

## *Optics Journal: Editorial*

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### On economics

The economy is intimately linked to the human will. Anything that destroys this *human will* also destroys the economy. A set of elements that can subdue the human will, include phenomena such as corruption, tyranny, and high taxes. Corruption strengthen monopolies, obliterates competition, and threatens democracy.

Corruption coupled high taxes kill economies. In many countries, high taxes are the mechanism necessary to feed the corrupt appetite of the controlling bureaucracy. Able and creative people do not want to participate in a system that will take away the fruits if their labor. That's why achievers from corrupt countries tend to emigrate.

Notice that the above should not be interpreted as an advocacy for a system devoid of rules and regulations. What is needed are transparent laws for protecting basic human dignity, and the fruits of individual labor, without suffocating creativity and innovation.

A further complication has to do with the issue of growth. The economies of the world, and the population of the world, cannot grow indefinitely fueled by the availability or raw materials since these materials are finite. In other words, the finite dimensions of our planet indicate that growth cannot be indefinite. Thus a new model capable of motivating the human will of future generations will have to be found. My first guess is that we'll either have to go into space exploration and/or completely improve the human behavior and perspective, that is, find the "path to perfection" as hinted by Schrödinger. My second guess is that space exploration will be easier.