
Foreword: Peace is much more than ‘no war’!

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Biographical notes: André Maisseu is an Engineer and a Graduate of Institut des Sciences de la Matière et du Rayonnement (ISMRA), Caen, France, 1966, and of Institut National des Sciences et Techniques Nucléaires (INSTN), France, 1967. He is a Docteur d'Etat es Sciences-Physiques (1971) and Docteur es Sciences Economiques et de Sciences de Gestion (1976). He worked in the French nuclear industry for 30 years. He was nominated Professeur des Universités in 1988 (University of Paris 1). He is the founding President of the World Council of Nuclear Workers, Atoms for Peace and LOWRAD. He has published several scientific books, and about 200 scientific articles.

The very foundation of war and conflict is the humanity's ancient and mistaken view that scarcity is Nature's plan and design. Competition for those scarce resources evolved as a survival strategy.

Humankind learned quickly enough that complacency does not assure today's and tomorrow's survival. Those who 'won' the competition for resources may survive, those who 'lost' surely would not. Scarcity, or its threat, rules the struggle for daily life.

The concept of scarcity is essential to the field of economics. A resource is considered scarce when its availability is not enough to meet its demand. Scarcity is based on the idea that oftentimes a limited supply of goods or services comes up against an ever-increasing demand for it and that, as such, every effort must be made to ensure its proper distribution and use so as to avoid inefficiency.

Most goods and services can be definable as scarce because individuals desire more of them than they already possess (scarcity is maintained by demand). Those that are readily abundant are referred to as free goods.

Two opposite economic logics, whether inspired by Keynesian, neo-classical or Marxist theories, are proposed to solve the challenges faced by the Earth and its peoples.

The conventional logic based on the management of scarcity corresponds to Malthusian ecologists. For them, only Nature is capable of creating wealth. Man is a predator who can only develop at the expense of Nature. In the Malthusian ecologist way of economic growth, wealth is produced by the consumption and destruction of natural resources. This is the neomalthusian-ecologist impasse based on a fundamental misunderstanding of the concept of entropy and of its related mechanisms, which assimilates the concept of waste with entropy. Economic processes are irreversible. The economic system is not conservative, it is dissipative: energy and matter are invariant.

The key for sustainable peace is to move from scarcity management to abundance governance, which will reconcile ecology and economics in creating increased wealth in the respect of the quality of the environment. The reconciliation of economics, ecology, social requirements and sustainable development, ensuring vigorous growth, which

creates jobs and income and ensures peace all around the world, demands an increasing use of energy. This energy must not add pollution to pollution. This energy must have low cost. This energy has to be available all around the world for any country. With the present technologies, nuclear energy is the only answer.

Either we follow the absurd and dark path marked out by ignorance, and decide to discard nuclear energy, in which case pollution will continue to spread its black wings over the entire planet. The wealth of Nature will diminish and be increasingly expensive. And the world's poor peoples will be even poorer and ever more numerous, which will create all conditions for wars. Or we can choose to resume economic growth, creating wealth and jobs and preserving our environment, based on the increased use of nuclear energy, which all the workers of the nuclear industry are proud to offer for a peaceful world. We may now move from the Age of Scarcity into the new Age of Plenty and move to a win-win solution to global problems.

The use of nuclear energy is the only way to achieve a sustainable peace!

The challenge of the *Atoms for Peace: An International Journal* is to assist and accelerate this paradigm shift, this transformation, from scarcity to plenty, so success-for-all becomes reality at the earliest possible moment by the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

For several years, I enjoyed the immense privilege of being the Editor-in-Chief of *Atoms for Peace: An International Journal*. Together, we have published outstanding articles, have organised Atoms for Peace Conferences and created the Atoms for Peace Prize. I have met and exchanged ideas with remarkable women and men, remarkable scientists whose intelligence and integrity astounded me. They are so many that it would be impossible to name them here, but I want them all to recognise their place in these few lines, so that they all understand that I am infinitely grateful for having been able to participate in their passion for true science. We have come a very long way indeed.

I also wish to thank my friend Mohammed Dorgham, Editor-in Chief of *Inderscience*, without whom *AfP* would not have seen the day, Jim Corlett, Janet Marr, Sue O'Mara of *Inderscience* for their professionalism and competence, and above all Richard Dick Sharp, my accomplice, without whom *AfP* would not be a journal whose quality is universally acknowledged.

Your journal is now in the hands of my friend Carlo De Masi, and no hands could be better. Let me wish him, and the journal, all the best!