**“Glen’s Parallax Perspectives”** is a series of TV programs offering fresh ways for people to see issues such as foreign policy, social and economic justice, governmental functioning, the environment, and so forth. We provide voices and viewpoints that are rarely heard in mainstream media.

**Mainstream media, politicians, and culture see the world in conventional ways. Therefore, in order to solve problems, we need to see things in fresh ways.** Glen Anderson created this TV series to help people see things differently so we can solve problems at all levels from the local to the global.

This series title refers to “***parallax***,” which is the view you get by looking from a different perspective. For example, put one finger in front of your nose and another finger farther away. Close one eye. Then open that eye and close the other. Your fingers will seem to move. This is called a “parallax” view. **This TV series invites you to look at issues from fresh perspectives.**

Each program airs three times a week (currently every Monday at 1:30 pm, every Wednesday at 5:00 pm, and every Thursday at 9:00 pm) for the entire month on Thurston Community Television (TCTV), channel 22 for cable TV subscribers in Thurston County, Washington. TCTV is part of Thurston County Media. You can see their schedule at [**www.tcmedia.org**](http://www.tcmedia.org)

**You can also watch the program described below through your computer** at [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org). All episodes of “Glen’s Parallax Perspectives” are posted on this blog’s “TV Programs” part and also in one or more of the categories listed in the right side of the computer screen. Also, see information about various issues at the category headings at [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org).

**🡪 I saved this document in Word format with live links.** If this document does not load or print properly for you, please e-mail me at [**glenanderson@integra.net**](mailto:glenanderson@integra.net) and I’ll promptly send you the links you request.

**🡪 Please invite other people to watch this video and/or read this thorough summary at these parts of my blog,** [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org)**: “TV Programs” and “Peace” and “International” and “Examples of Parallax Views.”**

“World Citizenship: A Lost Piece of History

-- And a Key to Humanity’s Survival”

Glen’s Parallax Perspectives TV Series

April 2022

**Glen introduced our topic and our guests, Arthur Kanegis and Melanie Bennett:**

The April 2022 interview on “Glen’s Parallax Perspectives” provides fresh insights and a creative alternative that can get the whole world unstuck from nationalistic antagonisms and endless wars.

Wars have raged for thousands of years of wars, but they have never produced lasting peace. The promoters of World War I promised that it would be “the war to end all wars.” Have we had a century of peace since 1918?

When we are chronically stuck in a dysfunctional system, we need to challenge the long-standing assumptions. We need to think creatively – “think outside the box” – and choose positive alternatives.

Instead of narrow nationalism and wars, two guests and some visuals help us explore the exciting alternative: world citizenship.

Glen welcomed Arthur Kanegis and Melanie Bennett. Both guests have studied this extensively and produced a feature film promoting it.

**The world is stuck in wars and militarism rooted in nationalism:**

A moment ago Glen said we are stuck in nationalism and militarism. Now he invited Arthur to summarize the problems and solutions that we would flesh out during this hour.

Arthur said a crucial part is that our society has “the myth of the hero with the big gun.” The myth is that violence – including military violence – can win.

[Arthur wrote a freshly insightful article titled **“The Hero with the Big Gun: Is it all a Myth?”** People can read it at [**www.E-arth.com**](http://www.E-arth.com) Glen read it and recommends it highly. Glen and other people have written about “the myth of redemptive violence” – the myth that violence solves problems.]

Arthur said this myth is an illusion that we saw disproven in 20 years of the U.S.’s war in Afghanistan and the Soviet Union’s unsuccessful war there before the U.S. started our own war. Military power is a myth.

He said he was looking forward to this hour’s discussion of the **world citizen movement** and Garry Davis’s bold work for it. He said Garry Davis revealed the secret that can put “we the people” back on top.

He said big business corporations have all the power because the people are locked into boxes called nation states. While we are trapped in nationalism, the big business corporations are free to roam the world and make all the decisions. We have to find how to break out of that box.

Glen said he is glad that Arthur, Melanie, and other people are saying, “The emperor has no clothes.” He said ordinary people need to boldly recognize that the whole concept of narrow nationalism is a sham. We need to expose that sham. Then we can move on to actually solving the problems.

Arthur mentioned the frequently mentioned definition of insanity as doing the same thing over and over again – even though it doesn’t work – and expecting different results. He said war does not work, but we keep doing it.

**How are ordinary people feeling about this? Does the public want global nuclear suicide? Does the public want to continue fighting wars – or use that money and human brainpower so we can solve serious problems?**

Glen said the problems are entrenched in top-down systems such as nationalism and militarism. In order to solve the problems, we need to work from the bottom up. We need a grassroots people-power movement. He said he is a great supporter of nonviolent grassroots people-power movements to solve big problems.

He asked Melanie how she understands the feelings of ordinary people. Does the public want endless wars or better alternatives?

Melanie said she is happy to be here on this TV program.

She said people would be thrilled to live without war, but they don’t know how to eliminate war, and they don’t know whether that would be possible. She wants to open people’s minds to the fact that it is possible to eliminate war and help people understand how to live without war.

Glen said that one of the things that happens when people are trapped and stuck is that they can’t see a way out. For example, in an abusive relationship, often the person who is being abused doesn’t know how to escape – or doesn’t feel powerful enough to escape. He said this is where the world’s people seem to be regarding endless wars and nation-states that keep us trapped in war after war after war.

**A new system of global citizenship is the practical solution we really need, even though almost nobody knows about this practical solution:**

Glen said Arthur and Melanie and Glen all support the creative alternative of recognizing **global** citizenship. This is a practical solution, but almost nobody knows about it.

Arthur showed us the shirt he was wearing – which displays an attractive image and the website for [**www.theworldismycountry.com**](http://www.theworldismycountry.com). [We talked about this later.]

Glen invited Arthur to summarize the concept of world citizenship – and why it is practical, not merely a concept for our heads – why it could actually work.

Arthur said when we identify ourselves as world citizens – whether with a t-shirt like he was wearing, or with a world passport (which he showed and we discussed later in the interview) or in other ways – we identify ourselves differently than people commonly do. This flips a switch in our minds so instead of being “the governed” (the people who are pushed around by governments) we can actually become the governors of our small planet.

He asked, “what do people do when they’re citizens?” He answered that they get together and create ways of governing. He said self-government happens in many settings. But at the planetary level no suitable self-government occurs. We have global anarchy.

He said, for example, suppose you had a city with no mayor or city council to implement democracy and provide necessary services. Various factions would fight each other. Strong people would dominate. Many people would suffer and die.

He urged us to raise our concept and practice of citizenship from the local level and national level to the global level. Decades ago, Garry Davis proposed doing this and took bold actions to do it. Glen said we would talk about Garry Davis in a few minutes from now.

Glen agreed with Arthur’s analogy about a city with no government. He said if we had no city government, the decisions would be made by the worst bullies and the people with the most guns. That’s exactly what happens now at the global level. This dysfunction has been happening for a very long time at the global level, where the worst bullies and the people with the most guns get to throw their weight around and not be constrained by decent people and a global government that’s accountable to the people. He said we need to create a functioning democracy at the global level. He thanked Arthur and Melanie for helping us shift our thinking in that direction.

Arthur said that Garry Davis said humanity has already invented a system that eliminates war **inside** countries. Civil wars are when two entities both claim to be sovereign. He said when everybody accepts one governmental system, then we settle our disagreements in court. Here in the U.S., when two states disagree, they don’t go to war with each other; they go to court.

**Garry Davis proposed world citizenship decades ago. Summarize how he got to this point. Summarize his bold activities. Mention his book.**

Glen said that decades ago an American actor/singer/dancer named Garry Davis proposed world citizenship as a smart alternative to narrow nationalism. Both Arthur and Melanie have been working very hard – and very creatively – to promote Garry Davis’s bold vision of replacing war and narrow nationalism with world citizenship.

Arthur produced a 28-minute film about this and updated it in 1983. It features Paul Newman and supports the Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign, which had won many local election victories in 1982. The film makes a compelling case for stopping the nuclear arms race and abolishing war. You can watch this powerful 28-minute film at this link -- [**www.warwithoutwinners.com**](http://www.warwithoutwinners.com) – and at this link – [**www.theworldismycountry.com/www**](http://www.theworldismycountry.com/www). These links also appear near the end of the post to Glen’s blog, [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org), where you can watch our interview video and read this thorough summary of what we said during the interview.

In the very early 1980s, people were arguing about U.S.’s and the USSR’s numbers of nuclear warheads, megatonnage of weapon destruction, and so forth. The Freeze concept cut through the numbers and confusion – and simply said STOP! FREEZE! No more research & development; no more production, no more deployment. The public easily understood this, so in 1982 voters passed local level ballot issues calling for a Nuclear Weapons Freeze in virtually every local part of the country where it was on the ballot.

Glen worked very hard in his local community and helped the Thurston County Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign – with less than one year of grassroots organizing – win a county-wide ballot issue in the November 1982 election with 62.5% of the vote.

Arthur said this 28-minute film was made decades before he and Melanie produced their 2017 film about Garry Davis and his work. He said the 1983 film was a powerful way to show the realities of the Cold War dynamics of the nuclear arms race – and how to get out of that trap.

Arthur said he produced the film (watchable at **[www.warwithoutwinners.com](http://www.warwithoutwinners.com)**) before he started studying Garry Davis’s ideas. [Although the image Glen showed on the screen said this film supports Garry Davis’s ideas, the film does not do this explicitly, but it does lay a foundation for opposing nuclear weapons and narrow nationalism.]

Arthur said he had already been working with Paul Newman and working against nuclear weapons. Arthur explained that he had worked intensively to conduct the research for ABC’s televised film “The Day After,” which showed the extremely serious destruction that a nuclear attack on one American city would cause. He said more than 100 million Americans and more than 200 million Soviets watched that TV program.

He said that Ronald Reagan wrote in his memoirs that this film had convinced him that nuclear war could not be won and must be prevented, so this film motivated him to start negotiating with the USSR to reduce nuclear weapons. Before that, Reagan had believed the U.S. could win a nuclear war, so he was aggressively promoting more nuclear weapons. Arthur said that – just like Reagan’s military generals who kept urging escalations – now our more recent presidents likewise are being fooled by their generals who keep promoting nuclear weapons.

Arthur said that in order to produce **“War Without Winners,”** they traveled to the Soviet Union during the height of the Cold War and talked with all kinds of ordinary people there. The public there want peace – just like Americans do – and they want their families to survive – just like Americans do. Contrary to the widespread propaganda, Russians are not monsters. They want to live – just like Americans do. Now in 2022 we see a new nuclear arms race escalating again and violating what ordinary Americans and ordinary Russians want. Now China is being dragged into this, but ordinary Chinese people don’t want nuclear war either.

He said if ordinary people could connect with each other, we could eliminate the new Cold War. He said this insight leads directly to Garry Davis’s ideas and his proposal for global people-to-people consciousness and world citizenship, so we can rise above the narrow nationalism that divides us. This consciousness led to the film he produced in 2017, decades after the 1983 film featuring Paul Newman.

You can watch “War Without Winners” with Paul Newman either at [**www.warwithoutwinners.com**](http://www.warwithoutwinners.com) or equally at the website that Arthur and Melanie work with, [**www.theworldismycountry.com/www**](http://www.theworldismycountry.com/www)

Garry Davis wrote a book – ***My Country Is the World*** – that anyone can get from [**www.worldcitizengov.org**](http://www.worldcitizengov.org)

Arthur mentioned the Ukraine crisis that was underway while we taped this program on March 10, 2022. Glen said that Putin is threatening to launch nuclear weapons despite Russia’s very long-standing policy of “no first use.” The U.S. has NEVER had a “no first use” policy, and, in fact, the U.S. is the only nation that has attacked anyone with atomic bombs (civilian populations in Japan twice in August 1945). He said he hopes Russia and the U.S. will pursue peace so people will be alive in April 2022 to watch this interview on TV – or to watch it through his blog in future years.

**The 83-minute movie “The World Is My Country” promotes world citizenship and inspires people to take smart actions:**

A moment ago Glen mentioned that Garry Davis wrote a book titled ***My Country Is the World***. Arthur showed the book on the TV screen and said it inspired his new movie with a similar title. He said you can buy the book from the “store” part of [**www.theworldismycountry.com**](http://www.theworldismycountry.com)

Now we discussed the 2017 film whose title is similar to the book’s title but with the key words reversed: **“The World Is My Country.”** Melanie and Arthur created this 83-minute film – **“The World Is My Country”** and released it in 2017. It effectively expresses Garry Davis’s ideas for world citizenship. It documents his very bold, creative actions over the years. It inspires people to take smart actions nowadays.

Glen said he very much enjoyed watching this film.

We showed a 2-minute trailer featuring Garry Davis himself in historic footage and Martin Sheen’s enthusiastic support. You can watch it through this link: [**https://www.theworldismycountry.com/trailer**](https://www.theworldismycountry.com/trailer)

Melanie told us about her role and Arthur’s role in creating this film. She said it has been an incredible journey. Both of them were the core creators of the film, and they had significant help from many other persons. Now – having finished creating and releasing the film – their next step is to promote it again to wider audiences.

The film **“The World Is My Country”** has already aired on more than one hundred PBS affiliates nationwide. She said they will do this again in 2022, and they are inviting people and organizations to financially support additional airings on PBS, Link TV, DIRECTTV TV, and Dish Network, so 31 million people can watch it. It’s possible for organizations to provide financial support and be listed on-screen as supporters (“brought to you by \_\_\_\_\_”).

Arthur said Garry Davis was a friend of his for a quarter of a century. Davis was a Broadway song-and-dance man who was drafted into World War II and flew bombers. He bombed the city of Brandenburg, Germany. At the same time, Davis’s own brother was killed in World War II. He was deeply concerned that he – and the nations of the world – were killing other people’s brothers and all of their family members.

Garry Davis knew his professional job had been to make people laugh, but now his job was to blow people up in their homes, schools and workplaces. After the war he watched film footage of the U.S.’s atomic bombing of Hiroshima. He struggled with trying to figure out what he could do.

Davis came up with the brilliant idea of going to Paris in 1948, where the United Nations was meeting (before the new headquarters building in New York had been built). During an official session with the U.N.’s member nations represented, he leaped up and shouted that the nations they represented were dividing the world’s people and those divisions were causing wars and global suicide. We need one government for one world. He said if the diplomats gathered there would not do it, the people of the world could unite through a global people’s assembly that could arise from the world’s people.

Arthur said that Europe was sick of war, so Davis’s bold vision inspired many people – including prominent people (Einstein, Camus, Sartre, and others) – to agree with him, and people organized a giant rally in Paris on December 9, 1948. They were demanding that the U.N recognize the rights of humanity.

The very next day – December 10, 1948 – was when the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was passed unanimously. Until then, the Soviet Union had been blocking it, but now – perhaps inspired by the previous day’s giant rally – the Soviet Union dropped its objection, so the UDHR was able to pass unanimously.

Now – for the first time ever – the world’s nations recognized human rights and freedoms for every person on earth. Garry Davis’s bold actions helped make this happen.

Glen said we would build upon this in a few minutes when Melanie would tell us more about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Glen expressed appreciation for Eleanor Roosevelt, who had been vigorously and skillfully promoting the UDHR. He said all of the issues are interconnected.

**What would be the benefits of rising above nation states to world citizenship as our primary loyalty?**

Glen invited Arthur to further explore the vision and the practicality of world citizenship. What would be the benefits of rising above nationalism and recognizing world citizenship as our primary loyalty?

Arthur reinforced Garry Davis’s insight that we have been trapped in a subservient role of begging and pleading for our governments’ leaders to stop wars and make peace. Arthur said they can’t do what’s necessary because their loyalty is to only part of humanity (their respective nations) instead of being loyal to all of humanity. He said the only people who could do what’s needed are “we the people,” because we can unite ourselves at the global level to assert ourselves as the real superpower.

He said originally business corporations were created under the authority of governments (“the people”). Business charters were granted for 20-year periods. If a business did not serve the public interest its charter could be revoked before then. However, he said, “we the people” are locked into nation-states while corporations were allowed to operate globally, so corporations have acquired more power over people and nations. They have the power to threaten to move their operations and their jobs to other countries if their home country tried to regulate their pollution or tried to make them treat their workers fairly. So the big business corporations gained power over nation-states, and they bought the politicians (“the best government money can buy”), so now they control the governments and they control all of us. Because we’re trapped in nation-states, we don’t have the power to control them.

He said “we the people” must assert our rightful place on top of business corporations. We have to break out of our nationalistic boxes and get back on top where we belong. “We the people” are the sovereigns. We create governments. He said the Declaration of Independence asserts it is the right of the people to institute new government. “We the people” can get out of our nationalistic boxes and join together globally to create a new government for the whole world.

Glen said many people know that he holds signs at his local community’s street corners a few times each week with messages supporting peace, nonviolence, human rights, and so forth.

He said one sign he often holds proclaims, “All people are one human family.” He said people who walk by or drive by feel affirmed by this message because – even if they’re heavily overweight – they are included, and – even if they have metal piercings in their bodies – they are included, and – even if they have a religion or race or sexual orientation that other people don’t like – they are included. He said, “All people are one human family” is a very welcoming and inclusive and egalitarian truth. We need to practice that in our global politics.

He said he often holds a sign that proclaims, “We all share one earth.” He said the global pandemic transcends all borders, so we can’t merely protect the health of people in our own nation with the mistaken assumption that Americans can be safe while the rest of the world gets sick. No. A global pandemic spreads all around the world, so our own health in the U.S. depends upon protecting the health of all people worldwide.

Likewise, the climate crisis is global. Climate pollution from one country circulates around the world and disrupts everybody’s climate.

If we have a nuclear war, the radiation would spread all around the world and contaminate the nation that launched nuclear weapons, along with everyone else. An exchange of nuclear weapons could throw enough ash into the atmosphere that it would block out sunlight worldwide for many years and cause billions of people to freeze to death or starve to death because the world’s crops would die.

Glen summarized that the problems are global, so the solutions must be global. He said this is why he is so enthusiastic about the work that Melanie and Arthur are doing. We need peace worldwide – and also unified worldwide cooperation to solve other problems too. It won’t work to say, “Oh, I’m only part of this tribe,” or “I’m part of this other tribe.”

Arthur said we don’t need to totally eliminate any tribal affiliations. Rather, we need to make our **primary** affiliation our membership in the world community. He encouraged us to add world citizenship as the top-level identity over all others.

He said once we do that, we’ll need to invent new systems. In 1776 people rode horses and buggies to go to distant cities to govern. Before easy transportation, before the telephone, before the internet, things were different. But now, he said, we don’t need to limit ourselves to having just a few representatives who could fit into one room. Now all of us could meet together through the internet. Nowadays many people from all over the world are meeting together through Zoom meetings.

He said Garry Davis urged multiple groupings of different kinds of people meeting together. Do this across the boundaries that have traditionally divided us. Devise protocols and methods to help us identify our needs and find ways to collaborate. What do we share? What do we want for the planet? We can start establishing the will of the people at the global level.

He said the Universal Declaration of Human Rights says the authority of government shall be based on the will of the people. Currently we have no way to express the will of the people at the global level. We do not yet have a global democracy. The nation-state system is fragmented and dysfunctional, so we can’t wait for national governments to solve this problem and create the solutions we need. We the people need to do this.

He said once we catch the idea that Garry Davis promoted, we will invent the methods for achieving it. Arthur said the human species is very inventive. We keep inventing radically new things. Now we need to break out of the box of nation-state governance and invent global citizenship. Actually, we have powers stronger than military violence. We use modern data that is readily available to help us decide what products to buy – and what businesses to invest in – and what jobs to apply for. We use data about how those businesses treat the world and the environment and people.

We can create worldwide laws and worldwide enforcement methods that can serve all people around the world.

Nation-state boxes take away the people’s control and are pushing us toward global destruction.

Glen agreed and said the traditional assumption is that power is expressed in a pyramid with a few people on top who have the power, while the rest of us are at the bottom stuck in powerlessness, so all we can do is ask the few powerful people on top to please do the right thing. In contrast, Garry and Melanie and Arthur say we can turn the pyramid upside-down and recognize that “we the people” actually have the power (just like Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and our nation’s other founders asserted), so we can create a new government. This is true at the global level, just like Americans support this at the national level.

Arthur said “we the people” are the superpower. The reason we feel weak and powerless is that we have allowed other people to lock us into boxes of nation-states. Once we break out of that, we can accomplish great things. He said other boxes also constrain us. Republicans and Democrats alike want a better world for their kids and grandkids.

**Who else has thought this way? Albert Einstein, Charlie Chaplin, and comments from enthusiastic people who have watched the film.**

Glen said that when we were preparing for this interview, Melanie mentioned that prominent people from the present or past have encouraged world citizenship. These have included Albert Einstein, Charlie Chaplin, Albert Camus, Jean-Paul Sartre, and others.

Einstein, for example, said, “With all my heart, I believe that the world's present system of sovereign nations can only lead to barbarism, war and inhumanity, and that only world law can assure progress towards a civilized peaceful community.”

Melanie said world citizenship has been promoted by many well-known persons, including Martin Sheen from our current era – and support goes back to Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King – and way back to Socrates. They felt they were world citizens and supported that concept.

Arthur said many women have supported this too. Melanie mentioned two women who were featured in their film. Lola Maverick Lloyd and Rosika Schwimmer were actively organizing to make world citizenship a reality. They created the Campaign for World Government in 1937 and paved the way for the World Federalist Movement, the 20th century’s first organization promoting world federalism. (Later Glen found fascinating information about these two women on the internet. He encourages other people to search the web for their names.)

Glen said **“The World Is My Country,**” the 83-minute film that Melanie, Arthur, and other people created, is truly amazing. He very much enjoyed watching it online. He invited Melanie to share some of the enthusiastic comments from people who have watched the film. You can see many more people’s comments at [**https://www.theworldismycountry.com/comments**](https://www.theworldismycountry.com/comments)

Melanie showed the comments screen and read these two comments:

“This is truly enlightening for me and to tell you the truth I have always whispered to myself that I am a global citizen.”

“I cried, I was so deeply moved. … And your film showed me that I’m not alone or crazy. Thank you so much!.”

Melanie said people resonated with deep, positive emotions when they watched the film. She said the tons and tons of comments have been deeply rewarding to the filmmakers. She invited people to read many more comments this link: [**https://www.theworldismycountry.com/comments**](https://www.theworldismycountry.com/comments)

Arthur said that they had standing ovations when it was shown at film festivals. The showings had full audiences. He agreed that many people have told them that they’ve always felt this way, so now they were happy to have a film expressing what they’ve always felt.

Glen said he watched it through their website. It’s very, very impressive. He said he’s been telling people about it and will watch it again soon.

**Universal Declaration of Human Rights Article 13.2  
-- and the global citizen passport:**

 Now we talked further about something our guests had mentioned briefly a few minutes before. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights has many excellent parts, including one that pertains to our topic of world citizenship.

A few minutes ago Arthur showed his World Passport, and now Melanie showed hers. This page’s left column shows the passport’s cover.

Melanie explained how the Universal Declaration of Human Rights’ Article 13.2 provides the authority and mandate for the World Passport. She also told us about the World Service Authority, which is an arm of the World Citizen Government, [**www.worldcitizengov.org**](http://www.worldcitizengov.org)

Article 13.2 establishes the right of EVERYONE to leave ANY country – including their own – and go elsewhere and return to their country.

She said the World Passport is actually a human rights document. She said it’s very powerful – and especially useful for refugees who are escaping from a nation at war but don’t have identification. This passport has saved the lives of refugees.

She affirmed how the World Passport empowers people who can touch and hold it. She feels empowered by her World Passport. It can bring our minds to the global level. She agreed with Arthur’s statement from a few minutes ago that we can be citizens of the world without losing our own original nationalities. Now we have a place of solidarity with all people all over the world.

While discussing the World Passport, Melanie showed the image inside it, which shows a human (neither a man nor a woman) to illustrate its universality. Here it is on a flag:



Glen expressed appreciation for their efforts to transcend nationalism. When we were preparing for this TV interview he mentioned to them John Runnings, a man he had met at John’s home in Seattle in the 1970s. John Runnings had seen himself as a world citizen. During the height of the Cold War he took powerful nonviolent actions at the Berlin Wall and in Moscow.

Later in life he was planning to take a small boat from the western tip of Alaska to the eastern tip of the Soviet Union without any passport to nonviolently and publicly violate the assumption of distinct nationalities and assert his world citizenship.

Glen said this concept of world citizenship is the kind of good idea that pops up in many different places and eventually becomes very common because so many people have developed that consciousness. This is the “100th Monkey” phenomenon.

**Global citizenship would change the power dynamics of giant global businesses in relation to governments and humans:**

Glen followed up on what Arthur had said earlier about how giant business corporations roam all over the world. Besides transcending nation states, they now have actually acquired more power than nation states. They have corrupted governments and hurt workers and environments. Glen said the whole world shares one environment and one climate, but the giant business corporations try to dominate those too.

Glen agreed with Arthur’s statement that when anyone tries to hold those gigantic trans-national corporations accountable, they threaten to shut down their operations, fire all the workers, and move to other countries. Glen said this shows who is really in charge – and that people need to reclaim our power. He said this is another very practical example of how global consciousness and accountability must transcend the power of businesses.

**How would global citizenship – besides transcending nationalism – also reduce the powers of hierarchies?**

Glen said that when we were preparing for this interview, Melanie mentioned the related – and larger – problem of hierarchies overall. Now he invited her to tell us why partnership is better than hierarchies – and why the partnership aspect of global citizenship is better than nationalism.

Melanie said societies vary along a scale between domination and partnership. Some societies are subjected to heavy domination, while other societies function well with good partnership arrangements, and many societies are somewhere in between.

She said the societies with heavy domination have hierarchies and “in” groups and “out” groups. The people on top use fear, force, violence, and war to keep the people down so they can remain on top. That kind of society suppresses human rights and suppresses people’s creativity.

She said the societies that practice partnership have a different kind of hierarchy. Power flows both ways – up and down – not only from the top down. Likewise, accountability also flows both down and up. Everybody is valued. Creativity flourishes because people are free to be themselves. This is a caring society where everyone matters.

Glen affirmed this as another example of the change of consciousness that people need. We need Melanie’s model at the global level as well as within individual societies. We need the partnership model all the way from the global level to the national level to the local level to the family level.

He said we need profound changes at the heart level, the head level, and the culture level. Then the other positive changes we are promoting will flow accordingly from the bottom up.

Arthur showed a model that Garry Davis had developed to illustrate syntegrity. See another illustration and explanation at [**http://www.worldservice.org/syn.html**](http://www.worldservice.org/syn.html)

Arthur explained that this model illustrates that millions of people really could govern our world by starting with very small local groups and expanding to larger scales. The model is egalitarian, in contrast to the old model with the king (or president) on top and everybody else underneath.

He said this model looks like Buckminster Fuller’s geodesic dome at a spherical scale. He said the president might be on top in some aspects (*e.g*., coordination and administration), but if the janitor doesn’t keep the bathrooms clean, the whole place becomes unworkable, so the janitor is on top in that aspect of the system. Also, the people who manage acquiring supplies must buy the soap, toilet paper, etc., so the janitor can do his job, so the supply people are on top of that aspect. Also, everybody needs to get paid in order for the system to function smoothly, so the people in the payroll office are on top of their aspect of the system.

Altogether, he said these various parts are all part of one interactive system – a sphere – that we can also understand as a model for global governance. Small group interactive meetings with good protocols can help different kinds of people figure out what they really want – and interact with each other from the very local level upward. At the global level, the system can amalgamate the highest and best wisdom of each small part.

Also see this smart video (only 2 ½ minutes long) illustrating the kind of global system that’s possible: [**https://www.theworldismycountry.com/earthiansworld**](https://www.theworldismycountry.com/earthiansworld)

Arthur said that a moment ago Melanie had mentioned the term “actualization” as what we need in the fresh kind of hierarchy that we need to develop. He said this connects with Abraham Maslow’s “Hierarchy of Needs,” where “self-actualization” is at the top, so we become the very highest and best we can possibly be. He encouraged all people around the world to put into actuality the very best wisdom they have and amalgamate all of this to create a better world.

Glen said all of these integrations and interconnectednesses reflect what environmentalists understand about the natural world: everything is interconnected – all of the plants, animals, and other components of ecosystems interact with each other for the well-being and sustainability of all of them. We need to apply this consciousness to a governance system for the whole world.

Melanie pointed out that the domination system has often included men over women, some men over other men, race over race, and people over nature.

Glen agreed that instead of exploiting nature, we need to recognize that we are part of nature and need to interact respectfully and sustainably. He said that his January 2022 TV interview was titled, “Let’s Recognize Legal Rights for Nature.” People can watch the interview video and/or read the thorough summary Glen typed up of what we said (with links to additional sources of information) at this link: [**https://parallaxperspectives.org/lets-recognize-legal-rights-for-nature**](https://parallaxperspectives.org/lets-recognize-legal-rights-for-nature)

We did not have time to discuss an excellent book that Melanie recommends in relation to this matter of hierarchies and partnerships. Research shows partnerships really have been important historically. Melanie and Glen both recommend reading ***The Chalice and the Blade***.

**Arthur’s personal journey on this issue has moved through several steps,  
including research for the film “The Day After” and his childhood Quaker grounding in the Light. Everyone needs to be the solution.**

Glen said that while we were preparing for this interview, Arthur mentioned his own personal journey on this issue. He mentioned his technical research for the 1983 ABC movie “The Day After,” which showed the horrible destruction that a nuclear war in the U.S. would cause. Arthur also told Glen about his youth as a Quaker and some other aspects of his decades-long journey to now. Now Glen invited Arthur to summarize his own personal journey.

Arthur said he had a job conducting the research for the ABC film “The Day After.” In order for the filmmakers and crews to design and build the sets, Arthur needed to research how much damage of what kinds would occur at various distances from the epicenter of the nuclear bomb blast. He researched at the Pentagon and other places and started having nightmares about nuclear war. He was immersed in the understanding that a nuclear war would not only destroy him and his family, but everything in the world, including all art and music and history and our entire beautiful planet. He found that awareness to be immobilizing and depressing. The more he researched the devastation, the more he started drowning in “an ocean of darkness.”

This caused him to think back to a song he had learned as a child in his Quaker Sunday school: “Walk in the Light.” It was written by George Fox, who had founded the Quaker faith hundreds of years ago and used the term Light as a metaphor for God. Arthur said he agreed with the song that there is “an ocean of darkness,” but there is also “an ocean of Light.” He sang it as part of our TV interview.

He said he realized again that this song’s message is true. The deeper we look into these important issues, the more we discover how horrible the realities are. People can drown in the despair of that darkness.

Then he said it’s also possible to see that all over the world, people are taking strong actions to help each other, to save the environment, to contribute, and to do whatever they can to make the world better. Nature is beautiful. Nature keeps re-generating. Even after something has been destroyed, nature finds ways for new things to recover and grow and restore ecological balance. There really is “an ocean of Light,” he said.

He said we can choose either to drown in an “ocean of darkness” or live in an “ocean of Light.” He said that even while many people were murdered in concentration camps, some people imprisoned there kept the spark of Light and love alive so they could minister to others and help people heal. He said that no matter how bad things are in the world, you can make a personal choice. So he recognized that he had to choose whether to drown in an “ocean of darkness” or whether to dwell in the “ocean of Light.”

He said when you choose this, an incredible power arises within you that motivates you and provides hope for the world. He said we need to connect with that “ocean of Light” and that’s how we can save ourselves.

Glen said Arthur’s reference to concentration camps made him think of Viktor Frankl, who survived the concentration camp’s horrors by maintaining his positive commitments. He wrote an amazingly powerful book about his first-hand experiences that he wanted to share with other people, ***Man’s Search for Meaning***.

**Many excellent sources of information:**

Glen said a great many sources of information exist about what we’ve been discussing during this hour. He mentioned some of the ones listed below – and invited anyone who wants more to contact him at (360) 491-9093 [**glenanderson@integra.net**](mailto:glenanderson@integra.net).

* During this interview we mentioned Garry Davis, who took bold actions decades ago to promote world citizenship as a smarter alternative to narrow nationalism. He wrote a book titled ***My Country Is the World***. You can buy it through [**www.worldcitizengov.org/books/**](http://www.worldcitizengov.org/books/)
* Our guests created a film promoting Garry Davis’s campaign to create world citizenship as a viable and practical alternative to the status quo. We encourage you to watch this film titled, **“The World Is My Country.”** Visit the website [**www.theworldismycountry.com**](http://www.theworldismycountry.com)
* During this interview we showed Martin Sheen’s 1-minute trailer about this film. We also recommend a 2-minute trailer showing Garry Davis interrupting the United Nations in Paris in 1948 on behalf of the people not represented among national delegates to the U.N. We encourage you to watch **BOTH** links at [**https://www.theworldismycountry.com/trailer**](https://www.theworldismycountry.com/trailer)
* During the interview, Arthur clarified that many of the resources he and Melanie have been discussing are at [**www.theworldismycountry.com**](http://www.theworldismycountry.com), so simply visiting that website will allow you to click around and find many of the specific resources we’ve been mentioning. He said they made the website’s name an affirmation of the principle they invite people to embrace.
* Glen highly recommends the powerful, informative 28-minute film **“War Without Winners.”** It is hosted by actor Paul Newman. Our TV guest Arthur Kanegis produced this film and updated it in 1983 to inform people about the escalating dangers of nuclear weapons. It also mentions 1982’s Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign, which enjoyed great public support and many local electoral victories.

Those dangerous realities persist now – nearly forty years later – and still threaten human survival, even though the numbers of weapons and military budgets have changed. Now three decades after the Cold War ended, the U.S. is provoking a new nuclear arms race with bi-partisan support. Both political parties have always had a bi-partisan consensus for big militaries and many nuclear weapons, so – with no controversy to report – mainstream media have always gone along with the status quo. We must challenge the status quo.

Please watch **“War Without Winners,”** the powerful, informative 28-minute film mentioned near the bottom of this page’s left-hand column at [**www.warwithoutwinners.com**](http://www.warwithoutwinners.com) You can watch it also through [**www.theworldismycountry.com/www**](http://www.theworldismycountry.com/www) This film was produced with significant help from the Center for Defense Information. For many decades I donated financial support to that non-profit organization. A few years ago they merged into another very knowledgeable non-profit organization, the Project on Government Oversight (POGO), [**www.pogo.org**](http://www.pogo.org) and Glen has been donating to them for many years too.

* This smart video (only 2 ½ minutes long) illustrates the kind of global governance system that’s possible: [**https://www.theworldismycountry.com/earthiansworld**](https://www.theworldismycountry.com/earthiansworld)
* Glen enthusiastically agrees with Arthur’s article **“The Hero with the Big Gun: Is it all a Myth?”** It’s smart and only a few pages long. You will appreciate reading it at: [**www.E-arth.com**](http://www.E-arth.com)
* The great pacifist organizer George Lakey has written smart, practical articles and books about nonviolence. Many of his articles are posted at [**www.wagingnonviolence.org**](http://www.wagingnonviolence.org) Search the internet to find much more information about him and his writings and activities.
* Glen’s blog provides a lot of information about the kinds of things we have been discussing during this hour. Visit [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org) and click the blog’s categories about **“Peace”** and **“Nonviolence”** and **“International”** and **“Nuclear Weapons.”**  For example,I encourage people to read these two blog posts that Glen wrote: **“We must DEBUNK ‘the Myth of Redemptive Violence’**” at [**https://parallaxperspectives.org/we-must-debunk-the-myth-of-redemptive-violence**](https://parallaxperspectives.org/we-must-debunk-the-myth-of-redemptive-violence)and read **“Reject authoritarian rule and the idolatry of worshiping nationalism”** at[**https://parallaxperspectives.org/reject-authoritarian-rule-and-the-idolatry-of-worshiping-nationalism**](https://parallaxperspectives.org/reject-authoritarian-rule-and-the-idolatry-of-worshiping-nationalism)
* Nonviolent national defense really is a practical remedy. Glen’s May 2022 TV program will explain how nonviolent national defense could actually work and how we can move toward it. The posting on the “TV Programs” part of Glen’s blog, [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org), will include links to many sources of information.

**How could people help?**

Glen invited Melanie to say how people could help to promote the feature-length film we have discussed. It will be shown again in 2022 on PBS and also on Link TV. (See page 4 above.)

Melanie invited people to connect with her and Arthur through their website, [**www.theworldismycountry.com**](http://www.theworldismycountry.com). Click any of several links there (*e.g*., the “Take Action” link). The website encourages people to promote (and financially support) the film – and also choose to receive their e-mails. Wouldn’t it be fun to have your name or organization featured on screen (“brought to you by \_\_\_\_\_)”?

Please contact them at [**futurewavefilms@gmail.com**](mailto:futurewavefilms@gmail.com)

Encourage many more people to watch the film. It really does inspire people to take smart actions.

**Glen’s closing encouragement:**

Glen thanked Arthur Kanegis and Melanie Bennett for their wisdom, insights, and efforts.

He also thanked the people who have been watching this interview.

When we were preparing for this TV interview, Melanie told Glen that she and Arthur want to show what a better future would look like – and give people hope. The world’s people need that now. I encourage all people to think creatively – as we’ve tried to do during this TV interview. Also, I encourage all people to do whatever they think is needed for the world. Different people will have different insights and strategies, and all of our efforts are cumulative, so we can indeed make the world more peaceful, humane and united if we all help in whatever nonviolent ways we can.

The many wars raging on our planet are bad enough. A nuclear war could kill billions of people and destroy human civilization.

The global system is seriously broken. “Politics-as-usual” has gotten us into this mess. “Politics-as-usual” cannot save us.

We need to ground ourselves in our best values. We need to think very creatively and very boldly, so we can create a fresh system – global citizenship – without hierarchies – so ALL people can live peacefully and enjoy satisfying lives free from oppression.

**You know what you have seen** in the world around us.

**How do you feel** about how governments have been functioning?

What are your **best values**?

What are your **deepest need**s?

**Let’s replace the broken system of nationalism with global citizenship!**

Buckminster Fuller famously said, “You never change things by fighting the existing reality. To change something, build a new model that makes the existing model obsolete.”

We need to challenge the long-standing assumptions that have led to the cruel status quo of national rivalries and war.

**We’re already doing this** in some aspects of our society. **Nowadays we already know:**

**#1:** Everything in the environment is interconnected, so now we know we can’t “throw something away” because there is no “away.”

**#2:** Endless economic “growth” is not possible because the earth and our resources are limited, and human beings have seriously disrupted the climate.

**#3:** Men – and white people – cannot assume they must be in charge of everything.

**#4: We’ve already made some progress in shifting our consciousness. Now let’s add #4:** Let’s challenge the long-standing assumption of nationalistic divisiveness and rivalry. Global citizenship is the practical solution that the earth needs now!

Also, nonviolent national defense is actually a very practical remedy. Look for Glen’s May 2022 TV program in this series explaining why nonviolent national defense is the practical alternative that we need now.

You can get information about a wide variety of issues related to peace, social justice and nonviolence through my blog, [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org)or by phoning me at   
(360) 491-9093 or e-mailing me at [**glenanderson@integra.net**](mailto:glenanderson@integra.net)

Glen ends each TV program with this invitation to help make progress:

**We're all one human family, and we all share one planet.**

**We can create a better world, but we all have to work at it.**

**The world needs whatever you can do to help!**