

Here are some recent papers, reports and videos regarding the ongoing genocide in Gaza

May 19th 2025

Press release

## Joint statement from the leaders of the United Kingdom, France and Canada on the situation in Gaza and the West Bank

- English
- \_\_\_\_\_

We strongly oppose the expansion of Israel's military operations in Gaza. The level of human suffering in Gaza is intolerable. Yesterday's announcement that Israel will allow a basic quantity of food into Gaza is wholly inadequate. We call on the Israeli Government to stop its military operations in Gaza and immediately allow humanitarian aid to enter Gaza. This must include engaging with the UN to ensure a return to delivery of aid in line with humanitarian principles. We call on Hamas to release immediately the remaining hostages they have so cruelly held since 7 October 2023.

The Israeli Government's denial of essential humanitarian assistance to the civilian population is unacceptable and risks breaching International Humanitarian Law. We condemn the abhorrent language used recently by members of the Israeli Government, threatening that, in their despair at the destruction of Gaza, civilians will start to relocate. Permanent forced displacement is a breach of international humanitarian law.

Israel suffered a heinous attack on October 7. We have always supported Israel's right to defend Israelis against terrorism. But this escalation is wholly disproportionate.

We will not stand by while the Netanyahu Government pursues these egregious actions. If Israel does not cease the renewed military offensive and lift its restrictions on humanitarian aid, we will take further concrete actions in response.

We oppose any attempt to expand settlements in the West Bank. Israel must halt settlements which are illegal and undermine the viability of a Palestinian state and the security of both Israelis and Palestinians. We will not hesitate to take further action, including targeted sanctions.



We strongly support the efforts led by the United States, Qatar and Egypt to secure an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. It is a ceasefire, the release of all remaining hostages and a long-term political solution that offer the best hope of ending the agony of the hostages and their families, alleviating the suffering of civilians in Gaza, ending Hamas' control of Gaza and achieving a pathway to a two-state solution, consistent with the goals of the 18 June conference in New York co-chaired by Saudi Arabia and France. These negotiations need to succeed, and we must all work towards the implementation of a two-state solution, which is the only way to bring long-lasting peace and security that both Israelis and Palestinians deserve, and ensure long-term stability in the region.

We will continue to work with the Palestinian Authority, regional partners, Israel and the United States to finalise consensus on arrangements for Gaza's future, building on the Arab plan. We affirm the important role of the High-level Two-State Solution Conference at the UN in June in building international consensus around this aim. And we are committed to recognising a Palestinian state as a contribution to achieving a two-state solution and are prepared to work with others to this end.

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-from-the-leaders-of-the-united-kingdo m-france-and-canada-on-the-situation-in-gaza-and-the-west-bank

UN relief chief welcomes limited Gaza aid resumption – but it's a 'drop in the ocean'





#### © UNFPA/Yasmeen Sous

Tom Fletcher said in a statement on Monday that nine UN trucks were cleared to enter the southern Kerem Shalom crossing earlier in the day.

"But it is a drop in the ocean of what is urgently needed...We have been reassured that our work will be facilitated through existing, proven mechanisms. I am grateful for that reassurance, and Israel's agreement to humanitarian notification measures that reduce the immense security threats of the operation."

#### 13 May 2024

Rafah exodus reaches 360,000 as UN underscores \$2.8 billion aid appeal for Gaza, West Bank



#### © UNRWA

Gazans are on the move again as Israeli forces intensify bombardments.

Nearly 360,000 people have fled Rafah in the last week amid continuing Israeli bombardment that has crippled humanitarian aid deliveries and is believed to have killed another UN aid worker, the UN agency for Palestinian refugees, UNRWA, said on Monday.



"Nearly 360,000 people have fled Rafah since the first evacuation order a week ago," the UN agency said in a post on X, referencing leafleting by the Israeli military ordering those in eastern Rafah to leave their shelters.

In another <u>alert</u>, <u>UNRWA</u> warned of ongoing "restricted humanitarian access" to and across the Gaza Strip that was now "a matter of life or death" for Gazans already suffering "relentless bombardments and food insecurity".

The development comes one week since Israel moved ahead with its military offensive in Rafah, seizing control of the Gaza side of the Rafah border crossing and Kerem Shalom crossing.

"We immediately and urgently need safe passage for humanitarian aid and workers," the UN agency insisted **amid fresh reports of more clashes and shelling in Jabalia refugee camp** in the north of the enclave.

"Bombardments and other evacuation orders have created more displacement and fear for thousands of families" in the north, UNRWA said. "There's nowhere to go. There's NO safety without a ceasefire."

The UN agency also reported on Monday that another staff member had been killed in Gaza, bringing the total number of staff killed in the war to 188.

The individual – a 53-year-old senior projects officer – was believed to have died in an Israeli strike in the central town of Deir Al-Balah after leaving Rafah. "He leaves behind a wife and four children," the agency said.

## Israeli minister calls for 'hellfire on makers of terrorism' in Gaza

Israeli Culture Minister Miki Zohar says no humanitarian aid should enter Gaza.

"The despicable murderers in Gaza deserve no humanitarian assistance from any civilian or military mechanism," Zohar said on X. "Only hellfire should be poured on the makers of terrorism until the last hostage returns from Gaza."

His comments come soon after Defence Minister Israel Katz reiterated that no aid convoys will be allowed inside the Strip as a tool to pressure Hamas.



A full blockade of humanitarian aid into the Strip has been ongoing since early March. The combination of bombs and a debilitating humanitarian situation is rapidly worsening conditions in Gaza.

Civilians in the enclave have been subjected to extreme food shortages and famine-like conditions throughout the war. Dozens of children have <u>died of starvation</u>, and countless others have succumbed to wounds or preventable illnesses during a deteriorating man-made humanitarian disaster.

# Gaza aid worker killings: One humanitarian still missing in mass grave



UN humanitarians and partners on Tuesday expressed deep shock at the killing of 15 colleagues on duty in southern Gaza by Israeli forces whose <u>remains were recovered on</u> <u>Sunday from a shallow grave</u> after a week-long rescue operation, noting that one worker is still missing.

The week-long rescue operation ended on Sunday 30 March with the recovery of the bodies of 15 humanitarian colleagues: eight from the Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS), six from the Palestinian Civil Defence (PCD) and the UNRWA worker.

The body of one more PRCS worker is still missing at the site, according to the International



Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), which on Monday repeated its calls for information from the Israeli military.

Available information indicated that the first team had been killed by Israeli forces on 23 March; the other emergency and aid crews were struck one after another over several hours as they searched for their missing colleagues, OCHA said.

High Commissioner for Human Rights Türk said in his statement that the discovery of the bodies buried next to their "clearly destroyed" vehicles was "deeply disturbing".

## "This raises significant questions with regard to the conduct of the Israeli army during and in the aftermath of the incident," he added.

https://news.un.org/en/story/2025/04/1161736

<u>PCHR Issues New Report: "Severed Bodies, Shattered Souls: Women in Gaza</u> <u>Victims of Genocide"</u>

Position Paper | Gaza's Healthcare Collapse: The Obstruction of Medical Evacuations from Gaza

Israeli Detention and Torture of Palestinian Medical Workers: Testimonies, Patterns, and Analysis

Documentary by Richard Sanders for <u>al-Jazeera</u> and <u>Double Down News</u>.

Sanders and his colleagues have gathered thousands of video clips posted by IDF soldiers on social media where they document and boast of their war crimes. If you are going to to watch one video about what Israeli soldiers are doing in Gaza, watch this one.

Here is an abstract with commentaries by Richard Sanders:

Here is the complete documentary:



On March 13th 2025 The United Nations Human Rights Council published a thorough report exposing the Israeli military's systematic sexual violence and rape against male and female Palestinian civilians since October 7th 2023. The report discloses that Israeli soldiers systematically are being ordered to commit these acts by their commanding officers, and that hardly any actions have been undertaken by the Israeli authorities to bring the perpetrators of this violence to justice.

Western media have been conspicuously silent on this topic and have hardly covered this report at all.

Here, as examples of its findings, are point 120 and 124 from the report:

120. In at least two cases documented by the Commission, victims needed medical treatment and/or surgery due to the injuries caused by rape. In one case, a detained Palestinian man was raped after he was transferred from Ofer prison to Sde Teiman detention facility. According to an indictment submitted to an Israeli military court, the man was physically abused by five soldiers, reservists in Unit 100, during a search at Sde Teiman prison. The men, including the commander of the team, kicked the victim and hit him with a baton and tasered him in the head. A baton was also inserted in his mouth and a dog was used to intimidate the victim during the assault. The assault resulted in the fracture of several of the victim's ribs and a punctured lung. The victim was also stabbed in the rectum with a sharp object. The victim's rectum was raptured due to the assault, and he required surgery to the rectum. Following the assault, the victim was required to use a stoma bag due to the gravity of the injuries. A video filming the assailants were taken by a soldier.

124. Female detainees were also subjected to sexual assault and harassment in military and Israel Prison Service facilities, as well as threats to their lives. The sexual assault and harassment included kicking the women's genitals, touching their breasts, attempting to kiss them, and threats of rape. One female detainee interviewed by the Commission said that a soldier threatened to gang rape her, kill her and burn her children. The soldier asked her: "How do you want us to rape you? one by one or all together?" The victim was also denied access to her lawyer once she had informed him of the rape threat. In one case reported to the



Commission, a woman was threatened with sexual assault in front of her husband while detained in Hasharon prison. One soldier reportedly unzipped his pants and threatened to make the woman sit on his lap while another soldier commented on her breasts. The woman, who had given birth two months prior to her detention, was reportedly spat in her face by the soldiers and beaten repeatedly until she fainted.

From the hearings:

Below is a link to the whole report

https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/hrbodies/hrcouncil/sessions-regular/ses sion58/a-hrc-58-crp-6.pdf

To device a solution, it is necessary first to define the problem, and to do that we must go back in time to the origin of the problem. So we will start this analysis with a brief history of the events that led us to were we are today.

## Palestine as a British Protectorate

As a consequence of the fall of the Ottoman Empire after the second world war, Palestine became a British Protectorate from 1917 to 1947. The British ruled over Palestine with harsh methods, like they did in India and other parts of the British empire. So when the indigenous population revolted in 1936 to fight for the country's independence, the uprising was brutally repressed by the British military and police forces, resulting in an estimated 10 percent of the adult male Palestinian Arab population either killed, wounded, imprisoned or exiled. Another result of the unsuccessful revolt was that it caused the British Mandate to give crucial support to pre-state Zionist militars like the Haganah, which received military training from the British that benefited them later in the ethnic cleansing of the indigenous population from Palestine in 1947 and subsequent war against the Arab League in 1948.



## Jewish Mass Emigration to a Zionist Settler Colonial Project in Palestine

As Jews were being expelled from Europe in the beginning of the 20th century, especially from Russia and Eastern Europe, western European countries and the US started to impose restrictions on Jewish immigration. At the same time Jews were encouraged to emigrate to Palestine. The British Foreign Secretary Arthur Balfour, author of the *Balfour Declaration* announcing in 1927 Britain's support for the establishment of a "national home for the Jewish people", was also a fervent antisemite who in his time as prime minister passed legislation (the Aliens Act in 1905) restricting Jews from entering Great Britain. Balfour had personally delivered passionate speeches about the imperative to restrict the wave of Jews fleeing the Russian Empire from entering Britain. Balfour's and Britain's support for the new Zionist settler colonialist project in Palestine must be seen in the light of these historical facts, not the least because it shows that Zionism and Antisemitism coexisted from the very beginning.

Being barred from entering Britain, USA and many other western countries, Jewish refugees started to emigrate in large numbers to Palestine, where there were no restrictions on immigration and they were welcomed by a fast growing Jewish expat community.

## The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestinians: The Nakba

The Nakba, which means "catastrophe" in Arabic, refers to the mass displacement and dispossession of Palestinians, from December 1947 through 1948, during the Arab-Israeli war. Before the Nakba, Palestine was a multi-ethnic and multi-cultural society where Muslims, Christians and Jews lived peacefully together for several centuries. However, the conflict between Arabs and Jews intensified in the 1930s with the steep increase in Jewish immigration and with the Zionist movement aiming to establish a Jewish state in Palestine.

Having heard horror stories from Europe, many Palestinians had sympathy for the arriving Jewish refugees fleeing from the Nazi regime in Germany, and took them in to live with them in their own homes. For a while Jewish immigrants bought land for their communities, but as the inflow of new refugees increased, as the Zionist idea of a Jewish majority state took hold, and as the military capacity of the Jewish minority increased, the idea of "capturing" land rather than buying land became more prevalent.

As World War 2 ended, a fatigued Britain toned down its imperial ambition, pulled out of India and decided to leave the "problem of Palestine" to the newly established United



Nations, which at the time consisted of 51 nations. UN devised a Partition Plan for Palestine documented in its Resolution 181 on December 2nd 1947. The plan was for a partition into two independent states, a Jewish state comprising of 56.47 percent of the land, and an Arab state comprising of 42.88 percent of the land, with a special regime for the city of Jerusalem. People could decide which state they wanted to live in and move to that state, but no one should be forcibly displaced, and religious preferences should be respected regardless of in which state one wished to live. As we now know, this plan was never to be realized.







The Palestinians rejected the partition plan which would leave them with less than half of their original territory and give most of their land to a Jewish minority of around 33 percent of the population, a large part of whom were recent immigrants. The Jews also rejected the partition plan, though not formally. Instead, Jewish militias started massacring Palestinian villages and cities to drive the indigenous population out in order to create a Jewish majority by diminishing the Arab populace. The massacres were conducted by the Jewish terrorist militias Irgun, Lehi and Haganah (which turned to terrorism after1945), and the first of a series of massacres to follow took place in Tirat Haifa, which was attacked by Irgun on December 11th 1947, just a few days after the UN Partition plan was announced. Wikipedia lists 48 such massacres and more than 400 villages that were emptied of non-Jews and mostly destroyed. The major Palestinian cities of Jaffa and Haifa were also subject to terrorism and violent expulsion of around 60-70 000 Palestinians each.

The Israeli historian Ilan Pappé gives a thorough presentation of the Nakba in his book "The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine". About 750 000 people, which amounted to two thirds of the non-Jewish population, were displaced in this period. The expulsion was exceptionally cruel – the Jewish militias would come at night, attach explosives to selected houses and blow them up with whole families sleeping inside them. Men down to teenagers were rounded up and summarily executed, women and girls down to the age of 16 years were raped, and those who survived had to give up their personal belongings, including jewelry and cash, before being forced at gunpoint onto buses and dumped in Gaza or sent walking, often barefoot, in the direction of the nearest border. Thus most of the refugees ended up in Jordan, Lebanon and Gaza. Mass graves were paved over and forgotten, destroyed villages were planted with imported pine trees, and Hebrew place names replaced the original Arabic place names.





The Israeli authorities have gone to great length to eradicate any trace of the Nakba, including prohibiting the use of the term in school text books and academic discourse. The Palestinians, however, have not forgotten *The Catastrophe*. Those who fled carried with them the keys to their homes, hoping one day to return, not knowing that the Israeli authorities made sure this would never happen, instead distributing their homes, furniture and personal belongings to Jewish immigrants.

## Further expulsion of Palestinians in the 1967 War

In the 1967 war, Israel occupied the entire territory of historical Palestine (and in addition areas in neighbouring Arab states). There was a second great exodus of Palestinian refugees – almost half a million. By 1970, according to expert demographic estimates, of about 3 million Palestinians, less than half lived within the borders of Palestine – about 400,000 as Israeli citizens, and about a million as inhabitants of the "occupied territories" of the West Bank and Gaza. Of the remaining 1,6 million, about 800,000 were in Jordan, 600,000 in Syria and Lebanon, and the remaining 200,000 scattered in other countries.



## International Law, the UN and the Right of Return

Based on a draft resolution presented by Great Britain, the United Nations General Assembly on 11 December 1948 passed resolution 194 (III) which, in paragraph 11, categorically declared:

"... that the refugees wishing to return to their homes and live at peace with their neighbours should be permitted to do so at the earliest practicable date, and that compensation should be paid for the property of those choosing not to return and for loss of or damage to property which, under principles of international law or in equity, should be made good."

The UN further published a report in 1978 on the Right of Return of the Palestinian People, where it reiterated this right and also included the 300 000 Palestinians that were expelled from their homes in the 6-days war in 1967.

Diaspora advocacy has kept the Palestinian right of return alive in global discourse. The UKbased Palestinian Return Centre, for instance, has campaigned relentlessly for refugee rights, gaining special consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council in 2015. Meanwhile, the Global Campaign to Return to Palestine, operating across forty-five countries, drives worldwide events to ensure the issue remains on the international agenda. These efforts ensure the right of return remains not just a memory but a movement.

## The state of the Palestinian Population in 2025

There are around 3 million Palestinians living in the West Bank and around 2 million Palestinians living in Gaza. In addition there are about 6.1 million members of the Palestinian Diaspora in 2025, most of whom live in Jordan (3.2 million), Syria (630 000), Lebanon (400 000), and Chile (500 000).

Most of the population of Gaza are descendants of refugees from the massacres and forcible expulsions of 1948 and 1967. Gaza, which is about the size of East London or Oslo, is one of the most densely populated areas in the world – more densely populated than Tokyo. Israel controls its land borders, its sea borders, its air space and electronic space, and has established an elaborate system of surveillance of its population. Israel controls what goes into Gaza and what goes out of Gaza. Gaza has therefore been described as the *World's Largest Open Air Prison*, in later years as an *Open Air Concentration Camp*, and since the



beginning of what the ICJ in 2024 denoted as a "Plausible Genocide", an *Open Air Death Camp*.

Humanitarian organisations with a presence inn Gaza had for decades warned Israel that Gaza had become a pressure cooker that could explode any moment. Still, when the "explosion" occurred on October 7th 2023, Israel was taken completely by surprise.

## October 7th 2023 and the following "Plausible Genocide"



It is impossible to know what exactly

happened during the "Al-Aqsa Flood" operation conducted by 6 different Palestinian resistance organisations followed by between one and two thousand civilians when they breached the prison fences of Gaza on October 7th 2023. What we do know is that the Israeli authorities have lied extensively about what happened – propagating made up stories of 40 beheaded babies, babies in ovens, babies hanging from clothes lines, babies cut from their mothers' wombs etc – all later debunked. One baby was actually killed on that day, 9 month old Mila Cohen. An unborn baby also died after being shot in the leg through her mother's body. 1139 people were killed altogether on that day, of which around 300 were Israeli soldiers. We also know that the so called "Hannibal Directive" was applied on several instances that day, with explicit orders that no vehicle carrying hostages should be allowed to enter Gaza. Israeli helicopters and tanks fired on cars and houses, killing both Palestinians and Israelis. How many Israelis that were killed by "friendly fire" remains



unknown since Israeli authorities refuse to disclose the number. The fact that it is being kept secret makes it reasonable to conclude that the actual number is substantial. 70 burned out cars from the attacked music festival and several destroyed buildings adds to this, as the attacking Palestinians mostly were armed with light weapons unable to cause material damage on this scale.

The pilots fired on the fence, and also right inside the settlements. The pilots received information from the ground on mobile phones. In 4 hours, about 300 targets were attacked

Translated from the Israeli Hebrew Newspaper/Website Ynet

As of March 27th 2025 more than 50 000 identified Palestinians have been killed in Gaza, and it is estimated that the actual number of deaths exceeds 200 000. Around 60 percent of the killed are women and children, and doctors from all over the world working as volunteers in Gaza's hospitals report that preteen children are committed daily with bullet wounds to their heads and chests – killed or lethally wounded by Israeli snipers.

The 2 million or so left of the civilian population of Gaza are being herded from the North of Gaza to the South and back again like cattle, and more than 90 percent of the area's infrastructure is now more or less completely destroyed, including arable land, roads, houses and buildings, universities, schools and hospitals. The main question now is: With Gaza made unlivable, where can the population go?

## The One State Solution





Israel has inadvertently created a situation where the 2 million inhabitants of Gaza have nowhere left to go — except back to their original homes in Israel. This is now the only possible solution, short of bombing or starving 2 million people to death. Israel will have no other choice but to tear down the fences and let the indigenous population back into its country. And as it happens – this was always not only the best solution, but the *only* solution that can guarantee lasting peace and security for both the Jewish and the Muslim and the Christian population.

Jews, Muslims and Christians lived in peaceful coexistence for centuries before the Zionist settler-colonial project introduced the construed idea of a "pure" Jewish state contingent on a mandatory Jewish majority. And it can happen again. When Jews today can live in peace in Germany, of all places, reconciliation must be possible i Israel/Palestine as well. This makes sense on many levels – The Two State Solution has been vehemently opposed by Israel since 1947, and the area left for a separate Palestinian state is now nominal, making room only for small scattered "Bantustans". The One State Solution, on the other hand, based on the principle of equal rights for all citizens, proposes a single democratic state encompassing Israel, the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and Gaza, in which all citizens exercise their rights and fulfill their responsibilities as equal members of society.

This also aligns well with what PROUT considers sound principles for creating viable and sustainable *Socio-Economic Units* or in 20th century parlance: Nation States, which are: Shared economic problems, uniform economic potentialities, ethnic similarities, common sentimental legacy and similar geographical features. Palestinians and Jews are both semites that share a common history. Many, if not most of the Palestinians of today are



descendants of Jews who converted to Islam, and to a much lesser degree, to Christianity. The Ottoman Empire gave substantial tax reductions for Muslims, spurring large conversions from Judaism to Islam. (Ottoman Jews were obliged to pay several special taxes to the Ottoman authorities. These taxes included the cizye, the ispençe, the haraç, and the rav akçesi ("rabbi tax").)

## What are the chances for a One State Solution?

The establishment of one secular democratic state with equal rights for all citizens "From the River to he Sea", comprising the current Jewish, Christian and Muslim population may seem far fetched, or even impossible today, and in order for a One State Solution to win acceptance, a radical change of the Israeli regime and ideology must take place. This will most probably be effected by what Proutists like to call "Circumstantial Pressure", caused for example by the otherwise insolvable humanitarian situation in Gaza.

German Proutists marched the streets of German cities in the mid 1980s demonstrating for a United Germany. Mostly, they were laughed off the streets. As if the Soviet Union would ever let that happen! East Germany was cemented as a part of the Eastern Block, and Western Germany formed an integral part of the Western Block, and ne'er the two should meet. If anyone, at that time, had suggested that the Soviet Union a couple of years later would abandon Communism and disintegrate into different autonomous countries, they would most certainly have become the laughing stock of the day. And yet, that is exactly what happened. And this is why we should never give up fighting for the best solution for the Jewish and Arab population of Palestine.

#### REFERENCES

List of villages depopulated during the Nakba:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\_of\_towns\_and\_villages\_depopulated\_during\_the\_1947%E2 %80%931949\_Palestine\_war

Link to the UN Report on the Right of Return of the Palestinian People:

https://www.un.org/unispal/document/auto-insert-210170

Link to description of PROUT's criteria for the formation of socio-economic units:



#### https://proutglobe.org/2011/06/criteria-for-socioeconomic-groupification/

Capitalism has lifted the world from poverty straight into a global environmental crisis. And this is only one of the many reasons capitalism must be dismantled.

#### Capitalism creates Concentration of Wealth

Capitalism, as the name suggests, is founded on the idea that people with capital, a.k.a. capitalists, will invest their capital for ownership shares in businesses that then will create surplus value – profits – that will be returned to the capitalists as dividends.

There are several major problems connected to this idea. Businesses will have to produce for profits rather than to satisfy real needs. Indeed, many corporations state openly that the sole reason for their existence is to create profit for their shareholders. Useless, or even harmful products and services will be produced if they can be marketed and sold, leading to waste of resources, pollution and sometimes even physical and mental health problems. To maximize profits companies will strive to lower costs, which among other things leads to low income levels for workers, concentration of people in large cities, exploitation of resources from low cost countries etc.

Over time the system of investments inevitably leads to a concentration of wealth on fewer and fewer hands, as is amply seen today, where a handfull of individuals owns more than half of the world's population. And since material wealth by definition is finite, there is a clear and irrefutable link between wealth and poverty. All rich people have gained their wealth at the expense of poor people, no matter how much capitalist economists may try to obfuscate this fact.

There is an argument that economic growth increases the wealth of everybody, albeit disproportionally, and thus capitalism works to the benefit of all. There are two flaws in this argument: Firstly, the disproportionality is incrementally increasing over time, as proven by history, and secondly, relying on constant economic growth for redistribution to function means that capitalism has become a ponzi scheme: Without constant growth the system collapses.

#### Why economic growth is bad news

Capitalism's reliance on constant economic growth is environmentally catastrophic and is



the main reason we now face a global climate crisis and ever increasing levels of pollution of oceans, land and the air we breathe. With India's economic growth averaging over 7.5% in 2023, and China's economy growing at the rate of 5.2%, these two countries will have doubled the size of their economies in less than 10 and 14 years respectively.

The environmental impact of economic growth on this scale is tremendous, and no matter how much each individual tries to live as environmentally sustainable as possible, it can never offset the negative effects of economic growth. Governments and "Green" Parties will never be able to save the planet without abandoning capitalism. It's like telling everybody to help empty a boat of leaking water with their bare hands when there's a giant hole in the boat's hull. The only effect of this is that it will take a slightly longer time for the boat to sink. We have to plug the giant hole created by economic growth. And the only way to do this is by replacing capitalism with something better.

#### The need for new economic theory

Capitalism and Communism are old technologies originated in the 18th and 19th centuries. Like steam engines, they were great at their conception and useful up to a point in time, after which they became sub-optimal or flat out useless. Steam engines are not a good match for space travel, and Capitalism is not a good match for a globalized, online real time economy. We need new economic ideas, and although one can get the impression that there has hardly been original systemic economic thinking since the 1850s, alternative theories do exists – PROUT being one of them.

PROUT remediates the major defects of Capitalism by altering and improving upon its core concepts. In place of a system where rich investors enrich themselves further by investing their capital for profit, PROUT advocates that no one is allowed to own shares in companies in which they themselves don't work. This effectively dismantles the capitalist system of investments, replacing it with a system where goods and services are produced to satisfy real needs rather than to create profit.

Combined with PROUT's first principle, that no individual will be allowed to amass wealth without the clear approval of society, this leads to an economy where wealth is more evenly and justly distributed, where there is no incentive to "manufacture needs" to sell useless products, thus lowering pollution levels and global warming, and where political democracy is replaced by economic democracy so that people regain control over their own economies.

Several recent events illustrate the need for a World Government. Firstly, we have an



environmental crisis situation that demands global cooperation and coordination. We simply cannot afford rogue actors, like the Trump/Musk regime in the US unilaterally opting out of all environmental engagements, for whatever reasons they chose to give. Secondly, we just had a global pandemic, where crucial global coordination was impeded by mutual distrust and vaccines where very unevenly distributed between countries due to a lack of a global distributive authority, Thirdly, we have a global political anarchy where large states are occupying smaller states at will, resulting in catastrophic loss of human lives and unimaginable suffering, e.g. in Ukraine and Palestine. These three matters alone beg for a global authority – and this time, one with with real economic and military power.

After two disastrous world wars, institutions and laws were established in an attempt to stop devastating global wars and atrocities from reoccurring. The United Nations, the Geneva Convention and later, the ICJ, and ICC were among the most prominent of these efforts. And in many instances the new "Rule Based World Order" had an impact and was respected. It stated that countries could not any longer acquire land by occupation, prisoners of war had to be treated humanely and genocide was flatly outlawed. However, with no centralized authority put in place, it would be up to individual states to comply with or disregard these measurements. Anarchy remained the global ruling principle. And as has been amply illustrated by current events, "Might is Right" is back in full swing and about to shred the "Ruled Based World Order" to useless bits and pieces. The world needs a global authority like never before.

The world needs a global authority in much the same way that a country needs a national authority. In the era before national authorities became the norm, there were frequent wars going on between different parts of most countries. The south went to war against the north, and the west fought the east. In my home country, Norway, local chieftains regularly looted their neighbour communities with impunity, and for a long time any individual (at that time implying men) could legally claim the right to another individual's property – including his farm and wife – by challenging him to a "Holmgang" – a kind of a rough manto-man precursor to the later, more civilized "Duel". The winner then legally acquired the right to the loser's property – not unlike what the ruling principles of global affairs where like up until the end of World War 2, and what we now sadly again seem to be reverting to.

It is imperative that we remind ourselves that we established the Ruled Based World Order precisely because we no longer wanted the uncertainty and anguish of the "Might is Right" regime that preceded it. But still today, when a country tries to invade and pillage another country, there is no international body to stop it from doing so, except when other countries form alliances that can deter or actively fight such breaches of international law. And when the perpetrator is a global super power or a regional hegemon, there is little to nothing in



place to stop them. Thus we see Ukraine still fighting the attempted Russian invasion after three years of aggression and senseless destruction of lives and infrastructure. And we see Israel bombing Gaza to smithereens, killing civilians en masse with impunity, fully supported and militarily supplied by USA, Britain and Germany. The UN will regularly protest, write reports and issue resolutions – all to no avail. Because the UN has no military power to back these resolutions up.

### PROUT's vision of a World Government

From this it becomes evident that a global authority, a global coordinating body, must be accompanied by a global military force. And this force must be stronger than the military force of any individual country. This is the only way to secure global peace and security. The greatest, or rather the only real impediment to establishing such a World Government backed by a Global Militia is according to P.R. Sarkar, the propounder of the PROgressive Utilisation Theory (PROUT), the unwillingness of local leaders to give up the necessary amount of power to the global body. However, as we have seen in other cases, relevant circumstantial pressure may provide them with no other viable option. Only then can a new, *enforcable* Rule Based World Order be established.

### Political Democracy, Economic Democracy - Choose One

PROUT's vision of a World Government is aligned with its analytic understanding of democracy – splitting the term into two mutually exclusive components: Political Democracy and Economic Democracy. Why mutually exclusive?

Political Democracy implies Representative Democracy, where major economic decision making takes place far removed from the needs and interests of local economies. Bluntly put, ordinary citizens have practically no influence over matters pertaining to the economies of their local societies, which is now solely in the hands of political representatives, a role more and more delegated to professional politicians ever more remote from the citizens in their constituencies. "Representative Parliamentarism" is hardly representative anymore, as elected politicians may never have had another job, and may never have lived in the geographic area they are supposed to represent. Add to this the facts that campaign promises are not legally binding, campaign contributions play a major role in getting elected, and that there is no obligatory qualifications needed to run for election, and we have a political system far remote from the original Greek idea of Democracy. Once elected, candidates can pretty much do as they please until the next election. Ordinary citizens have no say whatsoever over their actions, which rather reflect the interests of the major campaign donors.



Economic Democracy, on the other hand, places this control back in the hands of the citizens. The inner workings and details of this is the topic of another article, suffice it here to say that as long as elected representatives wield this power, citizens do not.

#### The anatomy of a World Government

A world government with executive, legislative, and judicial functions and an administrative apparatus has actually never existed. What, then, may a World Government look like? PROUT's vision entails a two-chambered parliament, populated based on a selecto-elective system where only selected candidates are eligible to be elected for seats. The selective process would be based on a combination of personal qualities, competence and capacity. The elective process would be based on a combination of geographic and demographic criteria.

Sarkar writes the following on the topic, where *federations* refers to the individual countries and *the confederation* refers to the World Government:

In the initial stage, the world government will be a law-making body and the different federations will have executive powers to implement the laws passed by the world government. The federations may or may not fully materialize the laws of the confederation but they must not go against them. The confederation will, however, have some executive power for limited and defined purposes, namely, for maintaining inter-federal peace and tranquillity and for settling intraplanetary disputes. This will mean the maintenance of a world militia under the full control of the confederation.

- Prabhar Rainjan Sarkar

### The Sadvipra Leader

Sarkar coined the Sanskrit term **Sadvipra** to denote a true (*sad*) intellectual (*vipra*) with moral strength, courage, competence and fighting spirit – the leader the world so desperately needs at the moment. Sadvipras will be continually judged by their actions rather by their rhetoric, and only people with these qualities will be fit to be elected to the bodies of a World Government. The idea that members of parliament must possess certain qualifications is not new. In Thailand, for example, you must have a Masters Degree to be eligible for a seat in the parliament.



PROUT emphasizes first and foremost the moral qualities of members of a world government, as history is abundant with examples of the futility of establishing a just governmental body bereft of moral leadership. Any form of governmental structure can be exploited by the immoral, as we have recently seen in the de facto coup d'état by Elon Musk and Donald Trump after the US election in 2024. As this article is penned it is still early 2025, and US democratic institutions are being demolished and substituted by authoritarian, loyalist structures at an unprecedented pace.

Advocates for a World Government







Albert Einstein grew increasingly convinced that the world was veering off course. He arrived at the conclusion that the gravity of the situation demanded more profound actions and the establishment of a "world government" was the only logical solution. In his "Open Letter to the General Assembly of the United Nations" of October 1947, Einstein emphasized the urgent need for international cooperation and the establishment of a world government.



In the 1990s and 2000s, the rise of global trade and the power of world organizations that govern it led to calls for a <u>parliamentary assembly</u> to scrutinize their activity. The <u>Campaign</u> for a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly was formed in 2007 by <u>Democracy Without</u> Borders to coordinate pro-UNPA efforts, which as of January 2019 has received the support of over 1,500 <u>Members of Parliament</u> from over 100 countries worldwide, in addition to numerous non-governmental organizations, <u>Nobel</u> and <u>Right Livelihood</u> laureates and heads or former heads of state or government and foreign ministers.



New research finds **overwhelming worldwide public support for a democratic global government** to tackle transnational challenges like climate change and peace

International majorities of people support establishing a democratic world government to tackle transnational issues such as climate change, peace, and poverty, according to new **research from Oxford's DPIR and Dublin City University.** 

In recent surveys on more than 42,000 respondents in 17 countries, representing more than half of the global population, the idea received high levels of support worldwide – from Australia, Canada, Colombia, France, and the UK, to China, Egypt, India, Kenya, and Russia.

Link to the study:

https://academic.oup.com/isq/article/68/3/sqae105/7732859?login=false