

Alternative Communities Report

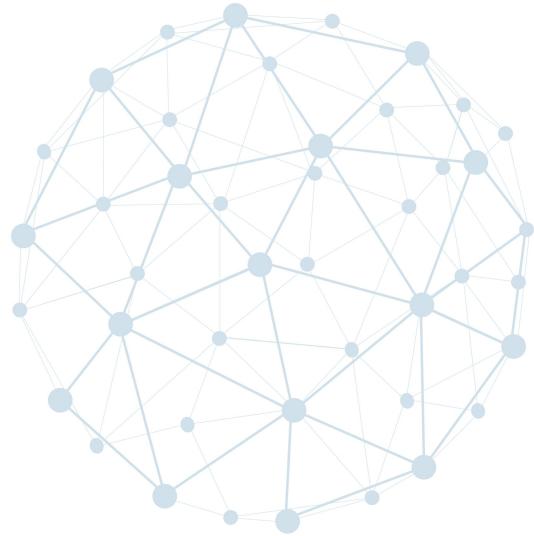
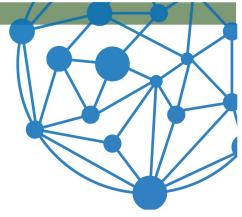


An Evidence-Based
Taxonomy of Emerging
Physical and Virtual
Societies

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***“The future is already here – it's just
not evenly distributed.”***

-William Gibson



Table of Contents

	Introduction	(3-4)
	Exploring innovative societies and the mindset to navigate them.	
	Vocabulary & Taxonomy	(5-6)
	Key terms to understand the new models of communities.	
	The Evolution of Communities	(7-8)
	How identity, technology, and storytelling shape communities.	
	Landscape of Emerging Communities	(9-10)
	An overview of alternative living models and societal structures.	
	Network States	(11-44)
	The emergence of digital-first, value-aligned communities.	
	The Many Roads to Sovereignty	(45-46)
	From special zones to micronations, exploring the diverse paths communities take toward autonomy.	
	The Pop-Up Path to Network Societies	(47-52)
	A look into experimental, fast-forming communities and how temporary hubs are shaping long-term ecosystems.	
	Ecosystem of Emerging Network Societies ...	(53-54)
	Interconnected, value-driven communities using digital coordination.	
	About The Curator	(55)
	Meet the mind behind the report—background, and how to connect or collaborate.	
	Closing Page	(58)

Introduction

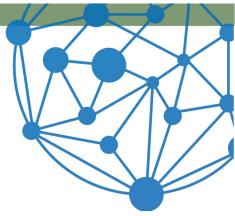
This report is an attempt to provide a snapshot in 2025 of existing innovative societies without claiming to know them all or to understand all the technologies behind their development. We hope it will broaden your mind when it comes to upcoming possibilities in where you can live, work, and thrive. These are alternative models of communities that sometimes challenge the conventional perspective of modern society, and they would clearly surprise people from centuries ago. The terminology for them is confusing and debated everywhere, from intentional communities to new countries, but with recent technologies, they go from virtual nation to network state.

The point isn't to decide what is the best category for them, but to understand what they offer and how they could benefit the world.

Without turning this into a history class, society has obviously changed and continues to change drastically, mostly because of technology. Our improved comfort and ease of coordination haven't increased our connections with others though, and people live in isolated cubes, barely talking to their neighbors, showing a fake life online, all of this leading to a loneliness epidemic.

Nothing new, as it happened over centuries, and a lot of writers and entrepreneurs have tried to warn us, guide us, and even build better options. However, the last 15 years have seen the emergence of decentralized innovations that enable anyone to learn, join, and participate in such alternative options, creating a real "opt-in" set of alternative ways of living.



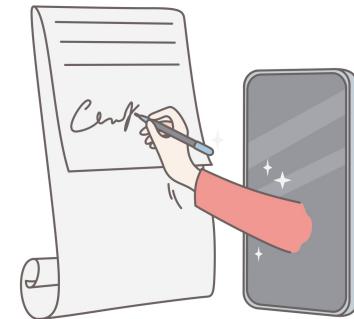


How should you use this guide?

Most importantly, please keep an open mindset about each project. What appears online is always distorted, and

it's impossible to know how the experience you would feel until you go there and try it. But whether you want to move, you want to invest, or you're just curious, there should be something for you here. You can join and try remotely first, and in person eventually. Our hope is that discovering new models will help you challenge your current social framework and rethink the communities around you. Why not explore better models if we have the opportunity?

It is worth acknowledging that this information is subjective and has been collected over the years by our team. There is always a chance that some



of these projects will fail and disappear, as they are all at various development stages. This report captures a moment in an ongoing and rapid movement, very likely to be obsolete in a few months. Nonetheless, we hope you will enjoy these descriptions and we welcome any feedback you might have for future iterations.



Vocabulary & Taxonomy



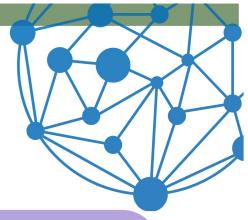
Governance & Legal Terms

- Token-weighted vote system** Voting power depends on how many tokens (digital assets) you own
- DAO** Online group with shared rules, run on blockchain
- SEZ** Area with special economic rules to attract businesses
- ZEDE** Honduran version of an SEZ with its own legal framework
- Jurisdiction** Area where legal authority applies
- Supranational** Above the level of individual countries
- Decentralized public good** Shared resource managed without a central authority
- Declaration of Ascent** Symbolic document to show commitment or membership
- Embassy (non-traditional)** A meeting point or office representing a digital/alternative community
- Sovereignty** The power to govern independently
- Stateless** Not tied to a nation-state or traditional government



Miscellaneous / Specialized Terms

- Pop-up cities** Temporary or fast-built communities, often experimental
- Techno-optimist** Someone who believes technology will improve society
- Regen project / ReFi** Using finance or community to heal ecosystems and society
- Lunarpunk** A privacy-focused movement that values freedom and nature
- Cross-pollinating** Sharing ideas across different groups or systems
- Startup accelerator** A program that helps early-stage businesses raise money
- Infrastructure (non-physical)** – Foundational systems like software, not buildings
- Spin-off** A new project that grew from another one, usually a subsidiary
- Stablecoin** A digital currency tied to a stable asset (like USD)
- Digital citizenship** Online identity linked to rights or access in a digital community



Technology & Crypto

- Web3** A vision of the internet run by users, not big companies
- NFT** Unique digital item that proves ownership, like a certificate
- Native token** Main digital currency used in a project
- Blockchain** Digital ledger that records transactions securely
- Trustless infrastructure** Systems that don't require trust in people or institutions
- Interoperable** Can work or connect with other systems easily
- Cryptographic** Using math to secure digital information
- Private blockchain** A blockchain controlled by a select group of people
- On-chain** Actions recorded directly on a blockchain
- DePIN** Network using real-world devices run by users, not companies
- Proof-of-presence protocol** Digital way to confirm you were physically present
- Proof-of-sweat system** Digital reward for physical work
- Digital ID** Identity stored and verified online
- Tokenomics** Economic system based on digital tokens
- Marketplace (token)** A digital shop for trading blockchain-based goods



Sociological & Philosophical Concepts

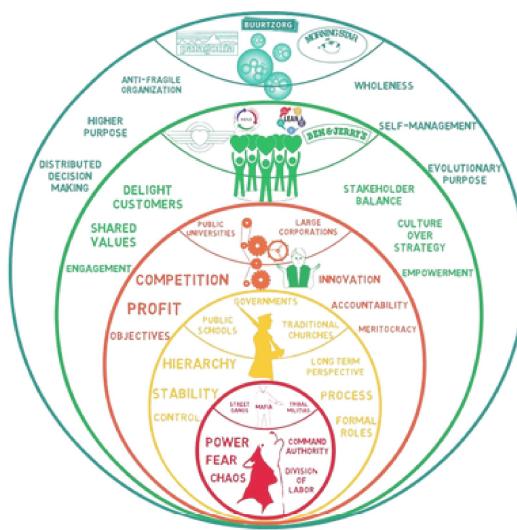
- Utopia** An imagined perfect society
- Identity-forming narratives** Stories or beliefs that shape who people think they are
- Dunbar's number** The idea that people can only maintain ~150 stable relationships
- Planetary health** A focus on the health of people and the planet together

The Evolution of Communities

A community can be defined as a group of humans gathering around shared identity-forming narratives. They create a sense of cohesion, purpose, and boundary, where there are the insiders and the others. Human imagination and storytelling are the drivers of the collective, allowing the community to create meaning. They used to be limited to kinship and geographic proximity, but eventually started to organize around production, working class, and national identities. More recently (historically speaking!), communities are becoming more fluid, multi-layered, and based on values.



For an interesting perspective on the evolution of human civilization based on prosperity, look up the *Method Laloux*. It is worth noting that not all of humanity is at the same stage, considering there are still sects in the world, while some lucky ones enjoy an empowered community. Once again, technology has had a huge impact on this progress, particularly information technologies. It can be argued that they levelled the playing field when it comes to opportunities, even though there is still a lot of work to be done.



Laloux Culture Model

"...look up the Method Laloux... technology has had a huge impact on this progress..."