Preface

We live in a world of dramatic change. A world that is rapidly becoming unrecognisable from what it was like last week, let alone last month and last year. The world we once knew no longer exists and, in this change, comes a need for a huge rethink about how to deal with the unknown.

With climate change, global pandemics, mass migration, cultural and economic crisis, as well as war and famine, comes deep, deep FEAR, both on an individual and state level. This fear is born out of uncertainty of the world around and an even more uncertain future that is masked by lack of clarity but is most certainly imagined. The fear that is triggered by our innate bias towards avoidance is always looking for escapism, a quick fix and this avoidance of what is causing discomfort.

The last century has been built upon convenience, fast paced and easily accessible pleasure. That 'need' in itself has driven consumerism and the drive towards needing more and more. This position is no longer sustainable, and the quick fix is no longer satisfying a deep pain that is cutting deep through society. Questions like 'why is it not working?' and 'there needs to be another way' are heard on the streets, in the whisperings of the discontented and we are finding ourselves at an inflection point both in terms of having to develop a sustainable way forward for future generations but also in terms of human evolution and the need to change as a collective.

With cross-border migration occurring due to conflict, famine, and the poverty trap and with countries responding with either open, yet controlled gateways or hard borders, the local government policy seems to have slowly become adrift to the voice of the public that they represent. BREXIT being the extreme response to a need for a strengthening of National Identity and migration control when 50% of the public didn't even want it! The voices of the masses overridden by the closed ears of incumbent and institutionalised thinkers.

There needs to be a new way for humanity to evolve.

In their essay, Laura Petrache and Yannick Le Guern have wonderfully outlined the challenges that the globe faces, but also provided a compelling strategy to deliver sustainable and lasting change.

They have succinctly outlined the need for us all to adopt a new utopian dream that will help reset society, create hope and answer the question of 'WHY' we are here and 'HOW' we, as citizens should act. By proposing working with local, regional, and national governments in order to bring about social innovation and through global citizenship build a harmonious and sustainable society. Laura and Yannick lay out a possible future, one where imbalance of power is addressed and common, long-term strategies are defined that can save the planet. Active multiculturalism, sustainable strategy and Entrepreneurialism forming the backbone of their work.

Through a universal public plan, via social and public action with a humanist set of values we can reinvent society and answer deep questions like "why are we here?" Change, for them can occur through the social organism transcending its current mind state and with the collective knowledge of wise people and elected citizens, we can have the best of humanity providing solutions to global issues.

From individual to local, from local to transnational and from transnational to global, Laura and Yannick have clearly and with deep focus outlined a response to a new future. This future has the potential to deliver a society based on common good and takes us away from fear, greed and ultimately an untimely death.

Jonathan Midwood