



Prosperity and good life

A group discussion about similarities and differences

Prosperity

Prosperity indicator

In economic terms, the prosperity indicator is the degree to which individuals, private households or society as a whole are provided with goods and services. This material prosperity or standard of living is usually measured for an economy on the basis of a social product figure (e.g. gross domestic product or per capita income).

In the discussion about the right **prosperity indicator**, a distinction is made between three dimensions: material prosperity, the social and participation dimension, also understood as personal well-being in the sense of [quality of life](#) and represented by social indicators, and the ecology or environment and sustainability dimension, which is expressed, for example, in [environmental-economic accounting](#) or in concepts of [sustainable development](#).

Prosperity Society

A term coined in the 1960s to describe a society that enables the majority of the population to satisfy material needs far above the subsistence level and enjoy extensive opportunities for consumption, and in which many also participate in "prestige consumption" and luxury goods, while economic and social problems such as unemployment or poverty only appear as marginalized phenomena.

Time prosperity. Time for the good life.

Why does everyone always have time to work, but less and less time to meet friends, pursue a hobby or simply do nothing for once? What good is it if we have more and more things at our disposal, but less and less time? What prevents so many people from having enough "time for themselves"?

There is no clear definition of the term "time wealth". But it offers a good starting point for thinking about how we deal with our time. What does prosperity mean when we have more and more things at our disposal, but less and less time? Is time prosperity simply the state of having more time than you need to do your duties? Is it the freedom to live the way I want to? And what does it take for us to be able to use time as we see fit?

The discussions surrounding time prosperity create a unique perspective on various problems facing societies: What is prosperity? What is work? What power relations ensure that I cannot decide how I want to use my own time?





Good life (Buen Vivir)

Good life

»Sumak kawsay« – or "Buen vivir" in Spanish - is a central principle in the worldview of the peoples of the Andean region and can be understood as "living together in diversity and harmony with nature". The links to Western ideas about sustainability and sufficiency are obvious - as are the points of conflict with the growth society that prevails in Western capitalism.

The "good life" - as an unprejudiced proposal based on harmony with nature, reciprocity, relationality, complementarity and solidarity between individuals and communities, rejecting the concept of constant accumulation and striving for a return to use values - makes it possible to formulate alternative concepts of life.

The Solidarity Way of Life: Contours of the Good Life for All!

People are already creating the basis for such changes here and now. All over the world, people are working for a peaceful, democratic, ecologically sustainable coexistence free from exploitation, violence and discrimination. Some ideas are already being implemented today, others are (still) theoretical debates. We are convinced that there are principles of living together in solidarity that unite very different initiatives and projects and that are sometimes more, sometimes less evident in them. We have set ourselves the task of working out the principles that we have repeatedly encountered in the current alternatives and currents of thought. We believe that they form the basis for a solidary way of life . All the movements and models that we have oriented ourselves towards stand for a life free of exploitation: A life that is not at the expense of other people, nature or future generations. This is the prerequisite for solidarity-based lifestyles - the red line that real utopias do not want to fall behind.

Buen vivir

"Buen Vivir requires that persons, communities, peoples and nations are truly in possession of their rights of their rights and exercise their responsibilities in the context of interculturality, respect for their Interculturality and diversity and harmonious coexistence with nature".

Sources and further information in the method description.

