



|| Save the Whales: Save the Planet ||



|| Tuesday: February 11: 2020: Sir Robert Watson Writing || á. At the first Earth Day 50 years ago, crowds of protestors across the United States held up signs calling for the world to “Save the Whales.” Much has changed since then, but one thing has remained clear: Whales are crucial parts of the planet’s carbon cycle and ecosystem engineering.

So, isn’t it time to demand that our leaders commit to fully protecting these magnificent species?

Covering 71 percent of the Earth’s surface, the ocean is the keystone to life on our planet. The ocean provides services that support communities around the globe. Our world’s oceans not only provide resources for food and livelihoods but also regulate climate and produce about 80 percent of the planet’s oxygen:

<https://eos.org/research-spotlights/worlds-biggest-oxygen-producers-living-in-swirling-ocean-waters> .:

By now, the world is familiar with the havoc that climate change wreaks on our oceans. Warming waters, acidification and sea level rise all threaten the survival of the species, ecosystems and infrastructure that support our planet. Recently, scientists and policymakers have begun to understand how the oceans can contribute solutions to climate change. As some of the largest species on the planet, whales can make a significant contribution.

Whales sequester significant amounts of carbon throughout their lives via feeding, while their waste also fertilizes phytoplankton, tiny oceanic plants, that store carbon and produce oxygen. Upon their deaths, they continue to store this carbon and support organisms on the seabed.

According to a recent International Monetary Fund report: <https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2019/12/natures-solution-to-climate-change-chami.htm> ;, even a 1 percent increase in phytoplankton productivity from whale activity would capture hundreds of millions of tons of additional carbon dioxide every year –equivalent to 2 billion mature trees.

Whales also provide nutrient mixing: When diving to deeper, cooler waters to feed, whales bring those cool, nutrient-rich waters to the surface. This allows for increased phytoplankton blooms and, thus, increased oxygen production and carbon sequestration. While seemingly insignificant, these interactions provide a constant stream of nutrients to the phytoplankton— a service no other species can provide.

Experts estimate that commercial whaling in the 20th century wiped out almost three million whales – by animal biomass, perhaps the worst destruction to any species in the Anthropocene. In 1982, the International Whaling Commission, charged with the proper conservation of whale populations, enacted a global freeze on commercial whaling starting in 1985, and in 2016, passed a resolution recognizing the contribution of whales to their ocean ecosystems. Despite the freeze and resolution, three countries – Norway, Iceland and Japan – continue to whale.

The tide may finally be turning in favor of the whales. In 2019, despite having a quota to hunt for around 200 whales, Iceland abstained from any whaling activity. The year 2020 marks 35 years since the IWC implemented the whaling

moratorium. With World Whale Day on February 15 and the 50th anniversary of Earth Day on April 22, the global spotlight is on our oceans as a fundamental tool for addressing climate change.

Now is the time to encourage forward thinking behavior and demand the leaders of Norway, Iceland and Japan make commitments to renounce commercial whaling. There's no better occasion than the 50th anniversary of Earth Day to finally save the whales and with them, the planet.

::: Caption: Whale Shark: Image: By Dr Clare Prebble: University of Southampton :::

::: Sir Robert Watson is former Chair of Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services:IPBES and a Member of Earth Day Network's Global Advisory Committee :::



What Are Building-Block Foundational Human Rights



Ask Your Political Leaders About Building-Block Foundational Human Rights and Ask Them About Humanics

The Building-Block Foundational Human Rights

A: Absolute Right to Live in Clean, Healthy, Safe and Natural Environment

B: Absolute Right to Breathe Natural, Fresh, Clean and Safe Air

C: Absolute Right to Necessary Nutritional Balanced Food and Drink

D: Absolute Right to Free Medical Care at the Point of Need

E: Absolute Right to an Absolute Home

F: Absolute Right to Free Degree-Level Education and Life Long Learning

G: Absolute Right to Guaranteed Social Care

H: Absolute Right to a Universal Income

I: Absolute Right to a Job

J: Absolute Right to Dignified Civic and Human Funeral Paid Through by Universal Income

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|| Humanity Will Continue to Live an Inferior Life Than What is Possible Until the Two Halves, Women and Men, with All Individuals in Them, are Absolutely, Fundamentally and Jubilantly Equal at Liberty. Humanity, Therefore, Is Not and Can Not Be Free Until All Humans are Equals for Only by the Yardstick of This Equality Their State of Being Free Can Be Measured. In Other Words, There Can Not Exist Liberty Unless There Exists Equality Between and Among All Humans and This State of Equality Can Not Come to Exist So Long There Remain Two Groups of Humans: The Powerful and The Powerless: Whereby the Former Controls the Later and Creates, Maintains and Carries Forward the Perpetual State of Inequality: Economically, Politically, Judicially, Constitutionally, Socially, Culturally and Spiritually. To Reach the State of Equality and Liberty, the Task Before Humanity is, Therefore, to Change This State by Taking Away Ownership and Money and, with Them, the Power They Generate and Confer, That Lets One Small Group of Humans, The Powerfals, Subjugating the Vast Multitude of Humans, The Powerless, Under Their Dictatorship. For Only by Taking Away 'the Gun' of the Power of the Powerfals, Humanity Can Bring About the State of Liberty, as Well as, Equality at Once: Equality and Liberty Can Not and Do Not Exist Separately

But Together and Simultaneously. Equality and Liberty Exist as The Promethumean Fire: In Which There is the Light and There is the Heat in One Flame: The Humanion Stands Here on the Path of Humanics: A State of Liberty for All Humanity at Equality. The Promethumean: Where Prometheus is Not Seen as a Man But a Human: In Short, Regine Humanics Foundation Ltd and The Humanion Stand for These and Exist and Work for the Promotion of This Vision of Humanics for a Better Human Condition for All Humanity Across the Mother Earth on the Mother Universana: We Invite You All for Your Support: Join Us in Telling the World and World Humanity That: An Infinitely Better Human Condition for All Humanity Across the Mother Earth IS Possible. || Regine Humanics Foundation Ltd ||

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