CIVISTI

Cross-European Project under the European Commission's Seventh Framework Programme for European Research.

Citizen vision catalogue – Denmark

Visions developed from 16-17 May 2009
Bymosehegn, Helsinge

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Preface

During the weekend of 16-17 May 2009, the Danish CIVISTI panel held its first citizen consultation. It turned out to be a weekend of high intensity, excellent atmosphere and a great outcome.

CIVISTI is a cross-European project working from the assumption that the task of finding relevant and forward-looking research topics can gain from listening to citizen ideas and suggestions.

In Denmark, the CIVISTI project is organised by the Danish Board of Technology, but the project is financed by the European Commission with the intent of gaining input for future research and development in the fields of science, technology and innovation. The objective of CIVISTI is to give citizens of seven European countries (Denmark, Belgium, Malta, Hungary, Finland, Bulgaria and Austria) the opportunity to develop their own visions for the future, whereupon they will be put forward as part of the input for the next EU framework programme for research.

Ideas and visions from the seven CIVISTI citizen panels are the most important input in the CIVISTI project.

Full credit for this vision catalogue goes to the authors, meaning those 24 citizens who spent an entire weekend developing and formulating visions in accordance with an approach identical for the seven CIVISTI countries. The visions are presented unedited, apart from minor language or graphics adjustments.

During the summer and autumn of 2009, the Danish catalogue of visions will be translated and combined with corresponding visions from the other six citizen panels. This selection will then become the CIVISTI Citizen Vision Catalogue. Subsequently, a group of experts and stakeholders will evaluate the catalogue from the perspective of the EU research programme and assess and assign priorities to these suggestions. The citizen panels will then convene for the second citizen consultation in autumn 2010 to consider and comment the recommendations of these experts. Here after the results can be presented to the European Commission at the turn of the year 2010/2011.

A sincere thank you goes out to all the participating citizens.

The Danish Board of Technology
June 2009

Anders Jacobi
Ida-Elisabeth Andersen
projektledere

The Vision Catalogue – as well as the CIVISTI Magazine – are available on the CIVISTI website, www.civistig.org. The site also offers more information on the project – besides the Danish website, a general website is available in English as well as individual websites for each of the partners in their national languages.

About CIVISTI and the Citizen Vision Catalogue

What kind of problems will Europe have to solve in the future? What are the social characteristics we want Europe to exhibit in the future? What kind of goals should we set for the development of the European community? These and many more questions will be discussed at two citizen consultations in seven different countries in the course of the CIVISTI project.

The visions in this catalogue are the result of the Danish citizen panel's dialogue, opinion sharing and arguments – in short, of the citizens responding to a series of questions based on two perspectives governing the work within the CIVISTI project:

- What challenges do citizens expect from the future, and what research is needed in order to address these? – An explorative perspective.
- What kind of visions and wishes for the future must guide the European research agenda? – A normative perspective.

Prior to the citizen panel commencing its work on 16-17 May, they were given the opportunity to gather inspiration in the CIVISTI Magazine, which presents various opinions and perspectives on the future and on the significance of visions in relation to how the future will turn out.

The magazine is shared reading for all seven citizen panels, and translations into all seven languages are available on the website, www.civisti.org.

What is a vision? In the CIVISTI project, vision is defined as: an image or an idea of a desired future. A vision can be based on a hope or a dream for a person's own future, for his or her family, for society as a whole or even for Europe. It can be based on hopes and dreams – but also on concerns and fears in relation to threats you don't want to see realised in the future.

In CIVISTI, the seven citizen panels are inspired and assisted in finding and formulating their own visions. These visions will then be collected in the "Citizen Vision Catalogue" – one from each national panel.

During May and June 2009, all CIVISTI partners had their first citizen consultation. A specific method has been designed for the work of these citizen panels, which – together with the Magazine and the other common starting points – will ensure that results can be compared, assessed and prioritized according to shared standards.

Every vision catalogue will be translated into English and combined into a shared catalogue, in which all 70 visions from the seven countries are grouped in a way providing an overview of the citizens' visions; whether there are common themes – and whether there are vital differences between the visions developed by the individual national panels.

The citizen visions are presented to a group of experts, who will prioritise the visions according to which of them are the most useful and best suited for a new European research agenda. This will provide an overview of potential new areas for science and technology.

In October 2010, the seven citizen panels will reconvene in order to discuss the experts' prioritising of the citizen suggestions and ideas. By the end of the project, at the turn of 2011, the results will be handed over to the European Commission.

The objective of CIVISTI

The CIVISTI project is based on the idea that the task of defining relevant and forward-looking research topics can in many respects gain from listening to citizen ideas and suggestions. Our society is rapidly changing, and as a consequence of globalization, we see the creation of new technologies, multicultural societies, media developments, environmental and climate change, new energy opportunities, increased welfare and spending etc. Developments, which all include an interface between science, technology and society. Citizens may find the rapid societal changes giving rise to new concerns and new expectations for the future, and with the right methods, such concerns and expectations can be collected and turned into relevant research agendas.

In short, CIVISTI aims at:
- Producing a list of new topics for European science and technology.
- Producing suggestions for EU's future framework programmes for research.
- Basing these suggestions on a new process of citizen involvement (citizen consultations) in seven member states, supported by the analytical capacities of experts and stakeholders.

Why European citizen consultations? – Why ask the advice of citizens?

Citizen consultations can contribute to a good outcome in several ways:
- Higher quality once daily experiences and "hidden knowledge" are added to the scientific approach – new ideas on the table.
- Increased credibility, citizens are presumed to be independent of economic or other direct interests in topics/programmes and able to make decisions benefiting the common good.
- Greater cohesion/context, citizens view things in context, use experiences and knowledge from work and everyday life, can make ideas and suggestions more "socially robust".
- Greater transparency, arguments and well-founded choices throughout the process increase the openness and transparency of the decision-making process.

You could say that CIVISTI is a vision in itself. A vision of future research and development, based on bridge building and dialogue between three vital resources in society:
1. Citizen visions for the future (in a 30-40-year perspective)
2. Experts' and other stakeholders' insights into EU research and development
3. Decision makers' desires for ideas on new topics and programmes, as well as new ways of coming up with ideas.

Discussing and formulating visions

How were members of the panel citizens selected?

Recruitment and selection for the Danish citizen panel was carried out as follows:

1. From a random selection of 100.000 citizens between the ages of 18 and 70, residing in the region of Copenhagen, 2.000 citizens received an information letter containing information about the project and conditions of participation.
2. From the 2.000 invitees, 130 citizens wished to participate.
3. 25 citizens were selected as members of the panel.
4. The panel was assembled with the intent of making it as diverse as possible with regard to sex, age, education and occupation.

The large number of personal invitations ensures the offer's exposure to a large group of people, who would otherwise not have heard of this opportunity. At the same time, the group who reported back positively wishing to participate must be described as particularly active and interested citizens.

In the experience of the Board of Technology, a diverse panel provides the best results, as this diversity provides a certain guarantee that a series of opinions and arguments will thus be included in the panel dialogues.

With these few words on the background, we wish you a happy reading of the ten visions resulting from the work of the Danish citizen panel on a weekend in May 2009.

Preliminary introduction of the citizen panel members

The Danish CIVISTI citizen panel

Morten Lorenzen	Frederiksberg C	IT consultant
Dorte Nygaard Kristensen	Frederiksberg	Student
Charlotte Kulager Wied	Køge	Pension adviser
Anders Søgaard Møller	Holte	Project manager and system manager
Peter Bech Andersen	Gentofte	Street paver, staff sergeant
Mathias Lang	Vallensbæk Strand	Student
Torben Michael Nielsen	Helsinge	Painting contractor
Sabrina J. R. Rasmussen	København Ø	Student
Helena Larsen	København Ø	Project manager, medical engineering
Morten Klamer	Hillerød	Consultant
Laust Petersen	Græsted	Hydraulics engineer
Katrine Gerlach Skibild	Frederikssund	Practice nurse
Lisbeth Brandt	København S	Temp
Louise Tidmand	Glostrup	Bachelor of education
Ole Skriver Myrtue	Valby	Development engineer
Bo Ørting	Albertslund	Quality controller in Coop/DK
Rene L. Christensen	København NV	Media producer, Copenhagen University
Anne Bente Nielsen	Smørum	Journeyman painter
Erik Gaardmand	Frederiksberg	Retired psychologist
Henrik Wulff Ljungberg	Birkerød	Upper secondary school teacher
Rigmor Eliassen	Tisvildeleje	Pensioner
Tove Hansen	Frederikssund	Pensioner, unpaid teacher
Asta Benny Nielsen	Taastrup	Pensioner, former nursing home head of department
Gyritte Lynghøj Pedersen	Glostrup	Student
Birthe Stepping Pedersen	København K	Midwife in charge of education and training

Unfortunately, Birthe Stepping Pedersen had to cancel due to illness on 16-17 May but will participate in the future work.

Board of Technology staff

Anders Jacobi
Ida-Elisabeth Andersen
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Bjørn Bedsted
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Process consultant

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The visions

Vision 1.

The EU president touring Africa

Short description:

Africa has changed from a developing nation into an industrial and knowledge-based society founded on a fully developed educational system from primary school to university education.

The population has achieved a health condition matching the European standard. The population growth is under control.

The individual nations have managed to achieve democratic governments and an effective public administration, and have managed to build sufficient infrastructure.

Longer description:

At this point, infrastructure has been further developed following the wars. Agriculture is thriving. The poor, previously unemployed population has moved into the countryside to bring land into cultivation and engage in husbandry. Health clinics now exist throughout the villages, making malaria and Aids vaccines available to everyone. Free birth control has resulted in the population growth stagnating. Everyone goes to school, and higher education is also attended in the home countries. The educational system is fully developed, and democratic processes are in place.

After his first day in the country, the president expresses great joy in experiencing that elections are still taking place in a non-violent and democratic manner. Voter turnout has been high. He also expresses great satisfaction with the choice of using the new high-speed (solar energy–powered) trains for transportation around the continent. This made it possible for him to stop in more places during his journey. The new villages all have a school and health clinics, as well as a common solar power installation, groundwater system, groundwater pumps and a water treatment plant for recycling. The villages are now more than self-sufficient, so villagers also sell to supermarkets and marketplaces in the bigger cities.

Next stop for the president was the new local hospital, which handles acute operations, broken legs, etc., as well as education and training of medical and healthcare staff. Next stop is the university hospital, centrally located in a larger university city.

The positive rewards and benefits of this vision are:
- Cessation of migrations
- Cessation of regional conflicts
- Self-sufficiency
- Democracy
- Lower child mortality rate
- Improved public health
- Controlled population growth

It is important to recognize the potential risk posed by "costs" or possible adverse consequences, such as cultural changes and changed cropping patterns involving an intensification of the agricultural production.

This may be of particular significance for:

- Changes in nature may pose a risk to animal life
- Changes in family constellations.

We see that realising this vision will probably require:
- *Stable access to water*
- *Further development of infrastructure*
- *Stabilisation of democratic government and public administration*
- *Stabilisation of the economic sector in Africa*
- *Micro-loans to support families.*

Voting on the top 10 visions

Vision 2.

Responsible animal production in the EU

Short description:
Animals are kept under conditions respecting their natural behaviour, and live animals are not transported unnecessarily and are always butchered locally. Infectious diseases transmitted from animals to humans are eradicated through improved animal welfare and responsible handling of the animals.

Longer description:
According to our vision, the production of meat in the EU should be based on animal welfare and an understanding of the animals' natural needs.

The population in Europe will eat less meat and instead eat meat of a far greater quality. The consumption of animal fat is greatly reduced, resulting in improved public health.

Animal farmers and other occupational groups working commercially with animals must undergo education in animal behaviour, animal psychology and microbiology as well as complete exams in these subjects.

Animals must never be restrained – rather, all animals must have access to appropriately sized outdoor grounds where they can exercise their natural behaviour. Animals are fed in accordance with their natural feeds and are not given hormones or preventive medicines.

Live animals are not transported unnecessarily, and butchering is carried out locally and with a minimum of suffering for the animal. All farmers handle their animals in an ethically sound manner.

The EU supports agriculture politically, thus ensuring the sustainable production. The new ecological model is called "ECO 2" and is a scientifically founded ecology not based on the "all or nothing" principle, as is the case with the classic ecological model. The new production model is economically sustainable, and the yield is maximized by responsible and careful utilization of scientific breakthroughs, for instance genetic modification and plant breeding. The poorer alternative is no longer found in the refrigerated counter!

The health of agricultural animals is significantly improved, and animal-to-human infection no longer occurs.

We find this vision important because:
Increased health among animals in Europe results in increased health among the population and reduces the risk of diseases being transmitted from animals to humans as well as the risk of a pandemic spreading of these infectious diseases. Moreover, higher quality animal products are necessary for public health in general.

Ethically sound handling of animals should be a future objective.

All citizens in the EU would gain from this development in the form of increased health and safeguarding our moral responsibility.

Traditional agriculture must radically readjust itself, and the farming industry must subject itself to a higher degree of control and regulation.

This vision requires increased knowledge and research in these fields, as well as possibly other types of husbandry than previously seen. Furthermore, legislation and regulation must support this type of production.

Vision 3.

EU for the people

Short description:

Through close dialogue, in which citizens get a sense of being listened to and having a say in the democratic process and the shared vision, the EU feels like an institution close to the people. Citizens feel this closeness through a shared identity and the desire for a vision shared by citizens and the institution alike. The affiliation with the national state is still the strongest, but the EU has well-defined and necessary areas in close proximity to the individual citizen, which the institution enjoys the necessary trust to administer. The inclination and enthusiasm in electing EU parliamentarians is roughly as great as it is in electing a government for the sovereign state.

Longer description:

As citizens of the EU, we live in security, trust and understanding of the shared vision. This is the vision supported by the citizens, but they do not necessarily agree on the ways to fulfil it. The vision is built on a sharing of common values, which also favours whichever individual values are upheld by each state. This has sparked an energetic debate for the upcoming election of EU parliamentarians. People have followed television debates between their own politicians, and they are now engaged in finding those candidates, with whom they have the most in common. The election is important because these are hard times, and themes affecting people's jobs, health and social security must be addressed and political solutions found in the EU parliament. We see the EU as an institution complementing the sovereign state in those areas where values are shared throughout the union, and where a shared vision of the future has been designed. Through this close relationship, we see the meaning and purpose of the EU work, which gives us a basis for deciding on the ideas put forth by the politicians.

The advantages of this vision are found in the strong mandate the EU will have for making the necessary decisions and for being efficient. This is realized through the shared vision intended to act as a lighthouse for every member when fulfilling this vision. Without a shared vision, the individual states will counteract one another, as each of them is aiming for their particular lighthouse. Furthermore, the shared vision will convey an insight and transparency in the process, which is essential for building trust in the EU.

We find this vision important, as the citizens need to be close to the EU in order for the individual to find the collaboration meaningful as far as being a part of the community. In many areas, we would be better served by a united effort than by operating as individual states. But if the individual citizen does not feel that he or she has a say in these areas, the citizen will lose his or her sense of closeness to the system.

Vision 4.

The aging man/woman is a resource

Short description:
Europe's share of elderly people has increased. The elderly people have become a resource rather than a "burden", which was a concept generally used in years around 2000. . Whether this resource benefits family, society or the individual elderly person, society stands to gain from it economically. This benefits the reduced younger generation and improves the quality of life for the aging human being.

Longer description:

Article in the Sydney Times, 25 May, 2044:

Europe's Aging Resource

In light of the lengthy parliamentary discussions that have recently taken place concerning the conditions of elderly people in this country, the Sydney Times has sent me to Europe with the purpose of exploring the initiatives implemented there at the turn of the century, at a time when elderly people were becoming a burden to society. As it happened, Europe witnessed an increase in the population of elderly people and a decrease in the younger population.

I resumed contact with a married couple I stayed with as an exchange student in the state of Denmark 35 years ago, in 2009. Mr. and Mrs. Mortensen are now both in their 70s. My contact with them had been slipping away, as I knew that both of them were seriously ill during the intervening years. But, to my pleasant surprise, their daughter wrote in her Christmas greeting that they were both recovering. Mr. Mortensen had suffered a severe bout of Parkinson's, which, thanks to stem cells from his grandchild, is now strongly on the retreat. He has renewed spirits, which has had a huge impact on Mrs. Mortensen's at times severe depression. This no doubt originated in stress and wearing-down in connection with Mr. Mortensen's illness.

During a lunch in the family living room, which is also attended by the family's daughter and grandchild, Mr. Mortensen tells me about his new life. He is back at work. He personally manages the flexible part-time program, which is common among senior citizens throughout Europe. He says he would not mind working full-time, but there must, of course, be time for engaging in spare-time activities, too. He has tournament dancing with Mrs. Mortensen, travels abroad and chess with the neighbour.

Their daughter Louise tells me what great help her mother has once again become for her family. She helps them take care of the children in their busy daily life. This way, Louise managed to free some time to take part in the semi-annual activity holiday with her workplace.

Midway through the herring, Mrs. Mortensen says she has to go soon, as she has a deadline to make. A program of morning exercise for elderly people must be ready for airing on the local TV station the next day. The grandchild, Mathilde, happily interrupts by telling me that they, too, exercise every morning in school, even though she does not attend one of the popular sports schools.

The high activity level upheld by the family amazes me. It is so far from the daily life they led when I last saw them in 2009. And what a positive impact their renewed energy has had on their relationship with each other!

When we take the china into the kitchen, their daughter Louise tells me about the fear she experienced when her parents retired due to her father's illness. She was afraid they would come to a standstill and end up in a retirement home, but now they can stay in their own home. She adds that this was a general tendency in their country, and that the number of retirement homes both in this country and in Europe in general has been greatly reduced since then..

I am stunned by the remarkable effect of the disease research and activity policy carried out in Europe over the last 30 years. The economic expenses incurred from this initiative are actually an investment, which pays back through the elderly resource. I sincerely hope that Australia and the rest of the world will be inspired by Europe's great example and pioneering work. This is my vision...

Susan McFly for the Sydney Times

Deliberating on the vision work

A world without war. Peace through weapons control

Short description:

The year 2045: The world's conflicts have now been solved without the use of weapons. Every single country and region is represented in a joint council, where country conflicts are solved at the negotiating table. Countries and regions that were not previously represented are now a part of the council.

Those available means that formerly went to weapons research and the weapons industry are now released for healthcare and for the rebuilding of regions that used to be plagued by war.

The world's weapons arsenal has been significantly reduced, and there is full disclosure of the location of every weapon in the world.

Longer description:

I'm standing with my child at the entrance to the war museum – an abandoned weapons factory. I notice the screen to the left of the entrance: "The war ended – the weapons were missing..." That was the message for the population in 2039. "*That was two years before you were born, sweetie*," I tell my daughter.

We step inside and look at the plan of the rooms in the museum.

Room 1
Former landmine area in Africa. These days, the area has been cleared and is inhabited by a local community with an emphasis on sustainable development.

Room 2
The virtual war from 2010. Play a war game and witness the consequences for the environment, the population and the economic costs during and after the war.

Room 3
See how weapons and war expenses have dropped from 2010 to 2045. See case studies of how the resources have been moved to other areas, such as healthcare, and to the development of sustainable communities.

Room 4
Where are the world's weapons? See a real-time updated overview of the location of all the world's weapons. Every single weapon can now be remotely deactivated by the conflict council.

Room 5
How are conflicts handled today?

See an example of how a conflict between two parties is solved. In here, you can experience how two regions reached an agreement in a 2042 conflict via virtual space. This involves the utilization of 3D glasses that provide a feeling of being in the same room, as well as a translation system by means of which the parties speak the same language.

Room 6

The transitional process: See how ten years of transition from weapons industry to peaceful production succeeded without creating unemployment.

See the numerous examples of how military research and technological knowledge benefits the population and are now being used for peaceful purposes.

Hear how openness has been introduced with respect to research and the utilization of the economic resources. The representatives from the conflict council have unrestrained access to the weapons industry's research and storage facilities.

Take part in a virtual tour of the latest in deep-sea research in the Mariana Trench.

We see that realising this vision will probably require:

- Expanded international legislation, including control functions
- A transfer of powers to a global international conflict council
- A supply of resources for peace and conflict research.

The result of the first clustering

Vision 6.

Environmentally sound transportation throughout Europe

Short description:

According to our vision, in 2040, all transportation throughout Europe will be environmentally sound, and there will be many environmentally sound means of transportation that can be adapted for the countryside or city, e.g. bicycles, electric cars, electric buses, trams and metro. Public transportation is the most attractive choice and the most popularly used mode of transportation in the individual countries and across borders – even if you are bringing a bicycle, pram or suitcase and need to travel across traffic arteries. Public transportation is fast and easy to access 24 hours a day for both shorter and longer distances, and there is no need to use private transportation in cities.

Longer description:

Our vision is visualized by means of the woman living outside the city having to go to work. She sees her child to the school bus. It's easy and safe, and he takes the bus home himself. She mounts her bike and cycles to the station where she parks the bike. She appreciates the fact that it can be parked so close to the station and that she does not have to worry about it being stolen, or becoming wet if it rains. Although she lives outside the city, it's easy to take the train, since it travels across the traffic arteries, and she doesn't have to worry about departure times, as it departs frequently. She pays for the ticket to the electric train with her citizen chip. From the train, she can see the motorway, where it's far between cars and there are many buses that move quickly and easily. She uses the free Internet and works on the train. At the station, she quickly chooses a city bike. She gets moving on the wide bike path with many bicycles. It's a clear winter morning, and the bike path has already been cleared so it isn't icy. On the way, electric buses and trams pass her, and the only cars passing are electric work cars. There's no noise or commotion, and the air feels clean and fresh. She sees a mother with a pram and reflects on how easy it is for her, too, to get around, as there's plenty of room for prams on buses and trams. When she arrives at work, she leaves the bike at the parking area for city bikes and greets some colleagues. They've all arrived on bicycle, tram, electric bus or metro. The woman almost only uses public transportation in her everyday life. It's easy, because there are stops close to e.g. institutions and shopping areas. It's only for visiting her parents, who live in a very remote location, that she uses the family electric car, which can be charged at the electric charging points on the way.

This future scenario has many advantages: less pollution, fewer illness-related costs, less stress, fewer car accidents, and cities are not as easily overpopulated, since it's easier and more appealing to live outside the city.

In order to fulfil this vision, a change of attitude toward transportation and means of transportation is required. For instance, the bicycle must be promoted as a means of transportation, and every country in Europe must share knowledge and experiences. Payment solutions for city bikes must be considered, and work must be undertaken toward providing cheaper public transportation. Electric cars must be able to go far without recharging, and it must not take long to charge them. Furthermore, the public transportation infrastructure must improve significantly.

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Vision 7.

Mass communication replaced by the masses communicating

Short description:

The multimedia environment is so developed that no economic, political or other power interests are controlling it. The mass person uses it freely and seamlessly in the interest of him- or herself and the recipients.

Private and public "communication drones" are reality – private can remain private – public is available for everyone.

Longer description:
Morning

The Cretan farmer goes out to check on his sheep – he is at work – but he talks to his colleague in Norway. He speaks loudly – not to himself, but here in the sunny courtyard, he speaks to the Norwegian farmer on the Norwegian hillside where a cold wind is blowing.

Physically remote – yet close by means of their common interest in tending the animals.

The dialogue is seamless in the sense that an underlying translation is taking place...

An underlying indexing is taking place – meaning a table of contents covering all the words relevant for the communication – time and place – as well as a conversion, meaning no interface problems (no requirements for the user's education, technological understanding or economic capacity).

The Cretan farmer does not distinguish between work and spare time – or between entertainment, education or learning. He is himself, but in a new form of human community. His conversation is a new type of learning object Hence, this is knowledge sharing on a root level.

We are dealing with knowledge sharing, but it is a wider, non-systematized knowledge sharing.

Thus, we see the reality in the year 2049 in the "mirror of magical realism": There is a "leap" from the recognizable physical world – the Cretan farmer – and his perpetual online existence. His virtual and his physical universe converge – without him losing the sense of the difference between the two. We forswear the risk of the utopia turning into a dystopia.

There are still numerous languages – this is the final battle with the false utopia of a single-language culture.

We see it as an intercultural "bridge building" – everyone is a stranger, and therefore no one is "strange".

Local communities have an increased opportunity to define the help they themselves feel a need for.

We see a radical change in our art and cultural lives, in our political debate culture and in the democratic concepts with the removal of all media monopolies. This new communication structure radically changes the known existing power structures. For instance, the Danish parliament's never-ending Q&A sessions with the ministers, characterized by partisan argy bargy, is a thing of the past. The same goes for the loyal "party soldier". The communication structure creates a certain flexibility in consciousness; a dynamic, non-dogmatic approach to every problem.

Evening
A Bulgarian animal welfare researcher does an online search for the word "sheep" – together with his wife, he sees and reads this morning's animal welfare chatter.

Before going to bed, he tells his wife: "Remind me to talk to the Norwegian farmer tomorrow about his feeding."

The Cretan farmer packs his suitcase – he is heading for the mainland. The Norwegian farmer has promised to feed his animals while he is gone...

Putting up the raw visions

Vision 8.

Renewable and CO2 neutral energy

Short description:
All energy production is based on renewable energy sources.
Energy is stored and distributed by means of safe, simple and cost-efficient media with a minimum of transformational losses – e.g. hydrogen.

At the consumption level, the need for energy has been minimized by a selection of optimal technologies and methods. This is, for instance, the case in the fields of building, production and transportation.

Longer description:
The year is 2049, and the renewable energy production has been further developed during the previous decades. The previous year, the last conventional power plant was closed down; the earth's energy production is now carbon neutral.
The latest data from the ice cap and the poles show that the ice has the same thickness as it did in the year 2000, and that it grows thicker every year. The ozone layer displays similar tendencies.

The news shows the big, floating wave power plants in the rough seas of the East. It shows the new geothermal plants in Iceland that bring up heat from inside the Earth. It shows large solar cell parks in the Sahara desert. And in the United States, they have huge wind farms by "the windy city" of Chicago.

I just got out of bed, and I'm standing here looking out the window. Although the glass is 25 centimetres thick, there is no distortion. The trees are growing beautifully outside. The window works as a solar panel, which, together with the rooftop panels, produces electricity for the family to use. The walls and roof of the house are optimally insulated. The house is heated by means of solar collectors on the roof. In the summertime, waste heat is stored in the heat storage system below the house, so it can be utilized during the winter.

I walk out onto the porch, coffee in hand. It's completely quiet, although the motorway is only 100 metres away. The hydrogen and electric cars are noiseless and only emit water vapours into the air. Traffic runs smoothly, as most people use the reliable public low-energy means of transportation, which fulfil most people's transportation needs.

Local transportation is carried out with light rail or other low-energy means of transportation.

Infrastructure has been expanded so that all ground transportation of both goods and people takes place with high-speed trains. Between continents, transportation takes place with ships or planes driven by hydrogen motors.

Passenger cars and lorries are only used for those kinds of local transport that cannot be handled by public transportation.

This vision is important, as its realisation has resulted in the climate being almost in balance now, and the rising water levels in the oceans being on retreat. There are fewer pollution-related diseases; people have generally achieved a better quality of life, and everyone feels more responsible for our shared environment.

There is no prospect of energy crises, since the renewable energy sources are inexhaustible.
One prerequisite for the realisation of this vision is the possibility of storing the energy produced from the renewable energy sources – for instance in the form of liquid hydrogen.

Another important prerequisite is the political will to carry out the vision.

Vision 9.

Assume personal responsibility – assume shared responsibility

Short description:
Every citizen assumes personal responsibility for a responsible way of life. That means that in daily life as well as in every decision and choice, the individual person acts responsibly in relation to the environment, sustainability and interpersonal respect. Knowledge and education are keywords. In school, all children in the EU are taught the cultural discipline of "responsible citizenship".

Society is organised so as to ensure that the healthiest and most environmentally sound solutions are available to everyone.

Longer description:
Page from a diary written by a 15-year-old boy in 2045.

"The cafeteria had veal and salad today. It always has good food that makes me alert and ready for the last lessons. Everything's organic, so I'll probably remain in good health for a long time and not need public health services too much. I'm going home to take math via distance learning, but first, I have an hour of 'Responsible citizenship'. That's a subject I've taken since kindergarten. Everyone in the EU must take this subject throughout their schooling. We learn to take responsibility for our own actions and respect our surroundings – both nature and people. We also learn how to take shared responsibility for our common state and national state in a global perspective.

At the moment, we're working with EU legislation with respect to rights and obligations relating to family and friends, as well as society as a whole.

It's nice to ride my bike home. The air is clean and the bike paths wide. Almost everyone in my city bikes when the weather is nice. Otherwise, they usually take the bus or the train, which are powered by electricity. My grandparents have told me how dirty and noisy living in the city was 45 years ago, when all the cars operated on fossil fuels, and public transportation wasn't that developed. That couldn't have been very nice. By the way, they also told me that back then, you often saw people throwing bottles, cans and other rubbish in both the street and around nature, even though they had both rubbish bins and recycling areas. I wonder why they did that when it looks terrible and it's so bad for the environment? I can't even imagine. No one does that now, and luckily, a lot of the packaging we have is made from materials that are environmentally sound to produce and can be re-used.

It's always nice to come home. This week, my dad's the one who's home. My mother works, but she works from home every other week. My dad had an accident many years ago, so he has a bad back and can't work under normal conditions. When my mum's home, my dad does citizen work. He's a trained lawyer and helps people who don't read and write that well keep track of their personal documents and write letters, etc. That way, someone's home to have a good time with my younger brother and me – and at the same time, they save energy by not having to go back and forth every day. Furthermore, the office buildings aren't as big as they used to be, because when you're working from home, you can take turns using the office spaces.

I have to go pick up our downstairs neighbour. She's old and has trouble preparing her own meals and getting out, so in our part of the building, we've made an arrangement where we take turns helping her. That way, she gets good food and company every day. It's exciting to spend time with her – she has so much to tell from the old days when the EU was formed.

Now I've finished my math exercises and sent them to the server that corrects them. Tomorrow, I talk to my teacher online about the results, and she gives me new exercises for the areas in which I made mistakes.

Now I'm going to talk online with my future host family. The last month of the school year, I'm going on an exchange trip to China. It's my first time visiting China, but I've been on a number of exchange trips. All children in the EU go on these exchanges at another family's place every year. Until the 7th grade, they stay within the EU for a week, and after that, they stay in other parts of the world for a month. Last year, I went to Africa, and this year, I'm going back down there, this time on a summer vacation. My family swaps houses with my African family. They'd like to see where and how I live, and I'm showing my own Danish family where I stayed and what I experienced last year.

I really grew to like Africa while I was there. I'm planning to train to become an engineer specializing in international development and go to Africa to work for a few years. They've come a long way in Africa these last few years, but we're still ahead in Europe, so I'd like to take part constructively in the African development. It's also important to me to learn more about the African way of doing things. I've learnt in history class that we may have been a little too busy in Europe 50-100 years ago. The Africans were better at remembering the near things like helping each other and that everything doesn't have to happen in one day.

My grandmother just called. She's 88 years old and really likes her citizen work where children visit her to hear stories from her childhood."

We find this vision important because: According to this view of human nature, every person is of value and function in the shared society.

Global responsibility starts with the individual. If we continue the way we manage the world now, it will go off track.

We see that realizing this vision will probably require a shared set of values and a common view of human nature throughout the EU.

Presentation of raw visions

Vision 10.

Food production in the EU is sustainable

Short description:
Europe's agricultural production takes place in a closed circuit, supplying exactly as many nutrients as are lost in production. The farming industry does not pollute our environment, for instance, pesticides are not used, and no leaching of nutrients occurs. The yield from the agricultural lands is at optimum level.

Longer description:
The fields are in balance, so they have the same nutrient content after harvesting as they did before sowing. This is achieved by, among other things, using organic fertilizer in the form of animal slurry, household waste and similar things.

Genetically modified plants are also used, and we know the consequences of this for the environment and other organisms. Crops are resistant, so there is no need for spraying the crops.

The production is divided into micro-cycles so resources are used locally, as far as possible. For instance, animal fodder is grown locally, and slurry is used locally, thus minimizing the energy being removed, as only the final product is removed.

We eat a varied diet; meat constitutes a smaller part of the diet, and fruit and vegetables come from local producers.

The agricultural production is economically sustainable, meaning there are no subsidies. A non-profitable production is not kept alive artificially.

There is also room for wild nature, for instance in the form of connected natural preserves. They have room for large wild animals, such as wolves and bison, as well as areas completely uncontrolled by humans.

We find this vision important because: The earth is left with the same resources and cropping opportunities for future generations.

Realising this vision will require a significant change in EU legislation on agriculture, moving away from subsidies programs.

Furthermore, a change in public attitude must take place, moving toward a focus on health and welfare.

Further developments

After translation of all the national vision catalogues all visions will be combined into a shared CIVISTI catalogue, in which all visions from the seven countries are grouped, providing an overview of the individual citizen visions – whether they have common themes – and whether there are vital differences between the visions developed by the national panels.

In October 2009, the Danish citizen panel will reconvene for a brief meeting intended to present the shared vision catalogue and providing an opportunity to discuss the most important differences and similarities.

In April 2010, the citizen visions will be discussed and assessed in an international workshop with experts and other stakeholders. This expert workshop will prioritise the visions according to which of them are more suited for a new European research agenda.

In October 2010, the seven citizen panels will reconvene for the second citizen consultation. Here, citizens will discuss the experts' suggestions and recommendations and decide whether or not they can accept their being delivered to the European Commission as results from CIVISTI. The Danish citizen panel will meet on 9 October 2010.

In January 2011, the CIVISTI results will be presented and handed over to a so-called policy workshop in Brussels. In February 2011, the Danish citizen panel will gather for an informal event in which the citizens are informed about the reception of the results.

Final evaluation of work well done.

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