

## **Global Bio-Policy\***

### **A Vision Beyond Sustainable Development**

**by Dr. Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis**

President and Founder, Biopolitics International Organisation

\* The concept of Bio-Policy was first developed by Dr. Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis in 1985 (See [\*Biopolitics – Dimensions of Biology\*](#), 1985)

#### [Cross References](#)

Human actions are interfering with global-scale properties and processes in ways that have resulted in a serious crisis in values. Environmental deterioration is threatening the very continuation of life on our planet, adding urgency to the need for coherent long-term international strategy and co-operation.

The processes of globalisation profoundly illustrate the necessity for rigorous inquiry into the opportunities and challenges ahead. A range of problems are confronting humanity and are affecting the development of national states, economic markets and local communities throughout the world. Increasingly, with information and communication technologies empowering individuals everywhere, humanity's future rests with new models of thought, action, communication and participation. A millennium vision in policy – bio-policy – can guarantee the continuity of *bios* (life) on our planet and lead society to a harmonious future.

Since its inception in 1985, the Biopolitics International Organisation (B.I.O.) has been promoting the concept of bio-culture as a powerful unifying factor for the future co-evolution of humanity with the environment and for the harmonious co-existence of all forms of life. Bio-culture provides the necessary incentives for every endeavour to be governed by "biocentric" principles and orient toward the better understanding and preservation of the environment. In the spirit of bio-culture, every individual on the planet is encouraged to actively engage in the search for new paradigms and to join environmentally committed legislators, scholars, educators and business leaders in influencing governmental regulation of environmental issues around the world.

To alleviate regional conflicts and reconcile environmental harmony and economic growth, new policies in industry, energy, transport, agriculture and regional development must be emphasised. In order to be successful, however, these policies have to be based on a framework of environmental ethics. Bio-culture provides these ethical guidelines and urges a reassessment of current assumptions with a view to a global appreciation of bios.

Society needs to mobilise every one of its elements and strive for a better future. We are now consumed in an inverted pyramid structure, where nothing is in balance because the right priorities have not been set. The pyramid may once again become re-inverted once we acknowledge the value of basing the entire structure of society on biocentric principles.

Working to sustain what already exists is not enough. With new challenges constantly arising and with an increased awareness of the urgent need to take action against destructive trends, the time is ripe to find more comprehensive, long-term solutions to protect our planet and guarantee a balanced society for the future. A new vision, “beyond sustainable development,” can help place the situation in perspective, and provide the necessary incentives to move ahead and explore possibilities leading to more just and safe global management.

### **World Referendum**

Breakthroughs in the field of communication technology can provide the opportunity for the public to be actively involved in issues concerning our daily lives and be able to cast a vote, anytime, through computer networks – such as the Internet – and other communication links, which can make immediate feedback possible from any corner of the globe. This can open up new pathways for a "participatory democracy," where opinions will be actively expressed and politicians will no longer be able to evade their responsibilities.

In this context, humanity has the unprecedented opportunity to dynamically voice its concern over environmental deterioration. A [World Referendum](#), where every citizen on the planet would simultaneously cast a vote for the environment, would result in a global mobilisation for the reversal of destructive trends and would guarantee a brighter future.

### **The International University for the Bio-Environment**

To reach a new state of the world, education is key. The International University for the Bio-Environment (I.U.B.E.) – an initiative which actions the B.I.O. aspiration for global environmental literacy – is a catalyst that can infuse society with models for creative and thoughtful action. It provides a new educational challenge, fighting the trend towards over-specialisation and seeking to open up all areas of study and training to an appreciation of life on our planet.

### **Olympic values**

The current crisis in values is a great threat, not only to the environment but also to peace. This is why there is a pressing need to use the diachronic ideals of the past to motivate every member of society towards the conservation of the environment. The Olympic Spirit can play a leading role in uniting the forces of culture and technology to instil the appreciation of the aesthetic value of life on our planet. Bios Prizes for each speciality, with the participation of every individual and of every profession is one of the B.I.O. goals for the new millennium. Through a truly international and multidisciplinary environmental education, every citizen of the world can contribute to the spiritual renaissance of humanity.