

SOCIAL RESISTANCE AND THE WORLD SOCIAL FORUM  
January 25, 2002  
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## INTRODUCTION

GOING TO THE WORLD SOCIAL FORUM IN PORTO ALEGRE, BRAZIL (TUESDAY)

WANT TO DISCUSS ORIGINS AND PURPOSES OF FORUM

ALSO, SUGGEST WAYS THAT DECISIONS GET MADE

PRODUCED SEVERAL CHARTS (FELT BAD ABOUT LAST TALK – NO CHARTS)

## MY TALK

FIRST, MODEL OF HOW DECISIONS GET MADE FOR THE NATION STATE

THEN, HOW THE WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM IS ATTEMPTING TO CREATE A GOVERNANCE SYSTEM.

HOW THE WORLD SOCIAL FORUM IS ORGANIZING TO OPPOSE THAT SYSTEM.

## DECISIONS AND THE NATION-STATE

SHOW YOU HOW I THINK IT WORKS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR WASHINGTON STATE

THIS WOULD ALSO WORK ON NATIONAL LEVEL WITH FOREIGN POLICY

MORE FOUNDATIONS AND UNIVERSITIES (HARVARD/YALE) & COUNCIL ON FOREIGN POLICY, RATHER THAN WASHINGTON ROUNDTABLE.

IMPLICATION. YOU BEGIN AT THE END AND YOU HAVE ALREADY LOST.

NEVERTHELESS, MANY ELEMENTS OF THIS MODEL MIGHT BE APPLICABLE.

Council on Foreign Relations. 1921. CFR and Rockefeller Foundation plans for Post WWII. Marshall plan, IMF/WB and United Nations. 3,600 members. Senior officials in international affairs (now and former). Privatization in the 80s. (Imperial Brain Trust by Laurence Shoup)

## GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

### PRINCIPALS (NOT PRINCIPLES)

**European Roundtable of Industriailists (ERT).** Brussels. 1983. 17 industrialists (Volvo)

And two EC Commissioners. Purpose: unify European economy. No direct lobbying.

Set formal European overall agenda. Infrastructure promotion, single currency, and

Integration of Eastern europe. Close access to EC Commissioners.

Memberrship is personal, rather than corporate, but all 47 members are chairmen or CEOs of MNCs. Unilever, Royal Dutch, Nestle, Siemens, BP Amoco, Bertelsmann.

Meet twice per year.

**Business Roundtable 1972.** CEOs. Promote sustainable, long-tern, non-inflationary Growth. 7<sup>th</sup> largest lobby group. Members spend \$100 million/per year. USA/NAFTA

Spent \$10 million for trade agreement. Phil Condit is chair of Trade Task force. Financed MFN status for China. Plans to sell \$120 billion in planes over 20 years.

**Transatlantic Business Dialogue.** (Brussels/DC). 1995. – Experiment in entrepreneurial Diplomacy. Objective: Removing barriers to trade and investment. Bi-annual US/EU Summits. Established at request of US Department of Commerce and EC.

“Globalization is a positive sum game – all sectors of society can benefit. (5/2000).

Agenda for WTO, Access to China, E-commerce – **early warning system to avoid Disputes.**

## **WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM**

**Founded in 1970 by Professor Klaus Schwab. Know as Davos. Annual meetings. Begin to close to invitees in 1993.**

**“Foremost global partnership of leaders to improve the world”**

**Not for profit Foundation with three levels of control:**

**Foundation Board overall direction. 18 members. 12 Europe. 3 US (Dell/McKinsey & Co.) Two Asia Japan (SONY) and Hong Kong. One Canada.**

**Forum Council. Implement Strategic Plan (38). 19 European and 7 US. (Coca-Cola, McDonalds, Enron Price Waterhouse, etc).**

**Managing Board. Klaus Schwab. Other six, five Are graduates of US university, including former President of Costa Rica.**

## **MAJOR POINTS**

**Nation States no longer have the capacity to For global governance – difficulty of UN**

**Need a new global infrastructure: nation State, business and civil society.**

**This is purpose of WEF, its annual meetings Regional summits and initiatives.**

**One initiative is Global Government Report Assess performance and public/private partnership**

**UN Global Compact with Business is an example.**

## **UP-COMING DIFFICULTIES**

**Not another Seattle**

**Economic Downturn of the US Economy**

**US led war on Terrorism.**

**Kicked out of Davos (largest security since WWII**

**NYC (31<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup>) (Waldorff Astoria)**

**Enron and Argentina**

## **GLOBAL RESISTANCE**

### **WORLD SOCIAL FORUM**

**First meeting in January 2001.**

**Porto Alegre as Counter to WEF**

**Porto Alegre controlled by Workers Party (PT)**

**As is the State.**

**Organized by ATTAC (Bernard Cassen and Susan George)  
and Brazilian NGOs**

**10,000 attended**

**Themes:**

**Production of Wealth and Social Reproduction**

**Kind of International trade**

**Access to Wealth and Sustainability**

**Public nature of Common Resources**

**Promoting Distribution of Wealth for Dignified Life**

**Social Control over the Environment.**

**Civil Society and the Public Arena**

**Guaranteeing Diversity (Class, Racial)**

**Right to Information and Democratization**

**Of Media.**

**Cultural Identity and Protecting Artistic  
Creation from Commercialization.**

**Democracy and Citizens Power  
Basis for Democracy and Citizens Power  
Democratizing World Authority  
Future of the Nation-State  
Mediating conflicts and Peace**

**Principles (April) -- (look at Chart)**

**International Council**

**NGO Council  
ATTAC  
Justice and Peace (Bishops)  
Brazilian Business Association for Citizenship  
Central Trade Union confederation  
Institute for Social/Economic Studies  
Center for Global Justice  
Movement of Landless Rural Workers.**

**Assessment of First Forum.**

**Klein: One world or a world of many worlds.  
Democracy is value and reflection needed.  
State of the Art Facilities (PT Govt)  
Too male.**

**George: Still need significant Victories.**

**LaRouche: Drug conspiracy.**

**Participation of US Groups. Criticism. Stars in Davos, last  
Time. "Brain trust" of North American side of movement.  
Can't use the word capitalism.**

**Chomsky, Vandana Shiva and Maude Barlow.**

## **THIS FORUM**

**50,000 people**  
**Delegate System**  
**Thousands of Workshops**

**Counter-offensive.**  
**Afghanistan slow down**  
**Argentina debacle.**  
**Enron example.**  
**WEF forced to NYC**