

GAIA Newsletter – November 2009

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THE GAIA newsletter will regularly update the information about our 60 years crisis on this website. That is how a minority of the human population living today in the rich western world = our generation – you and me have managed to seriously harm our common environment and endanger the common future for coming generations and for thousands of species on our living planet – Gaia. We have now an enormous challenge – that is to drastically change our present way of living above our means. This can not be done with more of the same – as our present leaders are preaching in their globalization and consume more mantra. The same persons, the same model and the same thinking that has created this enormous problem cannot solve it. We need a complete turn around. And this is the most difficult thing to do – to change our selves.

One year of nothing?

This is my first newsletter since end of 2008. My silence is because I have written two books in Swedish. But also since nothing has happened.... To halt global warming. We have a leadership crisis. But maybe this crisis is really within ourselves who is letting this happening. Doing nothing! Page 2.

The Sixty Years Crisis E⁴!

This is the same name of my new book in Swedish. E⁴ means Ecology, Energy, Economy and Ego. With this I mean that our crisis involves our model and way of living. All is connected. To change we need to question our exponential growth and consumerism. Page 9.

The oil crisis!

BP has just released their 2009 version of energy statistics. Not much has changed. The oil reserves in the world is deceasing and they are in countries like Iran, Iraq, Saudi, Libya and Venezuela. On the web you can read that the US military consumes 400 000 barrels of oil per day. More than 3 times the country of Bangladesh. Most is used in Iraq, Saudi, Kuwait & Afghanistan. All of it polluting the environment. War & oil kills! Page 42.

Yes it is true?

There are still some people who does not believe global warming is happening. Or if it is happening it is not because of us. Or if it is because of us it is not so harmful. In Sweden we have had a chilly summer so what is really happening? Since we cannot predict the weather tomorrow we cannot exactly predict what it is ten years from now. But we can see the alarming trend on page 4.

What will happen in Copenhagen? The Point of New Return!

Our last chance is already gone.
Read more on page 24.

Another 60 years Crisis

Two more reports (UN and Amnesty International) has pointed out what Israel is doing in the occupied Palestine. The world is silent. Page 14.

The Age of Stupid Capitalism a Love Story

Go and see two movies who dares to question or present failed system.
Read more on page 18.

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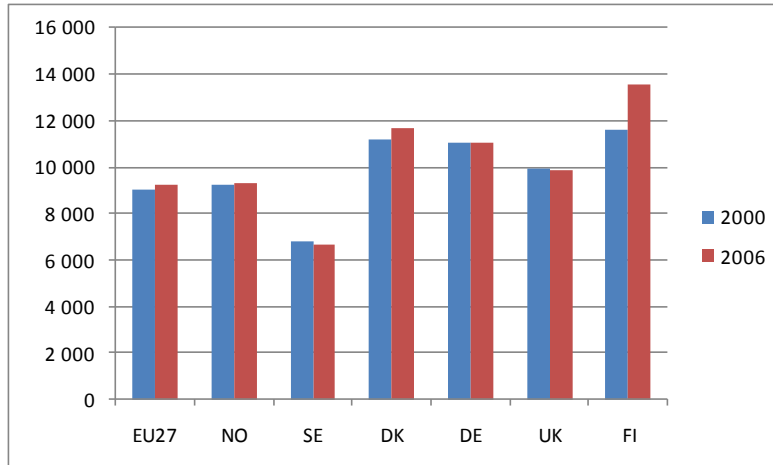
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One year of nothing

That is naturally not true. A lot of things happened. The new year started with massive bombing of Gaza from ultra modern Israeli jetfighters and helicopter gun ships. Once again a UN report chaired by Judge Richard Goldstone condemned Israel and stated that Israel's offensive against Gaza last January was *"a deliberately disproportionate attack designed to punish, humiliate and terrorise a civilian population"*, for which some Israelis should face *"individual criminal responsibility"*. And once again the world was cowardly silent.

War is the best fuel for our present growth model. Because by destroying most of the infrastructure in Gaza the western world got together to give money to reconstruct Gaza. This illustrates our economical growth model in a cracked nutshell. Destroy and rebuild. Pollute and then build new things to remove or hide the pollution. But the more you build the more you pollute. The evil black circle until...the financial crisis.

The greedy bonus millionaire on Wall Street did more to save the world from global warming in 6 months than the politicians had done in the last six years. because EU did not manage to decrease nay carbon dioxide emissions in the first year of the new Millennium, despite of what they promised. EU increased and so did many countries including Finland, Norway, Denmark. Germany was break even. Only Sweden and UK decreased very little.



During 2009 we have had meeting after meeting G5, G8, G12, G21 discussing the economical crisis and the global warming. But nothing is happening except that billions of money was pumped into a failed financial system. The only thing that came out of all these meetings was a "recommendation" the decrease bonuses. The fundamental system error we have was not even mentioned. A system that is based on continuous growth by increased consumption and pollution. We have an environmental crisis, an energy crisis and economical crisis. But we also have a leadership crisis. Because the same thinking and the same leaders who created the crisis can naturally not solve the crisis with more of the same. More money into the same system. More nuclear power plants. More.....

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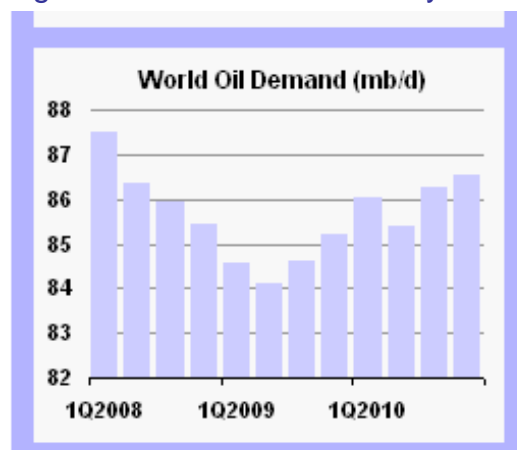
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One year of nothing

In the latest monthly report from EIA we can read the following: “Total production for the year-to-date was 5 693.2 TWh. Comparing this to the same period last year shows that: - Total production was lower by 5.6%. - Geoth./Wind/Solar/Other production showed the largest percentage change by fuel type, being 14.5% higher.” So lets analyze. Great - the production from combustible fuels went down by 8%. But also the renewable production went down. Good that the percentage renewable increased to 16,8%

TWh OECD	2009 to July	2008 to July	Change	Change
+ Combustible Fuels	3483	3806	-8,5%	-324
+ Nuclear	1252	1261	-0,7%	-9
+ Hydro	806	828	-2,7%	-22
+ Geoth./Wind/Solar/Other	153	133	14,5%	19
= Indigenous Production	5693	6031	-5,6%	-338
Renewable	958	961		
Renewable in percent	16,8%	15,9%		

When it comes to oil IEA writes the following in October 2009. “Global oil demand has been revised up by 200 kb/d for 2009 and by 350 kb/d for 2010, given more optimistic IMF economic prognoses and stronger preliminary data from the Americas and Asia. Global oil demand now averages 84.6 mb/d in 2009 and 86.1 mb/d in 2010, implying yearly growth of -1.7 mb/d and +1.4 mb/d, respectively. So what are they saying. That now when the economy is recovering the oil consumption will start to rise again. We had the opportunity of our generation to review and rethink our endless growth model when we had a combined environmental, energy and economical crisis but instead we go back to the same failed model. 2007 before the crisis we consumed 84,9 mb/d according to BP. 2010 we will be increase to 86,1 mb/d according to IEA. The black economy has recovered.....



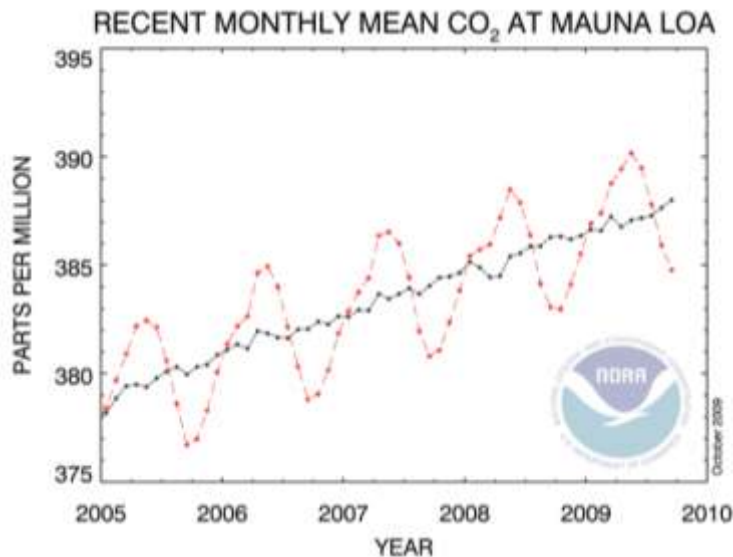
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Yes it is true

The economical crisis “helped” us to temporarily reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Or rather delay the increase. But the thing is that half of the carbon dioxide emitted will stay in the atmosphere. So the concentration is increasing. The monthly mean data at Mauna Loa for the first time reached 388 ppm!!!

Yes it is actually getting warmer. Yes the ice is melting faster than ever. NOAA publish monthly data on ocean temperatures. July 17 they informed that ocean surface temperature was the warmest on record for June. The combined average global and ocean surface temperature was the second warmest on record.



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NOAA: Global Ocean Surface Temperature Warmest on Record for June
July 17, 2009

The world's ocean surface temperature was the warmest on record for June, breaking the previous high mark set in 2005, according to a preliminary analysis by NOAA's National Climatic Data Center in Asheville, N.C. Additionally, the combined average global land and ocean surface temperature for June was second-warmest on record. The global records began in 1880.

Global Climate Statistics

- The combined global land and ocean surface temperature for June 2009 was the second warmest on record behind 2005, 1.12 degrees F (0.62 degree C) above the 20th century average of 59.9 degrees F (15.5 degrees C).
- Separately, the global ocean surface temperature for June 2009 was the warmest on record, 1.06 degrees F (0.59 degree C) above the 20th century average of 51.5 degrees F (10.4 degrees C).
- Each hemisphere broke its June record for warmest ocean surface temperature. In the Northern Hemisphere, the warm anomaly of 1.17 degrees F (0.65 degree C) surpassed the previous record of 1.12 degrees F (0.62 degree C), set in 2005. The Southern Hemisphere's increase of 0.88 degree F (0.49 degree C) exceeded the old record of 0.82 degree F (0.51 degree C), set in 1996.
- The global land surface temperature for June 2009 was 1.26 degrees F (0.70 degree C) above the 20th century average of 58.9 degrees F (13.3 degree C), and ranked as the sixth-warmest June on record.

Related Links

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Yes it is true

Also August was the warmest on record. On NOAA home page we can read: *“The world’s ocean surface temperature was the warmest for any August on record, and the warmest on record averaged for any June-August summer season, according to NOAA’s National Climatic Data Center in Asheville, N.C. World-wide records began in 1880.”*

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NOAA: Warmest Global Sea-Surface Temperatures for August and Summer

September 16, 2009

The world's ocean surface temperature was the warmest for any August on record, and the warmest on record averaged for any June-August (Northern Hemisphere summer/Southern Hemisphere winter) season according to [NOAA's National Climatic Data Center](#) in Asheville, N.C. The preliminary analysis is based on records dating back to 1880.



August 2009
Average Temperature Difference (deg C)

-3 -2 -1 0 1 2 3 4 5 6

Global surface temperature anomalies for the month of August 2009. Temperature is compared to the average global temperature from 1961-1990.

[Visualization](#) of world's land and ocean surface temperature.

[High resolution](#) (Credit: NOAA)



Average Temperature Difference (deg C)

-3 -2 -1 0 1 2 3 4 5 6

Denver: -2 deg C



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Yes it is true

The combined global land and ocean surface temperature for September 2009 was 0.62 C above the 20th Century average of 15.0 C. This was the second warmest September on record, behind 2005, and the 33rd consecutive September with a global temperature above the 20th Century average. The last below-average September occurred in 1976.



The screenshot shows the NOAA website header with the NOAA logo and the text "NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE". Below the header is a navigation menu with links: "About NOAA", "Contacts", "Staff Directory", and "Help". A search bar is visible on the right. On the left, there is a "Weather.gov Forecast" widget with a "City, ST" input field and a "GO" button, and a link for "Active Weather Alerts". The main content area displays the article title "NOAA: Global Surface Temperature Was Second Warmest for September" and the date "October 15, 2009".

The global land surface temperature for September 2009 was 0.97 C (1.75 F) above the 20th Century average of 12.0 C (53.6 F), and ranked as the second warmest September on record, also behind 2005.

In September, continuing drought in East Africa affected millions of people across seven nations—Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Uganda, Sudan, Djibouti, and Tanzania. The drought led to massive food shortages, with 6.2 million people in Ethiopia and 3.8 million in Kenya in need of relief aid. The drought in Kenya, one of the worst in recent memory, was responsible for the loss of more than 150,000 livestock and a 40-percent decrease in maize harvests. According to the prime minister, 70 percent of the country's wells and water sources were dried up, leading to water and electricity rationing.

On September 9th, the president of Guatemala declared a "state of calamity" as an ongoing drought threatened 400,000 families in the country. The drought decreased harvests of primary staples, such as maize and beans, by up to 50 percent. Food aid was expected to be delivered to the impacted residents.

The four-month monsoon season in India officially ended on September 30th. The India Meteorological Department labeled it the weakest monsoon since 1972, with 23-percent below normal rainfall on average across the nation for the season.

Two full days of torrential rains in northwestern Turkey that began late on September 7th led to flash flooding that killed at least 36 people—including 24 in the capital city of Istanbul (Sources: Reuters; Times of India). According to reports, the area received its heaviest rainfall in 80 years.

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Yes it is true

Although the United States as a whole was “1.0 F above the 20th Century average,” with record-tying temperatures in California, as usual the deniers had a few seemingly cool places in the country on which to feast.

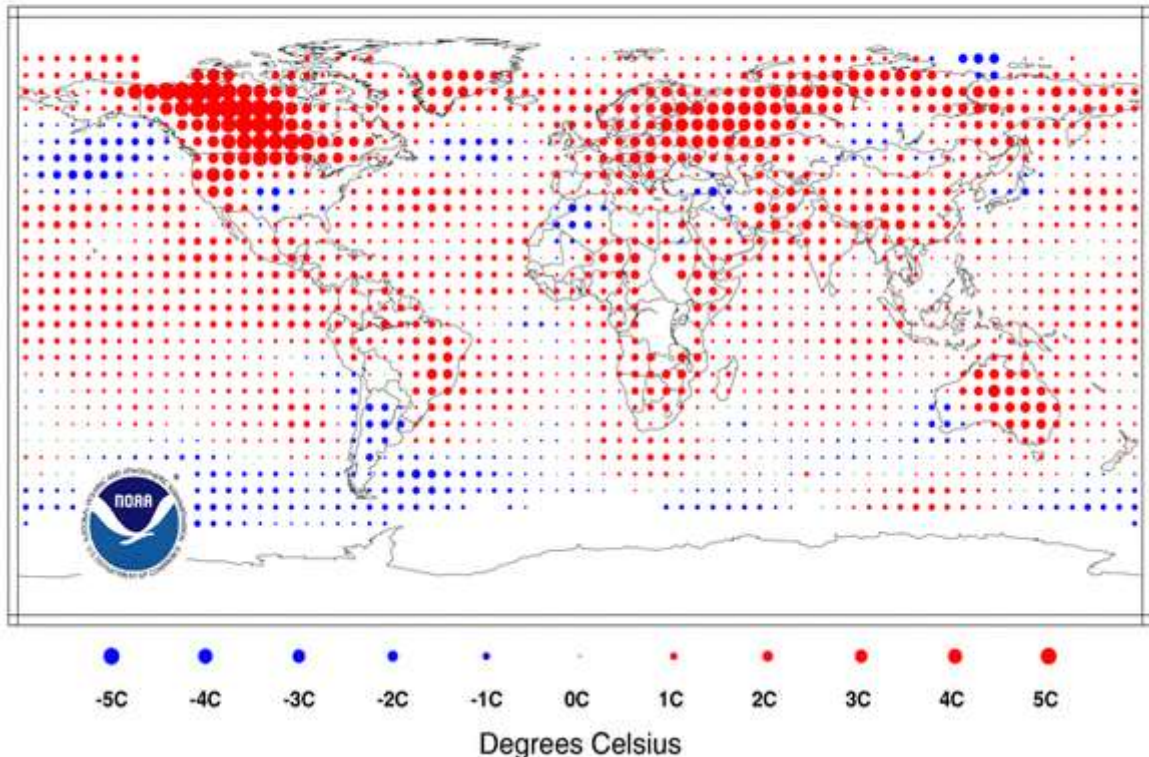
We are still seeing staggering warming in some of the worst places from the perspective of the planet as a whole, the land of the the permafrost - “permamelt” which currently contains contains more carbon than the atmosphere (see here).

Again, what makes these record temps especially impressive is that we’re only in a weak El Niño, and we’re at “the deepest solar minimum in nearly a century,” according to NASA. The tundra is probably the single most important amplifying carbon-cycle feedback. None of the IPCC’s climate models, however, include carbon emissions from a defrosting tundra as a feedback. Yet, as NOAA reported last month (here), levels of methane (a far more potent greenhouse gas than CO₂) rose last year for the first time since 1998, which may be an early indication of thawing permafrost.

Temperature Anomalies September 2009

(with respect to a 1961-1990 base period)

National Climatic Data Center/NESDIS/NOAA



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Yes it is true

NASA data: Greenland, Antarctic ice melt worsening

Ap Associated Press

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AP – This April 2003 handout photo provided by the British Antarctic Survey shows a glacier meeting the ocean ...

By SETH BORENSTEIN, AP Science Writer – Wed Sep 23, 1:01 pm ET

WASHINGTON – New satellite information shows that ice sheets in Greenland and western Antarctica continue to shrink faster than scientists thought and in some places are already in runaway melt mode.

British scientists for the first time calculated changes in the height of the vulnerable but massive ice sheets and found them especially worse at their edges. That's where warmer water eats away from below. In some parts of Antarctica, ice sheets have been losing 30 feet a year in thickness since 2003, according to a paper published online Thursday

Global Warming is Melting Away Arctic Summer Ice

October 16, 2009



Within 20 years the Arctic Ocean will be ice free in summer due to global warming, according to a Catlin Arctic-World Wildlife Federation (WWF) survey released Wednesday.

This new data sheds light on an unsettling trend of thinning ice in the Arctic.

Ice floes, masses of frozen saltwater, in this region were once thicker and more melt-resistant, according to measurements by a British Royal Navy submarine in 2007.

The Catlin Arctic Survey sampled 450 kilometers of sea ice in the northern portion of the Beaufort Sea.

The survey found ice floes in this region to be 1.8 meters thick. Ice this thick is known as "first year" ice, which means it was formed during this past winter, and is more vulnerable to summer heat.

According to a leading sea ice expert, this melting causes a negative domino effect on polar systems.

"The more you lose, the more open water is created, the more warming goes on in that open water during the summer, the less ice forms in the winter, the more melt there is the following summer. It becomes a breakdown process where everything ends up accelerating until it's all gone," said University of Cambridge Professor Peter Wadhams, according to Voice of America News Thursday.

Wadhams, who analyzed the results of the survey, also said that much of the melting will happen within the next 10 years.

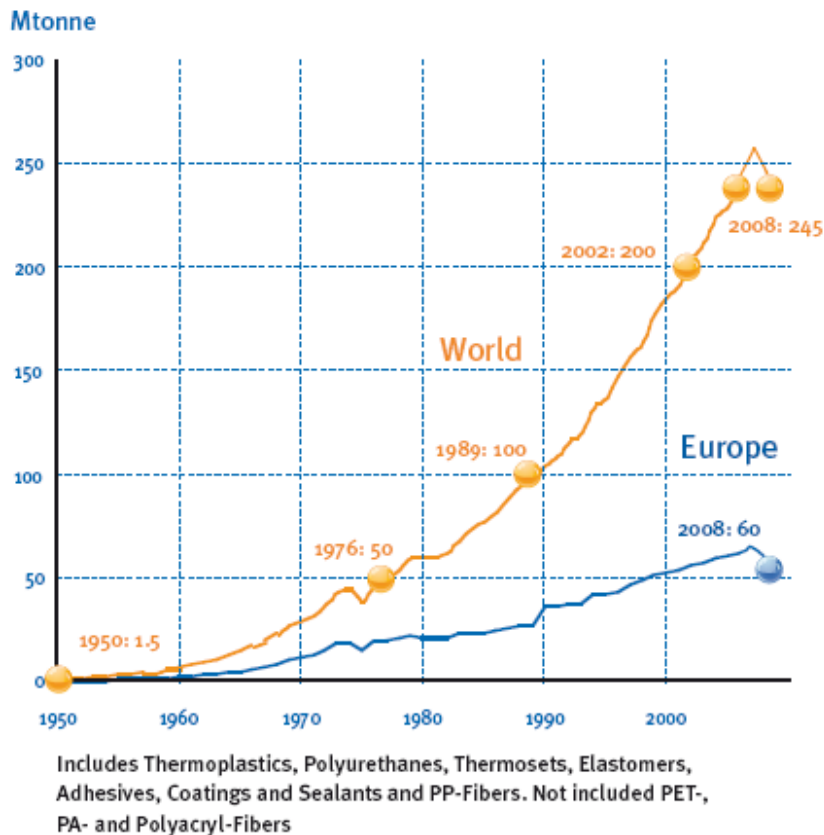
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The sixty years crisis

“The sixty years crisis – A short story about a huge problem” is the title of my pdf presentations you can scroll through or download on my website. You can also go through a number of newsletters for 2008. During 2009 I have completed “The sixty years crisis” in Swedish = “Sextioårskrisen E⁴”. The four E stands for Ecology, Energy, Economy and Ego. We have a crisis covering all four aspects. We have total meltdown of failed model. A system error. It is a book with more than 800 pages. Not many people will ever read it.

Still it was important for me to document my thoughts. Maybe my grandchildren when they grow up will read it. And maybe they will agree. How could we be so stupid that we consumed our own planet. The 60 years crisis starts the year I was born, 1949. Because at this year we started the consumerism race. A model based on fossil fuel and especially oil. Out of the twenty largest corporations in the world $\frac{3}{4}$ were within the oil and car industry. They were calling the shots. They decided what to do and when to go to war. Oil was used for everything. Cars, chemicals, fertilizers, plastic. Our way of living was based on oil. We have now seen some of the results. The carbon dioxide emissions causing global warming. Because about half of us have been emitting stays for decades and centuries in the atmosphere. Another part makes the oceans more acid. Some of the oil is used to make plastic. The consumption of plastic is an illustration of what we call exponential growth. It is increased more than 100 times in less than 60 years.

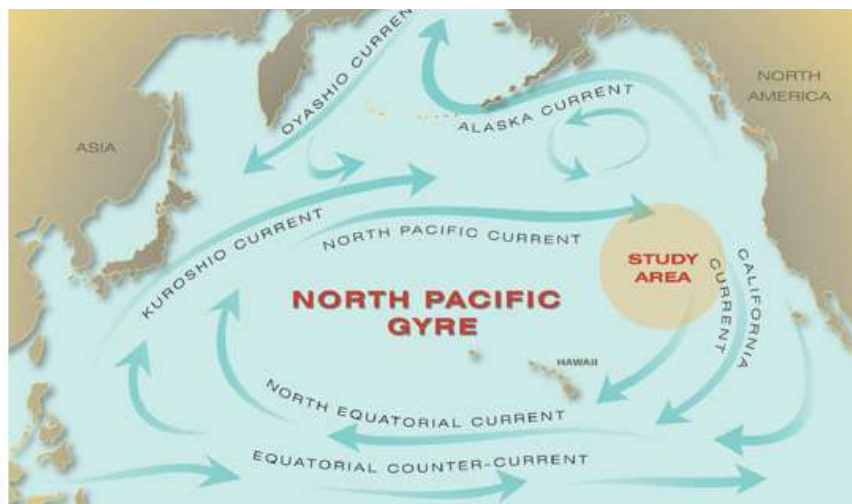
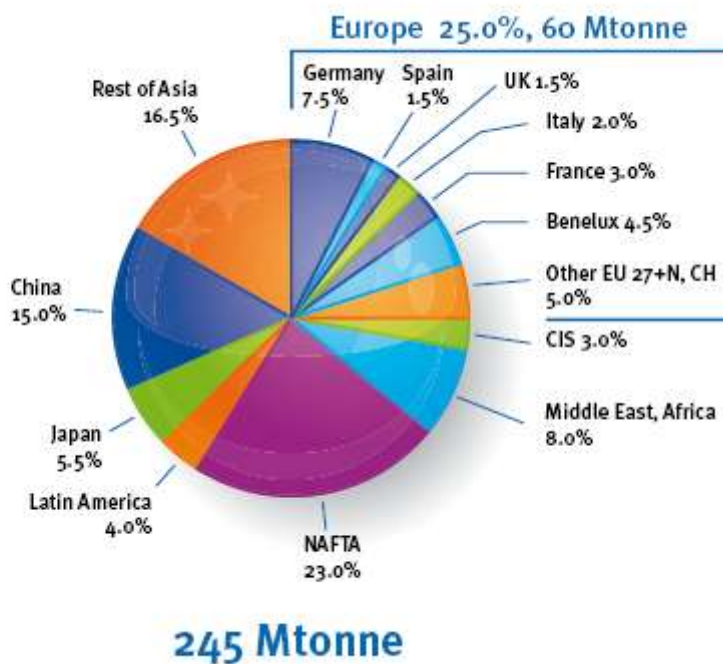


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The sixty years crisis

Now plastic production is increasing rapidly in India and China so we can import more toys and electronics. China now produce 15% of the plastics of the world. North America (NAFTA) 23% and Europe 25%. Some of electronic waste is shipped to Africa and some of our plastic waste to India. We are recycling some and we are burning some. But a lot ends up in landfills and in the ocean. Where it takes more than 100 years to degrade. In some parts of the ocean we can find more plastic particles than plankton. Miniature plastic particles entering the food chain and fish together with toxic chemicals.



Life's a beach: Plastic garbage on Kamilo Beach in Hawaii (top), where debris from the Eastern Garbage Patch often accumulates; the swirling sea of plastic pollution in the central North Pacific (above) ALGALITA MARINE RESEARCH FOUNDATION; JEAN KENT UNATIN/ ALGALITA MARINE RESEARCH FOUNDATION

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The sixty years crisis

Switzerland and Sweden has a high recycling or energy recovering (burning) portion. in UK an estimated 13 billion plastic bottles are disposed of each year while only 2,7 billion were recycled. On average, every household uses 500 plastic bottles each year, of which just 130 are recycled. Quite a change from when I grow up and all bottles were smaller and of glass that you handed in when you bought new . Nothing was recycled – it was reused. When I read <http://www.recycle-more.co.uk/> that up to 40% less fuel is used to transport drinks in plastic bottles compared to glass bottles I remember another thing. When I grew up the beer and soft drink in glass bottles came from the local brewery just 10 km away. Today the much larger plastic bottles and cans comes from a brewery 500 km or more away. I think that takes more fuel to transport. The EU statistics also states that a lot of the recycled bottles are shipped to the Far East. The US statistics shows that about ¼ of the botles are recycled. The total consumption is equivalent to 10 billion pounds or 5 billion kilos.

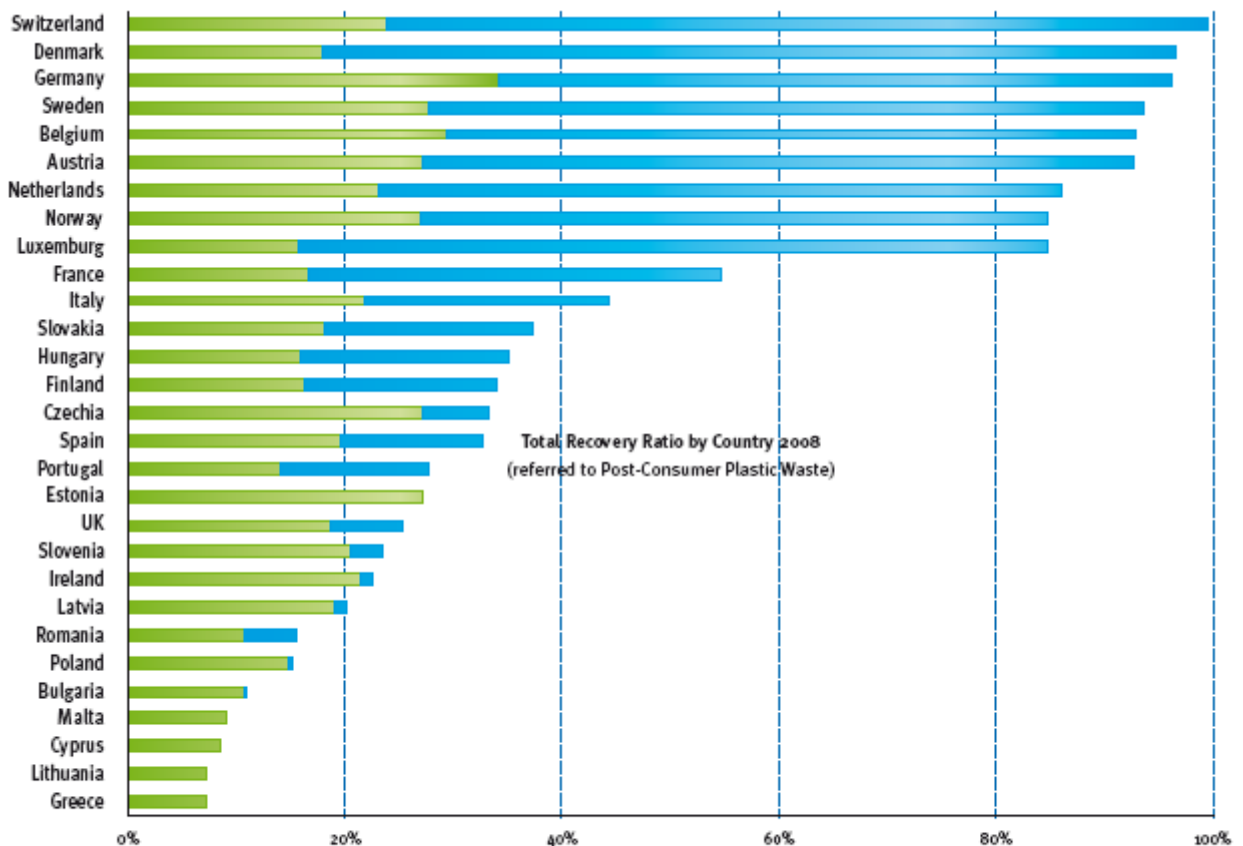


Figure 13. Recycling and energy recovery rate per country

■ Recycling rate 2008 ■ Energy Recovery rate 2008

1 <http://www.prognos.com/Singleview.306+M5c828d79ff6.o.html>

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The Plastic Revolution

Introduced just over 25 years ago, the ugly truth about our plastic bag addiction is that society's consumption rate is now estimated at well over 500,000,000,000 (that's 500 billion) plastic bags annually, or almost 1 million per minute.

According to The Wall Street Journal, the U.S. goes through 100 billion plastic shopping bags annually. An estimated 12 million barrels of oil is required to make that many plastic bags. Four out of five grocery bags in the US are now plastic.

Plastic bags cause over 100,000 sea turtle and other marine animal deaths every year when animals mistake them for food. According to the BBC, only 1 in 200 plastic bags in the UK are recycled. According to the WSJ Target, the second-largest retailer in the U.S., purchases 1.8 billion bags a year.

As part of Clean Up Australia Day, in one day nearly 500,000 plastic bags were collected. Unfortunately, each year in Australia an estimated 50,000,000 plastic bags end up as litter.

The average family accumulates 60 plastic bags in only four trips to the grocery store. Plastic bags are made from oil: it takes about 430,000 gallons of oil to produce 100 million plastic bags, and the U.S. goes through 380 billion of them a year.

A statistics class at Indiana U did the math: more than 1.6 billion gallons of oil are used each year for plastic bags alone. The more we use plastic bags, the more we waste oil. Compounding the problem is the fact that, not only do we make tons of plastic bags (and use lots of oil in the process) we only recycle 1 percent. One lousy percent. It's pitiful.

But the plastic problem gets worse. Under perfect conditions a bag takes a thousand years to biodegrade, and in a landfill, plastic bags decompose even slower. If buried, they block the natural flow of oxygen and water through the soil. If burned, they release dangerous toxins and carcinogens into the air. The damage is even more severe when the bags end up in the ocean, where thousands of sea turtles and other marine life die each year after mistaking plastic bags for food.

That right there is 2,000,000 plastic bottles, the number of plastic bottles Americans throw out every five minutes. A day goes by. 426,000 cell phones discarded in total in USA.

Plastics goods consumption in India is expected to double in the next three years, according to the Indian Plastics Federation at its recent annual meeting. The federation said that six million tonnes of plastics is produced in India, with the plastics packaging sector growing the fastest, and it hopes that 1.5 million tonnes will be added to the plastics industry's existing capacity over the next six months. Plastics usage in the country is claimed to be around 6kg per annum, compared to the global average of 25kg, but this is expected to increase as demand for plastics in the retail, housing and automobile sectors booms.

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The Plastic Revolution

WASHINGTON (Oct. 21, 4:30 p.m. ET) — Strong exports helped to counter a soft domestic market for U.S. plastic products in 2008, according to a recent report from the Society of the Plastics Industry Inc.

U.S. plastic exports exceeded the \$50 billion mark for the first time in 2008, checking in at \$51 billion, according to the Oct. 21 report from Washington-based SPI. The \$51 billion represented an increase of more than 4 percent vs. 2007. Exports accounted for almost 20 percent of domestic business during 2008.

Quite simply styrofoam sucks. It has no redeemable features and is the Franken-incarnation of some greedy, short-sighted, environmentally-challenged executives at Dow Chemicals. Styrofoam, like plastic, is made from petroleum, a non-renewable resource. Dow Chemicals, one of the largest producers of styrofoam in the world, has trademarked the name styrofoam (hope we don't get in shit for using the name here...). Aside from its lack of sustainability, both styrofoam and plastic have enormous negative repercussions on the environment. Yet individuals around the world are consuming both plastic and styrofoam like there is no tomorrow.

Environmental Consequences: Both plastic and styrofoam take between 500-1000 years to decompose in a landfill. Styrofoam is believed to have the second worst environmental impact behind aluminum production according to the California Integrated Waste Management Board. Both plastic and styrofoam have low reclamation rates and more than 60% end up landfills, waterways and oceans.

The styrofoam cups: Americans use annually could form a chain that would circle the Earth 436 times. In most countries there are no recycling infrastructures to take back, recycle and reuse styrofoam, so like soft plastic bags, much of the world's styrofoam is used once and ends up in the landfill. The weak reclamation rate is believed to be due to low scrap value.

But that doesn't stop us from using the stuff. The styrofoam cups Americans use each year could form a chain that would circle the Earth 436 times according to the National Toxics' Campaign. In 2003 alone, the American Environmental Protection Agency reported more than 730,000 tons of styrofoam and plastic plates and cups were disposed of in the USA.

Berkeley California was one of the first cities in the world to ban styrofoam take-out food packaging. More than 20 American cities have joined the growing movement to eliminate styrofoam packaging. However, even though some cities have eliminated styrofoam food packaging and coffee cups, styrofoam is still widely used as a packing material for transportation.

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Another 60 years crisis and the world is silent

Israel declared their independence some sixty years ago on a land that for generations had been populated by a majority of Arabs. Still most countries except the surrounding Arab countries supported this and one reason was the Nazi genocide of Jews (and other groups). Israel was a just cause for a suffering people. But the “problem” was the other people who had nothing to do with the European cruelties towards the Jews. The families of Arabic origin and mostly Muslim religion living in Palestine were forced to leave and become refugees without a land. Today there are millions living in the surrounding countries and in the occupied Palestine (West bank and Gaza). These People were promised their own state by the British who occupied all of Palestine before the creation of Israel. These people have has now suffered for three generations and the world is silent. Now they are living in the world’s largest concentration camps denied human rights by Israel. Humiliated, killed and starved without comparison. And the world is silent. The Christmas bombing of Gaza by the Israeli war machine was a crime. And still the world did not do anything. Instead USA and EU introduced sanctions against Hamas – the elected politicians of Gaza.

Now a new UN report HUMAN RIGHTS IN PALESTINE AND OTHER OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES- Report of the United Nations Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict as always criticize the Palestinians during this “conflict”. The report was written by a group of persons headed by Justice Richard Goldstone, former judge of the Constitutional Court of South Africa and former Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, to head the Mission. Goldstone is from a Jewish family and a supporter of Israel. But the unusual conclusion was that this report gave massive critics towards the Israeli war crimes and the unwillingness of Israel to co-operate.

The report states: *“The Mission repeatedly sought to obtain the cooperation of the Government of Israel.”* This was denied by Israel who refused the UN mission to enter Gaza and the West bank. No answers or any cooperation from Israel was obtained. Israel basically refused any cooperation with the UN mission. And the world was silent. No sanctions by USA or EU. Nothing. So what was the conclusion of the fact finding report? In the press release we can read:

In the lead up to the Israeli military assault on Gaza, the Mission said it found that Israel had imposed a blockade amounting to collective punishment and carried out a systematic policy of progressive isolation and deprivation of the Gaza Strip. During the Israeli military operation, code-named “Operation Cast Lead,” more than 1,400 people were killed, including women and more than 340 children, and houses, factories, wells, schools, hospitals, police stations and other public buildings were destroyed.

The report concluded that the Israeli military operation was directed at the people of Gaza as a whole, in furtherance of an overall and continuing policy aimed at punishing the Gaza population, and in a deliberate policy of disproportionate force aimed at the civilian population. The Report states that Israeli acts that deprive Palestinians in the Gaza Strip of their means of subsistence, employment, housing and water, that deny their freedom of movement and their right to leave and enter their own country, that limit their rights to access a court of law and an effective remedy, and could lead a competent court to find that the crime of persecution, a crime against humanity, has been committed.

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Another 60 years crisis and the world is silent

“The Mission focused on the process of economic and political isolation imposed by Israel on the Gaza Strip, generally referred to as a blockade. The blockade comprises measures such as restrictions on the goods that can be imported into Gaza and the closure of border crossings for people, goods and services, sometimes for days, including cuts in the provision of fuel and electricity. Gaza’s economy is further severely affected by the reduction of the fishing zone open to Palestinian fishermen and the establishment of a buffer zone along the border between Gaza and Israel, which reduces the land available for agriculture and industry. In addition to creating an emergency situation, the blockade has significantly weakened the capacities of the population and of the health, water and other public sectors to respond to the emergency created by the military operations.

Israel deployed its navy, air force and army in the operation it codenamed “Operation Cast Lead”. The military operations in the Gaza Strip included two main phases, the air phase and the air-land phase, and lasted from 27 December 2008 to 18 January 2009. The Israeli offensive began with a week-long air attack, from 27 December until 3 January 2009. The air force continued to play an important role in assisting and covering the ground forces from 3 January to 18 January 2009. The army was responsible for the ground invasion, which began on 3 January 2009, when ground troops entered Gaza from the north and the east. The available information indicates that the Golani, Givati and Paratrooper Brigades and five Armoured Corps Brigades were involved. The navy was used in part to shell the Gaza coast during the operations.” So let us repeat the summary of the report:

*The Mission said it found that Israel had imposed a blockade amounting to collective punishment and carried out a systematic policy of progressive isolation and deprivation of the Gaza Strip. During the Israeli military operation, code-named “Operation Cast Lead,” more than 1,400 people were killed, including women and more than 340 children, and houses, factories, wells, schools, hospitals, police stations and other public buildings were destroyed. **More than 1400 people killed including 340 children.***

*The report concluded that the Israeli military operation was **directed at the people of Gaza as a whole**, in furtherance of an overall and continuing policy aimed at punishing the Gaza population, and in a deliberate policy of disproportionate force aimed at the civilian population. The Report states that Israeli acts that **deprive Palestinians in the Gaza Strip of their means of subsistence, employment, housing and water, that deny their freedom of movement and their right to leave and enter their own country, that limit their rights to access a court of law and an effective remedy, and could lead a competent court to find that the crime of persecution, a crime against humanity, has been committed.***

So what is the UN report really saying. Israel has through the blockade deprived the Palestinians the right of living and then through a total war with all their forces during Christmas and New Years to completely destroy Gaza. And the world was silent!

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In another report from Amnesty International 27 October 2009 the following was concluded: *“Amnesty International has accused Israel of denying Palestinians the right to access adequate water by maintaining total control over the shared water resources and pursuing discriminatory policies. These unreasonably restrict the availability of water in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT) and prevent the Palestinians developing an effective water infrastructure there.*

Israel allows the Palestinians access to only a fraction of the shared water resources, which lie mostly in the occupied West Bank, while the unlawful Israeli settlements there receive virtually unlimited supplies. In Gaza the Israeli blockade has made an already dire situation worse,” said Donatella Rovera, Amnesty International’s researcher on Israel and the OPT.

In a new extensive report, Amnesty International revealed the extent to which Israel’s discriminatory water policies and practices are denying Palestinians their right to access to water. Israel uses more than 80 per cent of the water from the Mountain Aquifer, the main source of underground water in Israel and the OPT, while restricting Palestinian access to a mere 20 per cent. The Mountain Aquifer is the only source for water for Palestinians in the West Bank, but only one of several for Israel, which also takes for itself all the water available from the Jordan River.

While Palestinian daily water consumption barely reaches 70 litres a day per person, Israeli daily consumption is more than 300 litres per day, four times as much. In some rural communities Palestinians survive on barely 20 litres per day, the minimum amount recommended for domestic use in emergency situations. Some 180,000-200,000 Palestinians living in rural communities have no access to running water and the Israeli army often prevents them from even collecting rainwater.

In contrast, Israeli settlers, who live in the West Bank in violation of international law, have intensive-irrigation farms, lush gardens and swimming pools. Numbering about 450,000, the settlers use as much or more water than the Palestinian population of some 2.3 million. In the Gaza Strip, 90 to 95 per cent of the water from its only water resource, the Coastal Aquifer, is contaminated and unfit for human consumption. Yet, Israel does not allow the transfer of water from the Mountain Aquifer in the West Bank to Gaza.

Stringent restrictions imposed in recent years by Israel on the entry into Gaza of material and equipment necessary for the development and repair of infrastructure have caused further deterioration of the water and sanitation situation in Gaza, which has reached crisis point. To cope with water shortages and lack of network supplies many Palestinians have to purchase water, of often dubious quality, from mobile water tankers at a much higher price.”

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“Others resort to water-saving measures which are detrimental to their and their families’ health and which hinder socio-economic development.

“Over more than 40 years of occupation, restrictions imposed by Israel on the Palestinians’ access to water have prevented the development of water infrastructure and facilities in the OPT, consequently denying hundreds of thousand of Palestinians the right to live a normal life, to have adequate food, housing, or health, and to economic development,” said Donatella Rovera. Israel has appropriated large areas of the water-rich Palestinian land it occupies and barred Palestinians from accessing them.

It has also imposed a complex system of permits which the Palestinians must obtain from the Israeli army and other authorities in order to carry out water-related projects in the OPT. Applications for such permits are often rejected or subject to long delays. Restrictions imposed by Israel on the movement of people and goods in the OPT further compound the difficulties Palestinians face when trying to carry out water and sanitation projects, or even just to distribute small quantities of water.

Water tankers are forced to take long detours to avoid Israeli military checkpoints and roads which are out of bounds to Palestinians, resulting in steep increases in the price of water. In rural areas, Palestinian villagers are continuously struggling to find enough water for their basic needs, as the Israeli army often destroys their rainwater harvesting cisterns and confiscates their water tankers.

In comparison, irrigation sprinklers water the fields in the midday sun in nearby Israeli settlements, where much water is wasted as it evaporates before even reaching the ground. In some Palestinian villages, because their access to water has been so severely restricted, farmers are unable to cultivate the land, or even to grow small amounts of food for their personal consumption or for animal fodder, and have thus been forced to reduce the size of their herds.

“Water is a basic need and a right, but for many Palestinians obtaining even poor-quality subsistence-level quantities of water has become a luxury that they can barely afford,” said Donatella Rovera. “Israel must end its discriminatory policies, immediately lift all the restrictions it imposes on Palestinians’ access to water, and take responsibility for addressing the problems it created by allowing Palestinians a fair share of the shared water resources.”

How can all of this continue and the world is silently watching. It is shameful and horrifying. It is crima against humanity. It is the worlds largest concentration camp with collective punishment, use of white phosphor, bombing of hospitals and schools and murdering of children. How is this possible? And we are wondering why there are terrorists.

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Age of Stupid & Capitalism a Love Story

If you want to see a horror movie. Go and see <http://www.ageofstupid.net/>. The Age of Stupid is the new four-year epic from McLibel director Franny Armstrong. Oscar-nominated Pete Postlethwaite stars as a man living alone in the devastated world of 2055, looking at old footage from 2008 and asking: why didn't we stop climate change when we had the chance?

And go and see Capitalism a Love Story by Michael Moore who introduce it as follows: *"I've spent nearly two years on this new movie, "Capitalism: A Love Story," and have poured my heart and soul into this project. Many early critics and viewers have called it my "best film yet." That's a hard call for me to make as I'm proud of all of my films -- but I will tell you this: What you are about to see in "Capitalism" is going to stun you. It's going to make some of you angry and I believe it's going to give most of you a new sense of hope that we are going to turn the sick and twisted mess made by the last president around. Oh, and you're going to have a good laugh at the expense of all the banking and corporate criminals who've made out like bandits in the past year.*

I'm gonna show you the stuff the nightly news will rarely show you. Ever meet a pilot for American Airlines on food stamps because his pay's been cut so low? Ever meet a judge who gets kickbacks for sending innocent kids to a private prison? Ever meet someone from the Wall Street Journal who bluntly states on camera that he doesn't much care for democracy and that capitalism should be our only ruling concern?

You'll meet all these guys in "Capitalism."..... So here we come! It's all there, up on the silver screen, two hours of a tragicomedy crime story starring a bunch of vampires who just weren't satisfied with simply destroying Flint, Michigan -- they had to try and see if they could take down the whole damn country. So come see this cops and robbers movie! The robbers this time wear suits and ties"....Read more on <http://www.michaelmoore.com/>

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Michael Moore is one of the very few who dares to criticize the establishment. He even named them “Stupid white men”. The white men around Bush with black oil fingers. The simple fact that the white men who runs the world is a small group who is moving around between the big corporations and the big governments. Either via powerful lobbying groups or directly infiltrating important government positions. And naturally the establishment criticize him. And they have the power and the means to do so. Michael Moore has his films, his books, invitations to a few talk shows and his website. He has a special part with the facts for his film “*Capitalism-a love story*”.

<http://www.michaelmoore.com/books-films/facts/capitalism-love-story>

This includes a lot and I just want to quote some of it covering one of the basic statements. That the American version of capitalism degenerated from the democratic “New Deal” and the middle class “revolution” of the 1950ies to the Reaganomics for the very rich from the 1980ies. Some of this facts is:

“From 1950 to 1963, individuals paid 91% or 92% of their income above \$200,000 to the federal government. The top marginal rate decreased from 70% in 1980 to 28% in 1989.” But even better Michael Moore gives a link to the official US Statistics and this explains a lot. I am almost disappointed that MM did not use this very interesting facts.

In the pre-democratic “raw capitalism” days before the first world war the top marginal tax rates were 7% in the U.S. That meant that for a successful businessman the sky was the limit for personal gains. Only 7% in marginal tax. But during the first world war this tax was increased to 77%. After the war it was gradually decreased to 73% 1919, 56% 1922, 25% 1925, 24% 1929 and then we may remember what happened. The stock market melted down and the recession. A new president Franklin D. Roosevelt was elected the first time to be US president 1932 and is unique since he was re-elected three times (1932, 1936, 1940, 1944). In order to fight the recession he formulated “The new deal” following the ideas of John Maynard Keynes with a “mixed economy” of private activity and state interventions. The “party was over” for the rich and the top marginal tax was increased to 63% and then 79% 1936, 94% 1944. All the years until 1963 the tax was still 91% when it started to decrease. When Reagan was elected as president it was still 70%. After 8 years of Reaganomics it was only 28% and USA had an enormous deficit. So anybody remembers the black Monday 1987 when the Dow Jones went from 2200 to 1700. The Black Monday decline was the largest one-day percentage decline in stock market history. But there was another black Monday after September 11, 2001. And another black September, 2008. After Clinton when the tax increased to 40% George W Bush decreased it again to 35% 2003. John Kenneth Galbraith who was a supporter of Keynes had opposed the Reaganomics created by the Chicago Boys and Milton Friedman. Neither Galbraith nor Friedman lived to experience the 2008 Financial meltdown. It would have been interesting to hear them discuss this and why it happened.

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26-Oct-09

Historical Highest Marginal Income Tax Rates

Year	Top Marginal Rate	Year	Top Marginal Rate	Year	Top Marginal Rate
1913	7.0%	1946	86.45%	1979	70.00%
1914	7.0%	1947	86.45%	1980	70.00%
1915	7.0%	1948	82.13%	1981	69.13%
1916	15.0%	1949	82.13%	1982	50.00%
1917	67.0%	1950	91.00%	1983	50.00%
1918	77.0%	1951	91.00%	1984	50.00%
1919	73.0%	1952	92.00%	1985	50.00%
1920	73.0%	1953	92.00%	1986	50.00%
1921	73.0%	1954	91.00%	1987	38.50%
1922	56.0%	1955	91.00%	1988	28.00%
1923	56.0%	1956	91.00%	1989	28.00%
1924	46.0%	1957	91.00%	1990	31.00%
1925	25.0%	1958	91.00%	1991	31.00%
1926	25.0%	1959	91.00%	1992	31.00%
1927	25.0%	1960	91.00%	1993	39.60%
1928	25.0%	1961	91.00%	1994	39.60%
1929	24.0%	1962	91.00%	1995	39.60%
1930	25.0%	1963	91.00%	1996	39.60%
1931	25.0%	1964	77.00%	1997	39.60%
1932	63.0%	1965	70.00%	1998	39.60%
1933	63.0%	1966	70.00%	1999	39.60%
1934	63.0%	1967	70.00%	2000	39.60%
1935	63.0%	1968	75.25%	2001	38.60%
1936	79.0%	1969	77.00%	2002	38.60%
1937	79.0%	1970	71.75%	2003	35.00%
1938	79.0%	1971	70.00%	2004	35.00%
1939	79.0%	1972	70.00%	2005	35.00%
1940	81.10%	1973	70.00%	2006	35.00%
1941	81.00%	1974	70.00%	2007	35.00%
1942	88.00%	1975	70.00%	2008	35.00%
1943	88.00%	1976	70.00%	2009	35.00%
1944	94.00%	1977	70.00%	2010	35.00%
1945	94.00%	1978	70.00%		

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So why is highest income marginal tax a hot issue. Because it will affect how the money is distributed in a society. Somebody that “earns” 1 billion is not doing this through work or designing things. It is a result of other people manufacturing, selling, buying and consuming goods. But it can even be the result of some body betting on Wall Street, Insider trading or creating a pyramid scheme like Madock. There are many ways to make money. Legal, questionable and illegal. But in the bottom of the pyramid people has to work to create this wealth. For themselves and for the others on top of the pyramid. This is why very high income is taxed to get a more even distribution to support our common society. Michael Moore states that during the Ragan era this wealth was redistributed to the top of the pyramid. The money was privatized and could be used for speculation and luxury consumption for the few. And it did. Back to his facts:

“During the Reagan administration, major corporations laid off tens of thousands of American workers while making enormous profits.... Neutron Jack' Welch, who laid off 100,000 people in the early 1980s, was one of those slash-and-burn CEOs who became a hero to Wall Street by ruthlessly focusing on the bottom line. Other examples are AT&T and GM. “During the Reagan era, millions of Americans were thrown out of work. Los Angeles Times, May 28, 1991: “Since 1980, 2 million workers have been cut from the U.S. manufacturing payroll. Millions more have accepted – or been forced to accept – reductions in earnings..... As productivity increased, from 1980 to the present, working people's wages remained essentially frozen..... The stock market rose enormously from the time of Reagan's election to the present. In January, 1981, when Reagan was inaugurated, the Dow Jones was hovering under 1,000. In October, 2007, the index broke 14,000..... CEOs increased greatly from the time of Reagan's election to the present..... Citigroup's research department wrote three memos for investors concluding that wealth and power in the U.S. were increasingly concentrated in the hands of the top 1%, stating the top 1% of the population now have more financial wealth than the bottom 95% combined.”

What Michael Moore is saying is while the top earners made much more money and paid less tax that working class people of America had to work more for the same or less payment. And with the “working class” he includes airline pilots; *“Regional airline pilots are often paid low salaries (25 000 USD/year) , which sometimes are less than those paid to fast food restaurant managers.”*

MM describes how the Bush government is full of ex managers from the Financial Institutes they later give bail-out money as a blanc check. How Wal-Mart is ensuring their employees so they can cash in when they die. And about the golden rich boys on Wall Street: *“Goldman Sachs set aside \$6.8 billion for bonuses in 2008, the same year in which they accepted \$10 billion in TARP funds from the American taxpayer.”* But then the scary new information: *“Goldman Sachs was President Barack Obama's number one private contributor, with nearly one million dollars in contributions.”*

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What Michael Moore is describing is basically a corrupt society where a group of very rich people are kidnapping the democratic process. This was a clear fact during Bush. But if now Obama is financed by the same people and is listening to the same people.... And the following fact of the result of this increasing gap between rich and poor since Reagan is remarkable: *"We locked up millions of our citizens. According to the US Department of Justice, the number of people in jail or prison increased from 503,586 in 1980 to 2,293,157 in 2007. "*

Still one of the strongest part of Moores "Love story" is when he refers to President Franklin D. Roosevelt State of the Union Message to Congress January 11, 1944:

"This Nation in the past two years has become an active partner in the world's greatest war against human slavery. We have joined with like-minded people in order to defend ourselves in a world that has been gravely threatened with gangster rule. But I do not think that any of us Americans can be content with mere survival. Sacrifices that we and our allies are making impose upon us all a sacred obligation to see to it that out of this war we and our children will gain something better than mere survival.

We are united in determination that this war shall not be followed by another interim which leads to new disaster- that we shall not repeat the tragic errors of ostrich isolationism—that we shall not repeat the excesses of the wild twenties when this Nation went for a joy ride on a roller coaster which ended in a tragic crash.....

.....It is our duty now to begin to lay the plans and determine the strategy for the winning of a lasting peace and the establishment of an American standard of living higher than ever before known. We cannot be content, no matter how high that general standard of living may be, if some fraction of our people—whether it be one-third or one-fifth or one-tenth- is ill-fed, ill-clothed, ill housed, and insecure.

This Republic had its beginning, and grew to its present strength, under the protection of certain inalienable political rights—among them the right of free speech, free press, free worship, trial by jury, freedom from unreasonable searches and seizures. They were our rights to life and liberty. As our Nation has grown in size and stature, however—as our industrial economy expanded—these political rights proved inadequate to assure us equality in the pursuit of happiness.

We have come to a clear realization of the fact that true individual freedom cannot exist without economic security and independence. "Necessitous men are not free men." People who are hungry and out of a job are the stuff of which dictatorships are made. In our day these economic truths have become accepted as self-evident. We have accepted, so to speak, a second Bill of Rights under which a new basis of security and prosperity can be established for all regardless of station, race, or creed.

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Among these are:

The right to a useful and remunerative job in the industries or shops or farms or mines of the Nation;

The right to earn enough to provide adequate food and clothing and recreation;

The right of every farmer to raise and sell his products at a return which will give him and his family a decent living;

The right of every businessman, large and small, to trade in an atmosphere of freedom from unfair competition and domination by monopolies at home or abroad;

The right of every family to a decent home;

The right to adequate medical care and the opportunity to achieve and enjoy good health;

The right to adequate protection from the economic fears of old age, sickness, accident, and unemployment;

The right to a good education.

All of these rights spell security. And after this war is won we must be prepared to move forward, in the implementation of these rights, to new goals of human happiness and well-being. America's own rightful place in the world depends in large part upon how fully these and similar rights have been carried into practice for our citizens. For unless there is security here at home there cannot be lasting peace in the world."

Franklin D. Rockefeller died before this was proposed to the congress. The new deal was over and a new world was born out of the two nuclear bombs over Hiroshima and Nagasaki. What Michael Moore is concluding is that this form of capitalism running wild has to be changed to.... "democracy". The true meaning of democracy by the people for the people. Not for a few irresponsible individuals to use the word "freedom" to make their own personal fortunes.

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So what did the critics say. A lot of criticism. That Michael Moore is rich because of capitalism. That he is talking and showing off himself too much. .But as usual no comments on the real content and message. This is the real “melt down” – of media and politics. That we have failed to grab the opportunity to really change when we have a economical end ecological melt down. A system error. And no-one is able to question this failed system. Still he got one positive remark from the review New York Times:

“As it happens, the most galvanizing words in the movie come not from the current president but from Roosevelt, who in 1944 called for a “second bill of rights,” asserting that “true individual freedom cannot exist without economic security and independence.” The image of this visibly frail president, who died the next year, appealing to our collective conscience — and mapping out an American future that remains elusive — is moving beyond words. And chilling: “People who are hungry and out of a job are the stuff of which dictatorships are made.” It’s a brilliant moment of cinema both for the man delivering the speech and for Mr. Moore, who smartly realized that he’d found one other voice that needed to be as loud as his own.”

Landon McDonald wrote Thursday, October 8, 2009:

“No one could ever accuse Michael Moore of subtlety. His latest documentary, Capitalism: A Love Story, functions as both scathing corporate takedown and bleak rumination on the future of free enterprise in America. It contains just about everything we’ve come to expect from the portly provocateur, from the faux-reassuring narration to the usual darkhorse parade of grandiose stunts and skillfully edited interviews. But despite all of this, Capitalism: A Love Story is still an important — even essential — film that deserves public attention from both sides of the aisle. In many ways, it’s the most bi-partisan statement of Moore’s career. He blames almost everyone in the U.S. government for bowing to the bailout and contributing to our current recession. He paints the Republicans as fear-mongering pit bulls and the Democrats as lilly-livered bagmen who blindly believe that democracy and capitalism are inexorably bound. Neither party is given an ounce of quarter from the ham-fisted furor of Moore, who seems to delight in his newfound role as equal-opportunity offender.....

However, all this fun but futile grandstanding would feel unearned if it weren’t for the movie’s more poignant moments. Sometimes Moore will stop short in his blustering long enough for us to hear from the real victims of corporate greed, such as the blue collar family being forced off their ancestral farm or the widower whose wife’s life insurance was cashed in by her Wal-Mart employers as part of their self-described “dead peasants” program. Watching Moore’s elderly father, a laid-off auto worker, tour the ruins of the General Motors plant in Flint, Mich., is a painful lesson in what only the most heartless among us could call progress. In a movie so full of righteous sound and fury, these moments of thoughtful silence speak loudest of all.”

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I saw "*Capitalism a love story*" in Stockholm, Sweden the day after the premiere. We were 16 persons including me and my wife. Most of us above 50. It was Saturday and the shopping mall was crowded with people. So were the other cinemas showing other movies. We do have a democracy problem. And the establishment do need to fear their power it seems. Because the way back to democracy requires that we all face that responsibility. That we want to decide our common future. Not just our daily consumption.

The most stupid review I ever have seen was written by "Svenska Dagbladet", the main conservative newspaper in Sweden and the supporter of the present conservative Swedish Government. Still this Newspaper is normally the best in Sweden, so I was surprised to read this anti-Moore furious review that attacked not the film but his opinions. It is in Swedish so it is difficult to translate. I am also too embarrassed to do so. Because it is quoting the movie incorrectly, deliberately misleading and uses a lot of arguments like "Does he want a system like Cuba and North Korea". But once again the main problem is that this newspaper and most others has not the ability to question the system that is collapsing. That not one single thing in the present economical and ecological disaster is being questioned. Just the very few people who dare to have another opinion. And this is very scary. One thing caught however my attention. The review said that "*Capitalism – a love story*" was as ridiculous as Naomi Klein – just more vulgar. So naturally I had to read what she had to say.

Naomi Klein wrote the book, "*The Shock Doctrine: The Rise of Disaster Capitalism*," in 2007, that is before the financial meltdown. So what is she saying? The introduction of the book gives a very interesting angle. The Katrina devastation in New Orleans. In the beginning of the book she writes:

"The news racing around the shelter that day was that the Republican Congressman Richard Baker had told a group of lobbyists, "We finally cleaned up public housing in New Orleans. We couldn't do it, but God did." Joseph Canizaro, one of New Orleans' wealthiest developers, had just expressed a similar sentiment: "I think we have a clean sheet to start again. And with that clean sheet we have some very big opportunities." All that week Baton Rouge had been crawling with corporate lobbyists helping to lock in those big opportunities: lower taxes, fewer regulations, cheaper workers and a "smaller, safer city" - which in practice meant plans to level the public housing projects. Hearing all the talk of "*fresh starts*" and "*clean sheets*", you could almost forget the toxic stew of rubble, chemical outflows and human remains just a few miles down the highway.....

Naomi Klein gives many examples of "*Disaster Capitalism*" from Pinochet in Chile to Bush in Iraq when the "market freedom" was imposed but this had nothing to do with democracy. I have just started to read the book and Klein's newsletters so I have no clear opinion of my own so far other than the facts about the "Chicago boys" planned "training camp" for young economical students from Latin America in a similar manner as the US army "educated" the Latin American military leaders explains a lot of what then happened.

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I sometimes wonder about events happening. If they are accidents, a conspiracy or just the work of a few individuals. Global terrorism is such an “event”. Was September 11 just an separate but well planned event or does it really exist a global conspiracy to destroy the western civilization and everything we believe in. And is Iran, North Korea, Hamas, Chavez and the Talibans part of this axis of evil. Because this is what we normally read and see in media. Terrorists attacks. There is no longer any freedom fighters. But when you now read about events happening in the past involving CIA you can see some conspiracies unfolding. Actually quite a few and mostly to overturn left governments in different parts of the world. So if we believe in the global conspiracy of Al Qaeda maybe we can believe in the ideas of Naomi Klein. In the review by Joseph E. Stiglitz, a university professor at Columbia, was awarded the Nobel in economic science in 2001.

“The Shock Doctrine” is Klein’s ambitious look at the economic history of the last 50 years and the rise of free-market fundamentalism around the world. “Disaster capitalism,” as she calls it, is a violent system that sometimes requires terror to do its job..... She quotes the Chilean economist Orlando Letelier on the “inner harmony” between the terror of the Pinochet regime and its free-market policies. Letelier said that Milton Friedman shared responsibility for the regime’s crimes, rejecting his argument that he was only offering “technical” advice. Letelier was killed in 1976 by a car bomb planted in Washington by Pinochet’s secret police. For Klein, he was another victim of the “Chicago Boys” who wanted to impose free-market capitalism on the region. “In the Southern Cone, where contemporary capitalism was born, the ‘war on terror’ was a war against all obstacles to the new order.”

She paints a disturbing portrait of hubris, not only on the part of Friedman but also of those who adopted his doctrines, sometimes to pursue more corporatist objectives. It is striking to be reminded how many of the people involved in the Iraq war were involved earlier in other shameful episodes in United States foreign policy history. She draws a clear line from the torture in Latin America in the 1970s to that at Abu Ghraib and Guantánamo Bay.

Klein is not an academic and cannot be judged as one. There are many places in her book where she oversimplifies. But Friedman and the other shock therapists were also guilty of oversimplification, basing their belief in the perfection of market economies on models that assumed perfect information, perfect competition, perfect risk markets. Indeed, the case against these policies is even stronger than the one Klein makes. They were never based on solid empirical and theoretical foundations, and even as many of these policies were being pushed, academic economists were explaining the limitations of markets — for instance, whenever information is imperfect, which is to say always.”

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Some readers may see Klein's findings as evidence of a giant conspiracy, a conclusion she explicitly disavows. It's not the conspiracies that wreck the world but the series of wrong turns, failed policies, and little and big unfairnesses that add up. Still, those decisions are guided by larger mind-sets. Market fundamentalists never really appreciated the institutions required to make an economy function well, let alone the broader social fabric that civilizations require to prosper and flourish. Klein ends on a hopeful note, describing nongovernmental organizations and activists around the world who are trying to make a difference. After 500 pages of "The Shock Doctrine," it's clear they have their work cut out for them."

So let us continue in Naomi Kleins own words from the introduction of the book:

"One of those who saw opportunity in the floodwaters of New Orleans was the late Milton Friedman, grand guru of unfettered capitalism and credited with writing the rulebook for the contemporary, hyper-mobile global economy. Ninety-three years old and in failing health, "Uncle Miltie", as he was known to his followers, found the strength to write an op-ed for the Wall Street Journal three months after the levees broke. "Most New Orleans schools are in ruins," Friedman observed, "as are the homes of the children who have attended them. The children are now scattered all over the country. This is a tragedy. It is also an opportunity."

Friedman's radical idea was that instead of spending a portion of the billions of dollars in reconstruction money on rebuilding and improving New Orleans' existing public school system, the government should provide families with vouchers, which they could spend at private institutions.

In sharp contrast to the glacial pace with which the levees were repaired and the electricity grid brought back online, the auctioning-off of New Orleans' school system took place with military speed and precision. Within 19 months, with most of the city's poor residents still in exile, New Orleans' public school system had been almost completely replaced by privately run charter schools.

The Friedmanite American Enterprise Institute enthused that "Katrina accomplished in a day ... what Louisiana school reformers couldn't do after years of trying". Public school teachers, meanwhile, were calling Friedman's plan "an educational land grab". I call these orchestrated raids on the public sphere in the wake of catastrophic events, combined with the treatment of disasters as exciting market opportunities, "disaster capitalism".

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Privatising the school system of a mid-size American city may seem a modest preoccupation for the man hailed as the most influential economist of the past half century. Yet his determination to exploit the crisis in New Orleans to advance a fundamentalist version of capitalism was also an oddly fitting farewell. For more than three decades, Friedman and his powerful followers had been perfecting this very strategy: waiting for a major crisis, then selling off pieces of the state to private players while citizens were still reeling from the shock.

In one of his most influential essays, Friedman articulated contemporary capitalism's core tactical nostrum, what I have come to understand as "the shock doctrine". He observed that "only a crisis - actual or perceived - produces real change". When that crisis occurs, the actions taken depend on the ideas that are lying around. Some people stockpile canned goods and water in preparation for major disasters; Friedmanites stockpile free-market ideas. And once a crisis has struck, the University of Chicago professor was convinced that it was crucial to act swiftly, to impose rapid and irreversible change before the crisis-racked society slipped back into the "tyranny of the status quo". A variation on Machiavelli's advice that "injuries" should be inflicted "all at once", this is one of Friedman's most lasting legacies.

Friedman first learned how to exploit a shock or crisis in the mid-70s, when he advised the dictator General Augusto Pinochet. Not only were Chileans in a state of shock after Pinochet's violent coup, but the country was also traumatised by hyperinflation. Friedman advised Pinochet to impose a rapid-fire transformation of the economy - tax cuts, free trade, privatised services, cuts to social spending and deregulation.

It was the most extreme capitalist makeover ever attempted anywhere, and it became known as a "Chicago School" revolution, as so many of Pinochet's economists had studied under Friedman there. Friedman coined a phrase for this painful tactic: economic "shock treatment". In the decades since, whenever governments have imposed sweeping free-market programs, the all-at-once shock treatment, or "shock therapy", has been the method of choice.

Read more about Naomi Klein on <http://www.naomiklein.org/shock-doctrine>

I found something very interesting. Johan Norberg is a senior fellow at the Cato Institute and the author of, among other books, In Defense of Global Capitalism. He also furiously attacked Naomi Klein. And since he is Swedish I continued to read about him. I always get suspicious when one of the few who dares to criticize the establishment and especially the free market fundamentalism is attacked by a whole Institute. Maybe she is right if such comprehensive contra aggression is needed. Because now I get another suspicion. Maybe that the financial crisis has created such a shock. That it will give IMF, WTO and the world bank even more strength to streamline the world according to Milton Friedmans ideas. To give us more of the same medicine that created the problem – by the same “doctors”.

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I finally found an interesting conversation between Naomi Klein and Michael Moore. But it was not only interesting but alarming.

Naomi Klein: So, the film is wonderful. Congratulations. It is, as many people have already heard, an unapologetic call for a revolt against capitalist madness. But the week it premiered, a very different kind of revolt was in the news: the so-called tea parties, seemingly a passionate defense of capitalism and against social programs.

Meanwhile, we are not seeing too many signs of the hordes storming Wall Street. Personally, I'm hoping that your film is going to be the wake-up call and the catalyst for all of that changing. But I'm just wondering how you're coping with this odd turn of events, these revolts for capitalism led by Glenn Beck.

Michael Moore: I don't know if they're so much revolts in favor of capitalism as they are being fueled by a couple of different agendas, one being the fact that a number of Americans still haven't come to grips with the fact that there's an African-American who is their leader. And I don't think they like that.

NK: Do you see that as the main driving force for the tea parties?

MM: I think it's one of the forces--but I think there's a number of agendas at work here. The other agenda is the corporate agenda. The healthcare companies and other corporate concerns are helping to pull together what seems like a spontaneous outpouring of citizen anger.

But the third part of this is--and this is what I really have always admired about the right wing: they are organized, they are dedicated, they are up at the crack of dawn fighting their fight. And on our side, I don't really see that kind of commitment.

When they were showing up at the town-hall meetings in August--those meetings are open to everyone. So where are the people from our side? And then I thought, Wow, it's August. You ever try to organize anything on the left in August?

NK: Wasn't part of it also, though, that the left, or progressives, or whatever you want to call them, have been in something of a state of disarray with regard to the Obama administration--that most people favor universal healthcare, but they couldn't rally behind it because it wasn't on the table?

MM: Yes. And that's why Obama keeps turning around and looking for the millions behind him, supporting him, and there's nobody even standing there, because he chose to take a half measure instead of the full measure that needed to happen. Had he taken the full measure--true single-payer, universal healthcare--I think he'd have millions out there backing him up.

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Now it is one year since Obama won the election, but the change he has promised was not delivered. That is the worry. For U.S. the health care reform is now down to a compromise. The problem is what Moore is saying. The establishment is very organized. They have the power and the money. And they are not giving it up. Coming back to the conspiracy I am of the opinion that naturally there is no conspiracy per say that can order disasters around the world. But when they happen as September 11, 2001 there is a mechanism to use this as an excuse to do what they wanted to do. That is why Bush and Blair could bluntly lie and do what they wanted. When it comes to another September 11 in Chile, when Pinochet killed the democracy – this was a true conspiracy supported by USA.

The Chock doctrine works and has been used even before Milton Friedman. I have just read a book in Swedish by Sven Lindqvist. Translated to English it would be – Now you died – The century of bombs. To me this book was a complete enlightening of a fact I never before had thought of. That simple fact on what is a war crime and what is not a war crime. That it is not OK to send soldiers into a village and kill every male with guns or machetes. But that it is OK to completely wipe out a city, a school, a hospital or a village by Napalm, white phosphor or ordinary bombs killing hundreds or even thousands of civilians. How is that possible? Sven Lindqvist tells the story in a scary way. Already 1907 the Haag convention stated that all bombing of defenseless cities was prohibited. During the first world war millions of people were killed but very few from air strikes. The Germans had some Zeppelins and they did drop some bombs but were mainly used for surveillance. The Royal Air Force (RAF) is the United Kingdom's air force, the oldest independent air force in the world. Formed on 1 April 1918, The first air bombardment took place earlier:

“Joseph Conrad was describing the British naval bombardment of African coastal settlements, when in An Outcast of the Islands (1896) he wrote of ‘the invisible whites’ who ‘dealt death from afar’. In Lindqvist’s history, too, aerial bombardment appears as a novel kind of punitive raid. The first bomb ever to be dropped from a plane - an Italian monoplane piloted by Lieutenant Giulio Cavotti - landed among troops encamped at an oasis outside Tripoli on 1 November 1911. It was reported to have had ‘a wonderful effect on the morale of the Arabs’. The Spanish practised the technique in Morocco, as did the French - who also dropped bombs on Syria and even designed a special ‘colonial’ plane, which allowed its airman to ‘sit in the shade with plenty of space for their machine guns and shoot the indigenes in comfort’. The British bombed revolutionaries in Egypt and Pathans on India’s North-West Frontier in 1915. After the First World War, the future of the British Air Force was guaranteed by Mohammed Abdille Hassan, the troublesome ‘mad Mullah’ of Somaliland, who was bombed into submission within a week. ‘Bomber’ Harris was a squadron leader in the Third Afghani war of 1919, and pioneered a new method of governance called ‘control without occupation’ in Iraq, which entailed sprinkling fire on straw-roofed huts: ‘within forty-five minutes,’ he reported, ‘a full-sized village . . . can be practically wiped out and a third of its inhabitants killed or injured by four or five machines which offer them no real target.’”
(Patrick Wright)

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What Lindqvist describes is how airplane bombing was used according to the shock doctrine to scare and kill “savages” in the colonies. Today we often forget this ugly past that it was the Europeans that occupied a large part of the world as colonies and many of them was not set free until just a few decades ago – after the second world war. We also forget that racism and white supremacy was then an acceptable view. Patrick Wright states the following in his review of *A History of Bombing* by Sven Lindqvist, translated by Linda Haverty Rugg. Granta.

“The gradual extinction of the inferior races is not only a law of nature, but a blessing to mankind,’ and with ghoulish evolutionary fervour praised Anglo-Saxons as ‘the only extirpating race on earth”. Bombing was first thought of in these imperialist, exterminatory terms: ‘fantasies of genocide lay in wait for the first airplane to arrive. The dream of solving all the problems of the world through mass destruction from the air was already in place before the first bomb was dropped.”

It was the success with the bombing of “mad Mullah” of Somaliland” who convinced Winston Churchill to keep RAF after the First World War and deploy it to Iraq and other “non-European” countries needed to learn the white lesson. So how could terror bombing of civilians be allowed since this type of bombing though such bombing had already been defined as a war crime, under the Hague Convention of 1907. Because this was not valid for “wild tribes”. In the period between the First and the Second World War the European powers would therefore use airplane bombardment in several colonies.

Jonathan Glancey writes in Guardian 19 April 2003 about the “Our last occupation”:

“No one, least of all the British, should be surprised at the state of anarchy in Iraq. We have been here before. We know the territory, its long and miasmatic history, the all-but-impossible diplomatic balance to be struck between the cultures and ambitions of Arabs, Kurds, Shia and Sunni, of Assyrians, Turks, Americans, French, Russians and of our own desire to keep an economic and strategic presence there.

Laid waste, a chaotic post-invasion Iraq may now well be policed by old and new imperial masters promising liberty, democracy and unwanted exiled leaders, in return for oil, trade and submission. Only the last of these promises is certain. The peoples of Iraq, even those who have cheered passing troops, have every reason to mistrust foreign invaders. They have been lied to far too often, bombed and slaughtered promiscuously.

Iraq is the product of a lying empire. The British carved it duplicitously from ancient history, thwarted Arab hopes, Ottoman loss, the dunes of Mesopotamia and the mountains of Kurdistan at the end of the first world war. Unsurprisingly, anarchy and insurrection were there from the start.”

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The British responded with gas attacks by the army in the south, bombing by the fledgling RAF in both north and south. When Iraqi tribes stood up for themselves, we unleashed the flying dogs of war to "police" them. Terror bombing, night bombing, heavy bombers, delayed action bombs (particularly lethal against children) were all developed during raids on mud, stone and reed villages during Britain's League of Nations' mandate. The mandate ended in 1932; the semi-colonial monarchy in 1958. But during the period of direct British rule, Iraq proved a useful testing ground for newly forged weapons of both limited and mass destruction, as well as new techniques for controlling imperial outposts and vassal states.

The RAF was first ordered to Iraq to quell Arab and Kurdish and Arab uprisings, to protect recently discovered oil reserves, to guard Jewish settlers in Palestine and to keep Turkey at bay. Some mission, yet it had already proved itself an effective imperial police force in both Afghanistan and Somaliland (today's Somalia) in 1919-20. British and US forces have been back regularly to bomb these hubs of recalcitrance ever since.

Winston Churchill, secretary of state for war and air, estimated that without the RAF, somewhere between 25,000 British and 80,000 Indian troops would be needed to control Iraq. Reliance on the airforce promised to cut these numbers to just 4,000 and 10,000. Churchill's confidence was soon repaid. An uprising of more than 100,000 armed tribesmen against the British occupation swept through Iraq in the summer of 1920. In went the RAF. It flew missions totalling 4,008 hours, dropped 97 tons of bombs and fired 183,861 rounds for the loss of nine men killed, seven wounded and 11 aircraft destroyed behind rebel lines. The rebellion was thwarted, with nearly 9,000 Iraqis killed. Even so, concern was expressed in Westminster: the operation had cost more than the entire British-funded Arab rising against the Ottoman Empire in 1917-18.

The RAF was vindicated as British military expenditure in Iraq fell from £23m in 1921 to less than £4m five years later. This was despite the fact that the number of bombing raids increased after 1923 when Squadron Leader Arthur Harris - the future hammer of Hamburg and Dresden, whose statue stands in Fleet Street in London today - took command of 45 Squadron. Adding bomb-racks to Vickers Vernon troop carriers, Harris more or less invented the heavy bomber as well as night "terror" raids. Harris did not use gas himself - though the RAF had employed mustard gas against Bolshevik troops in 1919, while the army had gassed Iraqi rebels in 1920 "with excellent moral effect".

Churchill was particularly keen on chemical weapons, suggesting they be used "against recalcitrant Arabs as an experiment". He dismissed objections as "unreasonable". "I am strongly in favour of using poisoned gas against uncivilised tribes _ [to] spread a lively terror _" In today's terms, "the Arab" needed to be shocked and awed. A good gassing might well do the job.

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Conventional raids, however, proved to be an effective deterrent. They brought Sheikh Mahmoud, the most persistent of Kurdish rebels, to heel, at little cost. Writing in 1921, Wing Commander J A Chamier suggested that the best way to demoralise local people was to concentrate bombing on the "most inaccessible village of the most prominent tribe which it is desired to punish. All available aircraft must be collected the attack with bombs and machine guns must be relentless and unremitting and carried on continuously by day and night, on houses, inhabitants, crops and cattle."

"The Arab and Kurd now know", reported Squadron Leader Harris after several such raids, "what real bombing means within 45 minutes a full-sized village can be practically wiped out, and a third of its inhabitants killed or injured, by four or five machines which offer them no real target, no opportunity for glory as warriors, no effective means of escape."

In his memoir of the crushing of the 1920 Iraqi uprising, Lieutenant-General Sir Aylmer L Haldane, quotes his own orders for the punishment of any Iraqi found in possession of weapons "with the utmost severity": "The village where he resides will be destroyed _ pressure will be brought on the inhabitants by cutting off water power the area being cleared of the necessaries of life". He added the warning: "Burning a village properly takes a long time, an hour or more according to size".

Punitive British bombing continued throughout the 1920s. An eyewitness account by Saleh 'Umar al Jabrim describes a raid in February 1923 on a village in southern Iraq, where bedouin were celebrating 12 weddings. After a visit from the RAF, a woman, two boys, a girl and four camels were left dead. There were many wounded. Perhaps to please his British interrogators, Saleh declared: "These casualties are from God and no one is to be blamed." One RAF officer, Air Commodore Lionel Charlton, resigned in 1924 when he visited a hospital after such a raid and faced armless and legless civilian victims. Others held less generous views of those under their control. "Woe betide any native [working for the RAF] who was caught in the act of thieving any article of clothing that may be hanging out to dry", wrote Aircraftsman 2nd class, H Howe, based at RAF Hunaidi, Baghdad. "It was the practice to take the offending native into the squadron gymnasium. Here he would be placed in the boxing ring, used as a punch bag by members of the boxing team, and after he had received severe punishment, and was in a very sorry condition, he would be expelled for good, minus his job."

At the time of the Arab revolt in Palestine in the late 1930s, Air Commodore Harris, as he then was, declared that "the only thing the Arab understands is the heavy hand, and sooner or later it will have to be applied". As in 1921, so in 2003.

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WHAT IS PERMISSIBLE IN WAR? ask Sven Lindqvist?

“The laws of war have always answered two questions. When may one wage war? What is permissible in war? And international law has always given two completely different answers to these questions, depending on who the enemy is. The laws of war protect enemies of the same race, class, and culture. The laws of war leave the foreign and the alien without protection. When is one allowed to wage war against savages and barbarians? Answer: always. What is permissible in wars against savages and barbarians? Answer: anything.”

It was not only the British who used terror bombing of civilians in the colonies. Damaskus was bombed by the French October 18, 1925 when more than 1000 civilians were killed according to Lindqvist. Franco served 10 years in Africa and building up the Spansih legionnaires. He learned how to fight a war without any rules or mercy. The total war. It was these troupes that was sent to destroy the democracy in Spain 1936 with the help of German pilots. *“Everyone knows about Guernica in Chechaouen. In Guernica no one has ever heard of Chechaouen. And yet they are sister cities. Two small cities, clinging to mountainsides, a few miles from the northern coast of Spain and Morocco, respectively. Both of them are very old-Guernica was founded in 1366, and Chechaouen in 1471. Both are holy places-Guernica has the sacred oak of the Basque people, and Chechaouen has Moulay Abdessalam Ben Mchich's sacred grave. Both are capitals-Guernica for the Basques, and Chechaouen for the Jibala people. Both had populations of about 6,000 when they were bombed, Guernica in 1937 and Chechaouen 1925. Both were bombed by legionnaires-Guernica by Germans serving under Franco, and Chechaouen by Americans under French command, serving the interests of the Spanish colonial power.”* As Lindqvist concludes. Guernica was in Europe but Chechaouen in Africa.

Then we had another African “conflict”. Ethiopia (Abyssinia), which Italy had unsuccessfully tried to conquer in the 1890s, was in 1934 one of the few independent states in a European-dominated Africa. A border incident between Ethiopia and Italian Somaliland that December gave Benito Mussolini an excuse to intervene. Rejecting all arbitration offers, the Italians invaded Ethiopia on Oct. 3, 1935. 500 airplanes was flying 7500 “missions”. The war is also remembered for the illegal use of mustard gas and phosgene by the Italian armed forces. Often seen as one of the episodes that prepared the way for World War II, the war demonstrated the ineffectiveness of the League of Nations when League decisions were not supported by the great powers. In 1938, France and Britain recognized Italian control over Ethiopia. What could they do since they had their own colonies.

So the new white chock doctrine was that it was OK to launch terror against any civilians in Africa and Asia because they were not covered by any International laws as inferior beings. Italy bombed Libya and Ethiopia, France in Marocco, Syria and later Algeria and Indo China, Britain in East Africa, Middle East, India and later Malaysia. But with Franco s destruction of not only Guernica but many other Spanish villages – the total war had entered Europe.

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Lindqvist: *"The First World War killed ten million people and wounded twenty million. Was it a crime against humanity? Or was it quite all right, as long as the dead and wounded were young, armed men? An unknown number of children and elderly died of hunger and disease as a consequence of the British naval blockade against Germany. Was that a crime against humanity? Or was it quite all right, since the English couldn't help the fact that the Germans sent the little food they had to the front, letting the children and elderly starve?"*

The slaughter at the front seemed meaningless even as it was going on. The war had dug in and got stuck, and the military looked desperately for a new, more mobile way to wage war. Flight seemed to offer the most obvious solution. Air attacks against the civilian population would force rapid results and ultimate victories. But "the colonial short-cut" was forbidden in Europe. Here it was a crime against humanity to save the lives of soldiers by bombing women, children, and old people. Human rights seemed to forbid what military necessity seemed to demand - a contraction that has colored our entire century."

When can evil be used to fight evil? We all have learned from our history books about the Evil empire of Germany. The 6 million Jews and the same number of other "inferior" beings as gypsies, communists and Russians were murdered by the Nazis. Nobody (or almost nobody) question that this was an awful crime. But then it gets "messy". The British Empire and France had successfully been using air strikes against "trouble makers" and "terrorists" in their colonies killing thousands of civilians. Britain and France accepted the Italian conquest of Ethiopia and Franco's genocide of his own Spanish people. He was the approved dictator of Spain from 1939-1975. Accepted by the west. Never brought to trial.

Lindqvist: *"On the tenth of May in 1940, Churchill became Prime Minister of England. On the eleventh of May, he gave the order to bomb Germany. "It was a splendid decision," writes J. M. Spaight, expert on international law and Secretary of the British Air Ministry. Thanks to that decision, the English to-day can walk with their heads held high. When Churchill began to bomb Germany, he knew that the Germans did not want a bombing war. Their airforce, unlike the British, was not made for heavy bombs. Churchill went on bombing, even though he knew that reprisals were unavoidable. He consciously sacrificed London and other English cities for the sake of freedom and civilization. "It was a splendid decision."*

Everybody (or almost everybody) consider Churchill a hero. He saved Europe from the evil empire of Hitler. So was everything allowed in this struggle. Was the "total war" an acceptable mean for a just cause. This new type of total I war against complete city populations was started by Britain during the spring 1940, but we know more about the German response with the "Blitz" against London. The war escalated to what today is called "Free fire zones" when the British started with the new devastating fire bombs. Munich, Lubeck and Colon was destroyed. July 28, 1943 50 000 people. mostly women, children and elderly burned to death in the Hamburg fire storm.

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But the most well known “event” is the destruction of Dresden. In Wikipedia we can read:

“The Bombing of Dresden by the British Royal Air Force (RAF) and United States Army Air Force (USAAF) between 13 February and 15 February 1945 remains one of the most controversial Allied actions of the Second World War. In four raids, 1,300 heavy bombers dropped more than 3,900 tons of high-explosive bombs and incendiary devices on the city, the Baroque capital of the German state of Saxony. The resulting firestorm destroyed 39 square kilometres (15 sq mi) of the city centre.[“

The destruction included 19 hospitals. The number of civilians killed varies from 24 000 to 250 000. Lindqvist states around 100 000. The reason for the difficulties to count was that the humans were cremated. But there were even more to come. The Japanese had entered the war by attacking USA on Hawaii. The cruelty of the Japanese forces in China was documented including terror bombing of civilian targets. So when USA started bombing Japan there were no rules. The newly developed “Napalm” bombs were used to set fire on the Japanese cities built by tree and paper. March 9, 1945 Tokyo was the first to suffer their fire storm with more than 100 000 killed. Then came Nagoya, Osaka and Kobe. When 66 cities had been destroyed on July 18, 1945 the Japanese emperor sent a telegram to president Truman asking for peace negotiations. But then it was too late. Two cities had been spared for a demonstration mainly directed towards the Soviet Union. Later president Truman described this as a successful attack on a Japanese military base done in a way to spare human lives and especially the lives of American soldiers if they would had to invade Japan. At 08.16.02 August 6, 1945 the world’s first nuclear bomb exploded above the Shina hospital in central Hiroshima. In one second 100 000 people were killed, of which 95% civilians. Another 100 000 suffered a more painful death from the burning and radiation.

“Some are hardened corpses, melted in their own blackened fat in the shelters, or laid out in rows 'liked grilled chickens'. 'There were people on the roadway, some already dead, some lying alive but stuck in the asphalt. They must have rushed onto the road way without thinking,' a survivor of the Hamburg fire-bombing recorded. 'Their feet had got stuck and they had put out their hands to get out again. They were on their hands and knees, screaming.' The victims may be found peeling off their own skins in the ruins of Hiroshima or speaking back with polite firmness, like the Korean Pak Jong Dae, who sat in front of an American historian, saying through the remnants of a face burned away by napalm: 'I do not think there should be any more victims like me in this world.'”

Lindqvist points out another important conclusion. “On August 8, two days after Hiroshima and one day before Nagasaki, USA, Soviet Union, UK and France signed an agreement on war crimes. How could Dresden, Hiroshima and the other terror bombing be excluded from “war crimes”. The solution was simple. Terror bombing from airplanes was not considered a war crime. So neither Germany, Japan, UK or USA was accused for this, just other crimes.

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Maybe we can still accept the terror bombing of German and Japanese cities as necessary "vil" to fight a greater "evil". But this acceptance of terror from the air that started with the bombing of all resistance in the colonies continued. The use of Napalm continued. On the peace day in May 1945 and following weeks French airplanes destroyed 45 villages in Algeria. Syria tried to be free but Damascus and Aleppo were bombed. Aden was bombed 1945 by the British. 1949 U.K. started bombing Malaysia with 35 000 bombs and herbicides during 4000 "missions". The French bombed Madagascar with thousands of killed civilians. During the Second World War 100 000 African soldiers from Kenya had participated and thought they as a reward would get their free dom. Instead the reward was British bombing during their 1952- 60 war for freedom. The largest mission was "The Hammer" by RAF in September 1954. In total the British used 50 000 tons of bombs in Kenya.

Internet Saturday, January 12, 2008 BRITISH COLONIZATION OF KENYA:

"Only 32 European settlers died in the subsequent fighting, but more than 1,800 African civilians, over 3,000 African police and soldiers, and 12,000 Mau Mau rebels were killed. Between 1953 and 1956 Britain sent over a thousand Kenyans to the gallows, often on trumped up or nonexistent charges. Meanwhile 70,000 people were imprisoned in camps without trial for between two and six years..... Recently declassified documents give details of a massive torture campaign by the authorities. "

The Korean war was the first big post war "conflict". And it was the first when USA could use their new air force. According to Wikipedia:

The Korean War (25 Jun 1950 - 27 Jul 1953) was the first shooting war for the newly independent United States Air Force. It was the first time U.S. jet aircraft entered into battle. Air Force F-86 Sabre jets took control of the skies, as American fighter pilots bested Soviet-built MiG-15 fighters in combat against aircraft, Soviet tactics, and, on some occasions, Soviet pilots. [1] World War II-era prop-driven F-51D Mustangs were pressed into the ground-air support role, and large formations of B-29 Superfortresses flew for the last time on strategic bombardment missions. The Korean War also saw the first large-scale use of rotary-wing helicopters. The USAF suffered 1,841 battle casualties, of which 1,180 were killed in action. It lost 1,466 aircraft to hostile action or other causes.

Korea was annexed by Japan it with the Japan-Korea Annexation Treaty in 1910. The Koreans suffered many crimes like the European colonies in other parts of the world. The resistance came from the communist opposition who kept fighting the Japanese troops. Meanwhile, in China, the nationalist National Revolutionary Army and the Communist People's Liberation Army organized the (right-wing and left-wing) refugee Korean patriots. Many Koreans were sent as forced labour and prostitutes to Japan. By January 1945, Koreans were 32% of Japan's labor force; in August 1945, when the US dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, they were about 25% of the people killed.

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When Soviet Union entered the war against Japan they occupied Northern part of Korea. At the Potsdam Conference (July–August 1945), the Allies unilaterally decided to divide Korea—without consulting the Koreans. By 10 August, the Red Army occupied the northern part of the peninsula as agreed, and on 26 August halted at the 38th parallel for three weeks to await the arrival of US forces in the south. The Korean war became the start of the Cold war between the former allies, USA and Soviet, even though China played a more important part supporting the “North” side. The Korean war also became the first “UN” war under U.S. command. And it became the largest airborne total war so far. According to Wikipedia: *“In the three-year Korean War (1950–53), the US Air Force (USAF) and the UN Command air forces bombed the cities and villages of North Korea and parts of South Korea to a degree comparable to the volume of the Allied bombings of Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan during the six-year Second World War (1939–45). On 12 August 1950 the USAF dropped 625 tons of bombs on North Korea; two weeks later, the daily tonnage increased to some 800 tons. As a result, eighteen of North Korea’s cities were more than 50% destroyed. The war’s highest-ranking American POW, US Maj. Gen. William Dean, reported that most of the North Korean cities and villages he saw were either ruins or snow-covered wastelands.”*

We were all supporting the western “Un” side in the war. And experiencing today’s Northern Korea compared to South Korea we may even justify the “chock-treatment”. But still it is another sign of the total war that the crimes committed by the “right side” never was going to trial. Wikipedia: *“The true purpose of the anti-communist “Bodo League”, abetted by the USAMGIK, was the régime’s hasty assassination of some 10,000 to 100,000 “enemies of the state” whom they dumped in trenches, mines, and the sea — before and after the 25 June 1950 North Korean invasion. Contemporary calculations report some 200,000 to 1,200,000. USAMGIK officers were present at one political execution site; at least one US officer sanctioned the mass killings of political prisoners whom the North Koreans would free upon conquering the peninsular south.”*

France continued it’s total war in Algeria supported by the west. 1959 Sweden as the first western state voted for the liberation of Algeria in U.N. France lost the battle in Indochina but this fight was taken over by USA with the massive destruction of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. The most total war of any total wars against everything living using Napalm, cluster bombs, chemicals and massive terror bombardments. But all this is history. The U.S. and U.K. introduced the total war from the sky. It was decided that this was not a war crime. Not even when Nixon during the Christmas Holiday said he was going to bomb Vietnam back to the stone age. When the U.S. used 4 times as many bombs in Indochina as in Germany. 12 times as much Napalm as in Japan. Bombs equivalent to 640 Hiroshima bombs. And it goes on and on. It was used in Iraq. It is used in Afghanistan and Palestine where Gaza was destroyed last Christmas by Israeli airplanes and helicopters. Precision bombing does not exist despite of GPS. Innocent civilians are killed in all these places and no one is blamed. Because we are doing it and then it is the right way to kill. Even though it is innocent civilians.

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Just stupid and cold war

The Soviet model in the end proved to be just stupid. The easiest way to compare the communist model and the capitalist model was in Berlin. What a show case for the success of capitalism and failure of communism. Now we are celebrating the fall of the Berlin wall and “almost) no-one is missing the old East Germany or Soviet Union. The media is full of stories about this. But this total victory between “black” and “white” was not a total success. Because what happened was when we lost our dedicated enemy we also lost all balance and all alternatives. Fukuyama wrote his book about “end of history” praising the American model as the best ever to be done. All political movements started to walk towards the “right”, that now was the only “right” way. All criticism disappeared when all media became “embedded” in the two Iraq wars.

I have never believed in extremism, neither from right nor from left. I have never believed that is one single “right” opinion or model and one “wrong” except what is self evident as humanity and following the laws of ecology. But what happened after the fall of the Berlin Wall was that all of a sudden the American way with “liberalisation, privatization, and deregulation made in “Chicago” by Milton Friedman and the “Chicago Boys” became the new religion. And as we already know this new religion started with the experiments by the Military junta under Pinochet in Chile. A massive sell out of everything owned by the state. Nothing was “sacred” in this new religion. Everything was for sales.

So why do we have a state, a community and a democracy? When we had dictators and kings the state was mainly to collect taxes for the rich and to launch wars. Democracy changed this. When we finally created our common democratic society this has been to build up and support the human right to live a decent life. Schools, Hospitals, Elderly care but also to build up our common infrastructure, roads, rail roads, electricity distribution, tele communication. But all of a sudden everything was for sale. Since I am an electrical engineer I am especially puzzled about what happened in this field.

The electrical system is rather unique since in every second we have to generate exactly as much electricity as we consume. It is a typical example of a holistic system. In order to operate this system efficiently we need to have a central command combined with automated functions. This worked fine for almost one hundred years. But then Pinochet in Chile convinced by the “Chicago boys” sold out and deregulated the power system in Chile. Then came Argentina, Bolivia and a few other Latin American countries under the influence of the “Chicago boys”. Foreign “state owned!” utilities from Europe and North America started buying those new assets. And since Chile was first the Chilean investment group became a multinational company. So was this good or bad? Depends who you ask. It was good for the new owners. It was bad for the public. But still Reagan and Thatcher adopted the same religion for their power sector. And so did Sweden.

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The new model was to divide this holistic system in three main parts; Generation, Transmission and Distribution where different companies should own different parts instead of before one company (Mainly state owned) was running the whole system. In this new system customers could buy from different generators – but it was the same electricity. The price could be different and they could say it was from different sources. But it was the same electricity.

This is from a psychological angle very strange. That this new model all of a sudden appeared and soon almost everyone in the west supported it. The deregulation in Sweden and all of Scandinavia was not really fundamental since the state still owned most of the generation. Sweden and Norway have vast hydro power resources and this is also clean renewable energy. Another state owned company still owned the transmission. And a mixture of state owned and private companies (as before) owned the distribution. SO what changed? It became more complex and more expensive. The Swedish state owned Vattenfall started investing heavily in Europe buying Nuclear power Plants and Fossil Fuel Power Plants. So instead of optimizing the energy supply of a country we now started optimizing the profit for each company, state owned or private.

In America the states I have lived and worked in (California and Alberta) became first to try this new religion. The deregulation of California during the 1990ies ended in a total disaster. It was later found out that Enron who bought a major share of the assets had been using the deregulation to increase prices and profits. The scam was called "Death Star" and "Fat Boy". As we now Enron later declared bankruptcy after a major fraud and scandal. So did one of my old customers, Pacific Gas and Electric. The deregulation of Alberta was equally an disaster. The consumer prices increased dramatically.

Austin Chronicle in Texas (My son lives in Austin) wrote the following:

"Attack of the Clones opens across the country this weekend, but apparently, thanks to Emperor "Kenny Boy" Lay and the rest of those cheerful Imperial Warriors from Enron, it hit California a couple of years ago. According to internal memos released last week by the new Enron board in charge of salvaging the bankrupt company's debris, Enron energy traders were indeed manipulating the newly deregulated California energy market to drive up prices at the cost of billions of dollars to both the state and citizens of California. The traders used fraudulent maneuvers to which they gave juvenile but revealing nicknames: "Death Star," "Fat Boy," "Ricochet," and "Get Shorty." (The point of such pseudo-combat names for intra-company operations, of course, is to impress bosses and colleagues with one's mercantile ruthlessness.)"

ENRON supported and was supported by Bush and Schwarzenegger who used the problems in California to become governor!

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The Death Star strategy was the name Enron gave to their practice of shuffling energy around the California power grid to receive payments from the state for "relieving congestion." [1] According to the company's own memo they would be paid "for moving energy to relieve congestion, without actually moving any energy or relieving any congestion." For example, if the California power grid was congested with energy flowing south, Enron would schedule energy to be transmitted north to Oregon. They would receive a payment from California for apparently relieving congestion on the grid. Then Enron would schedule the energy to be transferred back to its point of origin, but not through California. Ultimately the energy would end up right back where it started, and Enron would be paid by California without actually putting any electricity on their grid.

So what happened in Alberta. *"Albertans are headed for a "catastrophe." We'll be "crushed" by high electricity bills, exceeding "\$2,000 a month," even as we suffer crippling blackouts. All this because our province foolishly deregulated its electricity market out of "dogmatic belief" in the market. Or so says David Gray, the recently resigned executive director of the province's Utility Consumer Advocate office. Unsurprisingly, his outbursts have been earning him a steady string of headlines in the Edmonton Journal over the last four days—and praise from all those who have ominously vowed, ever since the province deregulated in the '90s, that a free-market electricity system would be disastrous."*

So what did the deregulation result in. Higher prices for consumers, more complex, no one in charge, no one responsible for planning. Maybe this is why the deregulation has been suspended in many states.

Data as of: September 2009

- The map below shows information on the electric industry restructuring. Click on a State for details
- Restructuring means that a monopoly system of electric utilities has been replaced with competing sellers.



Source: Energy Information Administration

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The oil crisis

From BP statistical review from 2009 we can get the following interesting information. The total proved reserves had decreased from 1261 to 1258 million barrels. If we consume as today these proven reserves will last 43 years. Earlier we could expect to discover new oil faster than we consumed, but now we seem to have reached peak oil. OECD consumes 55,5 % of all oil but produces only 7%. EU, USA and Japan are the biggest oil importers. USA alone imports more than twice the oil as India and China together. USA, EU and Japan can as a block survive on own oil for just 2 -3 years on own oil. Maybe this "Security of supply" is a much bigger driving force then "global warming" for these countries. The main source of oil is coming from what we call "un-stable" countries. Maybe this has something to do with us going to war in these countries.

It is very simple dear Watson, Sherlock Holmes should have concluded. The real terrorists are to be found in a few countries in America, Europe, Japan and Australia who has burned up the oil. And continuous to do so. Because the very foundation o their life style and economical model is based on burning oil. And now when they are running out of oil they are desperately looking for other sources. Coal, tar sand, nuclear. And these stupid men has not understood that there is something fundamentally wrong with their engine.....

I have been writing and reading about energy and oil since 1972. Among all my literature I have a U.S. government report dating all the way back to 1972 stating that the known and un-known oil resources "outside USA, Canada, Mexico and Venezuela was 1212 billion barrels of which Middle East 750 billion barrels and "Communist Block" 154 billion barrels . Almost exact as in BP 2009 report. CIA and USA knows what they are doing.

Oil: Proved	1988	1998	2007	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008
reserves	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000			Consume			Prod -con
R/P	million	million	million	million	million	Share	R/P	million	Share	R/C	million
R/C	barrels	barrels	barrels	barrels	tonnes	of total	ratio	tonnes	of total	ratio	tonnes
OECD	118,3	89,2	90,3	88,9	12,0	7,0%	13,2	2180	55,5%	5,5	-1316
Former Sovjet	60,9	83,8	129,2	127,8	17,4	10,2%	27,2	189	4,8%	91,7	438
Middle East	653,0	684,3	755,0	754,1	102,0	59,7%	78,6	307	7,8%	332,3	947
China and India	21,7	22,8	21,6	21,3	2,9	1,7%	12,8	511	13,0%	5,6	-285
Latin America	69,2	95,6	123,5	123,2	17,6	10,3%	50,3	270	6,9%	65,1	65
Africa	59,0	77,2	125,3	125,6	16,6	9,7%	33,4	135	3,4%	123,1	353
Others	16,2	15,7	16,2	17,2	2,3	1,4%		335	8,5%	6,9	-201
Total world	998,4	1068,5	1261,0	1258,0	170,8	100%	42,0	3928	100%	43,5	1
USA	35,1	28,6	30,5	30,5	3,7	2,2%	12,4	884,5	22,5%	4,2	-579
EU	8,3	8,9	6,7	6,3	0,8	0,5%	7,7	702,6	17,9%	1,2	-597
Japan	0	0	0	0	0	0,0%	0	222	5,7%	0	-222
Saudi Arabia	255,0	261,5	264,2	264,1	36,3	21,2%	66,5	104,2	2,7%	348,1	411
Iran	92,9	93,7	138,2	137,6	18,9	11,1%	86,9	83,3	2,1%	227,0	127
Iraq	100,0	112,5	115,0	115,0	15,5	9,1%	>100	13,0	0,3%	1193,8	106
Venezuela	58,5	76,1	99,4	99,4	14,3	8,4%	0,0	32,5	0,8%	440,2	99
Kuwait	94,5	96,5	101,5	101,5	14,0	8,2%	99,6	15,3	0,4%	915,3	122
UAE	98,1	97,8	97,8	97,8	13,0	7,6%	89,7	22,9	0,6%	566,2	117
Libya	22,8	29,5	43,7	43,7	5,7	3,3%	64,6	8,6	0,2%	661,1	78
Nigeria	16,0	22,5	36,2	36,2	4,9	2,9%	45,6	13,0	0,3%	376,0	92

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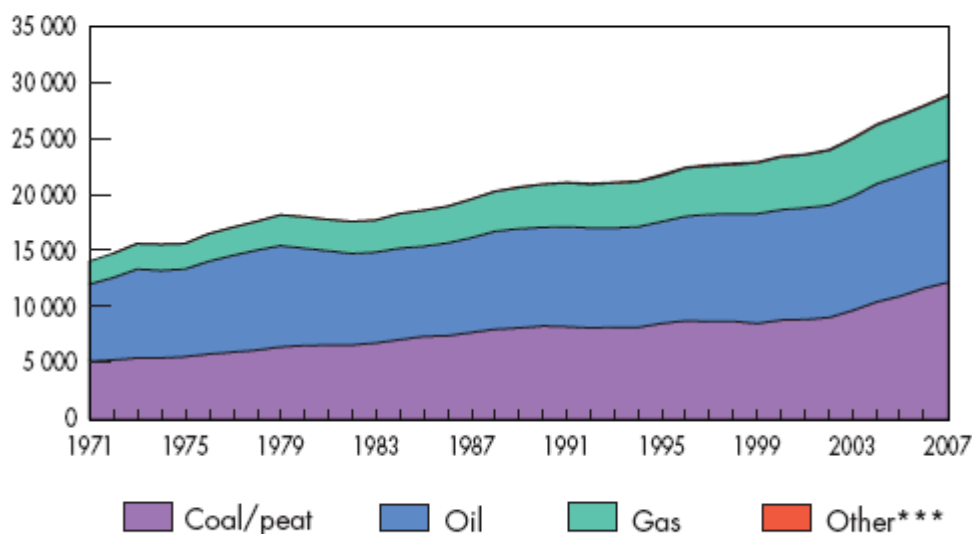
Yes it is still increasing

The BP statistical review is also calculating emitted carbon dioxide. Their values differs somewhat from other sources. The trend is despite a small reduction within OECD countries the total global emission continued to increase 2008. If we follow the trend from 1968 to 2008 this is how it looks according to BP:

Million tonnes carbon dioxide	1968	1978	1988	1998	2008	Change	Change	2008
Million tonnes carbon dioxide	1968	1978	1988	1998	2008	40 years	10 years	per capita
Total North America	4723	5923	6176	7098	7482	2759	384	22,2
Japan/AU/NZ	810	1258	1370	1640	1813	1003	172	14,2
Total EU	3645	4687	4590	4323	4392	747	69	9,0
Former Sovjet	2324	3441	3844	2292	2571	248	280	8,9
Total Middle East	193	349	655	1034	1673	1480	639	4,2
India and Kina	917	1795	2924	4158	8394	7477	4236	3,4
Total Latin America	437	749	960	1330	1681	1244	352	2,9
Total Africa	214	361	667	812	1053	839	242	1,1
Other countries	351	624	984	1673	2518	2167	845	2,5
Total World	13614	19186	22170	24359	31578	17964	7219	4,7

And it is still an uneven world. North America with USA and Canada above 22 ton per capita. Australia, Japan and NZ at 14 ton. EU at 9 ton. Latin America at 3 ton per capita. Africa at 1 ton per capita. If we instead move over to the IEA latest statistics we get the exponential growth curve showing the acceleration of the emission during the last ten years.

Evolution from 1971 to 2007 of world* CO₂ emissions** by fuel (Mt of CO₂)



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An uneven world of rich and poor

Today's raw model is USA: The American way of life is our dream of "freedom". To be able to get rich and consume as much as you want. An American consumes almost 8 tons of energy measured as oil. (toe). In the neighboring country of Haiti it is 0,29 ton. If you look at the emissions an American on average pollute 80 times a person on Haiti. A Swede consumes 491 times a person in Kenya. But we like to go there to watch the wild life – as long as it survives. So the world is extremely polarized.

TPES/ pop. (toe/capita)	TPES/ GDP (toe/000 2000 US\$)	TPES/ GDP (PPP) (toe/000 2000 US\$)	Elec. cons./pop. (kWh/ capita)	CO ₂ / TPES (t CO ₂ / toe)	CO ₂ / pop. (t CO ₂ / capita)	CO ₂ / GDP (kg CO ₂ / 2000 US\$)	CO ₂ / GDP (PPP) (kg CO ₂ / 2000 US\$)	Region/ Country/ Economy
1.82	0.30	0.20	2752	2.41	4.38	0.73	0.47	World
4.64	0.18	0.17	8477	2.37	10.97	0.43	0.40	OECD
2.86	0.62	0.36	3252	2.52	7.19	1.56	0.89	Middle East
3.59	1.64	0.41	4608	2.37	8.50	3.89	0.98	Former Soviet Union
1.99	0.61	0.21	3302	2.57	5.10	1.56	0.53	Non-OECD Europe
1.48	0.75	0.19	2346	3.08	4.58	2.31	0.60	China
0.64	0.60	0.17	705	2.11	1.35	1.26	0.35	Asia
1.19	0.28	0.15	1838	1.85	2.21	0.52	0.27	Latin America
0.66	0.76	0.27	578	1.40	0.92	1.06	0.37	Africa
1.23	0.29	0.15	2154	1.47	1.81	0.43	0.22	Brazil
1.48	0.82	0.20	2328	3.08	4.57	2.52	0.61	People's Rep. of China
4.81	0.26	0.17	10216	2.51	12.08	0.66	0.43	Chinese Taipei
0.29	0.70	0.21	31	0.83	0.24	0.59	0.18	Haiti
0.53	0.77	0.15	543	2.23	1.18	1.72	0.33	India
1.20	1.59	1.16	1176	2.76	3.33	4.38	3.21	Iraq
3.46	0.11	0.09	6263	2.93	10.13	0.31	0.28	Ireland
3.06	0.14	0.11	7010	3.00	9.19	0.43	0.34	Israel
0.49	1.06	0.43	152	0.62	0.30	0.66	0.27	Kenya
4.59	0.31	0.21	8502	2.20	10.09	0.69	0.46	Korea
9.46	0.41	0.36	16198	2.65	25.09	1.08	0.94	Kuwait
11.83	0.45	0.45	16161	2.53	29.91	1.13	1.15	United Arab Emirates
3.48	0.12	0.12	6142	2.48	8.60	0.30	0.29	United Kingdom
7.75	0.20	0.20	13616	2.47	19.10	0.50	0.50	United States
5.51	0.17	0.17	15238	0.92	5.05	0.16	0.15	Sweden

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An uneven world of rich and poor

If all countries today want to copy the American life style what will then happen. Taiwan or what is called Chinese Taipei in the statistic can show the way. There the electricity consumption is 10216 kWh per capita and almost as high as in USA. The carbon dioxide emission is 12 tons per capita and above both Sweden and U.K. Imagine when the same Chinese people in mainland China will have succeeded with the same..... .South Korea is already there. They are one of the big car manufacturing countries. But now a Chinese company may buy Volvo like Tata in India just bought Land Rover and Jaguar....

We in the rich western world are right now involved in the war against terror and since the terror in our definition is Muslim we are fighting wars in the Middle East. By coincidence there are also a lot of oil in the Middle East. Iraq is one of the countries having a lot of oil. The production of oil result in emissions. Still the carbon dioxide emission per capita is just 3 tons. In Israel it is 9 tons. The per capita electricity consumption in Israel is 6 times higher compared to Iraq. But that's right. USA bombed a lot of generating plants in Iraq like Israel bombed them in the occupied Palestine. And the Israeli settlers need energy for cars and swimming pools. But look at the friendly oil countries like Kuwait and UAE. Per capita emissions are 25 and 30 tons per capita. If you have been in Dubai you know why. It looks like USA. You can even ski indoors. So this is the catch 22. We are convincing the world about the greatness of our consumer model. But when they follow our advice we are destroying our only planet. How can we be so stupid?

TPES/ pop. (toe/capita)	TPES/ GDP (toe/000 2000 US\$)	TPES/ GDP (PPP) (toe/000 2000 US\$)	Elec. cons./pop. (kWh/ capita)	CO ₂ / TPES (t CO ₂ / toe)	CO ₂ / pop. (t CO ₂ / capita)	CO ₂ / GDP (kg CO ₂ / 2000 US\$)	CO ₂ / GDP (PPP) (kg CO ₂ / 2000 US\$)	Region/ Country/ Economy
1.48	0.82	0.20	2328	3.08	4.57	2.52	0.61	People's Rep. of China
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0.29	0.70	0.21	31	0.83	0.24	0.59	0.18	Haiti
0.53	0.77	0.15	543	2.23	1.18	1.72	0.33	India
1.20	1.59	1.16	1176	2.76	3.33	4.38	3.21	Iraq
3.46	0.11	0.09	6263	2.93	10.13	0.31	0.28	Ireland
3.06	0.14	0.11	7010	3.00	9.19	0.43	0.34	Israel
0.49	1.06	0.43	152	0.62	0.30	0.66	0.27	Kenya
4.59	0.31	0.21	8502	2.20	10.09	0.69	0.46	Korea
9.46	0.41	0.36	16198	2.65	25.09	1.08	0.94	Kuwait
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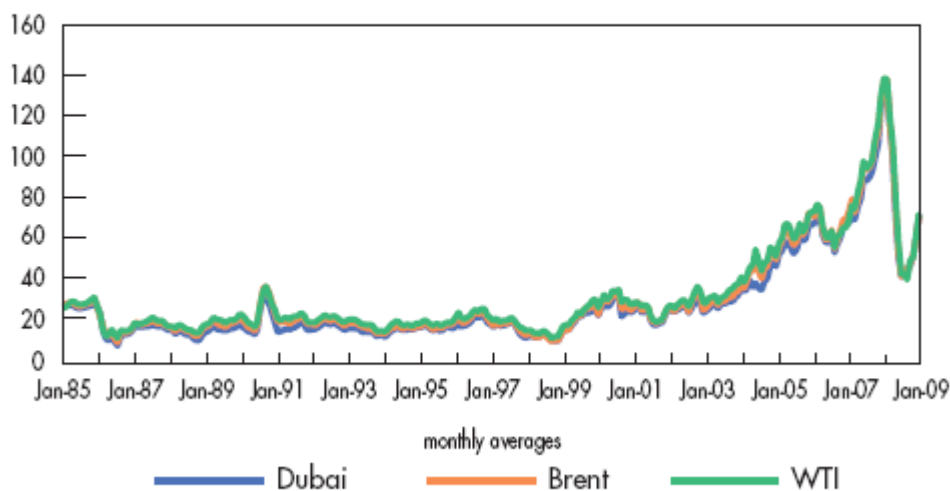
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The oil prices

The American way of life has been based on cheap oil. Australia and Canada has copied the same model and cheap oil prices. That is naturally why all cars are bigger and uses more gasoline in these countries. So a simple way to reduce oil consumption and emissions would be to drastically increase the price of gasoline – everywhere. But instead we are boosting car production to get the economy going again – ut still in the wrong direction. How stupid!

Key crude oil spot prices in US dollars/barrel



	Heavy fuel oil for industry ^(b) (tonne)	Light fuel oil for households (1000 litres)	Automotive diesel oil ^(c) (litre)	Unleaded premium ^(d) (litre)
Australia	0.758
Austria	358.80	758.09	0.826	1.228
Belgium	298.26	585.09	1.048	1.571
Canada	306.17	616.85	0.680	0.687
Chinese Taipei	298.56	×	0.576	0.681
Czech Republic	293.95	666.71	0.994	1.163
Denmark	390.72	1 166.22	1.027	1.530
Finland	391.60	716.45	1.025	1.529
France	315.94	724.19	1.049	1.455
Germany	318.24	614.35	1.145	1.540
Spain	359.64	673.77	0.960	1.161
Sweden	799.94	1 187.94	1.060	1.335
Switzerland	253.94	585.53	1.161	1.185
Turkey	637.17	1 314.24	1.486	1.733
United Kingdom	c	599.01	1.243	1.272
United States	291.68	636.32	0.580	0.499

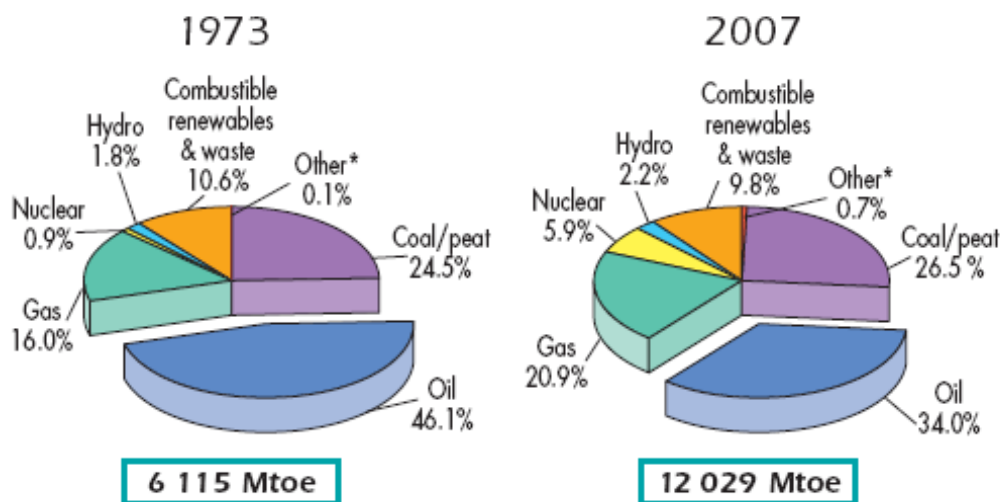
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What will happen in Copenhagen

IEA , International Energy Agency is part of OECD and publish yearly the World Energy Outlook. In the 2008 edition we can see the following regarding primary world energy. The energy consumption has doubled since 1973. The renewable part was 12,5% 1973 and was 12,7 % 2007. An increase of 0.2%. Impressive! Or not?

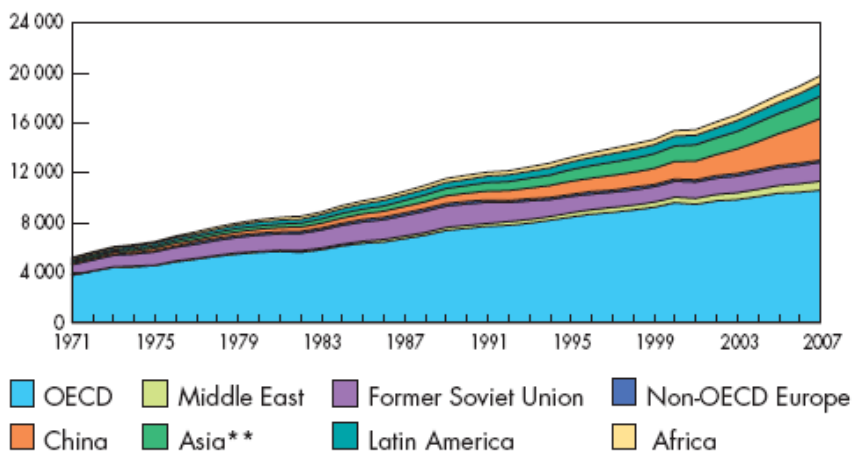
1973 and 2007 fuel shares of TPES



*Other includes geothermal, solar, wind, heat, etc.

A lot of this energy is used for electric generation. So let us look at this development as well. The rich countries (OECD) with about 20% of world population has reduced its share from 74% to 54%. But the total has tripled. So everyone is increasing. And need fuel!!!!

Evolution from 1971 to 2007 of world electricity generation* by region (TWh)



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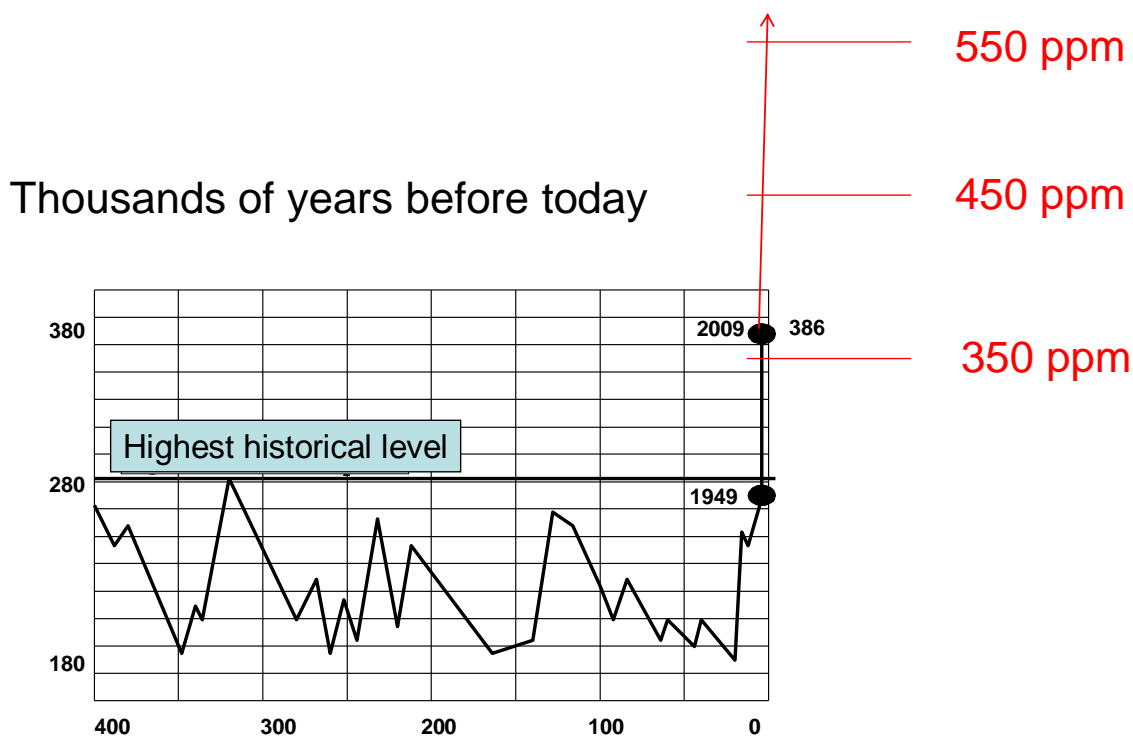
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What will happen in Copenhagen

In the 2008 edition IEA wrote: *“Without a change in policy, the world is on a path for a rise in global temperature of up to 6 C.....“WEO-2008 assesses the implications for the energy sector of efforts to put the world onto a different trajectory, by means of a 550 Policy Scenario, in which greenhouse gas concentration is stabilized at 550 ppm CO₂-equivalent and temperature rises by about 3 C, and of a 450 Policy Scenario which results in a 2 C increase.....“The two policy scenarios have a similar emissions trajectory until 2020, but emissions fall much more sharply after 2020 in the 450 Policy Scenario.”*

So what are they talking about? It is the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Today it has reached 388. More and more scientists say that we to get it back to 350 or else we will enter the point of no return when the global warming is triggering more global warming. IEA is discussing 450 ppm or 550 ppm.

The point of no return



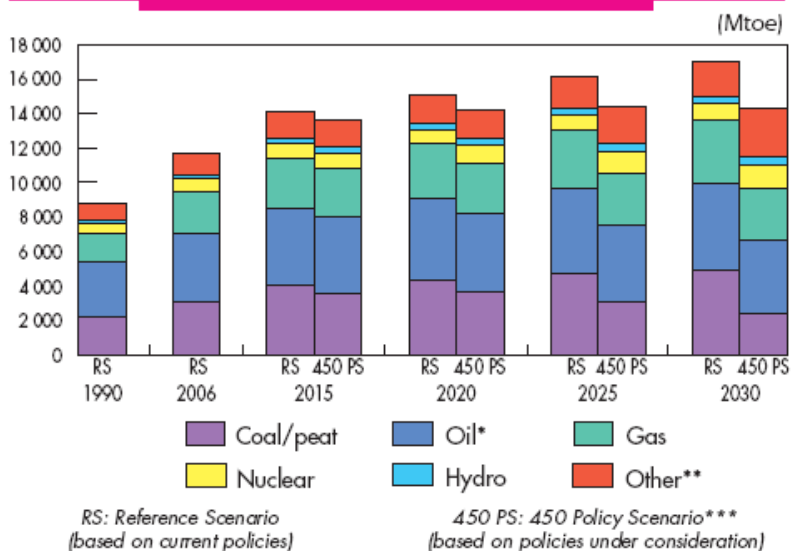
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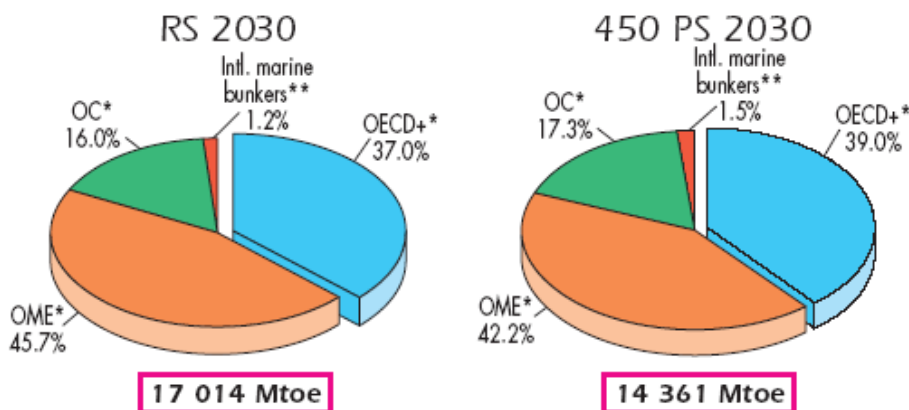
2008 Outlook

IEA made two scenarios. One was called reference scenario. And another with the target 450 ppm. But the total primary energy consumption continues to increase. In 2030 the rich OECD countries even increased their share to 39% in the 450 ppm scenario while Other major Markets like India, Brazil and China decreased to 42%. But the other countries like Africa and the rest of Asia and Latin America could increase.

TPES Outlook by Fuel



Regional shares of TPES in 2030 for Reference Scenario and 450 Policy Scenario



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What will happen in Copenhagen

In October 2009 IEA published a new document with new scenarios. They had learned, because now the map was green and the introduction was written by the Executive Secretary of UNFCCC, Yvo de Boer.



His conclusions are:

“Continuing current energy policies would have catastrophic consequences for the climate.”

“By reducing emissions, the financial and economic crisis has created a window of opportunity to transition the global energy system to 450 ppm trajectory.”

Hey! Wall street greed saved us! Thank you Madoff and others! The financial melt down will save the planet. So he continues with following forecast:

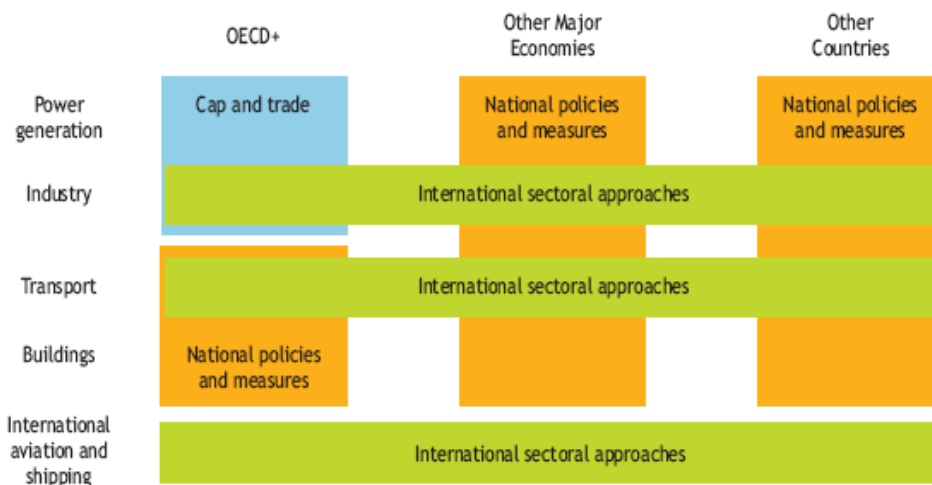
“The transition is challenging and requires actions in all countries, but is doable.”

“The cost of moving the global energy system to be a 450 trajectory is doable.”

“Restructuring the energy system also yields economic development, energy security, human health and other environmental benefits.”

Fantastic. IEA and UNFCC have together found a solution to save the world, have economic growth, energy security, human health and other “environmental benefits”. Great. We will be able to do what we have not been able to do the last 60 years. And without sacrificing anything. We can go on as before. Well how is this then going to happen?

2013-2020



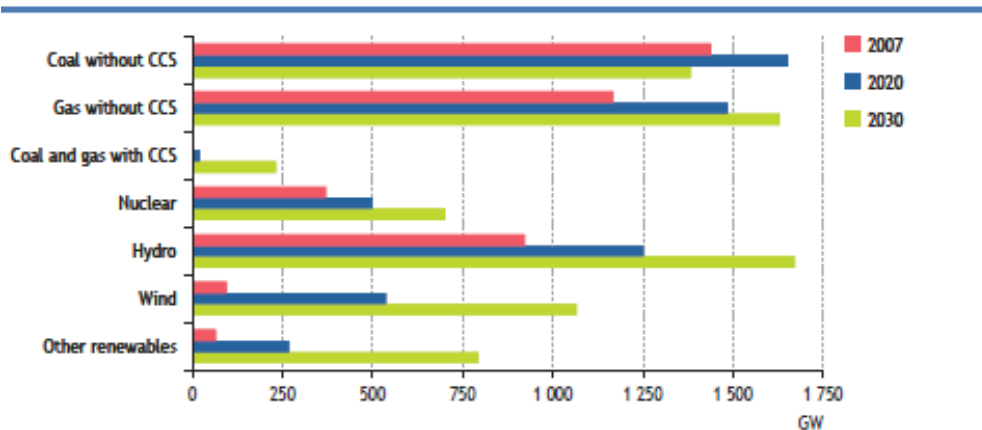
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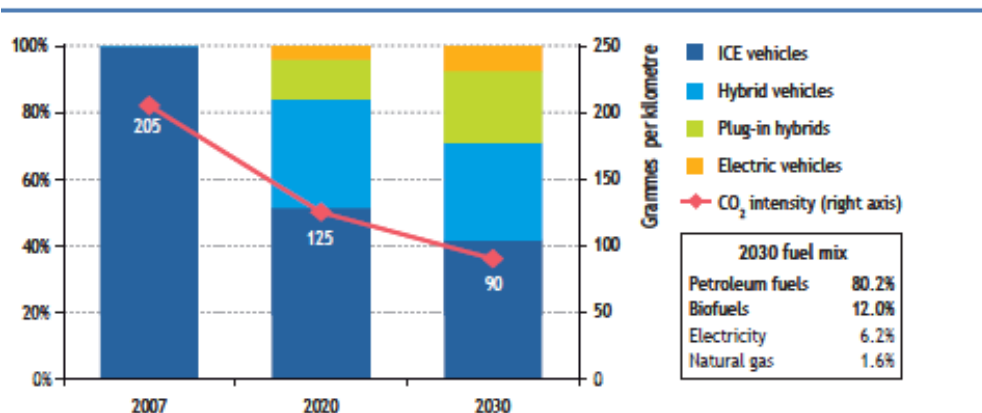
What will happen in Copenhagen

Big business is now very scared that the financial meltdown and the ecological melt down would trigger some crazy ideas that our deregulated system does not work. But they do not have to worry. The only new solution is that we will create a stock exchange for pollution so we can buy and sell our shit. And really. We rich countries in OECD do not want to be dependent on oil and gas Russia, Iran and Venezuela for our right to consume. So now we can get “energy security”. But how. By economic growth. By starting a program to build nuclear power plants. And to find a way to use our vast resources of coal in Europe and North America. We can pump the carbon dioxide into the ground in the same way as we can bury our nuclear waste. Who said we were stupid white men? Even I am happy because I am an electric engineer. And we shall save the world with more electricity. Even the car manufacturers can grow with electric and hydrogen cars. And yes we will build much more wind and other renewables. And this will also give growth.

4: World power generation capacity in the 450 Scenario



5: World share of passenger vehicle sales by technology and average new vehicle on-road CO₂ intensity in the 450 Scenario



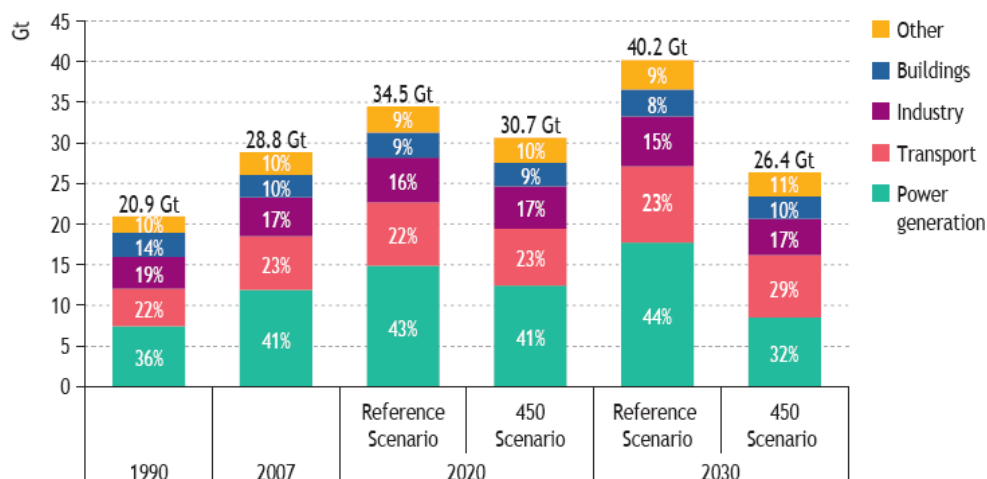
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What will happen in Copenhagen?

So look here on the magic. With this new idea we will be able to year 2030 come back to the level of early 2000. But weren't these too high. Yes but.....

: World energy-related CO₂ emissions



If we start looking at the plan we will find some interesting facts. The cumulative CO₂ since 1890 in Gton will increase from 778 year 1990 to 1984 Gton in the reference scenario. With the new 450 ppm scenario it will "only" increase to 1871 Gton. But wasn't this already too high 1990? Yes, but.....Reading some more we see that this new formula will give the OECD countries a 50% share of cumulative emissions but only 16% of world population. OECD will 2030 reach 944 Mton when India with even higher population only will reach 72 Mton. USA alone will reach 437 Mton 2030 for their 367 million inhabitants. The cost per person for the American way is 1,2 kton carbon dioxide. To be exact 1 200 000 kilo . Per person. The similar figure in India would be 0,05 kton. The American way would have a cost in pollution 24 times higher than in India. 2030 an American would still use 5,7 ton energy and have an emission of 9 ton per capita while somebody in Africa, South America or India would use 0,8 ton have 1,5 ton per capita or six times less. So there are still rich and poor. Those who can pollute and not. An overconsuming and inefficient life style. Made in USA.

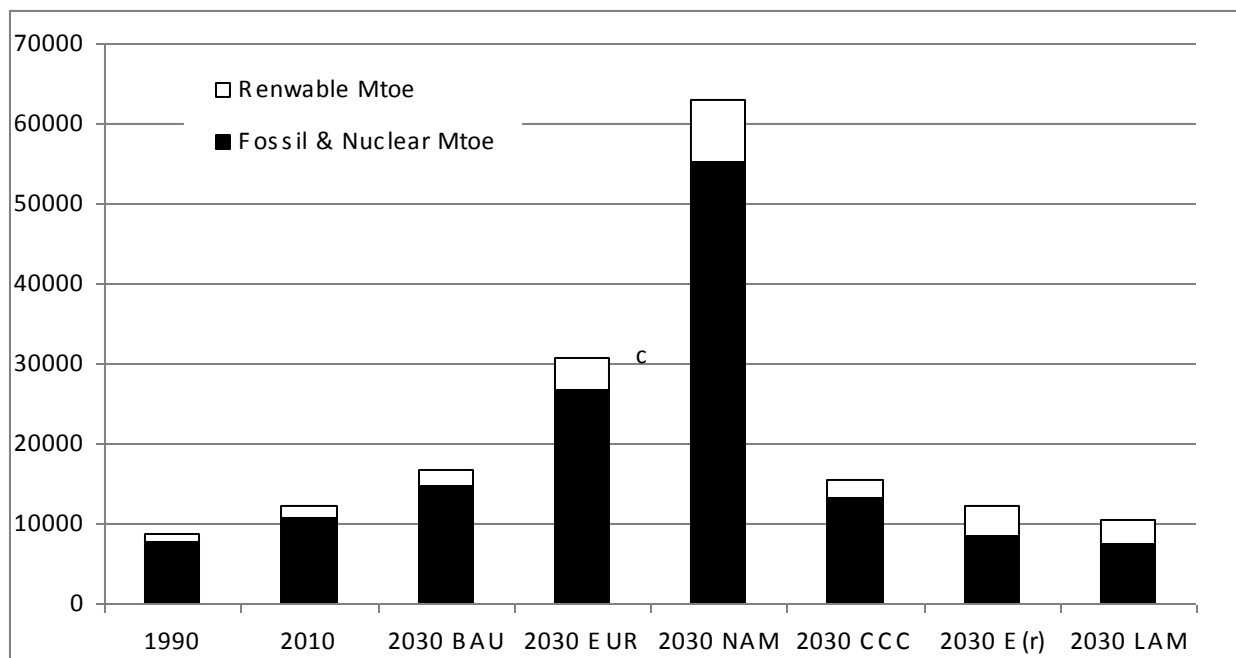
	1990	2007	2020		2030	
			Reference Scenario	450 Scenario	Reference Scenario	450 Scenario
Population (million)	5 263	6 614	7 608		8 236	
Share of world population	100%	100%	100%		100%	
GDP (\$2008 trillion, PPP)	38.6	67.2	102.1		137.0	
Share of world GDP	100%	100%	100%		100%	
Share of world CO ₂ emissions	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
CO ₂ emissions per capita (t)	4.0	4.4	4.5	4.0	4.9	3.2
Energy demand per capita (toe)	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.8	2.0	1.7
CO ₂ intensity index (world 2007=100)	126	100	79	70	68	45
Cumulative CO ₂ since 1890 (Gt)	778	1 201	1 608	1 589	1 984	1 871
Share of cumulative world CO ₂	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Power CO ₂ intensity (g/kWh)	632	603	549	479	520	283
Car fleet CO ₂ intensity (2007=100)	n.a.	100	78	63	75	47

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EU World Energy Technology Outlook - 2050

Also EU published a world energy outlook WETO- H2 and this goes all the way to 2050. And Greenpeace in cooperation with EREC published energy (r)evolution. So let us compare these. (Please observe that the IEA, EU and Greenpeace figures differs some already 2010. But this is minor differences. If we start with the 2030 scenarios the Business As Usual would increase the energy from 12 to almost 17 Gtoe and decrease the renewable part. If the world would have the same level as in EU the primary energy consumption would be 2,5 times higher in 2030 compared to 2010. With the US level it would be 5 times higher. The Eu report has a carbon constraint scenario at a level 2030 similar to 2010. The Energy(r)evolution has a significant lower consumption and more renewable. Guess what happens if I extrapolate today's energy consumption in Latin America to the whole world. I will get an even lower consumption of fossil fuel and nuclear. That is why I will go to Brazil. However Brazil and many other Latin American countries have very big differences between rich and poor where the poor are really poor and sometimes even without electricity. So the solution is not that simple. So let us instead look at the electricity.



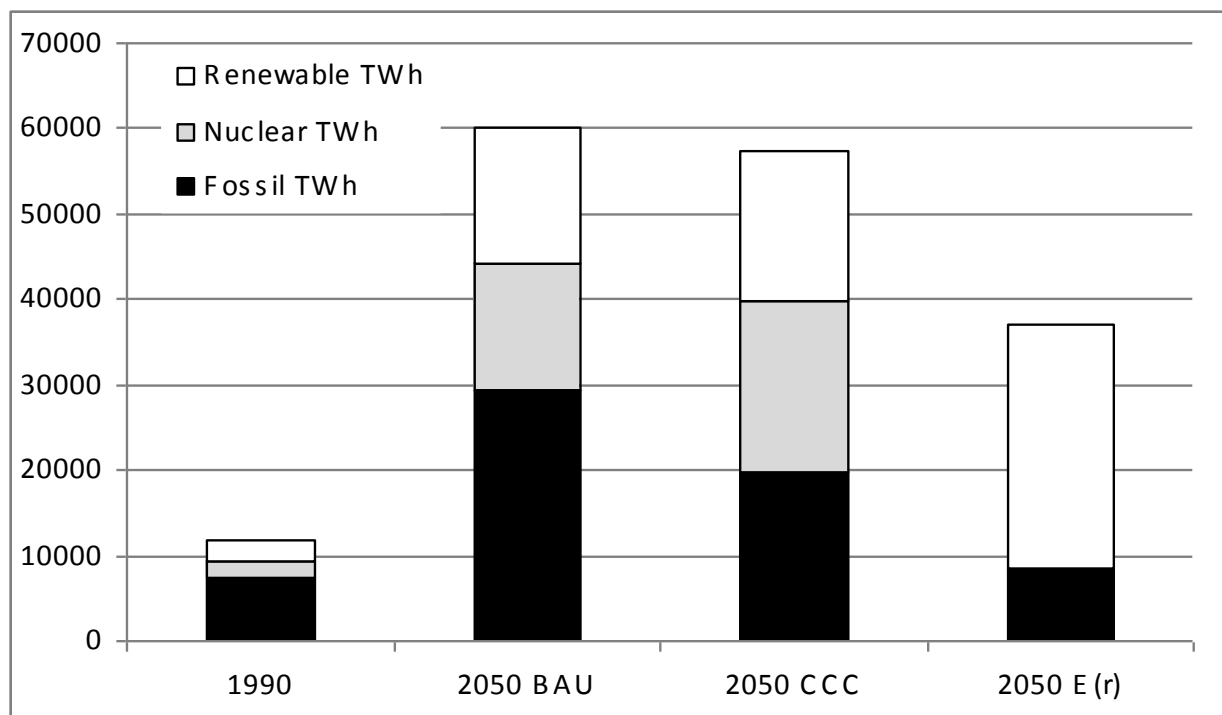
PRIMARY ENERGY	1990	2010	2030 BAU	2030 EUR	2030 NAM	2030 CCC	2030 E (r)	2030 LAM
Fossil & Nuclear Mtoe	7679	10766	14831	26750	55286	13242	8519	7607
Renewable Mtoe	1155	1580	2022	3962	7754	2246	3827	2900
TOTALT	8834	12346	16853	30712	63040	15488	12346	10507
Renewable %	13%	13%	12%	13%	12%	15%	31%	28%

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The future 2050?

Nobody knows how this will be. But comparing the different scenarios we can see significantly different future worlds. Which one do we want to live in? The BAU, Business As Usual is “the highway to hell”. But is the CCC alternative from EU so much better. This would include an unprecedented installation of new nuclear power plants. Going from about 2000 TWh year 1990 to 20000 TWh year 2050. 10 times more nuclear power plants, 10 times more uranium, ten times more plutonium and waste – every year. It would be a world based on nuclear power. In all countries. I wonder how long time it would take for the first major accident, or when we are running out of uranium, or when somebody we do not like has got the bomb.....I think I like the Greenpeace vision much better. But who am I to tell. I am probably not around 2050. But my children and grandchildren are.



Electricity	1990	2010 BAU	2030 BAU	2030 EUR	2030 NAM	2050 BAU	2050 CCC	2050 E(r)	2050 LAM
Fossil TWh	7450	14221	22490	29864	82404	29338	19772	8517	10379
Nuclear TWh	2013	3049	6328	19298	21765	14866	20162	0	379
Renewable TWh	2386	3843	7477	16916	27358	15836	17500	28599	8803
Total	11849	21113	36295	66078	131526	60040	57434	37116	19561
Renewable %	20%	18%	21%	26%	21%	26%	30%	77%	45%

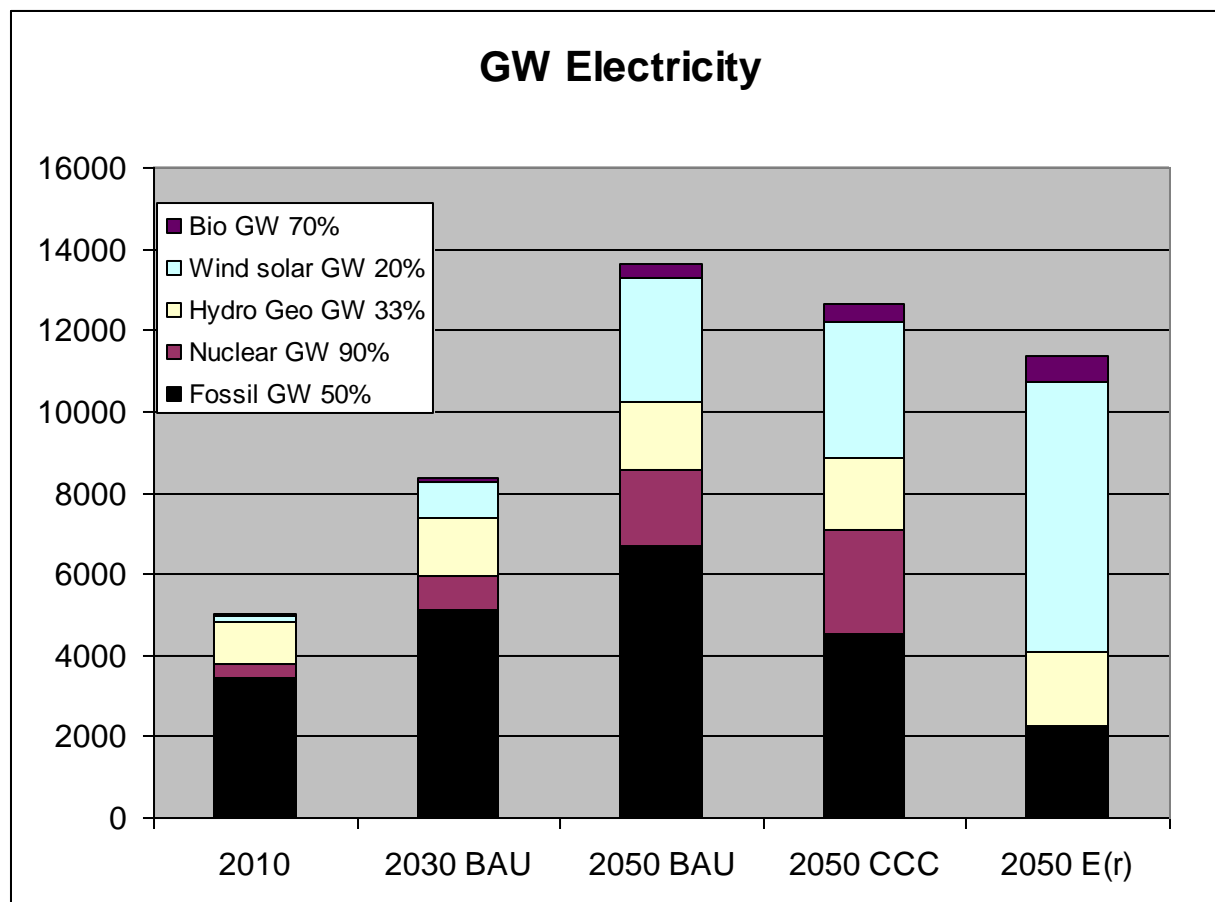
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The Nuclear Future

Since I am an electric power engineer I am naturally interested in how we shall fix this. From 2010 to 2050 we need to build more than 1000 nuclear power plants of 1 GW each and 3 million wind power plants with 1 GW each. The world would consume 5 MWh per capita and year. North America 18 kWh, Europe 12 MWh while the majority in Africa, Asia and Latin America has to accept around 3 MWh. So not even 2050 we have got a just and fair world. I wonder if the majority of the world population would accept this especially when they start to feel the effects of global warming – caused by us. And if the rest of the world would consume as much electricity as in North America we would need to increase 5 times more. Instead of 1000 nuclear power plants we need to build 16 000 nuclear power plants. And this require a lot of steel, concrete, copper, uranium.....

	2010	2030 BAU	2050 BAU	2050 CCC	2050 E(r)	2050 BAU	2050 CCC	2050 E(r)
Fossil GW 50%	3445	5135	6698	4514	2269	81	27	-29
Nuclear GW 90%	369	803	1886	2557		38	55	-9
Hydro Geo GW 33%	1000	1435	1679	1774	1841	17	19	21
Wind solar GW 20%	136	890	3022	3363	6639	72	81	163
Bio GW 70%	70	123	366	432	620	7	9	14
Total	5020	8385	13651	12641	11369	216	191	159



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A new OECD/IEA press release

OECD/IEA presented November 10 in a new press release their 2009 World Energy Outlook. Naturally they are right that IF China, India and other “emerging markets” follow the same path and model as we in Europe, USA, Australia and Japan it will not work. But what then differs is how we are going to change this. OECD/IEA is naturally an organization defending OECD. That is their job. Their job is not to “save” the environment. IEA also present several “road maps” in their “blue scenario”. And these roadmaps are demanding an enormous investment in the energy sector. So naturally this is supported by the energy industry. To some extent their roadmaps require similar measures as Greenpeace and other NGOs. That is to build more renewable energy sources like wind and solar plants and more cars on electricity and hydrogen. But the main effort will be on more nuclear and carbon capture technology where we are digging down our waste for thousands of years.

Because we are still thinking within our black box. The world economy has to grow and to grow it has to be deregulated and privatized. So the transnational companies can act boarderless and independent . A world run by larger and larger corporations outside the political frame work. But the job of these companies is not “to save the environment”. It has never been so and it will never be so. The job to plan our common future is our common goal within our democratic framework. It is the job of our politicians who represent us. We engineers, like myself can build electrical cars and solar plants. That is not the problem. The problem is that we have an economical model that drives growth and by this more use of resources for ever and ever.



Non-OECD countries account for 93% of the increase in global demand between 2007 & 2030, driven largely by China & India

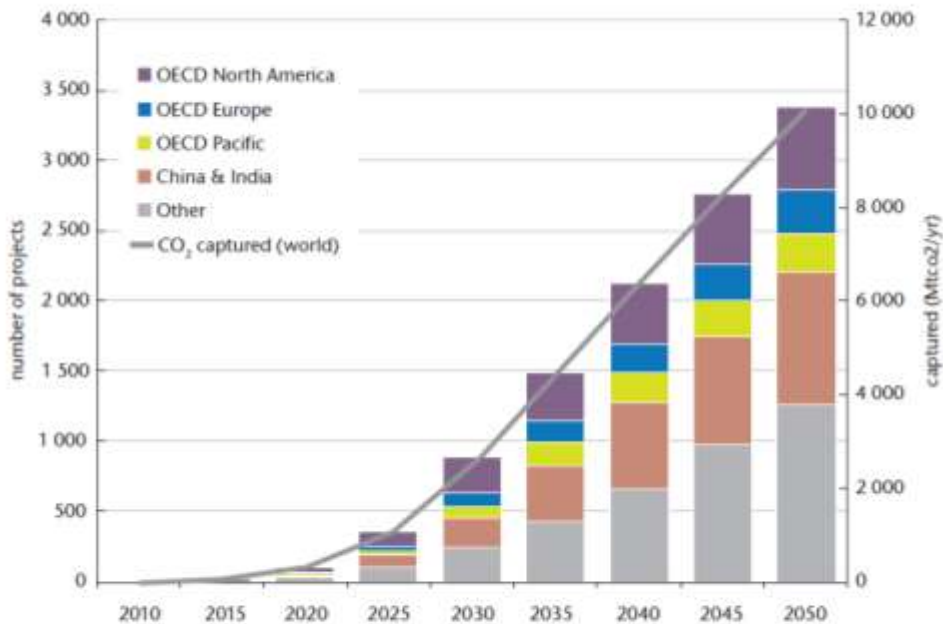
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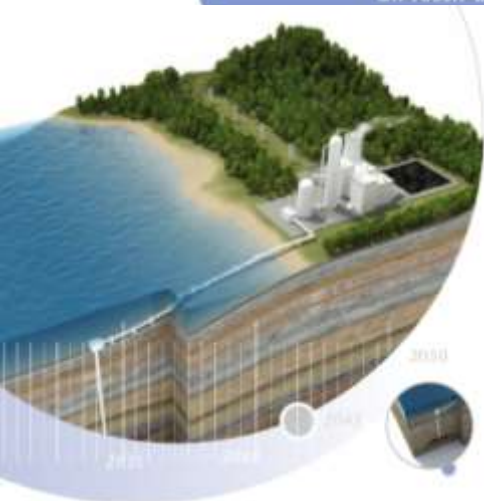
A new OECD/IEA road map

OECD/IEA is still focusing on more nuclear and coal fuelled plants as a main part of the “solution”. And this is necessary IF we shall go on as before.

Figure 2: CCS roadmap growth pathway from 2010-2050

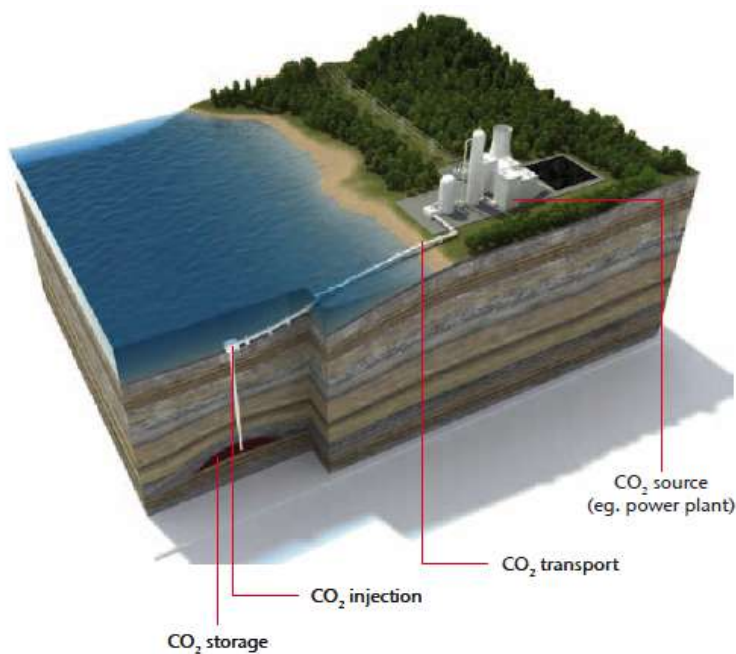


KEY POINT: CCS will need to be demonstrated in industrialised countries, then rapidly expanded to all fossil-based developing economies to achieve its CO₂ mitigation potential



Technology Roadmap

Carbon capture and storage



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A new OECD/IEA road map

One reason is that we are running out of oil and gas. And that the present oil is in “unfriendly” countries. But at the same time they foresee that we need to find new oil and gas and to utilize the tarsand of Northern Canada.

Table 10.1 • The world's 20 biggest oilfields by production

Field	Country	Location	Year of discovery	Peak annual production		2007 production
				Year	kb/d	kb/d
Ghawar	Saudi Arabia	Onshore	1948	1980	5 588	5 100
Cantarell	Mexico	Offshore	1977	2003	2 054	1 675
Safaniyah	Saudi Arabia	On/off	1951	1998	2 128	1 408
Rumaila N & S	Iraq	Onshore	1953	1979	1 493	1 250
Greater Burgan	Kuwait	Onshore	1938	1972	2 415	1 170
Samotlor	Russia	Onshore	1960	1980	3 435	903
Ahwaz	Iran	Onshore	1958	1977	1 082	770
Zakum	Abu Dhabi (UAE)	Offshore	1964	1998	795	674
Azeri-Chirag-Guneshli	Azerbaijan	Offshore	1985	2007	658	658
Prionskoye	Russia	Onshore	1982	2007	652	652
Top 10 total						14 260
Bu Hasa	Abu Dhabi (UAE)	Onshore	1962	1973	794	550
Marun	Iran	Onshore	1964	1976	1 345	510
Raudhatain	Kuwait	Onshore	1955	2007	501	501
Gachsaran	Iran	Onshore	1928	1974	921	500
Qatif	Saudi Arabia	On/Off	1945	2006	500	500
Shaybah	Saudi Arabia	Onshore	1968	2003	520	500
Saertu (Daqing)	China	Onshore	1960	1993	633	470
Samotlor (Main)	Russia	Onshore	1961	1980	3 027	464
Fedorovo-Surguts	Russia	Onshore	1962	1983	1 022	458
Zuluf	Saudi Arabia	Offshore	1965	1981	677	450
Top 20 total						19 163

Sources: IHS, Deloitte & Touche and USGS databases; other industry sources; IEA estimates and analysis.

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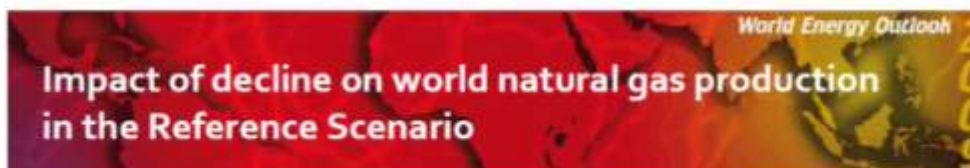
A new OECD/IEA road map

Huge investments in finding new oil and gas resources is needed in the referrence scenario”.



Sustained investment is needed mainly to combat the decline in output at existing fields, which will drop by almost two-thirds by 2030

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Additional capacity of around 2 700 bcm, or 4 times current Russian capacity, is needed by 2030 – half to offset decline at existing fields & half to meet the increase in demand

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A new OECD/IEA road map

In the 450 ppm scenario the oil consumption is still increasing. For electricity generation the nuclear and carbon capture increase is bigger than wind, solar, biomass and other renewables together.



Curbing CO₂ emissions would also improve energy security by cutting oil demand, but even in the 450 Scenario, OPEC production increases by 11 mb/d between now and 2030

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Renewables, nuclear and plants fitted with CCS account for around 60% of electricity generation globally in 2030 in the 450 Scenario, up from less than one-third today

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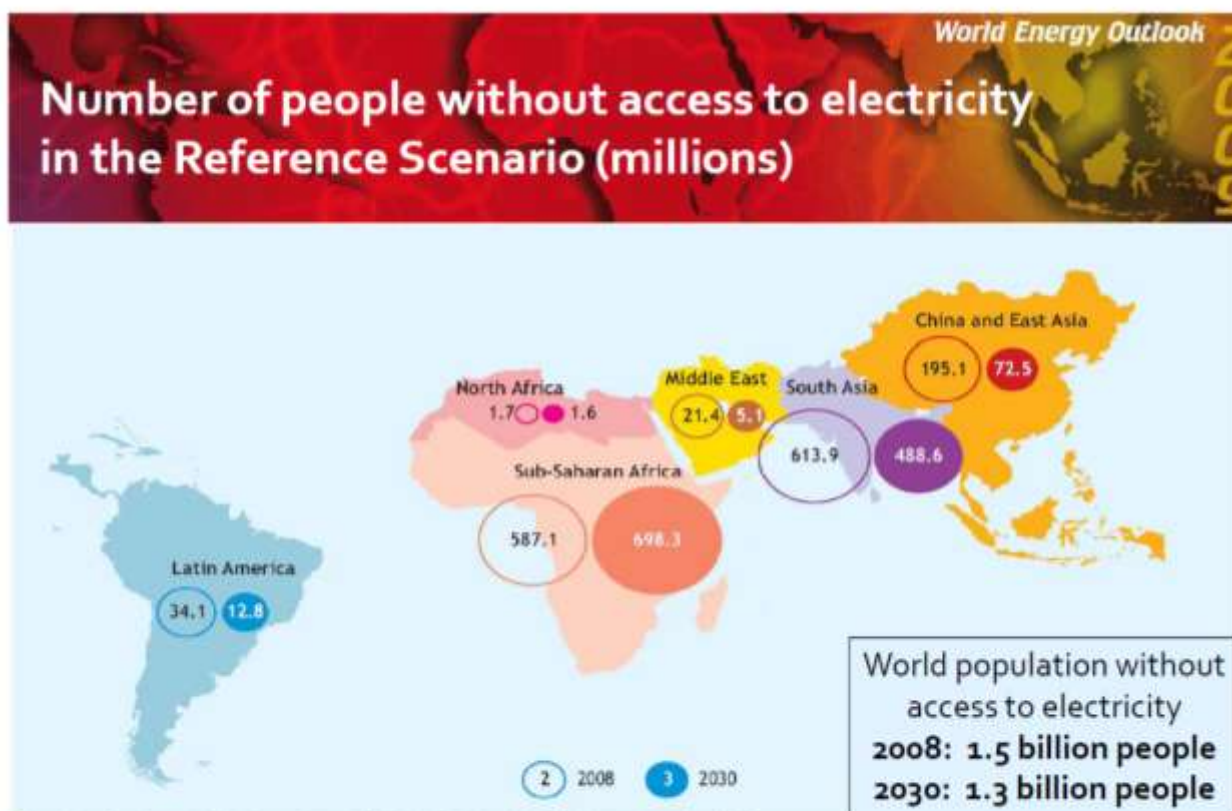
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A new OECD/IEA road map

What is good is that OECD/IEA now has concluded that “our current energy pathway is unsustainable. They also conclude that it has been and is unfair. Even though it now tries to focus on the “problem” with China and India. Africa is still a forgotten continent. The other main problem is that the oil is running out. And that OECD still is the main consumer while the production is elsewhere.

If energy is fundamental to society. If we today have a failed energy model. If the energy consumption is destroying our planet, why do we then privatize and deregulate the energy industry according to the original experiment in Pinochet’s Chile? Why do we believe that the stock market can fix this for us? The situation is so critical that we do need international and national long term plans affecting the whole society. We need to be more efficient and use less energy. We need to replace our consumerism and endless growth with a new sustainable paradigm. To find our way back to the future. And we need to do this now. It is now game or political negotiations. It is a state of emergency.



\$35 billion per year more investment than in the Reference Scenario would be needed to 2030 – equivalent to just 5% of global power-sector investment – to ensure universal access

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The Electrifying Smart Future

I am an electrical engineer and I worked with our electrical power system all my life in different parts of the world. Electricity is the base for all our technology. Electricity is needed for a sustainable society. But what matter is how electricity is generated. Right now I am working with integration of renewable energy in what we call Smart Grid and naturally I believe in this. We should do everything we can to replace fossil fuel with clean energy. For this we need a smarter electrical system. But this is not enough. We need a smart vision. And this we do not have. because it is now the same people who created the problem who is proposing the same formula to fix the world. More privatization, deregulation, nuclear power etc. One of the stupid things we did was to deregulate the power system. Also this was first introduced by Pinochet in Chile. Almost as stupid as when we deregulated the financial markets. What we now need is a smart plan for a common and green future. Then we can build the smart grid. But for this we need smart people. Not stupid white men.

The Key Challenges for SmartGrids

- **Strengthening the grid** – ensuring that there is sufficient transmission capacity to interconnect energy resources, especially renewable resources, across Europe;
- **Moving offshore** – developing the most efficient connections for offshore wind farms and for other marine technologies;
- **Developing decentralized architectures** – enabling smaller scale electricity supply systems to operate harmoniously with the total system;
- **Communications** – delivering the communications infrastructure to allow potentially millions of parties to operate and trade in the single market;
- **Active demand side** – enabling all consumers, with or without their own generation, to play an active role in the operation of the system;
- **Integrating intermittent generation** – finding the best ways of integrating intermittent generation including residential microgeneration;
- **Enhanced intelligence** of generation, demand and most notably in the grid;
- **Capturing the benefits of DG and storage;**
- **Preparing for electric vehicles** – whereas SmartGrids must accommodate the needs of all consumers, electric vehicles are particularly emphasized due to their mobile and highly dispersed character and possible massive deployment in the next years, what would yield a major challenge for the future electricity networks.

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What is in the media

As mentioned I am working with integration of renewable energy and “*Smart Grid*”. This year I have been in Bosnia Herzegovina, Macedonia and Greece. Three historical places for our Western Civilization. In Sarajevo over the cruelty of mankind from the bridge where the First World War started and the destroyed walls full of gun shoot holes from the last civil war. Macedonia and Skopje who is struggling with Greece about who can make Alexander the great their son. Last week I was in historical Greece giving a presentation of Smart Grid for their power utility. A country full of wind and solar resources but still emitting 10 tons carbon dioxide per capita. I did also emit quite a lot of carbon dioxide flying there and back. But this was the only option if I was going to do this. But flying gives you free newspapers and magazines. So once again I could carry out my statistical survey on how much is written about our biggest crisis ever.

Studying the largest Swedish morning paper “Dagens Nyheter (DN)” November 6 I was disappointed. 63 pages on housing and 64 pages on “culture” and entertainment with most of it being ads. 17 pages economy and 7 pages sport. 32 pages “news” but of which 11 pages as ads. 183 pages and half a page about the Climate which is 0, 27%. The head line “EU pressure on India to lower their emissions”. Together with this article there was a diagram showing that India was emitting twice as much carbon dioxide as USA 2006 while the figures shows that USA is emitting 5 times as much as India but with 20% of its population. The report concludes however that it will be difficult to come with demands on India since the emissions are among the smallest per person. But DN does actually have a webpage on climate they say. And this is good. But trying to log in it doesn't find it?

Herald Tribune/ York Times is the U.S. “*left*” or “*liberal*” news paper known from “*The Pentagon Papers*”. It has November 4 half a page on Al Gore under the head line “*Gore profits nicely from his passion*” and even a part on the front page. Nothing about the real problems with global warming but the fact that Gore has invested money in companies working with green technology and can make money on this. Excuse me? Is that wrong? What is the point? On the same page we can see that BP together with a Chinese company has signed Iraq's first major oil deal since the U.S. invasion 2003. It is pay back time. On page 5 the head line is “*Kilimanjaro ice cap continues to retreat – But researches differ on whether human activity behind melting*”. This is a typical story. A new report warns for the effects on global warming but New York Times managed to find a “*Glaciologist*” in Austria that has a different opinion. The two big stories is naturally the 10 year anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall and that the new EU agreement is finally signed.

We can here see another example of Naomi Kleins “*The Shock Doctrine - the rise of disaster capitalism*”. Finally the EU citizens are forced into the elite EU project. The financial meltdown has got Iceland and Ireland to change their minds. And as NYT states “*The IMF gets a stronger mandate*” to continue their old policy. I thought we were going to change the direction, but...instead we will get more of the old medicine.

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What is in the media

Reading Wall Street Journal and Financial Times November 4 we see that we are back to Business as Usual at least for the banks. No crisis here. But actually there are one page on Global warming in Financial Times . Under *“Road to Copenhagen”* they quote Ban Ki-moon *“A new international climate change treaty is very unlikely to be signed in Copenhagen”*.

A small article under the headline *“Republicans boycott bill meeting”* referring to the new U.S. climate bill. And one head line *“Beijing has so far played its climate cards beautifully”*. But the big part of the page is about *“Rightwing activists fly in face of efforts to cut CO2 emissions”* and *“American for Prosperity is fast becoming a formidable force on the political scene”*. *“At time when our economy is struggling you need cheap abundant energy”* say Tim Phillips president of AFP. So this is what our media is saying. I say no more.....But the Financial Times has surprisingly a whole separate 48 page issue on *“The Future of Energy”* A good initiative sponsored by advertisements for Shell over 7 pages. And I understand Shell. How can one of the largest polluters, a company that makes billions in profits by sending out fossil fuel to be burned now change the image to be a green saver of the planet. One way is by these type of campaigns. Any many companies are doing the same thing. In the Swedish Magazine *“Ny Teknik”* (New Technology), State owned Vattenfall has a 24 page separate part on how they are going to fix the global warming. In both these issues there is a lot about carbon capturing and nuclear energy. More of the same.

Wall Street Journal November 6 has two big stories. *“A new route for natural gas to Europe – Sweden and Finland clear way for pipeline that avoids Ukraine”* (Passing outside the Swedish National Park at Gotska Sandön) and *“Group led by Exxon, Shell winds Iraq contract. Hey it’s pay back time. BP, China National Petroleum, Eni, Occidental petroleum, Exxon and Shell. Finally the oil in Iraq has been privatized again. Nasdaq profit is up by 3,4% and “Bank bonuses should aid top of U.K. Home market”*. But what does this really means. I had to read the article. It says that ***“Although the total of £6 billion expected to be paid out for 2009 down from around £10 billion in 2006 and 2007, the health of the luxury property market will be sustained.”*** On the next page the head line is ***“Wall Street Bonuses to rise” “Those incentive based payouts likely will surge as much as 60% from last year, the survey said.”***

International Herald Tribune confirms this under the head line ***“Wall Street prepares for big jumps in bonuses.”*** and *“A typical senior fixed income trader can expect a total pay package of about \$930 000 a 34 % rise from last year.”* Hey The new old Capitalism is back in business! At the 20 years anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall there is only one way. The question is where it is going.

So what does all this tell us. Nothing has changed. We are still totally blind. Totally blind faith in the totally black box. No media and no political leader even asking the question. May there be some mistakes or errors in our present one way direction. Maybe that or ecological crisis, energy crisis and financial crisis has something in common. A system error!

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What is in the media

The Economist November 7-13, 2009 has a special issue on “Twenty years after the wall – so much gained so much to lose.” This was the total victory of Capitalism. The Economist writes: Consider two successes of economic liberalism, both somewhat under-appreciated at the moment. The first is its role 20 years ago. The East Berliners rushing to the West were not just fleeing the Stasi: they also came in search of fridges, jeans and Coca-Cola from super markets. By then communism, for all its tanks and missiles, was plainly a less economic machine.... Change could happen as unexpectedly as it did in 1989. Even the most fearsome fortresses of repression can eventually be breached. Then it was Honecker and Ceausesco: tomorrow it might be Castro. Ahmadinejad or Mugabe; one day Chavez and even Hu.” It is interesting that The Economist now includes “Chavez” as “Fortress of repression” . I understand that he has been elected and supported by the people in Venezuela. But he has oil. And America needs it. “The axis of evil.” What is a bit alarming considering the double Economical and Ecological crisis we now have is the ending of the Economist “Editorial”: ...”It also requires defending the enormous benefits capitalism has brought the world since 1989 more forcefully than the West’s leaders have done so far.”

The Economist points out that the Republicans now has won two important Governor elections and that they are fighting the health care reform. In another article the Economist say **“Is Israel too strong for Barack Obama”**. The Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas is now threatening to step down following the continuing Israeli oppression and building on the West Bank. It is shameful. But not even this is considered a crime. The biggest crime right now and the most powerful weapon of mass destruction is our fossil fuel burning. And we are the terrorists. We considering the successful capitalism and growth our only religion. The Economist have another article **“(Not yet) marching to war.”** They refer to polls in US, EU and Australia showing that the public opinion is changing towards “climate-change skepticism” when the people now consider the economical crisis the worst. **“Among Americans “the citizens who thought there was solid evidence of rising global temperatures had plunged to 57% from 71% in April 2008.”** So how could that be since the evidence is getting stronger every day? Could it have something to do with the media coverage like I have just described. There is an establishment and this is firmly based on oil. We should never forget this. The Economist also have a short article about the frustration of UN secretary when he participated in a faith-and-ecology celebration; **“People close to Mr Ban say he is frustrated by the reluctance of politicians to stake political capital in next month’s Copenhagen meeting; Perhaps spiritual leaders are his last hope.”**

I still have HOPE, but I will see the movie COLLAPSE with Michael Ruppert when it comes to Sweden. Maybe it is time to start building on the arch. Our inability to realize the magnitude of the crisis but even more so our total belief in Milton Friedmans one way 19th century model has give us a new totalitarian thinking with no real questioning. This is very, very scary.

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What is in the media

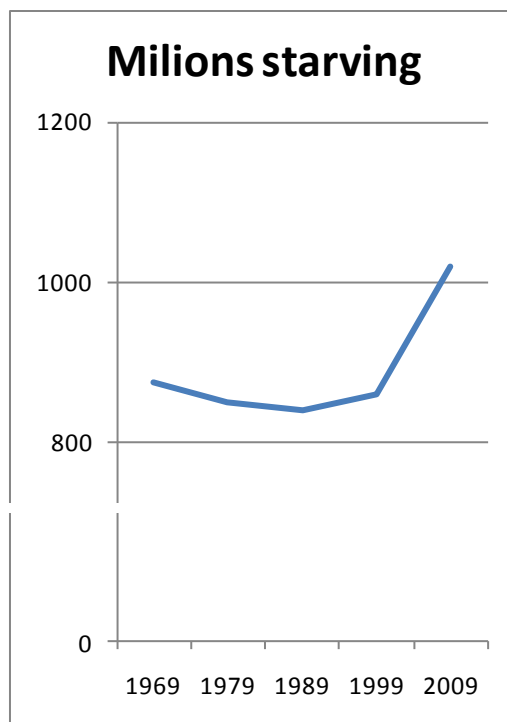
Last week I was on a business trip to Oslo in Norway and went home with train. Once again I managed to pick up Financial Times November 10. On page 16 I could read about my home country, Sweden. The headline was “Buy-out groups see of Apotekets peer’s”. Andres Ward writes the following:

“The end of Apotekets pharmacy monopoly represents another blow to Sweden’s big government tradition as the current center-right administration moves to dismantle the state-run corporate empire built up by it’s socialist predecessors. The government has held a monopoly over the pharmacy market since the 1970s. Arguing that the supply of medicine was a public good. Monopolies also exist over the betting and alcohol markets to reduce gambling addiction and alcoholism. Critics complain of high prices and limited opening hours that prevents Swedes buying alcohol after 3 pm on Saturday and all day Sunday.”

He use the expression “state-run corporate empire”. Maybe he means “evil empire”. I wonder what Financial Times calls Wall Street. “The street of corporate freedom.....So lets deregulate everything when we are on the move, schools, hospitals, drugs, prostitution,..... We have an economical and ecological crisis and our financial gurus want to deregulate some more – as always.

Financial Times showed however another interesting graph on page 10 about the depressing fact that while some are getting very rich the starving population in the world is increasing.

So how can this be. That we have more than one billion starving. The food production has increased. The farmers are fewer and fewer and get paid less and less and use more and more fertilizers. That was the green revolution. We actually spend almost nothing on food – if we are wealthy. And we can get from all over the world. Maybe we have not deregulated enough. Maybe there are some remaining cooperatives out there – on Cuba or some other evil country.



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I just came back from a business trip to Brussels, the capital of European Union. Since Sweden now for 6 month is the chairman of EU many Swedes travel back and forth between the two countries. The train from the airport to Brussels was mainly Swedish speaking. I made some observation during my trip. The Brussels multilevel airport looks like most modern airport. Tax free stores (although they are not really tax free) and other stores for luxury items. So we can buy our favorite whisky or perfume. Luxury cars on exhibition. Everything we in the rich world want. But you notice a change. The colorful advertising you see on the airport or in the airline magazines are now "Green". Independent which company it is their products are saving energy and minimizing emissions. The more polluting an industry or product is, the bigger ads. Exxon-Mobile is sponsoring the gates at Brussels airport where we learn that they through Technology will give "More energy with less emissions".

Belgium has one of the highest per capita emissions of carbon dioxide in the world. Less than US but more than double the Swedish emissions. The emissions corresponds to six planets. When I am waiting for my flight on an airport I always check out the bookstore. So I did in Brussels. "The capital of European Union." They had books in French, Dutch and English. The normal best sellers and novels, travel guides but also a large selection of non-fiction books. Many from the Economist publisher. Almost all books about economy, how to get rich, how to invest, one new book why Island did not survive the financial melt down. But NOT ONE SINGLE BOOK ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT. Not one single book about global warming. Not one single book about our won crime against nature and life itself.

Belgium is fully depending on fossil fuel and nuclear power. The renewables are almost nothing. The per capita emissions has increased from 13,6 tons per year 1990 to 14,4 tons 2006. A moderate increase since the petrochemical industry in Belgium has managed to decrease compensating the increasing "private" emissions. So how shall Belgium go from 14 tons to 3 tons or less? And do this in a few years? The capital of EU.

Belgium

	Mtoe	1990	1995	2000	2005	2006
Gross Inland Consumption		48.61	54.94	61.46	61.15	60.41
Solid fuels		10.24	8.55	8.20	5.45	5.16
Oil		18.50	22.88	24.10	24.75	23.67
Gas		8.17	10.61	13.37	14.74	14.99
Nuclear		10.71	10.34	12.42	12.28	12.03
Renewables		0.65	0.72	0.82	1.46	1.77
Other (****)		0.34	1.84	2.55	2.48	2.78
Elec. Generation (TWh)		70.85	74.43	83.89	87.03	85.54
Coal (TWh)		17.10	16.52	12.92	8.20	6.85
Oil (TWh)		1.31	1.31	0.80	1.74	1.38
Gas (TWh)		8.17	12.94	19.09	25.14	25.39
Nuclear (TWh)		42.72	41.36	48.16	47.60	46.65
Renewables (TWh) (*)		0.77	0.95	1.33	2.63	3.73
Other (TWh) (***)		0.78	1.35	1.60	1.72	1.55
CO₂ Emissions (Mt) (**)		135	140	144	152	150
Energy Intensity (toe/M€ '00)		239	249	244	225	216
Carbon Intensity		2.78	2.54	2.35	2.49	2.48
Import dependency, %		75.2	79.6	76.1	78.2	77.9
Energy per capita (kgoe/cap)		4 876	5 420	5 999	5 838	5 730
CO ₂ per capita (kg/cap)		13 565	13 764	14 102	14 512	14 236

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We are living in the black ages of oil and other fossil fuel. Maybe we are a fossil. But a dangerous fossil committing the crime against life. Ant not even thinking about it. I had another reflection. Most of the passengers in the airplane were men like myself. But now they were a younger generation. Today's businessmen in their early 40ies now running the world. It was amazing. I thought I was on my way to a funeral. Everyone of these men with few exceptions was wearing the same black suite and black shoes. They all looked the same. For a short while I was contemplating a fearful thought. If all this men in black, read the same newspapers, go to the same meetings and basically have the same job of making more money for their company. Maybe they all think the same.

What surprised me in Brussels was how expensive everything is like in all countries changing to EURO. But even more surprising and worrying were the homeless begging men and women on the street at night in November with rain and cold weather.

In Sweden there has been a lot of discussions about Vattenfall lately. The state owned power utility in a deregulated market. They have invested in fossil fueled plants in the Netherlands and Nuclear power plants in Germany. Using the money from low cost hydro power in Northern Sweden. Our common natural resources. Now it turns out that the company has an unlimited liability if they have a nuclear accident in Germany when in the end the Swedish taxpayers has to pay. So the CEO of Vattenfall is being criticized. But basically he has just done what he should have done on a deregulated market place. However it is the owner, the Swedish government that should have acted. What we now see is that the one way street media in Sweden like Dagens Nyheter (DN) and Dagens Industry supports Vattenfall in DN Editorial November 16, 2009 they stepped out of the closet with the headline "*More nuclear power*". It is embarrassing to experience this total incompetence and inability to "think outside the black box". That the only "solution" this old thinking is coming up with to "solve" the global warming is to build more nuclear power and to hide the carbon dioxide in the ground. Another mental black out in the black age.

The good news was that DN actually had several articles on global warming. Even though all of them was speculation about the outcome of Copenhagen. It looks like everyone is now preparing us for that we can not get a "*deal*" in Copenhagen? Do they think this is a "*deal*". A game. A high level political gamble. We have the biggest crisis in the short history of man kind and we cannot see, hear or speak since we are so locked into our black box. Who is to blame for this crime? The stupid white men? Our political or corporate leaders,? All of us? We have in our western world democracy. We are totally free. We are free to do almost what ever we want within our laws. We are even free to destroy our planet. This freedom and democracy make us responsible for what is happening. We cannot blame someone else. We can not ask someone else to solve our crisis and "save the world". The only solution and the only way to "save our planet" is within ourselves. That we face our responsibility.

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“The final countdown”

The meeting in Copenhagen is our last chance to do something. It can be the beginning of the end or the beginning of the future. But if we shall have the smallest chance “to save our planet” the Copenhagen meeting will have to put forward the radical new thinking that is needed. It is not just to build more nuclear power or hide carbon dioxide in the ground, it is not even about building more renewable energy generation or electrical cars. It is a change of the very model that is driving us to increased consumption and pollution for ever and ever. To build a sustainable future we need a sustainable model for our economy and society. I have many times repeated the Einstein conclusion – “We can not solve a problem with the same thinking as what created it.” Our biggest problem is that this old thinking is not only driving today’s development – there is no critics– no alternative – discussed anywhere except from some young environmental or anti-globalism movements. There is a massive one way thinking from people in power, And it is going the wrong direction.

This fall 2009 our media has been full of the celebration of the 20th anniversary of fall of the Berlin wall and the fall of “The evil Empire” in Soviet Union. There are few who today will support this failed model, but as I have also pointed out before , communism played an important roll in the world development during the last 100 years. 1909 we did not have democracy. In Sweden we had the first big national strike this year, that failed and caused mass emigration from Sweden. We did not get democracy until 1921 and 1931 striking workers were shoot do death by Swedish military. The development were similar in many other countries. Our democracy is young and was not given to us for free. It was the result of many brave men and women and a belief of equality, solidarity and freedom. This process needed two horrifying world wars and for some countries much longer. The Russian revolution that led to “The Evil Empire” did however something important for the democratic movement in the world. It was a threat! Not only a military threat but a threat to the old establishment that if we did not find a “middle way” acceptable to the majority of the people we could face the same type of revolution.

We also often forget that 100 years ago the western world was dominating main parts of the other world as “colonies”. And this did not end until after the second world war. And for some countries it took much longer and several devastating wars for their freedom. The Russian revolution also helped these colonies. Sometimes directly supporting with weapons but the important thing was the threat. This forced us in the rich western world to “behave” and finally leave our colonies. Until 1989 we had this balance of power. We also head the threat of a nuclear war. But after 1989 we only had one way and one model. And we saw the development of this “Chicago” model going extreme starting with the deregulation experiment in Pinochets Chile and moving to USA and UK before it 1989 could take of in all the world – including China and India. But we forgot something. There is another power that makes us “behave”. Nature. Because the very model we now treated like a new religion is based on continuous growth – for ever and ever.

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“The final countdown”

Communism died 1989. But also socialism died 1989. Even social liberalism and mixed economy died 1989. And all discussion died 1989. There were no more ideologies. Except one. The free capitalism developed 200 years ago in a Europe that was not a democracy and was built on the exploitation of men and nature. A European model built upon slavery and colonies for trade. A world controlled by rich men for rich men. Industrial capitalism and laissez-faire was formulated by the teachings of the classical political economists, led by Adam Smith and David Ricardo, where Britain embraced liberalism, encouraging competition and the development of a market economy. Our model for industry, economy and even language came from the development in Great Britain during the 19th century when Britain had colonies all over the world. This model spread through the colonization of North America and Australia when the original population were exterminated. It was also during the 19th century that Karl Marx formulated the critics against this model.

With the fall of Soviet Union Capitalism became the only way and the old dream of laissez-faire where global companies could freely act any-where and any-time took over. We privatized and deregulated the world. We forgot the lesson of the 1929 crisis and the “mixed-economy” that evolved within New deal. We did not even wake up for number of smaller financial melt downs and we did not react to the warnings of global warming. We continued as before along our only way.

I have always been interested in history. I have also been interested in the future. But today’s model is only interested in today. Our media is following the stock markets around the clock. The global corporations are worrying for the next quarter result. We are gambling on the Internet. Our history during the latest 100 years involves two major world wars and many “smaller wars” from Vietnam to Iraq. All involving us western powers with USA, and U.K with their commonwealth in lead. The same countries dominating the economy, the trade, the consumption and the pollution. Until now. This really puzzles me. Now when we just are experiencing this economical and ecological meltdown there is still no real discussion about our old fashioned laissez-faire model from Adam Smith to Milton Friedman. It seems that our present leadership is brain-washed unable to think outside this black box.

The work to find a new sustainable model is not easy. We have no ready made solutions. But one thing should be easy to understand. We can not fix this with even more of the same that created the problem. As Michael Moore pointed out is that we need to revitalize democracy. This right to choose our common future that only has existed for a short period of time in history. This democracy of common interest that allows us to jointly take the right decisions for the change that is needed to another “paradigm” in balance with our ecology – not in war with it. But as long as we walk the same way we will arrive where we are heading. And that is a black future. We have our democracy, we have the technology but we need a radical new thinking to change our consuming life style. We have managed to do this before. When we demanded civil rights and democracy. It can be done. Yes we can!

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From Green Living www.greenlivingtips.com

Sometimes it can be difficult to relay to people just how much we consume; particularly those of us in developed countries. While purchasing green this and eco-friendly that are all well and good; one of the root causes of our environmental problems is hyperconsumption. We simply buy too much of what we don't need and often even what we don't really want.

Half the world lives on less than two dollars a day - source: GlobalWatch.

12 percent of the world's population lives in North America and Western Europe and accounts for 60 percent of private consumption spending, but a third of humanity that lives in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa accounts for only 3.2 percent. WorldWatch Institute

In 1950, the global population was 2.6 billion people. We had 53 million cars- which works out to be one car for every 50 persons. Today, there are over 6 billion people and 500 million cars-more than one car for every dozen inhabitants. Sierra Club

If the Chinese consume resources in 2031 at a level that Americans do now, grain consumption per person there would climb from around 600 pounds today to around 2000 pounds needed to sustain a typical western diet. This would equate to 1,352 million tons of grain, equal to two thirds of all the grain harvested in the world in 2004. OneWorld

In 1950, Americans consumed 144 pounds of meat and poultry per person on average. In 2007, that shot up to 222 pounds. Factory Farming Campaign.

In 2003, gasoline consumption per capita in North America was 1,593.1 litres per person, whereas in developing countries it was 59.2 litres per person. World Resources Institute.

Atmospheric carbon dioxide levels in November of 1958 were at 313.34 parts per million. In March 2009, levels were at 387.41 parts per million, an increase of over 20%.

Industrialized nations, representing only 20% of the world's population, consume 87 percent of the world's printing and writing papers and global production in the pulp, paper and publishing sector is expected to increase by 77% from 1995 to 2020. The pulp and paper industry is the single largest consumer of water used in industrial activities in OECD countries and is the third greatest industrial greenhouse gas emitter, after the chemical and steel industries. Co-op America

The average American buys 53 times as many products as someone in China and one American's consumption of resources is equalvalent to that of 35 Indians. Over a lifetime, the typical American will create 13 times as much environmental damage as the average Brazilian. Sierra Club via CNN

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South Australia is the driest state in the driest continent in the world, yet it's water consumption is 445 litres per day per person (2001/2002) according to Environment SA. Australia's average per person water consumption was 493 litres per day. In the USA, average water consumption per person in 2008 was 575 litres daily. China's daily per capita consumption in 2006 was 86 litres according to Data 360

The USA's electricity consumption per capita is 12,343.098 kWh per year and 71.4 % of that electricity is generated via fossil fuel. Australia's consumption is 10,252.432 kWh per capita, with 90.8 % fossil fuel dependent. German consumption is 6,366.428 kWh per capita with only 61.8 % of that fossil fuel generation dependent. NationMaster

Between 2000 and 2005 around 10 million acres of forests were lost per year in South America, which incorporates the mighty Amazon forest. The land is cleared primarily for cattle ranches and soybean plantations. Only 20 - 25% of Brazilian soybeans are used domestically; most is exported overseas for use in food, textiles and increasingly - cattle feed. Choices Magazine and Monga Bay

The food we eat now typically travels between 1,500 and 3,000 miles from farm to our dinner plate (also known as food miles). The distance had increased by up to 25 percent between 1980 and 2001. Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture at Iowa State University

To grow a pound of wheat requires around 130 gallons of virtual water. For meat, depending on the type - multiply that by five to ten times. Water Footprint

Global coal consumption in 1980 was 4,129.498 million short tons. In 2006, it was 6,743.786 million short tons. Coal consumption is projected to grow at about 2.5% per year over the next 20 years. US Department of Energy

It's frightening stuff isn't it. Readings statistics like these has certainly helped me stop and think "do I really need this" when shopping and using utilities. It's not just a guilt trip; this also helps save money to go towards things that really matter!

Remember that hyperconsumption can also extend to buying "green ". Our thinking is that if something is labelled environmentally friendly, then we can use more of it, but we really need to bear in mind that however earth friendly a product may be, it still requires energy to produce, resources to create and transport to get it to us. Even in the world of green shopping it's still a case of everything in moderation.