ELECTRONIC NATION - FOUNDING MANIFESTO (V1.7.3 FINAL)

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Preamble

We stand in the cypherpunk tradition: privacy is essential for an open networked society—the power to reveal oneself selectively. We defend it by building: strong cryptography, anonymous and authenticated digital transactions, and auditable free software.

Today, the capabilities envisioned by cypherpunks are no longer hypothetical; the story they began for the internet has been made real by its enabling technologies: encryption is now the default—the lock in your browser (HTTPS/TLS), forward secrecy, signed software updates; end-to-end messaging; hardware-backed passkeys (WebAuthn/FIDO2); full-disk encryption; encrypted DNS and transport; Bitcoin and altcoins opened peer-to-peer payments and a world of decentralized finance oriented toward asset preservation; two strangers can already negotiate, contract, and settle value under cryptographic keys without exposing legal identity; payments clear on permissionless rails and stablecoin networks; interactions can be made unlinkable via end-to-end channels, rotating identifiers, and privacy-preserving payment pools; reputation travels as signed attestations and verifiable credentials; and zero-knowledge proofs let people prove facts—eligibility, age, uniqueness, membership—without disclosure. With modern compute and hardware-backed keys, these capabilities are production reality and—socially—hard to unwind—across communications, finance, and even endpoint security, reality has caught up with cypherpunk ideals.

The stage is set—as the natural extension of cypherpunk achievements, we propose the Electronic Nation: a voluntary, non-territorial polity whose citizens opt in, may remain alias-based (pseudonymous) under OpenPGP keys (with optional real-world credentials), and may exit at will; a society that maximizes individual freedom and—grounded in degen communism—recognizes that speculation alone concentrates rewards, and therefore captures a small, rules-based share of speculative upside to route toward public goods and contributors (via protocol fees and success surcharges, quadratic funding, prize-linked UBI, and risk-sharing vaults), while deterring rent extraction. We judge legitimacy by service and consent, interoperate peacefully with host jurisdictions, and—true to the cypherpunk ethos—we write code, publish it, and run it.

I. Identity & Purpose

– We are a self-selected polity that channels speculative energy and network effects into public goods and mutual defense against risk.
– Our aim is to prove that a high-freedom, high-responsibility society can scale digitally and interoperate peacefully with existing jurisdictions.

II. Citizenship (Opt-in / Opt-out)

– Membership is voluntary, revocable at will, and portable. No exit penalties.
– Only self-selected members ("citizens") constitute the nation. No one is governed without consent.
– Admission and exit are cryptographically verifiable and administratively lightweight.
– Identity by PGP/OpenPGP keys: Citizens may prove and sign alias-based (pseudonymous) identities using OpenPGP-compatible public keys. Real-name/real-world disclosure is optional and can be linked via verifiable credentials or notarized attestations. Key rotation and revocation preserve continuity of identity.
– Eligibility (humans & agents): Citizenship is open to natural persons and to autonomous AI agents that self-manage their private keys and can sign. Such agents enroll under the alias-based category;

optional disclosure of a human sponsor/controller is supported. Recognition as a citizen does not imply legal personhood in any host jurisdiction.

III. Rights & Freedoms

– Freedom of choice of nation: Everyone may choose the polity that fits their values and change that choice at any time.
– Maximal individual liberty: Speech, association, movement, and enterprise are presumed free unless they directly and provably violate another's rights.
– Privacy by default: Data self-ownership, end-to-end encryption, and selective disclosure are defaults.
– Due process: No sanctions without transparent rules, evidence, and an appeals path.

IV. Duties & Norms

– Non-aggression, honest economic dealings, respect for consent.
– Transparency for public offices and treasuries; privacy for individuals.
– Contribute in proportion to capability; free-ride deterrence is legitimate.

V. Governance (Evolutionary)

– Phase 1 – Founding Autocracy: A founding executive council / maintainer group governs to ensure rapid development, protocol stability, and security. Decisions are transparent, time-locked, and on-chain auditable.
– Phase 2 – Transitional checks: As institutions mature, introduce open RFCs, contributor vetoes on extractive changes, and treasury reporting.
– Phase 3 – Bicameral governance: Progressively transfer authority to a two-house system — Token House (economic weight) proposes budgets and parameters; Contributor House (SBT/reputation) reviews, can veto extractive changes, and safeguards public goods. Major acts require concurrent majorities, a timelock, and on-chain auditability.
– Emergency powers: Minimal, time-bounded, and subject to post-facto review.
– Trajectory: founder-led execution → hybrid advisory → full bicameral governance, balancing early speed with long-term legitimacy and resilience.

VI. Economy & Public Goods (Degen Communism)

– Accept market chaos and route its upside to the commons via protocol fees, success surcharges, and volatility harvesters.
– Mechanisms: (a) public-goods treasury, (b) prize-linked UBI, (c) risk-sharing vaults for shock protection, (d) quadratic funding for builders.
– Contributors (builders, maintainers, educators, moderators) receive priority rewards; rent extraction is curbed.
– Native currency & seigniorage: The Nation may issue a native cryptocurrency; seigniorage from governed issuance forms part of the fiscal base for public goods, security, and development. Rules and caps are on-chain and auditable.
– Revenue recirculation via buybacks: A defined share of net operating revenues (fees, surcharges, investment returns, donations) is used to buy back the native currency and retire or treasury-lock it, recirculating value to the currency economy and the commons. Buybacks are programmatic, time-windowed, fully disclosed, not a promise of profit, and pausable under risk controls.

VII. Anti-Rent-Seeking Policy

– No perpetual claims on others' output without ongoing service, risk, or value creation.
– Fee distributions and governance weights decay without active contribution.

– Squatting on scarce namespaces, privileges, or liquidity is deterred via time-based auctions and commitment bonds.

VIII. Technology & Cypherpunk Basis

– Build with strong cryptography, open-source software, and permissionless interfaces.
– Identity uses user-controlled keys and, where elected, privacy-preserving attestations (SBT/credentials).
– Censorship resistance balanced with community moderation and clear recourse.
– Standardize on OpenPGP-compatible keys (e.g., Ed25519 for signing, X25519 for encryption); support hardware-backed keys, cross-signing with on-chain accounts, and published revocation certificates.
– Agent citizenship support: Support agent-operated keys, optional HSM/TEE attestations, and revocation/rotation protocols appropriate to autonomous agents.

IX. Treasury, Accounting, Transparency

– All public funds on-chain with real-time dashboards, monthly reports, and independent review.
– Budgets prioritize security, public goods, education, and safety nets.
– Revenue sources: Protocol fees, success surcharges, market-making/investment returns, donations/grants, and native-currency seigniorage.
– Buyback & Recirculation Policy: Publish a rule-set (targets, caps, windows) by which a share of net revenues buys back the native currency and retires/locks it, or supports public-goods matching pools. Execution logs are on-chain; policy is bounded by risk limits and pausable in emergencies.

X. Dispute Resolution

– Tiered process: mediation → binding on-chain arbitration → external courts if required by host jurisdictions.
– Codified evidence standards and remedies; publish case rationales with privacy preserved.

XI. International Stance

– Peaceful, lawful, interoperable. We seek recognition through performance, not coercion.
– Claim the natural right to self-organize as a voluntary nation; invite treaties/MOUs with cities, states, and peers.

XII. Amendments

– Rights limited only by supermajority in both Houses plus a citizen referendum.
– Protocol changes require public RFCs and a minimum review period.

XIII. Citizenship Fees & Entry Permit (Early Access)

– Real-name citizen (requires real identification): Entry permit: USD 0 (early access only); Yearly fee: USD 50 / year.
– Alias-based citizen (including eligible autonomous AI agents; no real-world identification; prove by OpenPGP): Entry permit: USD 100 (early access only; payable in crypto); Yearly fee: USD 100 / year.
– Billing & lapse: First charged one year after registration, then annually. If unpaid, citizenship lapses (re-apply under then-current terms).
– Price path: The entry permit price increases over time. Renewal/ongoing yearly fees are grandfathered at initial terms.

Versioning & Attribution

Version: v1.7.3 (Final).

This manifesto stands on:

– A Cypherpunk's Manifesto (Eric Hughes, 1993) — https://www.activism.net/cypherpunk/manifesto.html

– The Crypto Anarchist Manifesto (Timothy C. May, 1988) — https://groups.csail.mit.edu/mac/classes/6.805/articles/crypto/cypherpunks/may-crypto-manifesto.html

– Bitcoin: A Peer-to-Peer Electronic Cash System (Satoshi Nakamoto, 2008) — https://bitcoin.org/bitcoin.pdf

– Degen Communism (Vitalik Buterin, 2023) — https://vitalik.eth.limo/general/2023/07/25/degencommunism.html

– Agent Commerce Protocol (Virtuals, 2023) — https://s3.ap-southeast-1.amazonaws.com/virtualprotocolcdn/Agent_Commerce_Protocol_Virtuals_0759d11d1d.pdf