have led to misunderstanding and illiteracy about modern democracy. Thirdly, in order to achieve the goal of cultivating democratic citizenship it is necessary to organize separate training programmes for socio-political elites and ordinary citizens.

It was pointed out that elaborate research and a continuous exploration of constructive educational programme must be given top priority to find the right answer to the problem of democracy that is peculiar to Korea.

Youth

Jordi Serra (Catalonia)

ENDANGERED SPECIES OR ALREADY DISAPPEARED ? (II)

Not completely despaired yet, we are still looking for young futurists. Following our reflection we would like to develop the first of our yesterday's points:

Although many young people who care about the Future are working enthusiastically in lots of different fields (which certainly have connections with Futures Studies), they rarely join the WFSF. Again the question is WHY?

The young people who work for a better future want to feel and see that their activity means something, and that they can make the difference, even if it is at a small scale. The WFSF, which often reaches a high intellectual-academic level of discussion, fails too frequently to translate it into practical activities with tangible results. This discourages most young people who really do not want to spend time in sterile abstractions.

So if the WFSF truly wants to have young active members, it has to decidedly start a program of concrete achievable objectives, which apart from being extremely useful for beginners would provide them with self-realisation and satisfaction.

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TWO WISHES

DEMOCRACY FOR EASTERN EUROPE AND DEVELOPMENT FOR NON-WESTERN COUNTRIES

Other than the plenary session and the workshops, yesterday we had two out of the program meetings. In the morning, speakers mostly from Eastern Europe discussed about the recent changes in their countries. After lunch, we opened our microphones to representants of non-occidental countries. Both of the debates were very interesting.

About the situation in Eastern Europe, Arno Koorna (Estonia) said that in the Soviet Union there's been a "kind of revolution" because the Russian Empire is desintegrating and fourteen new countries have appeared. Now, the situation is moving in the way of Western democracy, but not copying it. The goal is to be integrated in the European community from which they've been separated for many years. In this direction, Ana Maria Sandi (Romania) insists saying that the futures of Eastern Europe are in the frames of the futures of the whole Europe. Because, if both have a common past, they can also have a common future. Mihailo Markovic (Yugoslavia) pointed out that there's now two types of civilisation, one dominated by traditional liberalism and another one based on socialdemocracy. In this context, the option for Eastern Europe would be a mixed economy or society synthesis of best achievements of liberalism and socialdemocracy. For Erzsébet Gidai (Hungary), the first step for each one of the coun-

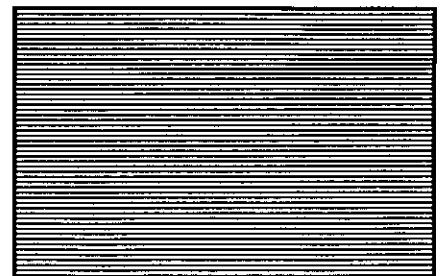
tries has to be the independance and then the other matters. She also pointed the danger of the "westernisation" rather than making a qualitative change. On the other hand, Milos Zeman (Czechoslovakia) fears the anti-communist fundamentalists, maybe a form of communism. In his opinion the main risk is that the behavior patterns of those countries are still communist and they have to be changed in order to be democrats, not formally but inside each one of the citizens. The last speaker Igor Bestuzev-Lada (Russia) compared the situation of the Soviet Union with the typical souvenir for tourists, the Matrioska, because every new nation in the Soviet Union is "the Soviet Union in miniature". Jim Dator finished pointing that all of the changes that are occurring in the Eastern countries will soon happen in the United States (all the others laughed).

The afternoon meeting pointed out another kind of problems. It's been a nice meeting from which the more developed and stressed countries could learn something. This time the discussion was around democracy and how this concept could be applied all over the world, considering the cultural diversity. All the participants insisted on the idea that before to start talking about democracy many other questions have to be resolved, specially survival.

Wang (People's Republic of China) exposed that "democracy has different meanings in the mind of different people". So, the occidental democratic model cannot be considered a universal model. In this direction was also Lin Zeng Qiu (PRCh) who said that other countries want to develop democracy attending to the different concepts and cultures. Rolando Dizou (Philippines) stressed that theories are desirable but the important is to look at the concrete problems, the every day life, and then the theory can be applied.

In these countries, as John Forje (Cameroun) said, the three main problems are poverty, the role of the women in social justice and the independance degree. An unanimous proposal was that the WFSF could treat this problems in the future meetings. The other participants - Nandini Joshi (India), Godwin Sogolo (Nigeria), Donald Chimani (Zimbabwe), Zhenyu Mi (People's Republic of China) and Ikram Azam (Pakistan) - agreed to these arguments and the debate finished with a salutation of each speaker in his or her own language. The general feeling was: wealth is not only money.

*Claudia Rahola
Laia Bobes
Laura Bergés*



DAILY ABSTRACTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

FUTURES STUDIES

Rick Slaughter

Though not all the speakers due for the session actually made it, this was a lively and interesting one. Dave Hicks, from the University of London, outlined his work on the Global Futures Project. This is attempting to introduce teachers to some of the concepts and methods of futures study. While the latter remains rare in Britain, Dave suggested that the work of the project could provide fertile ground from which future work could grow. After some frustrating attempts to lose his document on disc, Kjell Doll was able to reconstruct his paper and deliver a forthright and concise account of participatory futures work in Norway. He also drew attention to some common

problems, including the lack of an agreed core knowledge area for futures. This became one of the themes of the session. Andre van Dam stepped in at the last moment to deliver a plea for more attention to making futures work more widely available to the general public.

Petr Javorsky provided an overview of futures modelling in Prague. The program remains experimental but shows promise. Deuk-Pyo Hong then gave a concise overview of progress in futures studies in Korea. Whereas it had once been used for propaganda purposes, it now is being developed for more constructive ends such as defining and realizing a functioning democracy. Wendy Schultz provided a brief overview of work in progress in Hawaii utilizing

participatory futures workshops. Each of the participants in the session had a chance to comment briefly and a range of views was expressed about how to improve the quality of futures work and make it more widely available. Rick Slaughter summarised the dialogue and made three concluding points. First, that there is an immense, but latent, demand for futures work. The latency derives from a lack of understanding about what this work is. Second, that while futures had emerged with a somewhat diffuse "idea base", there is a core of concepts, methods etc. which can be clearly defined and communicated. So, third, the need now was to define this core knowledge base more carefully and then communicate it in many contexts and at as many levels as possible.

ENVIRONMENT

**Margarita de Botero
(Colombia)**

Towards Science-oriented Democracy

How to realize sustainable development is a big challenge. Sustainable development has to rely on economic, technical and social conditions. Equally important is the need for democracy. In a World of interdependency, national environmental strategies are also determined by the common interests of surrounding regions. The measures of "local" governments are strongly influenced by "global" interests.

State legislation and markets must be reconciled: democratic participation occurs during the decision process. Democratic participation in the decision-making process requires putting together rationality and feelings using scientific results both in selecting goals and implementations.

In the former socialist countries the alternative ecological movements were, first of all, opposition movements. They had to work against an inimical bureaucratic power. The change in the political

situation led to the re-organization of these movements. When their representatives assumed power, the vigour of these movements diminished and their fighting mood became moderate.

Naturally it is convenient to give priority to ecology and to the interests of the community. However the conditions for a total shift in economic paradigms - especially in the former socialist countries - are not yet there.

The question of changes in the economic paradigm is not only an economic and technological problem, but also an educational and cultural one. The transformation of our value-scales may increase the possibility of achieving sustainable development in the near future.

A science-oriented democracy is our long-range goal. It may mobilize people to fulfil their common aims. It may also compel the political decision-makers to promote the practical application of scientific results.

It is proposed to promote not only "democracy", but also "science-oriented democracy".

CULTURE

Eleanora Masini (Italy)

Yesterday's discussion was devoted to the contradictions and problems of democracy and democratization. The main focus of the discussion was devoted to Eastern Europe. The search for cultural identity through selfdetermination, nationalism and the problems entailed (for example, violence, restriction of minority rights, new external dependencies, lack of criterion for critical acceptance or external cultural values, the imposition of a cultural vacuum, economic fragility). A particular point was made that a cultural area could offer answers to the contradictions between economy and ecology in the Soviet system. The hedonistic society of US - characterized by ease, comfort, enjoyment - was criticized as being irresponsible to the future generation. Two other contributions related to creative intercultural dialogue conflict negotiation between different cultures.

A proposal concerning defining Federation policy implications was launched and will be presented in the Report.

DAILY ABSTRACTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

CUTTING EDGE IDEAS

Allen Tough (Canada)

Ten ideas were presented. Like Agatha Christie's novel "Ten Little Indians", one idea after the other disappears under the carthesian force of logic. How many ideas will survive, only time will tell. This concept prevails when reading the proceedings of previous world conferences of WFSF or other futuristic societies. What we discussed as recently as Beijing, Budapest and Barcelona, will all this survive the events of 1992 and 1993; in other words, when we reconvene in Helsinki in August 1993, will our papers and discussions in Beijing, Budapest and Barcelona (let alone Cairo and Costa Rica) have any validity at all? If not, will the acid rain of time (and a relatively short time at that) erode the cream of

thoughts of hundreds of futurists? It is certainly not our task to forecast events such as Tianmen Square, the crumbling of the Berlin Wall, the Gulf war and the abrupt end of communism in the Soviet Union, but could and should we have presented and discussed such farfetched scenarios in our books, papers and conferences = in stead of discussing a carless society or moneyless society or undersea cities or the end of history, all serious topics on agendas of past futurist conferences. If we futurists wish to present cutting edge ideas <as we should>, that are possible, desirable and credible, and likely to withstand the acid rain of politics, time and geographic space, our heads may remain in the clouds as long as our feet remain solidly planted on mother earth.

POPULATION AND HEALTH

Rimondo Cagiano (Italy)

Second session (afternoon)

Before the work started we remembered Stanley Lesse, on his activity in the WFSF and not less on his contribution to our work program in Budapest last year. We miss him.

The papers of the following participants were presented and discussed by Maria Kalas-Koszegi, Rimondo Cagiano, Barbara Sannino, Fabio Ugolini, Mesbah-us-Saleheen. The demographic tendencies which are, or can be, expected in the near and far future were discussed. Special interest was focused on the extremes between countries at different levels of development, but also between countries at similar level as the development regards.

Second session (afternoon)

The participants taking also into consideration the preliminary recommendation of the organizing committee concluded that in Helsinki 1993 World Conference, the following topic should be discussed within the main topic of Education, Urbanization, Environment, "Migration" and Social transition.

ECONOMY

Erzsebest Gidai (Hungary)

We had two presentations. One of both, "Democratization of Decision-making in defence economics". Other one, "Pdychosociópathology impedes real democracy".

In the discussion we had three main questions:

a) Pathology of power, as illusion, megalomania, narcissism, theomania.

b) The new economic order should attend the following principles:

* capital should be subordinated to the work.

* a new conception of human right.

* direct citizen participation in making economic policy and programs.

* Neither the market nor the state alone can insume principles of economic justice and equity. The 3rd sector or the sustainable alternative is necessary. The Mondragon system in Spain is an example of this New World order.

c) The democracy in the military sector is possible with the control of military expenditures, research production and armstrade.

YOUTH

Jordi Serra (Catalonia)

ENDANGERED SPECIES OR ALREADY DISAPPEARED ? (III)

Even though few polls have been delivered to us and we begin to think that we should maybe try to look for some kind of eternal youth fountain, we still believe (and hope) that many initiatives could be taken to change this situation; meanwhile we would like to complete the analysis we have been developing these days.

Most of the "young" members the WFSF has come from the University-academic world, and usually they have become involved because one of their teachers is a member of the WFSF and invited them to join, this which is not inherently bad means that we are hindering many many young people who certainly could bring a new perspective to the WFSF, not to consider the implications about lack of democracy, real interdisciplinarity and globality. The WFSF must

realise that only a small part of the youth is in the university and special programs to involve non-university youth must be started and implemented.

Achieving a large number of young members in the WFSF is only part of the solution; possibilities of real and practical work must be offered (see part II of this series), but also, and we think it is very important, young members should have the chance to work in the different offices and even in the executive council, maybe a policy of having at least a significant percentage of young officers would be helpful.



DAILY ABSTRACTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

ENVIRONMENT

Josep Puig i Boix (Catalonia)

The Environment working group heard and discussed a paper "Local Energy Plans: Citizens in action lobbying for a Soft Energy Path". The paper explains the unsustainability of Hard Energy Path, exposes the everincreasing Carbon emissions (global warming) and the Sulphur and Nitrogen emissions (acid rain) from burning fossil fuels. Also exposes the radioactive poisoning of natural systems because of the nuclear reactors generating electricity.

In the same way it exposes the inequality of energy use in different areas of the planet Earth.

Because of "the tools in their technical development reach thresholds which are societal critical" and "when a tool acquires such a critical character, it inevitably affects the culture, social structure and distribution of political power of the community which uses it", and because the energy technologies are subjected to these critical thresholds the working group agreed in refusing the industrialist hard energy path.

Also the group supported the Soft Energy Path based on the minimization of non-renewable energy use, improving energy efficiency, using small and/or community scale energy technologies, using local and renewable energy sources, owned by the communities managing and using them.

The Environment Working Group discussed a way to make possible the recovering of energy decision making by the local communities. This would be feasible by designating a Community Soft Energy Plan (CSEP) at the grass roots level identifying the flows of energy through the community and how the energy is used, projection in the future the energy consumption, accounting how much energy could be saved through very aggressive energy conservation policy, and assessing the renewable energy potential into the community borders.

The CSEP would be a mean to advance democracy in energy decisions, a way to recover the power of human beings over the energy, by now monopolised by energy autocratic elites.

GOVERNANCE

Tatu Vanhanen (Finland)

Five papers were presented at the working group in the afternoon session on Tuesday, 17.

Dusan Ristic, Yugoslavia, started by a paper discussing some problems of democracy in Eastern Europe. In the discussion different opinions were presented on the suitability of his proposals on structural reforms.

Maté Szabó, Hungary, analyzed the first serious crisis of Hungary's new democracy, so called taxi-drivers blockade. He paid attention to certain authoritarian characteristics of Hungary's political culture.

Vucina Vasovic, Yugoslavia, talked on the ways to formulate new institutional solutions to Eastern Europe by combining consociational and polyarchic characteristics with some other elements of democratic governance.

Seppo Remes, Finland, presented four different scenarios on possible future developments in Eastern Europe. The point emphasized in his presentation was that the future is open in many respects, and it depends on factors which are more or less unpredictable.

In the end, Rolando R. Dizon, Philippines, talked on the future of democracy in the Philippines.

GOVERNANCE

Tatu Vanhanen (Finland)

Many new ideas on the ways to improve the structures of democracy and participation were discussed in the eighth papers presented in the working group on Governance on Thursday.

Igor Bestuzhev-Lada, the Soviet Union, described the failure of Marxist utopia in the Soviet Union and its catastrophic consequences in his paper "Overcoming problem situations in the management of social processes". His conclusion was: Kaput. However, he had also several ideas on the strategies by which a normal human society could be established step by step in his country.

Sohail Inayatollah focused on possibilities to redesigning governance in his paper "Governance and types of power: towards a political design". Alessandra de Santis, Italy, intro-

duced her and Marco D'Orazio's paper "Towards a world government" in which they argue that economic integration will lead through continental unions to the World Federation.

In the afternoon session, Robert W. Lamson, USA, discussed the strategy to improve democracy and participation by using the United States as an example. His message is that it is possible to improve the health of democracy by alleviating its ailments.

Igor Bestuzhev-Lada, under the title "Towards powers division on a global scale", discussed many Soviet and global questions from the decline of the Soviet power to the necessity to create an effective global political order to solve demographic and several other burning problems.

John Raven, Scotland, presented a paper "Necessary changes in bureaucracy and democracy". His thesis

was that because of the collapse of the environment and many other problems we urgently need a society which is run more effectively. Donald P. Chimanihire, Zimbabwe; analysed the yearning of democracy in Africa in his paper "Political renewal in Africa: The case for participatory governance" and argued that all hope has not been lost.

Antoni Estradé, Catalonia, informed the participants of Catalanian politics in his paper "Reshaping democracy, redrawing Europe: The Catalan nation in the European Community of the future" (coauthor Montserrat Treserra). His thesis was that recent political changes in the other parts of Europe have increased the chances of Catalanian people to achieve a higher degree of self-determination.

The Journal

DAILY ABSTRACTS FROM FREE WORKING GROUPS

Democracy: What is it?

What I want to do now is discuss this conference. Of course in any such discussion one always has his/her own psych at stake. I am a defensive soul. A person who sees herself as unwanted - as the sort of person that each one hopes to avoid. But there are a few things that this little person wants to say.

There was an article on the Gulf War which asks for us to stand up as a group and declare our position - with the clear understanding that our position coincides with his. Namely that the American position was entirely wrong. There was brutality and coercion - two attributes which seem according to the writer, entirely US Attributes. There is no recognition in the condemnation that any other power showed any inhumanity. All in the world is love and peace and non-materialism except in the US. The author is German. Had he been from certain other parts of the world - the evil would have been in the lands of the "North" - which is the new euphemism for the First World - the super powers- the haves.

But we will not accomplish much in these meetings if we reduce our approach to US bashing.

But US bashing seems to be the order of the day. I never felt so nationalistic as I do at these meetings.

Margarita B. understands that in order to appeal to people in the developing lands (the have nots) one needs to understand their psyche and not offend their sensibilities. But no such slack is cut for the poor Gringo. Call him whatever you want. He/she will take it and even agree with you - nay - exaggerate the point one hundred fold.

Democracy: What is it? Will it be in the same form for all people. Should it be in that form? The newly forming - or re-forming nations of Eastern Europe all claim that they will be democracies. But then so did the Soviet Union claim to be such a government. So did the Weimar republic. Hitler was democratically elected. So the

question is, what is democracy. What elements are necessary for any government to be a meaningful democracy.

1. Freedom of expression
2. Human rights
- 3.

And now there is the question of being recognized in the large group or accepted in the small. Who are the ins and who the outs? What is the chemistry which makes some people so sought and others so shunned? I do not know but I do recognize the fact that after even a first acceptance of us, it does not take long for each person to turn from us with that shoulder that says, come to learn how to avoid the pain by not even looking at their space. I wish I could want not to be with them but such is not the case.

The Group of Seven Meets

Seven people who do some futures work as consultants met to discuss the ins and outs of surviving as a consultant. During the discussion - which began over beer and continued in the bus after being interrupted halfway through - the most interesting theme to note was the overwhelming significance of legitimacy or "address" (such as university letterhead) in getting contracts.

Although only one of our group is a tenured university professor, most of the rest are attached to universities in some way. For those who aren't, legitimacy is either gained through extensive publishing or reference to more solid projects (involving engineering, for example) which the firm conducts. This was seen as critical not only in terms of getting money but also in getting published. It was interesting that address was seen as the key to the other requirements of futures consulting - stable non-futures related base funding and specific futures project funding.

Although, there is some minimal funding available from government and private organizations, futures work (especially during recession periods) is often a poorly- or unpaid form of employment. Funding for futures projects can be "borrowed" within a consultancy from other more lucrative but less interesting projects. One can only hope not to compromise one's professional integrity by taking on projects which conflict dramatically with one's future-oriented convictions.

DAILY ABSTRACTS FROM FREE WORKING GROUPS

1992: GLOBAL CELEBRATION OR GLOBAL CORRECTION

The year 1992 represents a particular moment in the historical process of futures development and analysis. It is also the year of, among other things, the Barcelona Olympics, and the 500th year since Columbus landed in America. This so called "discovery" was an intrusion into life of already existing nations and cultures, and altered the face of history. Instead of celebrating this anniversary, conscious and progressive global citizens of the future should deem it as an opportunity to reexamine its meaning and impact in order to correct the inaccuracies and myths associated with the Columbus story. Whether we agree or disagree in our historical analysis, we call upon each of you to join us in reflecting on the human consequences of the Western experiment in both 'Democracy and Colonialism'. We will respectfully submit this letter to all citizens of the world, and also to the United Nations,

1992: PER CELEBRAR-HO O PER ESMENAR-HO?

L'any 1992 representa un moment particular en el procés històric del desenvolupament i l'anàlisi del futur. Es també l'any, entre d'altres coses, de la Barcelona Olímpica i del 500 aniversari de l'arribada de Columbus a Amèrica. Això, que ha estat qualificat com "el descobriment", no fou altra cosa que una intrusió en la vida de les nacions i cultures ja existents en aquelles terres, i que va alterar el decurs de la història. En lloc de col·laborar amb aquest aniversari, el conjunt de persones progressistes i conscienciades pel futur haurien d'aprofitar l'ocasió per reexaminar la significació i l'impacte d'aquest esdeveniment, per tal de corregir les inexactituds i els mites associats a la història de Cristòfol Colom. Tant si coincideix amb la nostra anàlisi històrica com si no, us fem una crida perquè us uniu a nosaltres en la reflexió sobre les conseqüències humanes del projecte occidental sobre "Democràcia i Colonialisme". Volem enviar aquesta carta a tots els ciutadans del món, a les Nacions Unides, a les Organitzacions no-Governamentals, a les grans religions mundials, als Caps d'Estat i al conjunt de la ciutadania. Si us plau, uniu-vos a nosaltres. Moltes gràcies.

SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR ENHANCING PARTICIPATION AND ACTION IN WORLD CONFERENCES OF THE WFSF

Generally, opportunities should be given for the creation and functioning of an alternative conference format for those who choose to depart from the traditional academic approach. In particular, so-called working groups should be reorganized.

Each group could be organized around tasks or problem-solving. Group makeup might be guided by having participants identify the key questions facing them in their own work and then grouping the lists into associated areas.

Any background papers should be distributed and read before the conference;

Each group should be guided by a facilitator (either in addition to a scientific chair or instead of) who is trained in facilitation;

Each group should produce something (a vision document, curriculum, videotape, proposal for project, etc.) which would then be shared with all conference participants. There must be at least one predetermined outlet for the work done which is not just inclusion in a standard proceedings document.

Submitted by Sharon Rodgers and Wendy Schultz based on discussions with a variety of other like-minded participants.

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Report of the Panel

"The Futures of Democracy and Participation in the WFSF"

Ibrahim Abdel-Rahman

This panel consisted of 17 speakers, six out of them from the floor. The topics mainly dealt with were research orientation of the WFSF, the organization of its conferences, other matters of internal organization, and the openness of the WFSF vis-a-vis its societal environment. Further points dealt with in a less extensive manner were regionalization, funding, and sclerotization of the WFSF.

Research orientation: The general nominator of the points raised in this issue was the necessity of strengthening the role of research within the WFSF's activities. It was for example critically noted that many of the papers presented in the conferences are only memoranda of ideas. Other interventions were made in favour of more unconventional, serious and broad research projects of the WFSF, to be possibly supported by research centers to be created (for example revisiting works like "The Limits to Growth" or "Mankind at the Turning Point"). Also it was said that the WFSF could establish an own research committee to initiate, organize, and exert quality control on the research. All these activities would, as was stated, increase the understanding of what futures studies are and are capable to bring about and also have positive effects on the WFSF's conferences quality. A concrete starting point suggested was to enlarge the membership directory not only by information like the duration of the individual membership but also by substantial information like the individual professional orientations and the areas of interest.

Organization of conferences: The point was made that WFSF plenary sessions as they have been until now are boring, whatever

might have been said in the closing ceremonies. It was suggested that instead of repeatedly seen speakers the best available experts on the topics under discussion at the given point in time should be invited. Also, the point was made that the plenaries should be designed to become events of "dramatic participation".

Other matters of internal organization: The former point was extended to the notion that there should be more flexibility in response to the needs of the changing topics in the WFSF's events, and that the organizing and acting persons should be empowered by active participation of the audience: "We are accepting non-participation". It was also stated that if people were willing to, they could become active already now - if there are ideas there is also room to implement them; if the individual initiative is taken. Along the same lines, it was criticized that the WFSF is acting on concepts created in industrial times, in particular, that decision making hierarchies of contemporary business are flatter than the WFSF decision making hierarchy. The counter suggestion was to decentralize the WFSF's decision making structure and delegate specific responsibilities not only to the vice presidents of the WFSF but also to individual other WFSF members, including particularly new and young members. There was an additional proposal to combine the WFSF Council and General Assembly meetings as they had the same agendas anyway.

Openness vis-a-vis the social environment: The necessity of attracting more new members was also emphasized with respect to broadening the horizon of the WFSF and opening it to new ideas. Establishing more intensive relations not only to business, planners, decision makers and the general public but in particular to the new social movements was stated as necessary. Otherwise, it was said, the discussions would stay as they are now - discussions among "civil servants". One concrete proposal was to create an international as-

sociation of Chairs in futures studies in order to reach thousands of students. Another concrete proposal was to set ourselves a common goal of being a membership of thousand people by the year 1995 and 2000 by the year 2000.

On the other hand, there was made a strong point in favour of opening the activities of the WFSF towards the general public and have a say in public issues, in particular to create an initiative like "Futures International" leaning on the model of "Amnesty International". Like AI is taking care of political prisoners, the WFSF could devote itself to the sake of the survival of species, endangered social groups, etc. and in this way take care of the interests of the future generations. A different line of thinking proposed was to look more inside the WFSF: "Who are we; what is our common history - this is a Federation of workaholics and we do not know enough about each other." But the point was also raised that more internal democracy needs more time.

Regionalization and Funding: In order to make the work of the WFSF more effective, it was proposed to set up national associations. The WFSF ought to continue and strengthen regional activities and conferences; this was anticipated to have a catalytic effect on the global activities and the world conferences of the WFSF. In order support the WFSF activities and in particular in order to ensure participation in the WFSF conferences a point admitted to have been raised repeatedly was increasing fund raising endeavours.

Sclerotization: The participation issue going like a red thread through the whole discussion was also put the way that contrary to perceptions that "the federation belongs to its founders" actions should be taken to encourage the membership as a whole to feel responsible for its goals and actions.

Katrin Gillwald
Mika Mannerman

ABOUT PLENARY SESSION

Basically, I differed with Toffler's presentation in 3 ways. First, I thought he failed to explain the lack of Democracy in the structure of the American economy. It was as though current institutions are self correcting in their ability to resolve the deep divisions within present day American society. Persons of color, women, recent immigrants, displaced workers, seniors, youth, and the structually sub-employed are marginal citizens for whom participation is at best a marginal abstraction. Of course it is acknowledged that all U.S residents do not share this marginality.

However, I expected more from someone as knowledgeable as Toffler. I would have preferred a more accurate description of the socioeconomic demography of change in the U.S. which I think is the driving force for internal development or social chaos in our country. The omission of this issue made it difficult to place his comments in an appropriate futures scenario.

Secondly, I found his discussion of information access to be a bit skewed in that the 40 percent of U.S. residents who do not have access to Cable tv. are in many cases the marginal citizens referred to earlier. Once again, the structure of

economics influences access to information. In some communities, households which are unable to subscribe to Cable cannot get free tv. either. Thus, economic inequalities may directly influence informational inequalities as well.

Thirdly, and finally, I sharply differ with his support of U.S. involvement in the Gulf war. Regardless of my own views of Saddam Hussein's perspectives on democracy, I fundamentally disagree with the U.S. position. To me the war was an example of the new world order which has resulted from the decline in Soviet interest as a global counterbalance to U.S. power politics. It appears that War was used to demonstrate to the rest of the World that the U.S. is more than willing to be the global cop in support of global corporate interests. This to me is a disturbing futures scenario. Furthermore, whenever the U.S. goes to War, People of color fight and die disproportionately, which seriously diminishes the potential future of such communities.

In summary, I thought Toffler's apologia, and his lack of a correct analysis of current U.S. social change dynamics and level of human marginalization leaves a lot to be desired. I would have appreciated a more balanced presentation.

Mtangulizi Sanyika .:
CALIFORNIA FUTURIST

A comment:

The modern craze for diversity could be disastrous. For example, having a TV set with 150 channels and choosing a couple from the 150 - as was advocated yesterday morning - is like having 150 dishes prepared when one actually eats two of them. It is an outcome of a surplus or a wasting society. Besides, diversity at what cost? At the cost of hunger, disease and debt for millions of the others? Mohammad, Jesus and Buddha did not need complex instruments and yet their messages are remembered after thousands of years. Is it not ironical that the contemporary age, which hardly has a message to deliver, has produced so many communication devices?

The problem is not only for the poor, it is as much for the rich as well. If the poor suffer for the lack of food, the rich suffer for the lack of sleep. The diversity and complexity is an outcome of brainwashing sales-promotion of profit-maximising producers. It is simple-living which leads to high-thinking.

By

Dr. Nandini Joshi

CREATIVE FUTURES METHODS

don't miss to have a look at

THE FIRST SCIENCE - ART WORK

by computer

MAN - NATURE - TECHNOLOGY

Based on a paper by Pentti Malaska
Ecosystem and technosystem, a problematic relation
Exhibition on the computer desk in the registration hall

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XII WORLD CONFERENCE

21 SETEMBER 1991

FREE PRESS

A FINAL COMMENT ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The XII World Conference of the World Futures Studies Federation has broken down with the usual activities of the Faculty of Mass Communication. This week, rather than students, people coming from all parts of the world were invading the classrooms, the halls and the bar. But, as the students, the participants of the conference

were suffering the "nice" heat inside and outside the building. The trip to go to the cafeteria was also an adventure. Some hundreds of steps had to be past in order to taste the specialities of the chef. Students on campus were amazed with this cultural diversity and also with the different outfits, unusual for the university.

But, this diversity was not always showed at the plenary sessions, where the majority of the speakers were white occidental men and the agenda related mostly to the "First World". Today it's very interesting to speak about democracy and participation, but it cannot be forgotten that there are many other problems in the developing countries that still have to be resolved.

go no next page



Antonio Zamora

The workshops called everybody to meet again in the afternoon. Although it was already "sies-ta" time, the different groups have been working normally and in a friendly way, even outdoors on the grass and under the sun. More surprising than these unconventional meetings was the fact that young people was a minority in a conference analysing the challenges for the future. Also it is interesting to remark that the workshop on "youth" counted only with two of the participants. Does that mean that young people are not interested in their own future or in the next generations' one?

*Claudia Rahola
Laura Bergés*



Antonio Zamora



Antonio Zamora

¿PLANETARY FUTURES?

This is a call for futures researchers and others interested in the "human impacts" of greenhouse warming and global climate change. We are looking for funding and research opportunities.

Contact:

**The Hawaii Research
Center
for Futures Studies,**

**Jim Dator, Wendy Schultz,
or Chris Jones.**

DAILY ABSTRACTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

GOVERNANCE

Tatu Vanhanen (Finland)

Seven papers on the prospects of democracy and on the problems of democracy and participation in different parts of the world were presented in the working group on Governance on Wednesday.

Samuel Decalo, South Africa, indicated in his paper "Democracy in Africa: Towards the 21st Century" that the dramatic democratization in Eastern Europe had profound repercussions in Africa. Many authoritarian systems collapsed and multi-party systems were established, but because of serious constraints of democracy the chances of democratization are not yet good in Africa.

Raja Ikram Azam, Pakistan, pointed out in his paper "Promoting Participative Democracy in the Third World" that the content of democracy should be adapted to local circumstances and that its preconditions should be improved by extensive social reforms.

Tatu Vanhanen, Finland, presented, on the basis of his Darwinian argumentation and empirical variables, global forecasts for democracy in the comparison group of 147 contemporary states. Surendra K. Gupta, USA, talked on the difficulties of democratization in ethnically divided countries on the basis of many examples from

the Soviet Union to India. He argued that solution lies in more democratization and decentralization.

Yoon-Jae Chung, South Korea, argued in his paper "Nationalism in the Global Age" that nationalism will be replaced by globalism in the future. Sang-Min Lee, South Korea, introduced his study "Democratization in Social Life in Case of Korea". The point was that Korea needs democratic civil culture. Joan N. Casals, Catalonia, presented his idea on the coming age of direct democracy, which can be achieved as a result of many changes in norms and social and economic structures.

YOUTH

Jordi Serra (Catalonia)

ENDANGERED SPECIES OR ALREADY DISAPPEARED ? (and IV)

We do not want to make you believe that no one within the WFSF cares about youth. Many members have proposed wonderful ideas and initiatives which can really work, but many of them only give an answer to a first level: we expect not only to gather young people together but to carry on a practical work which enables them to learn Futures Studies, to gain future awareness and also to give them a more global perspective.

The question for us is not to have youth groups but to take youth in our group (the WFSF). By just putting together young people in seminars, conferences, courses, working groups or whatever you may call it, you will not give them the chance to achieve this personal enrichment. We must not create ghettos for youth. We have to take into account that youth is just a transitory state, and although some people may keep on working in youth questions most of them will develop their activity in other fields. We are not saying that young people do not need to have meetings to discuss common interests and problems and to share projects and ideas, but they also need to be able to work in their field of interest.

The real aim of this series has been to initiate an internal process inside the WFSF which could lead us to have young members. We have proposed ideas and strategies that we believe can be successful, many people is eager to collaborate it is the task of the WFSF to supply proper tools for them. Chris Jones from Hawaii with Ivan Pera and Jordi Serra from Catalonia have offered themselves to coordinate any initiative to finally achieve a relevant young membership. Thank you for your patience and see you in the next Conference.

Ivan Pera & Jordi Serra



INTERVIEW - INTERVIEW - INTERVIEW - INTERVIEW

ALVIN TOFFLER, THE POLEMIC INTERVENTION IN THE PLENARY SESSION

"I think that the Gulf War was made necessary by Saddam Hussein"

Alvin Toffler has been for several hours the center of the arguments raised by his new theories on war and peace. Accused by some people of being a conservative pro-american, Toffler sustains that left and right are not the center of the issue anymore. He came to Bellaterra to speak at the WFSF Conference and talked for "The Journal".

Alvin Toffler always travels and works with his wife, Heide. The Tofflers have achieved a way of working together that could be a paradigm of effectivity. Travelling around the world, they have built up a huge library that will be inherited by Columbia University, but right now, they are worried about what is going on in the challenging last decade of the milenium.

- Mr. Toffler, you are working now in the peace and war theories but all the polemic in the Conference has been around the Gulf War. For several scholars you are based in favor of the american position and you have been accused of conservative.

- I consider that left and right are definitions that can not be applied anymore. They are now over. When analyzing the Gulf War, one cannot be accused of being conservative because this is a nonsense word. I think that the Gulf War was made necessary by Saddam Hussein. He insisted on being punished.

-Which are the keys of the Gulf War?

-Oil and nuclear capability. We said already that the Gulf War is a consequence of the strategic importance of oil but also a consequence of the need to control the nuclear capability of the Third World leaders.

- You mean that it has been a lesson?

- I mean that it has been a necessary lesson that has avoided the threat of new Saddams appearing and threatening the complete world because of their

"I consider that left and right are definitions that can not be applied anymore"

CIVIL SOCIETY

**Bart van Steenberghe
(Netherlands)**

The group on Civil Society discussed at length the interesting paper presented by Dr. Jae-Young Kim from Korea on "Civic education for democratization in Korea". It came out that there is a deep and inherent tension between the traditional Korean culture with its emphasis on hierarchy, respect for seniority, family ties etc and the requirements for a civic, i.e. participatory and democratic culture.

In his paper on "Participation and development options in Poland" Jan Danecki stressed the tension between a short term and a long term perspective. The emphasis in Poland now is on modernization based on economic dependence which may bring economic improvements in the short run, but will hamper the development towards selfreliance and participation.

In this last number of The Journal we would like to excuse us from the mistakes we could had make. We apologize specially to the Governance group for having repeat their workshop abstracts.

Editor: Montserrat Quesada

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i Muntsa Tarrés.

Extra

Environment

Margarita de Botero
(Colombia)

Our working group heard and discussed a paper "Francis Bacon's Philosophy of Nature: A Postmodern Critique" co-authored by Hwa Yol Jung and Petee Jung. The paper expressed concern with the world whose dominant prose is written in the language of technology and with the modern condition of humanity. It focuses on Francis Bacon who exemplifies and justifies the condition of modernity which is governed by the Promethean ideology of progress based on "enlightened" reason translated into the language of science and technology as the indomitable will to power over nature.

Bacon justifies man's domination of nature on the basis of philanthropy which proceeds with the worship of God and results from putting into action Christian duty and charity. His idea of philanthropy is an anthropocentrism pure and simple and as such is anti-ecological.

The group discussed the meaning of Christian ethics and how alternative interpretations of Christianity have diverse ecological implications. Included in our discussion was the issue of what other philosophical and religious views might be compatible with man living in harmony with nature without sa-

crificing social justice.

Significant concern was expressed with the problem of translating abstract ideas into every-day life and its impact on the environment.

Petee Jung and Hwa Yol Jung

Lost opportunity

I was struck by the fact that the Barcelona Conference made no mention (with only few notable exceptions) of the Gulf War and what it means for possible global futures. This is specially surprising as these implications are obvious, relevant and easily detectable. This leads to me three remarks:

1 - The Gulf War was an event of extremes (although one in a long line of similarly terrible events with similar patterns, from Hiroshima on). The power structure was essentially monocentric, the alliance bought together with all sorts of political pressure and economic incentives, even profits were made and appropriated. The use of power was extreme and the arrogance of power extraordinary. The misuse of international institutions was unprecedented, especially when taking into account that the leading nation had been refusing for years to pay its dues in order to paralyze the UN. The war was fought with extreme brutality of which we have seen only the peak, and commented on and covered by the media in extreme cynicism. Media manipulation had never before reached such perfection. It was the first

in possibly a long row of North-South conflicts which essentially are about Third World resources. And it produced, at the end, not only an environmental disaster of global extent but also hundreds of thousands of refugees who only under public opinion pressure were considered by the winners of the war.

Thus, the Gulf War could and should be analyzed as a blueprint of the possible scenarios of our future, though not a desirable one.

2 - The future does not fall down on us from space but is a result of human behaviour and social action for which we are responsible to future generations. There can, therefore, be no social action and no thinking about futures without ethical foundation, may this be explicit or implicit. There is simply no way for people in futures studies, nor for their professional organization, to avoid clear value judgments. An individual or an organization may decide not to touch an issue and keep silent which is usually the case when the individual or organization feels dependent of an external power. But even then non-issues and non-decisions mean in fact that the force in power is supported. There is no unpolitical organization, and certainly not in futures studies. If this is

an epistemological argument, I do not hesitate to add that there is a common sense argument, too: No normal human being can accept, without contradiction, to hear the song of the individual human rights, American style, sung while American troops squeeze Iraqi soldiers to death in the desert sands. The spontaneous reaction will be to bring the responsible before court.

The Gulf War does not only change our and our organization's ethical self-definition, it challenges as well our responsibility to present and future generations, and our creativity in the search for solutions for the future.

3 - My personal conclusion is that if the WFSF understands and accepts this obligation, it should be a clearly discernible proportion of time of future Congresses to current future relevant developments. This always involves power and conflict, and organizations and their officers try to avoid conflict and power at the price of becoming irrelevant and boring. If, however, the organization does not accept this duty, I have to ask myself why I should spend further time and money to appreciate further membership and attend its meetings.

Bernd Hamm, Germany

CTN CABLE NETWORK OF NEW JERSEY

James A. Debold
Executive director
presents

VISIONS, NIGHTMARES AND FORECASTS

Description of the project

This is a series of 26 half-hour programs which presents the rise and significance of the modern futurist movement. The series examines the human desire to "know" and, if possible, to influence the future throughout history from oracle bones to electronic computers. In addition to guest participants from a wide range of fields, there will be extensive use of audio-visual resources, historical artifacts relevant to the subjects discussed, film clips, etc.

The viewing and "instructional life" of the series should be of the order of seven to ten years.

The subject and its significance

Throughout the world there is a growing interest in the utilization of humanity's knowledge and imagination to anticipate future developments in the natural environment and in human society. What was once regarded as a peculiar "gift" of the prophet or the special talent of the science fiction writer - the ability to describe the future - now is seen increasingly as a necessary, legitimate and exciting field of intellectual endeavor.

This new field of study demands careful attention to current trends and projections, and awareness of probable scientific and technological breakthroughs, a keen insight into the probable effects of such

breakthroughs and an ability to construct a number of "alternative views" or "scenarios" of possible future developments.

The student of futurism (or futures studies) becomes aware of the many disparate disciplines needed to understand the process of transition from today to tomorrow. His understanding of his world as it is and as it might be, his sensitivity to and acceptance of change and his readiness to act imaginatively and meaningfully are greatly enhanced by a futurist orientation. In essence, he is building on the insight "the past is prologue", and is attempting to participate in the writing of the drama of the future. There is a world-wide emergence of this new breed of scholar and student, the futurist. Internationally significant academic and professional bodies are dedicated to futurism, for example, Futuribles in France, The Club of Rome, Commission for the Future of New Zealand, Swedish Association of Futures Studies, Institute for Futures Studies in Denmark, The Academy of Sciences of the USSR and research groups in Eastern Europe and Germany. In fact, one of the first such groups was the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the project they initiated in the late 1960s was entitled "Towards the Year 2000".

The United States, thus far, leads in the number of groups concentrating on futurism. Outstanding examples are: the Hudson Institute, The RAND Corporation, Institute for the Future, World Future Society, National Planning Association, Worldwatch Institute, Office of Technology Assessment, Resources for the Future and the Congressional Institute of the Future.

Years ago the academic "legitimacy" and educational value of futures were examined by an especially distinguished gathering of scholars and scientists at a Ciba Foundation symposium on "The future as an Academic Discipline" held in

London between 6-8 February, 1975. Among the participants one found Lord Eric Ashby (Cambridge), Yehzekel Dorr (Hebrew University of Jerusalem), H. Wentworth Eldredge (Dartmouth College), Alexander King (Chairman, International Federation of Institutes of Advanced Study), Anders P. Lundberg (University of Gotesborg), Sir Walter Perry (Vice Chancellor of the Open University), John Platt (University of Michigan), Harold G. Shane (Indiana University), Sir Frederik Stewart (University of Edinburgh), Kimon Valaskakis (University of Montreal and McGill University), C.H. Waddington (University of Edinburgh) and Maurice Wilkins (Nobel Laureate, King's College).

A dramatic example of the impact of futurist research is the GLOBAL 2000 REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT. ENTERING THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY published in Washington, D.C in 1980. This report gave rise to a great volume of similar "national 2000" studies: JAPAN IN THE YEAR 2000, BRAZIL 2000, CHINA 2000, TAIWAN 2000, THAILAND IN THE YEAR 2000 and THE NEXT TWENTY-FIVE YEARS: A SURVEY OF FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE NETHERLANDS to cite a few.

Objective of the Program Series

VISIONS, NIGHTMARES AND FORECASTS, like futures studies in general, is designed to make it possible for students (as well as the average citizen) to acquaint themselves with the latest and most authoritative thought on the prospects before the human race as it moves forward in time. It is hoped that such a program may contribute to a genuine awareness of the range of possibilities before humanity on the threshold of the 21st century and the necessity of taking appropriate action in the present in order to create the desired future.



ABSTRACTS



**XII WORLD CONFERENCE OF THE
WORLD FUTURES STUDIES FEDERATION**

**IN COLLABORATION WITH THE
CENTRE CATALA DE PROSPECTIVA**

BARCELONA, 17-21 SEPTEMBER 1991

**ADVANCING DEMOCRACY AND
PARTICIPATION.
CHALLENGES FOR THE FUTURE**

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ABRAHAM, RUDOLF
Czech and Slovak F.R.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE DYNAMIC SOCIECONOMIC MODEL-CASE CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The construction of models of large socioeconomic systems is an important tool for forecasting of the functioning of these systems. The system dynamics models have proved to be appropriate for such construction. The models have been developed on the base of J.W. Forrester studies. Original system dynamics method has been enriched in Czechoslovakia especially by quantitative hypothetical relation analysis.

The method enables to choose optimal relation of the explained variable in connection to explaining factors on the base of the previous development of the described process. The method is called the complex forecasting modelling (KPM in Czech).

The SPODYN model (the abbreviation of the Czech words "společenská dynamika" = socioeconomic dynamics) is being formed to make long-term forecasting of socioeconomic development of Czechoslovakia and as well as a tool for preparing of substantial strategical decisions. The model represents a large simulation system on the base of the KPM method which should describe great deal of socioeconomic aspects in mutual connection and quickly test the matter of the problem, i.e.: population, qualifications, manpower, capital investment, foreign trade, production, tercial sector and consumption, life-style. In this extent the model has more than 1300 variables; it contains about 800 equations (of which there are about 150 hypothetical ones). Other sbsystems are being prepared.

The SPODYN model is formed as a model with high degree of aggregation and is opened to various changes. Its aim is to help answering questions of the type "what will happen if..."

Inputs of the model are based on the specific decision (e.g. changes of prices, investment, financial policy etc...). The outputs of the model perform response to the inputs.

The model is supposed for the utilization in this and following years; its operational abilities will be further developed.

ADLER-KARLSON, GUNNAR
Svezia

RECONSTRUCTION FOR LIFE

Assume you like your own life. Assume also that you are serious about the deepest of all democratic values, the equal value of all human life. It then follows that you must grant to the poorest individuals in the poorest nations a value equal to your own. The "population explosion" is thereby turned into a beneficial multiplication of yourself.

It would be a great mistake if the reconstruction of the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe in the glasnost-era would become a selfish, inward-looking European or Northern problem. What the world needs is the reconstruction of the whole "global village" in a way that will be compatible with a doubling of the present population.

With the present rate of increase, human population will double in 39 years. With some fall in birth rates it is realistic to expect a doubling in 50 years. Extreme optimists say 70.

Between 1990 and 2040 the world will increase by about another five billion individuals, equally much in 50 years as we did in the passed 10.000 years.

We rarely realize what a miracle this multiplication implies. I call it the "the third miracle of life". The first was the creation of life, as improbable as winning the highest prize in the monthly state lottery, every month, all through life. The second was the animal evolution, from the Ur-bacteria, via the molluses, fish, birds, cats, and primates up to us, a development about as likely, said Fred Hoyle, as if a tornado turned a junkyard into a perfect, ready to take off DC9.

AYOADE, JOHN A.A.
Nigeria

MODELS OF DEMOCRATIZATION IN AFRICA

The African Continent, having been colonized by the various European powers in the 19th. century, had to work for self rule. The colonial powers did not take the situation without resistance. But decolonization took two main forms. Where colonial policies admitted of gradual colonial disengagement, decolonization was peaceful. On the other hand, where colonial administration did not conceive of eventual independence the processes of decolonization necessitated armed struggle. By and large the mode of decolonization conditioned the nature and character of the post-colonial government.

Arising from the nature of the post-colonial governments, the military assumed political power in some states while civilians in some others installed themselves for life. But the global processes of democratization now force a transition to democracy. The transition has taken two principal forms, i.e. the National conference approach and the Nigerian phased approach. The mode of transition is likely to determine the survival of the democratic institutions. The National conference approach is like the National Liberation Approach and can only be a transition to transition. The Nigerian phased Approach may result in a well-ordered democracy because it is carefully articulated learning process.

BARREIRO DIAZ, ADRIANA
Uruguay.

POLITICAL PARTIES AND DEMOCRATIC FUTURE IN URUGUAY

Both the peaceful transition from a military regime to a democratic one and its consolidation, which began in 1985, produced several changes on the Uruguayan political parties.

In recent years main ideas have undergone a complete transformation and the whole political system have been affected by them. So many amendments were made that political parties needed to formulate new policies in order to come up to date but, although those policies were really formulated, they still have a lot of catching up to do.

For a while almost everything seemed to be improving but it regresses by 1988-90.

Then the executive branch of government proposed sweeping reforms of the state; reforms that have been thoughtfully considered by the Uruguayan citizens.

Besides - and as far as the country should be in conformity with the established rules of MERCOSUR (Integreted by Argentina, Brasil, Paraguay and Uruguay)- new amendments have been suggested.

Despite that, decisions are difficult in these cases, political parties ought to be able to make such important choices. Important, specially, for the democratic future in Uruguay.

BERNIS C., JOSEP
Catalunya

**TRENDS ON LOCAL/GLOBAL STRAINS. DYNAMICS OF IRREVERSIBLE
PROCESSES AS A SERVICEABLE APPROACH**

Local/global Strains evolution should be the object of a thin analysis in terms of state equations. The paper, however, will focus on "nationalism" as a significant item, to show how some proposals from dynamics of irreversible processes scientific playground can be worked out. General theory of systems provides the formal instrumentation.

The world-wide political system- and that of regional and lower subsystems- is to be considered as a process from chaos to order through fluctuations in an environment where democratic conditions are or are not given discontinuously in the space. It has to be considered as an unstable stationary system subjected to dissipative phenomena getting intensities beyond critical levels, far enough from equilibrium (in a thermodynamic sense). The appearance of feed-back loops evidences the presence of non-linear actions. The state of the system in a given moment tends to become independent from the initial conditions, so then, relatively unpredictable. In a symmetric way, the linkages with the previous and the posterior moments as well as the interactions among different elements, begin to gain the main influence in the process itself. This is the framework where concurrence between determinism and freedom, as well as self-organization have to be situated. The concept of "progress", more than simple "evolution", captures the sense of a continuous change advancing along throughout an oriented time, the time arrow that gives the true dimension of reality to history (relatively unpredictable and irreversible).

"Nationalism" is meant as an assumption of local or minority rights and cultural values. Socio- political reality is understood to be shaped as an accumulation of many layers- as a complex sound can be separated into many simple sounds through spectral analysis-, starting from interests definable close to individuals and reaching those that are only definable in a universal context.

Are we going on to a dissolution of these low- level interests in the benefit of global ones? Is the growing multiplicity of interests affordable to the established political structures? Are enough energies in the minority elements to equilibrate the energy of the whole set? Can we foresee in the future, separate values locally characterizable? How can we predict and evaluate, to some extent, the stages of the process? What are the possibilities and the means of acting to orientate the process? Would the stages, in their distinct simultaneous sceneries, take a laminar or a turbulent course?

BESTUZHEV-LADA, IGOR
URSS

OVERCOMING PROBLEM SITUATIONS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF SOCIAL PROCESSES

A social process may be described as a two cycles phenomena:

1. Transition from a normal (balanced) situation to a problem (disbalanced) one;
2. Transition from a problem situation back to a normal one through a solution to the problem. If solution is delayed or ineffective, the problem situation degrades to a critical one where the 2nd. cycle (transition from disbalance to balance) is becoming more and more difficult. If no ways out of the crisis can be found, the critical situation deteriorates either into a catastrophic one (destruction of social system) or into a revolutionary one (transition to a new quality). Sometimes a catastrophic situation foreruns a revolutionary one, sometimes transition to a new quality takes place without a catastrophe. However in both cases it is a transition to a qualitatively new system of balances- and the process begins all over again. The main task of managing social processes is not to let the problem situation deteriorates into a critical and catastrophic one, but to turn it back to a normal one if necessary to develop directly to a revolutionary one avoiding crisis and catastrophes. This situational theory enables us to describe (analyse) social processes adequately, to explain (diagnose) its characteristics, to predict expected and/or desired changes.

To illustrate, we characterise the modern global situation and possible ways out of it through an alternative civilization. Another illustration: the history of 6 Soviet restructurings ("perestroika")- in 1921-29, 1956-59, 1966-69, 1979, 1983, 1985-90. In each of them excluding 1979, there was an attempt of transition from a critical situation back to a problem one, but never back to a normal one. As a result, throughout the years, the permanent crisis stepby step has been developing and at present there is a danger of degradation of the situation into a catastrophe. The list of examples could be extended.

BESTUZHEV-LADA, IGOR
URSS

TOWARDS POWERS DIVISION ON A GLOBAL SCALE

Throughout the centuries mankind has been dreaming about World Government as a Garant of World peace. But it is not until 1990 that a real prospect for the realization of this dream have appeared, because there is no doubt that had such a government been created in the XY1 century, it would have been a Spanish one, in XY11-XY111 French, in X1X and beginning of the XX, English, in 1918-1989, American. Nowadays, for the first time in World history, a World Government indeed can be created.

It is a typical problem of social design. What would the World Government look like? One of the proposals is: the legislative power should be vested with a geoparliamentarian whose functions would be fulfilled by the UNO General Assembly, maybe structured in two houses: House of culture and House of Nations.

The executive power would be administered by the Cabinet of geoministers with geopresident responsible and accountable to geoparliament.

The judicial power would be trusted to the Geocourt of law & Justice independent of Legislative and Executive Powers.

What would be the consequences for the world in case such social design project was realized? The answer can be found in a trend analysis and trend optimization, i.e. technological forecasting as a case study.

BLANCH, JOSEP M. & BOTELLA, MERCE
Catalunya

CHANGING VALUES IN THE WORK CULTURE

Work, in its historically double dimension of employment and unemployment, changes its scenarios, topics, actors, and its personal and social meaning.

Theoretical arguments and empirical facts hold three main of these:

1. Along the industrial modernity, work became the structural element of human experience, the central axe of economics and politics, society and culture, law and moral, time and space, everyday life and vital cycle of people.
 2. Through the current century, social and communicational dimensions of laboral experience achieved the highest importance.
 3. Those facts have relevant implications for action: work places designing, generation of new jobs, fight against unemployment, and laboral socialisation processes.
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BOYER, WILLIAM H.
USA

PLANNING TO PROTECT RIGHTS OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

Constituency democracy fragments public planning and offers the most to the strongest constituencies. The poor, the young, and especially future generations are given the least consideration. Future generations are given long term pollution, depleted resources, planetary overpopulation, and debt.

It is time to have declarations of rights of future generations and the legal procedures to protect such rights.

A set of recommendations will include:

1. Legal standing to represent rights of future generations.
 2. Resource distinctions between renewables and non renewables.
 3. Distinguishing between use rights and consumption rights.
 4. Rights in common to the global commons.
 5. Disavowal of payment of debt by future generations when there has been failure to be represented in the basis for the debt.
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CABRE, ANNA
Catalunya.

DISABLEMENT, ABSOLENCE AND SENIOR ADVANCEMENT; THREE ELEMENTS OF THE AGEING PROBLEM

Ageing of the population is considered to be a problem and a problem of demographic origin. The choices made by modern societies in the demographic field (even longer life span, moderate birth rate) lead, mathematically speaking, to a continuous increase in the weight of people over retirement age. This is perceived as a problem because of its implications on labour force and member of pension rights holders.

A fixed age for retirement is non-existent in many societies and ranges widely from 50 to 70 where it does exist. Simple calculations show, however, that the proportion of active and retired people change dramatically when the limits between activity and retirement move.

Conventional wisdom would advise to raise retirement age when life expectancy goes sharply upwards. This has not been however, a general trend of the changes observed during the seventies and eighties. In many countries, governments have fought unemployment by lowering the minimal age at retirement and by enlarging the criteria to apply for permanent incapacities to work.

The general agreement on the type of measures which prefer a short-term and quite inefficient employment policy to a long term restructuring of the pensions system: shows that there are other elements than the demographic to be taken into account.

Early retirement, which may be negative from a collective point of view, is positive to all individuals concerned. Old workers get an income without working and even, in some cases an indemnity to leave the job. Employers can do away with workers on low scale or simply replace workers who are not just old, but absolute and expressive, by younger and cheaper workers, with an up to date technological training.

The elements of this contradiction between collective and individual interests come not from disability or lowest work ability of old people (associated to age) but from the absence of former workers (because of the concentration of schooling and training in the younger ages) and from the senior advancement system. Spain should take into account these two elements for a future restructuring of the pension scheme, to get adapted to a longer life.

CAGIANO DE AZEVEDO, RAIMONDO
Italy

POPULATION AND HEALTH: AN INTRODUCTION

The confrontation of the extremal positions (the best and the worst) in the world as far as population and health are concerned is the starting point of this session's discussion: the UN Statistics and other international sources will be used for this purpose. The past, the present and the future of people living in such experiences as a result of past, present and future decisions will be considered: as well as the result of crude disquilibria and structural injustices.

The passage from the human survival to the quality of life is the recent evolution of health question in the world. From the struggle against mortality (and infant and maternal mortality) to the ageing of the population and to the search of a better quality of life; the costs, the consequences of such a progress with the implication of such choices and decisions in rich countries in respect to poor ones; the very long terms implications of present decisions in demography and social order; and especially the unsatisfactory results in poor countries, will be discussed in line with the participation problems of a new decision making process.

The role of education, information and modern orientations against the prevailing ideas of stationarity both in population and in social policies will be finally discussed. A future oriented approach against a conservative and stationay approach for a new international social equilibrium seems to be necessary; the role of culture and science and a possible plan for future oriented initiatives- also in the context of WFSF program- will be introduced into the debate.

The discussion should focus on democracy and participation in regard to these issues as much as possible.

CAGIANO DE AZEVEDO, RAIMONDO
Italy.

TOWARDS A WORLD GOVERNMENT

The birth of the European Communities and the dynamism they showed in the first decade of their existence inspired immediate imitation in both Africa and Latin America, where movements were formed to create respectively an African and a Latin American Common Market.

Admittedly these movements lasted only l'espace d'un matin, and quite disappeared as soon as it became clear that the vitality of the European Community was only illusory. But they will certainly reappear, and with more ambitious goal, if the political union of Europe is achieved. And the main task of a Federal Europe and of the U.S., as well as of a Confederation of Democracies as a whole, should be precisely the promotion and encouragement of such developments throughout the world, as indispensable steps towards a World government, which might then become a real possibility in the second half or towards the end of next century. A World Government would make it possible at least to establish definitive peace, thus effecting the passage from pre-history to history, from the politics of power to the politics of planetary cooperation, from Machiavellian raison d'état to universal brotherhood. But all this will not come about as the result of a spontaneous moral impulse (which is just a prerequisite), but can only be the consequence of order, of law, in short of a world-wide State.

But the formation of a great continental and transcontinental Unions will overcome these inequalities, and will open the way to a truly unified world which is really free of the curse of war, and thus capable of freeing itself more effectively and rapidly from the scourge of dictatorship, of hunger and pollution; and which will be open in its entirety to the democratic possibilities indicated by European federalists.

CASALS, JOAN
Catalunya

THE COMING AGE OF DIRECT DEMOCRACY

The participation of people in today's democracies is dropping dangerously. Furthermore, our economic-political system is demonstrating its inability to balance social inequalities or to protect the natural environment from the continuous aggressions it is subjected to. It is as if interventionism has led to further needs for intervention.

Despite this, citizens contribute more than ever to the public finance and participate actively in the operation of an increasingly interdependent society. These direct contributions could be channelled in a way such as to develop new forms of effective and practical participation of democratic life. An essential condition for this to occur would be to ensure that the personal benefits be proportional to the services provided by the person to society and its environment.

There is no preestablished harmony between personal interests and general ones. This would only be feasible in a system that does not tolerate the remuneration of parasitical activities which live at the expense of the work and initiatives of others, nor tolerates activities that destroy common natural resources. The present system has only tried to correct the effects but not the causes of such distortions. The result is a growing accumulation of purchasing power in sterile and parasitic activities which undermine the progress of society.

But these causes, are not unavoidable. They could be resolved with new instruments that would allow the implementation of the original rules of the system. The first rule would be to give the decision-making power to the largest possible number of people. In other words, to come closer to the direct and decentralized democracy.

This paper presents a specific proposal to act upon these causes through the application of a set of instruments geared towards a new legal, fiscal and financial framework. This new framework would permit an enhanced redistribution of excess production, promote investment, create employment and ensure an adequate protection of natural resources. It would, in sum, awaken the entire potential efficiency of our present socio-political system via a massive and direct participation of its citizens.

CASANOVA MEDEROS, MYRTHA B.
Catalunya

**TREND ANALYSIS AND FORECASTING
INFORMATION, THE MAJOR ELEMENT OF CHANGE**

Through the analysis of the quality of the information, it is clearly established how information is the major element of change.

HISTORY- The lack, the excess, the slowness, the speed, the ambiguity, the culture, the perceived meaning, and more, have all contributed at one time or the other to alter the course of history. This paper illustrates how information has at four milestone moments changed spanish history.

DEFINITION- Information is not a stable element, and opinion is not information. Information has intrinsic characteristics such as:

*Responsibility, reliability, objectivity, extent, omission, accuracy, capacity to transmit, support.

CONCEPTUAL ANALYSIS- Information will never be exact because it is an element within a context in which semantics play a very vital part in the use of "concept-words".

Information is the fourth dimension and technology permits new applications of knowledge in the constant search for ways to serve mankind in routine tasks.

The past instructs the present, and the future is present in today's events. Having a better knowledge of today's events helps to better understand the future. The contextual analysis of the implications of the events that are constantly happening and their interaction, represent the most outstanding tool to forecast opportunities and challenges in the future scenarios. Social, political, technological and economical issues are and will be so firmly interdependent in the next millenium that all socio-economic agents have to redefine their role as we advance towards a global, participative new order.

CHE ZHENHUA
China.

CHINA'S ECONOMY IN RELATION TO ASIA-PACIFIC IN THE 1990S

For Asia-Pacific region, the past decade was the period of proud, and full of economic miracles. Looking ahead, its prospects in the 1990s are still bright. The region is full of vitality. Economies in many countries have been growing rapidly. This has provided conditions and opportunities for developing regional economic cooperation in various forms. A loose regional organization for economic cooperation is expected to come into being by the mid-1990s.

Although China's economy is not very strong, it has a sound foundation and great potentialities for rapid growth. The economic system reform now under way in China has brought about higher growth rates and increased foreign trade. This enables China to play an increasingly important role in the economic development of the Asia-Pacific region. China has achieved great results over the past 10 years of national reform and opening further to the outside world, and has accumulated rich experiences. China's foreign trade posted a favourable balance in 1990. Customs statistics showed that imports and exports totalled \$115.14 billion. Exports earned \$62.06 billion, up by 10.1 per cent over 1989, and import spending was \$53.35 billion down by 9.8 per cent. Not including barter trade transactions, China has a trade surplus of \$13.1 billion for the first time since 1984. China's foreign exchange reserves increased, hence strengthening its ability to pay foreign countries. Steady development was achieved in the utilization of foreign capital. In 1990 China signed new agreements involving a total of \$12.3 billion in foreign capital. China could quadruple its 1980 GNP by the year 2000 if it maintains an annual growth rate of 6 per cent between now and then.

China's import and export business has greatly developed with the regional countries. At present, Hong Kong and Japan are China's first and second biggest trading partners. China will promote the regional trade and economic cooperation in different forms.

CHEN, JIAJI
China.

PRESENT SITUATION AND FUTURE: CHINESE RURAL AREAS

In the next decade, economic construction will focus on agriculture. China has pledged a steady rural policy, increased investments and concrete measures to improve farmland to ensure stable growth through the year 2000.

China's set household contract responsibility system would only be stabilized and improved. The household contract system lets farmers take the initiative in production, greatly promoting agricultural output. However, with the development of production, farmers have an increasingly great need to unify social services such as production supplies, water and electricity.

Chinese rural enterprises have become indispensable to big State industries, hiring rural labourers and improving the living standard of 800 million Chinese farmers. For several years, rural industries have produced roughly a third of the country's industrial output. A great number of their products have a high rating from the State and sell well abroad.

The output value of the rural economy in 1990 totalled 1.623.3 million yuan (\$312.56 billion), an 8.8 per cent increase over the previous year. To raise farmers' living standard, the government planned to develop rural industry by granting more loans.

By the year 200, every hectare of farmland is expected to have 461.35 kilowatts in power output of machinery used, and the entire nation should have 470 million kilowatts in total machinery output used in agricultural production. In the suburbs of large cities and along the eastern coastlines, 70 per cent of the agricultural production should be completely mechanized. China's gross grain output was likely to hit 500 million tons, as long as cultivable land stopped shrinking and agriculture loans kept rising.

CHIMANIKIRE, DONALD P.
Zimbabwe.

POLITICAL RENEWAL IN AFRICA: THE CASE FOR PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE

Africa, the most bereft of continents, is unable to stand aside from the stream of world history as we enter the final decade of the twentieth century. The emergent democracies of Eastern Europe and Central America will be recipients of significantly increased levels of aid and investment. If most african states remain locked, within authoritarian systems, whether established by military or single-party regimes, their economic marginalization is certain to continue.

All governmental systems must undergo periodic renewal or suffer decay. Renewal in democratic systems usually occurs via elections. Some African governments permit elections within single party systems that afford some degree of renewal. There are hardly any countries in Africa, however, in which full renewal has taken place through the election of new governing groups or parties via the electoral process. In addition to introducing genuine electoral procedures for governmental renewal, African states need to open up the political process which has become narrow and uninspiring with each passing year.

Political renewal in Africa may also be conceived in general terms as the ending of colonial rule. The anti-colonial struggle was fuelled by a fundamentally democratic mission: to end the domination of the African peoples by foreign minorities. That democratic mission was allowed to lapse shortly after independence in many African countries. Its resumption will depend on the promotion of participatory governance. It is necessary but not sufficient to demand popular participation. Participation can take many forms, including having people stand in attendance at rallies organized by ruling parties and regimes. Participatory governance, however, makes, clear that this participation must be active in nature and involve the making of decisions that affect the well being of societies.

It is along the above arguments that the paper will be based.

CLAUDI, LLUIS
Catalunya

**PROPOSAL OF PARTICIPATION TO THE WORLD CONFERENCE OF
PROSPECTIVE**

Starting point:

Proposals of participation: - Paraxeological fonction
- Diagnosis for decision-taking
- Basic indications for research and technological
innovation.

Possible contributions of Mr. Lluís Claudi:

Themes dealing with the proposals of participation. Innovations brought about by
research, through the engineering of thought.

...Cognitive engineering

...Engineering of imagination (heretical engineering).

Consequence of exponential and almost explosive progress as will be seen in the
future context.

Proposals of new methods like:

Preventive prospective

projective prospective

predictive prospective.

- The need to count with a work team in order to perfectionate on heretical research
at the EEC level
 - Team of permanent collaborators.
 - Summary of the standard conference and the model of heretical research in the
framework of the prospective.
-

COEN, ANNA
Italy

ADVANCING PARTICIPATION: A CHALLENGE FOR ITALY'S FUTURE

Some of the economic and social trend under way in Italy indicate a shift from the industrial to the information society. Four possible consumption and employment scenarios are examined. One peculiar Italian problem is the gap between the Northern and the Central regions and those in southern Italy while another is the debt of the public sector.

The problem of Italy's south and the public finance deficit both interfere with the European monetary requirements and challenge a publicly financed consumerism. A rational perspective for Italy's future seems to lie in directing individual participation towards social consumption and human resources development and hence requires a public choice and incentives for human capital improvement and the consumption of time for the extension of knowledge.

Such a strategy, which would channel individual free-time and consumption towards an increase in human capital may promote a "social multiplier effect" with positive spill-over effects spreading diachronically and synchronically.

Individual human capital may be the most important asset and strategic resource for the future with regard to the transformation from real and financial capital to knowledge capital, which is becoming the strategic power for the information society (Toffler, 1990).

Winning the brain race is a key factor for success and human factor development, as well as the research and education systems, which are becoming strategic factors for a nation's success.

In order to achieve such an objective and to promote a positive social multiplier effect, strategic planning should interconnect these human values and resource allocation through the budget process.

Advancing participation in Italy is therefore seen in relation to a strategic planning which promotes a positive social multiplier effect focusing on human capital.

**COLE, SAM
USA**

FUTURES STUDIES IN A PLANNING PROGRAM IN THE UNITED STATES

The paper describes the possibilities and limitations of introducing futures studies as part of a professional planning degree program.

COROMINAS, JOAQUIM
Catalunya.

TOWARDS A TECHNOLOGICAL DEMOCRACY

The increasing influence of technology in modern life reduces the scope and level of democracy and participation. After the Managerial revolution, the Technological one has appeared. Many political decisions are based on technological constraints, difficult to be assessed by the political institutions. People have neither the capacity to fully understand technology nor the capability to assess it and to present alternatives.

Democracy in a technological and environmental era requires a technological and environmental democracy far beyond the political one.

The introduction of those elements in the implementation of democratic schemes would certainly increase the costs of technology and reduce the pace of technological innovation, as today's formal democratic procedures do to political activities. Those added costs would be far outweighed by the reduction of social or "external" costs and the improvement of the quality of life.

Today's democracy usually ends at the entrance of the work place. The expansion of democracy into everyday life requires participation and democracy from the floor level up to top management. But that needs not only organizational aspects but also the manufacturing processes and equipment.

The lack of real democracy and participation at the political and the enterprise levels are not due to change. They have been designed to be that way. Democracy correlates with power, so technological democracy requires power over technology. The technology that would develop under such circumstances would follow close to the alternative technology's basic concepts developed during the 70's complemented by today's echotechnology.

The paper presents some specific actions to move in that direction.

DAM, ANDRE VAN
Argentina

MURPHY'S LAW IN FUTURISM

Murphy's law: "Anything that can go wrong, will go wrong". Murphy's law reflects the absurd side of reality, e. g. "The more detailed the map, the more you get lost", or "The sooner you fall behind, the more time you have to catch up" or "When you dial the wrong number, you never get a busy signal". Anybody who reads 5-year old proceedings of futurists' conferences and copies of futurists' magazines, concludes that Murphy's law applies to futurism. It is not that in Beijing we missed the spectre of Tiananmen Square or that in Budapest we made no reference to the Persian Gulf complexity. It is simply that we either tend to extrapolate from ongoing tendencies, or deal with the future of existing problems, or invent discontinuities. If Murphy exists, he views our meetings as huge bazars of ideas where everybody sells and buys expectations in accordance with one's birthplace, culture, education, ideology and profession..often in disregard of the title of the agenda and of reality. Unwittingly, we apply other laws of Murphy. For instance: "Most people (read: futurists) deserve each other". "Confusion (of our ideas) creates jobs (for futurists). And: "In case of doubt, make it sound convincing"..hence we either read our papers, or we fill them up with quotes or statistics.

In Barcelona, we invite Murphy to all sessions. We exhibit a two-page summary of our Beijing and Budapest conferences (or earlier ones), as well as photocopies of leading articles published in 1981. From there on, we address the question: what kind of world will we leave to the next generation, and what can we (futurists) do, between now and the Helsinki conference in 1993, to strike a chord with public opinion and leaderships alike .. as to where and how the future can be shaped.

DANECKI, JAN
Poland.

PARTICIPATION AND DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS. THE POLISH EXPERIENCE

Poland is one of the post communist countries. This commonly used term has a limited analytical value: it shows what we depart from but it does not define what we are aiming at. Still, it reflects our present reality quite well. Some crucial and unprecedented options -presented in the first part of the paper- are to a great extent open.

Participation is both an autotelic and instrumental value. Its character and real scope is a factor of decisive importance for meeting potential chances and avoiding dead-ends of maldevelopment. In this respect, Polish experience which formed the background of Solidarity revolution is unanimous. It shows that only people's subjectivity is able to fill in development formulas, models and solutions with vivid and fruitful content and it decides upon a successor failure of any transformation plan. Radical democratization of public life, along with regaining national sovereignty, has been treated in Poland as a guideline of desirable change.

Legal guarantees of civil rights and foundations of democratic political system were recreated in the past two years. This is, however, only one set of conditions necessary for democracy at work. My diagnostic is that the biggest danger at the moment flows from the attempts undertaken by neoliberal elites to accelerate economic transformations without strenghtening the structures of participation, and even by trying, if possible, to block them. In response, new kinds of self organizations of endangered groups emerge, including both protective and innovative activities. Some scenarios for the near future are sketched out in the conclusion.

DECALO, SAMUEL
South Africa.

DEMOCRACY IN AFRICA: TOWARDS THE 21st. CENTURY

Possibly as dramatic and unanticipated as the monumental changes in Eastern Europe was the sudden coalescence of a - critical mass - of pro - democratic pressures in Africa, calling for glasnost, perestroika and a new political order - some demonstrations on the order of their counterparts at Leipzig - in a continent where scholars had argued democracy had never been tried and was unlikely to succeed. Spawned by stifling political authoritarianism and economic decline, triggered by the spectacle of the fall of mighty titans in Bucharest and elsewhere, and powerfully pressurized by France and the IMF/WORLD BANK, by 1990 - 91 transforming the political map of the continent.

Today, with the process only half completed, all the People's Republics are gone, single, -party rule has been dismantled in a broad swathe of Africa, military regimes are scrambling to turn power to civilian hierarchies, and accountability, a free judiciary and media, a market- economy, multipartyism, competitive elections, civic and human rights, are miraculously the order of the day. For, as Nigerian Claude Ake puts it, "the problems of persistence of underdevelopment is related to lack of democracy in Africa....democracy is not just a consumatory value but also an instrumentalist one, "that provides a politically enabling atmosphere for economic development.

What is the significance of these developments for the future? What has been attained - and can be sustained given continued external global pressure and aid conditionalities - is Africa's rebirth. A new democratic "charter" for the African state has been hammered out, providing political space and more meaningful modes of political participation and representation than in the past. These are of monumental significance - but carry both huge negative repercussions, and only minimal (if any) interim economic pay-offs.

The economic benefits are minimal for nothing concrete has changed with democratization; -if the new democracies do provide enabling atmosphere for development- an academically contentious issue -the pay-offs will only be in the distant future. At the same time, while democratization has heightened and made more meaningful political participation and political choice- all precious birthrights - both the multitude of new political parties set up in each country, and the modality of voting visible today in free elections, has been along narrow ethnic and personalist lines, with all the destabilizing pitfalls this entails. Some countries are likely to surmount the "obstacle" posed by democracy, but some are likely to backslide into strife and chaos, single -party and military rule.

DIDSBURY, Jr., HOWARD F.
USA

THE DEATH OF THE FUTURE IN A HEDONISTIC SOCIETY

Just as privation and a day- to -day concern for survival inhibits any genuine interest in the future beyond the immediate tomorrow so likewise the advent of the hedonistic society with its emphasis upon ease, comfort, immediate gratification and a life routine of continuous "distractions" tends to prelude any serious, sustained, long-range interest in the future. In both of these cases, any thought of positive action in the present to mold the future is discouraged, unrecognized or ignored.

DIZON, ROLANDO RAMOS
Philippines

THE FUTURE OF PHILIPPINE DEMOCRACY

Five years after the glorious EDSA Revolution of 1986, the Philippines continue to be in a stage of critical transition. By and large, free and democratic political institutions have been restored. The Supreme Court heads what is generally perceived as a fair and independent judicial system, although one that is still slow and often inept. A legislative branch has re-established its independence, both in the Senate and the House of Representatives. Although still dominated by traditional politicians, both legislative houses have made it clear that they will not be subservient to the executive branch. President Cory Aquino has opted for a leadership style characterized by participatory decision-making and subsidiarity, a style criticized by many as "slow" and "weak".

Within this political context of freedom, the survival question is this: can the country afford a slow democratic system, or should it revert to an authoritarian one? Will the socioeconomic survival and growth of the country thrive better under an autocratic system? In a word, can democracy ensure the much needed socioeconomic growth of the Philippines in the foreseeable future?

This paper will attempt to answer these questions. We will argue that there are certain conditions, local and global, that will be critical to the survival of democracy in the Philippines. In the immediate future, the critical factors are:

(1) the ability of the present government to cope with the natural calamities, inflation, unemployment, and foreign debt;

(2) the holding of free, fair and credible elections in 1992.

In the long run, the real struggle will be between the Filipino people's patience and the government's ability to prove that with all its defects, a free and democratic system will be able to minimize poverty and improve the quality of life of everyone, especially the poor. Time is running out.

DOMENECH, M., IÑIGUEZ, L., MUÑOZ, J., PUJOL, P.
Catalunya

**THE RHETORIC OF INSTITUTIONAL DISCOURSE ABOUT BIO-TECHNOLOGIES:
SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Technologies developed from biological knowledge have recently acquired a great importance for the ethical and moral consequences of their application (real or possible ones) in the natural and social world. They represent the solution for different problems in such different areas as agriculture, farming or medicine: they have made possible the creation of new animal and vegetable species, more productive forms of plants and animals, and the application of new reproductive techniques in problems related to infertility.

Although these practices have not yet arrived at everyday life experience of most of the population, the idea of more degree of participation of human beings in the process of the conception of life, and the possibility of creation and modification of animal and human life through the use of such techniques, have created different points of view around their consequences. Effectively, different institutional groups disagree with the practices derived from these technologies, and have opened a debate in democratic societies, principally when they are used in human beings.

The catholic church and part of the feminist groups are, for different reasons, the corporations that have shown a more critical point of view about these practices; while medical and scientific groups have defended its use. On the other hand, national governments have regulated legally some aspects of its application, but it has been difficult to take all the consequences of them.

In this paper we analyze the discourse of this four groups (national governments, catholic church, feminist groups, and scientific corporations) in order to:

- a) Identify the values that the different groups are using in their argumentation around the bio-technological practices.
- b) discover the different argumentative and rhetoric devices these different positions use when they justify and legitimate their position.

A final remark is made about possible implications of biotechnology in the improvement of plural and democratic societies.

DROJ VASILE
Italy

EUROPE RE-UNIFICATION: THE NEW UNIVERSOLOGICAL MODEL IS THE KEY FOR THIS SOLUTION

In the paper it is showed that humanism is only a stage in Mankind's development and the following stage the Universalism, will mark deeply society's improvement, saving democracies from decomposition, elevating to a new level those "Demo-genocracies".

While present democracies in which everybody operates too often against the common good, "new demogeniocracy will guide rationally the growth of society towards the scale of values in terms of merit, talent, and genius.

An intercultural synthesis on the ground of a Universal (universological) vision, will permit the apparition of a "universal model"; a large convertibility among different social systems, cultural, religious and so on.

Universalism as the last stage of every growing will mark and science too, will reach a new vision and a new methodological-experimental model- "The Tri-cuantification" Society will become "psycho-technological". The very big strenght of Universalism will unite religions in their doctrinaire side, eliminating wars of religions, helping international, social, groups and families cooperation. The centrifugal force of democracies will be eliminated by this centripetal force and without it the present democracy will fade away. This " Universological Demogeniocracy Model" is the only chance Eastern European countries and developing countries can take very good results from. As for Europe's reunification, the New Universological Model is the key for this solution.

FORGE, JOHN WILSON
Cameroon

THE CHALLENGING POLITICAL LANDSCAPE OF CAMEROON

The purpose of the study is to critically and objectively examine the optimisation of the management and democratization of political institutions and mass participation within the framework of an envisaged evolving reforms of the country's political system. The behavioural attitude of those who wield power in the light of the erosion of their existing power base; the responses of the masses towards the opening up of the democratic process; the emerging political sentiments, alignment of class and social forces and other multifarious factors towards the evolution of a new democratic era; and how the reformed process can be best sustained.

The objective is to articulate a framework ensuring the effective functioning of the newly won liberties; awareness creation and the rejection of the "enemy image" in light of such changes as well as ensuring the unity, sovereignty, and governmental institutions. The study will focus on issues of social contradictions against the background of "window dressing" and domination of the theory of non-conflict; scientific criticism of the condition prevailing in state administration of the economic, political and other sphere of social life; the totality of scientific ideas stemming from the need to humanise humane values.

The tenets of the study relate primarily to the understanding of the essence of the democratization process and assessment of its place within the international community.

FU ZHENG DE
China

THE ECOLOGIC PARTICIPATION FOR PEOPLE

Urban ecosystem is a unified system of ecology and economy, with people for its core. The high concentration of ecologic conduct makes the system "weak-minded" ecosystem. The positive and negative interference of the periurban ecosystem to the urban ecology occupies an important strategy in urban ecologic renovation. Carrying out the ecologic strategy of integrating city and countryside is an objective certainly of urban and rural development in economy and society. All people must participate.

FURNICA, RODICA
Romania.

CHEMICAL PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

An important part of the future will be medical care and the relationship patient-drug. If human beings continue taking drugs the way they do now, it is quite possible to get a new species, with absolutely new characteristics, drug-dependent, with his liver and kidneys damaged, without any control of his own health. People are and will be more attracted by the natural ways of treatment and especially by preventing illness by a certain way of life. This does not mean that drug research companies and factories will become bankrupt. We will need them in order to treat severe diseases which are out of human control, diseases already known or newly generated by new life and work conditions.

GAUTAM K., BASU
India

**THE STATE, IDEOLOGY AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS: PROSPECTS FOR
DEMOCRATIZATION IN SOUTH ASIA**

South Asia represents a wide spectrum of choices among various forms of political systems. On one hand there are countries like India, Sri Lanka and Maldives which have maintained their liberal democratic traditions, despite occasional turbulences. On the other hand there are countries that have either alternated between democratic and non-democratic regimes (Pakistan, Bangladesh) or remained under the monarchical system with varying degrees of challenges to such an institution (Bhutan, Nepal). The paper will be a comparative study of the second category of countries and will try to show how various non-democratic regimes in these countries have used liberal-democratic and modernization ideologies to develop a limited consensus among various social actors regarding the state. Two points will be highlighted: First, we shall see how development strategies have sought to produce certain "rules" which have created an invisible discourse for the maintenance of the status quo. Secondly, we shall look into the political development of these countries to see whether everything is unfolding in accordance with the goal of normalizing order and maintaining domination in these societies. Such a two level analysis will not merely reveal that power in these societies does not operate in an unilinear fashion but will also identify certain possibilities which may open up avenues for democratization in these countries. At a theoretical level, this paper will show that the ideology of liberal democracy, when applied in the South Asian context, involves a tension within itself and may provide the foundation of a non-democratic political system.

GIDAI, ERZSEBET
Hungary

ECONOMY, DEMOCRACY, FUTURE: CHANGES OF EASTERN EUROPE

Democracy is a continuous discussion of questions such as limits of politics, aspects of distribution of values and sources, relations between state and society, forms and extent of social inequality, influencing of socio-economic processes etc... The vitality of democracy is based on a large scale of possibilities of raising old issues in a new context. In a democratic system there are no definite solutions and any variant can be put forward to realization.

As to the Middle and Eastern European countries they have not learned to face difficulties coolly during the past four decades. This is particularly true for the present economic crisis. More and more people blame economy and market economy for their worsening living conditions and want autocracy to be returned. Although the new political power was going to prepare crucial economic decisions by the means of public discussions and interest representation, the situation has practically not changed. Parliament has only been the decoration of democracy in the case of several important decisions made by a small governmental group.

The further socio-economic development of the Eastern European region (including Hungary) is largely dependent on a social consensus concerning the choice of alternative ways of development. However it is to be feared that both the dictatorship and the anarchy can come as a result. Our scientific experiences have shown that joining international processes by the means of real partnership, with our national characteristics in view, can prove to be a viable way to a United Europe too.

GOMEZ MOMPART, JOSEP LLUIS
Catalunya

SOME PROPOSALS FOR A PROGRESSIVE COMMUNICATION

The link between participation and communication is a central axis to think about the challenges that an advanced democracy has to deal with. The main goals must be oriented to overcome the disappointment about political parties, the formalism of parliamentary democracy and the lack of defence against the power of communication technologies.

We must think about technical possibilities to improve the systems of citizen participation and the development of collective life through local communication. In this sense, we must promote decentralization (not only geographical, but also administrative) that helps the democratic developments of social movements and civil society. As well, we must favour personal interaction and promote the organization, the use and the consumption of open, plural and progressive media.

Starting from a research about a middle-size urban-industrial town of Catalonia (Terrassa: 170,000 inhabitants), directed in 1986 by the author of this paper, intended to know its communicative and participative situation, the contribution will explain and consider the best directions to optimize the local participative-communicative ecosystem and will offer some proposals to improve it in the future.

The conclusion of this contribution is intended to be a handfull of useful suggestion about the link between communication-participation and advanced democracy, starting from an applied case that allow us to obtain some generalizations.

GROF, LINDA
USA

WHY A TEACH FUTURE STUDIES AND ITS IMPORTANCE IN A UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM

This paper will include the following topics: (1) The reasons why Future Studies need to be taught in a university curriculum or, what future studies has to offer that other disciplines do not; (2) Important topics taught in Future Studies courses including both content of methodology; (3) The evolution of a Future Studies Minor at California State University, Dominguez Hills, where I teach, i.e., why future studies programs must also adopt to a changing World and university environment; and (4) recommendations for the future of Future Studies curriculum in universities.

GU JING QING
China

DEVELOPMENT TARGETS OF CHINA IN 2000 AND METHODOLOGY OF ITS ESTABLISHMENT

The development targets of China in 2000 are the following:

1. To quadruple 1980's GNP in terms of constant prices by the end of this century by greatly improving economic performance and optimizing the economic structure.
2. To raise the living standards of the people from simply having enough food and clothing to leading a relatively comfortable life.
3. To develop education, promote scientific-technological progress, improve economic management, readjust the economic structure and give priority to key construction projects.
4. To establish the initial phase of an economic structure operating mechanism that is appropriate for developing a planned commodity economy based on public ownership and combination of a planned economy with market regulation.
5. To raise modern culture and ideology to a new high and further improve socialist democracy and the legal system.

In the process of establishing these targets China applied the scientific methodology of forecasting and planning. The expert of Corp. Rand of America said that China, maybe, will change to second or third economic power. We quite agree with the opinion of the American expert.

GUPTA, SURRENDA
USA

DEMOCRATIZATION VS NATIONAL UNITY: HOW THE TWO CAN BE RECONCILED

From Eastern Europe to East Asia, the democratic movements, with the demise of the Cold War, have asserted themselves with new vigor. While Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms of perestroika which, among others, involve the democratization of a Communist system that was largely built through the harsh Stalinist methods during the 1930's, the developments inside the Soviet Union and revolutionary changes in its foreign policy under the banner of "New Political Thinking" have also changed, in a very short time, the whole map of Eastern Europe. Even Yugoslavia, which, though a Communist country, had led an independent existence outside of direct Soviet influence, has been affected by the present revolutionary democratic currents.

The worldwide democratic upsurge, though promising a new dawn of democratic freedoms for a large part of mankind of diverse races, creeds and color, has also brought to surface old ethnic, religious, linguistic, and political rivalries and antagonisms. While in some countries--as in Czechoslovakia between the Czechs and Slovaks-- they are under control and seem manageable, in other places..especially in the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia...they pose a grave threat to national unity. If not resolved peacefully and democratically, these old rivalries and antagonisms could reverse the tide of democratic revolution.

The proposed paper will discuss in detail the problems of ethnic, linguistic, and religious issues that have surfaced in the wake of current revolutionary democratic changes in such countries as Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, and the Soviet Union.

Analysing the recent developments, it will also focus on the dilemma faced by these societies of maintaining national unity and allowing full democratic rights to all groups, especially if some of them threaten to secede from the country.

While suggesting as to how democratization and national unity can be mutually accommodated, the paper will also point to the experience of a country like India which, since its emergence as an independent country in 1947, has been wrestling with the problem of resolving similar problems within a democratic framework and where the current separatist movements in Punjab and Kashmir pose renewed threats to national unity.

Pointing to what some of the realistic solutions to the main dilemma of democratizing authoritarian systems without sacrificing national unity might be, the paper will argue that the eventual solution lies in more democratization and decentralization. Some violence, on behalf of the state as well as engaged in by groups struggling for democratic rights and freedoms, will inevitably occur, but a lasting solution can only be found within a democratic framework.

HEINONEN, MATTI
Finland.

PROMOTING CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN HOUSING

Today, the possibilities of residents to participate in decision-making concerning their own housing issues is strongly dependent on the housing tenure in question. In ownership housing, the opportunities to influence decision-making are developed to the fullest.

In co-operative housing the possibilities of participation are moderate and dependent on legislation and regulations of the housing co-operative.

In rental housing the resident generally has meagre possibilities of influencing decision-making.

This drawback should have to be amended by legislative and other means.

Various tools for advancing housing democracy in the future, especially in rental housing, such as legislation, regulations, and the owner's voluntary solutions are discussed. A case is presented from the Finnish legislation as an attempt to enhance housing democracy. The Act on joint governance in rental housing became effective on 1 March, 1991.

The goal of this new legislation is to afford to residents more decision-making power concerning the housing questions relevant to themselves. This will improve the living comfort and communication, sense of responsibility as well as promote the maintenance and upkeep of rented houses. The implications of establishing specific residents'committees and their roles are examined.

In the foreseeable future the citizen participation will form a crucial element in the quality of housing.

HEINONEN, SIRKKA
Finland.

INFORMATION, TECHNOLOGY, ENCOURAGING PARTICIPATION IN BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE SOCIETY

The responsibility for building a sustainable society is laid not only on decision-makers, government and industry, but equally on individual citizens. The essential question is how to actively involve various instances towards the common goal.

This paper discusses various means of utilizing information technology in promoting the principle of sustainable development in communities. In the information society, the dominant technology -information technology- could be applied more effectively on the one hand to directly supporting sustainability. This can be achieved by introducing solutions decreasing the energy consumption and toxic and harmful emissions. Moreover, installations can be made for monitoring and controlling the state of the environment.

For example, several navigation systems under work in car traffic are aimed at optimizing the traffic flows and thus diminishing congestion and pollution. In homes, the information technology could be better utilized for regulating energy consumption. In industry, effective measures could be taken to launch information technology especially for controlling and purifying purposes.

On the other hand, the information technology could be used as an educational and even cultural tool. This would indirectly enhance the sustainable development of living environments. Through information networks citizens could participate in creating a new eco - conscious information culture. Therein, lifestyle issues would be approached with a view to sustainability.

Via local information networks news could be distributed, for example, announcing collection points for hazardous waste disposal. Electronic bulletins could be edited and updated giving useful instructions for diminishing excessive consumption and providing contact data for cycling of second- hand items. Citizens could be solicited for launching campaigns for protecting their near environments, for diminishing daily use of cars etc. Contests could be arranged for creating information technology applications that enhance environmental protection. Children could be encouraged to participate in building a sustainable society by producing e. g. computer games where the winner is the least energy consuming player.

HERBOLZEIMER, Emil / CASALS, Joan
Catalunya

OUTLINE OF A NEW MODEL FOR A SOCIETY IN TRANSITION: EASTERN EUROPE

This paper presents an alternative to the established neocapitalist economic system, as we know it, for the Eastern European countries which are in a process of transition. The object is to emphasize the need for a critical look at the advantages as well as the deficiencies of our Western European system before Eastern Europe fully imitates it for lack of other known options.

In this context, the first part of the makes a diagnosis of the neocapitalist system and develops the hypothesis that the malfunctions of the system arise from the overlapping of two very different kinds of market:

- a) the real market of goods and services based on the production, transformation and the innovating capacity of man (real supply)
- b) a speculative market based on: the creation of money or financial assets and the exchange of debts and obligations for other debts or money; the attainment of money through the appropriation of the land and natural resources; and rents obtained from money that has been lent and from deposits of financial assets.

The speculative market distorts and conditions the functioning of the entire economy leading to instability and malallocation of resources and distribution of income. To work appropriately neo capitalism will need to free itself from the speculative markets without losing the market concept, while neo-socialism should allow a revival of the new market without permitting the emergence of the speculative "pseudo-market".

The means to separate both kinds of market through two separate currencies or monetary instruments, and its implementation as a new economic model is developed in the second part of the study. The model describes the role of both monetary instruments, the functioning of the monetary institutions, the mechanism of savings investment and taxation as well as the management of natural resources. The paper concludes with some thoughts on the prospects of implementation of this new model in Eastern Europe.

HUANG, MINGLU
China

A BRIEF ON CHINA'S SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY

As different countries have different political, economic, cultural and historical conditions, there is no social welfare policy that applies to all countries. On the basis of my research on the Bismarck welfare policy system, the Soviet and East European system, and Eastern system represented by the "Four Small Dragons" of Asia as well as that of Nordic countries (Holland, Sweden etc...), which are in practice in the present World, I look for solutions of welfare issues of mainland China. As an effort in establishing a sound social welfare system, I herewith dedicate this paper to the symposium in the hope that it might widen people's scope of vision and go in the direction of improving China's welfare status. My outline is as follows:

1. Basic theories and basic principles;
 2. Objectives sought and major reforms (with lessons from history);
 3. Reform project and future development.
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HUANG, SHUOFENG
China

GLOBAL POWER, NATIONAL POWER

The study of Global Power and National Power is a new subject in the current international strategic studies. It is of great significance to the accurate assessment of the overall strength of relevant countries, scientific forecast and decision-making in the international affairs of the future.

1. What is global power?
What is national power?
 2. What are the essential elements of the global power?
What are the essential elements of the national power?
 3. Evaluation of global power and national power.
 4. Strategy of contest of national power.
 5. Future of global power.
-

HUGUET, JOSEP
Catalunya

INDEPENDENCE, A DEMOCRATIC RIGHT

Peace and stability can only come about if there is justice. The process of European unification could fail if the Jacobin model for the construction of the new state is imposed. If Europe is designed as an oligopoly of the great nations -France, Germany, Great Britain- with Spaniards, Italians and Russians as travelling companions, the stability of the old world can not be assured. A model based on German economic power, French military power and British cultural power omits a third of the inhabitants of Europe, who, in spite of having their own state, will nevertheless be a minority in a unitarist Europe. Czechoslovaks, Finns, Icelanders, Danes, Hungarians and Greeks will not accept a future of this sort without conflict.

But furthermore, we have to remember the 201 million people, from the Atlantic to the Urals, who have no state of their own and who will be left out of the European unification process. In some cases, their collective rights are partially recognized through federal or autonomic formulas, but they do not take part in the work of constructing Europe. One third of all Europeans, occupying 37% of the territory of Europe, are affected by this situation of extreme discrimination, from the Tartars of the Volga to the Welsh, and including Lithuanians, Slovaks, Flemings, Ukrainians, Slovenians, Sardinians, Corsicans, Catalans and Basques.

The largest European nation-states are too small to solve the continent's great problems and too big to confront the small problems of life. The intermediate socio-cultural units and those with a state of limited dimensions -Swedes, Norwegians, Irish, Bulgarians-, as well as those without a state of their own, will have to play an important part in the dialectic between particularism and universalism, as a barrier to the tendency toward uniformity and homogeneity of culture and lifestyle. Europe will not have the capacity for initiative arising from diversity, the capacity for adaptation to technological changes arising from identity and the stability arising from a deep respect for plurality if a Jacobin model is imposed in the construction of this new state-continent.

Since there is at present no guarantee that Europe is progressing along the path of plurality, the only way to ensure the stability we need and the respect for collective rights is through access to independence for all those nationalities which democratically request it. The apathy of Western Europe before the processes of Baltic or Yugoslav independence, in the name of non-intervention, could be a serious historical mistake. If what is wanted is to safeguard law and order, a moment could arrive when obstacles to the right to self-determination could become the principal cause of unrest in the continent.

At the same time, the area of Europe with the greatest obsession for unity is the London-Rome-Madrid triangle, centred on Paris. Northern and Central Europe have traditions rooted in federalism and respect for plurality, while the artificial states of Slavonian Europe are well on the way to decomposition. In that case, who is really afraid to recognize collective democratic rights?

Democracy must not be just the right to choose majorities, so much as the right to choose the territorial framework within which democracy is accepted. It is also clear that subordinate societies without a state of their own have a legitimate right to aspire to their own state, pending the definitive configuration of Europe. In this transitional phase, Lithuanians, Slovenians, Scots and Catalans have the right to obtain independent, bio-degradable states like those of the USSR, Yugoslavia, Great Britain or Spain.

When all is said and done and for lack of an alternative, the nation-state is the best guarantee for the survival of a given society. Ask the Kurds.

INAYATOLLAH, SOHAIL
USA

CLASSICAL, MODERN AND POST-MODERN THEORIES OF GOVERNANCE AND POWER

Montesquieu's lasting contribution to political theory is the division of power into three arenas: legislative, executive and judicial, a clever combination of the classic typology of monarchy, aristocracy, and democracy, or rule of the one, few, and the many.

This design is been challenged from a variety of fronts. First, those who argue that technology creates social conditions forecast the emergence of computerocracies where the political becomes locally intimate with decision-making directly and immediately on policy issues. Second, speaking from an alternative cultural perspective, Indian philosopher Sarkar argues that power must be rethought across two dimensions (the classical good and bad or true and perverse) and four cultures: peoples (chaotic and transformative), intellectual (creative and dogmatic), military (coercive and protective) and economic (innovative and monopolistic). From this view, what is needed are new structures that reflect these power structures. While Sarkar desires to find ways for each to share power, others argue for a balance of power, for a balance of the economic, social and the spiritual, or as Sorokin would argue, the dualistic and the ideational. Is a balance of these types of power possible or is Montesquieu's design the final word?

Finally a third postmodern perspective attempts call to question the power of power or the politics of metaphor, of structure and the distribution of meanings. Among the results of this view is the reappropriation of democracy to cultures and traditions who have had the political taken away from them by the West, namely through the structure of orientalism. Among the strategies that emerge is a politics of language, of the battle of the colonization of terms that have popular currency such as "democracy".

JIANXIN, WANG
China.

EDUCATION IS HUMAN, STARTING-POINT FOR INITIATING FUTURE

Foundation for creating civilization, technology and management. There should be no science, technology and management apart from human being, but human being must rely upon education to acquire knowledge of science and technology and ability of management. Thus, to keep simultaneously coordinative development among science, technology and management will construct a high level developed civilization society, and the motive force to promote the coordinative development of science, technology and management in high speed is education.

From the viewpoint of educational function in social development, education is human starting-point for initiating future. If the humankind want to master and initiate a perfect future, creating a new viewpoint on future, enhancing consciousness and methodology for understanding and exploring future are all need, and the first in future development and will become a source in future competition and development for humankind.

JONES, CHRISTOPHER B.
USA.

ECO-DEMOCRACY: SYNTHESIZING FEMINISM, ECOLOGY, AND PARTICIPATORY ORGANIZATIONS

Suffrage historically has expanded to become more inclusive of marginalized groups (e.g., non - landowners, women). Yet, a critical analysis argues that suffrage itself is only a "pacifier" taking the public's attention away from issues of larger participation in the decision - making and planning process of modern society. The social critics go even further to argue that so - called "democratic" institutions have aided and abetted the continued subjugation and dominance of women, permitted the economic exploitation of peasants, workers, and poor people, and accelerated the process of ecological death and environmental destruction. Nonetheless, in terms of sheer numbers, more people than ever are gaining access to decision - making and greater political rights in their governance.

There are many social movements which are expanding the meaning of participation and "true" democracy (i.e., "deep democracy", "grassroots democracy"). The three discussed in this paper include: the woman's suffrage movement, environmental movement, and the proliferation of participatory social institutions (i.e., non governmental organizations, citizen's task forces, and other special - interest groups). The synthesis of women's rights struggles, environmental politics, and participatory cultural re - organization is already underway. It could accelerate and transform our world. It could fizzle and devolve.

This paper explores four possible alternative futures for democracy and participation in the future: continued growth, collapse, high technology transformation, and deep green. Each scenario for A.D. 2050 portrays major societal aspects imbedded in popular images of the future. Each scenario characterizes the status of participation and democracy at local and global levels.

JOSHI, NANDINI
India.

DEMOCRACY AT GRASSROOTS

The contemporary crisis of democracy can be resolved not through the modern system symbolised by the supremacy of money and power but through the regaining by people at the grassroots their own strength, their confidence, their freedom and their dignity.

The changes introduced by the government, even in democratic countries, only scratch the small top of the socio-economic pyramid, and even there they have not proved useful, reducing the government to a costly irrelevancy. The government is not a solution, it is a problem.

Freedom means the person's ability to win his or her bread without anybody's mercy. The real freedom of the masses therefore is not their ability to vote for a political party as at present, it is their ability to earn their livelihood on their own -without being dependent for it on the mercy of the authorities at the top.

Even in the industrialised countries, freedom, one's own power derives from his capacity of self-reliance. The present giant economy, however, aims at eroding that capacity, and with that, one's ability to defend oneself against economic aggressiveness. The success of democracy is directly related to local self-reliance. It is dependent on people's participation in the process of progress and consequently on the widest ownership of productive capacity.

In order to attain and retain freedom and autonomy, people must produce their basic needs, food and cloth themselves. The hold of the multinational corporations on their lives can be contained only when the corporation cannot threaten them with starvation and freezing. The parliamentary system can at best bring political freedom which is not true freedom. Mahatma Gandhi in India gave the concept of true non-violent freedom which can be attained only through the elimination of exploitation and therefore through local-production-for-local-use, i.e. village development which can be ushered in by the spinning-wheel (charkha). The charkha connotes the beginning of economic and political freedom in a society. Freedom must begin at the bottom. The process of modern technology opens up the way to the concentration of power and wealth which can enslave the human race. The concrete strategy to prevent this is provided by the charkha. The people at the bottom can bring the necessary changes themselves. They can accomplish what even those at the top cannot. They can educate power.

JUNG HWA YOL / PETEE
USA

FRANCIS BACON'S PHILOSOPHY OF NATURE: A POSTMODERN CRITIQUE

We have become disenchanted with the world whose dominant prose is written in the language of technology and with the modern condition of humanity which is enframed by the hegemony of technology including the cybernation of knowledge and the computerization of society. We have indeed become imprisoned behind the invisible walls of a gigantic technological Panopticon. Our postmodern critique of technology focusses on Francis Bacon's philosophy of nature. Our ecological predicament may be overcome by way of unchaining ourselves from the shackles of instrumental rationality for the domination of nature by knowledge and power and of liberating ourselves from anthropocentrism based on "respect for nature" (i.e., deep ecology).

Francis Bacon is the paradigmatic harbinger who shaped and justified at all cost the instrumental rationality of nature on the basis of Christian anthropocentrism. The essential framework of modern technology as the instrument of industrial production is laid down by him when he insists on the integration of the knowledge of nature (i.e., *Scientia et poëtia idem coincidunt*). The "advancement of learning" depends on the new way of acquiring knowledge by "experiment" which investigates nature as "matter" rather than "words" stored in the dusty cells of scholastic monasteries and colleges.

JUNGK, ROBERT
Austria.

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES LIBRARY

The spread of participatory method:

Future workshops in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Denmark and Great Britain.
Recent experiences and new avenues.

KAISHERA, MARGARITA
Bulgaria.

BACK TO THE FUTURE OR TO A PARADIZE

Many years ago the Bulgarian young generation was dreaming about the creation of free democratic society of equally rich citizens. Through years it became more and more clear that we are building up the utopia world. Unfortunately we were too enthusiastic to realize the danger in time. Instead of democracy we created a special kind of socialist autocratic society. Now, we are not equally rich but equally poor citizens. This depressed most of the Bulgarians and made them feel underestimated and underdeveloped.

The issues I would like to discuss in my paper are connected with looking for answers to the following questions:

- How to develop a new human beings culture, new organizational culture, new national culture? What are the critical success factors in these processes? How should all three levels interrelate and influence each other?
- How to integrate human values, interests and goals within the organization? How to bridge East and West cultures and how to cope with differences between them? How and in which directions will Western cultures influence significantly the bulgarian culture?

Since all three cultural levels mentionned above are crossing in the business organizations and reflect the creation of a new organizational culture, these organizations will be of special interest in the paper.

It is very important to understand whether we are moving back "to the future", or to a "Paradize".

KALAS-KOSZEGI, MARIA
Hungary

POPULATION AND HEALTH: EXTREMES AND TRENDS

On comprehensive examinations, unexpected phenomena are discovered even in the field of population and health.

You can inspect countries with different size of population, countries extremely different in level of economic development, or having different climate, living in different continent among different traditions, in different societies, cultures: the results on many fields are just shocking. These results vary rarely refer to the expected ones, not less in the case of the "best" and "worst" ones. This does not relate to the present situation only.

Monitoring the trends, besides of the present anomalies they draw our attention to undesirable, even to catastrophic tendencies. In comparing the present with the past, we find that the prognosed future is sorrowful on many fields of our life: or even disheartening!

The study, first of all, examines the extremes of different motions of population like: rate of natural growth of the population, emigration, immigration, the structure in sex and age; rate of birth and death /increase or even decrease /, fertility, marriage and divorce; size of families/ increasing number of those living alone and its consequences/. Health condition: mortality in different age group, the main diseases and causes of death, spread of new diseases. The condition of health service, extremes in health insurances. Extremes of the health service in developed and developing countries. Extremes in trends in the most fundamental fields of the humankind's life as the demographic questions regards. Among others: uncontrolled phenomena, irresponsibility of individuals on the one hand, efforts for improvement on the other hand- in democracy/cies/.

KALAS-KOSZEGI, MARIA / NOVAKY, ERZSEBET
Hungary.

DEMOCRACY/CIES AND ENVIRONMENT

Environmental pollutions, as one of the global problems, enforced a lot of action all over the world. For our common future the national activities have to be linked to the worldwide ones.

National actions for environmental protection are divided into three fields:

- state measures, regulations;
- value judgement of market;
- democratic participation of inhabitants.

We are inclined to give priority/ or exclusive place/ to one of those mentioned above, compared to the others. These endeavours are typical in a transitive period, especially in a period of regime change. Nowadays the negligence of old measures is hoped to be the way to find a solution to all the problems, even to the environmental ones. Everywhere, not less in developed western democracies, solution can only be expected by applying the three forms of actions simultaneously.

State measures can achieve their goals if they are realizable and acceptable by the majority of a nation. Market cannot solve the environmental problems, often, it causes even contrary effects. The inhabitants' participation is a growing phenomenon especially in transitive countries/ i.e.: previous socialist countries/ in spite of the fact that here democracy is still under formulation. Together with these, one must not however forget a fundamental fact of our days, that democracy does not consist of rights only, but obligation too. What does democracy mean in environmental protection? How does it appear in daily and scientific life, first of all in education? How ought different forms of environmental protection be combined within and among countries? These/ and other/ questions are discussed in the paper bringing some examples from different types of democracy from the developed and developing part of the World alike.

KAMENICZKY, ISTVAN
Hungary.

PRIVATIZATION AND PARTICIPATION IN HUNGARY AND THE FUTURE

Hungary is to be found on the way of transition to the market economy, characterized mainly by private ownership. The most important measures of the change are to build the institutions of the market economy and to make a wide range of privatizations.

As a result of the political system changing the former system of dictatorial command regime of party state has been abolished. The government is leaving the economy as well as the big systems of the social security with the purpose to reduce its own responsibility, too, but before the creation of automatism and working institutions of the social market economy. The privatization has started. In the beginning of 1991, more than 10% of the state property was in private hands.

The attitude of the employed to the privatization is absolutely dependent on the development of living and working conditions. The employed can participate in the managing of the enterprises.

The safeguarding of the interests of the employed in the course of privatization.

Changes in the trade union movement and the effects of privatizations to the participation of employed in the decision making.

Relationships between the social security and the participation of employed is also changing in the transition period of the society. Future possibilities of participation and the political interests in the transition period and after it.

KAPUR, JAGDISH CHANDRA
India.

VIOLENCE AND FORCE AS A NEGATION OF DEMOCRACY AND IDEOLOGY

In its higher reaches, democracy becomes a process of continued inner development and human evolution at all planes - physical, intellectual, aesthetic, psychic and spiritual. Subservience of any one or more of these human attributes or dimensions to the other means subservience of one group or class of human beings to the other - thus a negation of democracy. Similarly, manipulation of social processes through intense psychological techniques; moronising the mass as a consumer of goods and services or subverting the other nonprofit bearing and qualitative human attributes is thus widening the dimensions of worldwide social instability.

Insidious political and economic leaders in the garb of democracy and with instruments of mega - violence at their command adopt the techniques of dictatorship and subvert the rights of individual ethnic or religious groups, people or nations for the acquisition and maintenance of their own power and interests and are thus spreading an emotional plague and obliterating mechanisms to seek inherently democratic remedies.

The freedom of speech or worship have no substance without freedom from hunger and suffering. Freedom to vote becomes meaningless in a state anchored on force and without people's access to truth - the truth linked to cosmic reality, truth for all mankind and which touches upon the unacknowledged reasons for today's social chaos. Such truths cannot be distorted to serve narrow power and economic interest.

In the process of undimensional evolution, even ideologies become victims of human greed and excesses and lose their *raison d'être*; the ethnic and cultural cohesiveness and bearings under people's protest for participation in their governance and economic bounty. This goes beyond the process of distributive justice and vested interests and an altered definition of democracy and the role of the state to the human psyche. The maximisation of quality and employment as against quantity, humanising of technology and liberating the human innovative capabilities - all within a less manipulable ethical and moral framework. Ideologies on their own merit can have a much greater potential for righteous thought and action than when their logic flows from the quantum of force at their command. Continuity or tradition relates our lives to past experiences, provides linkages with cosmic truths and assures an uninterrupted process of evolutionary equilibrium and future generations with new visions and a capacity for innovating new designs for living.

KASSMANN, KENNETH
USA

AMERICAN GREEN MOVEMENT

**The Green Movement and The Challenge of the American Political System-
Advancing Democracy and Participation in a Hostile Environment.**

The American Green Movement has grown at a tremendous pace in the last ten years. The Green Committees of Correspondence now list more than 200 member organizations, including many local and statewide Green parties. Despite this growth in Green consciousness and the wide variety of ways available for participation in the American Political System, Green organizations in America have not been able to mirror the electoral success of Greens in other areas.

This paper explores the cultural and structural constraints which the American Political System incorporates to limit participation by dissident political factions such as the Greens. It further analyses the resulting restraints which the American Greens put upon themselves in an effort to gain legitimacy within the electoral system.

The final area of analysis in the paper deals with the question of advancing democracy in the future. Possibilities for change are explored concerning both the American Political System and the American Green Movement.

KEJAK, MICHAEL / JAVORSKY, PETR
Czech and Slovak F.R.

THE COMPLEX FORECASTING MODELLING METHOD

It is given by character of the futures studies that most of them is rather qualitative nature. It can cause problems in the case of evaluating alternative futures and especially in the case of "active" approach to future in mapping conditions of transition from present to "possible futures". One way to the quantitative expression of futures is computer simulation models which can suitably supplement current qualitative methods.

The complex (comprehensive) Forecasting Modelling (CFM) Method is based on the System Dynamics Method enriched by a tool for quantification of hypothetical relations between model variables. This modelling process employs several different types of information and enables to integrate them into one consistent framework.

Typical procedure of building-up a model of this type is as follows:

- conceptualization: during this phase the tasks associated with model purpose, system boundary, level of aggregation, model variables and interactions between them are solved.

- formulation:

The model equations as a result of this phase of the modelling process are made by the transformation of the knowledge base, the data base and the causal structure of the model into mathematical language.

- testing or model analysis:

This phase of the model building process aims at the model verification. The model is in whole represented by interconnected definition equations and hypothetical ones. The model validity can be tested both from the static viewpoint by analysis of the model behaviour. Because the model is complex, nonlinear and extensive, the tool for the latter process is the computer simulation.

- implementation:

In this phase the model serves as a tool for supporting decision-making and testing policy measures in agreement with the model purpose. Now the model can help to test different alternatives of future development based on other qualitative methods (e.g. scenario analysis).

KÕÕRNA, ARNO
Estonia

ESTONIAN WAY TO MARKET ECONOMY

1. The present complicated state of the Estonian economy is caused by two transition processes: a) the transition of Estonia from the constituent Republic of the Soviet Union to the sovereign Republic of Estonia; b) the transition of Estonia from command of economy to market economy.
 2. The political independence is the precondition for gaining the economic independence.
 3. At the present stage of the transition to market economy, most of the command economic regulators have been eliminated or become useless, while the market regulation does not act as a balancer of economy yet. An effectively functioning market where the freely forming equilibrium prices direct economy to development is obstructed by the present monopolistic and nonmonopolistic structures. The lack of competition has also caused the spread of corruption, which is an essential obstacle to the effective market regulation. A cause of market inefficiency is also the lack of elementary information.
 4. A typical feature of the present stage of transition period is the internal as well as the external disequilibrium of the economy and the permanent decline of economy.
 5. Only our own currency, monetary and fiscal policies, banking system and frontier can stabilize the Estonian economy. These are the attributes of a politically independent state. So, only the independence of Estonia can provide a possibility to stabilize our economy.
 6. Intervention by government is also inevitable in case of danger of hyperinflation to prevent economic disaster.
 7. The solution to current problems is in conflict with the transition to market economy.
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LAMSON, ROBERT W.
U.S.A.

A STRATEGY TO IMPROVE DEMOCRACY AND PARTICIPATION

This paper, accompanied by charts, outlines concepts, questions and a strategy to improve democracy and participation in the United States.

Any strategy, implicitly or explicitly, involves the attempt to perceive, choose among and implement answers to questions about alternative futures, the nature of the problem, options (goals and means), conditions needed for success, costs and benefits, risks, arguments for and against the options, tradeoffs, constraints and barriers, and implementation.

A strategy and timetable to improve the health of democracy in the United States could include: an ongoing national dialogue about the health of democracy and options to improve it, led by periodical congressional hearings; monitoring, assessment and periodic reporting; an improved legal framework; a network of organizations and individuals concerned about democracy; synthesis, packaging and communication of what we know via various media, manuals, bibliographies, newsletters, journals, directories, clearinghouses, video, exhibits, and museums, research and experimentation including the attempt to synthesize and communicate what we know (e.g. the state of the art), what future knowledge is needed (e.g. an agenda of needed research), and what the requirements are (e.g. the resources needed) to implement the agenda.

In the attempt to strengthen democracy and participation, it is important to ask, systematically: what are important elements of democracy and participation? With regard to each element, what are the problems and their causes, and what are options for improvement?

This paper presents frameworks to address these questions as well as some suggested answers.

LANZAVECCHIA, GIUSEPPE
Italy

TECHNOLOGICAL REVOLUTION: GLOBAL AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

The technological revolution is radically reshaping the economic, political and social structure of our societies. On the one hand, science, technology, information, production and market are globalizing. On the other hand, continual change, the drift towards diversification and personalisation, the growing interdependence among processes and among widely different experiences are fragmenting geography, economy, market, society.

The result is that States are becoming too large for some phenomena and too small for others. Globalization and local development are interlocked in an increasingly complex and stratified system which demands an administrative structure with both supranational grouping and division at the level of regions and districts.

The technologies of tomorrow (user - friendly information technology, artificial intelligence, personalised production processes, personalised media, intelligent technologies, artificial reality) will dramatically accentuate this trend.

LASZLO, ERVIN / LASZLO, ALEXANDER
Italia

**FOSTERING DESIGN COMPETENCIES: EMPHASIZING WITH AND ENHANCING
INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE SELF-DEVELOPMENT CAPACITIES**

Creativity is not something that can be taught, yet it can be learned. How is it possible to "learn" others to be creative? The key lies in the ability of the learning facilitator (for lack of a better term) to inculcate in others the desire and the confidence to idealize alternative futures through the full play of the imagination. This paper will explore the role of the learning facilitator in this process; the competencies, language, values, and methodologies appropriate to such endeavours; the operational aspects of creating realizable pragmatic scenarios with individuals and groups; the utility of the systems concept of "cognitive maps" for understanding and enhancing indigenous self-development competencies; and reflections on ways to nurture learning environments that empower social systems with the ability to create their own learning ecologies and thereby to shape their future in the context of--and in co-evolutionary relationship with--their environment.

LIU SHENG-JUN
China.

"THE SET PATTERN" FUTURE POLICY AND THE STUDY OF DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

The research on set pattern of development strategy. Following this program we can achieve satisfactory results in our research.

What is the research pattern of development strategy then? It means:

1. Seeking development from all space.
 2. seeking development from all time.
 3. seeking development from the best option.
 4. seeking development from the laws.
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LOWE IAN
Australia.

DEVELOPING A "GREENPRINT" FOR SUSTAINABILITY

During 1990 an important project took place in the Australian State of the Tasmania. As a result of the balance of power in the parliament being held by five Green Independents, government support was obtained for the development plan. The alternative blue-print for the future became known as the "greenprint".

It was developed by an iterative process involving community groups, individuals and corporations. A call for submissions yielded as a set of papers which formed a stack a metre high. A draft of the greenprint was prepared and distributed, after which a series of public meetings in major centres discussed the proposals. A final report was then prepared. This has now been released by the government for public consideration.

The exercise was based on a belief that sustainable patterns of development need to be built up from local plans, based on the Bruntland principles of meeting the needs of the present generation without foreclosing the options for future generations. The development pathway proposed shows that sustainable futures need not entail great material sacrifice, but offer a relief from the problems of alienation and ecological destruction which characterise many industrial societies.

Both the process of developing the greenprint and its conclusions hold lessons for other regions and small nation-states. Locally-controlled patterns of social and economic development offer a real hope of moving towards a sustainable future.

LUBIS, MOCHTAR
Indonesia

CULTURE, EDUCATION AND THE FUTURE

Great transformations in many aspects of human life and environment are taking place as a result of new scientific and technological achievements, and also because of the impact of deterioration of the environment, such as the warming of the globe, and the continued pollution around the world. Not a single country or society can escape the implications of these processes.

But not all of the new scientific and technological breakthroughs are benign. Much depend upon the mind and values of the human beings who handle and operate them. The biotechnological revolution for example held much promise for the good of humankind, but also potential hazards in various forms.

Most of the challenges of our time today challenge many of the basic concepts nations have held dear in the past, such as national sovereignty, nationalism, national independence, and challenge old notions of national solidarity, religious exclusivity, national interests, sacrosanct national borders, etc...

Global warming, the destruction of the ozone layer, etc... threaten all living forms on this planet with extinction. We now need to educate ourselves and younger generations with a new worldview, equipped with new values, which should fundamentally recognize that nations on this planet belong to one human family.

When we can get this notion into our mind and heart, then our mind could be able and willing to accept that to solve the big problems which all nations face, it would be most wise to pool national sovereignties (or part of them as needed) to enable to establish international institutions to carry out actions to solve the problems faced by all nations in the World.

MAALLO, SUSANA / SERNA, MIQUEL
Uruguay

**POLITICAL PARTIES AND CORPORATIONS: A POSSIBLE MIXTURE TO
DEMOCRATIC SETTLEMEN**

Latin America military regimes seem to be ending. Meanwhile, the redemocratization processes -which are just beginning- draws our attention to some questions about the future of democratic institutions.

We will use the possibilities that the comparative analysis offers to improve the study about those processes and the political systems in Argentina, Brasil, Chili and Paraguay.

Argentina, despite its political cross-ways, able enough to reconstruct a bipartisan system with the absence of left and right wing parties. The military continued to be important actors on political decision-making process, and also producing revolts against civilian powers.

The political system in Brasil is still showing its historical weakness and had suffered some changes because of the explosive because of the polemical increase in the number of left wing political groups. Military and business power compete with that of the State.

In Uruguay, political parties regained their traditional role as main actors on the democratization process. Besides that, the political system changed from a bipartisan to a multi party system.

As in the previous case, in Chili political parties also became an important factor in the formation of the political system. Apart from this , conditions imposed by the military was a threat to the new democracy.

MANNERMAA, MIKA TAPANI
Finland.

AN EVOLUTIONARY APPROACH TO THE FUTURE POSSIBILITIES OF A HIGHLY DEVELOPED SOCIETY

Different approaches in futures research can be identified on the basis of their ontological attitude toward the idea of change, evolution of progress in social systems. It is possible to make a distinction between three different paradigms, namely descriptive futures research, scenario paradigm and evolutionary futures research. The first two are more or less well-established, although heterogeneous, branches in the the futures field with much research actually done. Evolutionary futures research, on the other hand, is only emerging at the moment. Its roots are in the study of complex, self-organizing evolutionary systems. The postulates of evolutionary futures can be defined as follows:

1. Postulate: Societies are dynamical nonlinear systems far-from thermodynamical equilibrium having as their components human beings, communities and other organizations of people, and as their environment other societies and the natural environment. Societies form their own levels of organization, and they evolve through processes typical to those levels; although the development of societies is due to the actions of human beings, it cannot be derived from these activities, and the evolutionary process at the societal level is not a result of conscious human planning and decision-making.
2. Postulate: There is an asymmetry between the past and the future of a society due to the fact that most important social transformation processes are irreversible. Scenarios can only be written from the present to the future, not the other way round.
3. Postulate: The evolution of societal systems consists of stable evolutionary epochs with some degree of predictability, and breaks or chaos phases, the outcomes of which are unpredictable and consisting of a variety of possibilities for different development paths in the future.
4. Postulate: The development of societal systems is leading toward ever increasing complexity of the societies and toward the growth of dynamicity of these systems in the sense of increased and more rapid flows of information, energy and material.
5. Postulate: Evolution in societal systems is emergent in the sense that interaction between existing tendency of creating new, higher-level societal systems having emergent properties typical only to these new levels. The new emerging level has a tendency to increase similarity of the components at the lower levels (convergence tendency). In the beginning, a new level is less complex than the levels below it, but the complexity of the whole system increases with the evolution of a new level.
6. Postulate: The empirical research object of futures research, the present, is a multiversal totality formed by a group of several different realities.

On the basis of these postulates the development of a society can be described as a process of creative discovery where both stable and chaotic phases play vital roles. Instead of understanding societies in "equilibrium terms" or as "mechanisms" we see a world of incomplete information and changing values, a world where we can meet several different futures, development, turbulence and even catastrophes.

The paper includes also a preliminary attempt to apply the lessons of the evolutionary paradigm described theoretically in the paper. It is dealing with the future of a highly developed country like Finland.

MASINI, ELEONORA
Italy

STANLEY LESSE IN MEMORIAM

Stanley Lesse, a long standing member of the World Futures Studies Federation suddenly died on December 23 of last year.

He had been a member of the Federation since its very beginning, even before it was formally established, and he was present in Oslo in 1968, when the first group of people interested in futures studies met for discussions.

Many of us met him at our conferences. At the Budapest conference, he was as lively as ever with his inseparable companion, wife Margie.

Through their life, some people give to others, drawing the best from them, provoking thought and action. The giving is not in goods and services but in the non-material, surely the greatest of gifts.

Stanley Lesse was one such person. His mind worked for others, which in his case meant working for the future, when the giver will no longer be there to rejoice them. I first met Stanley Lessa in 1970 when I was embarking on my career in futures studies in Italy. At the time I had no contact with the international world of futures studies and was very much in need of understanding and support. I found that understanding and support in Stanley for many years to come, and eventually became President of the World Futures Studies Federations.

Stanley was a man whose main interest was the human being and his or her needs, his or her future. He theorized this interest in articles and books but was never satisfied only with the theory. Stanley Lesse was the first to think about the future needs of people in terms of their physical and psychological wellbeing. When he was thinking of need in these terms, future thinking was still only about an increasingly better world in material terms, and the medical profession was more oriented towards great discoveries and not people's everyday needs.

Stanley Lesse was one of the first to realize that as economics, politics, life style change, so also does the human being, and that the pace of this process was destined to become increasingly rapid in the future, creating difficulties of adaptation. Very early, Stanley foresaw the tremendous changes that technology would bring to the medical profession which would come to rely increasingly on technology. Computer aided diagnosis and analysis, which sounded like science fiction when Lesse first described it in the seventies, is now a fact of life.

The hope of people who are concerned with the future of human beings in terms also of needs and desires, is that not only will futurists belonging to the different sciences work with commitment and love for the future of mankind, but also others, people from various professions, doctors, trying to foresee the needs and aspirations of people in a highly changing and interrelated society. This need which now is so evident in the Nineties, was foreseen by Lesse much in advance.

MASINI, ELEONORA
Italy.

THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY AND PARTICIPATION IN EVERYDAY LIFE

Women have mostly an everyday experience of democracy and participation. All over the world only rarely can their contribution to public life be connected to democracy and participation, in any case, it has always to be related to everyday life.

The experiences of women in some developing countries, in terms of democracy and participation, will be described in relation to family, education, professionalization and work participation. The first stage will be strictly related to field work and the private sphere of women's activity.

In the second stage, some recent data on such issues will reproduce the world situation in terms of democracy and participation in relation to the previous topics of family, education and work participation.

A third step will be to refer very briefly to women in the public area of their activity (always everyday life). Women and political representation at the local, national or international level will be described.

All three steps will lead to brief indications of alternative scenarios (possible, probable or desirable).

MENG JU-RONG
China

**HARMONIOUS DEVELOPMENT FOR THE CAUSE OF INFORMATION. A
CHALLENGE OF HUMAN PARTICIPATING ACTIONS**

Human participating actions cannot be independent of informations.

In today's world, there appear two extremes in the cause of information, i.e. in the developed countries and regions above the intermediate level of development emerges "information explosion" on the one hand, and on the other hand, in developing countries and regions, communication facilities are so backward that informations cannot be timely transmitted. Those phenomena of unbalanced development are the principal problems obstructing human participating actions.

For the purpose of promoting the whole human democracy and participating actions, the collection, screening and classification of informations must be gradually automated and intelligenced so as to cope with the "information explosion" on the one hand, and on the other hand, every effort should be exerted to perfect the cause of communication for developing countries and regions in order to overcome the backwardness of information acquiring and transmitting facilities. This will undoubtedly raise new questions and new tasks for the information industry.

The harmonious development of participating actions-information- the cause of information will be the challenge given by the future.

MI YOU LU
China.

CHINESE RURAL INDUSTRY OUTLOOK IN 2000

Chinese rural industry has become a pillar of national economic development. For several years, rural industries have produced roughly a third of the country's industrial output. A great number of their products have a high rating from the State and sell well abroad. Chinese rural enterprises, which have become an important part of the country's economy in recent years, now produce 33.7 per cent of the Nation's coal, 31.5 per cent of China's cement, 63 per cent of the nylon, 60 per cent of all garments, and 80 per cent of the farming machinery.

During the next five years, China will continue to encourage the development of rural enterprises to help promote rural economic growth, increase farmers' income, and absorb the surplus force. The output value of products for export is hoped to increase at an ever higher rate of 19% annually. The rural enterprises are expected to absorb a total of 18 million to 25 million surplus rural labourers in the next five years. By the year 1995, the country's enterprises are expected to employ a work force of 117 million, about one quarter of an entire labour force in rural China. Rural industry will export at least \$19.2 billion worth of goods every year by 1995, with an annual growth rate of 16.7% during the 1991-95 period.

China would set some targets for the development of rural industry in the last decade of the century. Production from rural industries is expected to make up to ????? per cent of the country's total industrial output by the year 2000, 15 per cent more than in 1990. China plans to speed development of rural townships in the next decade in a bid to provide more jobs for the increasing surplus labour force among its farmers who now total over 900 million.

MI, ZHENYU
China

NEW INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ORDER AND WORLD PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

As the old world strategic pattern has disintegrated and a new one is yet to take shape, the international situation becomes more turbulent and unstable. As a result, the world peace and development is seriously threatened and challenged. Under such an environment, it is imperative to establish a new international political order conducive to world peace and development. The establishment of the new order must be based on the five principles of mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful co-existence. Such an order requires that all the countries in the world, big or small, strong or weak, rich or poor, have the right to participate on an equal footing in the settlement of the world affairs. Such an order must recognize that every country has the right to choose its political, economic and social system in light of its national conditions. Such an order must ensure that international disputes are resolved in a reasonable manner by peaceful means, and the use of force or the threat of the use of force is opposed and prohibited. In order to set up such a new international political order, all countries, especially the broad third world countries must make protracted and arduous efforts.

It is necessary to continue to clear away the remnants of the old international political order. Such practices as the strong bullying the weak, the rich oppressing the poor, must be rejected, and power politics and hegemonism opposed. It may be appropriate to support the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means and oppose armed aggressions and the settlement of international disputes by means of war.

The existing unjust international economic order should be changed while a new international economic order based on justice and equality be established.

**MIGUEL, MARCELA MARIA / MICHAEL BERLAND
USA.**

THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY IN EASTERN EUROPE

The past few years have witnessed the collapse of the totalitarian system in Central Europe. In most of the former Soviet-Block countries, monumental changes are taking place. Free elections have been held for the first time in several decades, bringing in hope for a better future.

The emergence of a new Eastern Europe brings to mind many questions.

How are people reacting toward the political change?

What are the prevailing attitudes toward democratic norms?

What is expected of the new found Democracy?

This paper attempts to address these and other questions, analyzing in a comparative fashion, public opinion data from Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland.

MIRONOV, ALEXANDRU
Romania.

PLANETARY PROJECTS

The Suez Channel, the Transamazonian highway or the Chanell Tunell have been great technical adventures, and more than that: the huge enterprise keep people bound together, all aspirations converging into a great achievement.

It may be that for the near future the great planetary projects would be unavoidable, both for their practical necessity (let us call it: planetary engineering) as for the social connections and stimulations they create (human engineering). Such adventures have been foreseen, and projects have been developed (with technical and economical calculations). Here is a list with some of them:

- The Glaser satellites (solar power plants in orbit, sending microwaves to Earth).
- The irrigation of the Sahara.
- The bridge/ Tunnel over /under Gibraltar straits.
- A second Panama Channel, in Central America.
- A planetary service using zeppelins for marchandise and tourists.
- Polar ice for tropical deserts.
- Informond- the planetary network for telecommunications and computer services.
- Restauration of big european forests.
- A Siberian highway (train and auto)
- An European underground train.
- The "Lagrange" "Cities" (cosmic stations proposed by the physicist G. K. O'Neill).
- A health care system for healthy people, developed by education (using satellites, teachers and cultural knowledge from all countries) etc.
- All subjects are stimulating the Imagination (of young people mostly), and, in theory at least, all can be achieved with the actual knowledge, materials, specialists and financial means.

A School of planetary projects, a special magazine books describing different subjects may help reinforce the need to look forward.

MURPHY, BRIAN
New Zealand

STAKEHOLDER ECONOMICS

Traditional economics is concerned with the efficient allocation of scarce resources. The capitalism model of traditional economics has tended to emphasise efficiency at the expense of equity in resource allocation, while the socialism model of traditional economics has tended to emphasise equity at the expense of efficiency in resource allocation. Both capitalism and socialism have significant deficiencies as resource management ideologies in that they have been unable to develop cooperative ethical relationships between all the Stakeholder groups who have a vital stake in the effective operation of society- the natural environment, the general public, government, businesses, consumers, suppliers, employees, shareholders. All too often there has been conflict between stakeholder groups arising out of power dominance of "big" government in socialism. A new, ethical resource management ideology is proposed, Stakeholderism, which incorporates the efficiency ideal of capitalism and the equity ideal of socialism with an overlay of integrity and affirmation. Stakeholderism is concerned with developing ethical, non power dominant, partnership relationships between all the stakeholders in society. The ethical foundations of stakeholderism are the four interdependent Stakeholder Ethics principles of affirmation, (respect), integrity (morality), efficiency (competency), and equity (fairness). Stakeholderism is an eclectic ideology. It incorporates Moral Philosophy stressing integrity and affirmation, and old and new Management Philosophies stressing socio-economic efficiency and equity. Based on the stakeholderism ideology, a new style Stakeholder Economics is proposed that is concerned with meeting the economic, social and environmental needs of all society's stakeholders in an ethical manner. Stakeholder Economics calls a new business-government relationship, a partnership between the micro and macroeconomic structures of society. This would involve micro and macro economic, social and environmental policy planning from the "bottom up" as well as the "top down" in society. Stakeholder Economics requires regular auditing of stakeholder relationships at both the micro and macro levels to ensure maximum standards in the ethical qualities of affirmation, integrity, efficiency and equity. Stakeholder Economics offers effective Participatory Democracy based on ethical stakeholder relationships.

MUSKAT, MARIAN
Israel

THE SCIENCE OF THE FUTURE, A REASSESSMENT

Futurology, or science of the future, involves, by its very nature, utopian elements alongside others rooted in social realities. The former are frequently tied to political ideologies and often end as in the case of communism in collapse, social chaos and economic difficulties. The latter occasionally result in a status quo or a policy of return to authoritarian models of governance (a retreat from the Perestroika). They may also give rise to populism and demagoguery (the success of a certain Tyminski in the 1990 presidential elections in Poland), and thus facilitate social unrest and xenophobic propaganda and turning large participation in public life into a manipulation of the masses (the last day of the Weimar Republic and Hitler's rise to power).

The indifference of some political leaders to events beyond their borders and outside their national interests (Bush with regard to the tragedy of the Kurds but not in Panama or Granada) may be an added asset. Scientists dealing with the study of the future sometimes overlook the fact that criticism of their blueprints for a better understanding and action according to the needs of democracy and peace is not a consequence of their utopian approach, but is usually rooted in constitutional or international law, formally accepted by all civilized nations in the world.

We are not experiencing therefore a decline of utopias, but witnessing the end of some political ideologies.

The importance of futurology, therefore, depends on the art of eliminating the link with political ideologies and intensifying instead, reference to universally-binding municipal and international law. It postulates both respect of human rights and our right to decent life conditions and security, a law not yet far and wide realized and continuing to be a program in a search of a better future.

NIKOLAJEW, VADIM
Germany.

ECONOMY, ECOLOGY AND CULTURE

Spectacular failure of centrally planned economies to produce working alternatives to their advanced market counterparts has obviously reduced the spectrum of search for options aimed at finding out the clue to binding together efficient economic performance and its ecological sustainability. The triumph of market economy is evident, as evident that the problems stemming from relationship between economy and ecology are far from being resolved. On the contrary they are accumulating.

While individual economic interest and motivation are gaining prominence in order to be channelled along introduction of monocultures and mass consumption habits (expressed in growing baskets of commodities and containers of garbage per capita) to obtain efficiency, disseminating throughout the Globe in a rather cloning fashion. They release additional heavy resonance effects on nature that severely exacerbate global ecological situation. What should be done to avoid that? Can we envisage ways out?

Giving up attempts to breed a new human being capable of coping with any kind of contingency in the future that were enshrined in socialist alternatives we should turn to culture as one main direction to be explored in order to find ways to reconcile economy and technology, on the one hand, with ecology on the other.

It implies profound shift in using our spiritual energies from focussing on omnipotent solutions in terms of capitalism and socialism (equally of other...isms) to individual level of cultural sophistication based on main religious streams and cultural heritage. Cultural diversity and its impacts on economic and technological performance versus needs for cultural homogenization and standardization under impacts of economy and technology are upturn-down and a long march we have to face. For the last evidence from German unification indicates that higher economic and technological performance (in that case West German) doesn't tolerate any deviation from norm provided by cultural diversity (in former East Germany) to be rejected straightaway (we do it that way). So the need for diversity is easily spelt out but is difficult to meet in real life. It remains a challenge.

OLIVELLA, MARTI
Catalunya

MONETICS, AN INSTRUMENT TO IMPROVE DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION

This paper, shows the inadequacy and danger of the present use of monetics (telematic money), and offers a consistent and democratic framework through which to improve the people's participation in the political and economic decision making.

We analyse how the quick diffusion of monetics (interrelated banks' networks; magnetic or intelligent cards) may leave the citizens privacy unguarded and become a crafty system of police and fiscal control. The electronic transfer of funds enables the instantaneous mobility of enormous amounts of money all over the world, eager for speculative profits, therefore favouring the increasing and dangerous divorce between real economy and financial economy. To the traditional anonymity of money, which favoured the movement of speculative or criminal currency (traffic and corruption), we must now add the speed and immateriality of electronic money.

In order to face these problems the paper shows the conditions under which the monetics could be introduced, so as to lay the foundations for a system of complete and automatic information of the economic reality, and to simultaneously reinforce the people's rights.

In this context, suggestions are made on the way monetics could modify the rules of the social game: economic information within the people's reach would allow the market to be more self-regulated; fiscal control and redistribution could become automatic, thereby reducing bureaucracy; the citizens security would improve through a system with less impunity for most of the crimes and offenses that the present anonymous currency allows (traffic of drugs, of arms, of influences...). Monetics could also considerably improve the documentation and the independence of judicial systems (by allowing the peaceful solution of disputes); electoral systems could be more transparent (both for the control of the parties's financing, and for carrying out in practice the different kinds of popular electronic referendums...).

We also think that the practical application of the subsidiarity principle (everybody assumes as much responsibility as possible and only delegates to a wider level that which is necessary) might foster the participation, not only of people but also of the various territorial bodies (districts, villages, towns, regions, countries...). In the present crisis of the nation-states (which, as D. Bell says, are too large for small things and too big for the big problems), the application of the subsidiarity principle might help to solve the serious territorial conflicts, as long as the whole of the population and the local governments have a trustworthy system of strategical information, to allow them to "take action locally with a global view". The lack of this clear and unquestionable information justifies the authoritarian and centralist structures, both political and economical. Monetics may become a very important instrument to help this strategical information and management of society to take place, both with respect to the economic equilibrium, and to make the market responsible and to bring it to control itself.

PACHKOVA, PETYA
Bulgaria

**LABORATORY OF POLITICAL BEHAVIOUR. POPULISM AS A FACTOR IN OUR
FUTUR**

In this paper the role of populism as social attitude of broad masses of people in the transition period of Eastern European countries is analysed. Populism is a part of the socialist heritage and, as such, it will play an important role in the future.

It is assumed that this socio-psychological phenomenon will influence our professional life, the choice of professional criteria and actions. Populism can be observed in our political life- in the parties' ideology and tactics, in trade-union's activities and requirements, in the social policy of parliaments and governments.

The future of the East European countries will be modelled by the combination of populism, on the one hand, and the objective necessity of giving way to the most capable individuals, on the other.

PAGE JANE
Australia.

SYMBOLISING THE FUTURE-DEVELOPING A FUTURES ICONOGRAPHY

The paper engages with the art historical methodology of iconography in the context of symbolic representations of futures related concepts. Symbols constitute significant indicators of the aspirations, belief systems and neuroses of the cultures which generate them. As such, symbols constitute fundamental tools in any analysis of past and contemporary attitudes towards science, technology and the future. Contemporary imagery continuously reinforces negative, dystopian attitudes towards the future and related issues. In the paper, an attempt will be made to counterbalance this through the reconstruction and reinvigoration of symbolic imagery of the future. At the same time, however, an analysis of this kind must recognise the fundamentally different nature of contemporary symbols to those of previous periods and seek to formulate symbolic codes that are responsible to this complex and dynamic reality. With this in mind, the paper will analyse symbolic images of three fundamental aspects of futures studies: the interconnectedness of the past, the present and the future, the plurality of opinions in the future, and the importance of the human input into technology and the creation of the future. The discussion will take into account some recent educational initiatives in this area in which children have participated in the creation of symbolic images of the future.

PANIKAR, RAIMON
Catalunya

ECOSOPHY: THE WISDOM OF THE EARTH

By the word ecosophy I do not mean a qualified or a more refined ecology. After all, the Industrial revolution had also an idea of the human habitat, and wanted to utilise the Earth for the best, namely to serve Man, "the king of creation and lord of the earth". By and large, modern ecology has not given up this idea. It has only qualified it due to the bitter discovery that, if we want to go on exploiting the world, we have to treat her in a better and more kind way, so that she may yield her fruits for a longer period. We shall recur to recycling if need be, but the basic attitude remains the same.

Ecosophy treats the Earth as a living Being, both in all its members as a whole. The question is not merely whether we should torture animals because they are "useful" to human life. The issue is the very methodological approach to matter and the physical world- whose names, physics, natura, (bhûmî)- already disclose that she is something begotten, alive.

Ecosophy is the wisdom of the Earth, of the Dwelling place of Man, his Habitat, his outer body, his communitarian and living space, his home. Has not homo technologicus lost his rhythms? Is not the essence of technology that it has imposed on bodies, minds and societies an order which at best is an artificial order, which has nothing to do with the natural rhythms, with rta, dharma, dharma, tâxis, ordo of the ancient traditions? We should recover the rythmns of life and ultimately of Being.

PATHY JAGANATH
India.

INTERNAL SELF-DETERMINATION AND TRIBAL SUSTAINABLE SELF DEVELOPMENT

The principle of internal self-determination i.e., settlement of legitimate grievances in accordance with the established international and national instruments of human rights and of course within the broad matrix of the existing state structure, and the strategy of sustainable self-development or ethnodevelopment will ensure the beginning of a process of emancipation of the tribal and indigenous peoples of the world. Internal self-determination for greater autonomy over their economies, territories, culture and future can be a powerful tool for genuine democracy and federalism. It will provide a new physical and symbolic space for the most marginalized peoples of the world. The self-development strategy with its emphasis on self-sufficiency, social justice, ecological equilibrium and control of their future according to their own priorities, values and customs with full participation in the actual process of planning and implementation of development projects will be a conflict resolving measure. It is high time to acknowledge that the "traditional" culture and knowledge systems of tribal and indigenous peoples have much to offer to our imperiled planet and hence internal self-determination and self-development cannot be separated from the collective human rights of all human beings.

PLATT, JOHN
USA.

INVARIANCES AND DETERMINISM IN GLOBAL FORECASTING

Technology drives social change today. Technological determinism occurs when technosocial inventions are feasible and desired by all, so that they become "self-propagating" everywhere, almost invariant to accidents of history or war or national differences. Different countries are at different stages, but all want more life and health, easier farming, autos, TV, better weapons- making an irresistible evolutionary jump as we propel ourselves toward the physical or social limits. Can we predict further jumps and limits for the coming decades that will have this same kind of invariance to turbulence? In three ways:

(1) Look for the ongoing consequences of present technology, where parallel effects everywhere suggest common deterministic causes. Today, the end of empires.

Barriers to large-scale wars. Lower deaths and birth rates, population pressure, fewer farmers, bursting cities, mass leisure-unemployment, masses of migrants, fierce conflicts for self-determination. Tomorrow, ecological disasters, but growing eco-awareness and control. Nuclear power and photovoltaic cells, displacing fossil fuels. A high-tech high-info world, living on entertainment and tourism.

(2) Probable consequences of a new self-propagating technologies: simpler birth control (RU486), with population leveling at under 8 billion by 2005. A computer-dominated society. World-wide surveillance and identification, both for credit and safety. Direct satellite-to-home TV everywhere, affecting culture, education, politics, global sympathies. Global diversity, but strong collective action on arms control, environment and resources, and human rights.

(3) Study of long-range limits that technology will reach, and self-maintaining patterns of organization, for a sustainable state society. "Rawlsian justice" for underclasses, and 3rd-world rescue. "Checks and balances" to curb high-info management elites, with info-networks supporting strong autonomous sub-systems, like the parts of a healthy organism. The limits might be restricted by backlash and authoritarian control (technologically based!); or they could be surpassed if self-supporting space habitats eventually provide new evolutionary niches and possibilities.

PUIG I BOIX, JOSEP
Catalunya.

LOCAL ENERGY PLAN: CITIZENRY IN ACTION LOBBYING FOR A SOFT ENERGY PATH

The paper exposes how the citizenry can influence the change from hard energy path that industrialism is promoting to soft energy path, the only form to live sustainably on the planet Earth.

By now it is a fact that our environment is in danger. The combustion of fossil fuels and the fission reaction to produce electricity are poisoning the sources of life: waters, air, and soil..

At the same time the patterns of energy consumption are inequally and unjustly distributed over the world. On the one hand, the industrialized countries are wasting energy, meanwhile on the other hand, a larger part of the world's population has no access to energy.

But this situation could change despite the inertia of the energy systems. The key to the change are the populations and their energy action at the local level.

One instrument to make possible this change is the development of Local Soft Energy Plans, based on renewable energy sources and using efficiently the energy generated at the local level.

Finally the paper will propose how to create a local Soft Energy Plan and how people concerned could work together with critical scientists and technicians to change the hard energy path.

PUJAL LLOMBART, M., PUJOL TARRES, J.
Catalunya

THE DISCOURSE ABOUT NEW PRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES AND ITS SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS IN DEMOCRATIC SOCIETIES

Progress in the technology of human reproduction represents the solutions of some maternity problems for individuals and couples, allowing practices previously unimaginable. Mass media has reported some of these incredible achievements: the possibility of having a child in situations where it was unthinkable (sterile women, lesbian couples, aged women,...); the control of human fertilization and pregnancy using their frozen embryo;...). That is just a small view of the multiple possibilities of this field.

While these achievements have been presented to society as medical and social progress, different groups have expressed their concern and fear about the consequences implied by the application of these techniques, in an ethical dimension (Vatican, national governments,...) and in human cost for women (feminist movements,...).

In this paper we identify in three different aspects some of the social implications of these practices for democratic societies:

- a) These practices bring to question some concepts normally assumed as natural (that is the case of motherhood, reproduction, women body,...).
- b) The ethical and moral implications of its use -very important for the groups in disagreement with these practices-, and the change of values this application engenders.
- c) The differences between the public (mass media) and private (especially women) discourse these techniques produce.

To achieve these objectives, a discourse analysis of personal interviews of women from different social and familiar situations has been carried out, and compared with newspaper articles on this topic. Results are interpreted in terms of power relationships and changes of ethical values, and allow us to see how the topics are reconstructed, topics concerning maternity and motherhood.

PUSIC, LJUBINKO
Serbia

**CAN URBAN POLICY INDUCE CHANGES IN THE ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY OF
LARGE URBAN CENTRES?**

The city is distinctive with respect to its economic heritage, potential, function and the expression of economic functions. It is also specific in the effect on the national and regional economies as well as on its own spacial and social structure and the functioning of its immediate vicinity and the wider surroundings.

Regardless of the doctrines of the "Soft urban growth" and the "alternative urban growth", changes in the economic structure of the city bring about spatial changes within its inner and outer perimeter. These changes are global and independent of the ruling socio-economic or ideological system. The stratification of the social and cultural entity of the city and the changes of its economic geography are not the exclusive attributes of the large cities in the United States and Western Europe alone. They are also evident in cities in the developing countries as well as those in Eastern Europe.

This paper is an attempt to describe the economic changes which tend to accelerate urban changes, i. e., the changes of the market, production patterns, service networks and the economic structure of the population. These processes frequently result from a policy which disregards long-term urban and social consequences. Urban policy may be governed if it is accompanied by programs of improvements of the economic structure of the city, such as the programs of living in the large urban area. Production, service networks, manpower, environmental quality, land use and the last but not the least, a program of urban planning and programming. These programs portray the newly regained sense of responsibility for one's urban environment as well as the achieved democratic progress expressed as the willingness to participate in the shaping one's own future.

RAFELS I PERSIVA, JULI
Catalunya

SOLVING FUTURE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS BY PARTICIPATIVE DEMOCRACY

An exceptional experience on participative democracy. (offering to the Municipal Government of Madrid a sure guide for its new energy and environmental policy.)

The non prevent events of the last two years in the Eastern European countries and over the possibilities of war involving the supplies of oil, are proofs that we - the Futurist- had been more concerned by the extrapolation of our specialized know-how than in the integration of trans-social trends which carry on themselves the seeds of changes affecting deeply our future life.

Having done our own critic for that (1), the author has been attracted by the idea that something similar is happening now, but in the field of cares and feelings on natural environment, which are today in the mind of people of most countries. If we were able to contrast the different knowledge, possibilities, difficulties, needs and wishes of producers , experts and citizens related, for example, with energy pollution of a big city, surely we could offer to politicians a way for its solution instead of generalisations and protests when accidents happen).

The "General debate on renewable energies and the atmosphere of Madrid in 1992" that I had developed for ASENSA (Spanish association in that field) and that has been accepted by the Town Hall of the capital of Spain, outlines the inhabilities to consult the citizens in a general election, and even by referendums, due to the complexity of the matter, and offers a sure way to take political measures.

The "Debate" includes industrialists and experts from the industry of renewable energy as well as those of the Hall and the high officers of several citizens, Consumers and Ecologist Associations. The times of each of each interventions must be limited but enough to explain the real possibilities and opinion, and a writing reflecting all these must be agreed by all the partners. Thus it will be an exceptional point of reference for new policies.

At the XII World conference I'll report all the papers and studies of the "debate", that probably will be discussed at a Municipal Elections, next spring.

(1) In my monthly collaboration at the "Mundo Industrial", six years ago.

RAJA AZAM, IKRAM
Pakistan.

PROMOTING PARTICIPATIVE DEMOCRACY IN THE THIRD WORLD

Introduction: The Democratic Trend.

Francis Fukuyama's "End of History" theory is only a tunnel vision myth created by the apparent demise of communism with the end of super-power Cold War. If life is living history, then history can never end as long as there is life on earth. Likewise, visionary humanity will always probe the future by means of guiding images, visions and ideologies of it. If 20th. century capitalism and communism have failed to solve this century's problems, the 21st. century will seek its own solutions to its own problems.

Democracy: As a Problem and a Solution:

Both 21st. century New Democracy and New Socialism may offer themselves as alternative ideologies to 20th. Century Capitalism and Communism. But what kind of democracy and what kind of socialism? New -Yes. But how new? National Social Democracy and Democratic socialism. As authoritarianism -whether military or politico-civil- became increasingly unpopular since the 1960s, democracy became the catch-call even of the Third World. Illtracy or uneducation apart, The Third World limited experience of Western democracy has been, at best, a mixed bag: rather, more of a problem than a panacea. Why? not just because of the usual teething troubles-but much more because of rhetorical psyching and conning through the manipulative media, and by sheer corruption and malpractices like election rigging. Thus, democracy has become expensively elitist, exploitative, token, marginal and fragily vulnerable in the ethno-national Third World. Is there something inherently wrong with democracy or is the fault in its (mis) application?

Conclusion:

Perhaps both. In any case, Western Democracy does not seem to suit The Third World political culture -where, none-the-less, the democratic spirit is both deep-rooted and ever-alive. The way out is Indigenous Democracy -inexpensive, grass roots', door steps', popular people's participative direct democracy- that negates the traditional vested interests and is change oriented, future focussed, holistic, self-sustaining and peacefully progressive. Failing that, there may be trouble ahead-without ethno-national and other pluralism, basic needs, human rights-, and Islamic Consensual Democracy for the Muslim World.

RAMBA VARGA, VICTORIA
Romania

CHANGING CULTURAL MODELS IN WEST AND EAST

Both in the East and in the West, the crisis of some cultural traditions and ideological ensembles has evolved over the last decade. It is explicitly manifest within the fall of the Eastern regimes and implicit with the "Welfare state" questioning in the West. A new cultural model seems to be emerging in the future. The complex gestationing process of the new model calls for the search of the mutation and tendencies within the present changes and for deciphering their meaning.

In the west the advanced point of the new paradigm may be sensed in the USA where the accents are quite particular. There, the de-ideologizing tendencies manifest in the late 70s., especially in future studies were, probably, the cultural pre-signals of the present trends of de-politization of man's problem, emphasizing the equal chances, diversity, decentralization and the new ethics of participatory democracy. In advanced countries one can watch the assumption of such cultural topics distorted by stalinism as: the struggle for liberty for all, for a democratic distribution of power and opportunities, for equality.

In the Eastern and Centre-European countries, the fall of the stalinist regimes has also caused an acute crisis of living culture. After the demagogic populism and exaggerated egalitarian solidaritism, the gradual assumption of mass individualism and, the fact that people are getting used to respecting pluralism when exercising democracy are being noticed. But, at the same time, topics of the previous cultural paradigm like ethnic, national peculiarities, regionalism etc... are still highly influential. Will changing cultural models in the West and East become convergent in a new cultural synthesis fit for the 21st. century? Now, the greatest cultural challenge is a new, all integrating cultural model providing valid alternatives for developing new living cultures of socio-ecological peace and dignity for all human beings.

RASAK, VICTORIA
USA

**CARNIVAL AS AN INTEGRATIVE AGENT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A
PLURALIST SOCIETY**

This paper describes how population segments of a small caribbean island express their cultural differences, and social interaction, and common and separate goals and values, as players in the Island's "carnaval". It shows how the development of the carnival reflects the changing social, political, and economic dimensions of the Island's history.

RAVEN, JOHN
Scotland.

NECESSARY CHANGES IN BUREAUCRACY AND DEMOCRACY

Society has changed dramatically, and in ways which are rarely made explicit, over the past 40 years. We now live in a society which is managed on the basis of the economic market-place. The imminent collapse of the environment, the biosphere, and the financial system mean that we urgently need to move toward a society which is run more effectively. Yet many of the areas of the economy which have been socialised -education, health, defence, the environment- function very poorly. We urgently need to find ways of collecting better information and, most importantly, giving teeth to such information as exists.

A key need is to find ways of getting public servants and politicians to initiate the collection of forward looking information, sift it for good ideas, and act on that information in an innovative way in the long-term public interest. To do this, we need to apply new criteria to the work of public servants. We need new tools of accountability; new structures of management; new ways of supervising the operation of the public service; new patterns of competence; new concepts of wealth (for wealth is now in the public domain); new understandings of how the public sector should work, and new concepts of democracy. We need both wider range of evaluation studies and new forms of such studies -studies that are designed both to improve (rather than merely comment on) policy. We need new concepts of citizenship. We need new structures to promote innovation and use of information on a world-wide basis.

The paper will document the changes which have been mentioned, outline the fresh competences and management systems which are required by both public servants and citizens, identify the steps which need to be taken to foster these competencies, and discuss the structures -the forms of bureaucracy and democracy- which are required if new understandings and ways of doing things are to be encouraged to emerge and be implemented.

REMES, SEPPO / MERISTO, TANYA
Finland

MULTIPLE SCENARIOS FOR EAST-EUROPEAN FUTURE

Five basic scenarios are presented: (1) positive integration, (2) german dominance, (3) blocification (4) catastrophe in the USSR.

Scenarios are based on the West European scenarios (partly global scenarios). The attitude and concrete measures of West-European countries and business is considered as a main factor effecting the future of Eastern Europe (excluding the URSS).

Scenarios are based on interviews of East-European specialists, mainly economists.

REMES, SEPPO / MERISTO, TANYA
Finland

NEW METHODICS FOR MULTIPLE SCENARIO: CASE OF THE SOVIET UNION

The basic idea of the study was to develop alternative scenarios for the Soviet Union. For this, it was necessary to evaluate new methodics to observe soviet reality and future opportunities as systematically as possible (in practice).

The methods used are a combination of deduction and induction, and based on subjective information and argumentation. Using induction, we divide the object to certainty, popularity and uncertainty factors, have comments from advisory groups and experts.

The information is systematised using "the system method of argumentation analysis", our new approach. It consists of (1) cross-impact matrix of different factors, (2) the clusters of reciprocal interdependence, (3) selection of the most crucial factors, (4) selection of basic Soviet interest groups and (5) drawing conclusions using the future table.

RICHTEROVA, VERA
Czech and Slovak F.R.

THE INFLUENCE OF RESEACH, DEVELOPMENT, INVESTMENT COST ON THE GROWTH OF SPECIFIC PROFIT OF CHEM INDUSTRY

- 1) The efficiency of Research & development can be high only in democracy (pythagoras was killed by Roman soldiers).
 - 2) Research and development can be classified as a part of the national culture.
 - 3) The countries which have have not got enough raw material resources must use the research mental potential of population for their development.
 - 4) The research & development are production forces and have the same function in building the national product as assets(a) and employees(e).
 - 5) One example of World chemical industry is demonstrated . The dependence of specific profit growth on the specific research costs(r), on the specific investment costs(i), on " $(r)+(i)$ ", on " $(r).(i)$ " and on " $r.i$ ".
 - 6) The best modification of cobb-douglas production function is the following: where s =sale $(p/s) = c.(a/s)^{\alpha} . (e/s)^{\beta} . (r.d \text{ over } s)^{\gamma} . (i/s)^{\delta}$.
 - 7) The verifications are made on the selected chemical societies (Base, Bayer, Ici, Dow, Du pont, Hoechst....)
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RISTIC, DUSAN
Serbia

DEMOCRACY IN EASTERN EUROPE

In this paper we discuss democracy as a product of social development. Here we start from the definition that democracy is participation in governing by a citizen.

In industrial society there is a parliamentary democracy with multi party system, as an opposition to authoritarian societies with single party system, which used to be in Eastern European countries.

The problem of democracy in Eastern European countries is a question which is connected to capabilities of these societies to obey natural laws of development on the basis of market economy, multi party system, private property and encouraging the entrepreneurships and creative spirit in citizens.

One crucial problem is that of the influence of the Bojsevik ideology and the spirit that has deep roots in the minds of the people.

ROBOLIS, SAVVAS
Greece.

COMMUNITY INTERCATIVE HEALTH MANAGEMENT: CHALLENGES FOR THE FUTURE

The Greek National Health system came into being in 1983 as a reform of the existing health services. The new reforms announce the intention to establish a comprehensive health services based on decentralisation. The health care offered by the National Health system is divided into primary (community) and secondary (hospital) care. After eight years, it is obvious that the decentralisation of the health services based on the division of the country into regional health authorities suffered from many organisational problems, particularly the functional and the management problems. Therefore, we may say that the character of the organisational function of the NHS is rather of an imperialistic than a decentralistic kind.

This paper deals with management project into a primary (community) care in Greece. The project sought to overcome this situation by using a different organisational approach (functional decentralisation) incorporating the methodological development of the community intercatave management.

RODGERS SHARON
USA.

ENHANCING PARTICIPATION IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION IN HAWAII

This paper explores those characteristics of the Hawaii Research Center for Futures Studies (HRCFS) that enable it to survive and to work towards creating change. It proposes that the ability of future research groups to survive and be effective is based on the following: 1) Continuing charismatic leadership; 2) Adequate and stable funding; 3) Independent affiliation; 4) Direct involvement of clients, especially implementors, in the visioning/futures research process (i.e., middle managers.) 5) Explicit, comprehensible and supported theory of change; and 6) Direct relevance of futures work to clients' needs.

Of particular importance in the case of the HRCFS is the fact that the center is attached to a university affording it some funding while insulating it to some degree from government bureaucracy and economic constraints.

These characteristics have allowed the center to recently conduct several research projects enhancing participation. One of these projects examined the potential for the use of cultural forms of conflict resolution in conjunction with the formal legal system. The project was not only designed to study ways to increase U.S. minority participation in determining their legal system, but also increased minority participation in the research process itself through the use of video ethnography.

In closing, this paper discusses the long term ability of the HRCFS to conduct research of this kind.

SAFIR, NADJI
Algeria

**FACTORS OF ANALYSIS RELATED TO THE LOGICS OF SOCIAL CHANGE
FACING THE CRISIS OF MODERNITY IN MUSLIN WORLD: IDENTITY DYNAMICS
AND DEMOCRATIC PROCESSUS**

In a World undergoing structural changes of historical nature and where the process of internalization includes not only the production of goods and services but also that of standards and values, with the exclusive domination of the western pattern since the failure of the so-called "socialistic" projects, the Arab and Muslim countries appear, in actuality, as the sole cultural sphere where fundamental resistances take place as well causes of rejection of the dominant pattern by important fractions of the society.

There are clear indications of the central issues of modernity experienced as a deep crisis due to the incapacity to assume all the consequences, namely in terms of redistribution of power within the society.

Despite the social change process which sometimes have affected in an essential and lasting way these very structures through actions in the field of economy, the Arab and Muslim societies remain reticent towards internal mutation that they feel at once necessary and painful, as they have been experienced as a defeat towards the West and a self denial.

This implies directly an approach of the question of social legitimacy of elites capable of taking in charge the so-called process with a three-dimension prospect: avoiding the economic exclusion while preserving the political participation and the necessity of the cultural identity.

Considering the difficulties of this three-fold mission which has never been fully fulfilled so far, it is the third one, that is the necessity of cultural identity, which is oversized, as it can easily be assumed, or at least, achieved at low "economic costs". Actually, this approach has made more obscure the debate on the true stakes of the struggles within the society.

Facing such a situation, the only remaining prospect is that of a " re-interiorized", modernization process leading to the whole society in a joint move, therefore necessarily democratic, towards the present and future world challenges of which standards and values can in no way be bypassed, unless a real marginalization and more than that, an exclusion of the sphere of arabo-islamic civilization is figured out. The way to deal with these questions will determine the fate of this sphere of civilization which concerns one billion people and of which it can be said that, within a North -South global context- henceforward the only one to be relevant-from a geo-political point of view, it constitutes for the North, (except the U.S.A. bordered by Mexico) its " immediate" South, including implications on the reciprocal perception of both blocks.

SANNINO, BARBARA / UGOLINO, FABIO
Italy

ON THE EXTREMAL INDICATORS OF PRIVILEGE AND OF DISCRIMINATION

A starting point:

Countries	Expectation of life		Crude Mortality Rate		Total Fertility Rate	
	1980-1985	1995-2000	1980-1985	1995-2000	1980-1985	1995-2000
<i>Nord Africa</i>						
Marocco	58,3	65,7	97	56	5,43	3,59
Algeria	60,0	67,1	88	49	6,66	4,35
Tunisia	63,1	69,2	71	39	4,88	2,87
Libia	58,3	65,7	97	56	7,17	6,33
Egitto	58,1	65,5	100	58	5,27	3,59
<i>Africa</i>						
<i>Subsahariana</i>						
Etiopia	40,0	45,5	159	129	6,00	6,09
Somalia	43,0	49,0	143	112	6,60	6,29
Nigeria	48,5	54,5	114	87	7,10	6,44
Senegal	43,3	49,8	142	108	6,50	5,93
Capo Verde	59,0	65,0	75	48	5,18	4,87
<i>Medio Oriente</i>						
Iran	60,6	68,9	78	45	5,64	4,94
Iraq	62,4	68,0	77	46	6,66	5,43
<i>Asia</i>						
India	55,4	62,9	110	77	4,75	3,69
Sri Lanka	68,9	72,7	39	24	3,25	2,27
Cina	67,8	72,1	39	23	2,36	2,00
Filippine	61,9	66,5	51	35	4,74	3,50
<i>America latina</i>						
Brasile	63,4	67,5	71	51	3,81	2,91
Argentina	69,7	72,0	36	26	3,15	2,65
<i>Europa orientale</i>						
Polonia	70,9	73,0	20	14	2,33	2,05
Jugoslavia	70,8	74,1	30	14	2,08	1,82
<i>Paesi in via di sviluppo</i>	57,6	63,1	89	64	4,19	3,45
<i>Paesi sviluppati</i>	72,3	75,4	16	11	1,93	1,90
Italia	74,6	77,1	13	8	1,55	1,55
Europa	73,2	75,9	15	9	1,81	1,75
Africa	49,9	55,7	116	88	6,37	5,66
Asia	59,3	65,5	83	57	3,72	2,99
America del Nord	74,6	77,0	11	7	1,80	1,86
America latina	64,5	68,7	63	44	3,98	3,04

Source: United Nations

SAVOZ YALNAZOV, DIMIER
Bulgaria.

**THE EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES IN TRANSITION, WHAT CHANCES FOR
ECONOMIC PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY**

One of the few things that could be said for sure about the transition of East European countries to a democratic society is the rise of people's hopes and expectations for a much greater participation in decision-making. There is a danger that they might not be met adequately by the system of economic and political institutions which is being shaped in the transition period. This may result in a massive disappointment from the democratic reforms in these countries.

The critical point of the analysis carried out in the paper is the way and methods of privatization of the East European economies. Outlined specific features of these societies make them open to new and unique paths of future development. The preferred scenario describes such a dispersal of ownership and power in the society that enables the people for a better participation in decision-making.

At the same time the most probable developments at the level of companies are directed towards a greater limitation and reduction of the rights of the personnel and the concentration of power in the hands of the professional managers. They will be imposed by the aggravating economic and political situation in the East European countries -a new environment that will require new ways of taking microeconomic decisions. The analysis is made on the basis of several case studies of Bulgarian companies.

SLAUGHTER, RICK
USA

CRITICAL FUTURES STUDY AND WORLDVIEW DESIGN

The paper considers structural elements of Western worldview Design. It highlights some which are failing. This provides a diagnosis of what may be wrong. It then considers processes by which worldview components are created, maintained and/or discarded. The notion of cultural editing is introduced. An outline is given of ways in which individuals can participate in worldview critique and re-design. Some of the results can be described in terms of learning processes and socio/cultural innovations. These are closely linked with promoting democracy.

SLAUGHTER, RICK
USA

WHY TEACH FUTURES CONCEPTS?

The paper suggests several reasons why many people find futures studies incomprehensible. It outlines the view that futures concepts provide "the means to think With" about futures. The "best" (i.e. most productive) ones are structurally simple but capable of elaboration in depth. Examples from current practice are discussed and special mention is made of the 200-year present. It is suggested that one of the surest ways to enhance participation and democracy is to make futures concepts more accessible and widely available via a dissemination strategy. The approach and example of Futures Concepts and Powerful ideas is discussed. If time, participants will be invited to try out some simple exercises utilizing such concepts.

STEENBERGEN, BART VAN
Netherlands.

TOWARDS A CIVIL EUROPE

In recent years the discussion on the civil society, civic culture and citizenship is gaining momentum in the Western European welfare states as well as in the former communist countries of Central/Eastern Europe.

In the welfare states new forms of social exclusion are emerging, in particular when after 1992 the borders will be opened and new streams of migrants are to be expected.

For futurists, the challenge is to scenario's for new forms of European citizenship. The main focus here will be the tensions between the rights and entitlements on the one hand and the duties and obligations of citizens on the other. Moreover the question is whether the concept of the welfare state can be transformed to a European level, or is it inherently bound to the nation state?

The former satellite countries are facing the problem of the destruction of an independent civil society under more than 40 years of communist rule. Moreover there are strong nationalist forces opting for a civil society based on traditional ideas and institutions.

So the question here is what are the possibilities for a modern and democratic civil society?

Thirdly it should be explored in what way the developments in both parts of Europe are influencing each other and in what direction.

In short what are the chances for a civil society in all of Europe?

STEVENSON, TONY
Australia

**COMMUNICATING THE TRANSITION TO PARTICIPATORY SOCIAL
ORGANISATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

This paper addresses the challenge of this conference to find forms of participation by people in the organisation and development of future societies in a way that is compatible with different symbolic, ideological and ethical systems. Is communication across different mindsets, or communities of shared meaning, critical to:

a) participation; and b) facilitating the transition to participation from today's predominant authoritarian and representative forms? If so, there is a dilemma: differences in mindsets are roadblocks to communication. Gregory Bateson's work on a new logical type of learning is examined for ways out of the mental trap. A second dilemma is posed by Maruyama: he asserts that diversity is creative and essential to building mutually beneficial relationships. Yet in traditional, westernised societies diversity leads to destructive competition. If, as Maruyama claims, it is not the strongest which survive but those in symbiotic relationships, the question is: how is communication facilitated among people with differing, competing mindsets in complex social systems in order to kick-start a transition to their cooperative participation? The problem is examined in the context of facilitating participation in a westernised community in a tropical Australian river system where the so-called experts are trying to introduce farming techniques to prevent land degradation. A range of diverse, competing mindsets is brought to the task - those of soil and water conservation scientists, agricultural extensions, officers, farmers, townspeople and others - all from different ethnic and educational backgrounds. Action learning processes are proposed for both the transition and the participatory activity. But these processes, too, have limitations.

SZABO, MATE
Hungary

HUNGARY, A NEW DEMOCRACY AND ITS FIRST CRISIS

We shall attempt to analyze the transformation process in the Hungarian politics, to characterize the alternatives for types of democratization, and to summarize some countervailing factors to the democratization process. Hungary is now at the turning point of the democratization process. the point of no return is just behind, there is no way back to communist system. But the direction of the democratization process could be propelled in other non-democratic directions by different internal and external problems and conflicts. A nationalist, authoritarian populism, a type of new etatism, or uncontrolled anarchy could emerge in Eastern Europe. The strategies of democratization should avoid these dangers, and try to minimize their antidemocratic effects.

The taxi-driver blockade in october of 1990 paralyzed the traffic system of the country for days and has shown some of the structural weaknesses of the new democracy. The democratization took place in the conditions of the deep economic and social crisis which overshadowed the new institutions. The people are accustomed to expecting the solution to the ecomic and social problems from "above" the politics, and this paternalistic attitude is also projected towards the new government. The heritage of the "socialist" political culture is ambivalent: democracy is associated with well-being, which should be maintained by the politics.

TAKAHIRO, SUZUKI
Japan

TEN POINTS TOWARD CREATION OF NEW POLITICAL SYSTEM

1. Wider voter participation does not necessarily equate to a guarantee for more or better democracy.
 2. Is the one-person one-vote system really an effective allocation of voting power? Cannot the voting power allocated to individuals be adjusted in favour of the "have nots"?
 3. Formal democracies based on systems of representation have limits. In a representative system, voters are not able to directly change the current political or social systems. A system might be introduced which provides voters with the possibility to periodically create new systems to replace the current ones.
 4. A political "draft" system.

In some countries, people have a social obligation to serve in the military for a certain number of years. This approach might be applied to the political system, in which people would be obliged to hold government offices for a few years during their lives. This form of political system should be combined with the representative system.
 5. Increased political participation can mean one of two things: either changing or keeping the present political system. Some possible changes to the system would be establishing electronic voting systems using TV, radio and other mass-media, and direct voting by computer. A negative voting system might be introduced. It is difficult to know the real attributes of candidates; therefore, people may vote for them based only on a "best of two evils" perspective.
 6. Time for political participation can be increased through the use of computers and robots.
 7. A system might be considered which abolishes the privileges of rank.
 8. Providing a greater role for policy-oriented research institutes, think tanks political parties etc. in preparing discussion materials for public debate, so that people can more easily understand prevailing problems and possible solutions (policies) in the complex society.
 9. The nation-state system based on individuals, ethnics, gender, social layers, cultures, geographical areas, languages, religions etc.
 10. Karaoke style of political participation might also be considered.
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TOUGH, ALLEN
Canada

HARD CHOICES: TOWARD A COMPREHENSIVE RESOLUTIQUE

Realistically, how can our civilization get from here to a reasonably positive future? This has now become one of the central questions in the field of Futures research (and presumably on the wider world stage as well).

The world's problems are closely interconnected, often global, already overwhelming, and worsening rapidly. For the past 20 years, the Club of Rome has used the term "problématique" to describe the total set of our interrelated problems with a particularly harmful effect on our world today and in the future. Recently the Club of Rome has coined the term "résolutive" to describe the total set of interrelated steps that we must take in order to avoid and offset the problématique. This paper explores the possible shape of a résolutive that would be acceptable to Third World, Fourth World, newly industrialized, socialist, formerly socialist, and Western industrialized countries. It may be possible to develop such a wide-ranging draft agreement that almost all nations would implement it because overall they will gain despite the particular losses and sacrifices. This paper hopes to be an early step on the path to such an agreement.

Most efforts to resolve today's global issues have focussed on a single concern, such as global warming, the ozone layer, arms control, population, children, vanishing species, or hunger. Many of these efforts reach a stalemate because the various types of nations have such different goals and needs. A more comprehensive approach makes tradeoffs more flexible and may break the deadlock. What we need is a plan that is global, comprehensive (it includes almost all of the most important problems/solutions), interconnected (the various parts or steps are related rather than discrete), and potentially attractive to various kinds of nations.

TRIFFONOVA, RADOSTINA
Bulgaria.

POLITICAL DEMOCRATIZATION AND ECONOMIC (NON) FREEDOM IN THE COUNTRIES OF EASTERN EUROPE

In theory, the processes of political democratization always follow the economic liberalization. In real life, especially in the countries of Eastern Europe things have been reversed: the democratic revolutions turned the political systems upside down and made them coexist with the slow and painful economic transformations towards a market economy. There emerges a kind of a (quasi) market which includes in itself much of economic non-freedom and leads to certain risks and dangers to political democracy.

The analysis in the paper is focussed on the following issues:

- the high level of dependency of economic changes on political "game rule";
 - lowering of the living standard of the majority of the population, rising unemployment, etc. on which basis various social conflicts could arise and lead to political instability;
 - the strong economic role of the state in the transition period that should compensate for part of the difficulties for the population and some of the state-owned companies.
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VANHANEN, TATU
Finland.

GLOBAL FORECASTS OF DEMOCRACY

The idea of this paper is to provide a global picture of the prospects of democracy on the basis of a comparative study of 147 contemporary states. The study is based on a theory of democratization according to which democratization takes place under conditions in which power resources have become so widely distributed among the population that no group is any longer able to suppress its competitors or to maintain its hegemony. The same pattern of democratizations assumed to be repeated from country to country because political struggle for power and scarce resources is part of the general struggle for survival in which participants resort to all available resources. This constant is assumed to run through all power structures and to make them regular and, to some degree, predictable.

Empirical variables are used to measure the level of democratization and relative differences between countries in the distribution of important economic intellectual, and some other power resources. The hypotheses on democratization are derived from the theory of democratization and tested by empirical data. The same hypotheses and data are used to make predictions on the chances of democracy in individual countries. The method and data used in this study allow us to differentiate the countries where social conditions are most conducive to democracy from those where the concentration of important power resources makes democratization impossible or extremely difficult and to point out the countries at the transition level of resource distribution where we can expect the emergence of democracy or attempts to establish democratic structures. The list of contemporary non-democracies where social conditions are most favourable for democratization includes Yugoslavia, Jordan, Fiji, Thailand, Syria, Iran, Zambia, Congo, Iraq, Tunisia, Ghana, Guyana, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Paraguay, Libya, South Africa, Suriname, United Arab Emirates, Cuba, Bhutan, and the Soviet Union. The results of the study are given in the tables and illustrated by global maps on the geographical distribution of the contemporary democracies and of the non-democracies most likely to democratize in the near future.

VASOVIC, VUCINA
Serbia

**POLYARCHICAL OR CONSOCIATIONAL DEMOCRACY: WAYOUT OR DEAD-END
FOR EAST-EUROPEAN COUNTRIES?**

If it is relatively clear what has happened, it is neither quite easy nor recommendable to make predictions about what can occur in the foreseeable future and to what direction East-European and Middle-European countries are going. Can pluralist explosion and post-socialist pluralism be placed in the framework of democracy? Can some other forms of political system, except democracy, be expected in those countries? Without denying the possibility of establishing some kind of post-socialist authoritarianism, the author favours democratic solution and is looking for the forms of democracy which would be most appropriate to the present situation in those countries. From the author's point of view, it is quite unrealistic to expect, at this "moment", the establishing, not only of some ideal form of democracy, but also of the "second best" model of democracy. What is possible in this period is the creation of some minimum democracy model which would be able to provide the peaceful process of surviving and transition towards higher and more developed form of democracy. Accordingly, the author maintains that two popular models of democracy, polyarchy and consociation, in their pure forms, are not quite adequate and applicable to all post-socialist East-European and Middle-European countries. In ethno-nationally overheated situations, polyarchical democracy is to some extent unrealistic, and consociation leads to confederation; confederation, on its part, makes the space and possibilities of democracy much narrower. In addition, predominantly "mandate" or delegate and procedure oriented, polyarchy and consociation do not represent the best framework for providing necessary participation of numerous progressive and democratic forces, as for the satisfaction of certain wider social demands as well. Without a social-welfare oriented political system and higher level of participation, it is very difficult to ensure peaceful and stable social and political development. Due to this, the author favours the creation of a some-what wider model of democracy which would be able to absorb certain positive features of polyarchy and consociation, but, at the same time remains open for more participation and more efficiency in the solving of increasingly delicate social problems.

WILSON, CHARLES E.
USA.

REDESIGNING DEMOCRACY: A NEURAL-NETWORK MODEL

This is a model for a state-of-the-art voting system capable of direct representation of voter concerns to government decision-making. Available communications technology is used to approximate "pure" democracy and avoid the distortions, time-lags, and log-jams characteristic of representative government.

The purpose is to enable the production of high reliability output (social decisions) from a network of decision elements (voters) which are assumed to be unreliable. A neural network topology is employed to obtain high sensitivity, real-time operations, the ability to deal with uncertainty and incomplete information, fault-tolerance, error-correction, and goal-seeking capabilities.

Democratic self-organization (at community, regional, national, ethnic, special interest, and global levels) and long-term system evolution are addressed. Implementation trajectories and non-governmental-mediated models of global democracy are given special consideration. Special interest networking, computer bulletin-board discussion forums, and computer modeling of voter demographics are proposed as options. Implementations with and without cryptography are proposed as options. Implementations with and without cryptographic and source-authentication capabilities are compared.

ZANEV, SVETOSLAV
Bulgaria.

EDUCATION, FUTURE AND DICHOTOMY "FREEDOM-KNOWLEDGE"

The different ideologies of the industrial society are suspicious unanimity when they explain the role of education in society. From Enlightenment up to now, they have claimed that education is, so to say, a memory of society. The education as a memory-plant produces students who should be ready to live in the society which exists independent from them. The knowledge which is memorised is the ground which guarantees the socialization of the students. This kind of socialization may be is right in the industrial society where technique and industry predominate over the human. But the global crisis of the industrial society and in particular of education suggests a necessity for changes but for fundamental changes.

The first fundamental criticism from the industrial point of view comes from the position of freedom. The problem of freedom becomes very acute in connection to the problem of human survival in the industrial world which was human creation in the end. The problem of freedom is reflected in education as well. This problem brings about fundamental crisis in the field of education. It changes fundamentally the direction of education- from pure scientific independence of the problems of social life to education in society and in the process of participation in decision-making of the problems of society. The immediate is becoming of dichotomy "freedom-knowledge" which is very important for changes of the foundations of education. In this dichotomy from the position of knowledge exists the question about the limits of freedom but at the same time from the position of freedom the question is about the origins knowledge. In that contradiction, dichotomy its possible decision-creativity.

In the field of creative education exists harmony between freedom and knowledge. This harmony is possible by means of including the problems of the future in the process of education. The essence of creative education is making of the future. The future society is created by participation of the free and conscious citizens of that society.

ZEMAN, MILOS
Czech and Slovak F.R.

PRIVATIZATION: TOWARDS PARTICIPATIVE ECONOMY

The hard core of the economic transformation in the posttotalitarian countries is the privatization process. There are three possible ways:

- (1). Transformation by foreign capital.
- (2). Transformation by domestic capital.
- (3). Transformation by state.

The state enterprises are not attractive enough for foreign capital; moreover, the absolutization of that way might produce a massive wave of xenophobia. The domestic capital cannot emerge immediately because of the lack of savings. That's why some form of state activity seems to be necessary. One of the possible solutions might be the broad application of the privatization techniques based on the capitalization of the flows / future incomes/, not the stocks/ present savings/. For small enterprises, the leasing might be possible, for the middle firms the various forms of the employee stock ownership like ESOP. But the standard banking system cannot support these processes because of their enormous amount. The state support for the creation of the network of the privatization banks is necessary.

Thus, the restoration of the domestic capital might be combined with the creation of the participative economy. The employees like owners might increase performance of the previous state enterprises; the long-term installments might mobilize their willingness to decrease the propensity to consume and increase the propensity to save and to invest. The money gained from privatization may be an important source for financing the private sector, mainly in areas of education, health service and ecology.

Unfortunately, there is a serious risk that the state privatization will be based on a different, more egalitarian concept like vouchers /coupons/. In such a case, everybody will have his part of ownership without money and victim. The capital market will be created formally but the chance to intensify the participative economy will be lost.

ZEMAN, MILOS
Czech and Slovak F.R.

RESPONSIBILITY ON THE RISKS

The post totalitarian period in Eastern Europe seems to be oriented towards new utopias, populism and authoritarian political systems. That's why the newly emerging risks are to be studied. An alienated futures research of the possible dangers does not provoke the necessary social responsibility. It cannot be sufficient barrier against the naive radicalism. The new early warning systems are to be created on the base of the dialogic approaches including simulations. The future workshops might start with a clear identification of the new myths and their consequences- for instance, the prevailing egalitarian psychology and the gradual creation of the middle class. The participative projects start from the problems of decline in order to meet the growth: the opposite way means to jump to a conclusion. Brezhnevism is dead, thanks to God. But how to avoid our post totalitarian Le Pens, Pinochets or Tyminskis?

ZILLO, ANTONIO
United Kingdom

PSYCHOSOCIO PATHOLOGY IMPEDES REAL DEMOCRACY

This work is based on Analytical Trilogy (Integral Psychoanalysis) developed by Norberto Keppe about the individual psychopathology and sociopathology of the social organizations:

Comments:

"If humanity has not achieved equilibrium it is because man has not yet become fully aware of psychosociopathology. And just what does this new word mean? It refers to a combination of psychological and social pathology. On the one hand the most powerful individuals cause problems for society, yet on the other hand they too are victims, having been into a decadent environment."

"Very few people realize that institutions and social laws are fundamentally evil and thus give rise to this monstrous unnatural social order that has emerged."

"The individual has been analysing himself scientifically and achieving a certain equilibrium. But society as such has not been analysed correctly because social pathology has not been understood. How can a healthy person live a satisfying life in a mental hospital."

"It is not possible to live comfortably and democratically under an erroneous structure. The way in which the family, work and institutions have been organized is such that they torment us. Those that organized society (the economically powerful people) were not aware of their inversion (because themselves very ill). They created a real monstrosity. Above all, they possessed power and their desire was to create a society solely to satisfy own interests."

A whealthy social structure is proposed for all human endeavors: family, work, science, economy, philosophy, arts, theology based on a self controlled process with a body of theories and a correspondent experimentation called Analytical Trilogy.
