## Corporate Socialism on the Rise in US, Scholar Says

Petr Svab interviews Michael Rectenwald in the <u>socialism</u>" or "capitalism with Chinese characteristics," as it closely resembles the totalitarian model of the Chinese Communist Party.

"We are witnessing the convergence of political and economic objectives and the merging of state and corporate functions. Corporations are now acting as state apparatuses to enforce uniparty—state desiderata," he told The Epoch Times via email.

"This is because under the corporate socialist agenda, these corporations recognize that in order to become or remain favored partners in an economy in which the state picks winners and losers, they best align with the objectives of the state, which is now being run by a singular uniparty."

The result of this is a "two-tiered economy, with would-be monopolies and the state on top" and the rest reduced to "enhanced, supposedly comfortable serfdom," Rectenwald wrote <a href="CCP">CCP</a> (Chinese Communist Party) virus "just so happen to be doing the work that corporate socialists ... want done," such as decimating small businesses and boosting revenues of corporate juggernauts such as Amazon, Apple, and Facebook.

Another method to reduce expectations works through the hijacking of environmental policy, according to Rectenwald.

While there are pressing ecological concerns such as water pollution and the growing, often toxic, waste from plastics, electronics, and other modern technology, those usually play second fiddle to climate change.

If mainstream climate predictions come true, the world will face problems such as more extreme weather and coastal

flooding in the coming decades. The establishment policy response has been to ask Americans and Europeans to tighten their belts.

"If, in the postpandemic era, we decide to resume our lives just as before (by driving the same cars, by flying to the same destinations, by eating the same things, by heating our house the same way, and so on), the COVID-19 crisis will have gone to waste as far as climate policies are concerned," Klaus Schwab, founder and executive chairman of the World Economic Forum (WEF), and his colleague Thierry Malleret write in their book "COVID-19: The Great Reset."

The book states that "with the economic emergency responses to the pandemic now in place, the opportunity can be seized to make the kind of institutional changes and policy choices that will put economies on a new path towards a fairer, greener future," which it calls "The Great Reset."

The more dramatic climate prognostications have been around for many decades, but <u>barriers to competition</u> and favor monopolization.

The financial establishment has followed with its own woke initiative, setting up an "environmental, social, and governance index (ESG)" to steer capital toward corporations on board with the Great Reset program.

"While this index serves merely as a recommendation at present, indications are that banks, asset managers, and other networked corporate institutions may use the scores as means for squeezing non-compliant, non-woke players out of the market," Rectenuald wrote.

The most obvious <u>far beyond its means</u> as defined by the "earth-system scientists." At the same time, it was still far from meeting the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, which demand things such as universal access to affordable housing, transportation, healthcare, education, and more.

"Residents' housing needs are increasingly not being satisfied, with almost 20% of city tenants unable to cover their basic needs after paying their rent, and just 12% of approximately 60,000 online applicants for social housing being successful,"