

Webinar Chat: People Power - Democracy and the Economy

with Christian Felber and Helena Norberg-Hodge

January 25th, 2017

<http://www.localfutures.org/programs/global-to-local/webinars/people-power>

Roseli G.	I'm also here!
Local Futures /ISEC	Hello! Glad you could join us :)
Gus H.	Happy to join in from Germany
Local Futures /ISEC	Hi Gus!
Michele S.	I can't hear well - not sure how to increase the volume
Iona M.	on your own gadget ?
Michele S.	yes!
Iona M.	cool
Christina S.	if you have earphones, it helps a lot!
Local Futures /ISEC	Unfortunately I don't think we can adjust the volume for you. Double check your speaker/headphone volume
Michele S.	Thanks!
Gus H.	Is Christian going to be able to respond to all of Helena's points?
Local Futures /ISEC	http://www.localfutures.org/media-room/online-videos/animated-short-film-going-local-solution-multiplier/
Local Futures /ISEC	Yes, we'll definitely turn back to Christian in a moment
Local Futures /ISEC	Also that link is to the video Helena mentioned
Local Futures /ISEC	if anyone is interested!

Richard L.	I'll check that link out thanks
Gus H.	I'm getting a bit lost, because she is talking about so many things.
Rianne t. V.	such a useful webinar helpful reminder on what's happening and need for action
Gus H.	Christian is not loud enough!
Local Futures /ISEC	yes, Gus, she does talk about a lot of issues! mostly because her/our work is so intersectional and is about connecting disparate issues back to the concept of localization
Local Futures /ISEC	apologies if it gets a little overwhelming at times!
Local Futures /ISEC	REMINDER: feel free to send questions any time you think of them!
Rianne t. V.	I think such interdisciplinary/ holistic focus is so needed though (even if overwhelming in the beginning): i highlights the true impact of what's happening/ we're dealing with ...
Ed P.	In 1980 80% of all fully employed Americans had access to a defined benefit corporation. In 2017 less than 20
Michele S.	Does anyone have references on the rights of nature?
Isabel B.	(I am afraid I will have to leave soon. Will the video or audio be available after the webinar?)
Local Futures /ISEC	Yes Isabel - we're recording the whole thing, audio and video, and we'll send everyone the youtube link when it's up.
Local Futures /ISEC	Thanks for joining us!
Isabel B.	Great! I'd like to write a piece about it :)
Local Futures /ISEC	oh yeah that would be wonderful! we'd love to read it
Rianne t. V.	re rights of nature: Iranian Constitution has it in article 50 http://www.servat.unibe.ch/icl/ir00000_.html
Rianne t. V.	& religions have it in their teachings (even if media & deviants/ phobes obsessed with misinterpreting)
Rianne t. V.	btw: I'm not trying to proselytise/ advocating for any country, just

	trying to share some positive avenues for collaboration
Local Futures /ISEC	totally, positive examples are always needed
Sebastian B.	If the UK were to independently implement all of the suggestions made by the panel, would it be able to survive in a globalised, neoliberal world? In other words, if only one country decided to go down this path, would the rest of the world sanction them and try to force them back in neoliberalism? what does the panel think?
Altus P.	Christian Wouldn't you agree that a democratic workplace by means of worker co-operatives will provide the automatic implementation of many of the principles being discussed by means of existing international co-operative laws.
Steven E.	How does the Triple bottom line model compare to the Christian's Common good model?
Ed P.	80% of "common" workers are dependent on retirement security through investment in Corporation stocks and bonds and other financial "instruments" that play the tune of Wall St and World financial corporate hegemony. The 'average" american---deplorable Trumpsters and "undeplorable Clintonistas both are co-opted by the Corporate system. Checkmate: The Gold Men Sack and the common peeps cower by default.
S Robert	It seems to me we should talk about how to ensure a minimum living to all - otherwise most people will be "talked into" supporting corporations, because we are constantly told that more corporate power equals job creation
Rianne t. V.	@Ed - sad but key aspect to challenge indeed ... we prefer ethical trade, then get upset if our savings etc don' return silly high % ROI ...
Rianne t. V.	we can't have our cake & eat it but with 80% of media in hand of billionaires ... :-(
Alan B.	cuba?
François V.	Could we cooperate with tribal people to enrich the vision of the world we want to build and preserve the wonderful "humanity diversity"? (cf NGO survival international)
Local Futures /ISEC	François, I can't directly speak for christian or helena, but i would say absolutely!

Michele S.	What is the future of democracy if people are too lazy to vote?
James P.	While I agree that action is needed at all scales, I think that the neo-liberal agenda is most vulnerable at the local scale. What kinds of actions do you envision as priorities at the local level?
Gus H.	@Michele: So often people say democracy doesn't work because people are disinterested or lazy or such. Its not true. If people feel like their vote counts, that they are listened to, then they vote. In the US people don't vote partly because they see a to
S Robert	Would land re-appropriation (land trusts) not be a very urgent action too locally?
Local Futures /ISEC	http://www.localfutures.org/ <-- our website
Local Futures /ISEC	@Gus: Very valid point!
Margarita P.	Disculpen si escribo en español, pero lo escribo mejor :) En todo el proceso de cambio, una acción fundamental es la de explicar la conexión entre los grandes problemas globales que nos afectan gravemente a todos y las pequeñas acciones cotidianas. Muchos ciudadanos, se comportan en modo irresponsable como consumidores porque no conocen la interrelación entre lo que compran, usan o hacen y lo que sucede al rededor del mundo. Reforzar el concepto de 'impacto' de nuestras simples acciones y elecciones diarias. Poco a poco alcanzaremos la masa crítica que favorecerá un cambio serio a todos los niveles: económico, social, político, educativo...partiendo del cambio personal.
Local Futures /ISEC	Helena's voice cut out for a second - the organization she mentioned is the international forum on globalization (IFG)
Anat H.	Christian you talked about the shift from profit orientation to common good. In the ECG won't financial profit, also be the ultimate goal, only it would only be achieved through abiding by the value system and the actions which promote the common good? A certain amount of competition has to exist, because at the end line, won't the consumer need to choose a certain product over another?
Rianne t. V.	thanks so much for today! very useful! unfortunately have to leave now to go to another meeting. Thanks again to organisers and here's to making positive things happen, together!
Ed P.	The good news/bad news is the World Corporate System is unsustainable, ethically unjustifiable and inevitably, by basic ecological

	reality, and will implode. At that point the sincere and true "Third Way" that is being articulated hopefully will be available as a viable alternative of a fair economy for the Commons' good rather than the dividends of common and preferred first world comfort and security.
Magdalena T-T.	Regarding the financial community services I would not agree that anything should be done for free, if anything is done on the ethical rules, so fees are fair, which usually means lower than banks' or parabanks' offer. I understand that the aim is not to skip the profit, but to change the understanding of standard meaning of a profit by widening its definition
Local Futures /ISEC	Thanks Rianne!
Harpreet K.	What do you think about Michael Tellinger's vision for Ubuntu, and what he calls 'Contributionism' and a world without money?
Christina S.	@Gus I agree and the same happened in Greece. People voted for SYRIZA (two years ago 25th Jan 2015) and they are extremely disappointed now, as nothing changed. For me, attending this seminar on this anniversary is an important step to reconceptualise wha
Anat H.	Thank you!!!
James P.	Thanks you!
Magdalena T-T.	thank you, pleasure to listen to you
Teryl C.	Thank you!!!!
I van Veen	Thank you all, very interesting. Looking forward to a follow-up.
Michele S.	thanks and bye for now
Lena N.	Thank you! <3
Altus P.	Thanks everyone
Harpreet K.	THanks!