

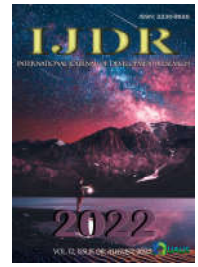


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## IN WHAT DIRECTION IS HUMANITY EVOLVING?

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### ABSTRACT

The elements that make up some systems are competing with each other for resources. Following the path of ending this struggle, evolution strengthens the reliability of the existence of these systems. This is how the Metazoa and Metaphyta evolved. Therefore, they thrive on the Earth. The development of human societies is a special case of the evolution of systems that have improved the reliability of their existence by stopping the struggle between elements of which they consist. The engine of this struggle is atavistic instinct of selfishness. Humanity is evolving along the path of man's liberation from it. We are at the beginning of this path of evolution.

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## INTRODUCTION

Some authors (1, 3) believe that humanity is aging and extinction awaits it. System aging is an endogenous decrease in the reliability of its existence. The aim of this article is to show that the reliability of humanity existence is not decreasing, but growing. The method of strengthening the reliability of system existence is the cohesion of the consisting elements. Consider how multicellular organisms strengthened their reliability of existence. The ancestors of Metazoa and Metaphyta were unicellular organisms, each fighting alone for environmental resources. This reduced the reliability of the existence of their populations. At the very beginning of the evolution of multicellular organisms, there were cells in their composition, which continued to compete for environmental resources with the cells of the multicellular organism (4). They behaved as if they were still free-living individuals of the population, and not elements integrated into a multicellular organism. They received resources and protection they needed from the multicellular organism, but did nothing to maintain its homeostasis. Rainey (4) called them cheating cells. He suggested that the key moment in the appearance of multicellular organisms was the eradication of such cells from their composition. The elimination of cheating cells stopped the struggle for resources between the cells of multicellular organisms, and increased the viability of their existence. The evolution of human societies is a special case of the evolution of systems that have increased their reliability of existence by putting an

end to the competition between the elements of which they consist. But societies still have significant distance to travel down this path of evolution. There are still cheaters that parasitize society and do nothing to maintain its homeostasis. Societies consist of people with predominant egoistic aspirations and people with predominant altruistic aspirations. The former are called in this article egoists, the latter - altruists. The struggle of people for resources is still going on within societies. Our distant ape-like ancestors lived by themselves in trees and fought with each other for required subsistence resources. Selfishness helped them survive. Later they began to live in herds. Egoists reduced the reliability of the existence of the herd. They cared more about themselves than about the welfare of the herd. Selfishness could grant them more resources and therefore lead to more offspring. The proportion of egoists in the herd grew as a result of natural selection, which units were individuals. Altruists, on the other hand, cared more about the welfare of the herds than about themselves. Their share in the herd was declining. At the same time, natural selection also operated at the level of herds. It weeded out herds in which the proportion of egoists was higher than in others. Thanks to this, the proportion of egoists in the remaining herds decreased. This improved the reliability of the existence of the remaining herds. These two opposing selections also occur in human societies. Selfishness and altruism are both instincts. They are inherited from our ape ancestors. People's selfishness is the engine of their struggle with each other for resources. It divides society and thereby reduces the reliability of its existence. The reason for many misfortunes that have happened to societies is the violation of moral principles by egoists (2). The proportion of egoists in societies as a result of natural selection, which

units are people, is growing. In the case of military and social conflicts, altruists die first. This reduces the reliability of the societies' existence. But there is also natural selection, which reduces the share of egoists in societies. It discards societies in which the proportion of egoists is greater than in others. In this selection, a larger number of people are immediately eliminated than in the selection at the individual level. Therefore, natural selection, which units are societies, is more effective than selection, which units are people. The share of egoists in human societies is reducing and will decrease in the future. The elimination of egoists from societies will take a long time measured in geologic time units. The decrease in the proportion of egoists allows societies to spend less and less energy on the struggle of people among themselves. Societies then have more and more energy they can use to deal with external threats and adapt to the environment. This strengthens the reliability of their existence and, consequently, of all mankind. And improving the reliability of the system's existence is not a sign of aging, but of development. Humanity is developing in the direction of man's liberation from the atavistic instinct of selfishness, which separates people in society.

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