

Reinforcing TZM - April 18th 2019

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Preface:

The reason to write this document is a concern for the ongoing development of the movement. It seems to me that sub-communities do well and stay “alive” but at the same time there is a fractured whole. I believe that if we unite these parts of the movement, we will now be stronger than before, given all the experiences we all had over the years. We do need to work with a plan of action. In my experience “leading” the administrative part of the movement i have picked up on a lot of problems and situations, which were not always easy to deal with. I will not say every decision was the right one, but it was made out of right intent for the structure that was in place then.

We have surpassed the need for a top-down structure, but we have not surpassed the need for direction and people to help unify the movement, man our official media(answer emails, FB messages, Twitter and post videos on our youtube). It is also my believe that Discord could be an important part of this infrastructure, but it remains isolated as part of the larger structure. I want to move towards unification AND suggest direction.

Sharing responsibilities and uniting communities

One of the issues we had in the past was that we had a very chaotic environment. There was a lot of misunderstanding about the train of thought and this took away from actual activism activities. My belief is that now the people that are around mostly are of right focus and want to change things. We must unite the remaining community for it to work effectively. We can not sit and complain about the main website for example, if there is an issue we must solve it.

But we have to do this one step at a time. I propose by starting to take 1 global website issue. We fix this issue within the fastest timespan that we can. I will unconditionally provide all support for this first leg. We need to wake up to the reality that by passively talking about it, the change will not come, we must accept the use of people that act as facilitators. I believe we have the ability to self-moderate to see if they are doing well. But also believe people should be able to demonstrate they can take us forward.

I will, with the help of a few others do my best to get other existing members over to participate here. Getting over the rest of TZM Global and the Linguistics team is a priority. I need to stress that TZM global is no longer an entity, rather a collection of people still performing tasks that were once assigned/ ascribed to former teams.

Current issues with the Global Website

1. Many links are outdated, these need to be corrected immediately
2. We need to be able to direct people to activism directly, discord could be a good landing page as people are active and able to talk around the clock.
3. The overall function of the website needs to be more activism oriented. It should function as more than a billboard(Woodpecker 2019)
4. There is confusion on who is able to access what. I intend to harmonise this and make this transparent, even arranging more access if more volunteers are necessary.
5. There are doubts on getting certain rights. I will help build a bridge here.

Current issues with Discord

1. The accuracy of information is not up to standard. A practical example is when people ask about a chapter, in this case whether it exists. The correct protocol would be to answer if you know, and if you do not know refer to Chapters@thezeitgeistmovement.com. One of the few email inboxes we still sustain. We will be able to help individuals seeking information that way. In my monitoring i have seen this is not the case. If there is a reason why you would not use this venue, we should talk about it.
2. Discord is a great tool to get people to work together despite timezone issues. However there are very little active projects that i am aware of. I did scroll most of the channels in discord, i have perhaps missed it.
3. I admire the self- moderation of the discord. I think that is a real accomplishment. There is a flipside however. People get a lot of space to direct the conversation. I am not suggesting to remove people, i do think we need to consider everyone though, and to prioritise certain channels for certain purposes. It may be necessary to temporarily restrict access to certain channels for certain people.
4. It is important to consider the function of the administration. I believe each and every one of the current administrators is well intentioned, some in this capacity even personal friends. There is however a difference between a passive and proactive administration. This is a field that i think needs to be equalised, based on mutual trust and understanding. Combined with proactive admins - taking steps towards directing/facilitating activism, it could be a better display of what we can do as a collective. I do note this needs to be a minor point for now, as the current agreement is to highlight the issues and resolves first.

5. The atmosphere needs to change, in my opinion from, i'm not really sure to well if i don't know, here is where you can find the answer. We must come together to erase these doubts so that it is clear to our community and new members at large.

Short term proposals

- 1) We sort out 1 global website issue at a time, effective immediately.
- 2) We involve the rest of members that are around, with a passive stance or active in their own circle. I can do this together with someone for the discord community.
- 3) We make a list of who has access where, if there needs to be more access i can function as an intermediary to get this done.
- 4) We harmonise all our tools, update them and also get new people" in" that share responsibility. If phase 1 of this goes well, we can talk about sharing keys. Everything has to be based on trust here.
- 5) We work together to increase the quality of the Discord output. This requires the effort of 3 fronts. Current discord administration, the old TZM global members, and people currently participating here. We are all on equal footing and we should streamline a protocol that is acceptable to all.
- 6) We continue the tradition of a newsletter, we assign willing volunteers to pick that up, report to our community, even small developments. It is our responsibility to have developments to report.
- 7) We decide together if we want to remain open in structure, or want to retry with a coordination team. At the moment this is unclear, part of the movement thinks teams are past history, others think there still are teams. Only the Linguistic volunteers could perhaps be seen as a team now. I am neutral in this regard, but we have not really moved over the course of years. I think it is worth a chat.

In conclusion

We are all striving for the same cause, at least i think we do. The disparity between different groups in the movement upsets me, and also does not lead to exemplary behavior from myself. I intend to take this confusion away, and help unify us to be stronger.

I would like to talk about this upcoming Monday April 22th , in voice at 20.00 GMT. **This meeting will be moved, date will be posted. A complication that we had unforeseen with planning of the meeting came up, the UK meeting would otherwise collide as they are on BST. Apologies.**

In solidarity,

Gilbert