

Exposing Steven Shafarman's thesis: Granted Basic Income as Poverty Fighting Tool: A way to World Peace?

Who is Steven Shafarman?

Steven Shafarman (steve@citizenpolicies.org) is president of the non-commercial independent "Citizen Policies Institute", Washington D.C., U.S.A. (www.citizenpolicies.org):

Steven Shafarman is the author of "*Healing Politics: Citizen Policies and the Pursuit of Happiness*" and "*We the People: Healing Our Democracy and Saving Our World*".

What is Granted Basic Income (GBI)?

GBI is a (regular, unconditioned) granted basic income, donated from a government or international organization, and distributed directly to the single individual in a developing country.

What should be the idea of Granted Basic Income?

Steven Shafarman offers Granted Basic Income (GBI) as a "poverty fighting tool", which might succeed to eliminate the reasons for hunger, deceases, dictatorship, terrorism and war.

Is it reasonable, that Mr. Shafarman can be right?

Well ...

Is it, anyway, wishful?

Well ...

How should it, anyway, be financed?

Steven Shafarman suggests, that a certain share of the international developing-, rebuilding- and aid-programs should be realised as Granted Basic Income, for instance 10 dollar a month to all adult Afghanis and Iraqies.



Challenging Steven Shafarmans thesis: Granted Basic Income as Poverty Fighting Tool: A way to World Peace?

Who is Morten Emil Hansen?

Morten Emil Hansen (meh@ibis.dk) is info- and policy-officer in the danish organization Ibis, which on www.ibis.dk gives this information:

Vision: A justice world, where alle individuals has equal access to education, influence and resources.

Mission: Through support to peoples movements in Africa and Latin America to secure individuals equal access to education, influence and ressources at through information and political work to influence the political agenda and to create a greater understanding of the problems, that the developing countries are facing and to point out concrete possibilities of action.

Is it possible to introduce Granted Basic Income as "Poverty Fighting Tool"?

According to Morten Emil Hansens IBIS-experience, substantial aidonators in the western world, including the nordic countries, often show seriuous interest in fixing their aid to certain aims, for instance agriculture, roads, watersupply, education, democracy, womens liberation and aids-control.

Thats why, Morten Emil Hansen, see no short term scenarios, including these dominating western world donators accept of letting go of a substantial part of their aid as unconditioned Granted Basic Income.

Because Granted Basic Income eliminates the donors influence on the use of their aid.

Just having skipped a dollar as GBI to an individual in a developing country, the fundamental idea is precise, that this individual have the suverainity to choose, how to use this GBI-dollar, including in demand of local produced food, clothes and education, or a Coca Cola and a mobile phone.

So far, Morten Emil Hansen consider the GBI-idea as an utopi.

On the other hand a more open aid, called Budget-Aid, thanks to IBIS and other organizations, has become more common, which according to Morten Emil Hansen, ten years ago would be seen as unthinkable, as GBI might be today.

The Budget-Aid principlly is a cashflow from the donor to the finance ministry in the actual developing country, and is not connected to the benefit of the donors national commercial interests, but can be used freely within agreed purposes.

Yet still conditions of reporting and control is involved, to secure the donor, that the donation is uses as conditioned.

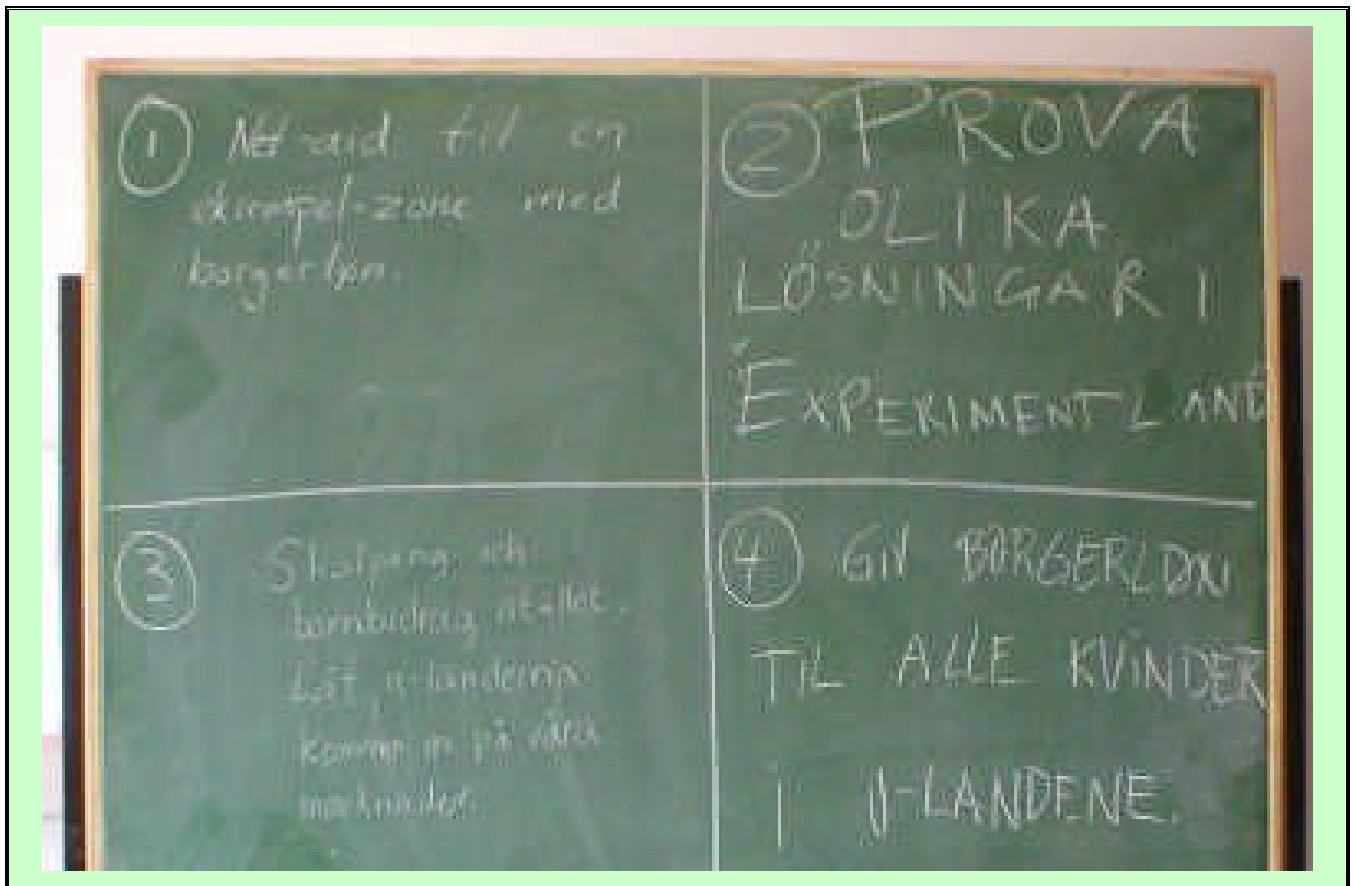
So what today might be considered as utopi, might in 10 years be a respected and realised idea, and this way – as the Budget-Aid – have become a "Concrete Utopi".

(Resume: Søren Chr.Lund
and Morten Emil Hansen)



Workshop upon Steven Shafarmans thesis: Granted Basic Income as Poverty Fighting Tool: A way to World Peace?

After Morten Emil Hansens exposure and challenge, Steven Shafarmans thesis were discussed i four group, that additional were invited to write a question or a suggestion at the greenboard:



Gruppe 1: *Net-aid to an exempelzone with GBI*

Gruppe 2: *Try out different solutions
in a "Experiment Country"*

Gruppe 3: *Schoolpay and childsupport in stead.
Let developing-countries enter our market*

Gruppe 4: *Offer GBI to all women i developing countries*