

Holistic Futurism

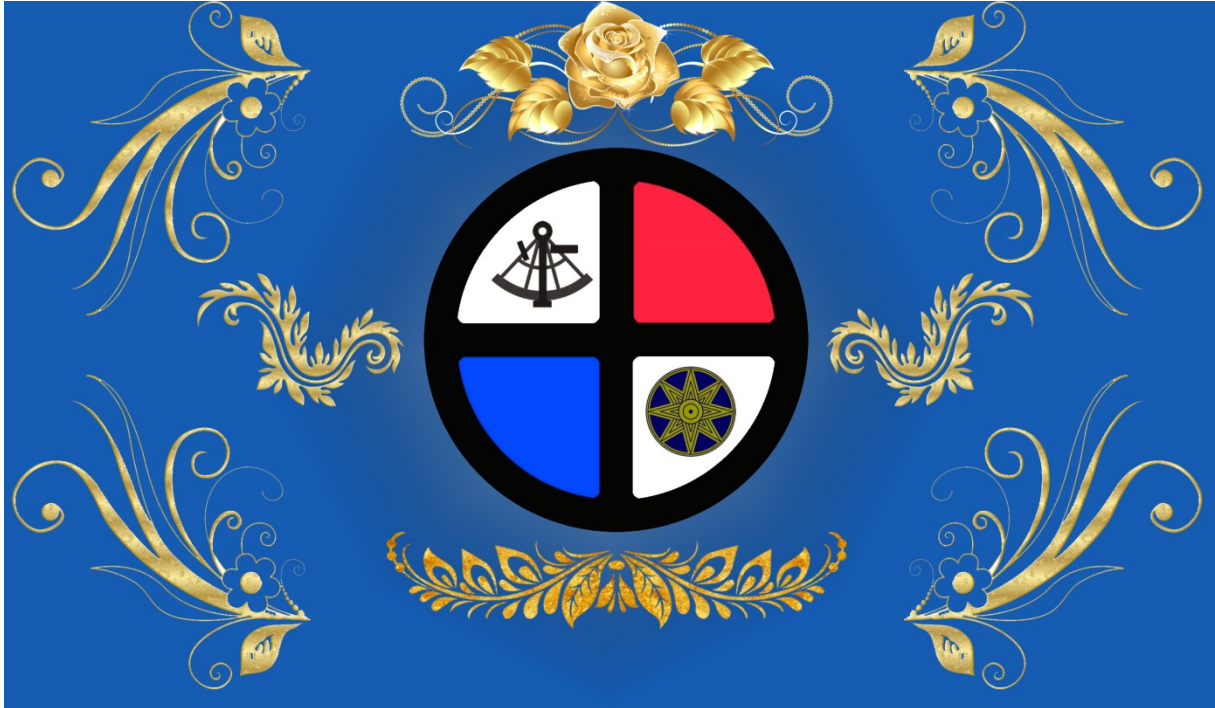
A Movement for the Future

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An Elaborated Introduction into Holistic-Futurism

Introducing my ideology which officially exists since the 1st January, 2020 (it has been in development since 2019)



The flag of the new ideology with ornaments

How did it come to the creation of a new ideology?

I've been politically interested since mid-2014/2015, and during the five years I went from a peace-orientated pension reformer (2014-2016) to a social liberal (economically and socially liberal, 2016-2018) to a social democrat (2018-2019).

As I learned more about the positions of social liberalism and social democracy, as well as the issues my country and humanity faces in the modern world, I soon realized that there's missing something.

Firstly; it was the neo-classical/neoliberal status quo which worsened global warming, societal problems and environmental pollution. At best, there are attempts to reform the old system without questioning it overall (e.g. the main focus on economic growth despite finite resources and profit maximization) and trying to improve the situation bit by bit. While I consider reforms necessary, the framework as it exists now, makes it very hard to so (as environmental protection laws and combatting climate change has shown, or the very recent and still ongoing pandemic which destroyed much of wealth the middle-class and lower-classes have accumulated).

Secondly; the lack of advanced planning - whether it is a natural catastrophe, a pandemic as it is now, or sustainability in general - is also problematic. Politics shouldn't just revolve around elections and short-term solutions/policies which help to get re-elected. In fact, I consider it very problematic to not think in decades and centuries, or even millennia. My second point is intertwined with my first, due to it being a systematic issue.

Who's going to store, regularly examine, maintain and replace masks and ventilators - for instance - in an economy which punishes anything that isn't profitable?

Naturally, we are underprepared and it has never been as clear as during this devastating pandemic which cost the lives of hundreds of thousands of people.

Moreover, what happens when there's a solar storm incident - which I also already have written about -? The system, as it exists now, simply isn't prepared for countless challenges of the future and the present. That's why there needs to be an alternative.

Thirdly; science and pragmatism are still underappreciated, but both are essential for the future. We need to listen to the scientists to effectively combat issues like climate change, and we need to be pragmatic in the implementation of policies (expertise and realism). Furthermore, I advocate for the requirement of expertise in the ministries of a government. In other words: the minister of agriculture must have either been a farmer and/or studied agriculture. After all, you wouldn't employ an engineer as a doctor in a hospital.

This technocratic framework ensures that the ministers are not just experts on their field, but also act in a responsible manner and admit mistakes instead of playing the political game.

Fourthly; the economy should center around the culture and the people of a country, merely pursuing economic growth hurts both the culture (e.g. music, arts, literature) and the people (burnout, depression, etc.). An achievement-orientated society not only neglects mental well-being, but also underappreciates essential jobs such as cleaners, garbage collectors, healthcare workers, and many other low-paid occupations. Instead of looking down upon so-called "lesser occupations", we as a society should finally realize that these jobs are absolutely necessary for a functioning modern civilization. **Compassion and cooperation over contest and egoism, if you will.** That's also the reason why I think that every job, regardless of the skills needed, should be enough for a person to live financially stable and pursue other interests (from enjoying more leisure time to culturally enrich oneself by reading about poets, writers, or else).

Lastly; while the western democracies are not perfect, they are still the best system for groups and individuals alike. There, you have the freedom of self-development and freedom of assembly, and there's no limit of knowledge either (e.g. libraries). The protection, enhancement and participation must be guaranteed to maintain a vibrant democracy. Democratization is an ongoing process which requires the people to be a part of it. International exchange, as well as exchange on a national level between the various groups (religious, political and economic), is very important. In both cases, the people need to be given the opportunity to get involved - easily and without bureaucratic obstacles. Especially when it comes to trade agreements, which affect millions of people, there needs to be more transparency. Additionally, a cultural exchange - in Europe between the different EU-members, for example - contributes to a better understanding of the other side and also improves the democracy appreciation to some extent (i.e. comprehend and accept other points of view to improve the overall situation).

These are the main reasons which I either already have elaborated on (e.g. scientification) or going to write about in the future to further understand my position.

Symbols and their Meaning

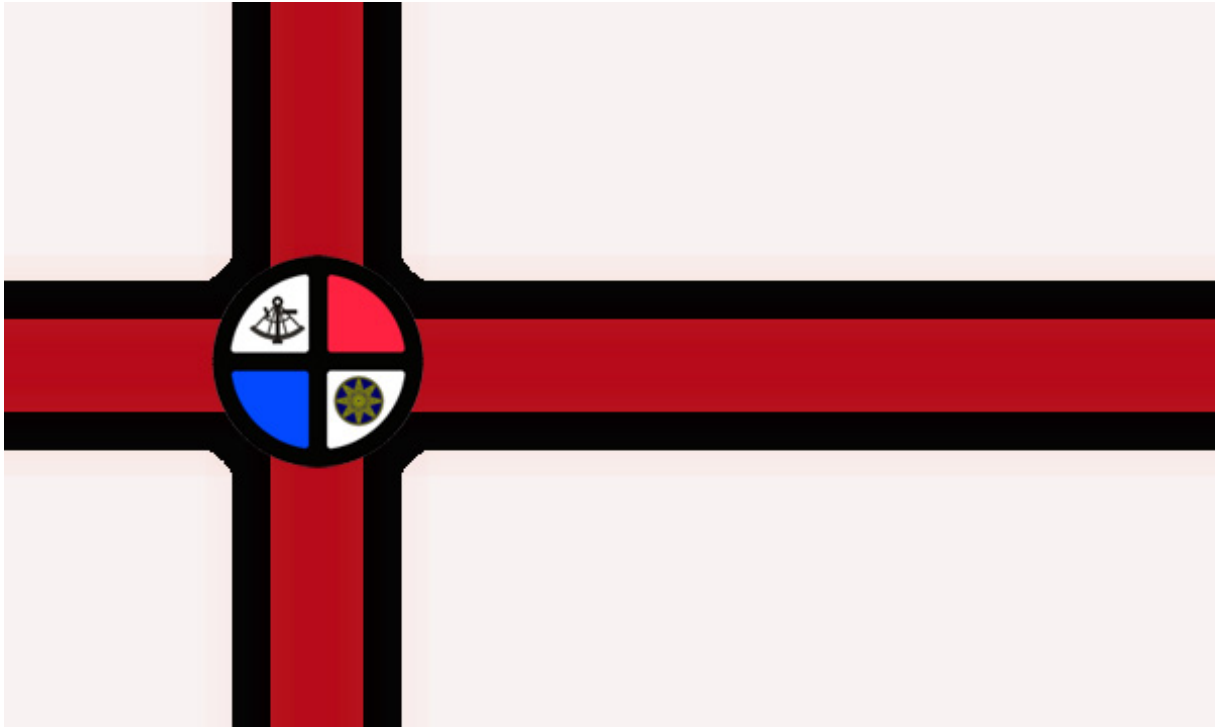
Symbol	Meaning
 <p>Symbol of Earth</p>	<p>This symbol encompasses all the others and emphasizes the importance of it. Holism, a nature ethics, considers ecosystems as a whole of being worth to preserve. The question is not whether they are useful to humans or their already-proven positive effects if maintained; the mere existence justifies the right for a forest, for example, to exist. If wood is taken from the forest, it must be ensured that new trees are planted and that it is done in a sustainable fashion. The same goes for farming and everything else.</p>
 <p>The Sextant symbolizes Science</p>	<p>In the first section, I already elaborated on the importance of science. The sextant is a well-known scientific instrument, and our modern world wouldn't exist without the scientific progress over centuries and even millennia. Therefore, there's no doubt that it is essential for the future. Important to remember: neither politics nor the economy should interfere with the scientific method. The scientific institutions must be supported, protected and respected; the scientific worldview made comprehensive to the wider public (i.e. scientification), politics and the economic players. Once everyone is aware of it, and adheres to the scientific ideals, the ignorance which plagues us to this day will vanish completely.</p>
 <p>The Star of Ishtar</p>	<p>The Star of Ishtar is an ancient symbol of the Sumerian civilization; it represents the goddesses Inanna and Ishtar. In this particular case, the outer circle represents the past which is worth remembering. The 8 triangles of the star have a different meaning in holistic-futurism (since the original was seemingly lost in time anyway): human dignity; past, present, future; culture; the people; knowledge and community spirit. The inner circles represent the planet we live on - it is the smallest common thread on a global scale. Our history, cultures and achievements all formed on this planet. It is our home.</p>
 <p>The Colours Blue and Red</p>	<p>The blue colour represents democracy; the importance of it has already been described in the last section. In short: democracies allow freely exercising our civil rights without the fear of consequences from the government (e.g. imprisonment for criticizing the government or joining a different party) and also ensuring that groups (like workers) have the right to unionize and protest. For the future, this is very important which is why further democratization should be a goal of society - that includes more transparency and decentralization, when possible.</p> <p>The red colour symbolizes social policies and the well-being of the people. Economic growth shouldn't be more important than the physical and mental well-being of the people; moreover, leisure time is needed both to recover from work and engage in political or cultural activities (or just doing a hobby/hobbies). A work-life-balance is to be strived for, and that looks different for each person.</p>

Concluding Sentence

Humanity arrived at a point to make a fateful decision: a) return to status quo and continue with the destructive economic and political policies, or b) strive for a sustainable system guided by the sciences and build by the people.

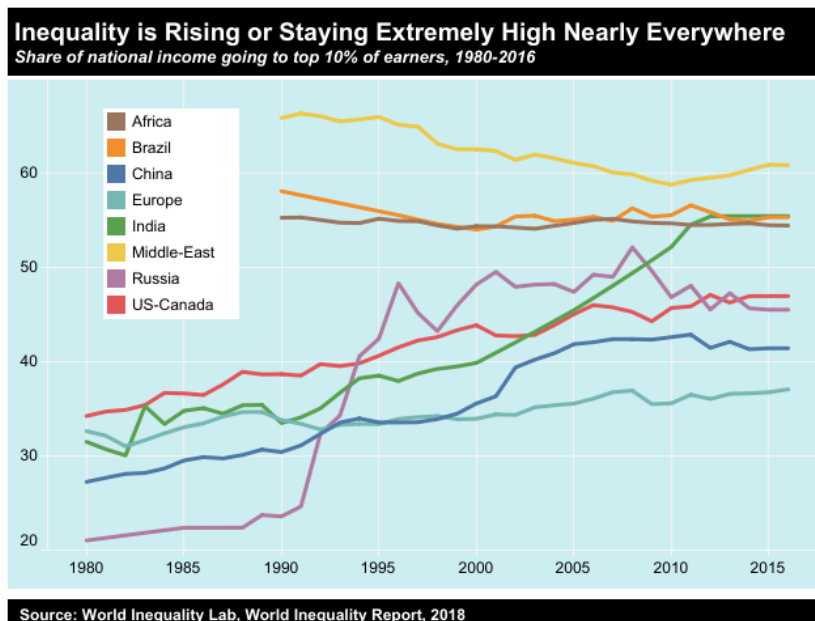
The Political Struggle of Holistic-Futurism

Neoliberalism has failed and the order of the post-world war 2 era is now falling apart in its entirety; a new era has begun and we are able to shape it. (In order to understand the title and philosophy behind it, it is helpful to read the article I wrote about [the political struggle](#)).



Battle Flag with all symbols inside of the logo

As 2020 nears its end, we look back at 40 years of neoclassical aka neoliberal economic policies which led to [more income and wealth inequality](#), environmental [pollution](#), erosion of western democracies through lobbying, and continuous exploitation of third world countries.



"Since 1980, the [World Inequality Report data](#) has shown that the share of national income going to the richest 1 percent has increased rapidly in North America (defined here as the United States and Canada), China, India, and Russia and more moderately in Europe. World Inequality Lab researchers note that this period coincides with the rollback in these countries and regions of various post-World War II policies aimed at narrowing economic divides. By contrast, they point out, countries and regions that did not experience a post-war egalitarian regime, such as the Middle East, sub-Saharan Africa, and Brazil, have had relatively stable, but extremely high levels of inequality."

From the LiveScience article:

"Air pollution kills more than 2 million (2,000,000) people each year, according to a study published in the journal of Environmental Research Letters."

The ongoing change of the climate is also the result of the government interfering less and less by reducing regulations or prevent regulations from passing (prime example: the USA).

Lobbyism plays a big role as well, since those with greater wealth (the top 1% and multinational companies) are able to get more lobbyists. In return for their expertise they demand that any laws affecting them are biased towards them, naturally it destroys the core principle of democracy: representatives are elected to implement policies that the people want.

International trade agreements like TiSA (Trade in Services Agreement), TTIP (Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership) and CETA (Comprehensive Employment and Training Act) were made by and are for the large corporations. Despite the importance and impact it will have on the people, they rarely or get no say at all in the matter. Due to the onesidedness there's little consideration for the working class in a country, or the existing regulations and legal framework (e.g. arbitral courts). However, some countries don't even have a choice (like in Africa) and economic powerhouses like the USA, the EU and China are exploiting the weakness (-> resource exploitation and little gain for the African nation).

The current economic and health crisis, which was caused by SARS-CoV-2 (Covid-19), is also evidence for the fragile system we are living in. Businesses had to close and the smaller and middle-sized fear to this day for their existence, many people lose their jobs (although there's a difference depending on the country; the working people in the US, for instance, only received one stimulus check and are not protected by a strong social security net like in Europe) and the wealth of the middle and lower classes decreases. Meanwhile, the billionaires increased their wealth (In the US by [\\$637,000,000,000 \(billion\)](#)). This is not the first time either that the very wealthy gained while the vast majority made losses and/or suffered otherwise, as the Business Insider article points out that I linked above.

Climate change, if not combatted, will also [hurt the poor the most](#):

"Heart and lung disease, heat stroke and bacterial infections are just a few of the health consequences associated with climate change. Low-income populations "typically have less access to information, resources, institutions, and other factors to prepare for and avoid the health risks of climate change," the report says, leaving them especially vulnerable. Lack of health insurance among the poor will also intensify the risks of illnesses caused by climate change."

While the article focuses on the poor in the US, the findings apply to people living in poverty worldwide. In general, they have less resources (especially money) and knowledge. Only by lifting them from poverty and ensuring that they have the same access to quality education, good infrastructure and healthcare, technology, etc. the global community will be able to fight against the [man-made](#) environmental changes.

The economic system, as it exists now, is incapable of solving the problems it has caused. It's the same with the "trickle-down economics" which, as we have seen at the beginning, didn't work at all and instead trickled the wealth from the bottom to the top.

It is long overdue for an alternative system, and that's what holistic-futurism is about. Not just in an economic sense is it different from the current system, but also in a political sense (e.g. throughout democratization and technocracy).

A New Economy

Holistic-Futurism does not orientate itself on a strict economic system (i.e. capitalism or socialism), instead it assesses the situation by analyzing the problems. This can be done through regular exchange with the people and the communities living within a region/country, as well as experts on the subject (i.e. a stronger connection to the scientific community). Moreover, it is time that the economy adapts to the culture of the people - we do not need the destructive spiral of profit maximization, lower and lower prices, and higher performance of the workers (while their wages stay stagnant or barely increase).

As explained above, the focus on economic growth incentivized by the neoliberal system led to the problems we see today. And, before anyone asks, it doesn't mean that economic growth is going to be ignored entirely. Merely the main focus shifts to the well-being of the people and the environment. Our world was perfectly capable of thriving before the 1980s, this time we have the chance to improve the living conditions of all people across the globe. It may take a while, but it is worth it.

If neither capitalism nor socialism is endorsed, how exactly are the policies being shaped?

As mentioned earlier, there needs to be more exchange with the people and experts to tackle various problems. Closer cooperation between the economic players, the working class and the government is also required. Some policies have shown that they already work very well (e.g. universal healthcare, universal education, a solid and well-funded infrastructure, economic freedoms to found a business), others have yet to be tried (e.g. universal basic income, 4-Day working week). In a way, the scientific method could be used to find out what works and what doesn't work.

Psychologists, for example, can also make their voice be heard through a science council and point out what must be fixed to increase the mental well-being of the people (see also my article: Council of the People's Deputies).

In short: there needs to be more exchange between the scientific community, the various religious and ethnic communities that make up the people of a nation, the industry (+ the working class) and politicians.

By not focusing on a specific system, it is also possible to think more unorthodox while trying to find solutions. Sometimes, the government has to interfere more and other times the private sector needs more freedoms. Pragmatism is key.

Mass consumption is a major issue in western societies, what happens to that?

For one, we need to raise environmental and social awareness to let the people know how their consumption impacts nature (e.g. plastic pollution of the oceans), people in other countries (e.g. child labour) and the mental damage it causes us (e.g. no satisfaction and the need to constantly consume; as well as the plastic pollution that returns on the plate by eating fish and other marine life that accidentally ate micro plastics). That way, the people realize that something must be done - it is going to improve their quality of life too, after all.

Secondly, politics mustn't focus on economic growth anymore, and private companies shouldn't just focus on profit maximization. Instead, the government and political parties must create incentives to live environmentally friendly (e.g. building cycle ways to increase the use of bicycles inside cities). Companies, on the other hand, must take human rights and the environment into consideration before making a decision. The price of the goods is going to increase, but so is the quality and the wages overall. One must keep in mind, while reading this, is that I do not seek to change to just change one part of the system, but replace the system entirely. Anyway, more transparency in politics and democratization of the working place in the private sector ensure that both are held accountable by the people. If the government and private companies work together to create a new and environmentally friendly way of transport (or else), smaller businesses should also be able to gain from it (ultimately, they paid partially for it through taxes). Increasing the strength of worker unions is also part of the democratization and transparency process.

Thirdly, the "throw-away-society" must transform into a "repair-and-keep-society". I mentioned in the second point, but here I'm going to elaborate on it.

As you may know, our modern societies suffer from the cheap and short-lasting goods which cause a lot of trash - as well as the overuse of plastic. Both for the environment and humanity, the impacts are disastrous: wildlife accidentally eats micro plastics or absorbs it by drinking, and then it is returned to us when we eat fish or other animals. Electronic devices don't last that much longer as well, or some of us tend to buy something new instead of repairing it (either due to unwillingness or too high costs). There's no question about it that it has to change, and here all actors come into play: The government needs to regulate where it is necessary to ensure that electronic devices are not built short-lived, and in third world countries there must be investments made into garbage disposal infrastructure and recycling in general.

Companies, on the other hand, need to make their devices easily repairable and reduce the cost of repairing it (e.g. no unnecessary tiny screws which need to be opened with a special tool).

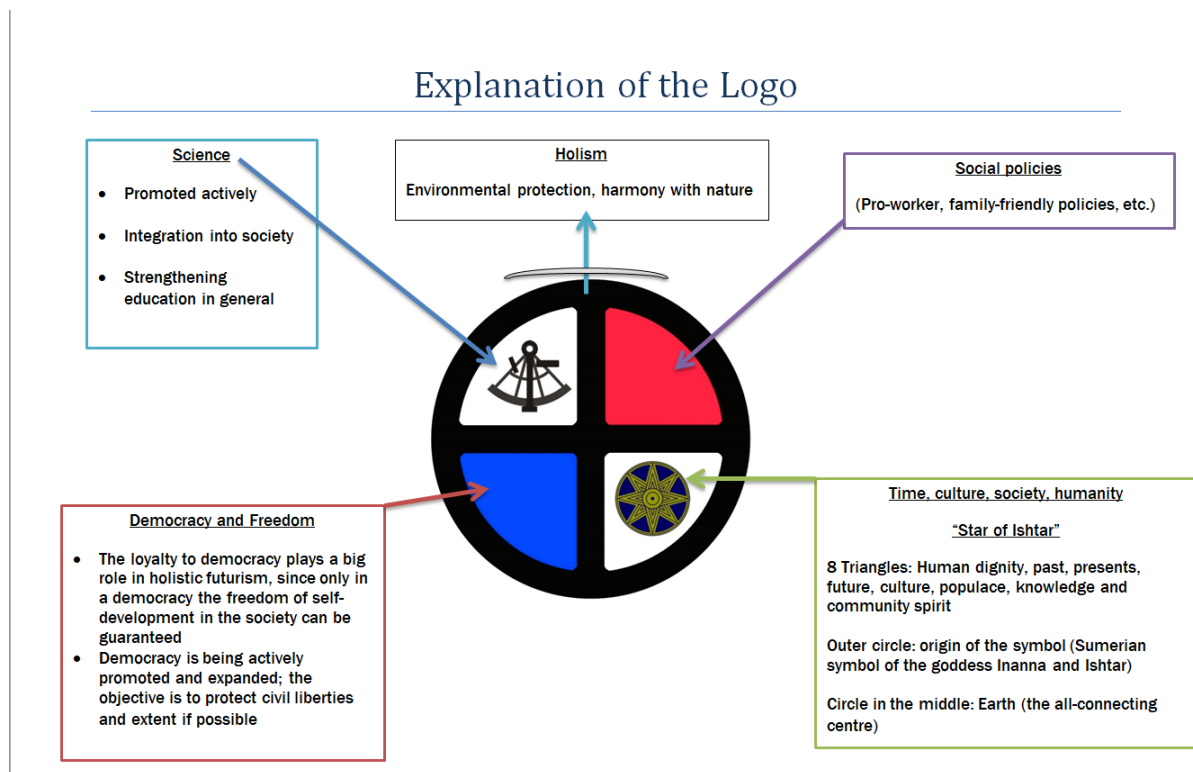
We, the people, also need to change our mentality. Whenever possible, we have to think about a way to fix it rather than throw it away and use something different. At the moment, it is limited depending on the goods we use (I, for one, use a Fairphone 3 and thus have it easier to repair; but using older mobile phones is also an excellent way of reducing waste, and in some countries there's even a service where you can send your old mobile phone to which is then recycled, and the money is used for a good cause).

Our food consumption also needs to change, and some of you may already have made a change. This issue is also a complex one, because poorer families and individuals don't have as much time and money as those living in a wealthier middle class, for example.

Any program and/or policy must therefore also help the poor and ensure that everyone is given the same access to high quality food and guidance to a balanced diet.

Due to the complexity of the issue, I cannot say that much about it, but I hope that my answer makes sense to you given the circumstances.

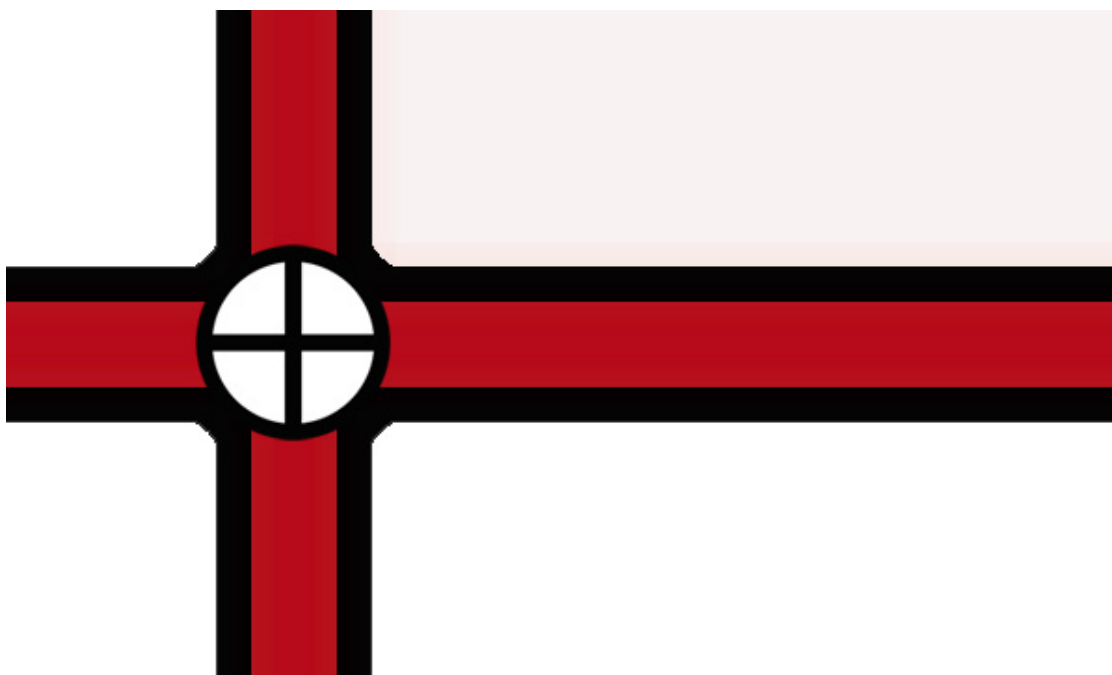
What are the core values of Holistic-Futurism?



Other values are:

- **Pragmatism:** dealing with a problem in a sensible way that suits the conditions that really exist, rather than following fixed theories, ideas or rules (Cambridge Dictionary)
- **Technocracy:** importance of scientific and technical knowledge in governing positions (i.e. especially in ministries)

The Battle Flag



The Battle Flag of Holistic-Futurism

The battle flag represents with the white colour the mercilessness of the winter which we also let the anti-democratic forces experience on a political level (e.g. neo-Nazis), religious level (i.e. religious fundamentalists) and economic level (e.g. lobbyists trying to undermine the people's vote by pushing for their views); the red colour symbolizes the blood that was spilled for our democracies to form and the ongoing battle in other countries and places (e.g. HongKong, Thailand, Belarus) for democratic values; the black colour signals the seriousness and determination of the cause; finally, the simplified version of the holistic-futuristic logo represents the ideology that is being fought for.

While we were likely won't need to go on a real battlefield to fight for these ideas, at least in the western democracies, there's still the political struggle consisting of making one visible through speeches, events, articles, and else. First and foremost, we need to make ourselves present in the real world and not just the internet (preferably not on Anti-Corona protests, which are in itself filled with anti-science attitudes (-> not wearing masks and no social distancing) and where political enemies (such as fascists) also participate in).

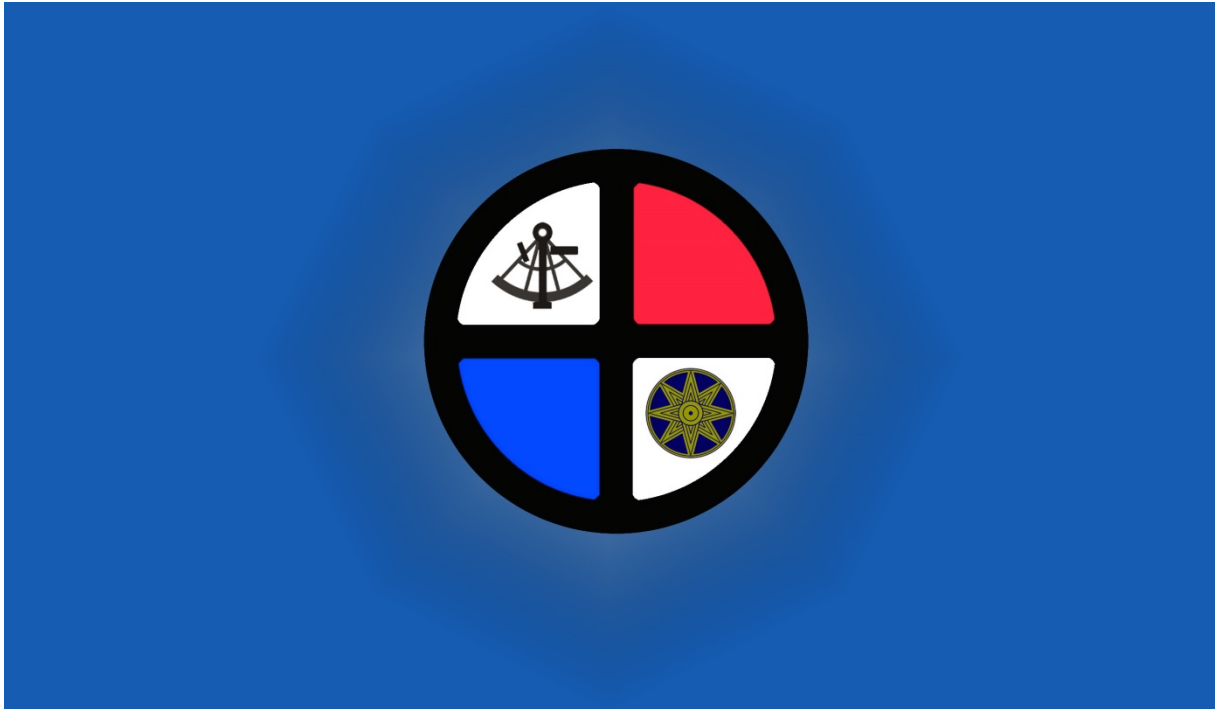
If you want to, then you can also add the flag of your country in the battle flag to signal that you are fighting for your nation:



The Battle Flag with the German Flag (example)

Compact Holistic-Futurism

The main ideas of holistic-futurism summarized
A translation from the German version



The Flag without ornaments

The 5 Fundaments of Holistic-Futurism

- **Pro-Science:** Without the progress in the sciences (from astronomy to zoology, and theoretical and practical mathematics), our modern world wouldn't be possible. Hence holistic-futurism dedicates itself to spread the ideals of science, the scientific method and a basic understanding of science.
- **Democratic:** Another key aspect of holistic-futurism is the defence and expansion of democracy, as well as the education on democratic rights and aktiv participation through already-existing institutions (e.g. bpb in Germany) and newly founded organisations (e.g. Guardians of Democracy). More participation and less bureaucracy revives democracies and makes them more vivid. Furthermore, there must be a trustworthy and serious information network - controlled by experts of their respective fields and overseen by independent organisations - which is accessible to all citizens; a strong and constructive exchange between the various groups within society is also a necessity.
- **Social Policies:** Freedom can only be thoroughly enjoyed and lived out, if there are no more financial and existential fears/concerns anymore. That's why it is the task of the government to provide a watertight and high-quality healthcare system. In addition, the opportunity for further education and re-education should be guaranteed by extending the education system; along with it has the extension of social security the highest priority. Everyone has a right to humane housing, food, clean water, electricity, education, healthcare, and else (in short: a life lived with dignity).
- **Humanity:** Every individual has the right to exist. Each culture and nation has a right to exist. There's no such thing as "inferior cultures", neither do "races" exist. Humans are one species - the homo sapiens. Cultural differences can be overcome or mitigated through exchange (-> mutual understanding) - good cooperation is only possible by ensuring that there's

understanding. Moreover, the exchange between cultures is beneficial to all of us, because it widens our own horizon.

The Past, Present and Future play important roles: we learn from the past, we influence the presence, we build the future.

- **Holism:** Holism is a nature ethics which gives ecosystems and their inhabitants the right to exist. These ecosystems must be protected, or given the opportunity to recover from human influences. The current out of control exploitation must be rejected! Animal suffering must be prevented; therefore factory farming must be discontinued! If the nature suffers, then humans suffer as well (and vice versa). It is long overdue to adjust the economy to be environmentally friendly and align with the culture of a people's nation - not abstract economic theories (such as neoliberalism).

Other Guiding Ideas

- **Pragmatism:** Policies must be realistic and feasible. However, that doesn't mean that the fundamental ideas - as the 5 fundamentals lay out - are shoved aside; they are being merely implemented in a thoughtout and practical manner to achieve the desirable goal. Compromises for political goals are normal and acceptable, as a rule. They are necessary and required to satisfy all voices to some extent, that's what a democracy is about. Longterm objectives (e.g. 100% renewable/zero-emission energy sources) shan't give away to that, though.
- **Technocracy:** The technocratic aspect will also be of great importance, because expert knowledge is needed in the ministries to make realistic and efficient policies. Consequently, a ministry is only occupied by people who either have theoretical experience (e.g. studied the subject), practiced it (e.g. had a job in the sector), or got both. The economic players and politics mustn't twine with each other (-> conflict of interests)! Moreover, the technocrat is still required to regularly stay in contact with the people of the sector (e.g. the Minister of Defence regularly visits the army and talks to them) and the people (see: the Council of the People's Deputies, the article I wrote).

Fundament and the guiding Ideology

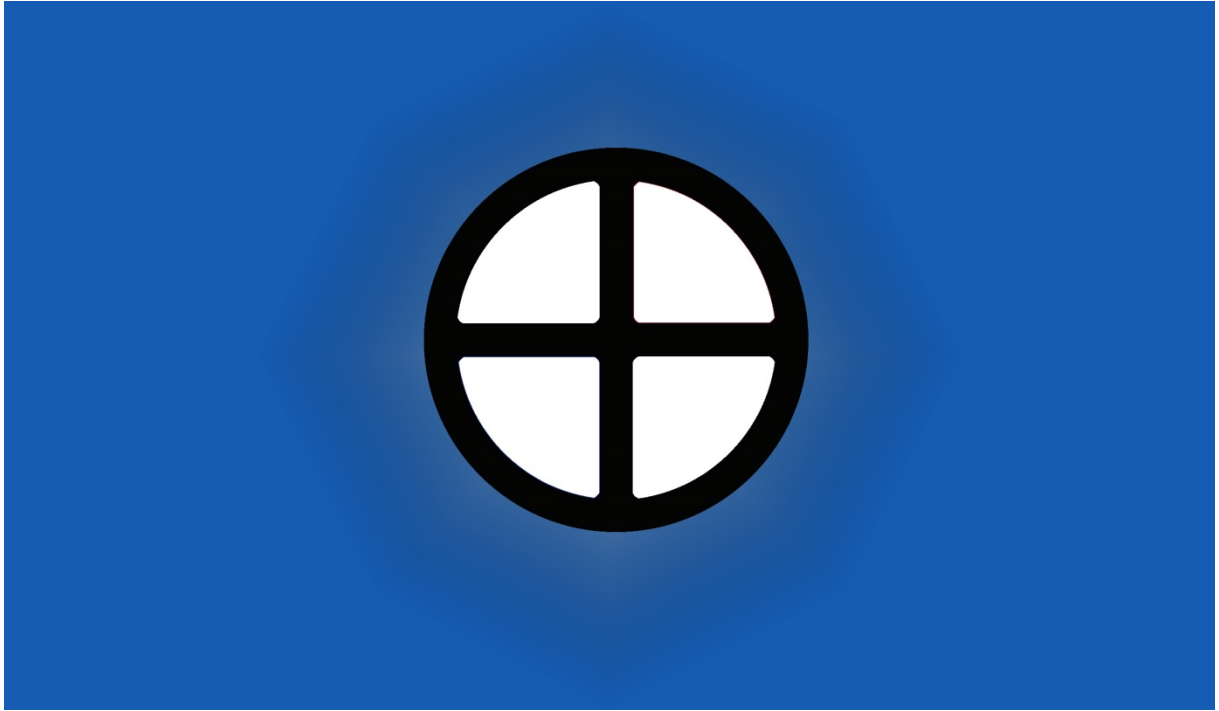
As you may have noticed, this ideology is mainly economically on the left (due to strongly emphasizing social policies). That's also considered to be important, since everyone should be free to live conservatively or liberally. Holistic-Futurism views itself as a fundament of a future for all people, one that opposes inhumane and anti-democratic enemies and knows how to defend itself.

In a way it is like a frame of a painting: it shows the limits and prevents the painting from falling down. The strong emphasizes on the cultures of humanity represent the rich ornaments of frames from the Baroque era, the picture is going to be painted by the people.

In other words: the frame exists now, the only thing missing are the artists who paint the picture of the future. These artists, at least I hope so, are the readers of this article.

Swing your brushes, for only you are those who can change the world!

And do not forget: The journey is its own reward



Simplified Flag of Holistic Futurism

Guardians of Democracy



Guardians of Democracy Flag

Formation

The Guardians of Democracy originated from my original idea of forming a network between various democratic institutions, democratic-minded political parties and other organizations/groups dedicated to educate, protect and/or extend democracy.

It is a largely independent from Holistic-Futurism, but works closely together with it. The leader of the organization is called "Coordinator".

Important aspects are regular festivals or gatherings of some sort (e.g. weekly meetings, and a festival of democracy once a year) where people can connect with each other and exchange ideas, arguments, and so on. Next to physical events, online places to come together shall also be formed (preferably with strict rules to ensure civility).

The digital presence on websites, social media and else is also very important. There, it doesn't matter whether one lives on the countryside or in a city. This network basically serves as a contact partner (for everyone), mediator and organizer.

Symbols

The dark red colour stands for the countless lives it took to establish our democracy. It serves as a reminder that our democratic system should not be taken for granted, and therefore the necessity emerges to protect and defend our values and democracy as a system itself. It ranges from individual liberties such as freedom of speech and freedom of self-development to collective freedoms like the freedom to assembly. A healthy public discourse is a requirement, as well as giving everyone the chance to get access to educational materials from trusted and serious sources.

The wreath of laurel represents confidence in victory (as history has shown) and shows the certitude in the democratic cause. Battles were lost in the past – in France, Germany, and other countries where revolutions once broke out to abolish monarchic rule. However, in the long run, the war of the systems ended with democracy emerging victorious over the monarchies and dictatorships.

The shield emphasizes on the role as defenders and protectors – the guards – of democracy - whether it is anti-democratic political extremism, theocratic religious radicals or oligarchic individuals with a lot of power and economic might. The guards are ready and willing to fight on all fronts.

The owl symbolizes knowledge (which is limitlessly accessible in democracies), foresight (always looking to the future and making decisions based on the consequences it has on those living several generations later) and patience (some procedures and plans may take longer, but no rush decisions are made to avoid mistakes). All three of these characteristics are important for sustainability.

The sun is a symbol of life and that it in itself is valuable. It is also a symbol of power; power which is needed to stop and destroy inhumane ideologies and enemies of democracy.

Concluding Sentence

This organization is hopefully going to play a big role in western democracies, because only through large participation we will be able to protect our democratic values from the three dangerous elements: anti-democratic political extremists, religious extremists and oligarchs.

Note: In non-democratic nations, the task is to spread democratic values by peaceful means. Neither is it limited to just one coordinator or a complete hierarchical structure (the organization is shaped by the people who work in it).

Closing Remarks

I know that the presence looks bleak, since much we have taken for granted seems to be built upon sand. We cannot undo the mistakes of the pasts – neither does done in the recent crisis caused by SARS-CoV-2 nor in the decades before on an economic and political level.

However, we do have the power to shape the future by organizing and mobilizing the people. We need to learn from the past and plan in the presence to make a better future possible – and it all starts with you.

There's a lot to do on a national and international level, and our goals can only be achieved by working together and learn about each other. And while a vision may not translate into realpolitik, it is an excellent compass to stay on the track and avoid disorientation.

Hopefully, one day I'm going to see the flags waving in the wind on places all across the globe...

A world guided by science and shaped by the people of the nations, one day hopefully.

**“Ohne Hast, aber ohne Rast. - Without haste, but
without rest.”**

- Johann Wolfgang von Goethe