



Toward Democratic World Federation

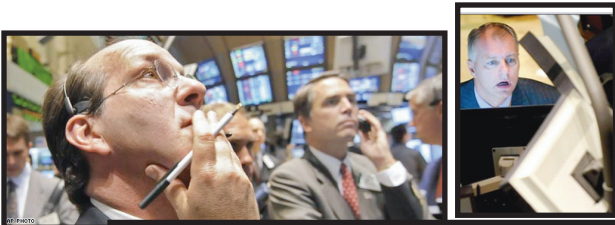
Publication of the Democratic World Federalists

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THE SKY IS FALLING!

by Colin Campbell of Berkeley



Well, not quite. Despite some of the images you may see while watching or reading the news,¹ the world will eventually right itself. The question we must soon start asking ourselves is *What will we do next?* While the global financial crisis is infinitely complex, it is clear that there were not enough regulations to prevent extensive risk-taking by companies playing with the world's money.

It is not just men in ties, staring at screens, who are grimacing; people in the entire world are suffering. All of Iceland's major banks have been nationalized, and the entire country is on the verge of declaring bankruptcy. Turkey is in trouble. China just cut its interest rate for the first time in six years. The list goes on.

A Central World Bank could have more ability to clamp down on this sort of over-speculation than the current national institutions. Placed in direct competition with other countries, national banks and reserves are tempted to take bigger gambles. This is not necessarily the cause of the current deregulatory-inflamed turmoil, but the current system is structured so that national institutions are making less-than-optimum decisions in order to edge out their neighbors.

The Single Global Currency Association identifies what a Central World Bank could accomplish, if managed properly.²

- Eliminate the direct and indirect transaction costs of trading from one currency to another.
- Eliminate the Balance of Payments/Current Account problems of all countries.
- Eliminate the risk of currency failure.
- Eliminate the uncertainty of changes in value due to exchange-caused fluctuations in currency value and the costs of hedging to protect against such fluctuations.
- Cause an increase in the value of assets for those countries currently afflicted with significant currency risk.
- Eliminate the misalignment of currencies.
- Utilize the seigniorage benefit and control of printing money for the operations of the global central bank and for public benefit.
- Eliminate the need for countries or monetary unions to maintain international reserves of other currencies.
- Reduce worldwide inflation to a planned low rate of approximately 2% and thereby ensure low loan interest rates.

There are no simple solutions to the world's current predicament, but crises are times to push for systemic change. Once the markets have stabilized, and they inevitably will, economists and policymakers worldwide must meet to discuss global solutions to this global dilemma.

1. Images courtesy of <http://sadguyonstradingfloors.tumblr.com>

2. www.singleglobalcurrency.org

Toward Democratic World Federation

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The Purposes and Objectives of Democratic World Federalists are:

A. To promote an understanding of the following principles:

Common Humanity

The people of the world, as interconnected members of a common humanity, must recognize that the well-being and safety of anyone should be of concern to everyone.

Global Problems & Benefits

The people are confronted by global problems, such as war and civil conflict, crimes against humanity and anarchy, large-scale poverty and disease, and degradation of the environment. These can be dealt with, and peace and the well-being of the people promoted, through enforceable world laws.

Sovereignty & Citizenship

The people, as sovereign citizens, are inherently endowed with the authority and the duty to govern themselves, either directly or through elected representatives, on all levels of society and ultimately the world. As citizens, they should respect the rule of law, which their civic participation creates and legitimizes.

Good Government The government of all political units must be open, democratic, and accountable to the people and have effective legislative, executive, and judicial branches, with checks and balances.

Federation Planet Earth, with unity in its diversity, requires a democratic, federal system of government, where problems from local to global are dealt with by governments at the appropriate level.

Constitution A world constitution with a declaration of rights should be promoted by any means possible, e.g., restructuring and democratizing the United Nations, federating a number of regional unions, expanding a community of democracies, or building a new set of institutions of government through a world convention.

B. To develop an organization/movement without borders and spread its message throughout the world via contacts with other civil-society organizations, educational institutions, the media, lawmakers, and the general public.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

CAMPAIGN FOR A UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY
4-5 November: **Steering Committee Meeting.** Brussels.

WORLD FEDERALIST MOVEMENT
6-8 November: **Council Annual Meeting.** The Hague.

WORLD ALLIANCE FOR TRANSFORMING THE UNITED NATIONS
10 November: **Planning and Strategy Meeting.** At WFM office, New York City.

UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS
10 December: 60th Anniversary of its adoption by the U.N. General Assembly in Paris.

DEMOCRATIC WORLD FEDERALISTS

18 January 2009: Winter 2009 Meeting of the Board of Directors. 12 pm, Brown-bag lunch; 1pm, meeting starts. Room 221, 55 New Montgomery St., SF. Directors, supporters, and others interested in participating, RSVP 415-227-4880 or dwfed@dwfed.org. Latecomers ring #225 at intercom by building's front door.

We Have a New Website Design!

www.dwfed.org

Thanks to Kathleen Bernock and Colin Campbell, the Democratic World Federalists has a new design and some new features. Check out the FAQ section, which provides responses to possible arguments against world federalism, and has pictures and quotes of promoters of world law, citizenship, and government.

See also how you can donate to us online.

We shall try and keep our site updated, so visit it often. And, of course, tell us what you think at: dwfed@dwfed.org

From the President's Desk

One Democratic World Federalist's Opinion

In October 2008, we appeared no closer to a world with real global laws and a government that could end wars and crimes against humanity and work for the benefit of the world's people. Some thought this could be achieved by the treaty-based United Nations after it was organized by the victors of World War II. However, in 1945 Emery Reves published *The Anatomy of Peace*, which inspired hundreds of thousands in many countries to start thinking beyond that new league toward a **democratic, federal system of government for our world**. Reves declared that worldviews based principally on capitalism, socialism, religion, and/or nationalism had failed to produce a peaceful and prosperous world after the First World War. Unfortunately, after the Second World War his lessons were lost on the politicians who came to power.

Even today the excesses of such *isms* as unregulated, speculative capitalism, Stalinism (in North Korea), militarism, religious extremism, and ultra-nationalism continue to prevent movement towards a peaceful and prosperous world. In place of "Deutschland ueber Alles!" when Germany had earlier invaded its neighbors, one heard "God's Chosen People!" as much of Palestine was invaded, occupied, and property confiscated; "Allah Akbar!" as followers of Wahhabism – the most reactionary of the Muslim sects -- destroyed lives and property; and "God Bless America!" as oil-rich Iraq was invaded and occupied.

Meanwhile, as a totalitarian regime continues to rule in northern Korea, militarists usurp once democratic Burma, Sudan's despots give free rein to the Jinjaweed to rape and slaughter in Darfur; the list goes on and on.

Failed or flawed states – including the "Democratic Republic" of Congo, Somalia, and potentially even Afghanistan and Pakistan – continue to be the source of despair for their people.

And, while expecting other countries to abide by international treaties, the U.S.A. in recent years has arbitrarily broken a number, including the Geneva Conventions on the treatment of non-combatants and prisoners of war. In 2005 the International Court of Justice (the World Court) ordered new hearings for Mexicans placed on death row in the U.S. without being allowed to contact their consular officials. (At the same time, the U.S. insists that Americans abroad have a right to contact American consular offices – as I, a former Consular Officer, should know.) Pouting over this decision, the Bush-Cheney Administration withdrew from the protocol that gave the court jurisdiction to hear such disputes. The Administration even showed its contempt for the U.N. by appointing a U.N.-bashing neo-con to represent it.

Meanwhile, Cheney, Rumsfeld and the neo-cons of the Project for the New American [and Israeli] Century in touch with hardliners in Israel, having apparently exhausted their efforts to get the U.S. or Israel to attack Iran before the end of the Bush-Cheney era, have been rattling sabers by deploying elements of a missile "defense" system in Poland and the Czech Republic, causing Russia to develop its own intercontinental ballistic missiles.

Most people around the world are yearning for peace and prosperity. However, the Bush-Cheney Administration's policies -- in no small measure its promoting and pouring money into wars -- have been a major factor in the current economic crisis. It has also been pushing deals with other countries for weapons, including tanks, fighter jets, predator aircraft, even warships (i.e., instru-

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The War of the World

by Niall Ferguson

reviewed by Bob Neumann of Pescadero

In *The War of the World: History's Age of Hatred* (London: Allen Lane, 2006), Ferguson traces in great gory detail 20th Century conflict – sparing no side the dark, terrible acts done in the name of country. The book is riveting and reflects deep scholarship and good guesses as to the whys and wherefores. It is painful to read – the disasters that nations contrived for themselves as well as the harm they did to others.

What Ferguson portrays is the deep, desperate need for world government. Being a good historian, he doesn't call for it, only providing the historic story of "the bloodiest century in history" and remarking in his last sentence that the causes of war "are forces that stir within us still," i.e., he doesn't think mankind learned a hell of a lot.

His incisive history of the 20th Century forms a superb backdrop for World Federalists' ideas and ideals – painfully so. I highly recommend it. We are on the right road – sadly the world is out of step, but then there is tomorrow and we may wise up to the gravity of the myth of sovereign nations, nuclear weapons, and deep ecological problems. A democratic world government, then, may seem like a great idea to deal with the multiple problems of the world and end wars as we have known them.

ments for killing a lot of people – ultimately many innocent civilians, men, women and children). In fact, a large percentage of U.S. foreign "aid" (which goes overwhelmingly to two countries with questionable human rights records) is disproportionately for use in warfare rather than for human development.

In the absence of any other legitimate political entity – such as a democratic global government – the U.S. has taken upon itself to police the world with close to a thousand military bases and several continental commands. It is even planning nation-building missions. But should this be the responsibility of just one country, one empire?

Furthermore -- shades of Srebrenica -- United Nations peacekeepers have been targeted by anti-U.N. militants in war zones, from Baghdad (where they blew up the U.N. office) to eastern Congo (where refugees stoned the U.N. compound, as government forces were fleeing from rebel troops).

We need a democratic world federation for the immediate future because global warming, poverty, and disease -- which no single country alone or allied with others is able to overcome -- continue to worsen. And also long-range, for astronomers calculate that asteroid Apophis has a chance (albeit 1 in 45,000) of striking Earth on my wife's birthday, 13 April in 2036.

Still, there are some hopeful incremental developments. Forty-three years after separation, in Britain the Association of World Federalists reunited with Federal Union (the UK section of the Union of European Federalists), and former Premier Edouard Balladur of France – which had secretly proposed a union with Britain in 1956 -- speaks on "The Urgency of a Union of Europe with America."

As we went to press, an extremely important election of a new U.S. President was taking place. Under the Bush-Cheney-Rumsfeld-neo-con foreign policy the moral reputation of our country had hit bottom. What the U.S. and the world need is positive change, where instead of denigrating international institutions, the opportunity to build democratic global ones must be seized. Fortunately, Barack Obama was elected President. Let's encourage him to provide the beneficial leadership that the U.S., and the world, need. -- *John O. Sutter*

What Democratic World Government Colleagues Have to Say

World Citizens Party Endorsed Obama

The Steering Committee (SC) of the Massachusetts Branch of the **World Citizens Party (WCP)** endorsed **Barack Obama**, the Democratic Party nominee for the presidency of the United States of America. In giving this endorsement, the SC is not unmindful of the important values other political parties embody and brought to bear on our discussions during this election cycle for the presidency; nor is it unaware of the troubling position nominee Obama has taken in respect of the conflict in Afghanistan. On balance, however, given the challenges the United States and the world face, the SC views Mr. Obama as the candidate who offers the most promising prospects of dealing with those challenges and who most closely approximates the values and aspirations of the WCP.

The WCP takes the position that, in the interlinked lives and destiny of all the people of the world, there are issues and problems that cannot be properly addressed unless they be at a global level. The current credit and financial crisis is but one example of the truth of this position; other examples are the crises related to climate, the environment, nuclear weapons proliferation, energy, population, public health, poverty, water, war (including the genocidal type), the trans-border movement of peoples, and cultural intolerance. As such, **a federal, democratic world government should be created.**

Barack Obama is not calling for a democratic world government, but [simply] creating institutions like such a government will not, alone, address the problems just mentioned. Certain principles and values must, as well, become part of our political culture. It is in those values and principles that we find a basis for the endorsement.

We cannot have a democratic world government, unless we seek to empower the ordinary citizens of the world. Barack Obama has consistently espoused the position of a bottoms-up, community-organizing approach to political life, instead of the top-down model which so many prefer. Neither can we hope to have a democratic world government, unless we are comfortable with and have a respect for human diversity. Not only is Mr. Obama comfortable with that diversity, he venerates and seeks it, and, consistent with our own Declaration of Independence, has a "decent respect" for the opinions of humankind. So much so that, in the pursuit of peace and human reconciliation, he is prepared to "risk the prestige of the Office of the President" to speak, without precondition, to the most value-threatening and redoubtable enemy. Only such respect can invite the type of global collaboration we will need to confront the global problems we face.

We find other features to his positions which commend him to our endorsement: he is a supporter of the rule of law, of the body of elementary social, political, economic and moral norms we call human rights, of the integrity of the environment (human and non-human), as is evidenced by his commitments to renewable energy, of health care as a right, and of nuclear non-proliferation, as manifested by his work in the Senate on this issue. No federal, world democratic government can survive without embodying social justice, especially a social justice that seeks to deal with poverty at the local, national, and global levels. We think Barack Obama is committed to social justice.

World Patriot Awarded Nobel Peace Prize

On 10 October the Nobel Foundation announced that **Martti Ahtisaari**, former President of Finland, whom Democratic World Federalists called a World Patriot, had been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. He had served as Chairman of the International Crisis Group.

The Nobel committee commended Mr. Ahtisaari, 71, "for his important efforts, on several continents and over more than three decades, to resolve international conflicts."

Here is the Summer 2005 *T.D.W.F.*'s article on Mr. Ahtisaari:



On May 2004 the World Affairs Council of Northern California was having its annual conference at the Asilomar conference center, with the theme "Defining Leadership: The Role of the United States in the World."

Its most distinguished guest was Martti Ahtisaari, former President of the Republic of Finland, who spoke on "An Empire: Its Legitimacy and Responsibility." Later he questioned the concept of state-building (as in Bosnia, Kosovo, and now Iraq) by asking "Do we know what we are doing?" His message was strong and direct: Only through shared purpose and patient, consistent work by wide-based international organizations like the United Nations or the European Union can "failed states" be helped through their crises and towards stability and democracy.

His own experience has been extensive. Before his presidency, he had spent eight years as the Special Representative of the U.N. Secretary General, part as U.N. Under-Secretary General for Administration and Management, heading the work for independence for Namibia. In that complex task, he succeeded brilliantly.

His next decisive contribution was in Bosnia, in the former Yugoslavia, dealing with ethnic strife and dictatorial leaders like the Serb's Milosevic and the Croat's Tujman. He returned to the Balkans at the worst stage of the Kosovo crisis as the representative of the E.U. He faced Milosevic, who saw him as "an equal" -- president of a small, unaligned country -- and delivered the message that the ethnic cleansing had to stop, to which Milosevic agreed.

Another of Ahtisaari's jobs was helping in the tricky task of disarming the IRA in Northern Ireland.

And on 15 August 2005 the Indonesian government and the separatist leaders of Aceh (which had been an independent sultanate until 1908), after talks in Helsinki mediated by Ahtisaari, signed a peace agreement ending a 29-year conflict.

He continues crisis management work, especially in Central Asia and the Horn of Africa. Among his projects is the Helsinki Process, an important international forum co-chaired by the Finnish and Tanzanian foreign ministers, which seeks more balanced solutions to the problems of globalization ... Finns are valued as peacekeepers and skilled negotiators. Among them World Patriot Ahtisaari is the "crisis manager" par excellence.

Thinking Out Loud About Democratic World Federalism

by Dale Carrico, Lecturer in the Department of Rhetoric, University of California -- Berkeley

The expectations generated by the too-formal, too-insubstantial rhetoric of democracy of North Atlantic industrial societies are interminably prone to the eruption of education, agitation, and organization for actual popular democratization. So, too, expectations of prosperity arising from unsustainable cheap oil, gunboat diplomacy via the military base archipelago, and technodevelopmental exploitation are likewise interminably prone to the eruption of unassuageable social discontent the moment their beneficiaries are forced by changing circumstances to pay the real price (nonsubsidized costs, non-duressed costs, environmental costs, etc.) of these goods and privileges.

Global information and communication networks foreground the inequities of the North Atlantic postcolonial inter-national system of global governance to everyone within their reach, while disseminating the expectations of the beneficiaries of that system across the globe, exacerbating the vulnerability of that system beyond its capacity to accommodate. Where this system has not already failed, it is presently failing.

Now, violence is inevitable (as has always been the case whenever and wherever human plurality emerges), but since the tools of violence at the disposal of discontent are now capable of unprecedented destructive power it is crucial that we constrain its expression within the legitimacy of democratic governance, general welfare, and the provision (via legitimate coercion) of a legible space for the noncoercive adjudication of social disputes.

Democratic world federalism is indispensable to global social intercourse, as democratic government is indispensable at whatever scale social intercourse has taken up hitherto. Conventional NGOs cannot provide this legitimacy precisely because they are not democratically representative bodies, and neither can conventional states because the terrain on which the key problems are playing out (climate change, human rights violations, unfair trade, uneven development, weapons proliferation) is planetary and because too many of the crucial actors on the contemporary terrain are not national but networked.

It is crucial that global governance fund its activities through progressive taxation and then that it legitimize its taxation through legible representation and the substantiation of informed, nondressed consent and human rights culture. If this development does not occur, then corporate-militarism will continue to define the global political terrain instead and it is difficult to imagine that humanity will survive this state of affairs for long.

Corporate-militarism/neoliberal-neoconservative (e.g., "Free Trade") Globalization lacks the institutional intelligence to respond adequately to information that is not susceptible to proximate profitability (hence a tendency to short-term over long-term thinking, and hence a disastrous tendency to underestimate wider social costs and risks), nor to respond to the needs of technodevelopmental stakeholders who are not familiar or node-proximate (hence a tendency to disastrously exacerbate social discontent). In the emerging political terrain these inadequacies fatally encourage environmental collapse, incubate and facilitate genocidal violences, and produce the conditions in which WMD are ever more likely to be deployed.

What passes for "Free Trade" Globalization, then, is not just facile and flawed ideology, but it has come to represent an Existential Risk to human survival. Through our technology we have seen the earth from orbit and we can never again mistake a neighborhood or even a nation for the World. We know the problems of unsustainable consumption and extractive industry are problems we are all of us equally heir to, as we know that militarism is also always farcically parochial. **Through our technology we have seen the faces and heard the voices of people across the earth and we can never again reasonably deny that they are our peers and collaborators in the making of the World**, whatever nation or culture they hail from. We know they deserve a say in the public decisions that affect them, we know that we stand to benefit from the testimony of their experience and desire, we know that unless they have the standing of bearers of rights that our own standing is imperiled by its denial to them.

We know the world is not flat.

Only by tearing our technology from our hands, only by crushing the knowledge out of our bodies and brains could we "go back," whatever that would mean.

There is no choice but to embrace the planet that has become the World we live in.

There is violence coming, borne up on a deep and bloody tide of historical and ongoing violation and indifference that will demand its payment all too soon.

Constrain that violence in legitimate democratic governance, ameliorate it through the global administration of general welfare, compensate it with the magnificent bribe of secularization, a basic income guarantee, universal basic health care, lifetime education, therapy, and retraining, renewable energy, free software and subsidized peer-to-peer content and oversight provision, and maybe, maybe we'll make it through to the blessings of technoscientific emancipation technoprogressives more uniquely hope for, environmental remediation, superorganic foodstuffs, a longevity dividend, relative abundance from the nanoscale, and a nice space elevator and solar diaspora to give the restless a new frontier to pine for.

This was first published by the Institute for Ethics and Emerging Technologies on 18 September 2006. In response to comments, Carrico a year later went on to say: "Democratic World Federalism is not a matter of creating a Big Bad global tyrant or Great Good global angel to rule the planet. All that talk is error, mystification, and distraction. Democratic World Federalism is a matter of reforming institutions like the UN to make them more representative of and responsive to the people in whose names they deliberate; it is a matter of investing world courts with authority to enforce global environmental, human rights, labor, wartime standards; it is a matter of subsidizing cooperative monitoring of climate change, pandemics, tsunamis, weapons trafficking, human migrations, and so on..."

Sovereignty, Self-Government and Global Government

by John O. Sutter

Originally submitted to a contest in Stockholm then reproduced in the Winter and Spring/Summer 2002 issues of *T.D.W.F.*, this essay is now readily available at <http://globaldemo.org/library/965>.

Will Democracy Survive in the Globalization Era?

by Professor Lucio Levi of Torino

Democratic peace theory holds that democracies do not wage war against one another. Two false consequences are drawn from this theory. The first is that the spread of democracy to every state would in itself be sufficient to achieve universal peace. The second is that spreading democracy should then be the first foreign policy priority of all democratic states. These views ignore the fact that historical conditions may either promote or hamper the success of democracy and its stabilization. As asserted by James Madison, "The means of defense against foreign danger have been always the instruments of tyranny at home." This law of politics explains the erosion of freedom in the US after 9/11, and the collapse of democratic institutions in Italy, Germany, and Spain between the World Wars. The lesson is that peace is the principal prerequisite of democracy.

A more recent lesson can be learned from the setbacks in the US doctrine of bringing democracy to the Middle East and from the experience of failed states such as Iraq, Afghanistan, Lebanon, and the Palestinian territories. Efforts to establish democracy in this region are frustrated by the climate of insecurity, violence, and corruption prevailing in those countries. This experience shows that an additional preliminary condition is needed in order to pave the way to democracy: namely, a stable government that assures the rule of law. Moreover, regrettable as it may be for the idealist, there are material requirements for a democratic society, i.e. the eradication of poverty, disease, and illiteracy. They enable people to become rational and intellectually aware actors in the decision-making process.

And yet, in spite of these obstacles on the road to successful democracy, past decades have seen advance of democracy in the world. According to the latest Freedom House Report (January 2008), there are 121 "electoral democracies" in the world. Out of 193 independent countries, 90 are classified free; 60 partially free; and only 43 not free.

Nevertheless, we should recognize that democracy has never shown such worrying signs of weakness as today. At world level there is a widening gap between the market and civil society, which have become global, and politics, which remain substantially confined within national borders. Consequently, the decisions on which the destiny of peoples depends, such as security, control of the global economy, international justice, or protection of the environment, tend to shift away from representative institutions. The feeling widely shared among citizens is that the most important decisions have migrated away from institutions under their control and towards international power centers free from any form of democratic supervision. Globalization thus brings about the crisis of democracy. In fact, seen from a global viewpoint, the decisions made at national level, where democratic powers exist, are relatively minor. At the international level, on the other hand, where the most important decisions are made, there are no democratic institutions.

One positive laboratory of international democracy is the European Parliament. But the plan to bring globalization under democratic control is meeting with formidable opposition primarily from the US government, which is unwilling to let its own freedom of action be lessened by the international organizations to which it belongs, nor by movements arising in the global civil society. This is the ultimate

demonstration of the premise that, to be a promoter of international democracy, is not enough to have a democratic regime - a necessary, but insufficient condition. To overcome US opposition, a centre of power must emerge, capable of supporting the plan for a world democratic order, with the prospect of joint management, and open to participation by other regional groupings of states.

Prof. Levi is Editor of The Federalist Debate. This extract is taken from its March 2008 issue.

Imperial Plutocracy

by Professor John Roberts of Littlehampton, UK

Democracy is not an absolute term. It is relative, describing a political state of a society. Examples range from the marginal, where a society may be developing tendencies toward a more open and responsive system, to the other extreme, where a functioning system is about to be taken over by a tyranny, such as Germany under the Weimar Republic. Generally we assume that a society that is called a democracy is more like that form than any other description.

Among the things which inhibit or pervert democracy, one of the most important is inequality, above all of wealth. The financial corruption that can and does result comes from excessive power of wealth. Such wealth can reach a degree of importance in a functioning democracy as to completely pervert it, while to outward appearances, the system remains democratic. Degrees of wealth and inequality may be different at different times and in different societies, but the dangers to democracy are always present where great wealth and inequality exist together.

A society in which wealth and inequality are so overwhelming cannot seriously continue to be described as democratic. When every aspect of choice and decision-making is dominated by the interests of big business and the wealthiest members, the society cannot hope to adequately represent the wishes and aspirations of the vast majority, let alone the poor, of whom there are no shortage. Only by incessant manipulation and propaganda can they be persuaded to continue to give support, even grudgingly, to their rulers who are ultimately chosen by the ruling group of wealthy.

The inequality that is at the root of this plutocracy will destroy it, because the rulers guided by so partial a view and so partial an electorate, fail to read the signs of tension that will prelude vast change. But in China, India and other places still not entirely dominated by the American wealthy, there will be seeds of change that will grow and are growing to challenge the Almighty Dollar. Not only will there be disillusion felt by millions at the antics of the imperialist Americans, there will also be stirrings of revolution. As these become subjected to the looming strains of global climate change, the results will be truly revolutionary.

From the United World CDWG News and Views 20th Anniversary Issue, 2008.

“A World that Stands as One” continued from page 8
 They require sharing the burdens of development and diplomacy; of progress and peace. They require allies who will listen to each other, learn from each other and, most of all, trust each other.

That is why America cannot turn inward. That is why Europe cannot turn inward. America has no better partner than Europe. Now is the time to build new bridges across the globe as strong as the one that bound us across the Atlantic. Now is the time to join together, through constant cooperation, strong institutions, shared sacrifice, and a global commitment to progress, to meet the challenges of the 21st century. It was this spirit that led airlift planes to appear in the sky above our heads, and people to assemble where we stand today. And this is the moment when our nations – and all nations – must summon that spirit anew.

This is the moment when we must renew the goal of a world without nuclear weapons. The two superpowers that faced each other across the wall of this city came too close too often to destroying all we have built and all that we love. With that wall gone, we need not stand idly by and watch the further spread of the deadly atom. It is time to secure all loose nuclear materials; to stop the spread of nuclear weapons; and to reduce the arsenals from another era. This is the moment to begin the work of seeking the peace of a world without nuclear weapons.

This is the moment when we must build on the wealth that open markets have created, and share its benefits more equitably. Trade has been a cornerstone of our growth and global development. But we will not be able to sustain this growth if it favors the few, and not the many. Together, we must forge trade that truly rewards the work that creates wealth, with meaningful protections for our people and our planet. This is the moment for trade that is free and fair for all.”

Now the world will watch and remember what we do here – what we do with this moment. Will we extend our hand to the people in the forgotten corners of this world who yearn for lives marked by dignity and opportunity; by security and justice? Will we lift the

child in Bangladesh from poverty, shelter the refugee in Chad, and banish the scourge of AIDS in our time? Will we stand for the human rights of the dissident in Burma, the blogger in Iran, or the voter in Zimbabwe? Will we give meaning to the words “never again” in Darfur?

People of Berlin – and people of the world – the scale of our challenge is great. The road ahead will be long. But I come before you to say that we are heirs to a struggle for freedom. We are a people of improbable hope. With an eye toward the future, with resolve in our hearts, let us remember this history, and answer our destiny, and remake the world once again.

The above quotations selected from Senator Barack Obama’s Berlin speech, are a sign that the United States - and the World - will finally have a world-class statesman to help navigate his country and our world in these tumultuous times.

In an informal poll of 193 countries in October, in all except Burkina Faso and Macedonia a majority voted for Obama. His percentage was 60% and over everywhere else except Guatemala and some Eastern European countries like Belarus. **Obama, who is part European and part African, is all-American -- and now “all-the-World.”**

Mankind is still searching for permanent peace and should not become discouraged. Man knows quite well how to organize peace between human beings. He has succeeded in solving conflicts peacefully in his family, in his village, in his nation, thanks to the system known as LAW AND ORDER. The same thing is also possible for human society as a whole. But this can be done only on condition that men are ready to pay the price necessary for its attainment. This price is to transfer part of national sovereignties to a world authority representing a new system of decision making in inter-nations relationship.— *Max Habicht, organizer of the World Movement for World Federal Government in Montreux, Switzerland in 1947.*

Help us share the knowledge that can lead to a just and sustainable world by supporting the Democratic World Federalists!

Yes, I'd like to:

- become a Supporter of D.W.F.;
- make my annual renewal payment in order to maintain my status as a D.W.F. Supporter
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A WORLD THAT STANDS AS ONE

by President-Elect Barack Obama, Berlin, 24 July 2008

I come to Berlin as so many of my countrymen have come before. Tonight, I speak to you not as a candidate for President, but as a citizen – a proud citizen of the United States, and a fellow citizen of the world.”

Look at Berlin, where Germans and Americans learned to work together and trust each other less than three years after facing each other on the field of battle. Look at Berlin, where the bullet holes in the buildings and the somber stones and pillars near the Brandenburg Gate insist that we never forget our common humanity. People of the world – look at Berlin, where a wall came down, a continent came together, and history proved that there is no challenge too great for a world that stands as one.

The fall of the Berlin Wall brought new hope. But that very closeness has given rise to new dangers – dangers that cannot be contained within the borders of a country or by the distance of an ocean. The terrorists of September 11th plotted in Hamburg and trained in Kandahar and Karachi before killing thousands from all over the globe on American soil. As we speak, cars in Boston and factories in Beijing are melting the ice caps in the Arctic, shrinking coastlines in the Atlantic, and bringing drought to farms from Kansas to Kenya.

“In this new world, such dangerous currents have swept along faster than our efforts to contain them. That is why we cannot afford to be divided. No one nation, no matter how large or powerful, can defeat such challenges alone. None of us can deny these threats, or escape

responsibility in meeting them. Yet, in the absence of Soviet tanks and a terrible wall, it has become easy to forget this truth. And if we’re honest with each other, we know that sometimes, on both sides of the Atlantic, we have drifted apart, and forgotten our shared destiny.

Yes, there have been differences between America and Europe. No doubt, there will be differences in the future. But the burdens of global citizenship continue to bind us together. A change of leadership in Washington will not lift this burden. In this new century, Americans and Europeans alike will be required to do more – not less. Partnership and cooperation among nations is not a choice; it is the one way, the only way, to protect our common security and advance our common humanity. That is why the greatest danger of all is to allow new walls to divide us from one another.

We know they have fallen before. After centuries of strife, the people of Europe have formed a Union of promise and prosperity. Here, at the base of a column built to mark victory in war, we meet in the center of a Europe at peace. Not only have walls come down in Berlin, but they have come down in Belfast, where Protestant and Catholic found a way to live together; in the Balkans, where our Atlantic alliance ended wars and brought savage war criminals to justice; and in South Africa, where the struggle of a courageous people defeated apartheid.

So history reminds us that walls can be torn down. But the task is never easy. True partnership and true progress requires constant work and sustained sacrifice.

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“World Peace with Justice through Democratically Enacted & Enforceable Law”

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“In most communities it is illegal to cry ‘fire’ in a crowded assembly. Should it not be considered serious international misconduct to manufacture a general war scare in an effort to achieve local political aims?” - **Dwight D. Eisenhower**
[decades before a vice-president and the neo-cons did just that]

