

The Problems of Abundance

Connor Frederiksen, *Founder of Agonos*

The Context

Technological abundance is often presented as the end of scarcity, labor, and material struggle. But if technology provides the systems people depend on for education, income, communication, security, and survival, then abundance does not eliminate power. Instead, it changes where power lives. Who governs the systems we become dependent on? What technology can provide is not the only question to ask.

Questions for the Future

1. Is technocracy a long-term solution?
2. Is democracy a long-term solution?
3. In the age of abundance, where no one has to work, who will go to school?
4. If intelligence and awareness decline, what happens to a democratic society where every living citizen visits a voting booth with equal say?
5. If technology provides our livelihood, what kind of dependency does that create?
6. If people are dependent on technology with no alternative, who should control that technology?
7. Should technology be centralized or decentralized if we are dependent on it?
8. As technological abundance weakens the financial power of governments, and military capacity becomes increasingly dependent on technocratic production, how does governance evolve?

The Implication

Abundance may solve material scarcity, but it may also create a deeper civic problem.

If people no longer need to work, they may lose the incentive to learn.

If people lose the incentive to learn, public judgment may weaken.

If public judgment weakens, democracy becomes more vulnerable.

If technology becomes the source of livelihood, security, and social order, then whoever controls the technology may control the conditions of life itself.

The future of abundance is a governance question, not just an economic one.