Max Ramsahoye

The Civilisation Research Paradigm

Across civilisational ***mechanics*** – functioning at the macro-scale – ***design*** – ideal high-level principles – and ***transition*** – theory of world-systems change.

Overview

In 2020, The Civilization Research Institute (CRI) was founded by Daniel Schmachtenberger. Prior to this in 2017, Schmachtenberger had published a series of notes on civilisation design and transition criteria with a focus on New Economics. As a leading theorist of the metacrisis he has also spoken at length on the search for the third attractor: a civilisation design that avoids decentralised destruction by default – from multi-polar dynamics – and centralised control as counter-reaction – coercively managing catastrophic risks.

At this point in time, civilisation research – under the paradigm Schmachtenberger has pioneered – is not formally developed, even by CRI itself (at least from the outside). From a cursory investigation online, 'civilisation research', 'civilisation studies' and 'civilisation science' mostly yield results with an anthropology or complex systems emphasis – which are of course major components, but not sufficiently holistic. Similarly, whilst I have previously written on starting a new field and movement for the Metacrisis, Civilisation Alignment or Coordination (Studies), Civilisation Research subsumes these as the highest-level or most foundational frame possible.

My goal with this document is to give a conceptual structure to the paradigm of Civilisation Research and set out a preliminary research agenda: to be undertaken outside of and beyond CRI – across a wider (generative cooperative) research network. Essentially this document serves an onboarding function (assembling everything in one place) for those who are new to this extremely large-scale and complex domain of thought.

Structure

In my conceptual model of civilisation research, it is subdivided into nine subframes: three civilisational–, three meta– and three macro–. These latter clusters inform and are conceptually subordinate to the Civilisational framework. I set out each of these in the sections below.

Contents

- Civilisational
  - Civilisational Mechanics
  - Civilisation Design
  - Civilisational Transition
- Meta
  - Metacrisis
  - Metamodernism
  - Metatheory
- Macro
  - Macrohistory
  - Macrosociology
  - Macrostrategy

Civilisational

Civilisational Mechanics

Civilisation Design

Civilisational Transition

Meta

Metacrisis

Metamodernism

Metatheory

Macro

Macrohistory

Macrosociology

Macrostrategy