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HOLOCRISIS



As Sweden already has a powerful spokesperson for young people around the world in Greta Thunberg, we would like to add a wise elder to the messengers: Warmly welcome Gustaf Delin, 91 years old!

Thank you! No comparison, please! Greta is a Jeanne d'Arc, wise from the beginning. I had to learn a tough lesson later in life before I had something worthwhile to say.

Why do you want to share this message?

Because my time is running out. This is my contribution to safe-guarding future life on earth as we know it, and I want my great-grand-child Oskar to know that I did it for him and for every living thing around in years to come. I have woken up!

What is it you see?

That we have gone astray in how we tackle our problems.

We are systematically forming and accelerating what I would call a Holocrisis and urgently need to change course!

How can you be so sure?

Because I have been part of creating this disaster! I was a firm believer in eternal growth and during my first part of my professional career, I worked in politics as assistant and advisor to the parliamentary group of the Conservatives and as special assistant to two consecutive party leaders.



And then, after some time, I left politics and co-founded The ForeSight Group where I served up to 85 years of age as an advisor and consultant in companies in Sweden and in other countries in Europe, among them Russia, and I settled for several years in the United States.

What did you do, more specifically?

I was focusing on strategic planning, new business development and innovation. I was totally dedicated to the industrial society. Up to my 40s I was a strong believer in its promising material future. I saw a *“perfect democratic and prosperous society”* for humanity coming. All the resources there for us to exploit!



Did you ever question growth as the only way to go for mankind?

No, never! We expected the Market to solve whatever problem would arise and dismissed any criticism against our plans.

And then what happened?

During the second half of my professional life, I met in the seventies with a vastly different, scientifically based, world view, the reality of nature, its limitless intelligence, its magic life supporting system, based on imperative natural laws.

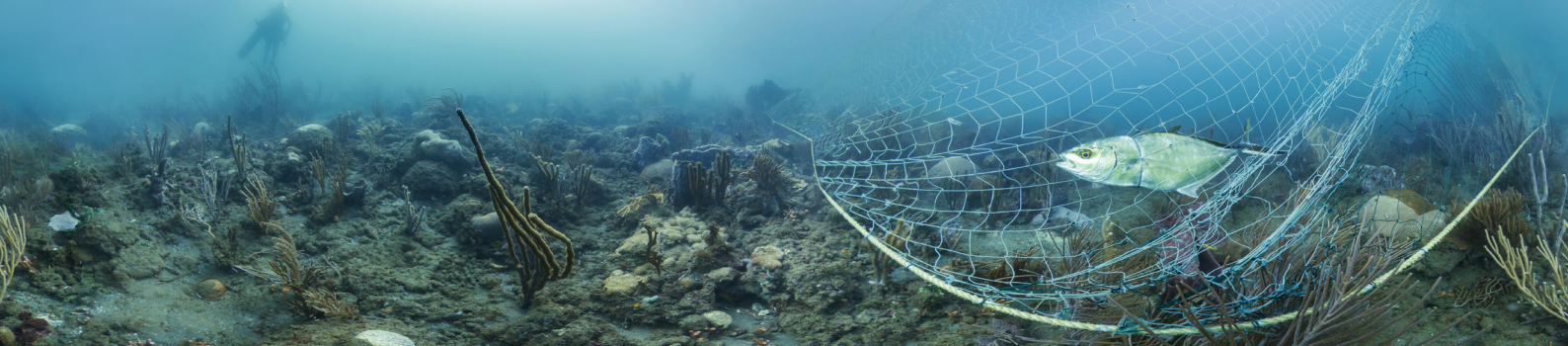


How did that affect your way of thinking?

I learned after a long time to respect its uncompromising rules and regulations, so very different from our ‘man made’ visions and dreams, based on wishful thinking, without realizing the limits of reality which had been my working material for so long.

What did this insight make you realize?

That we were at War With Nature! A war we could not win. After many years, I realized that professional results, of which I sometimes felt proud, expressed in the conventional ways as economic gains, were in nature’s physical reality appearing as heavy costs for the life-supporting system which was keeping me and the living world alive. I had to realize that I was contributing to the destruction of life! I participated in sawing the branch on which we were all sitting. It totally changed my outlook on the industrial society, and I saw clearly its deadly impact from growth and unhinged consumerism – like a cancer.



But we are obviously not content with the pace of nature's own, inherent growth...

Precisely! We are like the one who had a goose laying one golden egg each day and who, driven by his insatiable greed, decided to slaughter the golden goose in the absurd expectation of getting all the eggs in one sweep!

Thankfully, during the last few decades, a growing global opinion has come to that same conclusion – that industrial society is waging a war against nature!

Would you say that leaders are also beginning to realize the consequences?

Unfortunately not. They talk about the need to tackle climate change, but that's only ONE part of a much bigger problem, a HOLISTIC crisis, our leaders largely are neglecting

What do you consider most crucial?

So, here is my message to you:

1. The world leaders at large have agreed on stopping the "war against nature" and therefore to eliminate fossil energy to avoid further effluents of one of its waste products, carbon dioxide. It is a necessary decision. Absolutely vital!

But?

2. However, it is a fatal mistake to substitute, as decided, the elimination of fossil energy with an equivalent amount of any other kind of energy!

Why?

When we are using our technology, so called "production", we make excessive use of energy breaking down, fractioning, an excessive amount of natural resources into components for an excessive amount of desired products, neglecting that we are overstraining the capacity of nature's miraculous, but delicate, self-regulating, life-supporting system to regenerate waste into new resources!

And how does this overstraining show in reality?

Did you ever hear about deforestation? Less clean air? Less clean water? Less fish in the oceans? Poorer soils? Diminishing wilderness?



Those are all biological examples...

Yes, but on top of them – less rare minerals, less everything – except an overdose of wastes from practising our technology, and from using our energy sources in an excessive way. Peak everything!

Some of these wastes will remain in the life-supporting system, clogging it and disturbing its proper function.



But won't there be smart, innovative ways to solve these problems?

No! This will happen regardless of type of energy used in the process. A hammer is a hammer, whatever it is made of, iron or of bronze.

So what will happen when you replace one kind of energy with another – an iron hammer with a bronze one?

The excessive waste production will continue – of course! Minus carbon dioxide, the effect will become more or less the same as before! Hundreds of other wastes from this 'fractioning' process will continue, uncontrolled, to clog, and to disturb the life-supporting system.

But there are many determined actors around the world who expect to invent sustainable methods to create enough energy for the quantities we require...

And this is presently our main problem! This suggested solution will not help the industrial world to finish the war against nature!

Well, our massive material growth had of course never been possible without our enormous extraction of stored solar energy from the earth's crust, in the form of fossil fuels. And they in turn were once created and carefully encapsulated in the ground when the toxic atmosphere was purified by the conversion of CO₂ into carbon, through photosynthesis...

...which enabled life on earth. And now we resolutely dig this toxic content up again! We cannot keep destroying our life conditions and biosphere at the expense of coming generations!



What do we have to do?

Absolutely needed is a radical reduction of industrial society's total use of energy, 'id est' a radical reduction of natural product consumption, down to a point where society's demand for natural resources does no longer exceed the regenerative capability of the life-supporting system. Then there will be no further waste left to disturb it! This is our main task and obligation at the moment!

But this will be extremely unpopular, as we tend to value instant material growth much higher than healthy life conditions for ourselves and future generations...

Yes. Terribly difficult to carry through.

Alas! There is no alternative.

And we may then get peace with nature.
An end to the *HOLOCRISIS!*



This is the message you wanted to share for the benefit of your great-grandchild Oskar and others of his generation...



Correct, thank you for the opportunity.

Thank YOU, Mr Delin, for offering us your invaluable insights on the necessary value change and roadmap ahead!

