

## ENVIRONMENTAL CODETERMINATION: FROM THE BIOPOLITICS THESIS TO PRAXIS

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Biopolitics has reached its developmental stage of translating its thesis into praxis; from delineating the area of its inquiry and proving the significance of its goals to establishing its language and learning framework. Critical for the success of this endeavor will be the realization that scientific knowledge and technological fixes can only postpone the tragedy of the commons. Only the ascendance from the basic values of survival and personal economic growth to such higher values as altruism, obligation, justice, and community commitment will allow bios to exist in harmony with its environment. Hence, scientific and engineering bio-environmental education alone will not suffice. There is also great need for the development of, and education in the language of codetermination as it applies to biopolitics. Only this language can nourish the necessary harmony, on the individual level, between selfishness and altruism; on the local level, between regional and national interests; on the national level, between quantity and quality of growth; and on the international level, between cultural and economic national characteristics and global needs for cooperation to protect bios and its environment.

Two levels of appropriate education and research are proposed and broadly defined - macro and micro. The relevance and contributions of recent research are also discussed. A logical conclusion points to the necessity for an internationally respected institution as the vehicle for translating the biopolitics thesis into praxis through global bio-environmental codetermination. Alternatively, the creation of the International University for the Bio-Environment (I.U.B.E.) is not simply another noble undertaking. It is a global need in very needy times.

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Professor **Climis A. Davos** is Professor of Environmental Choice Theory and Management and Associate Dean for Student Affairs of the School of Public Health at the University of California, Los Angeles. His research interests are in developing a new environmental choice theory and research agenda based on multiattribute and multiple-interest analysis as well as on the principles of codetermination. He has developed an approach for integrating environmental assessment within a global context, a pollution theory of value, and a participatory approach to public value analysis and conflict management referred to as the priority-tradeoff-scanning (PTS) approach. He is also responsible for a principle for integrating public values known as codeterminative environmental decision making as well as the computer program AGORA which enables the management of conflicts among the values of large numbers of diverse interests through coalitional and solidarity analyses.