



LENE RACHEL ANDERSEN, TOMAS BJÖRKMAN & ULF DAHLSTEN

Keeping Cultures Alive and Kickin' in a Global market

Democracy, rule of law, civil liberties, human rights, and market legislation as we know them are products of the 19th and 20th century nation state. These nation states often came into being after social unrest, civil wars or wars with neighboring countries, and our current identification with those nation states was created through massive cultural efforts of transforming pre-modern cultural and religious habits into new meaningful national narratives and behaviors that corre-

sponded with modernity and the modern concept of a nation state.

In a post-modern world with a truly global market where money, goods, people, and information of every kind flow freely, the nation state is slowly but surely losing its muscle and people feel that their culture and meaningful ways of life to are under pressure. If the development continues and multinational corporations gain more power than a critical number of democratic nation states, eventually rule of law and our civil and human rights will be at the mercy of money.

Will this lead to social unrest and maybe wars? Or are there ways of setting up structures and new narratives that may allow for a global market to develop without creating unrest and under-mining democracy, rule of law and our civil and human rights?

Tomas Björkman talks about God, Science, Market, and Post-modernism as ruling or even political principles and how we can move beyond any one of them and benefit from a synergy of all of them.

Ulf Dahlsten talks about the need for global legislation for a global market and how such a thing can be established to empower the nation states rather than making a global body diminishing the power of nation states.

Lene Rachel Andersen will combine economics with scale-free networks and thermo dynamics to explain why we have an urgent choice to make between good legislation and a massive use of violence to keep social calm.