

May 31 | 2024 | 13:00 - 14:30 CET | Online

Extending the work of Ostrom in the context of the global commons

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Abstract

This paper extends the scholarship of Ostrom in the context of the global commons by introducing three different approaches to her World Bank 2009 paper. First, by extending her concern of the climate crisis to other human created crises arising from other degradations of the air, oceans, fresh water, soils, biodiversity, new viruses, and other risks to humanity. Second, introducing a bioregional perspective to develop self-reliant self-governing circular economies who can maintain their populations according to the eternal sustainable resources in each bioregion. Third, by introducing a self-financing tax incentive to transform business corporations into agents of change in each bioregion of the planet to not only stop the causes of various crises but provide a wellbeing income to all bioregional residents "without markets or State". The self-financing tax deduction would provide shareholders with bigger, quicker, and less risky profit on condition they changed corporate constitutions in three ways. First a division of power would be created by shareholders electing one board to manage the business on the usual plutocratic basis and a second board to govern the corporations elected on the democratic basis of one vote per shareholder. Second, each stakeholder constituency would elect its own advisory board to protect and further the interests of both stakeholders and shareholders by establishing polycentric governance as described by Ostrom. Shareholder primacy would be maintained by five percent of shareholder equity being transferred each year to stakeholder shares with one vote per bioregional voting citizen. Alien-controlled businesses would become locally owned and controlled creating efficient self-sustaining self-reliant circular economies. All bio-regional citizens become shareholders repaying the cost of the tax incentive by paying taxes or reducing welfare to reduce the size and cost of bureaucracy. Democracy is enriched with a universal wellbeing eternal income.



Shann Turnbull is the Principal of the International Institute for Self-governance in Sydney. With an MBA from Harvard he became a serial entrepreneur and pioneered the teaching of governance. His Macquarie University PhD established the science of governance of any specie. He is a prolific author on transforming society inspired by the self-governing practices of living things.



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About the Colloquium Series: IASC Europe & CIS is organizing this colloquium series to support the communication among the IASC members in the region and beyond to facilitate content-based exchange and cross-disciplinary networking on bringing together the commons scholarship and practice with policy.



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