*“No veils. No priesthoods. No backroom handshakes. Only REALITY.”*

The name came from the first colony of people, who are largely scientists and technocrats from early, formed the Republic/Tharonvaistra. It symbolizes that no falsehood and pretense from earth governance should be tolerated. No harmful policies that benefit a few gets justified under the banner of a righteous goal, distorted from the cause and hijacked the trajectory. Policies have to be what they reflect, and accepted based on understood causalities, observed outcomes, and provable benefits. No gods, kings or even vague constitutions rule, only reality. Any ideal, as good as they sound in the mouths of orators, if incoherent with reality, gets categorized fairly as delusions, as it is mathematically known that falsehoods can breed from all true premises.

Prerequisites: the world is built on the basis that quality education is universal and mandatory, and covering not only topics in academics, but also critical, structural, and first principles thinking, following general doctrines (moral and other) without understanding and questioning its basics is shameful in their culture. It also covers statistics, political science, and economics, so everyone is at least fluent in correctly using the terminologies in discussions of public matters. They also have a civic duty of lifelong learning, which means every few years they have to report to their local educational institutions to receive new knowledge on the fields of their choice, and resharpen their minds.

Ownership and duties:

REALITY is strictly people-owned, under the new interpretation of the social contract, the administrative power delegated to elites is retractable by the people at any time.

All citizens are duty-bound to learn and to keep progressively informed about key political matters, including economics and politics. Furthermore, they are expected to participate in governance, which includes overseeing the government, analyzing and debating policies, and exercising their rights as owner of the country.

It is still representative, but the chain of responsibilities is bottom-up instead of traditional top-down. Which means when the lower tier of executive power raises genuine concerns, the upper tier must address promptly or risk penalties, especially if negligence leads to actual consequences. For example, any case about corruption submitted by individual citizen will be recorded by a distributive database shared by all local communities, and local Radix will have to investigate and answer the case within needed timeframe, failure to do so or retaliation attempts will immediately trigger impeachment process of the related key figures as well as a thorough purge inside the Radix system. The rule follows by induction to higher tiers. Thus people would have the power to impeach any section in the chain of power, from community council to the head of the state. For the reports of systemic failure such as corruption, other jurisdictions are not limited and are obligated to oversee and even replace, if necessary, the original jurisdiction that manages the case. If one report is suppressed by the local Radix, the reporter could go to any other Radix and the case would be taken and trialed.

People are the basis of all power. On the most rudimentary tier, the local people form community councils, which only have power to oversight, for the convenience and consistency of policies in the broader region. Going up the tier, the councils delegate power and oversee a Radix, which is the local government for the broader region, has authoritative freedom to make and mend certain policies that concern the interests and customs of the region, and literally means “root” of the Republic government. Radices then have teams of delegation in the House of the People (HOPE), HOPE discusses cross-regional corporation and serves as the most major oversight of the central government of the Republic. The purpose of HOPE as a unified entity is also a check and balance to avoid dilution of power, as single Radix could be too weak to exercise oversight to the central government. The central government makes nationwide decisions and draft bills, pretty much like ours, but with two key differences. The first one is that they must make transparent and extensive debriefing of every bill they draft, including rationale, intended effect, foreseen consequences and risks, and extreme cases, the people majority will have power to request change or veto via HOPE. The second one is that any requests to initiate revision or creation of bills will be handled by HOPE, discussed by constituents of all Radices, and if gains support of people significance, then HOPE would make formal request to central government, who must accord and proceed to revise/create bills.

The power structure has the traditional top-down administrative rights but mostly bottom-up supervision rights, which could create fear of triggering deadlock in some situations. REALITY’s solution is by making sure supervision rights don’t become restraining rights. Reports trigger investigations and damage insulation mechanisms, but not immediate terminations of current administration. It cannot be used by simply say “I don’t like this policy”, but a clear rationale of how the current system is flawed, preferably accompanied with ideas for improvement or a cost-benefit analysis. Reporters are not required to provide extensive evidence to support their claims, as it would be impractical, but they are required to provide their reasonable suspicions. Most of the time, reporters would have impunity to counterclaims like “abuse of supervision right”, unless it’s very thoroughly proven to be case of abuse. Mass reports with few or no valid case would start to trigger flag for abuse, for example. If abuse of supervision right is found, individuals or jurisdictions could face an immediate reposition/reshuffle of responsibilities/appointments (such as job relocation/Radix reelection), with same/higher tier power’s temporary acting administration in place of adjustment until the disruption settles. And yes, temporary means temporary, any attempts to extend the administration, such as fueling the disruption, is a violation too.

Meritocracy and qualification: albeit having a baseline that makes even most mediocre people live beyond just comfortably, the Republic rewards heavily the exceptional minds and all those who are willing to grind. Rewards are not purely monetary or in power, but a mix of honor, status, and access to exclusive facilities/fast routes/better credit audit terms and financial treatments/other privileges. The more competent someone is, the more revered he is, and the more weight his insights have on public matters. Competency does not lie in superficial authority or status, but a consistent history of showing thorough thoughts and effective work. So doesn’t matter if you are a professor or layman or even infant, if you communicate clearly your rationale on topics and it’s insightful and stands well against test, you are more competent than those who don’t.

All governmental work starting from Radix level will require a minimum competency level and are gate guarded by a strict and extensive test of knowledge and skills on all governance matters. This is only to enter the job. The test is rerun annually to include in new topics and discoveries to make sure the ones who got the job still have their mental edges and are kept up to date with new information. The test is designed and registered by independent board consists of National Academy experts, frontier researchers, and foreign advisors. Government officials bear much heavier responsibilities than regular citizens out of their free will, and if they faithfully executed their duties throughout their terms, they are rewarded heavily too by their constituents (reward accumulation carries across regions, if they moved) at their appraisal and approval, in the form of privileges and pension trusts, revocable if they are later found irresponsible during their term, or have abused their exceptional position or granted privileges after exiting the service.

Transparency and accountability: key figures and key position holders in the system have no financial privacy. Their personal properties, transactions and affiliations will be subject to public disclosure and continuous oversight. All donations are only allowed to be sent into a state-owned monitored trust account, and all transactions will leave detailed paper trail, and uses of the money are also limited to legitimate purposes, like advocacy or election campaigns, with unnecessary, above-normal-grade, and other suspicious expenditures flagged automatically. The surplus part could transfer into emolument, but only after the said individual retired from office and all associated work inside and outside of the government, for a minimal number of years, with permission (and usually together with recognition for contribution) and specified statement on how much amount is transferred from the constituents he ruled. The rest goes to other state funds. Responsibility for damage and loss are life-long if proven to be result of negligence or corruption, and people retain the power to seek remedy, push legal persecution, and revoke/recoup benefits from the individual who held office at relevant time. If you decide to do bad things, either hope no one finds out before you die, or prepare to face consequence at some point. Revolving doors and other alt-bribery are also highly monitored. Given the talents of the individual required to run office, we allow them to still pivot career into related fields after retirement, however they must prove that it’s good-willed and never interest related.

The Radix system assimilates the role of “representative for interest group” in traditional partisan government model, however parties still exist to represent policy philosophies and push forward their own bills. HOPE and other oversight bodies with similar high autonomy are legally bound to remain strictly nonpartisan, which means all members must not have party or bloc affiliation, nor fixed factionalization within, all decisions are required to base on reason, and discussion/voting patterns are recorded and published for broader supervision/analyzation to prevent power exchanges and faction forming, high consistencies in voting pattern will need representatives to explicitly debrief the reasons for each of their flagged historical votes. Voting is always based on top literacy and meritocracy, which means representatives with more knowledge on the topic (direct and relevant fields), as well as representatives with established reputation for critical and insightful thinking, get more weight in their votes. Parties and other forms of power blocs will be treated as an entity, and members will share joint and several liabilities, which means if one gets impeached, other will be heavily scrutinized and subject to impeachment too.

Among the highest rank of positions, the loyalty towards the ideal of Republic’s system outweighs all else: a self-correcting system with informed citizens and participatory democracy, based on facts and reason, enemy to malintent and misinformation. Chancellor succession must take place in ideological opposition unless extreme cases arise and both people majority and the opposition agree to defer the process. This is to ensure a more holistic approach to governance, checking all corners from different perspectives. But for the benefit of continuity, especially for policies that are long term oriented and take time to show effect, the sitting government heads will corporate and exchange ideas with their successors on currently maintained policies in the transition process, and the sitting chancellor will remain an advisor for the new team until everything is set and functional. Furthermore, the central government also has wings for National Academy consultants as well as foreign advisors to get academic experts’ views on topics. Additionally, to show that the unity of Republic’s spirit transcends philosophical differences, a Plaque of Leadership is set outside the central government congress building to record each significant contribution and the leader/scholars who pushed it, as well as their party/bloc affiliations.

Republic rewards bravery and caution alike, policies are examined by themselves, not by concurrent events or broader contexts, so sensible economic policies in hard times get more praise than mediocre economic policies in good times, government takes credit for what they do, not cosmic stochastic probabilities. If a policy is not inherently fallible, and the execution is faithful too, even if the result is not favorable, they do not get the blame. Because the bills are audited by all people, everyone shares the blame instead of putting all pressure on a few people who just happen to be holding office. Including minorities who didn’t favor the bill, because if there’s nothing fallible about the bill, then the result would be indifferent; and if there are foreseen failures, then they did not communicate their result for bill audition enough in a system that empowers their voice to be heard, it’s laziness.

The legal system of the Republic is also different. It’s striped away from moral optics presumptions and emotional justice, so massive, untargeted and systemic harms are judged accordingly instead of diffused of severity and harm. Which means interpersonal targeted harm stemmed from justifiable reactions (like some crimes of passion) are lighter than systemic harm under the mask of general incognito, such as massive fraud, corruption, negligence of duty, recklessness, etc. It also means propaganda campaigns, moral hijackings, rent-seeking behaviors are all prosecutable. The delicate balance of not harming personal freedom is at making nuances of intents and means. Genuine dissenters are protected by law and even respected for their continuous constructive criticisms to help improve the system. People who just want a topic to stage their performance, create troubles where there’s none and benefit from it, they are not tolerated at all.

The legal codes are unique too in several ways. Each code/book-of-bills in their managed field is holistic, cover both civil and criminal parts, to ensure there’s no vagueness at all for intentional misinterpretation or misuse, for example, corporate laws are not limited to just the regulatory parts, but also outlines the boundaries of what behaviors are criminal offenses, so no corporate lawyer could suggest “gray ground” to tax and liability structures. And for things that very clearly involve multiple codes, like corporate tax would involve both corporate and tax codes, it has “protocol” section to refer to all relevant clauses in both codes, which are managed by Varchons (sentient, politically neutral AI in this world building, high efficiency bureaucrats for “hire”, get “paid” in info about human society, for them to expand the knowledge and build progress) and automation, but also monitored by human and can be manually done. Protocols might call upon other protocols, like if corporate tax involves financial behaviors, it could refer to relevant clauses in financial code too. Usually, the chain would stop at some point where there’s no further protocol to call, but just to prevent endless calling and referring, a weighted value of next protocol’s significance to the case is auto-calculated and below a threshold it would just ignore. This significance value also helps to decide the weight of each code involved in a case, and issue penalties or sentences accordingly. This is referred to as “grid design”, consider a grid work with individual codes being the columns and protocols being rows that connect between columns. One code that’s exception is the criminal code, it could be considered as a general protocol rather than a code itself. As specifically legislated offenses are already included in individual codes, the criminal code could be considered a collection of “all other codes’ criminal sections”, but with more: it defines characteristics of different offenses that are too broad, predefines boundaries to how much the clauses’ literal interpretations can expand, and have powers to potential retroactive prosecutions. Definitive characteristics outlines characteristics for one behavior/a group of behaviors with high similarity, such as “rent-seeking”, it would lay out definitive characteristics of such behavior, and then, the boundaries to interpretation expansion would limit it to going out of control. Example to show how this works: under this system, hoarding resources with specific intents to extract current or future value with unproportionately low or zero value creation is rent-seeking, but hoarding real estate properties is a felony, while having a set of collectives for trading is not, thanks to the intricacy of definitions and maximum expansion to the definitions. And with new type of offenses occurring everyday with new technologies or activities, it reserves the right to retroactively prosecute all behaviors that are not explicitly legislated to be criminal offense yet, but fits the definitive characters of some behaviors, the process would be done by people’s vote (could be regional or nationwide, depending on the context such as scale of influence and regional cultural, legislative and economic differences) to decide if guilty, accompanied by a different motion to add the new behavior into the relevant codes. One other thing is, any jurisdiction alone won’t have all say in one case, sometimes the cases are blurred out sensitive and personal details, anonymized and sent to other jurisdictions for independent review to see if they reach the same conclusion and the difference in sentencing. Culturally similar but locationally remote jurisdictions would be the best fit for the job, as they would know the cultural nuances but have no interest entanglement in the case. A final failsafe is the right to justice via self-remedy. The self-remedy clause is enacted whenever the system fails to provide one a safe route within the legal system to achieve justice, and no alternative method with realistic viability is readily available to one, then one could take whatever approach necessary outside the conventional boundaries to achieve it otherwise, such as retaliative crime, or vendetta. A person forced to act under self-remedy clause faces significantly reduced or even no sentence for all actions taken justifiable in their situation, with the boundaries of not creating unreasonable spillover damage to society and other innocent people. So, yes, on individual level, if the system wrongs you and wants to silence you, you could assassinate the officials responsible. You would still be prosecuted for the crimes, but the trial would consider one’s reasonable options under such situation and the case’s influence on the justice system’s integrity, and most likely they will set you free. And on public level, if the system is entirely rigged, and normal supervision rights are infringed, such as impeachment process cannot be proceeded normally and no other jurisdictions are available to take over the authority to resume order in the moment, a mass uprising to overthrow the damaged part of the system would be both legal, and explicit civil duty.

A core philosophy of REALITY is that fixing the root cause is more important than fixing the outcomes. For example, for a dysfunctional system and its exploiters, if we simply punish the exploiters without fixing the system, there will always be more; but if we fix the system, the exploiters trying to use this loophole will be gone. And if the system is designed to be dysfunctional and the reforms are blocked by a group of individuals, then removing these individuals would be a higher priority, as they would create more dysfunctional systems and block more reforms.

People majority, people significance and people minority are not based on simple statistics as we do, like over-half or two-third, but a thorough optimization based on weight functions of different objectives, the calculation is done by independent board consists of National Academy members, with whole detailed process published and reviewable by all.