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Sustainable? is a magazine for multidisciplinary dialog at academic level and for establishing communication on the state of the art related to humanities, sciences and technologies from the perspective of sustainability, systemic and globalization. The idea is to reflect, analyze and propose alternatives to the present problems of our world. The UNESCO Chair in Sustainability at the UPC (Polytechnic University of Catalonia) also aims to open interdisciplinary, critic, reflexive, plural and scientifically rigorous spaces seeking to promote a way to do science and technology that contributes to sustainable development around the globe.

We started in 1999 and therefore, the published issues are now many: *Globalization; Biotechnology; Africa, a global challenge; 21 Agenda, the road of Rio 92; Democracy, a vision of today; Ethics and research; Sustainability, a reference framework; Energy, sustainability and complexity; Sustainability and education; Sustainability assessment; Recycling city*, until the past year with *Society in crisis*.

At the very moment in which the Board of Directors of the magazine met and decided the theme of the last issue *Society in crisis*, where a general vision of the different problems that have determined this crisis of ours, we simultaneously agreed that the next issue should propose some answers to those aroused problems. Thus, with this 14th issue we want to provide solutions and build strategies to overcome this critic situation. That is why the name of the latest issue is "*Alternatives to crisis*".

We hope and desire that the articles presented in this edition are of interest and that can help and drive us to reflection so that we can envision that there are other ways and models that allow social changes where equity and socioeconomic balance must be the conducting vectors towards the alternatives to crisis in our society.

The four writers on this number are dedicated to research and education at university level from different fields. They present us in this edition, some options from a scope with a common denominator: humanistic nature and caring for the state of the world as well as the struggle for the common well-being of all people living in it, internalizing imbalances, globalization and values.

In the first article "*Exploring alternatives to crisis*", sociologist, professor at the Open University of Catalonia and social movements expert Tomás Herreros starts in a severe way criticizing the different austerity politics that have been implemented to tackle the crisis. From his point of view, the effect they cause is clear: it ends punishing the weakest fraction of society. Then, and in a constructive way, thanks to his knowledge and life experience, Herreros proposes the creation of an egalitarian, democratic and post-capitalist system as the only way out of crisis, where social anti-systemic movements and new governments must work in complicity and unity. To illustrate this process, the

experience in Ecuador is acknowledged as a great reference for Latin American countries.

“Alternatives to crisis from a fenomenologic and antroposofic perspective”, is the second article. Written by Andri Stahel, economist, professor at the UNESCO Chair in Sustainability at the UPC and experienced researcher in the ecological economics field, frames crisis as global and systemic presenting possible alternative routes within a holistic and integrating context. Using proposals by Austrian philosopher Rudolf Steiner (1861-1925), Stahel raises alternatives to crisis at different dimensions. Starting with knowledge, awareness, liberty and individual action, the system is then incorporated with an economic dimension based in cultural wealth not very profitable at short-term but very promising in a future with a healthy economy driven by a *Main Social Law*.

Philosopher Angels Canadell, professor at the University of Barcelona, researcher on intercultural philosophy and important referent at sustainable education, is author to the article entitled *“SOVEREIGNTY-E-S”*. She proposes to rethink on the present values of society, revisiting Greek philosophers to see how ethical sovereignty and learning to decrease can be opportunities to achieving well-living through simplicity to be capable of healing a psychology derived from multiple dependencies. Canadell also raises the change of beliefs and the need for displacing individual interests towards the common well-being of people and the global environment. The author invites us to re-dimension ourselves to recover the dream of enjoying mutual support and holding us together in the adventure of life where culture must drive us back to the real value of things replacing greed with lucidity.

In the fourth article *“Against the debt crisis, citizen audits”*, economist and master's degree in economic history for the University of Barcelona, Autonomous University of Barcelona and University of Zaragoza, Inés Marco is a specialist in public debt audits. The author describes the historical journey of external debt in the industrially undeveloped countries or so-called “the south”, from decade of the eighties to the year 2010 arriving to Europe, the so-called “north”. The article establishes where the main determinants of public debt are set and specifically points out that the “we have spent over our possibilities” idea is false. Marco finally demands as alternative to crisis to carry out a citizen audit on public debt as a tool to identify who is actually responsible of this debt and then to create an international network to strengthen this project.

And as usual, the latter is accompanied with an electronic list of bibliographic resources prepared by Núria Castillo and Miguel Puertas, which due to the casuistry of the matter it has been more complicated than the average. Therefore, we appreciate and thank the effort made.