



SPANDANEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE SPANDA FOUNDATION

eNEWSLETTER

ISSN 1824-7180

EDITORIAL

ONLINE EDITION AT WWW.SPANDA.ORG/ARCHIVE.HTML

1/2009

HUMAN RIGHTS & SECURITY

HUMAN RIGHTS OR HUMAN INSIGHTS?

... *verum esse ipsum factum* ...

GIAMBATTISTA VICO

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISTS SHOULD now move on to the next phase. Not only the environment is in danger but also our own old nature: we have to give in to make room to the truly human nature blooming into being with the new state of consciousness gaining its way in us. A new Vichian cycle? No, gods and giants have since long left the scene, a different play, on a different level and of a different order is on stage. What we thought to be near is still far. Before the new paradigm will be actively in place, the South has to reach at least the development the North is enjoying now, a long time indeed. We know that the 'discriminator's devotee forcing his saying into human affairs will hardly agree with this. Still discrimination is a might commanding tool to keep people apart, denying their fundamental right to evolve. Notwithstanding the powerful MDGs call, Aids in Africa, and in the world, is not yet subdued also because of eagerness. Pharmaceutical firms – or those using them instrumentally – are still partaking of an old view, preventing 'development' by keeping patents and prices on hold, indeed a feature of an obsolete set of mind.

Transformation is taking place. Extensive and substantial changes very often bring about disaggregating co-effects, such as disagreements, dissensions, conflicts and wars. We at Spanda chose to have a soft approach to change, a smooth, non-violent, gradual pace: no wars, no conflicts, no denial of rights; dialogue, understanding and empowerment of rights instead.

Once all this will be in place, in which rank will human rights be hold, if even by now we are giving away our most fundamental freedom for the sake of security? Need for security springs out of fear, both individual and collective. Fear, that animal drive preventing us to move forward to a really human dimension, and that too many a time has had its way in ruling the world. But which freedom, liberty, could ever have we? Which deliverance will free us from pain in seeing the great majority of our people striving daily to survive themselves to life? Poverty, hunger, disease, injustice, discrimination beget out of greed and fear. We should deliver ourselves from this animal grip and move steadily forward. Time is ripe, things are changing fast: inner and outer will soon blend together into a 'mystical

marriage'. Let's be instrumental to this shift: a while into a while, and then...? Then peace. Peace, the most acclaimed superstar of our days, "*tutti la vogliono, ma nessuno la piglia.*" Peace, that we often forget that if it has to rule this world, it has first to abide in ourselves. Inner-outer, the two

→ | IN THIS ISSUE

EDITORIAL | SAHLAN MOMO
Human Rights or Human Insights?

RENÉ BRUIN ~ KEES WOUTERS
The Right to Seek and Enjoy Asylum Under Siege

SIMONA SAPIENZA
NGOs and Human Rights

JUKKA KUMPUVUORI ~ HISAYO KATSUI
Disability, Human Rights and Human Security

ARLENE GOLDBARD
Human Rights and Culture: from Datastan to Storyland

SIMONA SAPIENZA
Fear & Security

MARCUS DÜWELL ~ JOS PHILIPS
Human Rights and Correlative Duties

BRUCE SCHNEIER
The Future of Privacy

ABSTRACTS

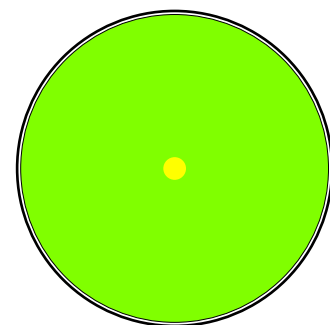
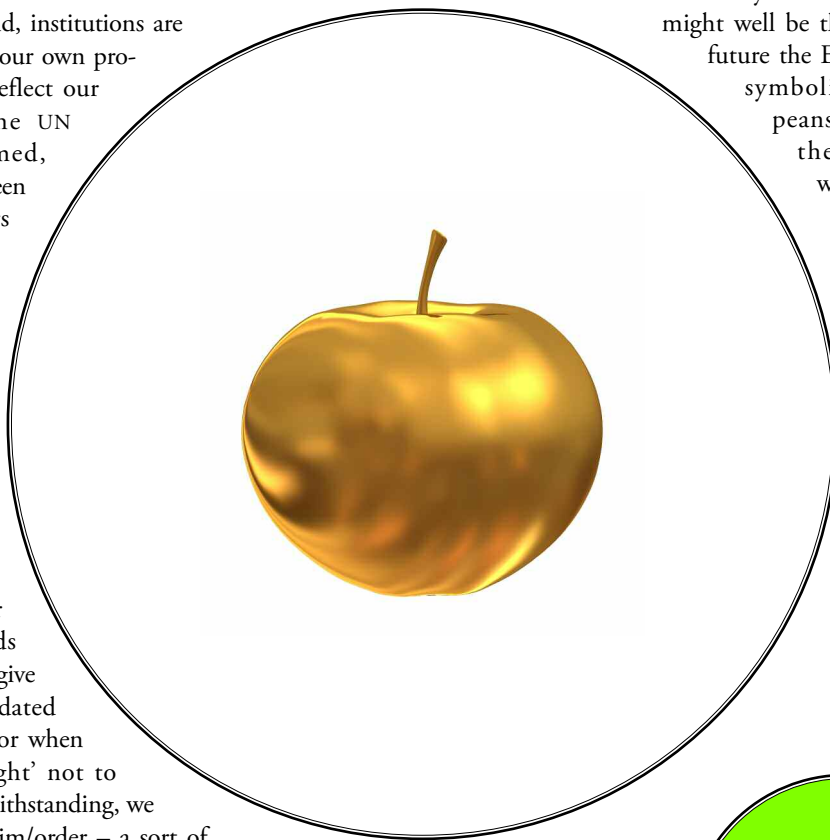
NEWSROOM *From UN & NGOs.*

are one: two sides of a coin, but one coin. Reality and vision are strolling on the same path, as a coin with its sides.

Human rights universally applied and universal rights humanely applied will be the legacy of our time, of this civilization of ours that at last 'knew' how to recover by complying with the Law and its way (*dharmā*), to be free of karma and step forward. Which security? Of our own self, or of this so 'dear' civilization pursuing its ultimate goal? – luxury. Societies are made up of individuals, and individual development is the base for any social and economic development, neither social nor economic development are possible without individual growth. Human rights or human insights?

But this is not the only show in town today. Sovranational institutions too need to open up to a different order, the new paradigm will unavoidably demand their transformation in participating-actors to convey and keep a sustainable peace into this world. Greed and fear are still moving this world, institutions are man made entities – our own projection – and they reflect our own make up. The UN needs to be reformed, soon. Conflicts between human rights bearers and sovrnational institutions are mainly due to the fear of nations of transferring some of their rights to others. In reality, nations don't have to give up their sovereignty, but simply put it at the service of a higher goal. The same holds true with our fear to give up a certain consolidated position in our self, or when we consider our 'right' not to give in and, this notwithstanding, we subside to a higher aim/order – a sort of partnership in governance? – In this gradual shift, gradual as its pace, those forces hampering now the rights of every human being, once regained their own right place, will also gladly subscribe to peace.

Merchants of war, soon will be your turn! Fear of the future will sweep you away. Behold patent and copyright holders! Your holdings are obsolete too, born out of industrialism they are dieing with it. New shades of rights on the visible and invisible spectrum of light are on sight. It's an empty effort trying to resist them; – yes, it's your right, nobody will force you, but *volens or nolens* you too will bend to the ineffable force that permeates all, *dharmā*, cosmic energies, the great life force. The way cannot be said not because of a secret-lore, but simply because there are no 'human' words to describe it, let alone to en-compass it.



Let's purely float in its stream – a very dangerous endeavour indeed, if we don't know how to swim... but who will tell us how to swim? No longer teachers nor gurus, nor longer rites for rights at hand. Rites are will-activated performances that, given certain favourable and replicable circumstances, may awake asleep energies within and around us and allow a higher state of consciousness to take place, but that will vanish with the ending of the rite. Sumerians and Greeks were very fond of them, but that was another epoch, another time, and another past-time. Now, the only reliable audible voice, not activated by the will, is a portion of the Self reverberating in us. Once floating in the stream we no longer need rites to attain a higher state of consciousness: we already enjoy it.

The lack of trust in our human potentialities, and the lack of vision and direction in what we could become – a clear vision clears the path towards its attainment – will soon fade away and make room for joy. It might well be that in a not too far a future the European *Hymn to Joy*, symbolically uniting Europeans, will also attend to the united humane-world *Hymn to Life* sung by the angels...

This sounds right, to me at l[e]ast. A stroke in the heart, an art attack, not to be taken too seriously, of course... One topic, different angles and perspectives: enjoy the issue. ▣



*Does the silk-worm expend her yellow labours
for thee? for thee does she undo herself?*

CYRIL TOURNEUR

