SEEING THE WORLD WITH NEW EYES
Reclaiming the Future of the Human Family

societal collapse or intentional leadership | integrity in politics | gift economy
2020 climate campaign | beauty that transforms | global citizenship
elevating entertainment | lucie award winning photographer Reza
FEATURE | Toward a New Multilateralism of the Global Commons
Kosmos is pleased to announce two new books with chapters by several Kosmos authors including Bill Drayton, Monica Sharma, Hazel Henderson, Hiroo Saionji and Nancy Roof.

Introduction by Hiroo Saionji
The Goi Peace Foundation is pleased to present this publication as a part of its Initiative for Creating a New Civilization. The Creating a New Civilization Initiative, which our foundation launched together with our partners in 2005 [including Kosmos], brings together organizations and individuals who see the pressing need to respond to the environmental, social and economic crises confronting us today. Our aim is to network various innovative activities and people creating positive impact on the world, and build a critical mass of humans that could facilitate the transformation of our cultures and co-create a sustainable and harmonious planetary civilization based on reverence for all life, respect for our diversity, gratitude for nature, and emphasis on spiritual values.

As a way to synthesize fresh approaches toward creating a new civilization, the Goi Peace Foundation proposes the ‘4-S Concept’—an integrated platform with four foundational pillars: Sustainability, Systems, Science and Spirituality. These four components are obviously interdependent. Our immediate task is to transform our systems in order to move beyond the imminent crises and ensure sustainability of our planet. At the same time, we must broaden our perspective to see the larger story of who we are and where the next stage of human evolution will lead us.

In 2008, The Goi Peace Foundation published a book entitled Earthrise: The Dawning of a New Civilization in the 21st Century, highlighting pioneer organizations in diverse fields that are paving the path for the emerging new civilization. To further the initiative, we present our latest publications under the following titles:

Earth Capitalism compiles articles by forward-thinking scientists, economists, business leaders and social activists with strategic visions for a more just and sustainable world. It introduces concepts for a new economic paradigm supported by concrete ideas for alternative models of economy and innovative ways in which future business may be conducted.

The People’s New Deal highlights the global movement of social entrepreneurship and some of the leading organizations that are advancing this citizen sector movement [including Kosmos]. While looking at this social trend in the context of a larger global transition we are currently going through, the volume also presents examples of innovative individuals that are tackling major social problems and triggering systemic change. The core message repeated throughout both books is that in order to solve the complex global problems of today, it is not enough to simply patch up the existing civilization founded on an old paradigm. If we are to construct a better and promising future for all, we need to change our thinking and acting, and adopt new values, priorities and deep wisdom.

Throughout the past century, we human beings mostly valued material things, and strove to create materially affluent lives for ourselves. We focused our efforts and energy into development and production, promoting lifestyles governed by speed, greed and consumerism. While this materially oriented preoccupation fostered a great expansion of material civilization, we now know we can no longer continue on this way. We must shift our focus on the outer and material world to the development of our inner spiritual world. It is time we stop and rethink what is truly valuable and what real happiness is for humanity.

The articles you will read in these two volumes tell us that there are a growing number of people around the world who have awakened to altruistic values and planetary consciousness and are actively carrying out their mission as a responsible member of the global community. As social entrepreneurs and business leaders, they are optimizing their innovative minds and creative power to serve society, giving new meaning to capitalism and democracy.

We hope that these readings will ignite the love, courage and compassion and the entrepreneurial spirit in you, so that you may play your unique role in creating a new civilization. Now more than ever, each one of us is called upon to become an agent for positive change.

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