



PROBLEMS OF OUR TIME

2020 - 2021 : Alpha Initiative

Revitalizing America 



Revitalizing America

Revitalizing America is an open source project inspired by Hilbert's 1900+ model. It recognizes the fundamental method of Progress: humans beings ask the right questions then get the right people to work on them in the right way.

Step 0: Interesting Questions

Step 1: Smart Answers

Step 2: Good Politics



Necessary

The scale, complexity, and interdependence of our problems requires a well organized fixture for the public intelligentsia.



Non-Partisan

Regardless of the party in charge, our politics is only as effective as our finalized solutions to fundamental problems.



Scalable

Well-defined solutions fuel a growing library of law, serving as America's North Star and the basis of a smarter politics.

**A Politics for the 21st Century
(without the Politics)**

Problems of Our Time¹

To the Ambitious Reader,

In light of the existing climate, the following questions seem all the more underappreciated: “*Where are we going as a Nation? How are we going to get there?*”

We’ve composed this list of (1) Domestic + (2) International matters with the hope of helping America find its “North Star” for the 21st Century-- and to generate an end-to-end detailed playbook illuminating our strategic paths to get there.

At the core of this initiative, we internalize the “fundamental method of progress”: human beings ask the right questions then get the right people to work on them in the right way. **Step 0** is asking “Interesting Questions,” **Step 1** is identifying the landscape of “Smart Answers,” and **Step 2** is doing “Good Politics” on top of this basis.

This is a non-partisan and open-source initiative because, no matter the political party in charge, American politics can only be as good as our actionable and finalized ideas.

In the form of contributors, reviewers, advisers, and other well-placed civically minded Americans that wish to advance our cause, the Revitalizing America Program seeks to demonstrate & leverage the power of the at-large intelligentsia in a novel manner (and to create an organized and growing fixture of the public space).

IF we get the right people involved, this endeavor will be important for our Nation’s trajectory. Pragmatically, we are in desperate need of an answer to tomorrow, while as a virtue of establishing a more formal and detailed basis for politics, our public discourse can be made more coherent, transparent, productive and meaningful.

Yours Sincerely,
The Revitalizing America Team

¹ Version 2.0.

Domestic¹

Economic Matters

1. The United States Government is ~\$25 Trillion in debt. Constraining US laws, policies, programs & projects-- and our available order of operations-- what is the maximum amount that the US can safely go into debt?
2. How can the United States best jumpstart the next wave of scientific and technological revolution, and build the 21st Century American industries of tomorrow?
3. In the future, based on the nature of technology, a market economy will need fewer human jobs, despite increases in the population, a longer life expectancy, and increasing cost of living. Provide a framework for the future where individual people and communities around the country can be industrious, happy, and self-improving-- while the economy still be dynamically efficient-- given the computer-human breakdown of resources, the nature of capital in markets, and a morally acceptable spectrum of income inequality?
4. An ancient insight runs as follows: to those who have, more will be given; to those who have not, everything will be taken. In recognition of cyclical progressions-- both good and bad-- how do we help those at the bottom and the middle of the economy/society find realistic paths to upward mobility.
5. As of the year 2020, describe the minimal cost of living based on our present day technologies and infrastructure (including COL adjusted). Do the same for the year 2030 and the year 2050. How can the government affordably subsidize and/or provide such vital services where the market fails?

Governmental Matters

6. How does the Government re-earn the respect and trust of the people? How do we attract the best leaders to Washington? How do we make our citizens most informed, engaged, and involved?
7. As by the orienting principle of the *American Calling*, our government is tasked with maximizing the Life, Liberty, and the Happiness of the people. What are the best models to discuss 'Life',

¹ As by the constitutional bounds and mechanisms, and in the obligatory pursuit of maximizing the resources of the State so as to maximize the health, wealth, and happiness of the people: this selection encapsulates pressing issues to the domestic United States.

'Liberty', and 'Happiness', and how can the American government best use these to act on its original and persistent objective?

8. Create a robust set of modules, frameworks, technologies, and methods-- collectively things comprising our available 'toolkit'-- to do politics and law-making smarter in the 21st century.

9. What data should the government use and how should the government organize, store and use it (compatible with separations of power, federalism, efficiency and other considerations)?

Foundational Matters

10. There is a crisis of meaning in the World, both individually and collectively. In the form of an animating philosophy of goals, values, methodologies, and beliefs, propose where human beings and societies can find meaning in the modern age. How can we reinvigorate humanity with purpose and optimism?

11. Our water, our air, our food, our products, our technologies, and our environments together comprise the necessary inputs that power our bodies and minds to live. By what means can America experience a clean revolution which is commonly available?

12. In the modern age we've learned a tremendous amount about human beings & the brain. From personal, familial, civic, educational, professional, social, and governmental considerations, how do we use what we've collectively learned about people to make improvements?

13. Build new K-12+ education modules and models for the 21st century which are modern, better relate the various subjects, help train our contemporary workforce, keep us competitive globally, build better citizens, & prepare individuals for all aspects of the challenges and opportunities of life.

Societal Matters

14. As our technologies have increased, we have seen both a greater ability to create and a greater ability to destroy. Of the latter category, easily accessible and increasingly dangerous weapons have been used by civilians to take thousands of innocent lives. On the other hand, the individual right to protection of themselves, their properties, and their loved ones is a core value of many Americans. Offer a modern framework to consider such issues, with a specific focus on the rampant mass shooting problem in America.

15. How does the United States forge a sustainable American fabric of community, civility, collaboration, friendliness, empathy, and acceptance in the 21st century? How does the United States find social and cultural cohesion, co-existence, and flourishing?

16. Redesign the American healthcare and insurance system with a model which covers all (i.e. “universal healthcare”).

17. America’s criminal justice, policing, and incarceration systems have many historical and presently known problems. Propose a broad array of criminal and social justice reforms. Discuss revitalization programs for communities and individuals that have been especially impacted.

International²

18. Currently, the United States & the World has experienced massive disruption and loss of life in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. To make our road to recovery swiftest-- and to get back to health, productivity and growth-- present a wholesome domestic and international plan of action.

19. The “most logical” nuclear doctrine at the core of international relations since the Cold War is “mutually assured destruction” (i.e. if everybody loses, they lose together). Identify an alternative doctrine.

20. Worldwide climate change is an existential crisis which is sending ripple effects around the globe (e.g. warming temperatures, destroyed ecosystems, the loss of coral reefs, glacial disintegration, the acidification of the oceans, toxic waste, the Pacific garbage patch, the loss of forests, the loss of species, the loss of reliable water, population displacement and migration). What is the ideal mixed-energy stack for the United States and each state over the next 5 years, the next 10 years, the next 20 years, and indefinitely into the future. And on the same timelines, what is the landscape of acceptable mixed-energy stacks for other nations?

21. We are rapidly entering a state of digital ubiquity & hyper connectivity in the form of software and hardware covering the World (Internet of Everything). What are the prospective configurations for the Internet of Everything, and which is optimal as by the various interests of the people & society?

22. As of the year 2020, nations around the World are rapidly undergoing the processes of original industrialization (the second world), while much of the planet has still not experienced such progress

² Where the actions and actualities of the rest matter, and the scale or subject is such that coordination, collaboration, and ex-ante clarity is smart, healthy, and strategic for all.

(the third world). Given existing knowledge and technologies, create realistic models for all nations to achieve 1st world status this 21st Century.

23. As machines become “more intelligent” and start doing more things for us-- and as hardware and software become native infrastructure of the World-- how do human beings make sure that these machines/robots and these systems are doing what we want and serving our interests?

Historical Precedent

In 1900 CE, a great & influential mathematician put together a program of 23 open questions.

This challenge, and as progressively supplemented, captivated a generation of mathematicians & thinkers-- focusing the attention of the well-placed on the most pressing problems of their time.

Among the inspired of the next-generation was Alan Turing. His work product was not only critical to resolving one of these problems, but it also was cornerstone to the (digital) computing revolution at the heart of 20th century advancement.

We recognize that this story exemplifies a general Truth: the fundamental method of progress is 'human beings ask the right questions and then try to solve them collectively without bias'.

This is how **we** move forward with a focused and efficient direction.

Now in 2020, we seek to internalize this proven model towards revitalizing America.

There is a massive backlog of existing problems. Further still, serious large-scale problems are visible on the horizon. The brute fact is that the rate of work needs a substantial speed up.

We need to act **now** for our Nation and our people to find the health, wealth and happiness we deserve in the 21st century. On behalf of the State, we therefore seek to focus and leverage the at-large intelligentsia to swiftly collect the best existing ideas & to generate robust and actionable solutions to these *Problems of Our Time*.

America needs to find its "North Star" for the 21st century. The ultimate goal of this initiative is illuminating our strategic direction in the decades to come through building America's Playbook.

Let's Build Tomorrow!

Today's politics is broken. The results are self-evident.
We need a new approach to doing the people's business.

Are **you** ready to help solve our 21st Century problems?
This initiative is innovative, important, and capable of

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