

# Stewardship Democracy

This proposal should not be considered a finished blueprint but rather an invitation for discussing a fast and deep reform of democracy, which should be implemented in 2-3 years! Such a very short period can only be understood if we accept that the period of the most turbulent transition in human history has already started. It is the transition to coexistence with Superintelligence, an intelligence much superior in all aspects to any human. During this transition, governments will have to implement very quick and painful decisions.

Like in a war-time period, countries will need a superfast decision-making process. That will require a new model of democracy, such as the [Stewardship Democracy](#) proposed here. It is a non-party, **COMPETENCE-BASED** and citizen-authorised democratic model, which should be operational well before the peak of this civilisational turbulence. At its core is a societal consensus, necessary to increase the citizens' **TRUST** in the government. Such unprecedented civilisational shift will affect all countries. It may be easier to understand why such a radical approach is needed when we face these facts:

1. At least nine top AI experts, including the Nobel laureate, believe **Superintelligence may arrive by 2035**, with some of them saying it may emerge by 2030, when it may already be entirely outside human control.
2. This requires a global democratically elected body to manage the transition process and agree [Universal Values of Humanity](#) – the basis for Human-Superintelligence Coexistence
3. Party-based democracies are too polarised and short-term focused to create such a body in time
4. Deep democratic reforms would take at least **two decades** and are unlikely to be completed globally.
5. Authoritarian systems could move quickly, but lack moral legitimacy, transparency and accountability.
6. To minimize the chaos during the transition period, the choice we face is between dictatorship and a new model of democracy such as the Stewardship Democracy.
7. Since every country will be impacted similarly, there is a need for a blueprint of a new democratic model
8. This version of the model is **designed for the British democracy** but may be adapted globally

**The fundamental principle of the proposal is to minimize the legislative changes to make the implementation of such a system feasible within 2-3 years despite deep fundamental reforms.** It could be introduced in two phases to minimise friction during such a transition.

1. In the first phase, it would delink the MPs party allegiance and increase the number of parliamentarians threefold by adding Stewards, directly elected by citizens based on their own Manifesto.
2. In the second phase, Stewards would join the Stewards Assembly, which would replace the Parliament. Most sessions would be held online, with only the members of the Government and Assembly Committees' members would meet in person.

Thus, this proposal is not about creating a new perfect democratic system. It is about a democratically elected body enabling a safe passage to a new civilisation where humans will coexist with Superintelligence. To make some key concepts clearer, we need to define what the key elements of this model of democracy mean.

1. **Stewardship Democracy** is a non-party system, whose representatives are independent Stewards, directly elected by citizens based on their competence and ethical stance specified in their own Manifesto.
2. **Stewards** will be volunteers who stand for election in their constituency as MPs today. They would be elected using proportional representation. Their role would be identical to current MPs but they would be elected based on their personal (standardised) detailed Manifesto, specifying their competence, electoral program (what he stands for), professional achievements, service for the community, ethical stance. Stewards would serve one term, be paid as much as the current MPs and work full time. They would not be members of any political party and would only be accountable to other Stewards and their electorate. To make the transition to Stewardship Democracy easier, in the first term all MPs would automatically become Stewards, but they would not be party members because there would be no parties.
3. **Stewardship Assembly** – It will be similar to a Parliament where major decisions are debated and approved. It would be formed by Stewards at a national, regional and potentially at the Human Federation levels. In the first term, all MPs from the last Parliament would join the Assembly to smooth the transition process and to

pass the necessary experience, however their number would not exceed 1/4 of all Stewards. In the UK, it could be about 0.1% of the voting population, approximately 4,000 Stewards. That would not impact the quality of debates since they would mostly be carried out on-line, having only occasional meetings in large Congress halls. The Assemblies would operate like parliaments without parties. They would hear expert evidence, use AI-supported briefing, deliberate publicly and authorise transition policies.

4. **Stewardship Governments** would implement the laws and policies of the Assembly under its supervision. Ministers will most come from within the Stewards Assembly, or from the experts in specific domains. The civil service would operate broadly as before, but being supported by AI, augmenting human skills.
5. **Human Federation:** a de facto civilisational authority formed initially by the willing democratic countries. The Federation would begin not as a universal world state, but as a coalition of democratic countries prepared to accept shared responsibility in AI safety, economic transition, social stability, defence, value alignment and the protection of human autonomy. The first core could plausibly grow from the European Political Community and associated democracies such as Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and South Korea – about 50 countries.
6. **Human Federation Government** – similar to a national government but governing all countries of the Human Federation.
7. **Superintelligence Centre:** for AI safety, alignment, simulation and defence.
8. **Economic Stewardship.** AI and robotics will displace large parts of human labour. That is why employment-based taxation and welfare systems may become unstable. Thus, new economic emergency policies such as those aimed at softening the impact of Technological Unemployment of unprecedented scale, social unrest, and mental problems of millions of potentially destitute people will be needed. To finance those needs, it is proposed to create a national sovereign fund. Companies that would gain most from AI and robotisation would be partially acquired or required to convert part of profits or equity into public ownership. The generated income would be managed by the **Sovereign Fund**, similar to the Norwegian Sovereign Fund, under the control of independent trustees (Stewards). Additionally compulsory equity release of some private asset classes may be introduced. This could apply, if no other financial options are available, to ordinary household assets, which would be protected up to a certain threshold. Above that level, progressive conversion would turn part of private wealth into public fund holdings.
9. **The Human Federation's Superintelligence Centre** - would test frontier AI systems, conduct alignment research, model risks, support Stewards and defend against hostile AI use. It should become the most powerful AI system on the planet maturing into a single Superintelligence, defeating any rouge AI system.

## Implementation procedure

The introduction of the Stewardship Democracy should start, in the countries that have the option, of filing a petition requesting the Parliament to call a special Citizens' Assembly. If the petition collects a minimum of 100,000 signatures (in the UK) it must be debated by the Parliament. The petition would propose transferring from a political parliamentary system to Stewardship Democracy. If the parliament approves such a Citizens Assembly, it will then debate the proposal, and its blueprint would be sent to the parliament for a binding approval.

If the Parliament rejects the petition, the danger is that the society would drift fast towards potentially existential disorder. This may include AI escaping human control, causing chaos of its own, huge rapidly advancing technological unemployment, panic and political extremism.

If the Parliament approves the proposal, it will legislate the creation of Stewardship Democracy. The legislation would define the mandate, vetting rules, appeal mechanisms, AI auditability, economic powers, time limits and safeguards. To minimize the disruption caused by the transition, all sitting MPs would automatically join the first Assembly as a continuity bridge.

Only after this legal and deliberative sequence, would the first elections for Stewardship Democracy take place. Citizens would elect Stewards from a qualified non-party pool. The Stewardship Assembly would then replace Parliament. Its first practical test would be social stability: income security, retraining, mental-health support, meaningful new roles and public confidence during the automation shock.