Holism and the Earth Constitution

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Paradigm-shift and the Promise of Peace

The need for “Planethood”

For acting and thinking both globally and locally—

For a new holistic paradigm
Two related reasons for the *Earth Constitution*

1. Paradigm shift: from fragmentation to holism

2. Planetary crises: threats to human existence and the future:
   - The continuing threat of nuclear holocaust.
   - The on-going process of climate collapse.
**Cosmic and Human Evolution**

- **Anthropic principle**: we are implicit in cosmic evolution. Coherence gives rise to complexity.

- **Life**: ascending scales of complexity into perception, sensation, consciousness, then reason, then holism, then integral awareness.

- Human beings as **one** species.

  The first Axial Age just seconds ago.
  The second Axial Age is emerging today.
The 20th century as our darkest hour

In a flash-

From isolated cave dwellers to lethal destroyers of our species and our planet.
Human Alienation

Human life is fragmented, broken, atomized:

Alienated from our selves— as cosmic-divine persons.
Alienated from one another— by race, religion, and culture.
Alienated collectively— by nation-states, militarism & nationalism.
Alienated from the— cosmos that gave birth to us.
Alienated from the— planetary ecology that supports our lives.
The Early-Modern Paradigm

The early-modern paradigm envisioned the world as:

• Atomistic
• Deterministic
• Mechanistic

Hence, as inherently fragmented, an

“Age of Fragmentation”
The Age of Fragmentation gave birth to:

Global Capitalism
(worldwide devastation of nature and people)

The System of Sovereign Nation-states
(planet-wide perpetual wars, violence, conflict, and domination)
The universe is a single, undivided whole comprised of integrated fields within fields of emerging interdependent systems.

- Einstein— Space-time-matter-energy are one reality.
- Planck— The system can only be understood as a whole.
- Heisenberg— The world is a complex tissue of events.
- Bohm— The “undivided wholeness” of things.
- Capra— “The basic oneness of the universe.”
Holism as Unity in Diversity

Physicists—
The indivisible wholeness of the cosmos.

Ecologists—
The integrated wholeness of the biosphere.

Anthropologists—
The indivisible wholeness of humanity.

Psychologists—
The common principles of human moral growth, from mythic, to ethnocentric, to universalist and world-centric.
Ken Wilber, *The Integral Vision*, pp. 72 & 180

Self and Consciousness

IT

Brain, organism, scientific structures

Cosmic and biospheric holism

Holistic self

integral self

Sensitive self

Achiever self

Mythic self

Egocentric

Magic

Instinctual

Scientific-rational

Pluralistic

Archaic

Mythic order

Holistic world culture

Integral

Cultures and worldview

Integral mesh networks

Earth Federation under the Earth Constitution

Social, economic, and governmental systems

Holistic commons

Value communities

Corporate states

Early nations

Feudal empires

Ethnic tribes

Survival clans

Wilber’s Timeline Edited
Preamble to the *Earth Constitution*

“Aware of the interdependence of people, nations, and all life.”
A New Planetary Paradigm: Holism

• The Interdependence of People:
  All people joined together with equality before the law, civil liberties, and common world citizenship.

• The Interdependence of Nations:
  All nations now joined under a common federation like states within the United States.

• The interdependence of all life:
  The *Constitution* designed to bring economics, along with all production, transportation, and consumption under the principles of sustainability.
Preamble to the Earth Constitution

“Realizing that Humanity today has come to a turning point in history and that we are on the threshold of a new world order which promises to usher in an era of peace, prosperity, justice, and harmony;”
Qualities of the New Era: World law as coherence.

**Peace**— Comes through a holistic joining of the nations under a common constitution.

**Prosperity**— Comes through a holistic global economic system predicated on the universal common good.

**Justice**— Comes through a holistic law for all, one set of rights, and a common due-process for everyone on Earth.

**Ecological Sustainability**— Green Practices, laws, and economics.

**Harmony**— Comes from a holistic recognition of common world citizenship for everyone on Earth.
Two Axial Ages

The First Axial Age—
*Sufficient self-awareness to undertake philosophy, religion, science, and technology in the modern sense.*

The Second Axial Age—
*Sufficient maturity and world-centric wisdom to comprehend the proper holistic uses of philosophy, religion, science, law, and technology.*

Here is that wisdom:
Albert Einstein (a wise elder) wrote:

“Mankind’s desire for peace can be realized only by the creation of a world government. With all my heart I believe that the world’s present system of sovereign nations can only lead to barbarism, war, and inhumanity.”

Here is this same wisdom in the Earth Constitution’s Preamble:
“Conscious that Humanity is One despite the existence of diverse nations, races, creeds, ideologies and cultures and that the principle of unity in diversity is the basis for a new age when war shall be outlawed and peace prevail; when the earth's total resources shall be equitably used for human welfare; and when basic rights and responsibilities shall be shared by all without discrimination.”

Preamble to the Earth Constitution
Holism as the Basis for a New Age

Holistic wisdom:

The Principle of Unity in Diversity

The entire Constitution is constructed on this principle overcoming:

• The fragmentation of global capitalist exploitation.

• The fragmentation of militarized sovereign nation-states.

• The fragmentation of human consciousness.
The World Parliament

The House of Peoples
*Integrating people’s elected representatives from every corner of the Earth.*

The House of Nations
*Integrating all the nations together in collective decision-making.*

The House of Counselors
*Thoughtful and wise people from around the world representing the whole.*
Holistic Planetary Democracy

The predicates of a redeemed World derive from the integrated unity in diversity of the whole:

World Peace
Global Justice
Human Rights
Reasonable Prosperity
Ecological Sustainability
The Global Brain Awakens

- Peter Russell says that we must awaken the global brain.
- Barbara Marx Hubbard says that we must engage in conscious evolution.

The World Parliament and Earth Federation is a basic way to do this:

People from around the world thinking together on how best to deal with our global crises and create a better future for our planet.
The Broad Functions of the Earth Constitution

Article 1: Six broad functions.

• The purpose of the Earth Federation is to deal with all those problems that are beyond the scope of nation-states.

  • These problems mirror our planetary crises

• These cannot be dealt with without the unity of the whole
1. To Prevent War

“To prevent war, secure disarmament, and resolve territorial and other disputes.”
2. “To Protect Universal Human Rights

Including life, liberty, democracy, and equal opportunities in life.”
3. To End Poverty

Economic and social development directed toward diminishing social differences.
4. To regulate global interactions

To regulate trade, transportation, use of world resources, etc., for the common good of humanity.
5. “To protect the environment and the ecological fabric of life from all sources of damage...for the purpose of keeping Earth a safe, healthy and happy home for humanity.”
6. Solutions beyond the capacity of the nations

“To devise and implement solutions to all problems which are beyond the capacity of national governments.”
The UN is basically a treaty of sovereign nations and that is why it has been entirely unable to:

• End war
• Protect human rights
• Eliminate global poverty
• Protect vital world resources
• Protect the environment
No treaty of sovereign nations could possibly solve our problems because sovereign nations are themselves the problem:

They recognize no enforceable law above themselves.

They represent their capitalist ruling classes.

*The Earth Constitution: from planetary disorder to holistic planetary democracy.*
Practical Utopia as our critical standard and goal:

The world disorder today: economic and political domination.

As one social-scientist puts this:

We lack “a utopian goal against which to organize criticism and more importantly, to direct progress.”

We need a concrete, practical vision showing real possibilities for A World Peace and Justice System.
The Constitution for the Federation of Earth

As both our critical standard and our goal!

www.earth-constitution.org

Thank-you