

Ideas for Social and Environmental Research

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Introduction

In 2019–2021 years I wrote a collection of research proposals titled *Ideas for Social Researches*. The ideas were based on my memories from different periods of my life and on travels I made at those times. About 200+ ideas were collected; then the document was abandoned and removed from everywhere (although some ideas still could be interesting even now). Few of those ideas became a basis of 3 preprints that were written by me later and were accepted by PsyArXiv and SocArXiv.

Considering current global social situation, I have decided that it is worth to write something similar again. Probably, it may become a basis of a new cycle of research works.

You may expect up to several hundred updates in this document for the period up to several years. The covered topics are unclear yet; it depends on my future life circumstances and interests.

Ideas

1 – Monasteries and sectant communities as knowledge survival centers in AI-managed world

Recent (September 2026) news on AI development and application of AI tools to daily life may allow us to make the following hypotheses: a) the gap between countries controlling AI and other countries will become unpassable soon; b) development of science in countries controlling AI will become extremely AI-dependent; c) risks of AI-caused catastrophes may reach unacceptable level; d) the most part of population will rely on AI too much as for resolving daily issues as for obtaining education; e)

purposely created AI-free territories managed by governments and AI-free military units may become the first targets in case of conflict between AI and humanity.

In such situation, we may have a necessity to create a decentralized self-organized multi-unit AI-free system for accumulation and development of knowledge that will survive by itself without government and social support. The system should be driven by individuals who perform this activity without any expected material benefit. Considering historical experience of humanity for the latest several thousand years, monasteries and sectant communities may successfully perform this function.

The function should not be limited to few government-approved religions and statecentric churches. Vice versa, legal frameworks must be changed globally to promote development of multiple decentralized sectant communities that are ready and able to do this.

(The term *sectant* is used because the most part of mainstream religious systems do not include development/survival of knowledge as one of primary postulates/dogmas.)

2 – Blockchain contracts as a solution for trust issues in multi-tribal and multi-party political environment in Africa

In multiple regions of Africa, during the whole post-colonial period the trust issues between minor tribes and political parties could be one of main blockers of political, social, and economical development.

It may be useful to consider introduction of Blockchain-based legal mechanisms to guarantee performance of agreed contracts in long-term perspective between all participants.

However, the social situation may change so quickly that described solution may become outdated by the moment when it will be finally accepted by all participants.

3 – Concept of “AI-free territory”

For the purposes of social security, it may be worth to review such concept as “AI-free territory” as a territory where all technological infrastructure and human activity are prohibited and are not able to use AI. Such territories may be implemented and should be implemented on different levels: a) N regions in each country; b) N cities/districts in each region; c) N areas in each city; d) each Nth critical infrastructure object. Described solution may provide durable protection against AI-caused technological catastrophes.