

# What should be the main focus of #occupy camps?

The path to a new world.

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What do we hear when we listen to the forgotten U.S. nation-wide [End the Fed movement in 2008](#), which sparked the TeaParty movement, or to the so-called [Twitter revolution in 2009 in the Republic of Moldova](#), or to the [2009-2010 Green Revolution in Iran](#), or to the [Arab Spring](#), or to the [15-M movement in Spain](#), and now to [Occupy Wall Street](#) and to Occupy Everywhere?

**We hear a desire for change.** Not any change, people want a PROFOUND structural change.

The multitude is now awakened thanks to the new media. We are now conscious of our situation and we are starting to imagine a better world. Moreover, the multitude becomes increasingly aware of the potential of the new democratic digital technology. As we experiment with it in various creative ways we grow confident, we grow empowered, we get this feeling that change IS indeed possible and that WE can make it happen.

There is this general feeling floating around that we are on the brink of a major social transformation. We anticipate important change, even though not everyone agrees on the promised land or on the path towards it. There is this feeling that everything must be revised, our decision making processes, our economy, including our value exchange system. But changing all that at once is definitely not an easy task. First, it is not an acceptable thing for the 1%, because this would undermine their power. Second, it is not an easy thing for us, the 99%, because this implies a change in the way we do things. There are costs associated with this kind of change, some jobs will disappear, people will need to learn how to reintegrate new systems of value production and distribution, some of us will lose our positions of influence, our social status, etc.

Whatever the change process, it needs to overcome these two barriers: One raised by the 1%, which can mount a fierce opposition. The other one imposed by us, because not everyone can bear the uncertainty underlying a radical change and the insecurity that comes with it.

**So if you ask for big change, what is your model of change?**

Social systems **are not static**. A socio-economic mode of production that appears on a certain stage of evolution to replace one that became a hindrance to further evolution, can itself become such hindrance when it gets established and the development of new forces of production challenges it.

Social systems are not good nor bad in essence. They are dynamically stable social patterns, they are attractors of behaviour. They are stable as long as the conditions allow. Once the conditions change society can migrate into a different attractor, which means to undergo deep structural transformations until it reaches another dynamically stable equilibrium. What can induce these changes? Among other things, technology can. Technology introduces new possibilities, which, once actualized, can modify relations between individuals. Some relations are very important and determine large scale social patterns, like the relations of property, the relations of production and exchange of value, etc. The new digital technology alters a set of these important relations and, in doing so, it induces major structural transformations. We are now witnessing a shift as important as the industrial revolution, the passage from feudalism to capitalism and socialism, which was also caused by a technological advancement, the invention of the engine, the introductions of the possibility to produce and transport a large volume of material goods with only very few workers.

Metaphorically speaking, our model of change is a process of metamorphosis. The time has come for a new social structure to emerge. The social substrate is ready to receive it. The old structure is disintegrating, living space for the new to form, feeding on it. The butterfly is already taking shape within the decomposing caterpillar. The caterpillar is the present-old world. The butterfly is the new world we are building. We are the agents of change. #occupy camps are the initial centers from which this transformation spreads, from which the new structure emanates.

### **Re-branding of #occupy**

#occupy camps are embryos of new cities within cities. Participatory democracy is our new form of governance. ~~The Consensus decision making process, and all its variations, are in fact new forms of government.~~ #occupy camps are embryos of new societies.

#occupy camps are NOT just sites of protest. They are not just new political spaces. We, the occupiers need to go beyond that. Most of us apply an old model of social engagement to understand/explain what is happening now, and that model is reaction-based. The #occupy movement is NOT a reactionary movement. It is a CONSTRUCTIVE movement. ~~I personally like to call it a Multitude constructive movement.~~ Reacting to government wrongdoing by protesting and formulating demands can only produce cosmetic changes to the system, and sometimes it even reinforces the tyranny. This movement should NOT formulate demands, **IT SHOULD BUILD NEW ALTERNATIVES.**

This distinction between a reactionary movement and a constructive one is crucial. Our focus should NOT be on some external entity, on the government, but on the inside, on becoming sustainable, on the development of our own processes, which will expand outwards, which will diffuse into society, **to the extent at which the new social practices demonstrate evolutionary advantages over the old ones (e.g. less wasteful of resources.)**

We are not protesters, we are “*indignados*” **and WE ARE BUILDERS.**

### **What should we build?**

There is no universal consensus around this question, but there are a lot of ideas on the table. First, we need to explore what is possible. Second, we think that we'll build a variety of new systems, each one adapted to its context, connected to the local past, to the local culture.

I recently attended [Contact summit](#) where I saw a good portion of this spectrum of possibilities introduced by the new digital technology. There is a whole new infrastructure emerging which allows us, individuals, to communicate securely on a network that belongs to us, to coordinate and to collaborate. It also allows us to better manage our vast [commons](#) and to filter and structure our individual contributions. It allows us to create value and to exchange it without the need to go through established channels, which are controlled to different degrees. The new infrastructure for the new world is being built, it is coming together. It's up to us to start using it in the best possible way, in context.

Occupiers everywhere, take this spectrum of new possibilities and imagine a world for yourselves.

Occupiers everywhere let's start building this new world. Let's start building a new economy, alternative currencies, new governance systems, a new media, a new educational system...

Let's build our parallel world without attacking to destroy the present-old world. We're not destroyers, we're builders. We don't need to destroy what's already crumbling down. Don't sweat on it. If we succeed in building a better place people will populate it. Talent and resources will gradually start flowing from the present-old system to the new, until the new replaces the old. **This is our model of change and we are fully engaged in making it happen.**

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### **Some ideas to integrate in the text.**

Until we have the infrastructure to extend our process to the entire region/society we cannot project our decisions on those who cannot participate in our processes. Participatory democracy. It's the access. That's the key. Everyone need to have access to the governing system. Until such a system exists, we cannot.

What should we focus on now?

We are the seed of a metamorphosis process, we are a butterfly emerging from a caterpillar. Our focus is to drive, and maintain this process. Sustaining ourselves and growing our infrastructure/processes from within to the point where it replace the system, like the butterfly coming to life.

For the process to complete, we have to make sure that the Butterfly COMES to life.

WHO GIVES YOU THE RIGHT TO IMPOSE YOUR CONSENSUS ON EVERYONE IN THE COUNTRY? THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAS NO GENERAL LEGITIMACY UNTIL WE CANNOT INSURE THAT EVERYONE HAS ACCESS TO THIS PROCESS (too early for such things..)

As we grow, it will include more and more..

In the beginning, the consensus should be only be applied to those who can participate! There is no legitimacy to carry it wider than that! Otherwise we will be shut by the government. This is a major point of vulnerability and everyone needs to realize that.

The growth of the occupy camps goes in parallel with the clarification of its nature which is our comprehension of what they really are.

tbc.