**Present Trends and New Directions**

Nader concludes by issuing a clear call for a shift in focus, arguing that the future of the discipline depends on moving from description toward **comparative and explanatory generalization**. These are the three essential new directions:

**1. Set Law in the Context of Social Control**

* **Recommendation:** Empirical studies of law must be integrated into the general context of **social control**.
* **Goal:** To move beyond isolating law as a set of formal institutions and instead study its dynamic relationship with other crucial regulatory mechanisms in society (e.g., economics, religion, kinship).

**2. Compare the Range of Legal Functions**

* **Recommendation:** Researchers must consider the possibility that the **functions of a legal system** (what it is *designed* to do) **may vary cross-culturally**.
* **Goal:** To undertake systematic, **comparative** research to reveal these differences and similarities, thereby testing assumptions about legal universals.

**3. Aim for Explanatory Generalizations**

* **Recommendation:** The ultimate goal of the discipline must be to aim for both **empirical and explanatory generalizations**.
* **Goal:** To move beyond mere case descriptions and develop **cross-cultural theories** that can *explain* legal phenomena, thereby establishing the anthropology of law as a truly explanatory, generalizing science.