

# Americká ekonomika – překvapivě odolná nebo Potěmkinova vesnice?, Michael Hudson – The Unz Review

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Michael Hudson

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**Pro dnešní epizodu chceme mluvit o tom, co se děje v americké ekonomice. Protože když se podíváte na diskuzi, která probíhá, vidíte spoustu protichůdných vyprávění. Na jedné straně máte lidi, jako je generální ředitel Bank of America Brian Moynihan, který v neděli řekl, že země může koncem tohoto roku čelit mírné recesi. Vidíte, že mnoho hlavních generálních ředitelů dělá podobné předpovědi. Naproti tomu Bidenova administrativa a velká část amerických mainstreamových médií trvají na tom, že americká ekonomika vykazuje mimořádnou odolnost. Takže, Michaeli, chci se vás zeptat, jaká je vaše analýza současného stavu americké ekonomiky?**

Vypadá to velmi špatně. Nikdy se skutečně nevzpamatovala z Obamovy deprese, která začala v roce 2009, kdy byly banky zachráněny a všechny dluhy byly evidovány. Dluh roste velmi rychle kvůli 14 letům nulových úrokových sazeb Federálního rezervního systému, které zaplavily ekonomiku penězi, což znamená dluh, ve snaze podpořit akciový trh a trh s nemovitostmi. Dluh vzrostl mnohem výše, než tomu bylo v roce 2008, kdy jste měli hypoteční krizi. Nedoplatky a prodlení se zvyšují u studentských půjček, u půjček na automobily, u půjček z kreditních karet. Komerční nemovitosti nejenže nesplácejí, ale velké společnosti jednoduše odcházejí ze svých kancelářských budov. Mnoho bank je ve stejné pozici, ve které byla Silicon Valley Bank. Vlastní kapitál je téměř záporný, protože tržní hodnota držených hypoték a

jejich dlouhodobých dluhopisů klesla hluboko pod to, co dluží svým vkladatelům. Dokud si vkladatelé nevyberou své peníze, banky nemusí hlásit, o kolik ztratily a o kolik jejich pořizovací cena hypoték a akcií dnes převyšuje skutečnou tržní cenu. Ale Američané vytahují své peníze z bank, protože banky neplatí příliš velké úroky. Když vám vláda platí 4 až 5 % z vašich peněz, proč byste nechávali své peníze v bankách, které platí třeba 0,2 %? Ale jak se banky snaží výběrům zabránit, zvyšují sazby, které platí vkladatelům, a najednou jejich výděly klesají. Ekonomika je tedy finančně stísněna. Dokud si vkladatelé nevyberou své peníze, banky nemusí hlásit, o kolik ztratily a o kolik jejich pořizovací cena hypoték a akcií dnes převyšuje skutečnou tržní cenu. Ale Američané vytahují své peníze z bank, protože banky neplatí příliš velké úroky. Když vám vláda platí 4 až 5 % z vašich peněz, proč byste nechávali své peníze v bankách, které platí třeba 0,2 %? Ale jak se banky snaží výběrům zabránit, zvyšují sazby, které platí vkladatelům, a najednou jejich výděly klesají. Ekonomika je tedy finančně stísněna. Dokud si vkladatelé nevyberou své peníze, banky nemusí hlásit, o kolik ztratily a o kolik jejich pořizovací cena hypoték a akcií dnes převyšuje skutečnou tržní cenu. Ale Američané vytahují své peníze z bank, protože banky neplatí příliš velké úroky. Když vám vláda platí 4 až 5 % z vašich peněz, proč byste nechávali své peníze v bankách, které platí třeba 0,2 %? Ale jak se banky snaží výběrům zabránit, zvyšují sazby, které platí vkladatelům, a najednou jejich výděly klesají. Ekonomika je tedy finančně stísněna. Ale Američané vytahují své peníze z bank, protože banky neplatí příliš velké úroky. Když vám vláda platí 4 až 5 % z vašich peněz, proč byste nechávali své peníze v bankách, které platí třeba 0,2 %? Ale jak se banky snaží výběrům zabránit, zvyšují sazby, které platí vkladatelům, a najednou jejich výděly klesají. Ekonomika je tedy finančně stísněna. Ale Američané vytahují své peníze z bank, protože banky neplatí příliš velké úroky. Když vám vláda platí 4 až 5 % z vašich peněz, proč byste nechávali své peníze v bankách, které platí třeba 0,2 %? Ale jak se banky snaží výběrům zabránit, zvyšují sazby, které platí vkladatelům, a najednou jejich výděly klesají. Ekonomika je tedy finančně stísněna.

[Odkaz na video](#)

**Takže to chci našim čtenářům jen zkusit objasnit. V roce 2008 u vás explodovala velká bublina na trhu nemovitostí. Na základě toho, co mi právě teď říkáte, máme nyní několik bublin a několik odvětví, která se začínají rozpadat ve švech.**

Ano, to je jeden způsob, jak to vyjádřit. Nejedná se o podvod, který byl v roce 2008. To byla skutečně krize bankovních podvodů, a proto to nazývali „junk hypotéky“ a proč vytvořili nové termíny pro angličtinu jako „NINJA“, což znamená „žádný příjem, žádná práce“, „žádný majetek“. Všichni víme, že vláda může platit své účty. A víme, že u hypoték na bydlení šly ceny nemovitostí hodně nahoru, to je ždímání práce a že mohou platit bankám. Problém je ale v tom, že když úrokové sazby najednou jdou nahoru, čím vyšší je úroková sazba, tím nižší je tržní hodnota aktiva, dluhopisu, akcie nebo hypotéky na nemovitost. To, co teď máte, je jen špatné řízení Federálního rezervního systému.

**Myslím, že to skutečně vyvolává otázku, protože jak jsem zmínil ve své první otázce, Bidenova administrativa říká, že americká ekonomika vykazuje neuvěřitelnou odolnost. Říkají, že: „Podívejte se na čísla pracovních míst. Vytváříme tolik nových pracovních příležitostí. Vracíme pracovní místa zpět do Ameriky." V čem se podle vás pletou? Proč věci nejsou tak dobré, jak se říká?**

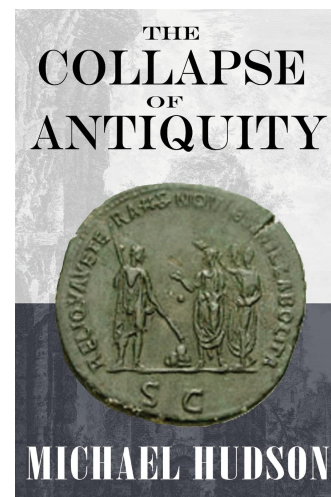
No, podívejme se, co tady dostávají. Právě v dohodě, kterou

Biden nedávno uzavřel s republikány, řekl: „Nebudeme poskytovat Medicaid a sociální podporu matkám s dětmi a chudým lidem, pokud skutečně nedostanou práci za své potravinové lístky. Když si vezmete chudé, bezdomovectví v amerických městech roste – tady v New Yorku je to hodně nahoru v San Franciscu. Biden říká, že pokud se tyto ubohé matky samoživitelky a chudí lidé, kteří dostávají stravenky, nezaregistrují do zaměstnání, pak stravenky odřízneme a necháme je vyhladovět, aby se vrátili do práce. Jsou tedy nuceni vrátit se do práce právě v důsledku omezení veškerého systému sociální podpory. Amerika je jediná průmyslová země, která nekrmí hladovějící matky a další

hladovějící chudé a neposkytuje podporu lidem, kteří jsou tolik vysídleni. Takže ano, je tu určitý druh zoufalého návratu do práce, ale není to nijak zvlášť vysoké mzdy a není to práce, kterou lidé chtějí. A když se podíváte na to, na čem pracují, nepracují na pracovních místech, která ve skutečnosti přispívají k ekonomickému přebytku. To je problém. Mnoho z nich je ve vojenském průmyslovém komplexu. Mnoho z nich se vrací do práce v restauracích. Nyní, když vláda říká: „COVID je jako nachlazení, už COVID neuznáváme“. CDC nevytváří údaje o COVID. Takže právě teď tady v New Yorku a po celé zemi se lidé vracejí do kin, vracejí se do restaurací a dostávají COVID, ale není to hlášeno. Jsou hlášena nadměrná úmrtí, ale nejsou připisována COVID. Tak, najednou máte znovuotevření ekonomiky, která byla uzavřena, aby chránila obyvatelstvo, které mělo COVID. A nyní Amerika řekla: „No, nechceme ztrácet další ekonomickou aktivitu. Řekněme, že COVID skončil a nechme lidi dostat COVID. Dokud se vrátí do práce." Takže ano, vracejí se do práce, ale dostávají COVID a přibližně jeden z deseti lidí, kteří onemocní COVID, má dlouhodobý COVID, což způsobuje další skutečný dlouhodobý problém.

**Chci se trochu více dotknout myšlenky, kterou jste zmínil, že mnoho pracovních míst, která se vytváří, je v odvětvích, jako je vojenský průmyslový komplex, což nejsou nutně ekonomicky nejproduktivnější odvětví. Mohl byste tu myšlenku upřesnit? Kde vidíme růst pracovních míst a do jaké míry tato odvětví přispívají k dlouhodobému hospodářskému růstu a rozvoji?**

Je těžké přesně vidět, jaké je právě teď složení pracovní síly, ale není to v průmyslu a výrobě. Amerika již přesunula svou výrobní a průmyslovou základnu do zahraničí. Takže ano, někteří z nich jsou v armádě. A to, co vojensko-průmyslový komplex produkuje, jsou příspěvky na kampaň pro kongresmany, kteří podporují válku NATO



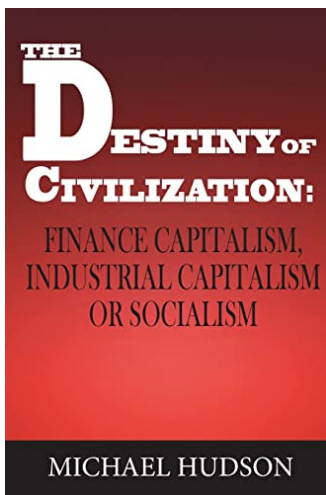
na Ukrajině a v Čínském moři, ale ve skutečnosti tam není mnoho aktivit, které by Ameriku na počátku 20. století učinily silnou. Ve skutečnosti to není průmyslová činnost. Dochází ke stavebnímu vzestupu. Řekl bych, že je to stavebnictví a veřejná zábava, restaurace, kontakt s lidmi, sektory, které byly během COVID uzavřeny.

**Jak je to možné, když Biden propagoval reshoring jako jednu z ústředních platforem svého předsednictví? Říká: „Vrátíme pracovní místa zpět do Ameriky. Budeme zde doma vyrábět polovodiče, mikročipy a další strategicky důležité technologie.“ Nemělo by se to stát právě teď?**

Nemůžete jen tak vyjít na ulici a najmout si lidi na výrobu mikročipů. Myslím, že se pro ně vyrábí nová továrna, která stojí přes 10 miliard dolarů. A výroba této továrny tchajwanské mikročipové společnosti bude trvat pěkných pár let. Neexistuje žádný způsob, jak by se Amerika mohla znovu stát průmyslovou velmocí. Neexistuje způsob, jak obnovit svůj průmysl, pokud nezapíše obrovské množství dluhů a cen bydlení a zdravotního pojištění, o které americký námezdně pracující požádal. Jen si to představ. Kdybyste měli dát námezdně pracujícím všechno, co kupují v obchodech za nic, dejte jim všechno jídlo, všechno oblečení, všechnu dopravu, všechno, co potřebují. Stále nemohli konkurovat zahraničním pracovníkům, protože musí platit tolik peněz za dluhovou službu, za bydlení, které jim bere 30 až 40 % jejich příjmu. Musí mít lékařskou péči. To je 18 % amerického HDP, více než kterákoli jiná země. Takže peníze, které jsou v Americe vypláceny do finančního, pojišťovacího a realitního sektoru, jsou tak velké, že Amerika nemůže být konkurenceschopná s jinými zeměmi. Takže to, co se Bidenova administrativa snaží udělat, je říct: „No, dobře, chápu, že nemůžeme konkurovat cenami. Chápu, že naše práce nemůže konkurovat zahraniční práci nikde poblíž, ale pokud dokážeme vojensky každému říct, aby nejezdil do Číny, Ruska, Indie, Asie a dalších zemí, co potřebují k výrobě oplatek, čipů a informačních technologií, pak Budu muset koupit všechno tady za vysokou cenu. Můžeme účtovat monopolní ceny a naše ceny budou tak vysoké, že můžeme v podstatě ožebračit zbytek světa tím, že budeme kontrolovat vše, co skutečně potřebují k práci. Můžeme ovládat jejich energii, můžeme ovládat jejich ropu, můžeme ovládat jejich počítače sankcemi proti Číně, Rusku, Íránu, Venezuele, jakékoli zemi, která nesouhlasí s tím, že nám umožní ovládat jejich ekonomiku a koupit si kontrolu nad ní. S každou zemí, která nebude souhlasit s tím, aby Amerika produkovala veškeré monopolní zboží, které je nejziskovější, se bude zacházet jako s Ukrajinou. Víte, je to fascinující, protože když obecně mluvíme o sankcích, myslíme na ně především jako geopolitické tahouny tlaku. Že Spojené státy používají sankce jako alternativu k vojenské síle. Ale co od vás slyším, je, že pro Spojené státy se sankce nestaly pouze politickým nástrojem, ale také ekonomickou nutností. No a to jsou ty sankce. Mají být ekonomickým nástrojem nátlaku. Sankce jsou formou nátlaku a říkají: „Pokud se na nás můžete spolehnout, pokud jde o vaše jídlo, o váš olej, a my vám můžeme olej vypnout, pak umrznete ve tmě. Pokud vám můžeme zablokovat jídlo, pak si nemůžete dovolit jíst. Pokud vás dokážeme dostat natolik vysoko a zadlužit se nám, že veškerý váš exportní přebytek musí jít na zaplacení

peněz, které vám půjčil MMF a Světová banka a další cizinci, pak jste na [nás] zcela závislí." A taková je americká strategie – učinit na ní závislé ostatní země, aby neměly na výběr. Pro Ameriku znamená volný trh odebrat ekonomickou svobodu každé jiné zemi a učinit tuto svobodu zcela závislou na USA. Spojené státy chtějí mít svobodu říkat ostatním zemím, co mají nakupovat, co vyrábět, co dovážet, co nevyvážet. Je to jednostranná asymetrická svoboda a nemá to nic společného s částí řeči o „volném trhu“, kterou slyšíte od autorů projevů pana Bidena.

**Chci říct, to je cíl, ne? Ale zaznamenávám to z Moskvy v Rusku a od začátku ukrajinského konfliktu jsem měl možnost cestovat do několika různých měst po celém Rusku. Musím se přiznat, že jsem docela překvapený, jak málo se život v Rusku v důsledku sankcí změnil. Měl jsem příležitost hovořit s obchodníky v různých odvětvích a také jsou docela překvapeni, jak rychle se ruská ekonomika přizpůsobila sankcím. Takže si myslím, že z vašeho pohledu jsou sankce stále tím účinným nástrojem, kterým kdysi byly, nebo ztratily své ostří?**



Oh, sanctions have been very, very effective, but I think you've got the players wrong. The sanctions were against Europe, not against Russia. The United States calculated two years ago that it cannot compete with Eurasia. It's losing. It knows that it's lost the long-term fight for not only dominance, but the long-term fight to be a major player. So it says, "What can we do? We know that we cannot compete with Eurasia, with China, Russia, Iran and the rest, but the one thing we can do is [to] lock in American prosperity by making Western Europe and the English speaking countries, Australia and New Zealand, completely dependent on us." The sanctions are to lock in European and English-speaking dependency on the US. Russia is just a side beneficiary. The sanctions have

done for Russia what our protective tariffs did for the American economy in the 19th century. The sanctions have obliged Russia to become self-sufficient in food production, manufacturing production and consumer goods. The sanctions have helped Russia rebuild its industry and cured it of the neoliberal sort of junk economics that the Americans sponsored in the 1990s. The sanctions have helped Russia and China not hurt it, but they've made Europe totally dependent on the United States. This whole NATO war is a war to make the NATO countries subservient. It's to recolonize Europe. That's what it is. Not to hurt Russia and China.

**You provided a really in-depth analysis of Russia, but could you elaborate a little bit more on China? What do you think has been the effect of Trump's trade war and more recently, Biden's various tax restrictions against the Chinese economy. Will this hurt Beijing or actually empower Beijing?**

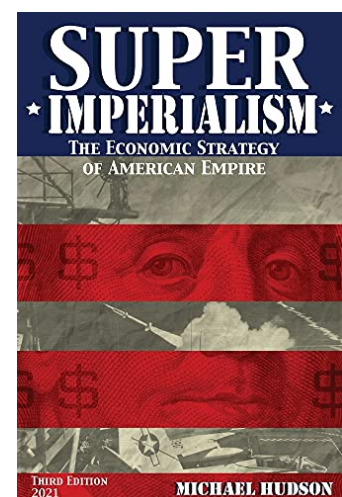
Well, China has a great benefit that the Western countries don't — it treats money as a public utility. Its banking is a state bank, not a private banking system. In America, the private banks lend money to the financial sector to make money in the stock



market, in the bond market by buying stocks and bonds already issued, and in the real estate market by buying homes and commercial real estate that's been built long ago. Banks in the West do not lend money to build factories or machinery. They don't lend money to set up business. They leave that to the stock market, basically, but not the banks. China uses its Bank of China, its government central bank, to actually spend money and provide credit to the real economy, to build new real estate, to finance new industrial producers, new manufacturing facilities. That's the great advantage of China. To the extent that America tries to produce sanctions on China, the effect will be the same as producing sanctions on any other country. They'll force the country being sanctioned to replace imports with its domestic production to do import substitution. You can be sure that that's what China is doing right now, especially with the information technology that America is concentrating its sanctions on. If you look at the number of patents that are made in information technology, China's way ahead of every other country in this. They're producing an enormous educated engineering class that is not being produced in the United States or the West. If you are a leading student and you want to make money in the West, you'll go into finance. And finance has the effect of destroying industry, not helping it. Whereas China is sending its graduates into engineering and the computer technology and the science primarily not into making money by financial maneuvering and getting the rest of the economy into debt to yourself.

**Michael, I want to return to the issue of the US debt, because a debt ceiling deal was recently adopted after weeks of very tense negotiations. There were fears of a default. Everyone was panicking, but now it seems like things have calmed down. Do you expect the debt ceiling deal to help stabilize the American economy or will it only make things worse in the long-run?**

The intention was to make things worse. There was never any debt crisis at all. The government could have simply continued to pay its bills for projects that Congress had already approved. There is no way that the government was going to default on its Treasury debt because, after all, the Treasury debt is held by the wealthiest 10% and the government is not going to do anything that hurts the 10% and benefits the 90%. The Biden is sort of the anti-Roosevelt. Ninety years ago, when Roosevelt wanted to introduce productive social policies, he went to the left wing groups in the Democratic Party and said, "Make me do this, make me do all of the public reforms that I'm putting in the New Deal." And they did. Well, Biden met in January with the Republicans that were coming in and he said, "Look, we're all in agreement. We want to cut wages. We want to break labor unions. We want to help the oil industry and just ignore all of the environmentalism. Most of all, we want to help Wall Street and that 10%, but make me do it. You'll need to have a crisis so people think that I really have to produce a



Republican program because, after all, I'm a Republican. I'm from Delaware and Delaware is the state where most corporations in America have their head offices because the Delaware rules are so pro-corporate and anti-labor that corporations want to be there." So Biden said, "Okay, because I'm a Democrat, I can't come out with anti-labor anti-economic-growth policies, but if you can force me to do it and we can pretend that there's a government debt limit, even though there really isn't an effective one, then we can orchestrate it over television and we'll make it for a couple of weeks. It'll be like you're watching a wrestling match, a good guy and the bad guy. We can say, 'How on earth can America pay its debts?' And we can somehow say, 'Yes, the problem solved.'" We have canceled the Medicaid support for the poor. We've given the go ahead to the oil industry to drill on public lands. We've cut back on social programs. And then, of course, the day after the debt agreement adopted, you had the Senator from Maine, Susan Collins, say, "Well, now that we've balanced the budget, made a debt limit for this, we have to realize the war in Ukraine requires us to vastly increase the military budget because there are no more tanks and all the tanks and the armaments and the airplanes have been all used up in Ukraine. We have to vastly increase the military budget and because we've agreed on a spending limit, we've got to cut back the social programs that we've just cut back, and cut them back even more." So, what you're seeing is right now the class war is back in business in the United States. This is class war with a vengeance. You're seeing labor being squeezed without really much to do. Local city and urban budgets are being squeezed throughout the country. That's one of the big problems, the budgetary squeeze. You're having the banks being squeezed by the defaults on commercial real estate that they're exposed to, and the rising defaults on the personal debts that I mentioned before that they're exposed to. So, the economy is really in trouble. And when you have a crisis like this, fortunes are made from other people's distress. You're going to see a huge sucking up of money from the 90% of the population to the richest financial 10%. That's really what was orchestrated in the last weeks docudrama over the pretense that America might not have paid its Treasury bills.

**You know, it's quite interesting because I'm old enough to remember Obama-Biden back in 2008-2012, and they were talking about that, "we as Democrats support a redistribution of wealth. And at the time, it was assumed that this redistribution of wealth would be from upper income to lower income brackets. But now it seems that the redistribution of wealth is going the other way around, taking from the poor to give to the rich.**

That's what politics is all about in America. You can look at the donors. If you look at the donor class, who are the donors? The donors are the wealthy, the beneficiaries of government policy.

**But if we take a look at the national debt, for example, the US federal government budget deficit hit \$1.1 trillion in the first half of this fiscal year. The Congressional Budget Office predicts that this problem is only going to get worse over the next decade as interest rates go up. I guess this begs the**

**question: how sustainable is the US federal deficit and how much longer can the US keep up the seemingly unlimited spending that we've become accustomed to?**

To an infinite amount as long as the debt is in its own currency, and as long as you print the currency, you can print however much you want. You'll never default because you can just create the credit. That's what the Federal Reserve did with its zero interest rate policy. It distorts the economy, and the economy can shrink and be torn apart, but the government can always pay its debt by simply printing the money. The problem that is tearing the American economy apart is not the government debt — it's the private debt that is leading to a default. When you default on your debt, you forfeit your property to the creditors. So, what you're seeing now is a large scale transfer of property, a transfer of real estate, a transfer of cars that people had bought, but couldn't keep up the payments on, a transfer of income from the 90% to the 10%. That's private debt. That's where the real problem is. And as long as the television programs can keep talking about the government debt, not the private debt, people are somehow not going to see that the problem that is tearing their own personal life apart is actually the problem that's tearing the whole American economy apart.

**So would you say that the government debt is not a problem and that Americans shouldn't really worry about that?**

That's right. It's all just a made up. When they talk about cutting back the government debt, what they mean is cutting back social services. They would like to do what Biden and Obama wanted to do after 2009. They want to cut back Social Security. They want to privatize it as if that will somehow solve the problem. They want to cut back medical care. They want to cut back most social programs so that the money that the government does spend will be exclusively to support the financial sector, the military sector, the insurance sector, and the real estate sector. That's where the property owning classes, the 'rentier economy', the rent recipients who make money from stocks and bonds and real estate and monopolies. The government will help the top 1% at the cost of the 99%, but it need to pretend that it's forced to do this because there's a government deficit. The only government spending they really want to cut back of the spending on the 90%. They want to cut back Social Security, Medicare, local social spending, support for local cities and states. Everything that made America more democratic and strong in the past.

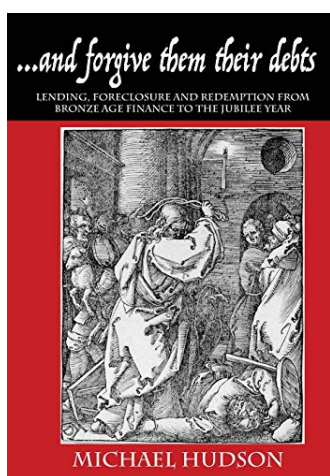
**But how much longer can the US just keep printing money in order to service this government deficits? Is this really sustainable indefinitely?**

Well, what usually stops a situation like that is a political revolution. The answer is it's sustainable until people fight back, until there is a revolution. But as long as you have a political system where you have only two parties that are really the same party, and as long as you have the Democrats as the only alternative to the Republican Party, it can go on indefinitely because people will not have a political alternative to vote for. There is no alternative. You're going to have elections bouncing back and forth, from Republicans to Democrats to back. And yet neither of them are an alternative to the



whole financialization of the economy that's been taking place really since World War Two and especially since the 1980s. So, America is ending up looking like England under Margaret Thatcher and even worse, Labor Party that followed her.

**And why is financialization of the economy a bad thing? I'm in Russia but I was born and raised in the United States. I remember all my teachers at school were telling us students — and we asked them, “Why are all these factories going to China? Isn't that a bad thing? Isn't that bad for the US economically in the long-run?” And they told us, “No, you're too young. You don't understand. They're taking that blue collar jobs while we're getting to more advanced white collar jobs in finance and technology.” What's the problem with that sort of model? Why can't the United States just have an economy that's built mostly on white collar professionals and offices?**



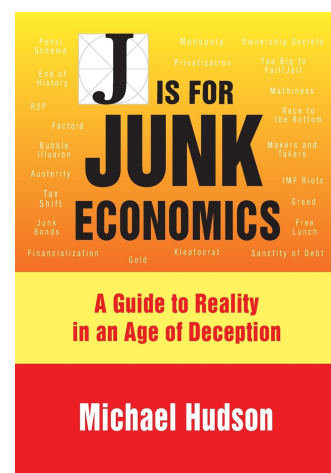
Finance is really not part of the economy. There are two economies in every country. You have the production and consumption economy, which often people call the 'real economy', making things and selling them and using them, and you have the financial sector that provides credit for this. The financial sector lives in the short run. How can we make money over the next three months or over the next year? The financial managers make money according to how much they can push up the stock of their company, the share price of their stocks. You can push up in the short run the shares of your stocks by not investing, but by using your profits to pay out the dividends, which will push up the share price. Or just simply use the profits to buy your shares. That'll push up the

share price. Or go out and borrow money. You could do that for the last 14 years. Borrow money at 1% and buy your shares that are yielding more, and that'll push up the price. So if your idea of getting wealthy is what's the market price of your houses and your stocks and bonds, then America was getting richer financially, but it wasn't getting richer for the real economy. Real wages were not going up. You've had an enormous increase in the wealth of stocks and bonds and owned by the wealthiest 10%, but the 90% of the population owned maybe 10% of the stocks and bonds, and they're dependent on working for a living and getting a paycheck. Their living standards have not gone up. Their working conditions have gone way down and become a much more tightened and unpleasant, quite frankly. So, there's a confusion about whether you are going to think of the economy as Wall Street and making money on stocks and bonds and lending money to real estate, or are you going to think of an economy employing workers and rising living standards, that kind of growth? What is your idea of what an economy is all about? Well, 80% of bank loans in America are mortgage loans, and most layered house is already built. The effect of more mortgage lending is to push up the price of housing. So, the people who are making the loans and the new absentee real estate companies are getting rich. But

when housing prices go up, that means that wage earners have to pay higher and higher proportions of their wages to pay their rent and to take out a mortgage and buy their house. And as long as more and more personal income is spent on housing or medical care or retirement pension income, then they're going to have less and less to spend on goods and services. If you say "forget goods and services, we'll have China and Asia and the foreigners produce them," then all you really have is a hollowed out, empty economy. The policy of the Democrats and the Republicans is to empty out the American economy. That's why COVID is such a godsend to the Democrats. They're just saying, "Take off your masks. It's just like a cold. Forget the long COVID. Forget the increasing debt rate." America is the country where the life spans are shortening more than any other country in the world. They know that that's happening. That's happening because of the policies that they're producing. That's the idea of equilibrium. To have equilibrium, you have to make American wages go down even more below the reproduction rate. You have to have a shrinkage of population throughout the United States, that's their idea of equilibrium and their definition of equilibrium is how can the debts be paid? Well, if that's your equilibrium, the debts can only be paid, as they grow exponentially, by consuming less and less, by living standards going down and down, by real wages going down and down, by social services being cut back more and more, by social security and Medicare being cut back more and more. That's the program of both American political parties.

**Michael, I want to talk to you about the US dollar, because over the past year we see more and more countries start to trade with alternative currency in the trade settlements. And we are also seeing ever greater talk about establishing a BRICS currency or some other alternative as a competitor to the US dollar. What is your assessment of the current state of the US dollar? What's going on here? Why are so many countries looking for options to dump the dollar?**

Well, for the last year and a half, America has said, "if other countries hold their dollars and European banks or American banks and they do something that we don't like, we have a right to grab all of their dollars and simply take them". For instance, Venezuela wanted to have a socialist government. So the America told England, "Take all of Venezuela's gold and seize it, and we will designate somebody we think should be president of Venezuela, Mr. Grito, or Guaido. And so Venezuela lost its gold supply. A year ago February, America simply grabbed all of Russia's savings in the West. Americans told, "China, Iran, other countries, if you don't impose the sanctions against Russia and China, if you don't commit economic suicide by letting America colonize you financially, we will just grab all of your money. Everything's fair play. You're holding dollars. We get to grab it." So they've told the whole world that the dollar is no longer safe. The dollar is now a political currency. And other countries look at the statistics and they



realize that, how are these dollars being pumped into the world economy? Ever since the Korean War, the major factor in the American balance of payments deficit that sent dollars abroad has been military spending. So when other countries keep their foreign exchange reserves in dollars, Europe, Russia, China, then by holding the dollars, they hold these dollars safely in Treasury securities. Buying the Treasury Security has been the way of funding America's 800 military bases surrounding them. So foreign countries have paid for America to surround them with military bases and to fund America's military, because the dollars that are in the world are the monetization of American military spending. That's what my book *Super Imperialism* was all about. And this was a very conscious policy by the United States, by the Defense Department. I had many meetings with the State Department, the Defense Department way back right after America went on gold. And they were very clear that, "yes, as long as we can have other countries holding their reserves in dollars, not in gold, not in any alternative to the dollar, then we can spend all the money we want militarily and they will not dare fight against us." So other countries now decide, "wait a minute, we're saying what NATO's doing in Ukraine, fighting to the last Ukrainian. We see that they're now trying to get Taiwan, they would like Taiwan to fight to the last Taiwanese. They'd like to promote military instability all over." So they're bailing out of the dollar. How do they do this? How do they finance their trade? Well, Saudi Arabia and China sat down and said, well, most of our trade really is with each other. Saudi Arabia has been buying American military goods, but then it realizes that America can simply stop giving them spare parts and repairing their goods so Saudi Arabia and China are dealing in their own currencies now with currency swaps and the BRICS countries Russia, China, Iran, other countries, they're all putting in place currency swaps to deal in their own currencies for trade amongst themselves. Well, so far, these are only bilateral deals because there isn't really a common alternative currency. In order to make an alternative currency beyond merely holding each other's currency, you would have to have an alternative to the International Monetary Fund. And that's what Lula was talking about when he went to Asia. How do we make a common a common alternative bank? Well, the problem with an alternative bank is [that] you need its members to agree on who gets the credits. The idea is to make something like what John Maynard Keynes proposed way back in 1944, a bank that would create paper gold, artificial money, and essentially give it to various countries. The kind of special money that this bank would create isn't the kind of money that you spend at the grocery store. It's not money that would spend domestically. It's money to do what gold does. And that is only subtle balance of payments deficits among central banks. That's what gold is now. Before you had the dollar standard or Treasury bills standard in 1971, when countries would run a balance of payments deficit, they'd have to pay in gold. So every month during the Vietnam War, the soldiers and the army would spend money in Vietnam, in Southeast Asia, that used to be part of the French colonial empire. The banks were mainly French. The banks would send the dollars that were spent to the central bank in Paris. And General de Gaulle would take

these dollars and would say, okay, here are the dollars we have. Give us your gold at \$35 an ounce. And that was how America's gold stock was going way down. It's spending abroad, not only France was getting gold, but Germany was getting gold by export, running a trade surplus and cashing its surplus into gold. So you're seeing right now other countries and running instead of getting more dollars as they run the balance of payments surplus, they're buying gold and they're buying each other's currencies. It's going to be a while before there can be a real BRICS bank, because you're going to have to have a political agreement among a large group of countries over what kind of money is really going to be created, how are we going to create and allocate this paper gold among countries that can be used among ourselves? That is still being discussed. But when it is finished being discussed, people will not have to deal with dollars at all anymore. And in fact, of their trade with the United States, they can say, well, if you want to buy something from China, you pay in our currency. We're not going to cut back our spending on the United States. And all of a sudden, if the United States is unable to have other people keep their savings in dollars, meaning buying Treasury securities, then how are they going to pay the international balance of payments cost of their military spending? They won't be able to spend militarily abroad. The only way they can do it is drastically cut back imports in the America. And to do that, you have to cut wage rates by 20%. You have to make the American labor force the poorest labor force in the West so that all of the balance of payments, money that's spent, is not on buying goods and services to consume, but only for military spending. That is the Cold War and the American wage earning class and the labor unions are committing labor suicide by not realizing that, if you refocus your balance of payments away from industry and towards military, that it's the consumers and the wage earners that have to suffer. And of course, if the wage earners and the domestic market really has its wages go down, why would anyone invest in the United States if no workers can afford to buy the products that they produce and other countries are buying product from each other, not from the United States? That's what the future is looking like for the US economy.

**You provided a very in-depth, comprehensive look of how dollarization is happening and why it's happening. But I want to play devil's advocate for a moment, because the argument that you hear from mainstream economists like Paul Krugman in The New York Times and other mainstream outlets is that although there is some incentive for countries to move away from the dollar, there isn't really a viable alternative at the moment, and that the countries of BRICS that, although they may have a common interest in forming a BRICS currency, an alternative to the dollar, these economies are too different too varied in order to be able to join forces and form their own alternative currency. What do you say to that? How serious are the obstacles to de-dollarization? Can they be overcome?**

Well, let's look at what happened with Colonel Gaddafi, the head of Libya. Gaddafi said we want a gold based currency for Africa. And so instead of holding dollars, he bought gold. So NATO bombed the country to smithereens, caught Colonel Gaddafi, tortured him to death and grabbed the gold from the central bank and nobody knows where it disappeared to. But it seems to have disappeared into the State Department to play dirty tricks throughout the world. So Krugman advocates militarily forcing and destroying any country that wants an alternative to the dollar. He's a hawk and basically says, "do it by force". And in his notorious article in The New York Times, he said, "Well, everybody is so used to dealing the dollar, they can't find an alternative." Well, almost everybody with a broader mind can find an alternative. But if you can have the other central bankers think in the tunnel vision that Mr. Krugman was educated in and share this tunnel vision to say there is no alternative to the dollar, then they're not going to think of how to make an alternative to the dollar. Well, most of my books are all about how to make an alternative to the dollar and the interviews that I'm doing, and my colleagues and I are spending our full time writing. We write for the Valdai Club in Russia. I write for the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. We're writing for other countries to help create an alternative to the dollar because we don't want to see the world militarized in the way that the US is militarizing it. We want to see a resumption of the economic potential that the world seemed to have leading up to World War One before the whole economy got derailed a century ago.

**So, de-dollarization is possible. It's mainly a question of political will. Whether the countries interested in the process are willing to undertake the necessary policy changes in order to make it a reality.**

This is exactly right. And this is why the United States spends so much money on non-governmental organizations and think tanks in Europe, Russia, China, the Near East, all to try to prevent, to say it's impossible to have an alternative to the US dollar. It's impossible to change the world. Let's just keep doing what we're doing now and to promote people who are very loyal to the United States, like the politicians who are in charge of Europe, von der Leyen, to promote 'IMF thinking' where, if countries can't repay their foreign debt, they have to impose austerity and lower their wage levels and devalue the currency, meaning the price of that their labor exchange's for. The United States is about to do to itself what it's been doing through the IMF to third world countries and Global South countries. It's going to devalue the dollar, going down. And when the dollar goes down in price against the other currencies that are not waging war and spending their money abroad, then it'll take more and more dollars to buy the imported consumer goods that you're now buying from China or other Asian countries. You're going to have the prices going way, way up in the United States without wages going up, and you're going to have a wage squeeze, and that's going to lead to even more debt defaults than you're having now. So the result of lowering income for the United States when people already are spending almost all their income just to break even, just to meet their basic needs. Well, what you're going



to have is more defaults and a forfeiture of property and the degree of economic polarization in the United States, the inequality of wealth and income is going to widen even more than the amazing degree that it's widened since the 2009.

**Does the Biden administration really have any instruments at its disposal other than direct military intervention to try and stop the process of de-dollarization?**

No, that's all that America has now. It's muscle-bound because for years America has put all of its money into atomic war. So America can't reintroduce a draft and have an army invading another country because you'd have student protests like you had in the Vietnam War. So all that America really has to fight with militarily is atom bombs. Unless it can get other countries to commit suicide, like the Ukrainians are doing after the American coup d'etat of 2015. But it looks like it's going to have difficulty having other countries follow Ukraine. And I don't see the Taiwanese doing this, only the Japanese might be willing to do this.

**You know, I think we have time for one more question.**

**And over the course of this interview, one thing that you've really hammered home is that over the past several decades, and especially over the past ten years, since the 2008 crash, we've seen the US slowly transform into a financial oligarchy with massive amounts of debt. Now, I'm sure this is not the first case in history where we've seen the emergence of such a society. What does history tell us about the dangers of becoming so reliant on debt and giving political power over to a select few financial oligarchs?**

## KILLING THE HOST

How Financial Parasites and Debt Destroy the Global Economy



MICHAEL HUDSON

Well, I've just written a whole book about how this occurred in ancient Roman Greece, *The Collapse of Antiquity*. You had

the oligarchy reduced the rest of the population into debt, and as a result, the Roman citizens lost their land to the creditors, and the land was all concentrated in the hands of a creditor class. They got poorer and poorer and ended up in the Dark Ages. That's the result. There were five centuries of attempted revolution in classical Greece and classical Rome and my book outlines how the common demand of the people in Roman Greece was number one, cancel the debts and free the bondservants, the people who have to work off the debts forever to their creditors, and redistribute the land. Everybody should have a right to housing. Housing should be a basic need and the means of self-support. Well, in antiquity, housing meant your own land where you could feed yourself, grow your own crops, and become self-sufficient. The revolution failed and when a revolution fails, you have the Dark Ages. That's what made Western civilization different from everything that went before. Throughout the whole rest of the Near East and Asia, there were regular debt cancellations, but these were not oligarchies. You had the Near East and Asia run, essentially, there was always a king or someone like a king, and his role was to prevent an oligarchy from developing. Because if an oligarchy developed, then instead of labor being able to fight in the

army to defend itself, they'd be working on the land of the oligarch. And instead of paying taxes on the grain that they would produce and sell when the harvest was end, they would pay debt service and the state wouldn't have any tax money anymore, any revenue. If the labor were owned of the oligarchy, they wouldn't be available to build public infrastructure, to build roads and irrigation dikes and walls and palaces and temples. So what you're seeing today have been happening for thousands of years, and there are plenty of examples throughout history of where other countries have done just what the United States has done. If they didn't have a debt cancellation and, it usually takes a revolution, if the revolution fails, there is a dark age.

**You know, ancient Rome was temporarily saved by Julius Caesar and Augustus Caesar. Do you see an 'American Caesar' on the horizon who could potentially take control, rid the country of oligarchs, and give it a chance of second life?**

Well, Caesar was assassinated because the Senate said, "We're worried he is going to cancel the debts." Rome had just had a whole fight against the advocates of debt cancellation, the Catiline conspiracy. Catiline had mounted a force to try to fight Rome and they were all murdered and Cicero had killed them illegally, for which reason Cicero himself was banned from Rome. But throughout history, the creditors, people who do not work for a living, who are simply inherit their money or have their money by exploiting people, are willing to fight and die for this right to fight for other people. But people actually produce the wealth. The victims are much less willing to fight militarily or by violence. And the first thing that creditors, the ruling class, do is to have a monopoly of violence. You had assassinations every single century in Rome. The advocates of debt cancellation and redistribution of land were assassinated. That's what you seem to be facing in the United States, just as the United States has been assassinating foreign leaders for the last 75 years. African leaders, Latin American leaders, Pinochet, the man coming in and assassinating Allende. The same thing happened in Africa. Same thing has happened throughout the Near East with Gadhafi. As long as you have America saying, "We know the secret to economic stability, it's assassinating everybody who disagrees with us and who wants independence from the United States." As long as other countries said, "Yes, that's what democracy is, we're for the United States," then they're committing suicide and then their leaders will be killed again and again and again. That's how the world economy is keeping equilibrium today. It's an equilibrium trying to subject the entire world to the Dark age into which Roman Empire itself declined.

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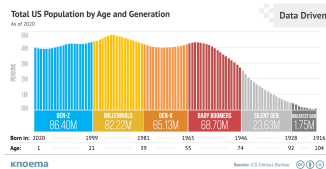


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## Financial False Hope

I Know You're Lying...but I Trust You with My Life!

Steve Penfield



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### **Trim Comments?**

1. Anonymous[320] • [Disclaimer](#) says:

Much of this article was unintelligible due to poor editing.

2. [Sarita](#) says:

[June 11, 2023 at 4:41 am GMT](#) • [12.1 hours ago](#) • 100 Words ↑

Breaking, the Unabomber died today.

A man who attacked and believed industrial society had to be destroyed, including through violent means passed away in a US prison at the age of 81.

He advocated the return to a primitive society and a peculiar strain of environmentalism.

Interesting story, this guy.

He died today, Kaczynski.

I wonder what he thought of the likes of Gates, Soros, Trump and George Bush.

3. Tyrone Shooze says:

June 11, 2023 at 4:49 am GMT • 11.9 hours ago • 200 Words ↑

Now that the government says 'COVID is just like having a cold, we're not recognizing COVID anymore'. The CDC is not producing figures on COVID. So right now, here in New York and across the country, people are going back to the movie theaters, they're going back to restaurants and they're getting COVID, but it's not being reported. Excess deaths are being reported, but they're not being attributed to COVID. So, you all of a sudden have a reopening of the economy that was closed to protect the population that had COVID. And now America said, "Well, we don't want to lose any more economic activity. Let's just say COVID is over and let the people get COVID. As long as they go back to work." So, yes, they're going back to work, but they're getting COVID and about one out of every ten people who get COVID have long-term COVID, and that's causing another real long-term problem.

suddenly he's a doctor now?

• **Troll:** IronForge

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4. IronForge says:

June 11, 2023 at 4:52 am GMT • 11.9 hours ago • 200 Words ↑

I respectfully concur.

I'll argue that we "can't" isolate Murica because they're integrated within the Masonic-Zionist Hegemony.

As I've previously proposed:

\*The Hegemon are not a Nation-State; but are a Hegemon-Plutarchy who (symbolically and actually) Reside in the Network of Financial Megacities and Organizations that include:

WashingtonDC/FEDRSV+WallSt\_Banks/G7\_MultiNatlCorps/Brussels\_ZATOceania+EU/CityofLondon/WEF\_Davos/Jerusalem

\*Core Nation-States that head the Hegemony are the "Essential" Greater Israel(State of Israel+Jewish-Diaspora) followed by the "Expendable/Reusable" Vassal\_G7. Murica are the "Lead Bull" Vassal-State of the "First Tier G7 Vassal-States, followed OtherZATOceania/EU+AUS+NZL+KOR+PHL.

\*\*\*

The Latest Round of "Global Risk" have drawn the EU+AUS+NZL+KOR+PHL closer+deeper within Murica's Grip of Economic+MIC+PetroUSD Claws.

MEX+Central+South\_Americas are (mostly) being "Integrated" into Murica through the OpenBorders Migranvader Policies. Murica will soon become "Blue and Bilingual" as Hispanics Populate Murica at the approximate current rate of 3.8~4Million(and increasing) vs 2Million Whites in 2022. MEX\_President Obrador has called for an "Americas Super-State Union".

Needless to say, Murica – or more precisely – the Hegemon-Plutarchy will assemble and/or allow Scenarios to unfold to their advantage. One can presume that ISR will have the "Softest" Landing of future Western Financial Disruptions. "Expendable/Reusable" Murica falling into a Depression or breaking up into smaller States won't matter much to the Hegemon-Plutarchy.

They are – after all – Owners of the Hegemony...

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5. anyone with a brain says:

June 11, 2023 at 5:09 am GMT • 11.6 hours ago • 100 Words ↑

And why is financialization of the economy a bad thing? I'm in Russia but I was born and raised in the United States. I remember all my teachers at school were telling us students — and we asked them, "Why are all these factories going to China? Isn't that a bad thing? Isn't that bad for the US economically in the long-run?" And they told us, "No, you're too young. You don't understand. They're taking that blue collar jobs while we're getting to more advanced white collar jobs in finance and technology." What's the problem with that sort of model? Why can't the United States just have an economy that's built mostly on white collar professionals and offices?

Michael Hudson completely ignored the question here, and it is a shame because it is an interesting and valid question.


• **Replies:** [@Alrenous](#)

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6.

So apparently the US Pentagon released this statement on its official website acknowledging that it has funded 46 biological facilities in Ukraine over the past 20 years.

So Vladimir Putin was right all along.....

 <https://t.co/aUED6bPIr8>

— Richard (@ricwe123) [June 10, 2023](#)

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7. SolarTermination says:

June 11, 2023 at 8:07 am GMT • 8.6 hours ago • 300 Words ↑

The American economy is being deliberately destroyed:

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What's happening is we are dealing with a communist insurgency that is undermining the values and the identity of the American public. What they are doing is they are intentionally creating a scenario where the American people are rejecting this initiative, [and this] is actually hurting iconic American brands that remove much of the American identity. So, when you name these companies off: all of these companies represent America – when you think of them traditionally.

So now, they're removing part of the identity, which is part of the communist process called demoralization. There's less identity in America, there's less to fight for, which makes it easier to conquer. Alright.

Then on top of it, one of the goals, of communism, is to create two classes of very poor and very rich. So what they're doing here is they are getting the American public to cancel all their own companies. That actually hurts their own neighbors who are good, hardworking American people. The people at Bud Light – at the top – are not the ones feeling the pain here. It's the delivery drivers, it's the hard working red, white, and blue Americans that believe the same [things] that you all believe, who are getting fired or laid off, or losing because of this.

---

Don't play their game, don't get their investment. And who is funding the HRC? Surprise, surprise, it's George Soros's, 'Open Society Foundation'. Now, this HRC has introduced the arbitrary credit rating to everything: States, municipalities, and even schools. Imagine that: there are people who are deciding what credit score an individual school can get. They threaten them by having these big funds withhold investments into them.

---

Excerpt from: <https://tritorch.substack.com/p/why-all-these-brands-ab-inbev-target>

• **Replies:** [@James Charles](#)

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8. James Charles says:

June 11, 2023 at 8:54 am GMT • 7.9 hours ago • 200 Words ↑

“27:44 Bernanke was joining these debates and

27:46 he was in 2008 the only central banker

27:49 to implement my advice the true

27:51 quantitative easing because the other

27:54 slightly changed the definition . .

[MORE]

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9. James Charles says:

June 11, 2023 at 8:57 am GMT • 7.8 hours ago • 600 Words ↑

@SolarTermination

“The American economy is being deliberately destroyed.”?

‘Civilisation’ is in ‘terminal mode’?

No ‘BAU’?

‘Most’ ‘economic thinking’ is ‘short run’ and ‘redundant’? ‘It’ ignores the ‘supply side’? ‘Growth’ {and ‘civilisation’} depends upon ‘cheap’ F.F. – those so called ‘halcyon days’ are ‘over’. ?

“The crisis now unfolding, however, is entirely different to the 1970s in one crucial respect... The 1970s crisis was largely artificial. When all is said and done, the oil shock was nothing more than the emerging OPEC cartel asserting its newfound leverage following the peak of continental US oil production. There was no shortage of oil any more than the three-day-week had been caused by coal shortages. What they did, perhaps, give us a glimpse of what might happen in the event that our economies depleted our fossil fuel reserves before we had found a more versatile and energy-dense alternative. . . . That system has been on the life-support of quantitative easing and near zero interest rates ever since. Indeed, so perilous a state has the system been in since 2008, it was essential that the people who claim to be our leaders avoid doing anything so foolish as to lockdown the economy or launch an undeclared economic war on one of the world’s biggest commodity exporters . . . And this is why the crisis we are beginning to experience will make the 1970s look like a golden age of peace and tranquility. . . . The sad reality though, is that our leaders – at least within the western empire – have bought into a vision of the future which cannot work without some new and yet-to-be-discovered high-density energy source (which rules out all of the so-called green technologies whose main purpose is to concentrate relatively weak and diffuse energy sources). . . . Even as we struggle to reimagine the 1970s in an attempt to understand the current situation, the only people on Earth today who can even begin to imagine the economic and social horrors that await western populations are the survivors of the 1980s famine in Ethiopia, the hyperinflation in 1990s Zimbabwe, or, ironically, the Russians who survived the collapse of the Soviet Union.” ?

<https://consciousnessofsheep.co.uk/2022/07/01/bigger-than-you-can-imagine/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/cosheep>

“I Know You’re Malthusian, But What Am I?” ([steadystate.org](http://steadystate.org))

“It is this belief in a new digital revolution which gave rise to the much-derided article by Danish politician, Ida Auken – originally titled “Welcome to 2030: I own nothing, I have no privacy, and life has never been better.” More popularly known as “you’ll own nothing and you’ll be happy.” It is a world of digital currencies and digital IDs, vaccine passports and 15-minute cities, electrification and driverless cars. All of it based around the “energy too cheap to meter” from

wind turbines and solar panels, and all of it operated by autonomous artificial intelligence within the “singularity” of the “internet of things.”

It is a mirage, of course... one only visible to so-called “virtuals” – people whose lives and careers are now so detached from the material world that, were there not so many of them, could otherwise be diagnosed as certifiably insane. The real world, meanwhile, looks more akin to the second global collapse – the first being the collapse of the integrated economies of the Bronze Age Eastern Mediterranean empires sometime around 1186 BCE. The majority of ordinary people have seen their living standards decline over the past two decades – a process compounded and accelerated by two years of lockdowns followed by a year of self-destructive sanctions on key resources.”?

<https://consciousnessofsheep.co.uk/2023/03/01/paradise-postponed>

<https://www.facebook.com/cosheep>

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10. [Slav](#) says:

Surprised to see someone who still worry about COVID.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

11. [Diggs](#) says:

The economy isn't important. What's “important” is dismantling “white supremacy” and chasing down “Nazis”. It's what my 16th century Guatemalan Lesbian Poetry professor told me.



Watch Video At: <https://youtu.be/JKET30Xcy1Q>

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter



12. GMC says:

June 11, 2023 at 9:47 am GMT • 7.0 hours ago • 200 Words ↑

Take away all the nonessential Government agencies like DHS, IRS, NSA, CIA, State Dept. etc. etc. etc. and their sub contractors, the MIC, DOD, Pentagon and thier contractors, and shave down the rest of the Agencies, and then we are looking at the economy of the USA. That Fat Federal economy/workforce , in itself is an army defending all the BS media and Zionist policies. Same for the States and municipalities.

The Department of Commerce should have been all hung – decades ago – along with the Immigration Departments, and our Industries wouldn't have been farmed out to every country in the World. No One ever touches the Dept of Commerce, even though it was green lighting every part of the USAs destruction , in regards to all the Industry off-shoring and/or incoming products from those countries that ended up with our jobs and industries. 10 to 1 odds the Federal Reserve runs the Dept. of Commerce, Dept of Immigration and others.

• **Replies:** @Realist

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter This Thread Hide Thread

13. Prickly says:

@Anonymous

Your just too dumb to cope with hudson. Stick to fox news.

• **Agree:** IronForge

• **Troll:** Bro43rd

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14. Liborio Guaso says:

June 11, 2023 at 10:16 am GMT • 6.5 hours ago • 100 Words ↑

If the national and population debts continue to be inflated, creating money from the air even for credit cards that will never be paid, the problems will be solved for a while and the politicians will be very happy,

But that's just kicking the can and it can't be called economics and in the future it will cost a lot of tears and blood.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

15. Onward and rapidly downward says:

June 11, 2023 at 10:16 am GMT • 6.5 hours ago • 200 Words ↑

The one thing always missing from analyses of America, even from folks as smart as Michael Hudson, Jeffrey Sachs and co, is that the key to the us empire downfall is utter buffoonery. quite serious abt this.

US morons/Bufoons cannot recognize their buffoonery any more than narcissists can recognize their narcissism, or psychotics can recognize the fact that they are complete nutjobs. No self reflection or introspection with US-ers.

They have no self-transparency at all. They have spent their entire history ignoring alternative voices, and this is Why America Failed (Morris Berman). Historically, folks like Michael Hudson, Jeffrey Sachs, HL Mechten, Cleveland Moffat et al have been marginalized, ignored, or branded as traitors (or thrown out of office: Jimmy Carter).

Which means, as Gore Vidal once said, that US-ers learn nothing from experience. You can bet that once the us empire and its subordinates fail in the Ukraine, the radar will start scanning the globe for yet another 'enemy'.

Indonesia? China? Chad? The penguins in Antarctica? The target doesn't matter; all that is important to American buffoons (the gov't or the man in the street) is that there be a target. (Cf. Roman Empire and imperial overstretch) Jimmy usta quote from the bible, the line abt Worry abt the log in your own eye instead of the mote in the eye of the other.

Well, hell's bells, USer buffoons are not remotely interested in that, and Christian America has no interest in genuine Christianity. Buffoonery is a one-way street: i.e., down. Onward and rapidly downward.

• **Agree:** JR Foley, Arthur MacBride

• **Replies:** @Norm6

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter This Thread Hide Thread

16. JR Foley says:

@Prickly.

AND read Rebekah Koffler— at Fox News.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter This Thread Hide Thread

17. [michael888](#) says:

[June 11, 2023 at 12:07 pm GMT • 4.6 hours ago • 300 Words](#) ↑

I like Hudson's views which generally seem more realistic than the pablum we are fed from State Media (don't panic the masses, lie, lie, lie!).

Hudson knows finance, but he doesn't know medicine/ science. Long Covid is actually quite rare. Vinay Prasad has spent a lot of time and Youtube videos debunking it (such as [youtube.com/watch?v=D4tlmsQFyxg&t=13s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D4tlmsQFyxg&t=13s) ). Like myocarditis in young men who were under no threat from Covid, the mRNA vaccines may have created more problems than they solved.

The excess deaths across the West are somewhat unique in the aftermath of an epidemic. When all the most vulnerable (for Covid those over age 70, and to a much less extent 50 and 60 year olds with serious co-morbidities) are "harvested" by a bad flu or other disease, there is usually a period of several years where death rates are below normal. Covid had a 0.05% death rate in those under age 70 before vaccines became available; the Covid death rate is much lower since the omicron strain appeared, even in the unvaccinated (most of whom have survived Covid with much better natural infection immunity compared to the Spike Protein mRNA vaccines, which the US refuses to admit were a disaster!)

The basis for the ~10% excess deaths is "unknown" (according to the same experts that botched the Covid response in the West) . In the US it is clearly partly due to poor medical care for non-Covid diseases during Covid (largely due to fear of a disease that was only deadly to the Elderly and seriously ill). There is also the question of serious adverse side effects of the vaccines, which will only be known within five years (if ever; deaths from vaccines are frequently covered up, since most vaccines prevent much worse outbreaks causing many more deaths. Public Health officials, as everyone now knows, are sneaky bastards who manipulate/ make up their data to fit their agendas.)

• **Replies:** [@IronForge](#)

[Reply](#) [Agree](#) [Disagree](#) [Etc.](#) [This Commenter](#) [This Thread](#) [Hide Thread](#)

18. HT says:

June 11, 2023 at 12:08 pm GMT • 4.6 hours ago • 200 Words ↑

The USA is just a bloated welfare state that props up non-Whites. There are plenty of signs that things are changing for the country for the worse. It used to be a given that most people would be better off financially than their parents were. Those days are over as the predominantly White country with a Christian work ethic is gone. The most productive segments of our society are now punished while the welfare class, mostly in the form of blacks and Hispanics. is catered to which destroys productivity and real growth. Way too many factors, economic and social at work to discuss in a single comment but needless to say the government will some day run out of tricks trying to keep a country afloat that ignores economic realities where everything has been politicized. May be a big collapse or may just be continual degradation resulting in lower standards of living for most and government control of everything.

• **Agree:** Realist, GMC

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

19. Anon[209] • Disclaimer says:

@Anonymous

My takeaway from the interview: the USA is winning this whole century, and its critics are babbling crazy people who see things that aren't there. Russia-China and their clients are falling behind.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter This Thread Hide Thread

20. Norm6 says:

June 11, 2023 at 12:58 pm GMT • 3.8 hours ago • 100 Words ↑

@Onward and rapidly downward

The US, as Freud stated, was a massive mistake.

From it's idiotic populace, to the corrupt and its imperialistic, war mongering govt, it was a feces show from the start. Just a bunch of empty, hyper capitalists from England /Germany/WASPs all trying to get "happiness" (code for real property-land acquisition). ... A business enterprise masquerading as a "country."

Then came the eager masses: the immigrants feeding off of the bs marketing of "american dream" propaganda to feed the pathologic, greedy addicted, materialistic CONsumption fest. They bought into it eagerly and willingly to go to those street paved with (fool's) gold. They hamster wheeled into oblivion all waiting to become temporarily embarrassed "millionaires"...(Steinbeck)....

Nothing has or will change bc the "essence" of the US, is economic hustling via infinite expansion with finite resources==that's mental illness. Good luck and good night.

• **LOL:** Gvaltar

• **Replies:** @ricpic

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21. Realist says:

June 11, 2023 at 1:19 pm GMT • 3.4 hours ago • 100 Words ↑

@GMC

Take away all the nonessential Government agencies like DHS, IRS, NSA, CIA, State Dept. etc. etc. etc. and their sub contractors, the MIC, DOD, Pentagon and thier contractors, and shave down the rest of the Agencies, and then we are looking at the economy of the USA. That Fat Federal economy/workforce , in itself is an army defending all the BS media and Zionist policies. Same for the States and municipalities.

Yes, the current government should be removed and replaced with a true meritocracy.

• **Agree:** GMC

• **Replies:** @Poupon Marx

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22. Brás Cubas says:

June 11, 2023 at 1:21 pm GMT • 3.4 hours ago • 100 Words ↑

If you say “forget goods and services, we’ll have China and Asia and the foreigners produce them,” then all you really have is a hollowed out, empty economy. The policy of the Democrats and the Republicans is to empty out the American economy.

Biden is reversing that with limits imposed on American companies which operate in China. Is Hudson for them? It seems not:

<https://www.unz.com/mhudson/the-ongoing-economic-war/>

But why?

<https://www.wionews.com/world/biden-nears-unprecedented-action-to-limit-us-investments-in-china-584616>

As for the Catilinarian conspiracy, your view is only supported by a tiny minority of historians, and you should elaborate on why you think that way, or at least cite those historians. Here’s the Wikipedia article about it:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catilinarian\\_conspiracy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catilinarian_conspiracy)

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

23. CloseTheRanks says:

June 11, 2023 at 1:30 pm GMT • 3.3 hours ago • 100 Words ↑

There is no tomorrow. There is no economy.

The Satanic psychopaths have in their grip all levers of control including fiat currencies, war machine, media mind warping, indoctrination centers, genocidal vaccination programs, poisoned skies-water-food, and the list goes on and on.

The orchestrated chaos the hoi polloi witness on a daily basis shows no sign of abatement. Rather, the psychological beat down of humanity ends when either we all capitulate grabbing our ankles screeching “no more!” OR the Kazarian mafia is patently eliminated. There is no in between.

The economy/finance insanity is but one tentacle on the “you will own nothing” octopus inflating away (stealing) the imagined wealth of the citizenry.

The only group capable of doing what is necessary are firmly in their crosshairs being further demonized and marginalized with each passing moment. You know who you are.

• **Thanks:** GMC, Chuck Orloski

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

24. [katesisco](#) says:

[June 11, 2023 at 2:20 pm GMT • 2.4 hours ago](#) • 200 Words ↑

I don't know if I agree with the idea that there is no solution until the people get fed up and rise up.

I think that the economy was significantly bolstered when 2 families, two sets of children, and grandchildren was promoted. What a significant push that must have been.

Next came the immigration flood, educated and lured into our tech system for low pay. The families left overseas received REMITTANCES, a whole new profit line which is actually the main economic supply in not just a few countries. A disruption like a war throws the receivers into crisis, and may well be part of a planned global scheme.

We dissolved the Middle Class when the Spanish Flu was propagandized, now we are erasing the second Middle Class, conveniently co eventful with CoVid, which will be recreated when we resolve the Ukraine and bring in an entire new flood of immigrants.

Has anyone give a thought to how REMITTANCES are a lever to control a country?

There won't be any uprising as what is left is desperate.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

25. [Si1ver1ock](#) says:

[June 11, 2023 at 2:25 pm GMT • 2.3 hours ago](#) • 100 Words ↑

Great article by Prof. Hudson.

One thing I'd point out is that according MMT's Warren Mosler, the Fed's raising interest rates is what is keeping the economy **out** of recession. It' like \$250 billion a month flooding into the economy through what is called the interest rate channel.

And it's going to bond holders.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

26. Surprisingly resilient Potemkin village.

However, this is only because humans are stupid and delusional. There isn't anything innately surprising about it. The Potemkin village is failing exactly as quickly and catastrophically as logic predicts.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter



27. June 11, 2023 at 2:38 pm GMT • 2.1 hours ago • 200 Words ↑

@anyone with a brain

Debt doesn't matter. It's not like, debt-debt, which has to be paid back. This will all be rolled over indefinitely until the Empire collapses. Even if the interest payments aren't made. No sovereign will pay back its debt until Democracy is eliminated from the world entirely. (Plato predicted this...it was obvious 2400 years ago, let alone by now.)

The issue is making stuff and distributing the stuff. America in general loots its stuff from other countries, and how finance wags happen to be cooking their fake books today doesn't particularly matter. The looting will continue until the Empire collapses.

However, it does matter that they're allowing factories to close, because it means less total stuff is made and thus there isn't as much stuff to loot.

They also loot at home. Competitive looting. This disrupts the distribution of the stuff, and indeed that's exactly what the looting is for; redistributing it to central criminals. This distributes more poverty.

This also causes the cooked books to get entangled with wealth creation, as their domestic victims desperately attempt to evade the looting schemes. This results in less total stuff. If nothing else, they're frantically trying to evade the crime rather than worrying about making things. Less stuff to loot.

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28. @Sarita

Kaczynski was so smart he couldn't even figure out how to stay out of prison.

The Regime adores folk like Ted, because they will never kill anyone who matters and they constitute such effective distractions.

Ye shall know them by their fruits.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter This Thread Hide Thread

29. IronForge says:

@michael888

FYI, Here are a couple of Posts by MD McCullough citing Rogan/Cleveland Clinic clips giving us a snapshot of present day CoVID:

[https://t.me/P\\_McCulloughMD/5419?single](https://t.me/P_McCulloughMD/5419?single)

In addition to Vaxx complications (recorded somewhat in VAERS), the more you Vaxx, greater are the chances of getting CoVID.

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30. [ricpic](#) says:

Well, considering the number of times I've read stories that it's all over for the economy and IT DIDN'T HAPPEN I'm going with surprisingly resilient.

[Reply](#)[Agree](#)/[Disagree](#)/[Etc.](#) [This Commenter](#)

31. [ricpic](#) says:

[@Norm6](#)

Was Freud right about ANYTHING?

[Reply](#)[Agree](#)/[Disagree](#)/[Etc.](#) [This Commenter](#) [This Thread](#) [Hide Thread](#)

32. [Poupon Marx](#) says:

[June 11, 2023 at 4:10 pm GMT • 35 minutes ago](#) • 100 Words [↑](#).

[@Prickly](#)

Yes, an obvious clumsy attempt at sayanim Hasbara deception. The Schlomos from the Mossad Tel Aviv Information Disruption Bureau have crept and slithered back to this forum once again, it appears on this thread and other current ones. Me am jew jew and John Johnstein aka Hyman Lipschitz, have apparently retiree, having received constant jeering, ridicule, deriding, and denigration. Which they all roundly deserve for serial lying and stupidity.

((Termites))).

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33. [elysian field](#) says:

Yes,

It is reported that once, he said "...Sometimes a cigar is simply a cigar"

[Reply](#)[Agree](#)/[Disagree](#)/[Etc.](#) [This Commenter](#)

34. [Poupon Marx](#) says:

[June 11, 2023 at 4:15 pm GMT • 30 minutes ago](#) • 100 Words [↑](#).

[@Sarita](#)

Actually, my Dear, his actions had the effect of strengthening the *security state*, the term Jeffrey Sachs uses for the ShooNighted States, rather than a "**democracy**".

If you had been in a particular place, quite innocently, he would have have killed you as collateral damage without a second thought or itch.

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35. [Poupon Marx](#) says:

[@Realist](#)

Care to wish for anything else, which could be practical and helpful? How about making everybody a millionaire and make everything free, by Legislative/Executive fiat?

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