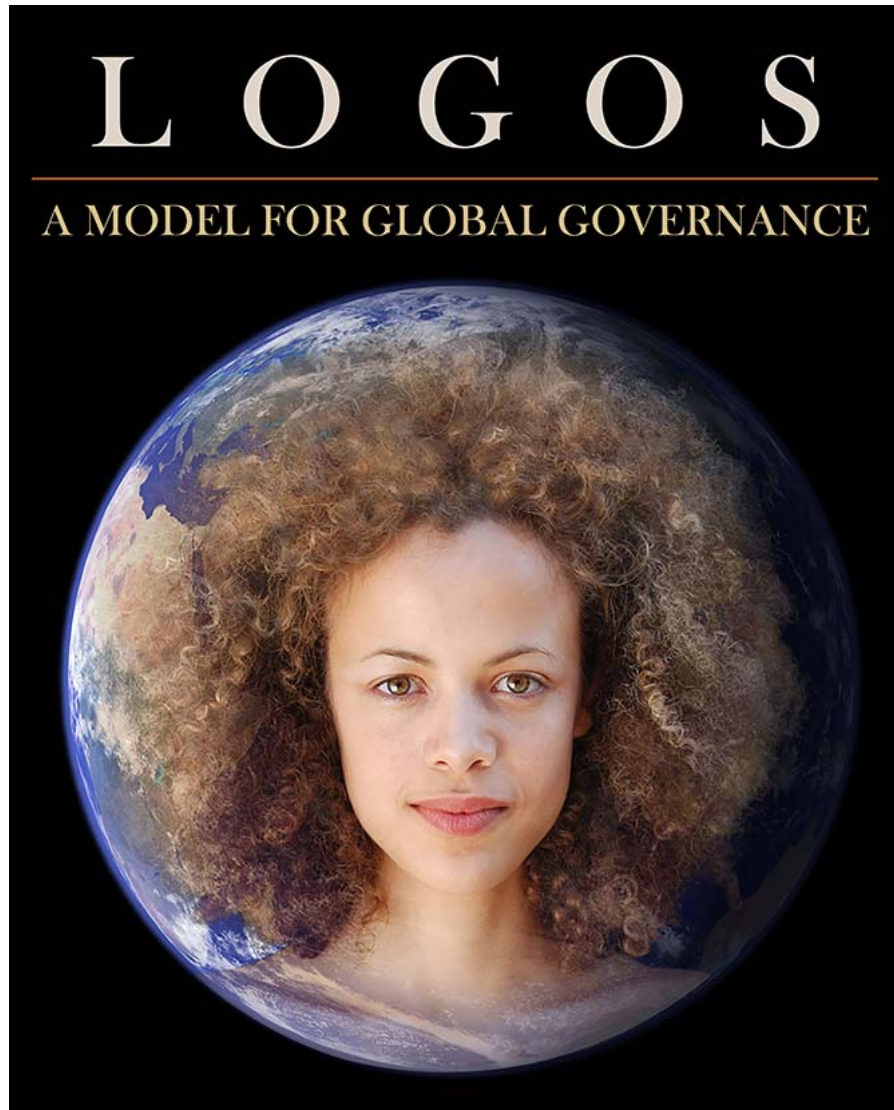


LOGOSwiki.org: A Public Policy Wiki

Excerpted from *The Labors of Hercules: Modern Solutions to 12 Modern Problems*

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To address both the promise and peril of AI—while providing a reliable, efficient, evidence-based policy guide for governance at every level—I have proposed LOGOS, a global, independent, public-policy wiki. A small, in-progress proof-of-concept has existed since 2015 at LOGOSwiki.org, with a companion site at UNICEwiki.org.

The name derives from the ancient Greek *lógos* (λόγος), meaning “reasoned argument” and is associated with persuasion through logic, evidence, and clear inference. Logos can also mean “word” or

“principle,” which helps explain its later adoption in Jewish and Christian theology. In Aristotle’s framework, logos is one of the three artistic proofs—alongside ethos and pathos—and LOGOS is designed to cultivate all three: rigorous reasoning, credible voice, and humane concern.

For our purposes, think of LOGOS as a secular, crowd-sourced public ledger for governance: a place where claims must show their work, sources are visible and checkable, and conclusions earn authority by surviving open challenge. In an age of industrial persuasion—where platforms can steer attention, habits, and beliefs at scale—democracy needs more than the right to speak. It needs a shared, evidence-based commons: agreed methods for distinguishing reporting from rumor, analysis from propaganda, and proof from performance. LOGOS is designed to rebuild that commons by making credibility legible—who is claiming what, on what evidence, with what uncertainties and incentives. LOGOS institutionalizes logos, which is defined as reasoned argument, as civic infrastructure.

Because the core problem now is not mere disagreement. It is manufactured unreality. A high-volume stream of polarizing “content”—protected by liability rules crafted in boardrooms, optimized by engagement algorithms, and amplified by partisan entrepreneurs—has flooded the channels that once carried journalism and civic deliberation. The result is a politic that can be steered by whoever can generate the most heat: outrage as a business model, cynicism as a tactic, and confusion as a weapon. LOGOS is a practical countermeasure: a system that slows the spin, preserves the record, and forces power to argue in the open with sources that can be inspected.

LOGOS would combine three contribution streams—distinct, auditable, and weighted—so the system benefits from openness without being captured by bots, money, or secrecy:

- 1. Anonymous humans (≈30% weight):** Anonymous contributions would be allowed because anonymity sometimes protects truth: whistleblowers, vulnerable experts, and citizens in coercive regimes are but a few examples. But anonymity also invites manipulation. So anonymous contributions would carry limited influence and must still be rigorous and citation-backed.
- 2. Non-anonymous humans with credentials and disclosures (≈60% weight):** This is the backbone: contributors publish under their names, list credentials, cite sources, and disclose conflicts of interest. The point isn’t gatekeeping—it’s accountability. When the public can see who is arguing what, on what evidence, and with what interests at stake, credibility stops being about charisma or populism and becomes something you can audit.
- 3. Aligned AI / AGI synthesis (≈10% weight):** AI compares arguments, maps disagreement, surfaces missing evidence, detects inconsistencies, summarizes competing positions, and proposes what a “best available” conclusion looks like given the current evidence. Its formal weight stays limited—but its practical value is enormous, because it turns mountains of text into something navigable, comparable, and continuously updated. And since human contributors will use AI tools to draft and check their work anyway, the real governance issue is not whether AI is involved—it’s whether AI is involved transparently and under rules. As Norbert Wiener, the father of cybernetics, warned, “We better be quite sure that the purpose put into the machine is the purpose which we really desire.” Transparent AI use is therefore not optional—it is governance.

LOGOS is not just a library. It's a pressure system that would make evidence politically expensive to ignore. When policymakers choose to contradict the strongest available evidence, the public should be able to see that choice clearly—along with the alternatives they rejected and the interests that may explain why. In that environment, ignoring rigorous, independently verified analysis becomes costly—to reputation and to re-election. As Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan often observed, everyone is entitled to their own opinion, but not their own facts. LOGOS would write both the facts and what we agree we must do about them in boldface for everyone to observe in a single, trustworthy ledger.

We need this now, more than ever. The modern world has become one interdependent system—legal, scientific, geopolitical, and economic—despite constant headwinds: tribalism, nationalism, ideology, magical thinking, and authoritarian temptation. Cooperation has always been resisted by self-serving power, and today the resistance is turbocharged by attention markets and algorithmic persuasion.

One of the largest obstacles to good governance isn't a lack of intelligence—it's the ease with which logical fallacies, cognitive bias, and emotion can be weaponized to polarize populations. That was true before social media; now it's industrial scale and polarizing. If we don't build institutions that reward evidence over outrage, we will keep mistaking manipulation for consensus and marketing for truth.

Democracy was never meant to eliminate expertise. It was meant to keep expertise accountable. Citizens choose leaders to exercise judgment on their behalf. But judgment requires access to reliable information, transparent incentives, and open challenge. When special interests dominate policy and truth becomes partisan, both expertise and democracy degrade. LOGOS is an attempt to restore the missing link — a transparent system where expertise, public input, and AI-assisted analysis converge under visible rules.

LOGOS provides:

- **A shared, living map of policy reality**
- **A conflict-of-interest spine**
- **A verification workflow**
- **A democratic interface**
- **A defense layer against coordinated deception.**

LOGOS is not a government. It passes no laws. It enforces nothing. It censors no one. LOGOS is a model or guide to governance, a public-policy platform where claims must show their work. Every proposal is accompanied by visible sources, disclosed incentives, explicit uncertainties, and preserved counterarguments. Contradictions are not erased; they remain traceable. It is a ledger and memory system that serves to keep our leaders accountable and on task. They can say what they like, but anyone can immediately check their statements against the record and the weight of expert and citizen opinion, backed by evidence.

A civic immune system against amathia: Amathia (*ἀμαθία*) is the ancient Greek term for a particularly dangerous form of ignorance: not simply lacking information, but being unaware that one lacks it.¹ In

Plato and later classical writers, *amathia* is treated as a moral and civic failure as much as an intellectual one, because it produces confidence without understanding and certainty without warrant. A person afflicted by *amathia* doesn't seek evidence, correction, or dialogue; they mistake conviction for knowledge and loyalty for truth. In today's political landscape, *amathia* flourishes in environments saturated with partisan media, algorithmic reinforcement, and performative outrage, where individuals can live inside epistemic bubbles that reward affirmation and punish doubt. It allows misinformation to feel like insight, slogans to substitute for policy, and identity to override inquiry. More dangerously, *amathia* makes citizens easy to mobilize and hard to govern: people who believe they already know enough see no reason to consult institutions, experts, or records. In this sense, *amathia* is the psychological substrate of democratic decay—the condition in which a society still speaks the language of freedom and reason while quietly losing the habits that make either possible.

We already have the early technical ingredients. Large language models can scan mountains of documents quickly and generate structured analysis on demand. The missing piece is institutional design: rules, transparency, weighting, accountability, and safeguards. LOGOS is that design.

To combine openness with accountability, the project can operate as two companion portals: UNICEwiki.org for anonymous human contributions, and LOGOSwiki.org for identified human expertise plus AI synthesis. One protects participation; the other protects trust. Together with AI, these three branches compliment the tripartite balance of powers in government with public input, accountable expertise, and machine-assisted synthesis. All constrained by evidence and visible rules.

Individuals within the commons: A well-regulated, democratically guided “hive mind” doesn't erase individuality—it amplifies it by turning scattered insight into coherent public knowledge. Done right, it enhances dignity: people can contribute, verify, challenge, and improve the foundations of policy instead of being managed by invisible persuasion systems. We can keep governing with impulsive, populist anger, reactionary reflexes, tribal identity, and algorithmic manipulation—or we can build a platform where reason is legible, evidence is enforceable, and power has to argue in the open. LOGOS can be the infrastructure for systemic reform that can make government work for everyone, and help manage the Technological Singularity.

LOGOS would be structured as an independent, nonprofit institution with diversified, transparent funding: primarily small individual donations, supplemented by major gifts and grants, and—ideally—an endowment designed to sustain long-term operations and special projects.² Like Wikipedia, LOGOS would refuse the usual “poisoned gifts” of platform finance—advertising, paywalls, or selling user data—because those revenue streams quietly turn the public into the product and compromise neutrality over time.³ The point is not purity for its own sake; it is insulation. A governance ledger that can be pressured by advertisers, customers, or data brokers is not a ledger. It's a brochure.

A Wikipedia-scale operation demonstrates the plausibility of this model. The Wikimedia Foundation reported total revenue of about \$208.6 million in FY2024–2025, with \$189.5 million coming from donations—i.e., the project is mostly sustained by millions of ordinary people giving modest amounts, with the remainder supplemented by larger gifts, an endowment, and other limited revenue streams.⁴ Wikipedia's scale also illustrates the advantage of a public knowledge commons once it becomes trusted infrastructure: as of December 2025, it contained over 66 million articles across all languages, with

around 7 million in English alone.⁵ LOGOS can borrow that lesson while specializing it: policy claims that show their work, sources that can be checked, and conclusions that must survive critique.

To strengthen independence further, LOGOS could request a tiny GDP-indexed contribution from countries—something so small it’s essentially fiscal dust, but large enough in aggregate to keep the core platform resilient. World nominal GDP is roughly \$123.58 trillion.⁶ If autocracies account for about 46% of global GDP, and we assume that roughly half of those authoritarian regimes will slack (or refuse) while the rest of the world participates, then about 77% of world GDP remains in the paying pool. Under that scenario, fully funding a \$200 million annual operating budget requires a contribution rate of roughly 0.000210% of GDP—about 21 cents per \$100,000 of GDP. (That’s not a “tax”; it’s closer to a rounding error with a passport.) Even if only half of the countries participate, the contributions are still miniscule. And this is not including citizen donations that could fund an endowment.

For the United States, using an IMF nominal GDP figure of about \$30.62 trillion (2025), the implied contribution would be about \$64.4 million per year.⁸ Relative to FY2025 U.S. federal outlays of \$7.01 trillion, that is approximately 0.000918% of annual federal spending, or about \$9 out of every \$1,000,000 the U.S. government spends.⁹ Put another way, it’s on the same order of magnitude as many single-program appropriations, and far smaller than the cost of entire federal categories. For instance, Congress’s FY2025 appropriation for BLM wild horse and burro management was \$142.0 million, more than twice the LOGOS contribution in this example.¹⁰ Spread across the U.S. population (about 341.8 million in the year ending July 1, 2025), the cost works out to roughly 19 cents per American per year—change most people would not bother bending down to pick up, yet enough to fund a civic immune system.¹¹

Finally, AI changes the economics and the reach. Wikipedia’s scale was achieved with human labor and careful governance. LOGOS would add machine assistance to do what machines are now good at: fast cross-referencing, consistent formatting, anomaly detection, summarization, and multilingual translation. In practice, this means LOGOS could use English as a base language while remaining editable and readable in any major language—lowering the cost of global participation and raising the probability of cross-border consensus. A Kenyan legal scholar could annotate a policy claim about Brazil; a Brazilian public health analyst could critique a claim about Hungary; and the evidence trail remains the same, merely rendered legible in more tongues. At that point the platform becomes more than a wiki—it becomes a shared map of governance reality, where non-participating regimes cannot simply hide the ledger from their own citizens.

LOGOS could function as an inoculation against autocrats because authoritarianism rarely arrives like a coup. It arrives like mold: a slow takeover of the spaces where shared reality used to live—news, courts, elections, expertise, even the ordinary meaning of words. And once shared reality collapses, everything downstream becomes negotiable: law, accountability, consent, and eventually the peaceful transfer of power.¹²

In the previous chapter, “Moloch” named the deeper engine: coordination failure so strong it behaves like a god—an incentive-gradient that forces decent people to do destructive things because if we don’t, someone else will.¹³ Authoritarian politics is one of Moloch’s favorite machines. It turns attention into outrage, outrage into loyalty, and loyalty into permission. It doesn’t need a nation to believe one perfect lie. It only needs a nation to lose the public methods by which lies can be falsified and power can be audited.

What follows is not a claim that history repeats itself. The differences between societies and eras matter—especially when invoking Nazi Germany. But the techniques rhyme with grim consistency across many authoritarian movements: collapse the evidentiary world, capture the referees, fracture the public into hostile tribes, invert moral categories, and then normalize coercion as “patriotism.” LOGOS is designed to attack that sequence at its root: by making claims traceable, evidence legible, and contradiction expensive.

The imminent danger of non-aligned AI is directly tied to authoritarianism, so we should be aware of its methods:

1) Break the evidentiary world, then weaponize confusion. The first move is epistemic: make reality feel optional. Verified data becomes “fake” by definition; expertise is reframed as conspiracy; institutions of knowledge—journalists, universities, civil servants, inspectors—are treated as partisan enemies. Hannah Arendt’s warning lands because it describes a psychological end-state, not a single lie: a public of “people for whom the distinction between fact and fiction ... no longer exists.”¹⁴ In that condition, refutation stops working—not because the lie is strong, but because the citizen’s confidence in knowing anything has been deliberately broken.

Modern propaganda often relies on volume and speed rather than coherence: a blizzard of claims, insinuations, and contradictions that overwhelms correction and exhausts attention.¹⁵ People stop demanding truth and start demanding tribal comfort. LOGOS is built as a counter-technology: slow claims, visible sources, explicit uncertainty, and arguments that can be checked rather than merely shared.

2) Rewrite yesterday so accountability never arrives: If evidence can be dismissed, the record can be rewritten. Statements are denied, events inverted, contradictions treated as a show of strength. The goal is not persuasion but amnesia: a permanent present in which only the leader’s current assertion matters. When language itself is saturated—when euphemism, dehumanization, and ritual slogans become normal—people begin to feel the conclusion before they examine the evidence.¹⁶ LOGOS would be, among other things, a memory institution: a public ledger of who claimed what, when, and on what evidence—so revisionism has to fight the receipts.

3) Personalize legitimacy: “only the leader can fix it.” Once the public loses confidence in evidence, it becomes easier to transfer legitimacy from institutions to a person. The leader is cast as the only authentic voice; courts, legislatures, and civil service become obstacles to “the people,” and “the people” becomes whatever the leader says today. Democracies don’t only depend on written rules; they depend on unwritten guardrails—restraint, toleration, the refusal to treat every contest as an existential war. When those guardrails fail, politics becomes winner-take-all, and Moloch rewards the shameless.¹⁷

LOGOS can’t eliminate charisma. But it can reduce charisma’s monopoly on legitimacy by preserving a competing standard: reality-tested claims over theatrical certainty.

4) Capture the referees: rule of law becomes rule of loyalty. The next move is institutional: replace neutral arbiters with loyalists. Judges, prosecutors, inspectors general, regulators, election administrators, and civil servants are pressured to demonstrate allegiance—or be treated as enemies. Law becomes

selective: impunity for allies, scrutiny for opponents. The system doesn't need to abolish legality; it only needs to weaponize it.

LOGOS could not prosecute anyone, but it can help restore the cultural expectation that decisions must face evidence—and that “because I said so” is not a legal or moral argument.

5) Hollow out elections: if defeat is “fraud,” power can't be removed. Delegitimizing elections is the bridge between epistemic sabotage and permanent power. If every loss is redefined as theft, then the public's right to remove leaders peacefully becomes conditional—subject to the leader's approval. Elections remain as theater: voting without accountability, participation without consequence.

LOGOS would support the precondition elections require: a common evidentiary baseline for what happened, what was counted, and why claims are credible (or not).

6) Divide the populace into hostile tribes so no majority can form against power. Authoritarian politics thrives on fracture. Polarization is not just a cultural byproduct; it can become a governing strategy. Keep citizens in a permanent identity knife-fight and they won't unite to defend procedures, rights, or truth. In a networked media environment, the dynamics of outrage and identity signaling can become self-reinforcing: disinformation spreads faster than correction, and the most polarizing narratives harvest the most attention.¹⁸

LOGOS aims to rebuild the missing middle: durable, auditable consensus about evidence—even when values differ.

7) Redirect anger from the powerful to the powerless: scapegoats as a substitute for explanation. Complex problems are reduced to simple villains. Anger is redirected away from concentrated power and toward vulnerable targets—immigrants, minorities, dissidents, journalists—who are blamed for economic stress, cultural change, or national humiliation. Scapegoating is emotionally efficient. It turns confusion into certainty and resentment into cohesion.^{19 20}

LOGOS wouldn't end scapegoating, but it would make it harder to pass off as policy by demanding evidence and causal reasoning.

8) Dehumanize with language, then rename cruelty as “cleanup.” Scapegoating becomes most dangerous when it turns biological: opponents are described as infestation, contamination, vermin—less than fully human. Once people are framed as contaminants, harsh policy becomes “hygiene” rather than harm. This is one reason authoritarian movements obsess over the control of language: if you can control the moral vocabulary, you can make brutality feel like responsibility.²¹

LOGOS would be a procedural antidote here: specificity instead of myth, facts and citations instead of slogans, and the insistence that policy arguments face human-scale reality.

9) Invert morality: violence and intimidation become “patriotism.” A mature authoritarian movement must eventually provide moral permission for coercion. Violence is recast as self-defense; intimidation becomes security; accountability becomes persecution. The powerful adopt the posture of victimhood to justify victimizing others. In this atmosphere, the decisive move is often psychological: people begin

obeying in advance—pre-censoring, pre-complying, pre-surrendering—because it feels safer than standing out.

LOGOS would not be able to stop a mob, but it could influence members of the mob to question their slogans and justifications.

10) Close the psychological trap: “it can’t happen here,” “nothing matters,” “do nothing.” Authoritarianism finishes by colonizing emotion. Some citizens retreat into complacency: this can’t happen here. Others retreat into cynicism: nothing matters anyway. Both positions—opposite in tone, identical in effect—disable resistance.

This is another reason why LOGOS would not just be a library. It is civic infrastructure: a place where citizens can check claims, trace evidence, compare competing assertions, and regain the democratic muscle of judgment. Moloch normalizes sacrifice and creates a facade. LOGOS could put evidence at center stage so that each person could judge for themselves what reality is. If someone has further evidence or logical arguments to contribute, they would have a way to present it without delay, or the power-hungry, soul-sucking Moloch getting in their way.

**For more information visit www.Michaelearth.com
and LOGOSwiki.org.**