

# **CADMUS**

A papers series of the South-East European Division of the World Academy of Art and Science (SEED-WAAS)

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#### The CADMUS Journal

The acronym of the South-East European Division of The World Academy of Art and Science – SEED – prompted us to initiate a journal devoted to seed ideas - to leadership in thought that leads to action. Cadmus (or Kadmos in Greek and Phoenician mythology) was a son of King Agenor and Queen Telephassa of Tyre, and brother of Cilix, Phoenix and Europa. Cadmus is credited with introducing the original alphabet – the Phoenician alphabet, with "the invention" of agriculture, and with founding the city of Thebes. His marriage with Harmonia represents the symbolic coupling of Eastern learning and Western love of beauty. The youngest son of Cadmus and Harmonia is Illyrius. The city of Zagreb, which is the formal seat of SEED, was once a part of Illyria, a region including what is today referred to as the Western Balkans and even more. Cadmus will be a journal for fresh thinking and new perspectives that integrate knowledge from all fields of science, art and humanities to address real-life issues, inform policy and decision-making, and enhance our collective response to the challenges and opportunities facing the world today.

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# SEED-IDEAS

# Call for United Action<sup>\*</sup>

Very warm congratulations on the new journal - it certainly has a role to play in today's world.

Over the holidays I had an opportunity to read some of the well-written articles in the first issue of Cadmus. I also read and liked "OUR VISION" published on the second page in which you requested "my ideas" regarding this new endeavor.

WAAS completed fifty years in 2010, Club of Rome reached its fortieth anniversary in 2008, and the Pugwash Movement completed 50 years in 2007. I happen to be a Fellow of WAAS as well as a member of the Club of Rome and I believe all three organizations have done a very good job since their creation.

But my "new idea" is that the three organizations – WAAS, Club of Rome and the Pugwash Movement – should sincerely join forces and act together, so that we can fully utilize our collective experience, intellectual capacity and foresight. Together, we will have a much stronger voice to get our good messages out to the world and be listened to by policy makers, parliaments, governments, academics and all societies in general, in both the industrialized and developing economies.

If we really want to "Promote Leadership in Thought that Leads to Action" our three organizations should join our minds, our visions and our hands to accomplish it. Isolated, as we have been and still are now, we will not be able to do it as effectively as we can as a single body. And I know it will require much courage and a strong commitment from all in order to create a NEW and hopefully, much stronger endeavour for the future of all mankind.

I follow closely the university world. In Europe, up to a couple of years ago, there were two very similar European associations of universities, doing similar and parallel work for a very long time. They have finally decided to join forces and "merged". Today there exists only one European Association of Universities, which is much more active, objective, and efficient, with a much stronger voice in Europe, larger than the two earlier ones and already having impact across the world.

I know it will not be easy. Possibly it will mean a long journey ahead for us, but that is my "new idea" I wish to share with all of you. While that happens – and until it happens – I plan to continue to work and contribute to all, as much as I possibly can, within my "limits", and in my hopefully still long remaining years on our lovely small planet Earth.

In my ten years of living in Asia I have learned an oriental proverb that says: "for every long journey there is always a first step".

Heitor Gurgulino de Souza,

Former Rector, United Nations University; Member, WAAS and Club of Rome.

<sup>\*</sup> The ideas exposed above have not been previously discussed with my good colleagues, either from WAAS or from the Club of Rome

Those who are engaged in building democracy in their countries and who are animated with a fresh spirit like in Egypt will have to ask themselves: What purpose does building a democratic nation have if it is embedded into an undemocratic and non-transparent international system? In a globalized world the confinement of democratic participation of citizens to the institutions of the nation-state is almost equivalent to disenfranchisement. True democratic emancipation cannot stop at national borders.

Andreas Bummel, Chair, Committee for a Democratic UN

Politics is the whole of which economics is a part and employment is a small part of the wider domain of economic life. Ushering in a global government generates the power of solving these minor problems. Government is the context that activates the politician. Politicians can cure the ills created by economists. A wider vision of economics solves the problems created by narrow inspiration.

T. Natarajan, President, The Mother's Service Society

The role of labour is crucial for the social cohesion and stability it provides. Threats to financial stability do not exclusively emanate out of capital markets. As the unrest in several Arab countries demonstrate yet again, without social stability there can be no financial stability.

Patrick Leidtke, Director, Geneva Association

Economic thinking is still very largely related to traditional Cartesian (and Newtonian) concepts of science. The notion of equilibrium is not really a concept or an explanation, but rather a tautology, which has been given the value or status of an axiom. Understanding this notion of equilibrium, where supply is equal to demand, is essential because it explains why economic theory has from the beginning always tended to be one-sided...Once we enter real time, uncertainty and disequilibrium become the reference criteria of reality. Introducing the notion of real time into the economics of supply and demand (in modern terms, service based production and consumption) is a radical alternative to the view of the economic process as being based on timeless (instant) equilibrium.

Orio Giarini, Director, The Risk Institute

According to Roosevelt, "necessitous men are not free." The narrow conception of individual freedom founded on prisvate property rights advocated by neoliberalism neglects a much wider, more humane conception of social democracy, freedom from want and human security affirmed by the New Deal, the Atlantic Charter and the UN Charter.

Winston Nagan, Director, Inst. for Human Rights, Peace & Development

A human-centered theory of economy and employment needs to be founded on the realization that human beings – not impersonal principles, market mechanisms, money or technology – are the driving force and central determinants of economic development.

Garry Jacobs & Ivo Šlaus, World Academy of Art & Science Global Employment Project

# **CADMUS**

# Inside This Issue

Our world is headed into a Perfect Storm of an interconnected financial, ecological and social crisis. Almost all forward-looking assessments demonstrate that business as usual and incremental improvements will not be sufficient to take us to a future world blessed by equitable prosperity, safety, security and contentment.

lan Johnson, Secretary General of the Club of Rome

The three organizations – WAAS, Club of Rome and the Pugwash Movement – should sincerely join forces and act together, so that we can fully utilize use our collective experience, intellectual capacity and foresight. Together, we will have a much stronger voice to get our good messages out to the world and be listened to by policy makers, parliaments, governments, academics and all societies in general, in both the industrialized and developing economies.

Heitor Gurgulino de Souza, Former Rector of United Nations University

Decisions on our common future should no longer rest solely on world leaders, who can evade or even obstruct meaningful change. A simultaneous electronic ballot on saving bios is a brilliant opportunity to demonstrate that, as citizens of the world, we can all agree on safeguarding the Earth for the generations to come. By giving priority to individual voices to be heard, the World Referendum can elicit the personal involvement of every citizen in the race to save the environment and help to bridge the gap between the rich and poor.

Agni Vlavianos Arvanitis, President, Biopolitics International

The greatest global challenge that faces the international community today is that of the current trans-national revolution in human affairs, which in turn is triggered by the combination of three revolutions: a revolution of rising expectations, the information and communications revolution, and a broader industrial-technological revolution.

Jasjit Singh,
Director, Centre for Air Power Strategy

Continued . . .