



# THE MARMARA FOUNDATION

*"A Quest for Peace"*

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which addresses the critical question: how the contradictions, surfacing from various economic activities, will arise and by what institutions and policies' coordination mechanisms, on the world-wide scale, they may be mitigated. The greatest challenge for the future is to find a way of the governance of globalization, since despite the recent crisis it remains an irreversible process.

WHAT I call "New Pragmatism", is a policy-oriented theoretical approach looking for the set of

values, institutions, and policies which ought to sustain a balanced growth of world economy in the long-run. "New Pragmatism" is eclectic, multidisciplinary, and dynamic. It also pays a great attention to the multi-culture aspects of social and economic development, since the future requires continuing opening of the societies and economies, and their peaceful co-operation won't be possible without a tolerance based on multi-culture.



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WE live in a time of crucial challenges. To achieve the needed new vision for a road to peace, we must do more than ensure a climate-resilient and sustainable economic future. The Eurasian Economic Summit, held annually by the Marmara Foundation, is an excellent opportunity to establish new dynamics in all dimensions in order to overcome the tsunami of the multiple crises that are placing our future in jeopardy: the economic crisis, the environmental crisis and, above all, the crisis in leadership. This enlightened initiative can inspire the fundamental changes in human attitudes and behaviour that lead to development that supports international environmental cooperation and peace.

IN climate change mitigation, all sectors are interrelated because climate change profoundly alters economic, political and environmental circumstances.

The crisis in leadership points to the urgency of breaking away from systems and policies of the past, where divide-and-rule was considered a smart approach, and to get world leaders to unite and benefit from a common, bios promoting policy – biopolicy.

BIOPOLICY places as a primary target the protection of bios = life, the most precious gift on our planet, and assures its continuity by reducing human arrogance, over-consumerism and inspiring a new vision. We need to realize that our planet is the only planet we know of where life exists. The perception of this dimension of space brings on a great responsibility. Bios has existed for hundreds of millions of years; if this were a 24-hour day of evolution, human beings appear in the very last fragment of a second. But, with blindfolded arrogance, we have become a

threat to the continuity of many forms of bios, including the human species. Is there still time to think, plan and act wisely in order to reverse destructive trends? Can we hear the ticking clock that warns us every second of the imminent dangers, or are we calmly following the destructive patterns of the past where every neighbor is considered a threat and where economic power is imposed at all costs. Have international organizations become too bureaucratic? Are they caught up in a set of inflexible rules, forgetting how to be inspirational and how to mobilize nations to act with imagination and wisdom?

BIOPOLICY seeks to infuse society with a vision of hope. As we are moving into an era of meta-capitalism, we need to inspire the 1% of the population that possesses 50% of the world's wealth to make a voluntary commitment to invest in supporting the environment and bios. If they continue to multiply capital that they cannot take with them, what have they gained? Since the systems of taxation are for the average population, isn't it time to build a new society by inspiring these leaders to spearhead the task of saving all forms of life on our planet?

INTERNATIONAL bio-education for peace can strengthen the understanding and participation of every individual, by placing the environment at the heart of all academic and professional sectors. It encourages stakeholders to discover their own biopolicy frameworks and priorities based on their strengths and the overall focus of their activities. It also emphasizes ethical values and critical thinking to uplift the spirit of humanity and reverse the crisis in values. A truly integrated bio-education can help us to reach a developmental framework that places people and the planet before profits. By allowing for cultural differences to emerge as the beauty and wealth of our planet, bio-education can help to achieve knowledge and impart new thinking, encouraging action for change.

THE right priorities can mobilize different roles and better equip governments and policymakers with the needed guidance and vision to develop and implement strategies that combat the effects of climate change at all scales of society. The "bio-assessment of technology," as promoted by the Biopolitics International Organisation (B.I.O.) for the last thirty years, involves dialogue and the re-evaluation of priorities in order to support development that respects and helps bios. Based on a thesis, antithesis, and synthesis of new values, the goal is to achieve economic and technological progress that improve our interaction



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with the environment and protect all forms of life on our planet. Cooperation among all sectors, including the sciences, policy, diplomacy, literature and the arts, can help us to gain insight and catalyze change.

CURRENT global strategies and policies, albeit crucial for mitigation and adaptation, do not tell the full story about climate change or its solution. To be successful in mitigating climate change, we need to develop more just and ethical societies. In this context it is essential to promote an understanding of what constitutes a real profit. It is the conversion of destructive profit-making activities into activities that save life and are even more profitable in the long-run.

SPECIFIC projects need to begin immediately: cleaning the oceans, protecting natural resources and biodiversity, providing universal access to clean energy, food, health, education. A harmonious world is possible if every individual contributes to the building of a new society of hope through an expanded understanding of the commitments we each need to make. This is the way to build a vision for cooperation and peace on our planet.