



Internet and Societies

New Innovation Paths

Support Forward-Looking Approaches

2nd International Paradiso Conference
European Commission
Brussels
September 8, 2011

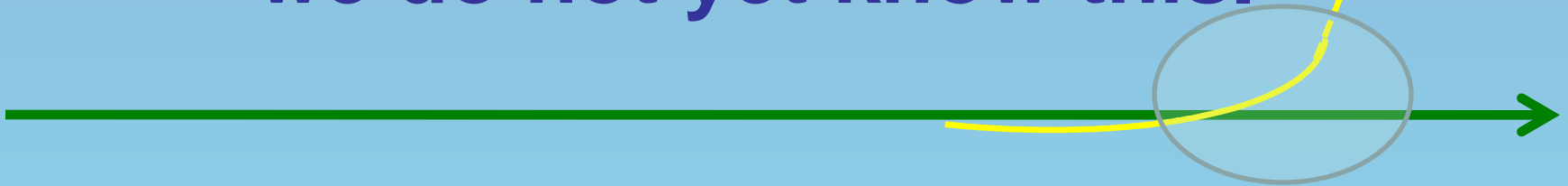
Ruben Nelson
Foresight Canada

Recommendation (today's draft)

“The European Commission should **promote** better understanding of **the co-evolution of the internet and our societies** in the decades to come. It should strongly support **forward-looking approaches that thoroughly explore interactions between the internet and societal developments**, both within its own programmes and through the Future Internet projects it funds.”

Perspective

We are facing a
paradigm change **of** our
modern/Industrial
form of civilization.
And...
we do not yet know this.

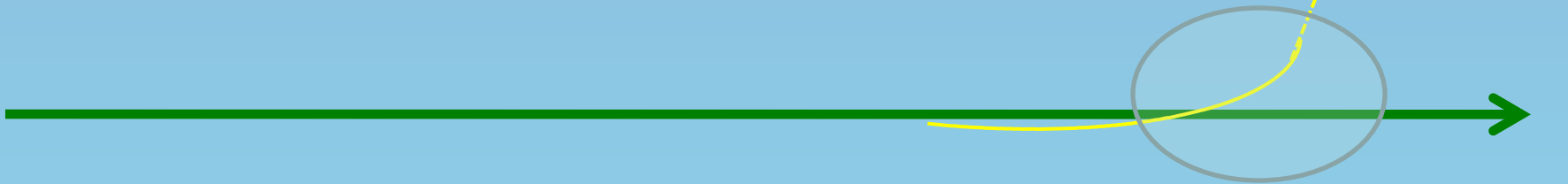


Modern/Industrial Imagination

- NOT see the soft changes in our consciousness, cultures and forms of civilization.
- NOT see technology is inherently as human as is sex or food.
- NOT see that consciousness, cultures and forms of civilization are living, complex dynamic systems.
- NOT see the death of modern/Industrial civilization or the birth of a new form.

Modern/Industrial Imagination

- Too fragmented
- Too short-term
- Too shallow/superficial (reductionist)
- Too confident/arrogant (un-reflexive)

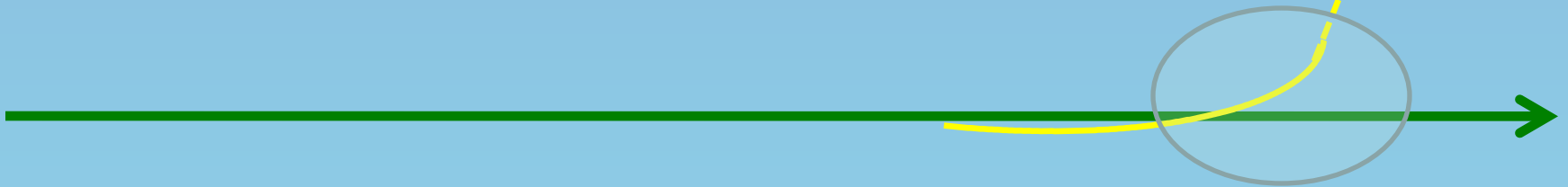


Modern/Industrial Imagination

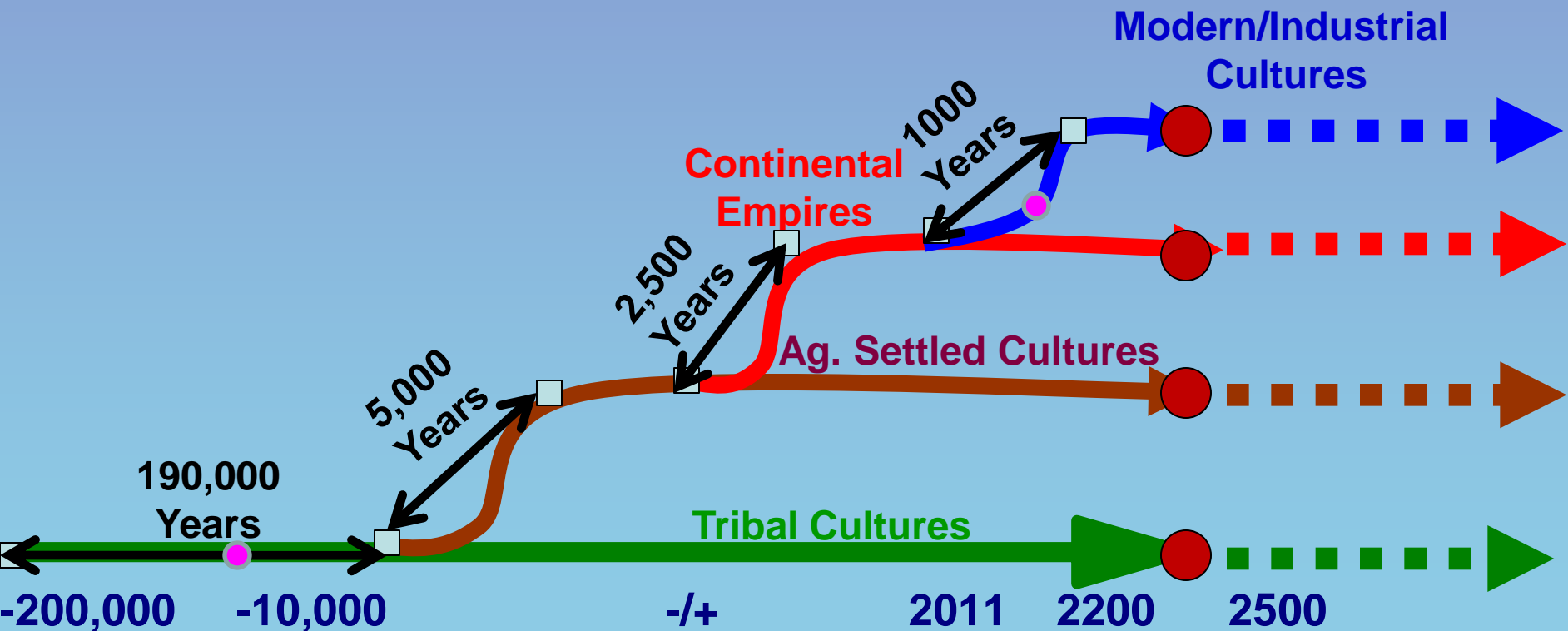
- Too fragmented
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Be far-sighted,
broad-minded,
with a depth of judgement.

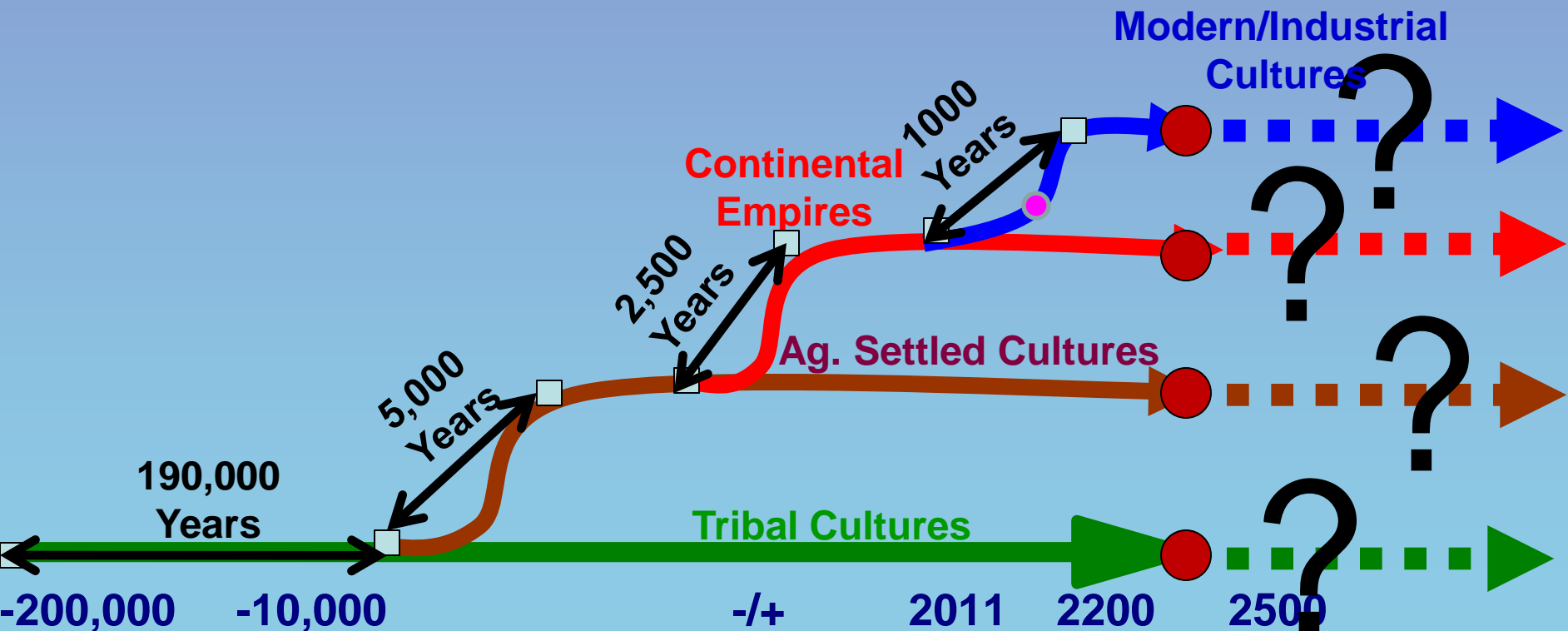
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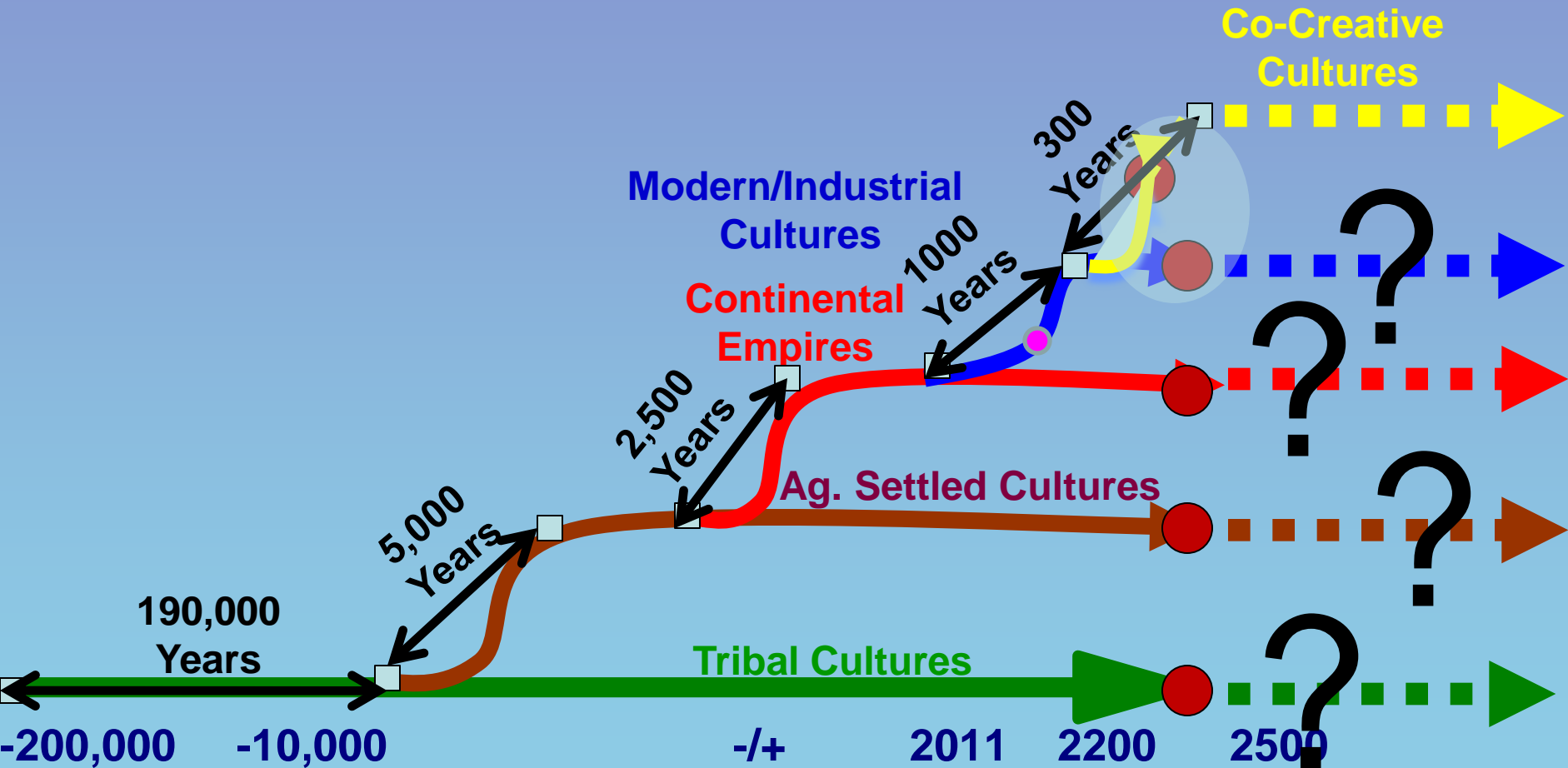
Our Journey So Far... (forms of civilization)



The Elephant in the Room

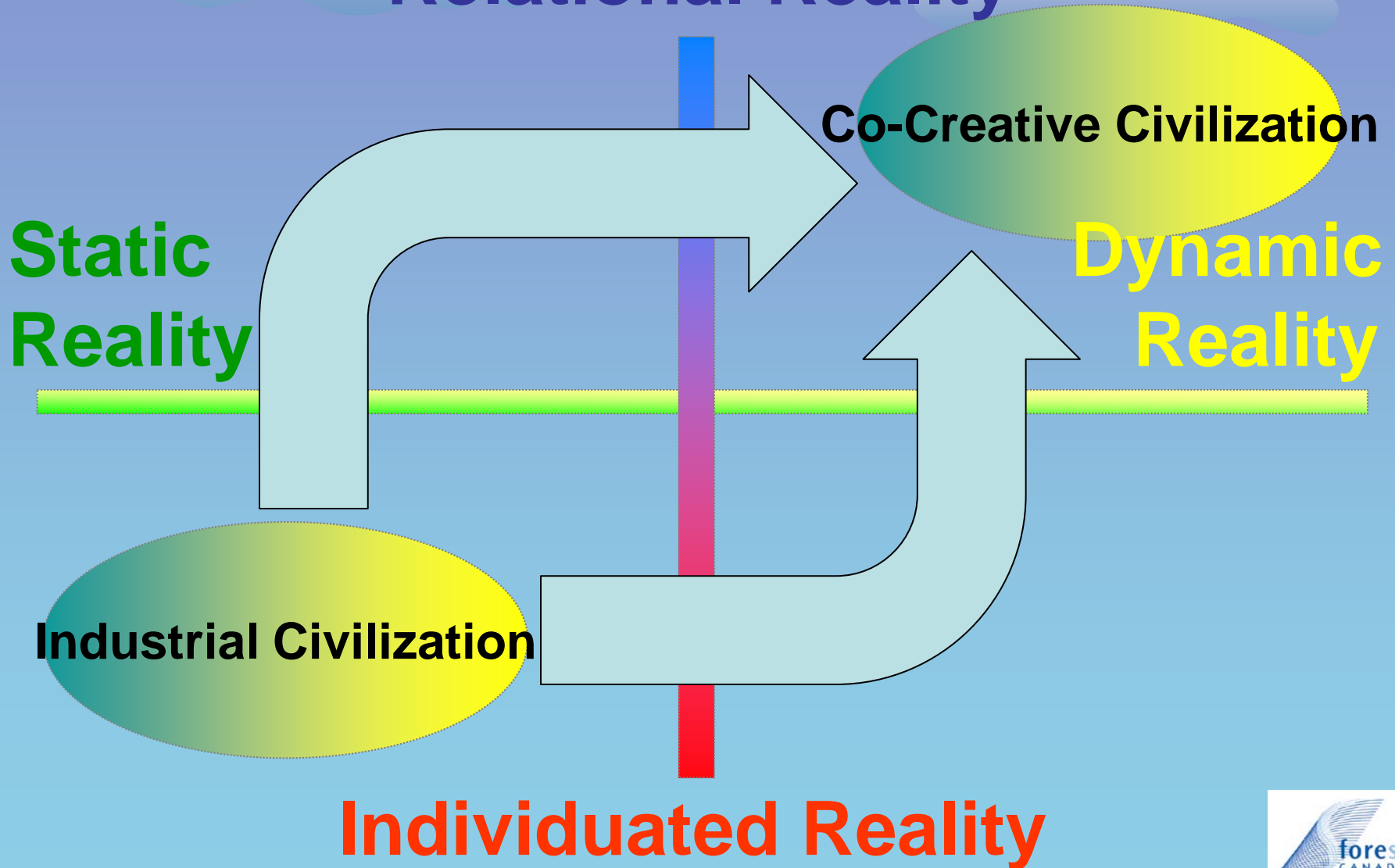


Co-Creative – 5th Form of Civilization



Emerging Imagination

Relational Reality



Summary

- Internet is a transformative technology.
- We, our world, are changing far more profoundly than opinion leaders are prepared to face and face up to.
- We are changing our minds about reality, what it is to be human and our role in reality.
- For good and ill, we are co-creators of our future.
- Best we get good at it!

Summary

- Becoming
Web-enabled
Co-Creators
of a humane
and deeply
satisfying
future.**
- Internet is a transformative technology.
 - We and our world are changing far more profoundly than our opinion are prepared to face and face up to.
 - We are changing our minds about reality, what it is to be human and our role in reality.
 - For good and ill, we are co-creators of our future.
 - Best we get good at it!

Revised Recommendation

“In the years to come, the European Commission should **promote** better understanding of **the co-evolution of the internet and our societies and the internet’s contribution to the co-creation of a new form of civilization** . It should strongly support **forward-looking approaches that thoroughly explore interactions and interpenetrations between the internet and societal developments, both within its own programmes and through the Future Internet projects it funds.**”

A photograph of a stone tower with a domed top, situated on a rocky, grassy hilltop. The sky is clear and blue. The image is framed by a light blue border with white clouds on the left and right sides.

Over to YOU!

Our Future **is** in Your Hands, Minds and Hearts

Thank you

Contact

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