

## A Utopian society

For me, the starting point of thinking about a modern utopian society should be technology. I think that whenever we try to solve a problem, technology should be the starting point because I believe technology (in a broad sense, not only ICT) solves problems (in contrary to for instance politicians). With technology, a wide range of issues can be addresses and eventually solved. By effectively managing the resources available on our planet, a lot of issues could be addressed and eventually solved. Global cooperation is essential and I think desirable, but not within the current system.

### **Economics**

Our monetary system is designed to keep inequality amongst people intact using debt. Therefore, the ideal utopian society would be focused on the effective management of the planet's resources without the use of money. Global cooperation is key here, since certain regions of the planet offer certain advantages over others. By combining modern technology to acquire and distribute the different resources all over the planet, a more efficient and effective global systems should be possible. In such an utopian society people would get their incentives to work, produce and collaborate from other sources, although technology should be able to replace human labor almost entirely, which leaves humans to engage in other activities like art, philosophy, sports etc.

### **Energy**

Part of the resource management would be omitting current energy sources (coal, gas, oil) and use forms of clean and natural energies, like solar-, tidal- wind- and geothermal energy. Those forms of energy are renewable and have the potential to provide far more energy than the current sources offer.

### **Urban culture**

Since our world population is still growing, most people in the future will probably be living in a city. So, when you're thinking about a utopian society you have to account for that. The way I see it, in the ideal city public transport is the primary means of transport. It should be safe, reliable, on time, clean and quick. Another important aspect should be urban agriculture. Since building space will most likely decrease with the increase of the world population, fitting solutions are needed. Urban agriculture/farming can be those solutions. Think of efficient ways of growing crops on roofs and terraces, but also on a small scale using window farming.

### **Rules & Structure**

A whole new set of rules needs to be applied, as well as an improved form of democracy. This means that people have a weekly vote about the issues that are playing. Certain types of education grant the people's votes extra weight, so that smarter (or at least educated) citizens vote weighs heavier than those of others. A group of chosen representatives creates laws, which then have to be approved (using votes) by the people.