



Manifesto For A New Enlightenment

"Together We are One." Thich Nhat Hahn

The Urgency of Now — Resiliency — *Together we are One*

For millennia the physical and spiritual wellbeing of individuals, communities, and the global population has existed on a spectrum of domination and partnership. Dominative practices disrupt our intrinsic connection to nature, while partnerships restore equilibrium and foster empathetic communities.

Humanity is at a critical juncture in history. Our actions and choices, amidst significant ecological and societal crises, will determine our survival. It is imperative that we take concerted effective action to move toward a new era of partnership and unity. This necessitates rejecting and replacing the destructive paradigm of *Growth-Greed-Capitalism* that threatens humanity's existence.

As the dangerous impacts of Climate Change accelerate, the scarcity of the basic necessities to sustain life will lead human societies to fracture, leading to violence, war and very likely a dystopic Mad Max/Handmaid's Tale world and the potential of nuclear Armageddon. As we navigate this crucial period, our future hinges on a collective commitment to restoring our natural resilience to move toward a world that is good for all.

Resilient people in resilient communities may survive the impacts of the natural and societal apocalypse. If we hope to survive, we need a new plan, a new set of strategies and structures to support symbiotic transformational change.

The New Enlightenment is not just another call for humanity to raise awareness and get inspired, it is an invitation to actively participate in the greatest transition in the history of our species and to become better ancestors.

If there is a next iteration of humanity, it will be because I, you, and we chose the path to resilience. We organized, we mobilized, we realized that together we are already endowed with the power to be the change we want to see in the world.

Together We are One on a Four Step Path, we will change the course of human history for the good of all.

**The *Manifesto For a New Enlightenment* invites You
to be the best ancestor you can be!**



The Manifesto For A New Enlightenment

We The People, Together We Are One:

- Commit to replicating Nature-inspired systems that vest power at the lowest level and support the good of all.
- Adapt and restore our natural individual and collective stores of resiliency to replace the hierarchical, male-dominant, power-over paradigm of *Growth-Greed-Capitalism*.
- Claim the self-governance of our communities modeling Nature's efficient, integral, holistic and symbiotic design that vests power at the lowest level: You, me and We.
- Establish Shared Wisdom Circles, supported by local Community Councils, dedicated to creating shared wisdom for the benefit of all in their community.
- Organize Community Councils, comprised of Delegates elected by the Shared Wisdom Circles, which are committed to:
 - Inviting community conversations to discern and adopt the best Shared Wisdom for our community,
 - Hosting regular forums to embrace the civic self-determination of stakeholders in communities of belonging, and
 - Publishing and maintaining an accessible library of community Shared Wisdom for the good of all.
- Empower Community Councils to organize community Self-Governance Circles, which administer the ProSocial World's™ design tools to maintain an optimally functioning community committed to the good of all.
- Replicate Community Councils in ever-widening Circles to expand self-governance at bio-regional, continental, and global levels, all committed to assisting local Shared Wisdom for the good of all.

The world we seek is not only possible, it is already being born through us.

*Together We Are One, we awaken to the solidarity of humanity's
Shared Path toward a better future for the good of all, now!*



For The Good Of All Now

1. Equity, Justice and Cultural Respect

As a Community:

- We stand for the rights and dignity of every individual, ensuring equitable access to resources, opportunities, and voice in community governance,
- We reject systems of oppression and domination that marginalize any person or group, and we encourage vibrant partnership,
- We celebrate cultural diversity as a strength that enriches our society, and
- We welcome the stranger, recognizing that all humans share a common ancestry.

2. Sustainability and Stewardship

As Caretakers of the good of all, we pledge to:

- Protect biodiversity and encourage Nature's regenerative powers,
- Prioritize long-term stewardship over short-term gain,
- Minimize 'externalities' and negative impacts generated by human activity, and
- Ensure that human activity nurtures the health and wellbeing of all life.

3. Community Empowerment For the Good of All Through Shared Wisdom

As Self-Governing Communities:

- In ever-widening circles, from communities to the world, decentralized, self-governing communities empower 'We The People' to nurture respectful collaboration and community self-governance as we co-create a world that works for the good of all.

4. Mutual Aid and Solidarity:

We recognize our shared humanity and the importance of supporting one another:

- We commit to co-creating networks of support that prioritize mutual aid over competition and to lifting each other up.
- We commit to bringing our hands, hearts and minds together as we mobilize, organize, and embark on a shared path of sympiotic transformational development for the good of all in our communities and the world.
- Solidarity is the crucial coherent response to address disparities and crises.

5. Informed Citizenship:

- We reclaim our civic voices as engaged stakeholders in communities of belonging, through the practices of Shared Wisdom circles and self-governance, and
- In addition to reclaiming our right to self-governance, we maintain transparency and the right to access information that affects our lives.

6. Health and Well-being:

- Health is a fundamental right. It starts by ensuring that our environment nurtures the regeneration of all life.
- Wellbeing is more than just the absence of suffering. We commit to ourselves and each other to support lifelong practices that lead to measurable rising levels of resiliency, mutual respect, care, happiness, serenity and self-actualization.
- Comprehensive healthcare, including mental, emotional and wellness care is accessible to everyone.
- We reclaim all rights over the wellbeing of our planet and our bodies, including the right to choose the manner of our dying.

7. Cultural Respect and Diversity:

- We celebrate cultural diversity as a strength.
- Different perspectives enrich our society, and we commit to promoting respect, understanding, and appreciation for all cultures and identities.
- We welcome the stranger.

8. Innovative Solutions:

- We support, in all our solutions, the integration of Nature's design features: fractal, symbiotic, balanced, diverse, cyclical, subsidiarity—vesting power at the lowest level. (Jeremy Lent, *The Web of Meaning*).
- All organized human activity, including commerce, will be purposed to partner for the greatest common good and to share resources in all endeavors using creativity and innovation and abiding by the rule of subsidiarity, vesting power at the lowest levels
- We embrace creativity and innovation, particularly the decentralization of power and governance; the adoption of ProSocial practices and natural design (biomimicry—[Tamsin Woolley Barker](#)) as shared tools for solving the complex challenges we face.

9. Love Force, Spirit Force, Oneness:

- Sustained in ever-widening circles of practice, we embrace the forces of 'power-with' that nurture an ethos of oneness, mutual respect, care, nonviolence.
- We welcome the stranger.
- We recognize the rights of all people and the powers of love and spirit to live in harmony with each other as equals seeking the good of all.

Together we are One.



Earthrise

“... What can we do?
Open your eyes.
Know that the future of
this wise planet
Lies right in sight:
Right in all of us. Trust
this earth uprising.
All of us bring light to exciting solutions never tried before
For it is our hope that implores us, at our uncompromising core,
To keep rising up for an Earth more than worth fighting for.”

By Amanda Gorman

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xwOvBv8RLmo>

The Fourth Major Macroshift **Mythos—Theos—Logos—Holos**

Macroshift, Ervin Laszlo

The Great Turning

Joanna Macy called this time the Great Turning.

The vast majority of human beings are now so systemically disempowered that it feels wholly possible that the human species will not recognize, and thus not survive, the rising danger of the ecological and societal catastrophes of our own making.

The great sweep of humanity’s march toward a world that is sustainable and hospitable to humans and life itself is within our grasp *if* we choose a new relationship with each other, with life, and with Earth as **Caretakers** and as **Stakeholders** in our shared fates.

In *Macroshift*, Dr. Ervin Laszlo provided us with the context to understand the magnitude of the historical moment we are in.

Mythos to Theos: Mythos describes the macroshift from the time of the Paleolithic hunter-gatherers to our Neolithic forbears 10,000 years ago, who settled along riverbanks. These early humans considered themselves both natural and spiritual beings. The Neoliths settled in the valleys, developed agricultural technologies and toolmaking. The tribal circles were replaced by more complex, strict hierarchical power-over, stratified societies, organized “as above, so

below” from supreme deities to the “divine right of kings”. Theocratic rule made order out of the wonders of universal chaos.

Theos to Logos: The new technologies and continued population growth led to a new human-centered ethos, with an emphasis on ‘man’. The dominant *religious* nature of the first half of Logos was followed by the rise of the *sciences* leading to a mechanistic-materialistic-technocratic worldview: *I think therefore I am*.

Hierarchical, power-over mixed with egocentrism and the unrelenting pursuit of profit and greed produced systemic exploitation of human beings and natural resources in pursuit of **Growth-Greed-Capitalism**, as part of a culture of ecocide.

As a great tide of humanity, let us lend our shoulders to the wheel of transformational change for the good of all.

“There is a crack in everything, that’s how the light gets in.” (Leonard Cohen)

1. **Recognize! Our Future Is In Our Resilient Hands**

“We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them.”

Albert Einstein

As we stand now on the threshold of **Holos**, the existential costs of humanity’s plundering of nature for the benefit of the few is threatening the survival of our species.

By re-energizing our latent stores of resiliency through the practices of Circle, and by organizing and mobilizing humans to reconnect to our essential natural, physical, and spiritual oneness we reclaim our collective resiliency.

*Resilient people co-create resilient communities.
Communities that are not resilient will disappear.*

2. **Realize! We the Ones We Are Waiting For**

“The most intractable problem today is not pollution or technology or war; but the lack of belief that the future is very much in the hands of the individual.”

Margaret Mead

Realize that you are a descendant of just a few thousand ancient ancestors who **migrated** out of Africa roughly 60,000 years ago. Their codes are embedded in every human being on Earth. We know how to do this.

Realize that your collective hero’s journey will be guided by the wisdom of the past, inspired by the promise of new transformation, and grounded by stakeholders in communities of belonging.

Realize that while humanity's systems have acted destructively toward nature, human beings can choose to set a new course to act in harmony with nature.

Realize that this means we must consciously adapt our behaviors, individually and collectively, to reject the choices and systems that are killing us.

Realize that when you choose to engage and act purposefully and intentionally with others, you will be supported on a new Shared Path that leads ultimately to a transcendent state of Oneness.

Together we are One. We emerge resilient, nurtured by the power of nature, evolution and community, and energized by the “belief that the future is very much in our hands.”

3. **Decentralize & Localize!**

Thirty thousand years of increasing segmentation and concentration have **centralized** power-over (domination) in the hands of an ever-more greedy oligarchy, which plunders and exploits every resource, including humans themselves, for the benefit of the few. At the other end of the domination spectrum, Riane Eisler reminds us that *we can choose partnership*.

Earlier—**decentralized**—indigenous civilizations who exhibit deep awe and reverence for all life, for Nature and Spirit, still walk this path.

The path of **Localization** has been ever present in human affairs. Notably it was revived in 1973 by E.F. Schumacher in *Small Is Beautiful: Economics As If People Mattered* and it set the roots for the indefatigable support of many, many others and in particular in the practical solutions by the localist Michael Shuman and the online communities at [The Main Street Journal](#) and [AMIBA](#).

Switzerland, as a current example of decentralized governance, lacks a powerful central government and operates from the bottom up, as a confederation of almost sovereign counties and provinces. Not only is governance from the bottom up possible, it is how nature works and how some groups are successfully adopting Elinor Ostrom's Nobel-prize winning *8 Core Design Principles For Governing the Commons*— now re-formulated in a collaboration between Ostrom and the evolutionary biologist David Sloan Wilson into the [ProSocial World](#) evolutionary movement— which is already teaching and demonstrating the feasibility and benefits of **decentralized community self-governance**.

Furthermore, history has recorded such egalitarian communities in ancient Indigenous cultures ([The Dawn of Everything](#), Graeber and Wengrow) and there are many more recent precursors: Gandhi's *Villages movement*, Dr. Ariyaratne's *Sarvodaya*, the *Holomovement*, *Sociocracy*, eco-villages, biomimicry, decentralization is even embraced in *Open Source* programming. <https://opensource.com/open-source-way>!

The culture of domination that concentrates power-over in the hands of the few is already in free fall, partner up in Circle with your fellow citizens, and **let domination go!**

Evolution reminds us, that we have some unique human advantages: *“Selfishness beats altruism within groups. **Altruistic groups beat selfish groups.** Everything else is commentary.”* E.O Wilson and David Sloan Wilson. And *“**A group of cooperators can robustly out-compete a group whose members cannot cohere.**”* David Sloan Wilson

4. **Movement Building: Organize, Mobilize, Strategize!**

If you don’t know where you’re going and you have no plan, no amount of strategic nor tactical prowess will get you there. However, once we clearly identify our desired outcomes and vision—the good of all and Oneness in this case— we can chart a viable course.

Nature’s plan, combined with common sense, gives us essential knowledge. It is balanced, fractal, symbiotic, diverse, and cyclical, reflecting the principle of subsidiarity, where lower levels impact the higher ones. (Jeremy Lent)

Gandhi’s *decentralized* Villages movement affirms a simple and viable plan:

- (i) **organize** around an ethic of nonviolence; and
- (ii) **mobilize** and vest power in the individual; and
- (iii) **strategize** pathways that lead to the good of all.

Our current institutions, organizations and societies are clinging to systems that are designed to usurp individual power and hoard resources. Nature shares resources. When we align with Nature we tap into the power and flexibility of a multi-cellular system designed to facilitate mobility from the cell-to-cell and through the whole system. Nature’s immense facility to co-create transformational change can propel humanity as an evolutionary tectonic force working with the power of Nature, not against it!

There are thousands of organizations already participating in this work, many focused on inspiring humanity to act. The Manifesto For The New Enlightenment provides them all with a clear pathway, to engage, unite, and weave a replicable strategy, and to effectively organize and mobilize the human superorganism Together as One. If not the Four Turns, what?

5. **Engage: The Four Turns Shared Path—Me2We2Us2All**

The Four Turns Shared Path facilitates organizing, mobilizing, around a common strategic framework that describes the change we want to see in the world and how we can combine strategically, to organize and share resources, structures, and supports to achieve the new world paradigm of the good of all, of Together as One, of a *ProSocial World™*, of *Holos*. ***“Large-scale change is achieved by making small scale changes over-and-over again!”*** (Peter Block). It provides a compelling case for personal and collective engagement by answering the urgent call of co-creating an effective movement, NOW!

Me: Deep Self — I am naturally altruistic *and* selfish. In the exploitative world of power-over, designed to separate us, I am an *Atomized I*. When I am grounded in love and compassion and realize that my fate is dependent on others just as their fate may depend on me, I am ready to step on a Shared Path, where I will find a mutual support system arising from the new awareness of a mutual *Shared Fate*. Recommended

Resource: [The Art of Power](#) (Thich Nhat Hahn)

We: Thick We's — In Circle — Through the powerful ancient practice of Circle or Sangha, Together as One, we move from 'Atomized I's to 'Thick We's. We experience the power-with of deep interconnection. We become stakeholders in our Circle practice. We rekindle the tangible reality of our *shared fates*. This fusion of your energy with the energy of others in Circle leads to new levels of self-awareness, self-actualization, and discernment. Recommended Resource: [A Hidden Wholeness—The Journey Toward An Undivided Life-Welcoming the Soul and Weaving Community in a Wounded World.](#) Parker Palmer.

Us: Self-Governing Communities — As we see with new eyes the reality of our deep interconnection and interdependency, we restore an essential new '*right relationship*' to each other and the world as *Caretakers*.

Self-Governance of the Commons is the essential Systemic Change Factor

[David Bollier](#) describes the commons as "*an archetypal form of biomaterial intelligence...a commons [which] is not [just] a resource...It's a resource plus a social community and the social values, rules and norms that they used to manage the resource. They're all an integrated package. Call it a socio-economic-biophysical package, sort of like a fish and a pond and aquatic vegetation: They all go together and don't make sense as isolated parts.*" Recommended Resource: [ProSocial World](#) and the [Holomovement](#)

All: Together As One — Natural systems are inherently complex integral systems, where tiny fluctuations result in outsized impacts, a phenomenon known as *the butterfly effect*. (Edward Lorenz). Imagine the impact of positive 'fluctuations' of billions of people acting to improve our common wellbeing. In [Cascades](#), Greg Satell describes how movements made up of "*loosely connected small groups united by a common purpose...synchronize their collective behavior as networks*". In [Here Comes Everybody](#), Clay Shirky demonstrates that: "*For the first time in history, the tools for cooperating on a global scale are not solely in the hands of governments or institutions.*"

All together as one, we become a formidable force to release the enormous resources trapped in the many silos of humanity's mis-designed systems.

6. Energize: Naïve Prey or Better Ancestor

In 1935, when Charles Darwin visited the Galapagos Islands, he was amazed that the local birds could be approached without taking flight. He surmised that the absence of local predators

resulted from prey naïveté. Today, humans are acting naïvely, engaging in the self-deception of indifference (apathy) in the face of the enormity of ecological and societal systems collapse.

We are **not** naïve prey. We **are** *Homo Sapiens*...Wise Humans. Let's choose, as a species, to become wiser and better ancestors for all future generations.

Aspire To Be the Best Ancestor You Can Be

- You are the better ancestor future humans will cherish down through the ages.
- You are the change you want to see and be in the world. Reclaim your agency.
- You are co-creating a life-sustaining society that caters to the wellbeing of people and planet by reclaiming the governance of our commons. Be a stakeholder in life.
- Take one small step on the path today. Then another tomorrow. This is how Nature evolves. This is how transformation begins. This is how you transform the world.
- Join a Circle. Be a guide. Be a guardian. Be a circle-builder. Be a stakeholder in your community. Be a soul on fire for a future rooted in compassion, peace, and joy.

"If not you, who? If not now, when?" Hillel the Elder

When the superorganism of humanity catalyzes the metamorphosis of our species to emerge from its chrysalis as a glorious butterfly, we are transformed into the self-actualized transcendent interbeings we were meant to be, Together as One.

The world needs your presence, your purpose, your power, your love.

Let us rise for the good of all, NOW!

Earthrise, written and performed by Amanda Gorman

Together we are One

