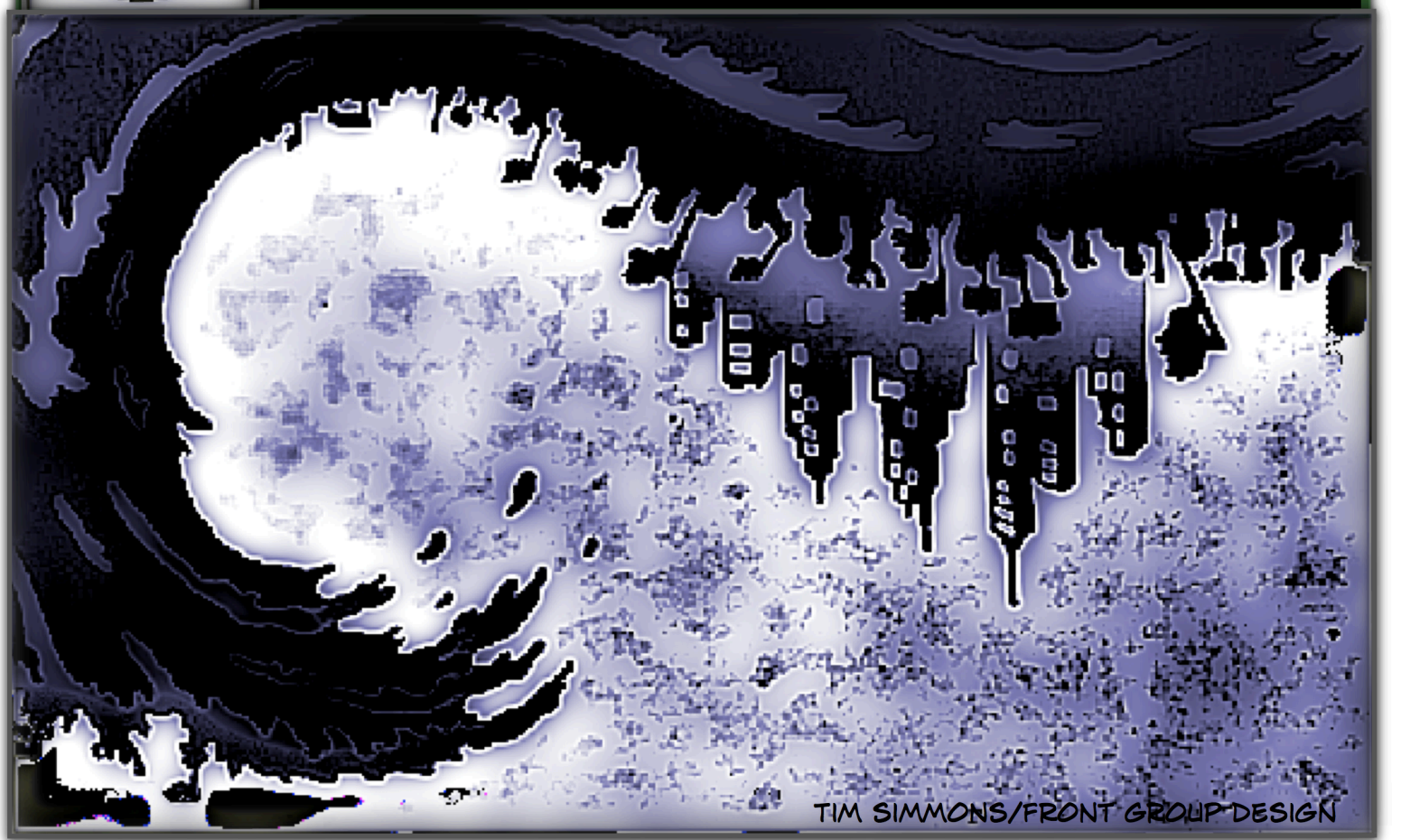


# IOPS

*international organization  
for a Participatory Society*



TIM SIMMONS/Front Group Design



# IOPS

international organization  
for a Participatory Society

## A QUICK SUMMARY!



### Mission

IOPS is a newly launched international organisation striving to win a world, characterised by **solidarity, equity, diversity, self-management** and **ecological stewardship**.

IOPS seeks to win a better world through flexibly exploring and advocating **long-term vision, building the seeds of the future in the present, empowering the lives of its members** and organizing in an internally **classless** and **self-managing** way.



### Vision

IOPS organises around a vision for what we call a **participatory society**: a **classless economy**, a **self-managing polity**, an **inter-communalist culture** and a **feminist kinship**.



### Structure

IOPS is structured as a bottom-up, federation of **self-managing local, regional and national branches**. Members of each local branch have control over decisions that only affect them and proportional say in regional, national and international decisions.



### Join

IOPS is currently in an **interim** stage. By joining now, you become part of a growing number of people who are building IOPS branches around the world leading up to a future founding international convention. Please visit our website to find out more.

[www.iopsociety.org](http://www.iopsociety.org)

IOPS seeks to transcend 20<sup>th</sup> Century market and centrally planned socialism with a new participatory society—or participatory socialism—that combines classless economy, feminist kinship, intercommunalist culture, and self managing polity. We believe this can be achieved through a stable foundation, built upon four strong columns:

## 1. **Truly Democratic Communities**

Each individual should be empowered to participate in influence making through workers and inhabitants councils, where everyone is granted decision-making power in proportion to the degree one is affected by a decision.

## 2. **IN A PARTICIPATORY SOCIETY**

These workers and inhabitants councils should link up in voluntary directly democratic federations, which invites everyone to participate in a process of participatory planning: A continuous, interactive process, where we in a democratic, rational and ecological way, together decide what we are going to produce and consume.

## 3. **WITH GOOD JOBS**

The workers councils must offer holistic jobs, which are composed of a combination of theoretical and practical, concrete and abstract, special and general, tasks. In this way, the division between high and low status jobs will be minimized, and work and spare time will approach each other: workers of the 21st century will be complete human beings, with a well rounded job, belonging to a co-operative, safe, and inclusive workplace.

## 4. **AND FAIR WAGES**

We want each human being to be able to develop their professional capacities to their fullest, choose for themselves how they'd like to balance work and spare time, and choose from a wide range of diverse, ecological, and socially responsible products, which the federations of workers and inhabitants councils cooperate on making available. We believe people will be free to do so if the inhabitants and workers councils set fair wages, exclusively based on our care needs/ caregiving responsibilities and the intensity, arduousness and duration of our work.



# MISSION.



THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR A PARTICIPATORY SOCIETY (IOPS) IS A REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATION THAT AIMS TO WIN A BETTER WORLD, THROUGH:



FLEXIBLY EXPLORING AND ADVOCATING LONG TERM VISION



BUILDING THE SEEDS OF THE FUTURE IN THE PRESENT



EMPOWERING THE LIVES OF ITS MEMBERS



ORGANIZING IN AN INTERNALLY CLASSLESS AND SELF-MANAGING WAY



WINNING CHANGES IN SOCIETY THAT BETTER THE SITUATION OF SUFFERING CONSTITUENCIES WHILE ALSO LAYING THE GROUND WORK FOR MORE CHANGES AND CONSTRUCTION TO COME.



# CORE VALUES



## SELF-MANAGEMENT

DECISION MAKING INFLUENCE IN PROPORTION TO THE DEGREE YOU ARE AFFECTED BY A DECISION.

## EQUITY/JUSTICE

DISTRIBUTION OF CIRCUMSTANCES AND BENEFITS IN ACCORD WITH DURATION, INTENSITY, AND ONEROUSNESS OF SOCIALLY VALUED LABOR, OR COMPARABLE FACTORS IN OTHER ASPECTS OF LIFE.

## SOLIDARITY

CREATION OF CONDITIONS THAT FOSTER MUTUAL AID AND EMPATHY.

## DIVERSITY

RESPECT FOR DISSENT AND DIFFERENCE, INCLUDING MAKING ROOM FOR MINORITY AND DISSIDENT POSITIONS TO DEVELOP AND REVISIT EARLIER COMMITMENTS.

## ECOLOGICAL STEWARDSHIP

CARE FOR NATURAL HABITATS AND ENVIRONMENT IN ACCORD WITH SUSTAINABILITY AND THE THRIVING OF DIVERSITY FOR SPECIES AND HUMANS.

## INTERNATIONALISM

APPLYING THE ABOVE MENTIONED VALUES NOT MERELY TO A SOCIETY, BUT TO THE COMMUNITY OF ALL SOCIETIES.



# KEY GOALS & PRIORITIES



- ≠ IOPS IS ANTI CAPITALIST, ANTI RACIST, ANTI SEXIST, AND ANTI AUTHORITARIAN. IT CENTRALLY ADDRESSES ECONOMICS/CLASS, POLITICS, CULTURE/RACE, KINSHIP/GENDER, ECOLOGY, AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS WITHOUT PRIVILEGING ANY ONE FOCUS ABOVE THE REST.
- ≠ IOPS SEEKS TO TRANSCEND 20TH CENTURY MARKET AND CENTRALLY PLANNED SOCIALISM WITH A NEW PARTICIPATORY SOCIETY - OR PARTICIPATORY SOCIALISM - THAT COMBINES CLASSLESS ECONOMY, FEMINIST KINSHIP, INTERCOMMUNALIST CULTURE, AND SELF MANAGING POLITY.
- ≠ IOPS FLEXIBLY EXPLORES AND ADVOCATES LONG TERM VISION SUFFICIENTLY TO INSPIRE AND ORIENT CURRENT ACTIVITY BUT DOES NOT ADVOCATE OR SEEK TO IMPLEMENT DETAILED BLUEPRINTS THAT TRANSCEND MOVEMENT NEEDS AND KNOWLEDGE.
- ≠ IOPS SEES SOCIAL STRATEGY AND ESPECIALLY TACTICS AS LARGELY CONTINGENT ON PLACE AND TIME AND THEREFORE CONTINUALLY REVISES SHARED VIEWS IN LIGHT OF NEW EVIDENCE INCLUDING REGULARLY UPDATING ANALYSIS, VISION, AND STRATEGY.



ART: BANSKY



KIB

Fill in the blanks according to your infighting needs.  
 Guaranteed to provoke endless sectarian bickering  
 wherever applied! Not for use with mutual aid, constructive  
 criticism, or intelligent debate. Keep out of reach of those  
 freshly exposed to anarchism. For best results, apply in  
 conjunction with extended internet use.

# Ad Lib Polemic



Once again, another \_\_\_(1) from \_\_\_(2). Will these \_\_\_(3) \_\_\_s(4)  
 ever cease spewing their brainless endorsements of \_\_\_(5)? Perhaps  
 \_\_\_(6), but that doesn't justify their descent into total \_\_\_(7). As usual, they equate  
 \_\_\_(8) with \_\_\_(9), deviously misrepresenting the case for \_\_\_(10). But from \_\_\_(11) to  
 \_\_\_(12), we've seen that all who espouse \_\_\_(13) end up \_\_\_(14). Those who deny the centrality of  
 \_\_\_(15) will always end up serving the enemies of \_\_\_(16); any intelligent \_\_\_(17) must concede that  
 there is no \_\_\_(18) but the \_\_\_(19) \_\_\_(18, again).

Instead of learning from their mistakes and profiting from the criticism of those more intelligent  
 than them, these misguided \_\_\_s(20) persist in \_\_\_(21). How any principled \_\_\_(22) could still con-  
 sider them to be part of the \_\_\_(22, again) milieu in the first place is inexplicable.

\_\_\_(23) and \_\_\_(24) will never change the world, and neither will \_\_\_(25) \_\_\_s(26). The kind of  
 \_\_\_(27) professed by \_\_\_(2, again) only alienates \_\_\_(28). As \_\_\_(29) once said, only a \_\_\_(30) made  
 up of \_\_\_(31) \_\_\_(32) can possess the \_\_\_(33) \_\_\_(34) necessary for the triumph of \_\_\_(35).

ALL \_\_\_(36) TO THE \_\_\_(37)! \_\_\_(38) \_\_\_(39)! FOR \_\_\_(16, again) AND \_\_\_(10, again)!

1. Project or undertaking
2. Adversary of choice
3. Synonym for "privileged"
4. Invented category (e.g., "lifestyle anarchists,"  
 "organizationalists")
5. Noun with "ism" fastened incongruously on the end
6. Statement of obvious fact
7. Deplorable or untenable philosophical position
8. Worthwhile activity
9. Indefensible activity
10. Ideological position ending in "ism"
11. Distant historical event or era
12. Recent historical event, identified only by the name of  
 the city in which it took place
13. Invented creed (referring back to "4," above)
14. Gerund signifying unconscionable lifestyle choice (e.g.,  
 "working on Wall Street")
15. One aspect of current human relations (e.g., "the  
 market," "gender")
16. Abstraction guaranteed to receive applause
17. Synonym for "person"
18. Synonym for "struggle"
19. Adjective relating to "15," above (e.g., "economic,"  
 "sexual")
20. Insulting noun
21. Gerund phrase signifying particularly barbarous and  
 stupid behavior (e.g., "running with scissors," "conflating  
 Marx's critique of capital with Hegel's phenomenology of  
 the spirit")
22. Noun ending in "ist," signifying a believer in one's faith  
 of choice
23. Embarrassing activity
24. Pointless activity
25. Insulting adjective
26. Insulting noun
27. Synonym for "nonsense"
28. Social demographic one glorifies above all others
29. Man whose analytical writings or military deeds are  
 more widely known than his sexism and pomposity
30. Synonym for "army"
31. Adjective denoting the quality one most prefers in one's  
 followers or employees
32. Member of "28," above
33. Adjective sure to be incomprehensible to readers (e.g.,  
 "ontological")
34. Synonym for "force"
35. Some group, doctrine, or state of affairs that, should  
 it gain ascendancy, will sow misery for generations to  
 come (e.g., "communism," "wild nature")
36. Noun denoting something one wants all for oneself  
 (e.g., "power")
37. Front group or abstraction representing oneself
38. Imperative verb associated with violence (e.g., "smash,"  
 "destroy," "abolish")
39. Abstraction with negative associations





# VISION



## POLITICAL/GOVERNMENTAL

IOPS SEEKS NEW POLITICAL/GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS THAT:

¥FACILITATE ALL CITIZENS DELIBERATING SUFFICIENTLY TO EFFECTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN DECISION-MAKING.

¥UTILIZE TRANSPARENT MECHANISMS TO CARRY OUT AND EVALUATE DECISIONS.

¥CONVEY TO ALL CITIZENS A SELF MANAGING SAY IN LEGISLATIVE DECISIONS PROPORTIONATE TO EFFECTS ON THEM.

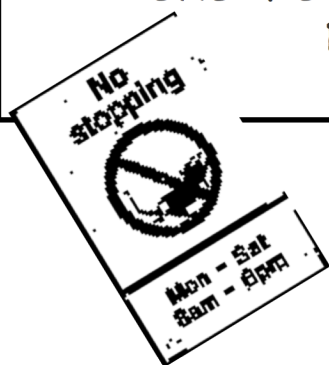
¥UTILIZE GRASSROOTS ASSEMBLIES, COUNCILS OR COMMUNES, AND DIRECT PARTICIPATION OR REPRESENTATION AND DELEGATION, AND/OR VOTING OPTIONS SUCH AS MAJORITY RULE, SOME OTHER VOTING ALGORITHM, OR CONSENSUS, ALL AS NEEDED TO ATTAIN SELF MANAGEMENT.

¥OFFER MAXIMUM CIVIL LIBERTIES TO ALL, INCLUDING FREEDOM OF SPEECH, PRESS, RELIGION, ASSEMBLY, AND ORGANIZING POLITICAL PARTIES AND FACILITATES AND PROTECTS DISSENT.

¥PROMOTE DIVERSITY SO INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS CAN PURSUE THEIR OWN GOALS CONSISTENT WITH NOT INTERFERING WITH THE SAME RIGHTS FOR OTHERS.

¥BUILDS SOLIDARITY AND FAIRLY, PEACEFULLY, AND CONSTRUCTIVELY ADJUDICATES DISPUTES AND VIOLATIONS OF NORMS AND LAWS, SEEKING BOTH JUSTICE AND REHABILITATION.

¥SUPPORT ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS CONTRIBUTING TO SOLVING PROBLEMS AND EXPLORING POSSIBILITIES TO ENSURE THAT THERE ARE NO POLITICAL HIERARCHIES THAT PRIVILEGE SOME CITIZENS OVER OTHERS.



ART: BANSKY







## VISION: ECONOMIC



Like

IOPS SEEKS NEW ECONOMIC RELATIONS SUCH THAT:



1) NO INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS OWN PRODUCTIVE ASSETS SUCH AS NATURAL RESOURCES, FACTORIES, ETC., SO OWNERSHIP DOESN'T AFFECT ANYONE'S DECISION MAKING INFLUENCE OR SHARE OF INCOME.



2) THERE IS NO PAYMENT ACCORDING TO PROPERTY, BARGAINING POWER, OR THE VALUE OF PERSONAL OUTPUT.



3) WORKERS WHO WORK LONGER OR HARDER OR AT MORE ONEROUS CONDITIONS DOING SOCIALLY VALUED LABOR (INCLUDING TRAINING) EARN PROPORTIONATELY MORE FOR DOING SO.



4) THOSE UNABLE TO WORK RECEIVE INCOME NONETHELESS.



5) WORKERS HAVE A SAY IN DECISIONS TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, PROPORTIONATE TO EFFECTS ON THEM, SOMETIMES BEST ATTAINED BY MAJORITY RULE, SOMETIMES BY CONSENSUS OR OTHER ARRANGEMENTS.



6) THERE IS NO CORPORATE DIVISION OF LABOR GIVING ABOUT A FIFTH OF WORKERS PREDOMINANTLY EMPOWERING TASKS AND FOUR FIFTHS MAINLY ROTE, REPETITIVE, AND OBEDIENT TASKS.



7) EACH WORKER ENJOYS CONDITIONS SUITABLE TO BE SUFFICIENTLY CONFIDENT AND INFORMED TO PARTICIPATE EFFECTIVELY IN DECISION MAKING, INCLUDING HAVING A SOCIALLY AVERAGE SHARE OF EMPOWERING TASKS VIA SUITABLE NEW DESIGNS OF WORK.



8) THERE IS NEITHER MARKET COMPETITION NOR TOP-DOWN PLANNING, BUT INSTEAD DECENTRALIZED COOPERATIVE NEGOTIATION OF INPUTS AND OUTPUTS, WHETHER ACCOMPLISHED BY WORKERS AND CONSUMERS COUNCILS OR SOME OTHER SUITABLE METHOD.

# VISION: GENDER AND KIN



IOPS SEEKS NEW GENDER AND KIN RELATIONS THAT:

- ¥DO NOT PRIVILEGE CERTAIN TYPES OF FAMILY FORMATION OVER OTHERS BUT INSTEAD ACTIVELY SUPPORT ALL TYPES OF FAMILIES CONSISTENT WITH SOCIETY'S OTHER BROAD NORMS AND PRACTICES.
- ¥PROMOTE CHILDREN'S WELL-BEING AND AFFIRM SOCIETY'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL ITS CHILDREN, INCLUDING AFFIRMING THE RIGHT OF DIVERSE TYPES OF FAMILIES TO HAVE CHILDREN AND TO PROVIDE THEM WITH LOVE AND A SENSE OF ROOTEDNESS AND BELONGING.
- ¥MINIMIZE OR ELIMINATE AGE-BASED PERMISSIONS, PREFERRING NON-ARBITRARY MEANS FOR DETERMINING WHEN AN INDIVIDUAL IS OLD OR YOUNG ENOUGH, TO PARTICIPATE IN ECONOMIC, POLITICAL OR OTHER ACTIVITIES, OR TO RECEIVE BENEFITS/PRIVILEGES.
- ¥RESPECT MARRIAGE AND OTHER LASTING RELATIONS AMONG ADULTS AS RELIGIOUS, CULTURAL, OR SOCIAL PRACTICES, BUT REJECT MARRIAGE AS A WAY TO GAIN FINANCIAL BENEFITS OR SOCIAL STATUS.
- ¥RESPECT CARE GIVING AS A VALUABLE FUNCTION INCLUDING MAKING CARE GIVING A PART OF EVERY CITIZEN'S SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES, OR OTHER WORTHY MEANS TO ENSURE EQUITABLE BURDENS AND BENEFITS.
- ¥AFFIRM DIVERSE EXPRESSIONS OF SEXUAL PLEASURE, PERSONAL IDENTITY, AND MUTUAL INTIMACY WHILE ENSURING THAT EACH PERSON HONORS THE AUTONOMY, HUMANITY, AND RIGHTS OF OTHERS.
- ¥PROVIDE DIVERSE, EMPOWERING SEX EDUCATION ABOUT SEX, INCLUDING LEGAL PROHIBITION AGAINST ALL NON-CONSENSUAL SEX.



ELAINE BERNARD (U.S.)

THE BEST WAY TO PREDICT THE FUTURE IS TO CREATE IT. IOPS OFFERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO REACH ACROSS BORDERS, TIME ZONES, ORGANIZATIONS, COMMUNITIES, AND INDIVIDUAL INTERESTS AND GROW SOLIDARITY. SOLIDARITY DOES NOT JUST HAPPEN. IT NEEDS TO BE DEVELOPED, AND IT NEEDS TO HAVE CONCRETE EXPRESSION IN ORGANIZATION.

## VISION: CULTURE AND COMMUNITY

IOPS SEEKS A NEW CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY SYSTEM THAT:

- ¥ENSURES THAT PEOPLE CAN HAVE MULTIPLE CULTURAL AND SOCIAL IDENTITIES, INCLUDING PROVIDING THE SPACE AND RESOURCES NECESSARY FOR PEOPLE TO POSITIVELY EXPRESS THEIR IDENTITIES, WHILE RECOGNIZING AS WELL THAT WHICH IDENTITY IS MOST IMPORTANT TO ANY PARTICULAR PERSON AT ANY PARTICULAR TIME WILL DEPEND ON THAT PERSON'S SITUATION AND ASSESSMENTS.
- ¥EXPLICITLY RECOGNIZES THAT RIGHTS AND VALUES EXIST REGARDLESS OF CULTURAL IDENTITY, SO THAT ALL PEOPLE DESERVE SELF MANAGEMENT, EQUITY, SOLIDARITY, AND LIBERTY, AND SO THAT WHILE SOCIETY PROTECTS ALL PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO AFFILIATE FREELY AND FOSTERS DIVERSITY, ITS CORE VALUES ARE UNIVERSAL.
- ¥GUARANTEES FREE ENTRY AND EXIT TO AND FROM ALL CULTURAL COMMUNITIES IN SOCIETY INCLUDING AFFIRMING THAT COMMUNITIES THAT DO HAVE FREE ENTRY AND EXIT CAN BE UNDER THE COMPLETE SELF DETERMINATION OF THEIR MEMBERS, SO LONG AS THEIR POLICIES AND ACTIONS DON'T CONFLICT WITH SOCIETY'S LAWS.



## VISION: INTERNATIONAL


THE ORGANIZATION SEEKS NEW INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS SUCH THAT:


- ¥INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS PUT AN END TO IMPERIALISM IN ALL ITS FORMS INCLUDING COLONIALISM, NEO COLONIALISM, NEO LIBERALISM, ETC.
- ¥INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ARE INTERNATIONALIST IN THAT THEY DIMINISH ECONOMIC DISPARITIES IN COUNTRIES' RELATIVE WEALTH.
- ¥INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS PROTECT CULTURAL AND SOCIAL PATTERNS INTERIOR TO EACH COUNTRY FROM EXTERNAL VIOLATION.
- ¥INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS FACILITATE INTERNATIONAL ENTWINEMENT AND TIES AS PEOPLE DESIRE, AND THUS INTERNATIONALIST GLOBALIZATION IN PLACE OF CORPORATE GLOBALIZATION.


# VISION: ECOLOGICAL



THE ORGANIZATION SEEKS NEW ECOLOGICAL RELATIONS THAT:

 RECOGNIZE THE URGENCY OF DEALING WITH DIVERSE TRENDS SUCH AS RESOURCE DEPLETION, ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION, AND GLOBAL WARMING, NOT ONLY FOR LIBERATION, BUT FOR SURVIVAL, AND THAT THEREFORE FACILITATE ECOLOGICALLY SOUND RECONSTRUCTION OF SOCIETY.

 ACCOUNT FOR THE FULL ECOLOGICAL (AND SOCIAL/ PERSONAL) COSTS AND BENEFITS OF BOTH SHORT AND LONG TERM ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CHOICES, SO THAT FUTURE POPULATIONS CAN MAKE INFORMED RECONSTRUCTIVE AND THEN DAY TO DAY CHOICES ABOUT LEVELS OF PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION, DURATION OF WORK, SELF RELIANCE, ENERGY USE AND HARVESTING, STEWARDSHIP, POLLUTION, CLIMATE POLICIES, CONSERVATION, CONSUMPTION, AND OTHER AIMS AND ACTIVITIES AS PART OF THEIR FREELY MADE DECISIONS ABOUT FUTURE POLICY.

 FOSTER A CONSCIOUSNESS OF ECOLOGICAL CONNECTION AND RESPONSIBILITY SO THAT FUTURE CITIZENS UNDERSTAND AND RESPECT THE ECOLOGICAL PRECAUTIONARY PRINCIPLE AND ARE ALSO WELL PREPARED TO DECIDE POLICIES REGARDING ANIMAL RIGHTS, VEGETARIANISM, OR OTHER MATTERS THAT TRANSCEND SUSTAINABILITY, CONSISTENTLY WITH THEIR ECOLOGICAL PREFERENCES AND WITH THEIR BROADER AGENDAS FOR OTHER SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC FUNCTIONS.

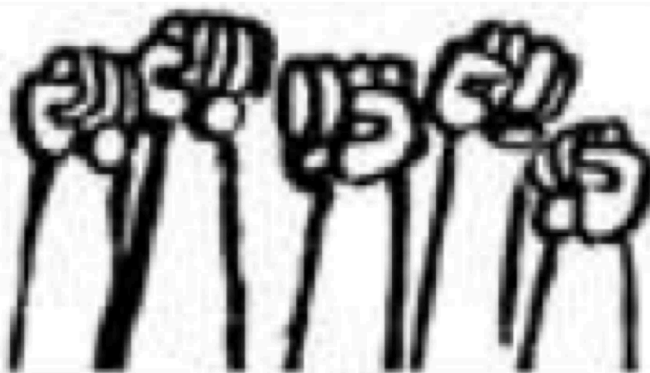


# STRUCTURE AND PROGRAM

## BROAD ACTION AGENDA OR PROGRAM:

THE ORGANIZATION'S BROAD ACTION AGENDA OR PROGRAM, WHILE OF COURSE REGULARLY UPDATED AND ADAPTED, NONETHELESS ALWAYS:

- ¥SEEKS TO INCORPORATE SEEDS OF THE FUTURE IN ITS PRESENT PROJECTS AT LEAST REGARDING CLASS, RACE, GENDER, SEXUAL, AGE, AND POWER RELATIONS, BOTH IN THE WAYS MEMBERS ACT AS WELL AS BY ACTIVELY BUILDING INSTITUTIONS THAT REPRESENT THE VALUES OF THE MOVEMENT AND WHICH THE ORGANIZATION CAN PRESENT AS LIBERATING ALTERNATIVES TO THE STATUS QUO IT COMBATS.
- ¥SEEKS TO CONSTANTLY GROW ITS MEMBERSHIP AMONG THE CLASS, NATIONALITY, AND GENDER CONSTITUENCIES IT CLAIMS TO AID.
- ¥SEEKS TO LEARN FROM AND SEEK UNITY WITH AUDIENCES FAR WIDER THAN ITS OWN MEMBERSHIP, INCLUDING EMPHASIZING ATTRACTING AND AFFIRMATIVELY EMPOWERING YOUNGER MEMBERS AND PARTICIPATING IN, SUPPORTING, BUILDING, AND AIDING DIVERSE SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND STRUGGLES.
- ¥SEEKS CHANGES IN SOCIETY BOTH FOR CITIZENS TO ENJOY IMMEDIATELY, AND ALSO TO ESTABLISH BY THE TERMS OF ITS VICTORIES AND BY THE MEANS USED IN ITS ORGANIZING, A LIKELIHOOD THAT CITIZENS WILL PURSUE AND WIN MORE CHANGE IN THE FUTURE.
- ¥SEEKS TO CONNECT EFFORTS, RESOURCES, AND LESSONS ACROSS CONTINENTS AND FROM COUNTRY TO COUNTRY, EVEN AS IT ALSO RECOGNIZES THAT STRATEGIES SUITABLE TO DIFFERENT PLACES, AND TIMES WILL DIFFER.



¥ SEEKS SHORT TERM CHANGES BY ITS OWN ACTIONS AND PROGRAMS AND BY SUPPORT OF LARGER MOVEMENTS AND PROJECTS AS ITS AFFECTED MEMBERS DECIDE, BOTH INTERNATIONALLY, BY COUNTRY AND ALSO LOCALLY, INCLUDING ADDRESSING GLOBAL WARMING, ARMS CONTROL, WAR AND PEACE, THE LEVEL AND COMPOSITION OF ECONOMIC OUTPUT, AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS, EDUCATION, HEALTH CARE, INCOME DISTRIBUTION, DURATION OF WORK, GENDER ROLES, RACIAL RELATIONS, MEDIA, LAW, LEGISLATION, ETC., AS ITS MEMBERS CHOOSE.

¥ SEEKS TO DEVELOP MECHANISMS THAT PROVIDE FINANCIAL, LEGAL, EMPLOYMENT, AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT TO ITS MEMBERS SO THAT ITS MEMBERS CAN BE IN A BETTER POSITION TO PARTICIPATE AS FULLY AS THEY WISH AND NEGOTIATE THE VARIOUS CHALLENGES AND SOMETIMES NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF TAKING PART IN RADICAL ACTIONS.

¥ WORKS TO SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVE THE LIFE SITUATIONS OF ITS MEMBERS, INCLUDING AIDING THEIR FEELINGS OF SELF WORTH, THEIR KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND CONFIDENCE, THEIR MENTAL, PHYSICAL, SEXUAL, AND SPIRITUAL HEALTH, AND EVEN THEIR SOCIAL TIES AND ENGAGEMENTS AND LEISURE ENJOYMENTS.

¥ SEEKS MEANS TO DEVELOP, DEBATE, DISSEMINATE, AND ADVOCATE TRUTHFUL NEWS, ANALYSIS, VISION, AND STRATEGY AMONG ITS MEMBERS AND ESPECIALLY IN THE WIDER SOCIETY, INCLUDING DEVELOPING AND SUSTAINING NEEDED MEDIA AND MEANS OF FACE TO FACE COMMUNICATION.

¥ USES DIVERSE METHODS OF AGITATION AND STRUGGLE FROM EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS TO RALLIES AND MARCHES, TO DEMONSTRATIONS, BOYCOTTS, STRIKES, AND DIRECT ACTIONS, TO WIN GAINS AND BUILD MOVEMENTS.

¥ PLACES A VERY HIGH BURDEN OF PROOF ON UTILIZING VIOLENCE, INCLUDING CULTIVATING A DECIDEDLY NON VIOLENT ATTITUDE.

¥ ASSESSES ENGAGING IN ELECTORAL POLITICS CASE BY CASE, INCLUDING CULTIVATING A VERY CAUTIOUS ELECTORAL ATTITUDE.

MANY LIBERTARIAN LEFTISTS THINK THAT WE DON'T NEED REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONS. I THINK THAT WE NEED THEM MORE THEN EVER BEFORE. WE NEED ORGANIZATIONS TO FOCUS OUR ENERGY, TO CLARIFY OUR STRATEGY, AND TO CAREFULLY DISCUSS OUR TACTICAL CHOICES. REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONS ARE IMPORTANT TO MAINTAIN A SENSE OF COMMUNITY, TO PROMOTE SOLIDARITY, TO BUILD A GENUINE COMMUNITY OF STRUGGLE. IF WE ARE SERIOUS ABOUT BEING REVOLUTIONARIES, AND IF WE STILL CHOSE TO BELIEVE IN SOCIAL REVOLUTION AS A PROCESS THAT RESULTS FROM OUR OWN SELF-ACTIVITY, THEN WE NEED PARTICIPATORY ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROMOTE SOLIDARITY AND ORGANIZE OUR ACTIVITY WITHIN MASS MOVEMENTS... IOPS COULD NOT COME IN A BETTER TIME."

ANDREJ GRUBACIC:  
(U.S./BALKANS)

## STRUCTURE AND POLICY

THE ORGANIZATION'S STRUCTURE AND POLICY WHILE OF COURSE REGULARLY UPDATED AND ADAPTED, NONETHELESS ALWAYS:

- ≠ SEEKS TO BE INTERNALLY CLASSLESS AND SELF-MANAGING INCLUDING STRUCTURING ITSELF SO THAT A MINORITY WHO ARE INITIALLY DISPROPORTIONATELY EQUIPPED WITH NEEDED SKILLS, INFORMATION, AND CONFIDENCE DO NOT FORM A FORMAL OR INFORMAL DECISION-MAKING HIERARCHY, LEAVING LESS PREPARED MEMBERS TO FOLLOW ORDERS OR PERFORM ONLY ROTE TASKS.
- ≠ STRIVES TO IMPLEMENT THE SELF MANAGEMENT NORM THAT "EACH MEMBER HAS DECISION MAKING SAY PROPORTIONAL TO THE DEGREE THEY ARE EFFECTED."
- ≠ GUARANTEES MEMBERS RIGHTS TO ORGANIZE "CURRENTS" AND GUARANTEES "CURRENTS" FULL RIGHTS OF DEMOCRATIC DEBATE.
- ≠ CELEBRATES INTERNAL DEBATE AND DISSENT, MAKING ROOM, AS POSSIBLE, FOR CONTRARY VIEWS TO EXIST AND BE TESTED ALONGSIDE PREFERRED VIEWS.
- ≠ RESPECTS DIVERSITY, SO THAT NATIONAL, REGIONAL, CITY, AND LOCAL CHAPTERS CAN RESPOND TO THEIR OWN CIRCUMSTANCES AND IMPLEMENT THEIR OWN PROGRAMS AS THEY CHOOSE SO LONG AS THEIR CHOICES DO NOT INTERFERE WITH THE SHARED GOALS AND PRINCIPLES OF THE ORGANIZATION OR WITH OTHER GROUPS ADDRESSING THEIR OWN SITUATIONS.
- ≠ PROVIDES EXTENSIVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE IN ORGANIZATIONAL DECISION MAKING, INCLUDING ENGAGING IN DELIBERATION WITH OTHERS SO AS TO ARRIVE AT THE MOST WELL-CONSIDERED DECISIONS AND ALSO IMPLEMENTING MECHANISMS FOR CARRYING OUT COLLECTIVE DECISIONS AND TO ASSURE THE DECISIONS HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT CORRECTLY.
- ≠ STRIVES TO PROVIDE TRANSPARENCY REGARDING ALL ACTIONS BY ELECTED OR DELEGATED LEADERS WITH A HIGH BURDEN OF PROOF FOR SECRETING ANY AGENDA TO AVOID REPRESSION OR FOR ANY OTHER REASON.
- ≠ PROVIDES A MECHANISM TO RECALL LEADERS OR REPRESENTATIVES WHO MEMBERS BELIEVE ARE NOT ADEQUATELY REPRESENTING THEM.



WHY SHOULDN'T I JUST JOIN AN ORGANIZATION IN MY LOCAL AREA,  
NOT AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION?

I.O.P.S. HAS CHAPTERS IN COUNTRIES, REGIONS, CITIES, AND EVEN PARTS  
OF CITIES ALL OVER THE WORLD. SO JOINING I.O.P.S. IS AUTOMATICALLY  
JOINING (OR PERHAPS BEGINNING TO FORM) ORGANIZATION IN YOUR  
LOCAL AREA.

I.O.P.S. INCLUDES A NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION SO THAT  
MEMBERS CAN ADDRESS ISSUES RIGHT WHERE THEY ARE BUT ALSO  
ISSUES THAT REQUIRE LARGER RESPONSE.



MICHAEL ALBERT(US)

### **STRUCTURE (CONT.)**

- ¥PROVIDES MEANS FOR FAIRLY, PEACEFULLY, AND CONSTRUCTIVELY RESOLVING INTERNAL DISPUTES.
- ¥APPORTIONS EMPOWERING AND DISEMPOWERING TASKS TO ENSURE THAT NO INDIVIDUALS CONTROL THE ORGANIZATION BY HAVING A RELATIVE MONOPOLY ON INFORMATION OR POSITION.
- ¥EXPECTS MEMBERS TO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN THE LIFE OF THE ORGANIZATION INCLUDING TAKING COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR IT AND PRESENTING A UNIFIED VOICE IN ACTION.
- ¥INCORPORATES ITS MEMBERS IN DEVELOPING, DEBATING, AND DECIDING ON PROPOSALS, AND TREATS LACK OF PARTICIPATION AS A SERIOUS PROBLEM TO BE ADDRESSED WHENEVER IT SURFACES.



## STRUCTURE (CONT.)

¥SETS UP INTERNAL STRUCTURES THAT FACILITATE EVERYONE'S PARTICIPATION INCLUDING, WHEN POSSIBLE, OFFERING CHILDCARE AT MEETINGS AND EVENTS, FINDING WAYS TO REACH OUT TO THOSE WHO MIGHT BE IMMERSSED IN KINSHIP DUTIES, AND AIDING THOSE WITH BUSY WORK SCHEDULES DUE TO MULTIPLE JOBS.

\* MONITORS AND RESPONDS TO SEXISM, RACISM, CLASSISM, AND HOMOPHOBIA AS THEY MAY BE MANIFESTED INTERNALLY, INCLUDING HAVING DIVERSE ROLES IN PROJECTS SUITABLE TO PEOPLE WITH DIFFERENT SITUATIONS.

THE IOPS VISION TROUBLES ME - IS IT SOCIALIST OR ANTI-SOCIALIST?



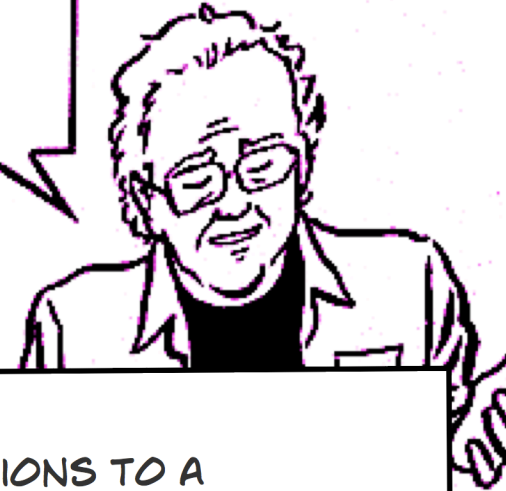
FOR MOST PEOPLE "SOCIALISM" IS PRIMARILY AN ECONOMIC LABEL THAT LEAVES CULTURE, KINSHIP, AND POLITICS TO REFLECT ECONOMIC DICTATES. A STATE OPERATES ABOVE THE POPULACE AND "OWNS" THE ECONOMY IN WHICH ABOUT 20% OF THE WORKFORCE DOES EMPOWERING WORK AND 80% OBEYS DICTATES FROM ABOVE. IN THIS SENSE OF THE WORD "SOCIALISM" IOPS IS ANTI-SOCIALIST BECAUSE IOPS SPECIFICALLY SEEKS CULTURAL, KIN, AND POLITICAL AS WELL AS ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND BECAUSE IT REJECTS CLASS DIVISION AND POLITICAL DOMINATION.

FOR SOME PEOPLE, HOWEVER, "SOCIALISM" MEANS A SOCIETY IN WHICH ALL CITIZENS CONTROL, THEIR OWN LIVES, ENJOY A FAIR SHARE OF SOCIAL BENEFITS AND CARRY A FAIR SHARE OF SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND OPERATE WITHOUT HIERARCHIES OF WEALTH, POWER, AND STATUS CONVEYING ADVANTAGES TO SOME AND DEBITS TO OTHERS.

IN THIS SECOND SENSE, IOPS IS SOCIALIST BECAUSE IOPS SEEKS INSTITUTIONS THAT REALLY DELIVER ALL THESE BENEFITS AND MORE.

WHY SHOULD I JOIN? I SEEK ACTION, NOT ORGANIZATION.

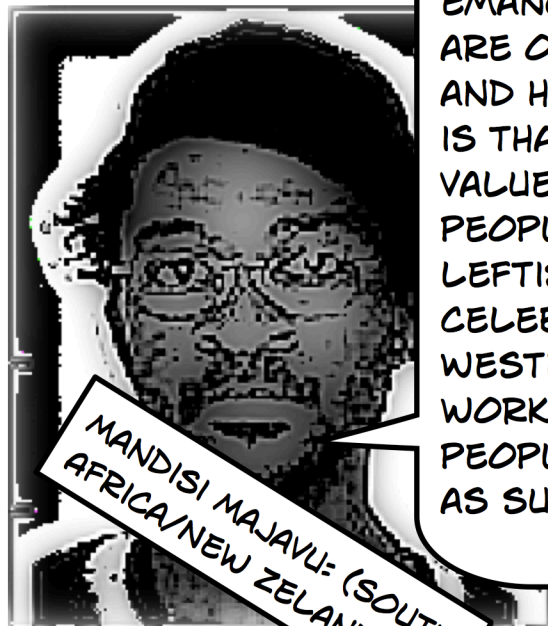
ORGANIZATION IS NOT ANTI-ACTION. ORGANIZATION CAN GIVE ACTION SHARED CLARITY, COLLECTIVE SUPPORT, INFORMED FOCUS, AND THE LESSONS OF ACCUMULATED WISDOM. IT IS ABOUT INCREASING THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE PREPARED TO ACT AND FACILITATING THEIR DOING SO TOGETHER.



### PREBIRTH OF IOPS

IN 2011, Z PUT UP A POLL ASKING PEOPLES REACTIONS TO A HYPOTHETICAL ORGANIZATION WITH VARIOUS AIMS AND OTHER FEATURES SPECIFIED. THE RESPONSE FROM ABOUT 4,000, OVER 95% OF WHOM SAID THEY WOULD EITHER JOIN IMMEDIATELY OR AS SOON AS THEY HAD CONFIDENCE IT REALLY WAS GOING TO BE WHAT IT CLAIMED, PROVIDED MOTIVATION AND HOPE. INSPIRED BY THAT, THOSE MOST EAGER ADOPTED THE CONTENT OF THE POLL AS A GUIDING DOCUMENT FOR ESTABLISHING AN INTERIM PROCESS OF DEVELOPING A NEW ORGANIZATION.

IOPS HAS A POTENTIAL OF BECOMING ONE OF THE FEW EMANCIPATORY SPACES FOR INTERNATIONALISTS WHO ARE OPPOSED TO SECTARIANISM AND, AUTHORITARIAN AND HIERARCHICAL STRUCTURES MY HOPE FOR THE IOPS IS THAT IT WILL GROW AND BECOME A FORUM THAT TRULY VALUES AND APPRECIATES THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF PEOPLE OF COLOR, AS WELL AS WOMEN. FAR TOO MANY LEFTIST ORGANISATIONS FALL INTO THE TRAP OF SOLELY CELEBRATING THE WORK OF WHITE MEN THINKERS AND WESTERN THINKERS, WHILE, ON THE OTHER HAND, THE WORK OF PEOPLE OF COLOR AND THE EFFORTS OF PEOPLE FROM THE "THIRD WORLD" IS EITHER REGARDED AS SUBPAR OR HELD WITH DISDAIN AND CONTEMPT.



MANDISI MAJAVU: (SOUTH AFRICA/NEW ZEALAND)





PREETI PAUL (UK)



OCCUPATIONS AND PROTESTS FROM LONDON TO MADRID, CAIRO TO NEW YORK HAVE ROCKED THE WORLD - CHALLENGING CONCEPTIONS ON THE LEFT THAT WE DO NOT HAVE THE NUMBERS OR SUPPORT TO WIN A MORE JUST AND EGALITARIAN WORLD. AND, THROUGH MANY CREATIVE DIRECT ACTIONS, CHALLENGED CONCEPTIONS THAT WE - THE GLOBALISED YOUTH - ARE PASSIVE, SELF-INTERESTED, CONSUMER CITIZENS AS WE, INSTEAD, HIGHLIGHT THE WAYS IN WHICH THE SEEDS OF A BETTER FUTURE ARE EMBODIED IN THE PRESENT. IOPS HAS CREATED A SPACE IN WHICH WE CAN ALL COME TOGETHER, CONNECT, SHARE EXPERIENCES, AND ORGANIZE TOGETHER IN OUR JOINT STRUGGLE FOR A BETTER WORLD. I HOPE TO CONNECT WITH YOU ON THE SITE AS WE SHARE OUR EXPERIENCES, THOUGHTS, IDEAS AND JOURNEYS - PERSONAL AND POLITICAL."

Revol  
revolution



I'm Feeling Lucky

## WHAT CAN PEOPLE DO NOW TO BE CONSTRUCTIVELY INVOLVED IN IOPS?

THE FIRST STEP IS TO SIGN UP, SEND A EMAIL TO [INFO@IOPSOCIETY.ORG](mailto:INFO@IOPSOCIETY.ORG) OR

VISIT [WWW.IOPSOCIETY.ORG](http://WWW.IOPSOCIETY.ORG) AND FILL OUT THE MEMBER FORM. \*TO BE SURE YOU WANT TO DO THIS, AND THAT IT IS APPROPRIATE FOR YOU AND THE ORGANIZATIONAL EFFORT, EXAMINE THE ORGANIZATIONAL DESCRIPTION OF GOALS, STRUCTURE, ETC. IF YOU STILL HAVE QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE SEND US A MESSAGE: [INFO@IOPSOCIETY.ORG](mailto:INFO@IOPSOCIETY.ORG).

\*IF YOU DECIDE TO DO SO, PLEASE ENTER YOUR EMAIL, A PASSWORD YOU CHOOSE, AND PLEASE ALSO UPLOAD A PHOTO AND BIO.

CURRENTLY, IOPS IS IN AN INTERIM STAGE, AND BY JOINING IOPS YOU BECOME AN INTERIM MEMBER. A CONVENTION, OR SERIES OF CONVENTIONS, WILL BE PLANNED WITHIN THE NEXT YEAR, FOR MEMBERSHIP TO DETERMINE THE ORGANIZATION'S DEFINITION IN MORE DETAIL.

THE INTERIM INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR A PARTICIPATORY SOCIETY (IOPS) WAS LAUNCHED IN 2012 WITH THE AIM OF PROPELLING ACTIVISM FOR WINNING A NEW WORLD.



IOPS IS STRUCTURED AS A BOTTOM-UP, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION. BY MID 2012, IOPS HAD OVER 2500 MEMBERS IN 85 COUNTRIES, COMMUNICATING IN 10 LANGUAGES.

**WWW.IOPSOCIETY.ORG**

IOPS STRIKES THE RIGHT CHORDS, AND IF THE OPPORTUNITIES IT OPENS ARE PURSUED WITH SUFFICIENT ENERGY AND PARTICIPATION, IT COULD CARRY US A LONG WAY TOWARDS UNIFYING THE MANY INITIATIVES HERE AND AROUND THE WORLD AND MOLDING THEM INTO A POWERFUL AND EFFECTIVE FORCE.



**CHLOMSKY**

ART FROM: TIM SIMMONS, BANSKY, REPRODUCE AND REVOLT.