Heidän äänensä

Kirjoituksia Lännestä vuonna 2026



toimittanut Mikael Böök

kulttuurivihkot

Their voices

Writings about the West, 2026

Edited by Mikael Böök



The cover photo shows the sailboat Golden Rule en route from the United States to Cuba in December 2022. The Golden Rule has been involved in the peace movement since 1958, when Captain Bigelow began direct environmental activism and sailed to the Marshall Islands to oppose U.S. atmospheric nuclear tests. Today, the Veterans for Peace organization owns the Golden Rule. / The Golden Rule is a universal principle that urges people to treat others as they would liketo be treated themselves, or to refrain from doing to others what they would not want done to themselves. *Photo: Veterans for Peace.*

blurb: This book is about the changes in the West and its state in the year 2026. The West appears to have evolved into an industrial war machine that is no longer guided by human judgment but by artificial intelligence and is fueled by the raw materials of Pax Silica. The authors of the book come mainly from countries considered to be Western. Their voices are rarely, if ever, heard in media.

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We have to create a new culture –E.P.Thompson

Foreword

These days, readers have phones that let them quickly find out everything they need to know. And even things they didn't know they wanted to know—or things they certainly didn't want to know more about. No, that's not true. What you don't know you want to know, someone has to help you find out. That's what I, as a member of the Finnish Nonfiction Writers' Association, am trying to do.

I'll start with a well-known story: When a Western journalist asked Mahatma Gandhi what he thought of "Western civilization," he is said to have replied, "I think it would be a very good idea."

The Ghanaian philosopher Qwame Anthony Appiah commented on the question posed to Gandhi as follows:

....my own answer would have been quite different: in my view, we should abandon the very idea of Western civilization altogether. At best, it is a source of great confusion; at worst, it is an obstacle that prevents us from confronting the great political challenges of our time. I would not dare to disagree even with the legend surrounding Gandhi, but I believe that Western civilization is not a good idea at all, nor is Western culture any better.

I cannot help but think that Appiah might be entirely correct. Furthermore, I now better understand the depth of E.P. Thompson's seemingly trivial statement (cf. the motto). But what idea was Gandhi referring to when, according to the legend, he claimed it was a good one? And what did Appiah mean when he said it wasn't at all? I'll leave the question open, as they say. After all, that's what Appiah does, too.

For what you believe is something you do not know.

This collection of texts stems from a certain concern: *Can a full-scale war between the West and those who do not belong to the West still be avoided?* I believe it *can* be avoided. However, I think I am more concerned than Aurelien, one of the authors of this book.

For those who believe but do not know, it is important to expand their knowledge. But not only that: we must also find the intersection of insight and action and strive to steer events in the right direction, in the hope that a full-scale war between the West and those outside the West can still be prevented. It is high time that various social movements—the peace movement, the environmental movement, justice movements, and equality movements—adopt a common slogan. My proposal is borrowed from the [Swedish] *Folk och Fred* network, which works for both world peace and peace with the Earth. It goes: *Fred på jorden och fred med jorden*. That is, peace on Earth and peace with the Earth.

The book you hold in your hands was produced under a tight deadline.

Just like some of the pamphlets in long-discontinued *Huutomerkki series* from *Tammi*, the collection of texts "Their Voices" is an attempt to capture, on short notice, a fleeting yet important phase in a book —in this case, a phase that is unfolding in the West in early fall 2026. As has already become clear, the subject of this book is the West.

My method has consisted of listening to and selecting a number of voices from *la république des lettres*. That expression was popularized by the French Enlightenment philosopher Pierre Bayle, who began publishing the world's first general-interest magazine, *Nouvelles de la République des lettres*, in 1684. "Nouvelles" means news and "République," of course, means republic, but *lettres* is more difficult to translate. The word can mean a letter or simply the letters of a letter, but it also refers to the written word in the sense of "literature"—that is, books and periodicals. In Bayle's time, *lettres* encompassed belles-lettres as well as scientific writings, carefully selected texts on art, and many other subjects. Anyone who wants to form their own impression of Bayle's literary world can now read his journal online through the *Hathi Trust* of the libraries and—perhaps even better—examine the issues available in the [Finnish] National Library's special reading room. The experience of holding an *authentic* issue of Bayle's journal in one's hands can, in fact, be rewarding in and of itself.

I recall that *republic of letters* (as it is called in English) is usually translated [into Finnish] as "the republic of texts." That is one possible translation.

One of the authors of this book, Jeff Rich, reminded me of the "republic of letters" when I asked him for permission to include in this anthology his analysis of U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio's speech at the Munich Security Conference in the spring of 2026. Jeff Rich replied:

"*...it is so pleasing that there are these networks for a different way all across the world, like a republic of letters*"

Oh, how I love that sentence! *It is truly delightful that such networks exist all over the world, promoting a different way of thinking—as if it were a republic of letters.* Imagine that someone still believes in the internet! I'd almost forgotten that such a thing was possible. After all, *tech* companies have long since hijacked most of the web and reshaped it into their own caricature. Or something even worse—read Francesca Brias's expert analysis later in this book!

By "these networks," Rich—a historian and former speechwriter for, among others, the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs—hardly meant the internet in its entirety, with its unimaginable scope, but rather certain specific areas of the internet. For example, *Substack*.

Most of the articles I've selected for this book come from Substack.

Substack, which can be found at Substack.com, describes itself as follows: "*Old media models are broken. Substack is building a new one that empowers writers, creators, and subscribers to take control."* Note the word "subscribers." However, Substack's content is largely ad-free and free of charge.

The title *Their Voices* is based on a historical analogy between Substack and Pierre Bayle's aforementioned magazine. Due to censorship in strictly Catholic France under the reign of Louis XIV,

Pierre Bayle was forced to leave Paris and flee first to Geneva and later to the Netherlands. It was there, in Amsterdam, that he found a publisher willing to publish his radical journal.

A situation that, in an important respect, resembles that of France in Pierre Bayle's time has also prevailed in the West for some time now. In today's Western countries, however, this is not due to religious intolerance on the part of the authorities, but rather to the narrow-minded political homogenization of our mass media. The explanation for the title of this book is that it concerns voices that are hardly ever heard in the West. Some of them could still be heard a few years ago. Not anymore. I have not noticed the Finnish press ever mentioning their names. The world-renowned researcher on inequality, Branko Milanovic, who writes about "Pax Silica" in this anthology, may be an exception. One of his books has, in fact, been published in Finnish (*Income Inequality in the Age of Globalization*, Vastapaino 2017).

As is well known, censorship and exile based on political views are, almost by definition, not supposed to occur in Western countries. But instead of censorship, the current unified resistance of Western media toward politically dissenting voices means that these voices are systematically silenced through pruning, rejection, marginalization, and cancellation. In some high-profile cases, publishers and whistleblowers exposing abuses by authorities or corporations have also been imprisoned. Many probably still remember the fate of internet publisher Julian Assange. But who can still remember Edward Snowden, who listened to the voice of his conscience, revealed that U.S. and British intelligence agencies use the internet to spy on all of us, went into exile, and was granted permission to settle in Russia after unsuccessfully seeking asylum in numerous countries, including Western nations such as Norway, Switzerland, France, the Netherlands, Spain, Poland, and Finland?

Not to mention that EU politicians have frozen the assets of Swiss military analyst Jacques Baud, Swiss-Cameroonian activist Nathalie Yamb, and German journalist Hüseyin Doğru, and imposed travel bans on them. I have taken these names from an essay by Pascal Lottaz (included in this book).

In 2014, a year after Snowden's escape, a Western-backed coup took place in Kyiv, and Russia seized Crimea.

It was precisely then that political homogenization began in earnest.

After Russia invaded Ukraine in the spring of 2022, the screws on freedom of speech were tightened a few more turns, and now that we have reached the fall of 2026, I cannot help but think of T*he revocation of the Edict of Nantes*.

For nearly a century, the Edict of Nantes had granted French Protestants (Huguenots) the right to choose and practice their religion, but in 1685, King Louis XIV declared that this right was no longer in effect.

The NATO summit in Ankara in 2026 was the turning point for the West that corresponds to the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685. However, in this case, it is not the king and the church that are seeking to establish a monopoly on thought and opinion, but rather NATO 3.0 and U.S. technology companies.

I hope that Nel Bonilla's article "*NATO 3.0: The Transatlantic Cage and the Rise of the Bunker State*" and the other essays in this book will help the reader see my historical analogy as less of a stretch. No historical comparison can be entirely flawless, but without analogies, comparisons, and metaphors, we cannot understand our own time or influence its events.

Speaking of historical comparisons: Even before World War I, the German sociologist Max Weber compared capitalist industrial society to an "iron cage" (*staalhartes Gehäuse*). Nel Bonilla, for his part, speaks of NATO's "transatlantic cage." In her Substack blog, she also writes the following cautionary words: "*We should be intellectually honest enough to acknowledge that a shifting balance of power is not the same thing as dismantling the imperial cage*" (Nel Bonilla).

During the planning phase, I wanted to include in the book an article addressing the role of American technology companies—Silicon Valley—in the ongoing political, economic, and cultural transformation of the West. When I then came across a brilliant report on the companies Anduril and Palantir written by a political reporter for a major Western newspaper, the author informed me that she did not want me to publish it in this book. I think I understand the reason. Hardly any gentleman or lady writing at the court of Louis XIV would have dared to contribute to Pierre Bayle's journal either.

As I continued my search for a suitable essay or article, I noticed that the Western mass media are not as unanimous (or as silent) regarding technology companies as they are regarding NATO 3.0, when it comes to transforming the West into a single, unified war machine.

This is evident, for example, in the articles "*Finland Has Long Used the Notorious Palantir Technology"* and "*Finland May Be Heading Toward a Surveillance Society—Shouldn't We Talk About It a Little?"*, which were published on YLE's website in June 2026. Similar revelations can also be found in other Western mass media outlets. Typically, however, so-called investigative journalism comes to a halt as soon as the authorities refuse to answer the question of what the collaboration between Palantir and the government actually entails. Instead of Yle insistently demanding information vital to democracy, it settled for a somewhat ironic yet submissive question: "Shouldn't we talk about this a little?"!

When addressing the immense dominance and influence of American tech companies, the mass media in EU countries often complain about *technological dependence* on the United States. Yet they generally do not take issue with the fact that EU governments and companies sign one agreement after another with American *tech* companies and willingly allow them to build one data center after another in their home countries.

When it comes to one particularly sensitive issue, they have so far preferred to look the other way entirely. I'm referring to political decision-making itself. Should we let tech companies and their *artificial intelligence* make what are perhaps our most important political decisions? If the executives and consultants of tech companies succeed in convincing our governments that, thanks to their information technology, they possess an unparalleled ability to analyze not only events occurring in the immediate vicinity of governments but also global phenomena, and to analyze not only today's events but also those of tomorrow, then political power in society will shift into the hands of technology companies. This is already happening. More—much more—information on this can be found in Francesca Brias's article "*The Coup d'État by Tech Companies*," which appeared in the

indispensable monthly magazine *Le Monde diplomatique* (LMD). Incidentally, LMD has a Finnish-language edition (mondediplo.fi).

The authors of this anthology have certainly examined the *concept of the "civilizational state"* from many angles. Is the West a civilizational state? To avoid speaking solely from foreign perspectives, I'd like to quote the reflections of a Finnish diplomat:

"*Even internationally renowned political scientists have written frequently about the 'civilizational state' in recent years. As a concept, it resembles the ancient idea of a universal ruler: empires that claimed to rule—and, at the height of their glory, actually sought to rule—the entire known world. They consisted of numerous languages, histories, customs, and peoples (or tribes), but a common 'civilization' (whatever that may mean) nevertheless developed within them over the course of centuries. It was only nationalism—the idea that every nation had a right to its own state—that broke up these empires, at least until this point in history. They are unlikely to return in that form, but in their modern form—not as territorial conquests but as zones of technological and economic preference—they may be making a comeback or may have already returned."* (Antti Kuosmanen: "A Civilizational State—Or Not," Uusi Suomi, February 18, 2022)

Kuismanen, like the philosopher Appiah I quoted earlier, also leaves the question open. Would a "civilizational state" be a good thing or a bad thing? Is the concept of a "civilizational state" fundamentally flawed? Yes it is, I would like to answer. But that doesn't stop us humans from trying to figure out how the world's political order can and should be organized in the future. Here's a tip: Heikki Patomäki, professor of world politics at the University of Helsinki, makes a commendable attempt in this direction in his book *World Statehood: The Future of World Politics.*

I'd like to say that the authors of this book are introduced through their own writings. However, I think readers would still appreciate a few introductory words about each of them.

- In addition to her Substack site "Vivatopia," Dr. Marlne Laruelle has her own website. Check it out: marlene-laruelle.com! The site states that she is a professor of political science (*Scienze Politiche*) in a city famous in Western history.
- Glenn Diesen teaches at a university called *Søraust-Noregin University* (in Nynorsk). Diesen is well-known far beyond Norway and Substack. His podcasts are sometimes watched by over a million YouTube viewers.
- Jeff Rich is, as mentioned, an Australian former speechwriter and the editor-in-chief of the Substack site *The Burning Archive.* This fall, Rich interviewed Marléne Laruelle about the fundamental causes of immigration.
- Pascal Lottaz is Swiss. Perhaps that is why he is interested in neutrality as a potential foreign policy for countries and has named his Substack site *Neutrality Studies*. Pascal seems to divide his time between Kyoto and Tokyo, where he holds assistant professor positions at the universities in those cities.
- Nel Bonilla is from a non-Western country, as some would surely argue. This young researcher is, in fact, Mexican. She plans to complete her doctoral dissertation in Germany, where she currently resides. Did I mention that her Substack site is called *Worldlines*? Last August, Bonilla

initiated a discussion on NATO 3.0 within the *Folk och Fred* network. She was also recently interviewed by Pascal Lottaz.

•Francesca Bria, an Italian, leads the interesting Euro Stack project (www.euro-stack.info). And she seems to be a key player in EU circles because of that, but I wonder if they really listen to what she has to say, even though she's an economist whom Forbes magazine included on its *Top 50 Women in Tech* list for 2018. She is a professor at UCL in London.

•Then there's entrepreneur Arnaud Bertrand, who lived in China for eight years and writes mainly about China on his Substack. He's often quoted in *Le Monde diplomatique*, which I mentioned earlier.

•Does Branko Milanovic need any introduction? He is, after all, well-known throughout the Western world (even though he is originally from Serbia, where the Cyrillic alphabet is used). He has served as director of the World Bank's Research Department. He teaches at CUNY in New York and at the *School of Economics* in London. Branko's latest Substack post (September 25, 2026) is titled *My cousin, a non-person.* It discusses his Serbian background.

•Hardly anyone knows who Aurelien is, since he writes his Substack essays under a pseudonym. In my opinion, they are worth reading, which is why I have included one of them in the book—even though I believe nuclear arms races and nuclear weapons are far more dangerous than he suggests.

•David Swanson is the director of *World Beyond War*, an organization that advocates for nonviolence and peace and is headquartered in the United States. The United States, for its part, has the world's largest network of overseas military bases. World Beyond War has created a guide to the world of military bases: *Military Empires: A Visual Guide to Foreign Bases*, which everyone should be familiar with as part of their general knowledge. The guide covers not only U.S. military bases abroad but also those of other countries.

•Tord Björk, a leading figure in Sweden's *Friends of the Earth* who lives in the municipality of Huddinge in Stockholm county, wants to promote both peace *on Earth* and peace *with the Earth.* He believes that the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE, 1975) remains a suitable starting point for all those who will evidently have to do the bulk of the work (that is, citizens' movements, or *medborgarrörelserna* in Swedish). What kind of work? Well, of course, the work needed to achieve world peace and peace with the Earth.

•I'll talk about Olga Karach and her vote separately next.

Award-winning human rights activist Olga Karach from Belarus (who has been living as a refugee in Lithuania with her husband and children for several years) has had her voice digitally "certified" so that *artificial intelligence* can use it to broadcast her *Morning Paranoia* podcasts in many languages, including those she herself neither speaks nor understands, such as Finnish. This prompts us to reflect more deeply on *the human being and their voice.*

A frequently repeated idea is that every human being is unique. Indeed, every single person is unique, at least in the sense that the question "Who is he?" can be answered precisely using the person's fingerprints or DNA. Furthermore, the matter can be resolved using sufficiently high-resolution images of a person's face, if such images (with or without their consent) have been stored in digital memory.

In order to gain a deeper understanding of the question “Who is he?” and provide a wise answer, we must set aside the specialized perspectives of engineers, police officers, and biologists. In this preface, however, I must narrow the perspective to fit the book’s theme and frame the question as follows: “*Who is the Western person at this stage of Western cultural development?*” I hope that the articles in this book will convince the reader that he or she does not speak with a single, unique voice, even though Olga Karach does exactly that—and in two quite different ways, at that.

For Olga speaks not only in her own voice but also through the synthetic voice of an American AI company called ElevenLabs. ElevenLabs’ synthetic voices are one of the company’s commercial products. How has the Our House- organization, led by Olga, been able to afford to purchase it? “*We provide free licenses to those who need it most through The ElevenLabs Impact program*,” I read on the company’s website (see https://elevenlabs.io/about). ElevenLabs has apparently chosen to grant Olga a free user license.

In any case, I agree with [Finnish philosopher] G.H. von Wright that the idea of an external artificial intelligence with superior judgment and reasoning abilities to humans—and which, in that sense, would be more intelligent than humans—is *destructive*.

AI, however, seems to be becoming increasingly adept at translating human languages, as well as converting speech to text and text to speech. Thus, *DeepL* (deepl.com) and similar tools are already a great help to those who would rather continue breaking down language barriers and promoting understanding between peoples than invest Western dollars and euros in the war machine and nuclear deterrence. While writing this book, I myself have made extensive use of DeepL, which is easy to do. What’s more laborious, however, is correcting and refining DeepL’s lightning-fast work. I wish to thank Elias Krohn [of the Kulttuurivihkot publishers] for his for his work in rendering my DeepL-assisted translations into more enjoyable Finnish.

A recently published Finnish [so called] Treatise based on *the influence of the sun* may offer an alternative to the ways of thinking of transhumanists and von Wrightian humanists like myself.(For a reference to the treatise, see “Other Sources”).

I hope that study groups will be organized around the book *Their Voices*. That is why I have notified the directors of our country’s study centers about the publication of this new learning material.

Isnäs, October 4, 2026

The Editor

PART 1: IDEOLOGY

[Marlène Laruelle introduced herself and her Substack service: "*I am a professor at LUISS University in Rome and the director of the Illiberalism Research Program at George Washington University. I write a Substack blog called Vivatopia, which explores political imaginaries, lived ideologies, and our political future."*

My attention was drawn to the word "ideology." When we debate and argue about politics with our friends and foes, that word is unavoidable.

But what is Professor Marlène Laruelle's field, and what is her area of specialization? According to the LUISS University website, she is a professor of political science. In addition to an introductory course on the modern era, she teaches courses on "*East Asia: Politics, Society, and Sustainable Development"* and "*Russia in the Global World."* I hesitate to describe her specific areas of interest in more detail, but they clearly seem to lie somewhere in the East.

In the following essay, Professor Laruelle presents some ideological arguments that are worth keeping in mind. They are by no means new. But the news cycle and people absorbed in their daily lives strive by every means to erase them. – Ed.]

Marlene Laruelle

We Are Arguing on the Wrong Axis

https://laruelle.substack.com/p/we-are-arguing-on-the-wrong-axis

Vivatopia. Lived Ideologies and Political Futures,

https://substack.com/@marlenelaruelle3

PART 2: THE GEOPOLITICAL ANIMAL

[“Man is a geopolitical animal,” a modern-day Aristotle might write. Geopolitics, incidentally, is a subject that Professor Glenn Diesen has evidently taken seriously. But why geopolitics? Why not global politics, or better yet: why not world politics? That’s a question worth asking the members of the Finnish Geopolitical Society and Heikki Patomäki, professor of world politics at the University of Helsinki.

Glenn Diesen’s geopolitical perspective and his explanation of why Russia has turned toward the East are, in any case, a healthy reminder. About what? Well, for one thing, about the fact that “the West” is merely a direction—more precisely, the direction of the setting sun—and at the same time a reminder of human judgment, which is based on one’s ability to think, that is, intelligence.

This book, however, deals with a metaphorical “West,” written with a capital “W.” What lies behind this obscure metaphor? Could it be a political—or even a geopolitical—entity? The writings of Jeff Rich and Pascal Lottaz will hopefully help the reader take a couple of steps forward in resolving this question.

Rich analyzes the misuse of the “West” metaphor in a speech by Secretary of State Marco Rubio, which Rubio delivered to Western leaders last spring- Rich highlights the ominous connotation Rubio attached to it.

Pascal Lottaz, for his part, tackles the geopolitical monster itself—or what is referred to in the Anglo-Saxon tradition by another metaphor as the “*body politic*,” that is, the political body of the West. – Ed. note]

Glenn Diesen **Russia’s Pivot to the East**

https://glenndiesen.substack.com/p/russias-pivot-to-the-east-from-greater

Glenn Diesen’s Substack, https://glenndiesen.substack.com/

Jeff Rich **American Reconquista. Rubio at Munich**

https://jeffrich.substack.com/p/rubio-at-munich-the-usas-western

The author has edited his Substack post for this book.

(Marco Rubio’s speech at the Munich Security Conference in 2026 –

video and transcript, see https://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/marcorubiomunichsecurityconference2026.htm)

Pascal Lottaz **The One West. A Civilizational Interpretation of the West's Body Politic**
https://pascallottaz.substack.com/p/the-one-west
Neutrality Studies, https://pascallottaz.substack.com/

PART 3: PAX AMERICANA 2.0

[The global Western empire that has prevailed from the end of World War II continues to this day.

This empire is often referred to as "Pax Americana," but emphasizing the American role can be misleading, since behind the Americans stand the British and the global financial center of London, as well as the French —consider, for example, Montesquieu and his theories on the separation of powers, which the Americans sought to apply in their own country.

Of course, talking about the whole world is also an exaggeration. This statement should be understood like Luke's description of a time (in the ancient Roman Empire) when "*a census was to be taken of the entire world*" (Luke 2:1), and compared to the decision by Finnish politicians to purchase American F-35 fighter jets with Finnish taxpayer money.

But let's move from historical generalizations to current specifics—namely, Nel Bonilla's astonishingly concrete and timely study. Its subject is NATO's current phase of development, which she—following NATO leaders and using contemporary digital terminology—calls NATO 3.0. Instead of metaphors, ideologies, and theories, it delves into industrial production and the current realities of power relations in the West. Bonilla's article convinces me that not only NATO but also the entire West has entered a new phase of development, which can therefore be aptly termed "Pax Americana 2.0."

Will NATO 3.0 and Pax Romana 2.0 linger on for centuries, like the Roman Empire with its legions and military camps, or will they collapse as early as this fall?

In her article, Francesca Bria raises an important point in this context: the role of American technology companies. In media reports and opinion pieces, President Donald Trump (he, too, is already 2.0!) is talked about as if he were second only to God, but what is the power of this former real estate agent and TV star—and how sustainable is that power—compared to the current dominance of technology companies? After all, they control not only the internet and the development of so-called artificial intelligence, but also the internet's infrastructure—including undersea fiber-optic cables and space stations—not to mention the Western, largely English-speaking cultural superstructure.

In a recent interview with *Time* magazine, Donald claimed to have an extremely high IQ and to understand modern technology far better than anyone else. Personally, I would trust Francesca's judgment.

Arnaud Bertrand complements the picture of "Pax Americana 2" painted by Nel Bonilla and Francesca Brian with his essay on the as-yet largely unknown "Pax Silica." In addition to the aforementioned "iron cage," it addresses the strategic raw materials of modern capitalism.

Aurelien's essay is included because, in a book like this, it would be irresponsible not to put nuclear arms race on the agenda. The nuclear arms race must end—that's an order! –Ed.]

Nel Bonilla **Nato 3.0. The Transatlantic Cage and the Rise of the Bunkerstate**

https://worldlinesletter.substack.com/p/nato-30-the-transatlantic-cage-and

Worldlines, https://worldlinesletter.substack.com/

Francesca Bria **Le coup d'État de la tech autoritaire**

https://www.monde-diplomatique.fr/2025/11/BRIA/68925

(www.francescabria.com)

Arnaud Bertrand **The Pax Silica Con**

https://arnaudbertrand.substack.com/p/the-pax-silica-con

(Ks. myös Reuters: US to tell partners they must pick sides in AI race with China

https://www.reuters.com/world/china/us-tell-partners-they-must-pick-sides-

ai-race-with-china-2026-08-14/ ja Bertrandin huomautus 14.8.2026

https://x.com/RnaudBertrand/status/2088447489162846648 sekä Bertrandin

artikkeli "There is no AI Race", https://arnaudbertrand.substack.com/p/there-is-no-ai-race 24.4.2026)

Aurelien **No Nukes**

https://substack.com/home/post/p-216917375

Trying to Understand the World, https://aurelien2022.substack.com/

(Ks. myös Why I'm not (that) Worried About a Nuclear War,

https://aurelien2022.substack.com/p/why-im-not-that-worried-about-a-nuclear)

PART 4: OPPOSITION

[Branko Milanovic picks up where the previous part of this work left off: "*Today, people assume that nuclear weapons do not exist. This is a completely erroneous assumption...*"

Milanovic protests against European warmongering and hypocrisy. And against nuclear arms buildup. He brands the alliance of the Nordic and Baltic countries as particularly irresponsible. Milanovic has moved from the World Bank and his professorship to the political opposition. Good !

But will the *StopRearm* movement prevail? That is not a theoretical but a practical question. Today (October 8, 2026), Tord Björk writes on the Folk och Fred network's forum: "*At the Stop ReArm Europe Zoom meeting on October 6, numerous actions were reported within various civic movements. A common theme was that many of the speakers were young activists representing conscientious objectors, labor unions, the climate movement, and peace activists. Students, in particular, were prominently featured. Reports from Germany indicated that 45,000 people had already participated in the first protest strike against conscription, and more participants are expected for the international day of action scheduled for November 20. In Italy, students didn't want to wait that long; instead, action began immediately, said an enthusiastic student on a Milan street in the midst of a demonstration. ATTAC Austria reported success among students even in this neutral country, and there was also a lot of activity at Spanish universities. A joint meeting is being planned in Paris regarding the student revolt against militarism, for which financial support was sought...*".

Tord is among those who want to unite a resistance movement, similar to the Stop ReArm movement, under a common slogan. His proposal is "Peace on Earth and Peace with the Earth." He still remembers the CSCE document adopted by the heads of state who gathered in Helsinki in 1975 and believes that its guiding principles should still be upheld. But this time, through the collective power of the people.

As mentioned earlier, Olga Karach's *Morning Paranoia* has prompted various reflections, such as how it makes one ponder the nature of "Western Man". It was not until the end of September—as I was writing the foreword to this book—that I learned that Jukka Korpela, a professor emeritus of history at the University of Eastern Finland, had published a book titled *Länsimaalaisuuden historia* [The History of Westernness] (2025) and that it is being read in a book club. What is Westernness if not an essential characteristic of "the Western Man"? Interesting!

Branko Milanovic **European hypocrisy and warmongering**

https://branko2f7.substack.com/p/on-european-hypocrisy-and-warmongering

Global Inequality and More 3.0, https://branko2f7.substack.com/

David Swanson **Where have All Your Dollars Gone. Long Time Passing**

https://worldbeyondwar.org/where-have-all-your-dollars-gone-long-time-passing/

(worldbeyondwar.org, davidswanson.org)

Tord Björk **Peace On Earth and Peace With Earth**

The essay includes quotes from a transcription of Pascal Lottaz's interview with TB, an AI-summary of the interview, and some critical points on the AI- summary.

Audio: https://pascallottaz.substack.com/p/it-is-over-the-west-destroys-itself-

Transcription: https://neutralitystudies.com/videos/VXStbbMKwGw

AI-Summary: https://neutralitystudies.com/videos/VXStbbMKwGw

Olga Karach **Morning Paranoia**

https://ndbelarus.com/podcasts/

(Our House/Наш дом, https://ndbelarus.com/)”