

# **The Prosperity Plan**

A Libertarian Framework to Increase per Capita GDP

Philip Copeman Marc Beckenstrater

16 May 2024

This early draft WILL DEFINITELY CHANGE AND BE MODIFIED. It is NOT FINAL.

Copyright Creative Commons Int 4.0  
2024 Philip Copeman and Marc Beckenstrater

# Table of Contents

PSG Think Big Competition.....	4
List of Contributors.....	4
Credits.....	4
Competition Brief.....	4
The Proposal.....	6
Abstract.....	6
Scope.....	6
Original Analysis.....	6
Data.....	6
Features.....	7
Remote workers.....	7
The Nay Sayers.....	7
Libertarianism.....	8
1. View of Government.....	8
2. Individual Freedom.....	9
3. View of Diversity and Globalization.....	9
4. View of Property.....	10
5. International Relations.....	11
Special Economic Zones.....	11
The Cape Economic Zone.....	12
The Tax agreement.....	13
Is the CEZ Apartheid?.....	13
Sobukwe.....	13
The Prosperity Plan.....	15
The Discussion.....	15
The Plan.....	15
Definition of Winning.....	15
Firewall Politics and Special Economic Zones.....	15
Current Affairs.....	17
Principles.....	18
Emulation.....	18
Homemarket effect.....	18
Okun's Law.....	18
Elements of the Cape Economic Zone.....	19
Free Electricity.....	19
Server Farms.....	19
Fast Internet.....	19
Land Ownership.....	19
Subsidised Travel.....	19
Minimum Wage.....	19
Best Practice Socialism.....	19
Suggested Reading.....	21
Data Sources.....	22

# PSG Think Big Competition

#upload We are considering entering the site into the PSG Competition, submission deadline is 30 August.

We licence this document Creative Commons International 4.0 This means that if you contribute to this document, you will be credited and all those that use this document must credit you. You must commit

In the event that we do enter the PSG competition and do make revenue from it, this revenue will be directed towards promoting the Prosperity Plan and paying stipends to contributors. Stipends and expenditure will be at the sole discretion of Philip Copeman and Marc Beckenstrater

## List of Contributors

Philip Copeman, Concept, Economic Audit, Text origination, References links, image creation

Marc Beckenstrater Concept, Data science audit.

## Credits

Anwar Adams of the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania, When pressed for a concept of a single word for the purpose of a political party came up with - prosperity.

Johan Rupert for bringing to our attention the existence of Special Economic Zones around the world.

Contributors

## Competition Brief

[psg.co.za/news-and-publications/our-events/think-big-south-africa](http://psg.co.za/news-and-publications/our-events/think-big-south-africa)

A discussion document analyses a particular issue and offers policy recommendations. The document describes the problem or issue being addressed, analyses its root causes, evaluates policy options for addressing the problem or its causes, and recommends a way forward. Generally, the analysis is narrative-driven, relying on existing work (academic and grey literature and secondary data) and high-level analysis, although original analysis is welcome.

**The quality of the discussion document will be judged according to the following dimensions:**

*(In no particular order)*

- The depth of the options analysis.
- The completeness of the policy options explored.
- The comprehensiveness of the root cause analysis.

- The logic and clarity of the overarching argument being made.
- Clarity and detail of the policy or economic problem(s) being addressed.
- Format, neatness, and quality of data visualisation (graphs, figures, and tables).
- The breadth (number of references) and depth (quality of references) of the reference list.
- Writing quality: Grammar, spelling, language, and how well the points being made are being argued and presented.

### **Structure**

The document should be between 3000 and 5000 words in length.

Ideally, it will include:

- A brief introduction
- An analysis of quantitative and qualitative data
- A set of policy recommendations based on the findings of the analysis.

The policy implications must be framed in terms of a current policy challenge South Africa is faced with. The document should be referenced with a bibliography.

### **Formatting**

The discussion document must be submitted in [Microsoft Word](#), with headings clearly marked, and charts must be in a format such that the data and graphics are fixed. If it is a picture, please make sure it has a high resolution so that it is good quality.

### **Final submission date**

All final discussion documents must be submitted by 30 August 2024 in order to qualify. No late submissions will be accepted.

**Note: Discussion documents can be entered either by individuals or groups. The prize money will not change.**

Affiliates of the [PSG Financial Services Group](#), a licensed controlling company, are authorised financial services providers.

# The Proposal

## Abstract

To meet the challenges of low growth in low income economies, we propose setting up Special Economic Zones based on Libertarian Principles. We use real world examples as models to be emulated. We specifically tackle the South African problem and provide a detailed example with the benefits involved. We suggest an Economic zone stretching as far as the Western and Northern Cape and suggest a simple course of action that does not require massive capital injections or long periods of gestation.

Most importantly the Special Economic Zone will deliver excess fiscal Revenue from the SEZ to the Country. Certainly more than currently experienced or projected.

## Scope

This proposal is aimed at Economists. It is described in terms of the macro economics and growth economics in particular. Where possible links have been provided to background reading to endorse the thinking. With effort even readers without formal training in economics should be able to follow the arguments. It is not a doctoral level paper and we minimise the use of incoherent terminology.

This proposal can be implemented in most developing economies in many parts of the world.

In this document we focus on the situation for South Africa and compare the country to economies world wide. We suggest in detail, an Economic Development zone for Cape Town and the Western Cape, however the same principles can be applied in many situations and may well work for you implementing your own proposals.

## Original Analysis

Macro Economic Model with five year forecast detailing fiscal impact. We focus on answering the two questions:

Is the CEZ fiscally sustainable?

Does the CEZ create a fiscal benefit for South Africa?

## Data

The proposal uses Annual Data to develop models, and principles apply to multi-year forecasts.

## Features

Fits under the South African Constitutional Guarantees. The CEZ is more akin to a gated community than it is to an independent state.

Takes a simple majority of Parliament to implement.

Can be implemented in Weeks.

Does not require international approvals

Does not require Capital

The incoming Settlers bring the Capital both in cash and human skills. These workers typically earn \$6,000 per month plus and spend their money locally on utilities, housing, food, travel and services.

## Remote workers

Post Covid 19 a new class of remote workers in their twenties and thirties has arisen across all the major economies of the world. These Millennials and Gen Z workers are rich, tech savvy, young, connected, have disposable income, and are mobile. This labor intensive industry is one of the fastest growing industries in the world. We propose this as our core specialisation.

A significant portion of these remote workers resonate to Libertarian principles. They reside in a number of cities, but we would target Tokyo, Hong Kong, Singapore, Dubai, Tel Aviv, Amsterdam, London, Dublin, New York, San Francisco.

## The Naysayers

They say that when you decide to get married the first thing you agree to is the divorce. Similarly when making a proposal it is best up front to deal with the objections. I break the objections into two groups, the nationalists and the socialists.

The **nationalists** include all the irrational xenophobic arguments or the tedious discussions about preserving culture right up to the stubborn biggots who simply won't accept anything that is not their preconceived narrative.

The **socialists** include all the economic arguments ranging from Capitalism to Marxism and everything in between. To succeed unimpeded, we must deal with them all. These systems are inextricably intertwined and are arguably always mixed systems.

The socialists in context of South Africans and the Cape Economic Zone are all those that are not libertarian thinkers.

This paper will deal will give all the Naysayers logical answers with real world histories. The paper must prove that all parties are better off. There may be some eggs that are broken before the omelette is made, but we will deal with those few cases honestly and openly. To those that will never accept logic, we may fall short.

# Libertarianism

Libertarianism is a political philosophy maintaining that all persons are the absolute owners of their own lives, while nationalism is a philosophy in which resources of the state are used to promote the interests of a group and socialism is an intermediate phase between capitalism and communism.

We intend to settle a million Settlers, enticed by their propensity to live under libertarian principles, in the Cape Economic Zone CEZ.

We describe below with the help of ChatGPT, what the differences are between Libertarian and Socialist systems, and suggest compromises that fulfill the ambitions of the South African Majority.

## 1. View of Government

**Libertarians** advocate for limited government intervention in both economic and social affairs. They prioritize individual liberty and believe that the role of the state should be minimized to protect personal freedoms, property rights, and voluntary exchanges. Libertarians often support a free-market economy with minimal regulations and oppose government involvement in personal matters such as drug use, marriage, and speech. Oppose government regulation, taxation, and social welfare programs, favoring a small, limited government focused on protecting life, liberty, and property.

**Nationalists** emphasize the interests, culture, and sovereignty of a nation-state. While nationalists may vary in their views on the size and scope of government, they generally advocate for a strong state that prioritizes the well-being and security of the nation. Nationalists may support government intervention in the economy, trade protectionism, and restrictions on immigration to preserve the cultural identity and economic interests of the nation.

**Capitalists** propose an economic system characterized by private ownership of the means of production and the pursuit of profit. While capitalism does not prescribe a specific role for government, it generally operates within a framework of laws and regulations that protect property rights, enforce contracts, and maintain competition. Capitalist economies can vary in the extent of government intervention, ranging from laissez-faire capitalism with minimal regulation to mixed economies with significant government involvement in certain sectors.

**Socialists** believe in a more active role for government in regulating the economy and redistributing wealth. They argue for public ownership of the means of production, such as factories, land, and resources, with the goal of achieving economic equality and social justice. Socialists often advocate for government programs to provide healthcare, education, and social services.

**Marxists** call for a strong, centralized government to oversee the transition from capitalism to socialism and eventually communism. Marxists believe that the state should control the means of production, distribution, and exchange to achieve social and economic equality.



## 2. Individual Freedom

**Libertarians** prioritize individual rights and autonomy, emphasizing personal freedom, and voluntary association. They believe that individuals should be free to pursue their own interests and lifestyles as long as they do not infringe upon the rights of others. Libertarians oppose government infringement on civil liberties, such as surveillance, censorship, and restrictions on free speech.

**Nationalists** value individual rights within the context of the nation-state, they often prioritize the collective interests of the nation over individual freedoms. Nationalists may support policies that limit individual rights in the name of national security, cultural preservation, or social cohesion. This can include restrictions on freedom of speech, assembly, and dissent, especially if perceived as a threat to national unity or identity.

**Capitalists** propose a range of economic systems where the means of production, distribution, and exchange are privately owned and operated for profit. Capitalist economies rely on market mechanisms such as supply and demand to determine prices and allocate resources. While capitalism emphasizes individual initiative and free enterprise, government intervention may be necessary to address market failures, protect consumers, and ensure fair competition.

**Socialists** value freedom, but emphasize collective or social freedom over individual autonomy. Socialists argue that true freedom requires economic equality and the elimination of class distinctions. They may support government intervention to ensure equal opportunities and protect the rights of marginalized groups.

**Marxists** emphasize collective liberation and the abolition of class distinctions. While Marxists argue that their ideology ultimately leads to greater freedom for the masses, they often prioritize the interests of the collective over individual liberties, especially during the transition period to socialism.

## 3. View of Diversity and Globalization

**Libertarians** embrace diversity and globalization, viewing them as natural consequences of free markets and individual freedom. They support open borders, free trade, and cultural exchange, believing that these promote economic prosperity and personal liberty. Libertarians argue that government restrictions on migration and trade hinder economic growth and limit individual opportunities. Has a more cosmopolitan and globalist outlook.

**Nationalists** may be wary of diversity and globalization, perceiving them as threats to national identity, sovereignty, and economic interests. Nationalists may advocate for immigration restrictions, protectionist trade policies, and cultural preservation measures to safeguard the nation's

interests and identity. They may view globalization as eroding national sovereignty and undermining traditional values.

**Capitalists** promote individual initiative and economic freedom, its primary focus is on the efficient allocation of resources and the creation of wealth. Capitalist societies prioritize economic growth, consumer choice, and competition as means to improve living standards and raise overall prosperity. While capitalism can enhance individual liberty by providing economic opportunities, it may also lead to inequalities of wealth and power that challenge the realization of full individual autonomy.

**Socialists** advocate for collective ownership and democratic control of the means of production. They argue that this arrangement can eliminate exploitation and ensure that resources are used for the benefit of society as a whole rather than for private profit. Socialists often support centralized planning or worker cooperatives as alternatives to capitalist markets.

**Marxists** advocate for a classless society where the means of production are collectively owned and controlled by the workers. Marxists criticize capitalism for exploiting the working class and perpetuating inequality, advocating for a planned economy where goods and services are distributed according to need rather than profit.

#### 4. View of Property

**Libertarians** strongly defend private property rights as essential for individual freedom and economic prosperity. They argue that individuals have the right to own and control their property without interference from the government or other individuals.

**Nationalists** advocate for the interests and sovereignty of a particular nation-state over those of other nations or a global community. Often promotes a sense of national pride, unity, and cultural identity. May advocate for protectionist economic policies and restricted immigration. Have a more inward-looking and isolationist perspective

**Capitalists** propose forms of capitalism that concentrate economic power in the hands of a few large corporations, which libertarians would object to as a violation of free markets. Some forms of capitalism allow for some government regulations, public services, and social safety nets, which libertarians tend to oppose.

**Socialists** challenge the institution of private property, particularly in the means of production. They argue that private ownership of capital leads to exploitation and inequality. Socialists advocate for the collective ownership of productive resources to ensure that wealth is distributed more equitably among all members of society.

**Marxists** challenge the concept of private property, distinguishing between personal property (e.g., homes, personal belongings) and the means of production (e.g., factories, land, resources), which Marxists believe should be collectively owned and managed by the working class.

## 5. International Relations

**Libertarians** advocate for a non-interventionist foreign policy that prioritizes diplomacy, trade, and peaceful cooperation with other nations. They oppose military intervention, nation-building, and foreign aid, arguing that these actions violate national sovereignty and often lead to unintended consequences. Supports open borders and free movement of people, goods, and capital.

**Nationalists** may adopt a more assertive foreign policy that prioritizes the interests and security of the nation, even if they conflict with global interests. They may support military intervention to protect national interests, assert dominance in regional affairs, or promote the spread of national values abroad. Nationalists may be skeptical of international alliances and organizations that they perceive as undermining national sovereignty.

**Capitalists** are characterized by private ownership of the means of production and the pursuit of profit. While capitalism does not prescribe a specific role for government, it generally operates within a framework of laws and regulations that protect property rights, enforce contracts, and maintain competition. Capitalist economies can vary in the extent of government intervention, ranging from laissez-faire capitalism with minimal regulation to mixed economies with significant government involvement in certain sectors.

**Socialists** challenge the institution of private property, particularly in the means of production. They argue that private ownership of capital leads to exploitation and inequality. Socialists advocate for the collective ownership of productive resources to ensure that wealth is distributed more equitably among all members of society.

**Marxists** view capitalism as an exploitative system that must be abolished. Rooted in the ideas of Karl Marx, with a focus on class struggle and overthrowing capitalism.

## Special Economic Zones

Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are designated geographical areas within a country that are subject to unique economic regulations and incentives aimed at promoting investment, trade, and economic development. Governments establish SEZs for several reasons:

**1. Attracting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI):** SEZs offer favorable conditions and incentives to attract foreign investors, such as tax breaks, customs duty exemptions, and streamlined regulations. By creating a business-friendly environment, governments aim to encourage multinational corporations to establish operations within the SEZ, bringing in capital, technology, and employment opportunities.

**2. Export Promotion:** SEZs often focus on export-oriented industries, providing infrastructure and support services tailored to meet the needs of exporters. Governments may offer incentives such as duty-free imports of raw materials and intermediate goods, simplified customs procedures, and access to international markets to encourage businesses to produce goods and services for export within the SEZ.

**3. Job Creation and Economic Growth:** SEZs stimulate economic activity and create employment opportunities by attracting investment and fostering industrial development. By concentrating resources and infrastructure in designated areas, SEZs can promote the growth of specific industries and generate employment for local communities.

**4. Technology Transfer and Innovation:** SEZs facilitate technology transfer and innovation by providing a conducive environment for research and development (R&D) activities, collaboration between academia and industry, and the adoption of advanced technologies. Governments may offer incentives to encourage companies to invest in R&D within the SEZ, leading to the creation of new technologies and products.

**5. Regional Development:** SEZs can contribute to the development of less economically developed regions by attracting investment, infrastructure development, and job creation. Governments may establish SEZs in remote or underdeveloped areas to stimulate economic growth, reduce regional disparities, and promote inclusive development.

Overall, Special Economic Zones serve as instruments for governments to attract investment, promote export-oriented industries, create jobs, stimulate innovation, and foster economic development in specific geographical areas. They offer a targeted approach to economic policy, providing tailored incentives and infrastructure to support the growth of key industries and attract domestic and foreign investment.

## The Cape Economic Zone

We propose that the Cape Economic Zone extends from Cape Town to George to Kimberly to Alexander Bay.

Current Land Owners hold their title

Expropriation is only under extreme circumstances and is always fully compensated. It is the clear intention of the CEZ to increase the value of land inside the CEZ whether under private or public ownership.

Rates taxes are kept top a mimimum and generally include only the shared cost of infra structural development.

Residents are either citizens of South Africa or foreign passport holders. All residents carry the CEZ Residence Visa. The residents are subject to a modified tax system.

There a will be facilities for current residents, but incomming residents from Outside the CEZ must purchase CEZ Visa

It is envisioned that the Visa will cost \$ 1,000 per month. This is a flat rate payable by all residents who are then exempt from South African income tax and inheritance taxes.

Residents are entitled to very basic health and security services. Very few other services are offered.

VAT is increased to 21 percent if it includes a party that resides in the CEZ

## **The Tax agreement**

The CEZ collectively will enter into a Rental agreement with an escalation with the South African Fiscus. The Fee is calculated on the current fiscal transfer currently between the CEZ and the Fiscus less any non CEZ areas.

This means that the Fiscus gets a better fee and a better growth forecast, so that there can be no argument that the CEZ is stealing Revenues from the Fiscus.

The Tax agreement is between the CEZ and the Residents and is aimed at offering the Settlers a better deal than they get from their current locations. The net effect is increased foreign revenue, increased local expenditure and private investment and land purchases are encouraged.

## **Is the CEZ Apartheid?**

No, no, nee, nien, niet, piu shi, iie, haibo!. The CEZ is run on libertarian principles, all races are welcome and diversity is anticipated.

It is important to understand that there is a positive fiscal cashflow to the South Africa Government on agreement and guaranteed into the future. This is no idea to rob the African people or all those who live in it of any wealth. The idea is to increase prosperity.

## **Sobukwe**

The Libertarian framework of Special Economic Zones can be implemented in most countries. This is because the Libertarian approach leads to the faster economic growth. It specifically has applications in Africa, where per capita GDP is on the decline.

The CEZ is not a break away or Independent state and remains an integral part of South Africa and its laws. We intentionally stand back from government and hand these functions to politically elected majorities, In the case of South Africa, we recommend Bloemfontein and Pretoria.

In the case of analysing African opportunities, we suggest following the principles of Mangaliso Robert Sobukwe :

One race, the human race.

We reject the economic exploitation of the many for the benefit of the few.

Borrowing then the best from the East and the best from the West, we nonetheless retain and maintain our distinct personality.

The days of small, independent countries are gone, there is a growing feeling, among politically conscious Africans throughout the continent that their destiny is one.

We guarantee no minority rights because we think in terms of individuals not groups.

In summary we stand for an Africanist Socialist Democracy

#### The Viza

The Visa is targeted at remote workers in the Targeted Northern cities. Residents will need to pay the Viza and show that they have a foreign Income.

# **The Prosperity Plan**

Submission by Philip Copeman and Marc Beckenstrater

## **The Discussion**

South Africa has an Economy that grows slower than the maturing labour force. The result is declining per capita income, rising unemployment and rising inequality.

## **The Plan**

There must be a clear plan and this must be actively supported by the Parliament and the Executive. The Prosperity Plan implements a Firewall between Politics and the Economy. We define good practice principles for managing a socialist economy with economic zones that are governed by high growth principles.

## **Definition of Winning**

We define winning as the average growth GDP per capita at constant prices weighted by the Gini Coefficient.

In the Case of the Cape Economic Zone, we show why inequality is inevitable in the short run, but reduces the more successful the Zone becomes.

## **Firewall Politics and Special Economic Zones**

It is critical in SA to use the energy of the citizens and it is pointless to define an economic system that is contrary to the cultural systems of the voting majority. A cultural clash will lead to push back and a long cycle of objection. We will detail how this leads us to propose a well managed Socialist Economy and Special Economic Zones that can be implemented quickly with a simple Parliamentary majority and a set of good governance principles for a socialist economy.

Such a proposal would create a country of democratic socialism in which the aspirations of nationalists, capitalists, socialists and marxists. Such an economy is what we currently have. We limit the scope of this document to simply recommend principles of good governance for running such a country.

We focus on developing a Special Economic Zone of whatever size is acceptable, we are recommending as big as is acceptable to the constitution. We are recommending the settlement of millions of immigrants settlers who are recruited for their desire to live a libertarian lifestyle. These settlers are isolated into the SEZ and given conditions in which they can thrive. The rental of this SEZ is on terms such that the body of the country clearly benefits.

We also recommend that other zones are set up, but it is beyond the scope of this document. Contributions of other similar zones is welcome.



# Current Affairs

## DA Jobs Offer

For South Africa and specifically the Western Cape.

Here is the problem (#saemployment) for the 2024 Q4 annualised, The number of unemployed individuals surged notably by 330 thousand, reaching 8.2 million, marking the highest figure since comparable records began in 2008. In the meantime, the labor force rose by 352 thousand to 25 million, while employment rose by only 22 thousand to 16.7 million.

The Democratic Alliance has a coherent plan that is the least “dreamy” of the other mainstream (EFF and ANC). In their Manifesto (#damanifesto) the DA promise two million jobs, essentially by dropping the minimum wage.

Do the numbers:

Two million jobs over five years means 400,000 a year. Assuming the labor forces continues to grow at 350,000. That means that the unemployed come down at the rate of 70,000 a year as long as they accept sub minimal wages. The effect of of such a that will be that per capita GDP will keep falling.

Under the prosperity Plan to import one Million Remote workers into the CEZ, per capita income of those workers will rise by a minimum 5%. Every Settler spending \$3000 per month will create six jobs at above current the minimum wage. One million Settlers will spend \$3 Billion a month into the SA Economy, this will increase employment by six million jobs!

In summary The DA's Manifesto Plan will leave unemployment largely unchanged, while the Prosperity Plan will decrease unemployment by 40%.

Do the numbers and there is no logical explanation, as to why the DA would not whole heartedly support the Prosperity Plan. It does not contradict their manifesto and adds substantially to per capita GDP.

In summary The DA, EFF and ANC are all offering to extend the status quo which is Per Capita GDP declining at 0.5 %. The Prosperity Plan is offering an increase of 5% over the next five years, to this inside the CEZ and to increase the fiscal transfer to the South African fiscus.

The DA, EFF and ANC should whole heartedly endorse the Prosperity Plan.

# Principles

## Emulation

Ideas cannot be theoretical but must be demonstrated by comparison to successful countries. We take to good and leave the bad of examples. For purpose of analysis we fly in the face of current politics and focus on the economic lessons

The examples we use are

ANC SA / Apartheid

Israel/Jordan

West/ East Germany

California Louisiana

Botswana/Zimbabwe

Singapore/Malaysia

Hongkong/China

## Homemarket effect

This critical concept (won Paul Krugman the Noble Prize for Economics is core to our proposal)

## Okun's Law

How full employment is critical for growth

# Elements of the Cape Economic Zone

## Free Electricity

We propose emphasising our abundant sunshine as an asset.

## Server Farms

With Free and near free electricity, Server farms become available to us as an infrastructure investment

## Fast Internet

As we specialise in remote work, we can choose Digital infrastructure over physical infrastructure

## Land Ownership

We suggest solving the Land Issue by offering public Land in the broad country and private ownership to investors inside the Economic Zones.

## Subsidised Travel

To make ourselves competitive with Northern Destinations we propose subsidising emigrant air travel

## Minimum Wage

In the Economic Zone we have a high minimum wage and flat tax.

In all inclusive high Vat rate – low income tax rate

Zone Managed Police, Tax Courts

## Best Practice Socialism.

Recognise Globalism and Technology

Debt Ceiling

Universal Income Grant

Conservation of Land

National Specialisation

Reduce number of Provinces

A merit System



# Suggested Reading

Copeman, Philip, Mark Beckenstrater, *The Prosperity Plan*, 2024,  
[www.turbocash.net/a/pages/prosperityplan](http://www.turbocash.net/a/pages/prosperityplan) [www.turbocash.net/a/pages/prosperityplan](http://www.turbocash.net/a/pages/prosperityplan)

Piketty, Thomas. *Capital in the Twenty-First Century*. Translated by Arthur Goldhammer, Belknap Press, 2017. [Capital in the Twenty-First Century - Wikipedia](#)

Boushey, Heather, J. Bradford DeLong and Marshall Steinbaum, *After Piketty: The Agenda for Economics and Inequality*, Harvard University Press 2017. Including Solow, Robert, *Piketty was Right* and Krugman, Paul, *We live in a new Gilded Age*. [After Piketty - Wikipedia](#)

Pasinetti, Luigi L, *Growth and Income Distribution, Essays in Economic Theory*, Cambridge University Press, 1974 [Growth and income distribution essays economic theory | Economic development and growth | Cambridge University Press](#)

Pasinetti, Luigi L, *Structural Change and Economic Growth, A theoretical Essay on the dynamics of Wealth of Nations*, Cambridge University Press, 1981 [Structural change and economic growth: A theoretical essay on the dynamics of the wealth of nations \(cambridge.org\)](#)

Furman, Ryan, *Okun's Law: Economic Growth and Unemployment*, Investopedia, 2023,  
<https://www.investopedia.com/articles/economics/12/okuns-law.asp>

Ball, Laurence, João Tovar Jalles, and Prakash Loungani, *Do Forecasters Believe in Okun's Law? An Assessment of Unemployment and Output Forecasts*, International Monetary Fund, 2014.  
<https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/wp/2014/wp1424.pdf>

Rasure, Erika, The Investopedia Team, *Home Market Effect: What It Means, How It Works, Implications*, 2021. <https://www.investopedia.com/terms/h/home-market-effect.asp>

Reinert, Erik, *How Rich Countries Got Rich ... and Why Poor Countries Stay Poor*, PublicAffairs, 2019. [How Rich Countries Got Rich and Why Poor Countries Stay Poor by Erik S. Reinert | Goodreads](#)

Ghosh, Jayati, *Review of How Rich Countries Got Rich and Why Poor Countries Stay Poor*, International Development Economics Associates, 2007.  
[https://www.networkideas.org/book/jun2007/bk14\\_HRC\\_Review.htm](https://www.networkideas.org/book/jun2007/bk14_HRC_Review.htm)

Reinert, Erik, *Austrian Economics and The Other Canon*. Published in Backhaus, Jürgen (editor), *Evolutionary Economic Thought. European Contributions and Concepts*, Cheltenham, Edward Elgar, 2003, pp.160-207. [Reinert-1.pdf \(hetecon.net\)](#)

Phillips, Joseph D *The Zen Art of Firewall Economics*, 2019 <https://firewalleconomics.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/The-Zen-Art-of-Firewall-Economics-1.pdf>

Ricardo, David, Anonymous, *The Theory of Comparative Advantage- Overview*, LibreTexts 2023.  
[2.2: The Theory of Comparative Advantage- Overview - Social Sci LibreTexts](#)

Sobukwe, Mangaliso Robert, *Speeches of Managlisio Robert Sobukwe*, Inagural Address, Pan Africanist Congress. 1959 <https://www.pacofazania.org.za/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Pan-Africanist-Congress-Basic-Documents-2000-Constitution.pdf>

Ricker, Thomas, The Verge, *92 million US workers now have the opportunity to work remotely: survey*, [92 million US workers now have the opportunity to work remotely: survey - The Verge](#)

South Africa's Special Economic Zones. 2022 [SEZ-brochure 2021.pdf \(thedtic.gov.za\)](#)

Mona, *Positive and Negative Impacts of Tourism in Paris*. The French Hotel Guide, 2022, <https://www.france-hotel-guide.com/en/blog/impacts-tourism-paris/>

Copeman, Philip, *Southern Sunset*, 2013, [Southern Sunset \(turbocash.net\)](#)

Chatterjee, Aroop et al, *South Africa: How extreme inequality persists*, 2022, Culturico, [South Africa: How extreme inequality persists - Culturico](#)

IMF, *Six Charts Explain South Africa's Inequality*, 2022, [Six Charts Explain South Africa's Inequality \(imf.org\)](#)

Wikipedia, *Contributors agreement*, Wikipedia 2024 [Contributor License Agreement - Wikipedia](#) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contributor\\_License\\_Agreement](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contributor_License_Agreement)

European Commission, *Creative Commons Int 4.0 Licence*. 2024. [Contributor License Agreement - Wikipedia](#), [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contributor\\_License\\_Agreement](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contributor_License_Agreement)

Wikidiff, *Libertarianism vs Socialism*, 2024, [Libertarianism vs Socialism - What's the difference? | WikiDiff](#) <https://wikidiff.com/libertarianism/socialism>

World Economic Forum, *World's Best Countries for Remote Working*, 2023

[Global Remote Work Index 2023 ranks remote-working countries | World Economic Forum \(weforum.org\)](#) <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2023/11/global-remote-work-index-2023/>

Upwork, *The Best 30 remote work Jobs in 2024*, [30 Best Work From Home Jobs With Great Pay \(2024\) | Upwork](#) <https://www.upwork.com/resources/best-work-from-home-jobs#software-developers>

(#damanifesto) Democratic Alliance, *2024 Election Manifesto*, 2024, [DA-Election-Manifesto-2024.pdf](#) <https://cdn.da.org.za/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/16143750/DA-Election-Manifesto-2024.pdf>

## Data Sources

*South African Historical Population Growth* [Population growth \(annual %\) - South Africa | Data \(worldbank.org\)](#) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.GROW?locations=ZA>

*South African Population Pyramid* [Population of South Africa 2023 - PopulationPyramid.net](#) <https://www.populationpyramid.net/south-africa/2024/>

(#saemployment) *South African Employed Labor* [South Africa Unemployment Rate](https://tradingeconomics.com/south-africa/unemployment-rate)  
([tradingeconomics.com](https://tradingeconomics.com)) <https://tradingeconomics.com/south-africa/unemployment-rate>

SARB Quarterly Bulliten, South Africa Reserve Bank, 2024

FRED

IMF

World Bank

The visitor in Paris

Budget 2025 Comment  
Philip Copeman  
February 2025\

Budget of 2025 - last chance to save our economy.

Minister of Finance Enoch Gogongwana calls for suggestions for the South African Budget of 2025:

As the budget I propose is of such a Revolutionary nature, I suggest that this budget is passed with a constitutional amendment. This fortunate moment in our economic history allows us to make adjustments to growth that will address our issues of poverty and unemployment. I do believe that such constitutional majority support will be forthcoming from all major Parties.

By approving this budget, we get one chance to redefine our economy under a parliamentary multi party agreement to :

- 1) Cancel Zero Rated VAT and lift the Vat Threshold. The margin advantage of 15% will shift retail business to hundreds of thousands of SME retailers. Vat payable on zero rated items will increase revenues required to fund the budget. (No constitutional support required)
- 2) Increase the VAT rate and reduce income tax, balanced to fund the budget. Government commitment to timeous settlement of creditors. Increase in the velocity of money is a stimulus (No constitutional support required)
- 3) a TAX AMNESTY for all taxes due to Feb 2024, settled at a flat rate. This will bring in billions of rands in unpaid taxes and end all corruption trials. (No constitutional support required)
- 4) A 10% Wealth Tax on all assets over a threshold, discounted if paid forward. This will bring in billions of rands in unpaid taxes and end estate tax trials and over complex financialization.
- 5) Reduction of Governing both Executive and Legislative salaries of 50%.
- 6) Introduce a Universal Basic Income Grant for all citizens over 18 years of age. This will be funded by the budget.
- 7) Introduce a debt cap that will require constitutional majority to exceed. This will require a constitutional amendment.
- 8) Reduce the number of Provinces to 4. This will require a constitutional amendment underwritten by provinces.
- 9) Release Pensions to the holders. Stimulates investment.
- 10) Emphasis digital infrastructure over physical infrastructure.

The time for discussion is now passed, our combined focus may be our last chance to save our economy.

These are the views of Philip Copeman alone (I am looking for supporters). More detailed econometrics available.



