



Beyond the Green Deal – a Green Civilization

The **European Green Deal** is being rolled out now and deserves full support to position its actions at the **edge of highest ambition**. However, signals are emerging that **more than a Green Deal is needed** to address the **planetary emergency** with its interrelated and mutually reinforcing crises – climate, nature, resources, health, and social - and to **transform our world**. The ongoing and forthcoming recovery from COVID-19 is essential to set the path into a **fundamentally greener, less unequal and more collaborative world**, despite the temptation for quick and short-sighted repair during and between pandemic waves - even more so with the pandemic now settling into longer duration.

The **Green Civilization** is proposed as a concept that unifies all the diverse elements of system change that appear increasingly important for preserving our life and prosperity supporting ecosystems, and ultimately the survival of humankind.

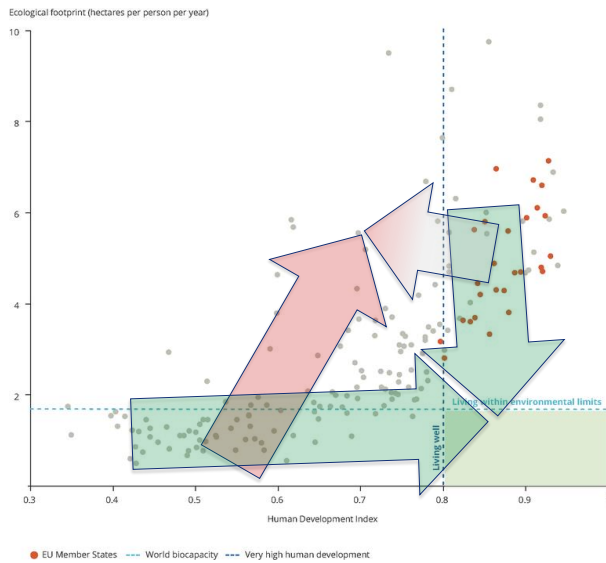
This one-pager puts together - for further discussion - different elements that seem pertinent for the development of the concept of a Green Civilization, reaching beyond the current Green Deal, beyond green technologies and beyond circularity:

1. New **economic model** where shared prosperity thrives in a safe and just operating space for humanity (Doughnut Economics) and **new metrics** for success, progress and true costs
2. Deep change in **worldviews, lifestyles and behaviours**
3. New **spiritual dimension** conscious of the web of life
4. Shift from competitiveness to **cooperativeness** and **solidarity** as the prevailing modes of human interaction
5. Discovery of new **visions of wellbeing and good life** compatible with planetary health
6. Redefinition of the **relation between liberty and responsibility** and a re-fit of the principle of free enterprise for a full world where limited resources need to be shared
7. Promotion of **sufficiency** as a central part of policy mixes
8. Rebalancing **resilience, diversity and autonomy** versus efficiency, scale and convenience
9. New **'convergence 2.0'** beyond the current convergence towards an unsustainable Western model of consumerism and accumulation unworkable for 9-10 billion humans
10. EU sustainability leadership to orchestrate the **co-creation of a Green Civilisation at global level**

While technologies and digitalisation are critical enablers of the sustainability transformation, technological promise must not hide the need for deep and politically more uncomfortable system change. In a Green Civilisation, technologies, digitalisation and innovation at large are directed towards humanity's great challenges and serve the common good.

Convergence 2.0

A challenge for participatory EU sustainability diplomacy?



Convergence 1.0
towards unsustainable
Western lifestyles,
depleting life- and
prosperity supporting
ecosystems



Convergence 2.0
needs to be co-created
globally based on new
visions of a good life,
allowing humanity to
thrive within world
biocapacity

based on EEA (2019), https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/figures/correlation-between-ecological-footprint-and/correlation-between-ecological-footprint-and/image_large

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