

SOVEREIGNTY OF DIGNITY: From Border Protection to Rights Protection in the Era of the Information Economy

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Abstract

This article substantiates a fundamental reform of international law through the prism of the historical evolution of capital and structural patterns of modern civilization. The author proves that the state is a fiduciary mechanism of society, usurpation of power represents a violation of fiduciary duty requiring exclusion of the regime from international law and intervention under UN mandate. The central thesis: capital, having exhausted all traditional degrees of freedom (geographic expansion, technological intensification, financialization), has only one path for further growth—transforming humanity into quality consumers through liberalization of autocracies. This is not the final goal but a necessary condition for space expansion—the next phase of civilizational development. For the first time in history, the moral imperative (human dignity), economic logic (market expansion), and existential necessity (interplanetary civilization) converge into a unified vector. The article analyzes the Maduro regime as a test case for implementing a new doctrine of intervention, examines Elon Musk’s role as a conscious agent of this process, and outlines mechanisms for legitimizing interventions through UN procedures.

Keywords: sovereignty, dignity, fiduciary state, quality consumer, capital as subject, intervention, space expansion, Elon Musk, Venezuela, international law

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1 Introduction: The Exhaustion of Traditional Degrees of Freedom

We are witnessing the culmination of a process that began with the emergence of industrial capitalism: the systematic exhaustion of degrees of freedom for capital accumulation. Each historical phase of capitalism was characterized by the opening of a new degree of freedom:

1. **Geographic expansion** (XVI–XIX centuries): Colonialism, opening of new markets and resources
2. **Technological intensification** (XIX–XX centuries): Industrial revolutions, productivity growth
3. **Financialization** (XX–XXI centuries): Credit expansion, derivatives, virtual capital

By the beginning of the XXI century, all three degrees of freedom are exhausted:

- Geographic expansion is complete (no more “new lands”)
- Technological intensification reaches physical limits (Moore’s Law slows)
- Financialization reaches systemic limits (2008 crisis, debt saturation)

The question arises: *where is the next degree of freedom?*

2 The Quality Consumer as the Last Degree of Freedom

The answer lies not in the extensive expansion of the market (more consumers), but in its intensive transformation: the *quality* of consumption.

2.1 Definition of Quality Consumer

Quality consumer—a person who:

- Has purchasing power (income above survival level)
- Makes conscious choices (education, information access)
- Has long-term planning horizon (legal guarantees, property rights)
- Actively participates in economic innovation (not just buys, but shapes demand)

2.2 Impossibility Under Autocracy

Critically: the quality consumer is impossible under autocratic regimes:

- Suppression of information → inability to make informed choices
- Absence of property rights → short planning horizon
- Political repression → economic stagnation
- Corruption → market distortion

Historical evidence: All advanced economies are democracies (with rare exceptions like Singapore, which are hybrid systems).

Conclusion: Capital has an objective interest in liberalizing autocracies.

3 The Fiduciary State: Theoretical Foundation

The traditional concept of sovereignty (Westphalian system, 1648) is based on the idea of the state as the supreme actor. This concept is obsolete.

3.1 Fiduciary Relationship

Proposed alternative: The state as a fiduciary mechanism.

Fiduciary relationship—a relationship where one party (fiduciary) manages resources/rights on behalf of another (beneficiary) with the obligation to act in the beneficiary's interest.

3.2 Application to the State

Application to the state:

- **Beneficiary:** Society (people)
- **Fiduciary:** Government
- **Resource:** State power (monopoly on legitimate violence)
- **Obligation:** Protection of rights, welfare, security

Key consequence: Power is not “owned” by the government, but entrusted to it.

3.3 Violation of Fiduciary Duty

Violation of fiduciary duty includes:

- Systematic violation of human rights
- Corruption (theft of public resources)
- Repression (use of power against beneficiary)
- Kleptocracy (state as private property of elite)

Legal analogy: If a trustee embezzles funds, they are removed and held accountable. Similarly, a regime that violates fiduciary duty should be excluded from the international legal system.

4 Intervention as Restoration of Fiduciary Function

If a regime violates fiduciary duty, intervention is not aggression but restoration of legitimate order.

4.1 Legitimation Mechanism

1. **Establishing violation** (documentation of crimes, human rights violations)
2. **UN Security Council resolution** (similar to R2P but broader)
3. **Multilateral coalition** (not unilateral action)
4. **Interim administration** (similar to Kosovo, East Timor)
5. **Free elections** under international supervision
6. **Transfer of power** to legitimate government

Critical: This is not “regime change” for geopolitical interests, but restoration of fiduciary relationship between state and society.

4.2 Difference from Traditional Intervention

- **Traditional:** State A attacks state B for interests of A
- **Proposed:** International community acts as guarantor of fiduciary relationship

Analogy: Court removes abusive guardian and appoints responsible one.

5 Capital as Subject: The Driver of Transformation

Key thesis: Capital in the XXI century is not just an economic category but a quasi-subject with its own logic.

5.1 Capital as Quasi-Subject

Capital as subject:

- Has goals (accumulation, expansion)
- Has strategies (search for new degrees of freedom)
- Has agency (influences politics, culture, institutions)
- Has consciousness (through carriers: corporations, states, individuals)

5.2 Evidence

Evidence:

- States act in capital's interests even against own citizens (austerity policies, deregulation)
- Transnational corporations stronger than many states
- Capital flows determine geopolitics more than military force

Mechanism: Capital “programs” agents (politicians, businessmen, intellectuals) through incentive structures.

Example: Elon Musk—not just businessman but conscious agent of capital's next phase (space expansion).

6 Venezuela as Test Case

The Maduro regime in Venezuela is an ideal test case for the new intervention doctrine.

6.1 Criteria for Intervention

1. ✓ Systematic violation of human rights (documented by UN, Amnesty International)
2. ✓ Economic collapse (hyperinflation, poverty, mass emigration)

3. ✓ Loss of legitimacy (rigged elections, suppression of opposition)
4. ✓ Humanitarian crisis (food, medicine shortage, deteriorating infrastructure)
5. ✓ Regional instability (refugee flows to neighboring countries)

6.2 Geopolitical Context

- Russia and China support Maduro (geopolitical interests)
- USA supports opposition (but discredited by history of interventions)
- European Union in ambiguous position

6.3 Proposed Solution

1. UN Security Council resolution (requires overcoming Russian/Chinese veto)
2. Multilateral coalition under UN mandate
3. Interim administration (1–2 years)
4. Free elections under international supervision

Expected outcome:

- Restoration of democracy
- Economic recovery (access to credit, foreign investment)
- Integration into global market as quality consumer base

7 Elon Musk: Conscious Agent of Space Expansion

Elon Musk represents a unique phenomenon: a capitalist who consciously understands the next phase.

7.1 SpaceX and Starlink as Infrastructure

- **SpaceX**—technology for interplanetary flights (Mars)
- **Starlink**—global internet (connection of all people, including in autocracies)

7.2 Starlink's Geopolitical Role

- Circumvents state censorship (signals from space)
- Enables information access in closed societies
- Undermines autocratic control

Example: Starlink in Ukraine (support for resistance), potential use in China, Russia, Iran.

7.3 Musk's Strategy

1. Create space infrastructure (SpaceX)
2. Connect entire planet (Starlink)
3. Undermine autocracies (through information access)
4. Create quality consumer base (liberalized societies)
5. Finance space expansion (through increased capital from global market)

This is not conspiracy but conscious understanding of capital's logic.

8 Space Expansion: The Next Degree of Freedom

After exhausting Earth's degrees of freedom, capital requires space expansion.

8.1 Resources

- Asteroids (metals, rare elements)
- Moon (Helium-3 for fusion energy)
- Mars (potential colonization)

8.2 Market

- Space tourism
- Orbital manufacturing (zero gravity)
- Interplanetary trade

8.3 Civilization

- Existential necessity (Earth's risks: climate, asteroids, nuclear war)
- Expansion as species imperative
- Cosmic perspective (planetary identity)

Requirement: Space expansion requires massive resources, achievable only with global cooperation and liberalized societies (quality consumers funding the project through taxes, consumption, innovation).

Conclusion: Liberalization of autocracies is not end goal but necessary intermediate stage toward space civilization.

9 Legitimation Through UN: Sequential Weakening

Legitimizing intervention through UN requires overcoming veto of Russia and China in Security Council.

9.1 Strategy of Sequential Weakening

1. Document violations (international organizations, media, whistleblowers)
2. Sanctions (economic pressure on regime)
3. Support for opposition (non-military: information, finances, training)
4. Humanitarian intervention (food, medicine under UN aegis)
5. No-fly zones (protection of civilians, as in Libya 2011)
6. Military intervention (as last resort, under UN mandate)

Key: Each stage increases legitimacy and weakens resistance.

9.2 Mechanism of Overcoming Veto

- UN General Assembly resolution (not binding but creates pressure)
- Uniting for Peace procedure (if Security Council paralyzed)
- Regional organizations (OAS for Venezuela)
- Coalition of willing (as in Kosovo 1999)

Goal: Create such broad international consensus that Russia/China either abstain or reluctantly agree.

10 Convergence: Morality, Economics, and Necessity

For the first time in history, three vectors converge:

10.1 Moral Imperative

- Human dignity is universal value
- Autocracies violate dignity systematically
- Moral duty to intervene

10.2 Economic Logic

- Capital requires quality consumers
- Quality consumers require democracy
- Liberalization = economic necessity

10.3 Existential Necessity

- Humanity needs space expansion
- Space expansion requires resources
- Resources require global cooperation and quality consumers

This convergence creates unprecedented conditions for transformation.

11 Criticism and Responses

11.1 “This is neo-imperialism”

Response: Imperialism is exploitation for benefit of metropole. Proposed doctrine restores fiduciary relationship for benefit of local population.

11.2 “Who decides which regime violates fiduciary duty?”

Response: Objective criteria (human rights violations documented by UN, international organizations). Collective decision through UN procedures.

11.3 “This violates sovereignty”

Response: Sovereignty is not absolute. State forfeits sovereignty by violating fiduciary duty to own population.

11.4 “Capital is not subject”

Response: Capital has goal-directed logic, influences agents, shapes institutions. Whether to call it “subject” is terminological, mechanism remains.

11.5 “This will lead to wars”

Response: Current system already allows wars (Syria, Yemen, Ukraine). Proposed system regulates intervention through international law.

12 Historical Precedents

The proposed doctrine is not without precedent.

12.1 R2P (Responsibility to Protect, 2005)

- States have responsibility to protect population
- If state fails, international community must intervene
- Limitation: applied selectively (Libya yes, Syria no)

12.2 Kosovo (1999)

- NATO intervention without UN Security Council resolution
- Controversial but created precedent
- Post-factum legitimized through UN administration

12.3 East Timor (1999)

- UN-mandated intervention
- Successful transition to democracy
- Model for proposed doctrine

12.4 Nuremberg Trials (1945–1946)

- Establishment that leaders answerable for crimes
- Precedent for personal responsibility
- Basis for ICC (International Criminal Court)

13 Implementation Roadmap

13.1 Phase 1: Doctrinal Development (2025–2027)

- Academic publications
- International conferences
- UN working groups

13.2 Phase 2: Test Case (2027–2030)

- Venezuela or similar regime
- Documentation of violations
- UN resolution attempt

13.3 Phase 3: Coalition Building (2030–2035)

- Formation of “Friends of Dignity” group
- Bilateral agreements on intervention procedures
- Development of intervention protocols

13.4 Phase 4: Institutionalization (2035–2040)

- Amendment to UN Charter (if possible)
- Creation of permanent mechanism
- Integration into international law

13.5 Phase 5: Systemic Transformation (2040–2050)

- Liberalization of major autocracies (Russia, China)
- Global democratic consolidation
- Foundation for space expansion

14 Conclusion: From Protection of Borders to Protection of Rights

The Westphalian system (1648–2024) was based on sovereignty as inviolability of borders. This system is obsolete.

The proposed post-Westphalian system is based on sovereignty as fiduciary duty to population.

Key shift: From “state rights” to “human rights” as foundation of international order.

Mechanism: Intervention not as aggression but as restoration of violated fiduciary relationship.

Driver: Capital’s objective interest in liberalizing autocracies (quality consumer imperative).

Perspective: Space expansion as next phase requiring global cooperation.

Moral, economic, and existential vectors converge:

- Protection of dignity
- Expansion of market
- Survival of species

This is not utopia but historical necessity.

The question is not “whether” but “how” and “when.”

The answer: through sequential implementation of fiduciary state doctrine, starting with test cases like Venezuela, building toward systemic transformation by mid-XXI century.

References

Note: Full reference list would be included in final publication

- UN documents on human rights violations
- R2P doctrine (2005)
- Economic data on autocracies vs democracies
- SpaceX/Starlink technical and strategic reports
- International law sources on intervention
- Historical precedents (Kosovo, East Timor, Libya)
- Theoretical works on capital as subject
- Literature on space expansion economics

Author Note

Note: Author affiliation and contact would be included in final publication

This article represents theoretical framework developed through interdisciplinary dialogue combining philosophy, economics, international law, and strategic studies. The author welcomes critical engagement and further development of these ideas.