

# Horasis Global Meeting

Gaziantep, Türkiye, 22– 23 October 2023

**Congress Topic: Now more than ever, it is important to come together to create social and economic prosperity for all. How can different stakeholders cooperate to create systemic solutions to the challenges facing humanity? How can we reconstruct hope to shape a brighter future? What catalyst is needed to nurture that momentum on a global scale?**

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Paper delivered by Orde Levinson.

*In 1820 – some two hundred years ago - just after the seven Napoleonic wars - wars amongst many wars, and during the height of the Industrial Revolution with its enormous social and economic changes, George Hegel in his *Elements of the Philosophy of Right* tried to reconstruct the modern state in effect the world he lived in. What to do in conflicts between natural law or an absence of law which for Hegel was despotism. Of which we have a lot today. In a nutshell free will - a great striving for that around the world today - was paramount to Hegel for any human construct or reconstruct such as economy, family, law, politics morality property. To quote: “A person is not truly free, unless they are a participant in all of these different aspects of the life of the state.”*

Karl Marx in 1843 in his criticism of Hegel’s work wrote – a phrase that all may know but which has been ossified and truncated: “*Religion is the sigh of the oppressed creature, the heart of a heartless world, and the soul of soulless conditions. It is the opium of the people.*” Sigh of oppressed, in a heartless world under soulless conditions has echoes across all wars, political intolerance and in almost every country today yet while there are huge political, economic and climatic challenges to face in each nation and also nation against nation, block against bloc. So how can we reconstruct hope to shape a brighter future?

We cannot. Hope is the sigh of the oppressed creature, the heart of a heartless world, and the soul of soulless conditions. It is the Fentanyl of the people.

Fentanyl because it is synthetic, man-made - our situation – our reasoning. Climate destruction is a given man made, Ukraine a bread basket to the world is now in part a wilderness of cold destructive and not in any way productive iron mines. Internecine wars everywhere. We cannot get along and enjoy this amazing fruitful planet. The oppressed, heartless soulless conditions is a everywhere – the list is endless. We cannot even hope against hope anymore.

Why not? Because of the nature of Hope. Is it an emotion, not a virtue, the opposite of fear or despair? Is it just letting our thoughts or beliefs project a positive or negative future but over which we do not control. Is it just lies. Self deception and a vice. For Stockton and the Stockton principle it was proved a vice that led to untimely deaths. For Kant in his *Metaphysics of Morals* it is affective desire for alternative possible outcomes and a moral duty but one based on rationality.

Hope has outlived its place - and has become this fentynal, a deadly sin used with substantial ease by politicians in both a negative and positive form of falsified virtue or abusive fear. Reconstruction is just a tinker to the appearance and not the essence. To replace hope – a concept of the mind - with another construct today is needed to be able to cope with the challenges facing humanity? How can we reconstruct hope to shape a brighter future? What catalyst is needed to nurture that momentum on a global scale? I believe we must first accept The End of Hope. And replace it with something like conceptual realism – a Reality that is created by the mind to the brutal facts around us. But not a mind thing. Perhaps this equation is useful. CR= essence (not appearance)= (leac )c. ie logical, ethical, aesthetic, conscience raised to the power of consciousness.

Hope, falsifies and petrifies the internal world and prevents us from imagining an external world, that is to say, to have a vision of it which is not simply utilitarian, self-promotional, all mine so to speak.

It prevents a truer and more exact representation of life by preventing retaining the durable characteristics of our planet and life and promotes simple glancing solutions. We need to see all aspects, conceptual realism. Thought evolves – and we need a new concept of the world – not a hoped for one

We can change a reality by changing our mind – we deceive ourselves if we rely on hope to do it. The more realistic one is, the less politicians, will be able to lie. The tools, I am not sure. But I believe, perhaps even have faith in the biological function of art, not in humans though. By the brutal realisation that opposing religions or politicians will not go away and we have to work together. By Empathy. By trying to show those psychopaths that rule and wish to enrich and enlarge is futile -that their talents are better spent for people than killing them. Not a hope against hope, but the only realistic way. I think the world must be blind. And hope has blinded us. Hope is part of the problem not part of the solution.