

## The Recalibrating Our “Moral Compasses” (ROMC) Survey Project

### Project Overview and Invitation to Collaborate

for The ROMC Survey Project Press Kit

(at <http://www.cpcs.co/romc-survey-project.html> )

The ROMC Survey Project is currently seeking collaborators for a large project: a survey of 300 carefully selected people from around the world--

- a) who are well known in fields of activity associated with creating a peaceful and sustainable world
- b) who many people will recognize as voices of experience speaking honestly and truthfully about what could be the most critical time of decision-making in the history of life on Planet Earth.

#### Details about the Survey Design

In the survey, carefully selected participants will be asked 9 questions, which (in the current version--11/2014) will include questions requesting--

- 1) a 10-20 page critical challenge assessment [an “Example Challenge Assessment” (20 pages) is in Appendix B of the ROMC Survey Project Prospectus—see Press Kit below]
- 2) a 10-20 page summary (with as much detail as possible) of solutions specific to their field(s) of activity [an “Example Solutions Guide” (17 pages) is in Appendix C of ROMC Survey Project Prospectus]
- 3) 4-10 pages describing collaborative problem solving processes which survey respondents feel will be most effective at creating positive tipping points and positive multiplier effects at the local community level

--and questions seeking input on

- 4) what local institutions would be most appropriate to commission a “right livelihood” resource guide
- 5) what is a “moral compass”? (i.e. How does one know when one has a “moral compass”?; how is it created; what do people usually expect a “moral compass” to do for them?; etc)
- 6) what percentage of people have a “moral compass” which is relevant to the challenges of our times, and which they use regularly to make wise choices regarding the investments of time, energy, and money they make in the everyday circumstances of their lives?
- 7) how a “moral compass” might be created and maintained, so that it remains relevant even during times of unprecedented change.

#### Why This Project is Needed

The Recalibrating Our “Moral Compasses” (ROMC) Survey Project believes there are many unprecedented challenges which are now on dangerous trajectories (many danger signs flashing red); there is a high

likelihood of significant, actually occurring, and ongoing damage to ecological stability and social cohesion; and (thus) there is an urgent need to reach positive tipping points on many of these challenges as soon as possible. [For supporting evidence, see “Example Challenge Assessment” in Appendix B of the 74 page ROMC Survey Project Prospectus (in Press Kit below)]

If we have serious concerns about the nature and reliability of our “moral compasses” at this critical time, we may not be able to make enough of a transition away from the kind of capital misallocations “which deplete the world’s stock of natural wealth” and “allow businesses to run up significant, largely unaccounted for, and unchecked social and environmental externalities” ... *and thus we may do more to create widespread cynicism, rather than confidence, about our collective capacity to resolve the unprecedented challenges we face.* [For context of quoted passages, see excerpt from “Towards a Green Economy: Pathways to Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication” United Nations Environment Programme 2011, in Section C of “Quick Reference Document A” (in Press Kit below)]

*But how will we even know if we have such concerns if many of the most well-known critical challenge assessments and solution guides do not give serious attention to the nature and reliability of our “moral compasses”?* [For supporting evidence, see Section B in “Quick Reference Document A” (in Press Kit below)]

### Who Benefits from this ROMC Survey Project?

#### 1) Collaborating Institutions of Higher Education

Collaborating institutions will participate in building clearinghouse websites for many of the survey topics (Ex: “critical challenges”, “field specific solutions”, “key collaborative problem solving processes”, and working definitions of “right livelihood” and “moral compasses”) which can continue to aggregate contributions after the survey is over.

Collaborating institutions would thus be on a fast track to pioneering cutting edge educational curriculum and educational experiences which are highly relevant to resolving the challenges of our times.

#### 2) Socially Responsible Investing, Divestment/Reinvestment, and Green Investment Efforts

Collaborating organizations will participate in creating an indicator/index, which could be a most valuable guide to investors at all levels of society [The investments of time, energy, and money (the “votes”) that each of us make in the everyday circumstances of community life become the larger economy].

#### 3) Collaborative Problem Solving Efforts at the Local Community Level

Currently, only a very small percentage of the global public is aware that there are unprecedented challenges which will require unprecedented long term changes at every level of society.

One of the primary goals of The ROMC Survey Project is to create a free Ebook from 30 selected responses to the survey (all 300 responses will be accessible for free at the ROMC Survey Project website).

Such a comprehensive survey of people working in fields of activity associated with creating a peaceful and sustainable world will surely--

- a) inspire other similar surveys (many such surveys will be needed to carefully monitor and adapt to the unprecedented transition ahead)
- b) inspire similar surveys at the local community and regional level, which would lead into local community visioning/collaborative problem solving initiatives [modeled on the best practices suggested by responses to Questions 2 and 3 (see above section "Details About the Survey Design")]

### Why The ROMC Survey Project Could Make Especially Valuable Contributions

Human morality is not a constant—it is not something which is the same throughout the centuries of human existence; and thus it is something which can become degraded or raised up, depending on the leanings of human aspirations.

What makes this ROMC Survey Project most unique, and why it could make especially valuable contributions at this critical time, is that it believes variations in human morality, the "leanings of human aspirations", and a need for more consensus about the meanings of "right livelihood" and "moral compasses" *are significant factors affecting the nature of the challenges of our time*—and thus it incorporates such factors into both survey design, and survey presentation.

But even more important, this kind of comprehensive survey represents a deep exploration of the nature of our "moral compasses", and how aligned—or misaligned—they are to resolving the challenges of our times.

### ROMC Survey Project Press Kit

There are currently 5 documents in the Press Kit for The Recalibrating Our "Moral Compasses" Survey Project (all of which are accessible for free at <http://www.cpcs.co/romc-survey-project.html>)--

- a) this 4 page Project Overview and Invitation to Collaborate
- b) the 5 page overview "What Collaborating on The ROMC Survey Project Might Look Like"
- c) the 5 page Quick Reference Document A
- d) a 13 page Overview of "The Potential for Valuable Contributions"
- e) the 74 page Prospectus (Gathering Evidence to Support a Recalibration of Our "Moral Compasses")

### Welcoming Any Further Discussion Which Will Help Realize the Potential of This Project

The ROMC Survey Project highlights linkages between the offices of sustainability, offices of religious and

spiritual life, offices of civic engagement, and peacebuilding curriculum at institutes of higher education—offices and curriculum which have become more and more important in the last ten years.

I believe 5 universities or colleges, collaborating on this ROMC Survey Project, would give the project enough credibility to attract the most appropriate and relevant survey respondents. The 5 page overview “What Collaborating on The ROMC Survey Project Might Look Like” (in the Press Kit, above) provides brief descriptions of 11 areas of project development all of which illustrate highly relevant educational opportunities which could be accessible to students at universities/colleges that become collaborators on this project.

The ROMC Survey Project is seeking further discussion with faculty and administration at universities and colleges; with organizations assisting universities and colleges with sustainability and civic engagement curriculum and experiences; with organizations working in a variety of related fields associated with creating a peaceful and sustainable world; and with any other interested individuals, to further develop this project, and realize its potential for community service at this critical time.

Where there is no opportunity for collaboration, there may be an opportunity for someone to become a member of the Board of Advisors for this ROMC Survey Project.

In addition, this Project Overview is an effort to “give away” information about this ROMC Survey Project, as many similar surveys will be needed to carefully monitor and adapt to the unprecedented transition ahead. So readers of this document are welcome to share information about The ROMC Survey Project in any way which might accelerate positive and constructive responses to the challenges of our times.

I welcome comments, questions, suggestions, and recommendations. I hope I will have the opportunity to meet some of the readers of this document.

For a Peaceful and Sustainable World,

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The Recalibrating Our “Moral Compasses” (ROMC) Survey Project is a project of The Community Peacebuilding and Cultural Sustainability (CPCS) Initiative (at [www.cpcs.co](http://www.cpcs.co) ).

The Community Peacebuilding and Cultural Sustainability (CPCS) Initiative provides research for critical challenge alerts, and support for collaborative problem solving initiatives which seek to maximize citizen participation.

Stefan Pasti is the current project coordinator for The ROMC Survey Project. He is also founder and resource coordinator for The CPCS Initiative.

The CPCS Initiative grew out of Mr. Pasti's work building The Interfaith Peacebuilding and Community Revitalization (IPCR) Initiative (from 2001-2013). Many of the documents and resources Mr. Pasti created for The IPCR Initiative are included in the "About the IPCR Initiative" section of the CPCS Initiative website (see <http://www.cpcs.co/about-the-ipcr-initiative.html> ).

Mr. Pasti's most recent critical challenge assessment/solution guides include:

["IPCR Critical Challenge Assessment 2011-2012: Summary Report"](#) (444 pages; January, 2012)

["Invitation Package for Possible Board of Advisors"](#) (589 pages; November, 2013)

In March, 2014, The CPCS Initiative launched the Tipping Point Action Campaign (see ["Press Kit for the Tipping Point Action Campaign"](#)). "Tipping Point Action: Citizen Participation in Times of Unprecedented Challenges" advocates to 1000 Community Visioning Initiatives, as a way of maximizing citizen participation and accelerating solution-oriented activity at this critical time.