5. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Joe Firestone)
  6. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Howard Switzer)
  7. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Joe Firestone)
  8. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Howard Switzer)

Message: 5
Date: Fri, 3 Aug 2018 00:10:16 -0400 (EDT)
From: Joe Firestone <eisai@comcast.net>
To: National Committee Votes and GP-US Work
<natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

Briefly, The issue isn't whether the MA is democratically; but whether it is democratically accountable to the President and the Secretary and whether it would be biased more towards containing inflation than it would be to allowing sufficient creation of net financial assets to create full employment.

Best Regards,

Joseph M. Firestone, Ph.D.
Adviser, GPUS National Platform Committee

Message: 6
Date: Thu, 2 Aug 2018 23:41:35 -0500
From: Howard Switzer <hmsarchitecture@gmail.com>
To: National Committee Votes and GP-US Work
<natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

Joe,
the MA only determines how much new money can be created based on the
previous years performance and current production capacity etc.,
transparently, and they are appointed to be biased against
inflation/deflation.
My thinking is that with GTD we would be issuing money for developing local
economies, spending into the real economy where people live and work, no
speculation, and becasue it is tied to real production inflation won't be a
problem.
The focus would be on localizing agriculture production in order to close
the nutrient loops, eliminate shipping and to rebalance all the soil/gas
cycles currently out of balance, the major contributor to climate change.
And through the revolving fund created in the transition by money for loan
payments being returned to government instead of being destroyed we'll put
an end to the artificial scarcity created by the systemic concentration of
wealth.
Seems to me issuing money as debt and spending it on war is inflationary
and why we've had near constant inflation since 1913.

take care,

Howard Switzer
GPTN

Message: 7
Date: Fri, 3 Aug 2018 00:56:38 -0400 (EDT)
From: Joe Firestone <eisai@comcast.net>
To: National Committee Votes and GP-US Work
<natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

"Joe,

the MA only determines how much new money can be created based on the previous years performance and current production capacity etc., transparently, and they are appointed to be biased against inflation/deflation." . . .

Yes, I understand that Howard. I think, however, that its impossible to appoint an MA that will not err technically or be ideologically unbiased in its determination of how much new money ought to be created, and that we must have democratic controls on such a body to create accountability. Of course, accountability is no proof against error, but at least with such accountability it will be error we've all had a part in and not error due to ideological bias coming from an unaccountable group of mandarins. Haven't we has enough of that with the more than 100 year history of the Federal Reserve Board of Governors.

The millennial generation  will never vote for a bill with that kind of board making key decisions affecting their lives. At the first sign of trouble, they will want to occupy it and I would cheer them on!

Best Regards,

Joseph M. Firestone, Ph.D.
Adviser, GPUS National Platform Committee

Message: 8
Date: Fri, 3 Aug 2018 00:26:35 -0500
From: Howard Switzer <hmsarchitecture@gmail.com>
To: Joe Firestone <eisai@comcast.net>,  National Committee Votes and
GP-US Work <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

But being transparent it IS accountable, and there is no ideological bias
in determining how much new money can be created.  The current system's
bias toward the "credit worthy" has become a major burden to the planet and
is unacceptable.
I would say we have to let go of the fear based thinking if we want to
change anything.  I think it is fear based thinking that prevents MMT from
advocating for monetary reform.  I heard Michael Hudson admit that once at
an AMI conf.

HOward Switzer
GPTN alt

  3. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Howard Switzer)

Message: 3
Date: Thu, 2 Aug 2018 02:00:39 -0500
From: Howard Switzer <hmsarchitecture@gmail.com>
To: National Committee Votes and GP-US Work
<natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

Of course Obama would not have used a public money option, he ran damage
control for the banks. Wouldn't want them to miss out on any lending to
government.
The platinum coin of course is not a change in the monetary system from
private to public, its just a debt jubilee for their government.

Mr Firestone mischaracterizes and exaggerates the powers that our 'Monetary
Authority' would have as well.
Unlike the banking system dominated by a few that we have now the MA would
not have the power to determine who gets what, how much and when.
it would be a democratically appointed body charged with a scientific task
to determine only how much new money can be created each year without
causing inflation.
It would be that Congress appropriates and Treasury pays with money issued
as an asset not a debt and with all money issued into the economy through
public spending.
It would be permanent money too in that it would continue to circulate
rather than be destroyed as debt-money is when the debt is paid.

Howard Switzer
GPTN alt

  2. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Howard Switzer)
  3. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Rodolfo Cortes Barragan)
  4. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Howard Switzer)
  5. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (frank young)
  6. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Rita Jacobs)

  9. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Joe Firestone)

Message: 2
Date: Wed, 1 Aug 2018 11:28:44 -0500
From: Howard Switzer <hmsarchitecture@gmail.com>
To: National Committee Votes and GP-US Work
<natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

Don't be lazy Rodolfo, you have all the documentation, history and law
necessary to determine what is the true.  Stop jerking people around.

Howard Switzer
GPTN alt.

Message: 3
Date: Wed, 1 Aug 2018 10:38:48 -0700
From: Rodolfo Cortes Barragan <rodolfo.cortes.barragan@gmail.com>
To: National Committee Votes and GP-US Work
<natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

Howard,

You are the self-proclaimed knower on the monetary system of the United
States. Through your determination, you keep an entire political party tied
to your line of thinking.

Yet, it looks like in all these years of pronouncing the AMI perspective,
you have no readily available documents to serve as proof of those claims,
in spite of the fact that those documents are likely readily available. In
other words, you have an easy research question but you refuse to show the
data to your audience. Indeed, you refuse to show it to yourself.

I don't understand why you would handicap your own position by refusing to
acquire the relevant balance sheets from the Treasury, but suit yourself.

Best,

Rodolfo Cortes
GPCA Alt.

Message: 4
Date: Wed, 1 Aug 2018 13:33:08 -0500
From: Howard Switzer <hmsarchitecture@gmail.com>
To: National Committee Votes and GP-US Work
<natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

Rodolfo, really? I'm keeping this entire political party tied to "my"
thinking.  LOL  Are you trying to shame me now?  Or insult Greens?

I believe Greens can and do all think for themselves, all I have done is
share the monetary history and science with my colleagues.
None of which, BTW, are "my ideas" as I've pointed out repeatedly, but
history is full of a very exciting story of how power works via the global
banking and monetary system.
You should check it out sometime, it would give you a more realistic
perspective on power.
I think you could use your intelligence for much more productive work than
trying to defend the banker created and funded MMT confusury network.

I believe that broad public knowledge of the money system is the Achilles
Heel of the current economic system, which is why I keep pointing it out..
Green monetary policy is based on the historical 1933 Chicago Plan that 400
economists, world-around, supported and which AMI refined into the American
Monetary Act.
Subsequently Dennis Kucinich with the help of AMI wrote the NEED Act based
on those concepts and introduced "the most revolutionary and
constitutionally aligned legislation in the history of this nation."
It would have eliminated the Fed and implemented a real transparent and
accountable monetary system dedicated to the common good instead of the
corrupt contraption we have now that you defend.

I have never claimed to be anything more than a student of credit, money
and power.
I hope you will take my words to heart, study the money power and
incorporate that public money revolutionary plank into your campaign.

Best regards,

Howard Switzer
GPTN alternate

Message: 5
Date: Wed, 1 Aug 2018 15:00:44 -0400
From: "frank young" <fyoung@mountain.net>
To: "'National Committee Votes and GP-US Work'"
<natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

There seems to be a pervasive undertone here that more and more posts of more and more words, from more and more people, and/or many repetitive posts from the same people, will somehow make both the facts and the implications of the various economic proposals before us self-evident.  But with some of us the exact opposite is happening- the more we belabor it the more confusing it becomes.  Some of us are drowning in an endless sea of competing economic arguments here.

Both the proponents and opponents of the various economic perspectives spawned by Proposal 923 and related other proposals owe it to the rest of us to make their arguments in clear, unambiguous terms and, perhaps more importantly, without repetitive arguments made daily and sometimes even hourly by the same commentators.

Frank Young
WV Delegate

Message: 6
Date: Wed, 1 Aug 2018 20:19:06 +0000
From: Rita Jacobs <rjacobs@arq.net>
To: "fyoung@mountain.net" <fyoung@mountain.net>, National Committee
Votes and GP-US Work <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

Hi Frank,

I will try to help clear up some things for you. You haven't heard much from me. I am a fairly new alternate delegate, a retired lawyer with an accounting and tax background, and have been retired for 16 years. After retiring I spent a considerable amount of time learning about our monetary system as well as many other things. This was at least 10 years ago, and I don't have all the references to my sources at my fingertips. What I can tell you is that our monetary system is complicated and difficult to understand. It is difficult to understand because nothing about our monetary system is taught in high schools or in undergraduate college courses. And the actual creation of money in our economy defies logic. And regardless of what some theorists here are trying to say, money is literally created out of thin air by commercial banks when they make loans. And the Fed creates money out of thin air to buy treasury bonds - which then become a debt owed by the U.S. Treasury to the holders o
f those bonds. I had some discussions with Joe Firestone about the creation of money, and none of his argument makes any sense. He is the biggest proponent of the Modern Monetary Theory (MMT) in this discussion and he is unable to explain it without distorting the truth about our present system. This theory re-defines certain terms in a confusing way which makes their own theory even more confusing. I finally decided to not engage in any further conversation with Joe Firestone.

The Green Party platform includes Greening the Dollar which is a very rational way for the government to take control of creating the new money into our economy. Banks should not have the power to decide who should receive the new money that is created. Our platform position would take away the power of the banks to literally act as parasites in our economy. There is a website where you can read about Greening the Dollar. It is here: <http://greensformonetaryreform.org/index.shtml>

I just want to mention one other thing. These proposals involving our economy and monetary system were all proposed by the Green Party of Nebraska. I have not seen one post here from the GPNE in defense of their own proposals. Apparently the members of GPNE do not understand their own proposals enough to comment on them.

I will be voting no on this proposal.

Rita Jacobs
Alternate delegate
GPMI

Message: 9
Date: Wed, 1 Aug 2018 20:47:33 -0400 (EDT)
From: Joe Firestone <eisai@comcast.net>
To: National Committee Votes and GP-US Work
<natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

Howard,

Sure, I can. First, the Government was unaware that the 1996 law allowed it to force the Federal Reserve to create money in the Treasury spending before the summer of 2011, when mainstream new sources began to carry the story about the Trillion Dollar coin. Second, Obama clearly did not want to use the platinum coin option to solve the debt ceiling crisis of 2011. Nor did he want to use it solve the 2012--13 debt ceiling crisis or any other budgetary crises during his time in office, since to do so would have violated his neoliberal view of the world

Third, as for Trump, he's not in conflict with his party on fiscal matters, so there are no debt ceiling causing him to look for an out that would lead him to platinum coin seigniorage.

Best Regards,

Joseph M. Firestone, Ph.D.
Adviser, GPUS National Platform Committee

1. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Rodolfo Cortes Barragan)

Message: 1
Date: Wed, 1 Aug 2018 03:34:20 -0700
From: Rodolfo Cortes Barragan <rodolfo.cortes.barragan@gmail.com>
To: National Committee Votes and GP-US Work
<natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

Howard,

Why are you giving me the run-around. You point out that government is
often not transparent, but you haven't even bothered to check for the
information I requested.

Why do you refuse to show AIM in action by giving me the relevant documents
I have asked for. Notably, if you can't find the exact documents I want to
see (or the Treasury refuses to give them to you), you should at least be
able to find some historical documents or notes.

You keep suggesting that what I'm asking for is just government accounting
101. Well, we have something called the Freedom of Information Act. You can
make a request for the documents that would show this accounting. Why are
you refusing to even try to prove your point with actual government
documents.

Again, here is the link: <https://www.treasury.gov/foia/pages/gofoia.aspx>

Rodolfo Cortes
GPCA Alt.

  4. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Howard Switzer)
  5. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Joe Bongiovanni)

Message: 4
Date: Tue, 31 Jul 2018 16:18:19 -0500
From: Howard Switzer <hmsarchitecture@gmail.com>
To: National Committee Votes and GP-US Work
<natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

Joe F.,

Can you explain why when Government can create many trillions in platinum
coin seigniorage Government does not create many trillions in platinum coin
seigniorage?

Rodolfo,

Regarding documents reporting government expenditures: (Sorry for the
length, if too long just go to the last paragraph and sentence.)

?No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of
Appropriations made by Law; and a regular Statement and Account of the
Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be published from time
to time.?
~ARTICLE I, SECTION 9, CLAUSE 7, UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

The Founding Fathers envisioned a government of checks and balances, and
entrusted the ?Power of the Purse? to the legislative branch. (unfortunately
the power of the purse was given away to the private banks in 1913.) One
vital part to that separation of powers is the Appropriations and Statement
and Account Clauses of the Constitution, found in Article I, Section 9,
Clause 7 of the Constitution. It is generally thought of as containing two
provisions: the Appropriations Clause, and the Statement and Account
clause. Together, they form a key part of Congress?s ?Power of the Purse,?
and establish Congress as the primary guardian of the federal government?s
finances.

Madison emphasized the legislative power of the purse in the Federalist
Papers by writing the the ?power over the purse may, in fact, be regarded
as the most complete and effectual weapon with which any constitution can
arm the immediate representatives of the people.? (Federalist No. 58).
(unfortunately the power of the purse was given away to the private banks
in 1913.)

However, speaking of the ?Power of the Purse? in relation to the
Appropriations Clause is somewhat misleading, as the Clause is not a direct
grant of power. Instead it is a restriction on the power of the other
branches of government that affirmatively obligates Congress to exercise a
power already in its possession, courtesy of the Taxing and Spending
Clause. (Article I, Section 8, Clause 1.) In essence, it forbids the other
branches of government from spending any money not appropriated by the
legislative branch, while the actual affirmative power to control federal
funds comes from outside the Appropriation Clause.

It is supplemented by various framework Acts passed by Congress, such as
the Anti-Deficiency Act (31 U.S.C. ? 1341) and the Miscellaneous Receipts
Statute (31 U.S.C. ? 3302).  These framework acts fill in the gaps of the
Appropriations Clause and direct its function in practice. For instance,
the Miscellaneous Receipts Act obligates any agent of the United States to
deposit any money received from any source into the Treasury, which ensures
that the other branches of government don?t trespass on the legislative
branch?s domain of taxing or otherwise raising funds. The Anti-Deficiency
Act then reiterates and adds detail to the Appropriations clause by
forbidding the expenditure of public funds without legislative
appropriation, and forbidding federal agencies from exceeding their
appropriated funds.

Apart from funding new acts, Congress can and does use the Appropriations
Clause and its framework acts to adjust, suspend, or repeal existing laws,
simply by adjusting the amount of funding the laws receive, or placing
restrictions on the use of such funds. (United States v. Dickerson 310 US
544 (1940); Robertson v. Seattle Audubon Society 503 US 429 (1992); United
States v. Bean 537 US 71 (2002).).

Unfortunately, over the years Congress has legislated in a manner that
ultimately weakens the restrictions of the Appropriations Clause, primarily
through appropriations for specific bills that are permanent in duration
(see 31 U.S. Code ? 1305, (listing miscellaneous permanent appropriations)
and often permanent and indefinite in scope until Congress affirmatively
revisits the matter. Examples include paying the interest on the national
debt (31 U.S. Code ? 3123), various housing and rent subsidies, the federal
Judgement Fund (31 U.S.C. ? 1304), and federal reserve banks in their
capacity as fiscal agents of the United States (31 U.S. Code ? 3302(f)).

A permanent appropriation is a ?standing? appropriation. (Principles of
Federal Appropriations Law: Fourth Edition, Chapter 2, p13) Once a
permanent appropriation is made, it does not require further authorization
from Congress as long as it is used for its specified purpose. An
indefinite appropriation has no express limitation on the amount of money
appropriated. (id.) While such appropriations are not always a true ?blank
check? they come very close. The amount may be determined at a later date
or, in the cases of interest here, in ?such sums as may be necessary.? Some
require the funds needed to be set each year, while others simply draw from
the Treasury.

This essentially means that Congress can take a specific issue and pass a
bill saying, you can have an amount of money ranging from ?we?ll set a
budget each year? to ?give us a budget estimate? and this appropriation
doesn?t end until we say it does. In other words, Congress has a tendency
to write and sign different blank checks to various agencies while
technically retaining the authority to take the checks back. It?s like when
you subscribe to a magazine, or sign up for a gym membership, and then
forget to cancel your subscription, except on a national scale. That is a
bit different from the separation of powers the Appropriation Clause
envisions, with Congress as the watchful guardian of the public?s finances.

If the Appropriations Clause is the requirement that Congress approve
spending, the Statement and Account Provision is the requirement that they
tell us how their approved money was spent. Drawn from the same sentence of
the Constitution as the above-discussed Appropriations Clause, the
Statement and Account Clause places a crucially important mandate on
Congress?to account to the public for how, where, and by what authority the
government spends money. The clause creates a requirement that the
government produce an account of receipts and expenditures ?from time to
time.? (U.S. Const Art. 1, Sec 9, Clause 7). These reports must be made
regularly (not the most specific requirement) and must include all public
money.  Scholarly interpretation of ?regularly? suggests that the duration
between these reports must be relatively short?more than annually but still
not too far apart.  However, there is essentially no judicial
interpretation of what is an acceptable period.

This transparency in government finances is a crucially important
constitutional requirement. As the Supreme Court has recognized in Brock v.
Pierce County , ?the protection of the public fisc is a matter that is of
interest to every citizen.?? ( Brock v. Pierce County, 476 US 253 (1986).
Ensuring the legitimacy of government financial actions is central to a
functioning democracy. Unfortunately, there are an enormous numbers of
loopholes and discrepancies in the government Statement and Accounting
practices of today?to the tune of trillions of dollars. (DOD and HUD
Missing Money: Supporting Documentation) This is far from ideal for a
Constitutional clause with the goals of ensuring transparency, preventing
corruption, and maintaining oversight over the government?s financial state
of affairs. The clause also, like the Appropriations Clause, enforces the
balance of power between government branches by requiring Congress to
actively oversee how the executive branch makes use of funds. ( see
(Katherine Clark Harris, The Statement and Account Clause: A Forgotten
Constitutional Mandate for Federal Reporting, 2013).

Also like the Appropriations Clause, the Statement and Account Clause is
not a self-executing provision and essentially just relies on Congress to
implement the clause through legislation. (see id. at 515). This originally
involved agencies submitting budget requests to the Treasury every year
which were recorded in something called the Book of Estimates.(see id. at
519). This book included detailed item by item requests from agencies and
all the revenue sent to the Treasury. It was a mess. Nobody had the same
format or managed their accounting in the same way and, once the book was
put together, the Secretary of the Treasury would just send the
incomprehensible pile of raw data to Congress with no review or changes
whatsoever. Congress passed amendments to the statutes discussing how the
Statements and Accounting Clause obligations were handled in 1875 which
formalized the Book of Estimates as the official means of satisfying the
Statements and Accounting Clause. (see id.)

This essentially useless practice continued until the accounting issues of
World War I led Congress to pass the Accounting Act of 1921 (Pub.L. 67?13,
42 Stat. 20, enacted June 10, 1921)?creating a single unified cash budget
for the U.S. government. This act required the President to make a yearly
budget proposal (the President?s Budget)and created an Executive Agency,
the Bureau of the Budget, to help with this. This obviously created a
strange situation, the Executive branch was handling the process designed
in part to allow the Legislative branch to check the Executive. The Act did
create the Government Accounting Office, changed to the Government
Accountability Office (GAO) in 2004 by the GAO Human Capital Reform Act, as
a congressional agency to audit the Executive?s handling of the
accounting.  However, the GAO had no actual role in producing the
President?s Budget. They only reviewed it. Another issue with the
President?s Budget is that it was primarily focused on creating a
negotiating tool for appropriations discussions rather than a transparent
accounting for public consumption.

In 1974, the Congressional Budget Office was created to make an independent
congressional budget (the Economic Outlook) and improve budget oversight.
However, the process had many of the same issues as the 1921 Act. President
Johnson himself said that ?the traditional administrative budget is
becoming an increasingly less complete and less reliable measure of the
Government?s activities and their economic impact.?

Today, the obligations of the Statement and Accounting Clause are fulfilled
by the President?s Budget, the Economic Outlook, and one more reporting
tool; the Consolidated Financial Report issued by the Treasury. Even all
together, there are a number of issues with these reporting mechanisms. The
President?s Budget, the Executive branch?s crack at the Legislative
branch?s duty to oversee the Executive, is still the most widely known of
the reports. The accounting has enormous gaps as mentioned above. These
include, but are far from limited to Social Security trusts, defense
spending and the accounting of quite a few government related entities such
as the U.S. Postal Service (which currently owes around $11B to the
government) and the businesses in which the government owns a tremendous
amount of stock after the bailouts of the last decade?Fannie Mae and
Freddie Mac for instance. These are just a few examples from among the
hundreds and hundreds of government related entities with no accounting in
any of the government reporting tools discussed above.

These holes in reporting, along with a number of statutes limiting the
financial reporting requirements of the government, have led many to
question whether the government is fulfilling its constitutional
obligations under the Statements and Accounting Clause.

And you're asking me to supply you with documents?  LOL.

Warm regards,

Howard Switzer
GPTN alt.

Message: 5
Date: Tue, 31 Jul 2018 23:04:41 -0400
From: Joe Bongiovanni <joebhed@verizon.net>
To: natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt
Message-ID: <164f371d46d-c86-1e680@webjas-vac164.srv.aolmail.net>
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="utf-8"

To The Green Party of the United States National Committee
I am writing to express my sincere thanks for the opportunity to be of service to the work of your Committee during its consideration of proposed Amendments to to the GPUS Platform, notably the proposed Amendments to the sections of the National Platform that relate to the 'Greening the Dollar (Monetary Reform) Plank' of that Platform.
I hope that the exercise brought about by the Nebraska State delegates proposal for Greening the Dollar and related Amendments was as worthwhile for each of you as it was for me personally in trying to advance a broad understanding of how we can, and must, put the money system that we own to work as part of our national Commons.
I was and remain honored to have the ear of each of you in advancing these important public policy discussions. For the record, the GPUS is the only politically active group in the country to have the correct answer to that perennial 'question number one' in considering any advancements of our common prosperity - being, "how are you going to pay for it?"
With our money system.
It's already in the platform.

Again, thank you for allowing me to be of service.
Joe Bongiovanni - Director
The Kettle Pond Institute for Debt-Free Money.
joebhed@verizon.net
Harborton, Virginia? GPVA

1. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Howard Switzer)

  4. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Joe Firestone)

----------------------------------------------------------------------

Message: 1
Date: Mon, 30 Jul 2018 14:04:25 -0500
From: Howard Switzer <hmsarchitecture@gmail.com>
To: National Committee Votes and GP-US Work
<natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

I've got to wonder, are universities today teaching people how to feign
ignorance?  What a waste of time and resources.
The government gets its money from taxing and borrowing, as the Treasury
reports. Government does not create money, only banks do, so how can it
come from government?
Again, complexity is used to hide the reality about money because money is
power, the power to control or even purchase governments, if you have
enough money, a media empire, and an academic network dependent on the
banks.
When the NEED Act, the legislation based on Greening the Dollar, was being
written lawyers were all over it pointing out the laws that needed to be
changed in order for Congress to do it.  Even Lincoln needed legislation to
create the Greenbacks.
No matter how many times people say government creates the money it will
not become true without legislation.

Howard Switzer
GPTN alt

Message: 4
Date: Tue, 31 Jul 2018 01:05:04 -0400 (EDT)
From: Joe Firestone <eisai@comcast.net>
To: National Committee Votes and GP-US Work
<natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

Howard,

There's no need for further legislation for the Government to create many trillions in platinum coin seigniorage.

I think you know that.

Best Regards,
Joseph M. Firestone, Ph.D.
Adviser, GPUS National Platform Committee
2. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Rodolfo Cortes Barragan)
  3. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Howard Switzer)

 10. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Rodolfo Cortes Barragan)

Message: 2
Date: Mon, 30 Jul 2018 00:08:55 -0700
From: Rodolfo Cortes Barragan <rodolfo.cortes.barragan@gmail.com>
To: National Committee Votes and GP-US Work
<natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

Howard,

I am not "choosing to believe" anything. I am running for Congress. This
means that I have to rely on evidence given to me by experts on a variety
of topics. I am simply asking for more information so that I may gain a
more extensive understanding of our current monetary system.

I have followed Sue's directions and I see that, for example, Lockheed
Martin has 13 billion in long-term debt (
<https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/936468/000093646818000053/lmtq2201810q.htm>
).

Unfortunately, note that Lockheed received 50 billion just last year. (
<https://www.fpds.gov/downloads/top_requests/Top_100_Contractors_Report_Fiscal_Year_2017.xlsx>.)
\*Where are the statements showing the government asking the banks for this
money for Lockheed? \*

Sue mentions that the SEC documents mention the names of the Wall Street
banks that are involved in this process, but I have searched for Wells
Fargo, Chase, Citi, etc. and I don't see them anywhere in Lockheed's SEC
filings. \*Can you help me locate that very important information?  \*

Again, what I am looking for is the specific government document that shows
the government asking the private banks for the money to pay Lockheed for
the contracts listed on the Pentagon's website (
<https://www.defense.gov/News/Contracts/Contract-View/Article/1586909/>.)

Thanks for helping me learn.

Best,

Rodolfo Cortes
GPCA Alt.

Message: 3
Date: Mon, 30 Jul 2018 09:59:47 -0500
From: Howard Switzer <hmsarchitecture@gmail.com>
To: National Committee Votes and GP-US Work
<natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

Good luck with that Rodolfo.

Read the Treasury's Annual Fiscal Report to verify the Government's sources
of revenue. It's from taxation and or borrowing....that's it.  Only the
banks are creating money which they do when they make loans or purchase
assets.

Howard Switzer
GPTN alt

Message: 10
Date: Mon, 30 Jul 2018 11:22:42 -0700
From: Rodolfo Cortes Barragan <rodolfo.cortes.barragan@gmail.com>
To: National Committee Votes and GP-US Work
<natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

Howard,

You are directing me to another document that does not answer my question.

Again, you are the expert. As such, please  provide me with a document that
shows the federal contract dollar transfers from the banks to the
government (AMI view), rather than from the government to the banks (MMT
view.)

For example, when universities apply for a grant from the National Science
Foundation, they get a direct deposit that says ?U.S. Treasury? into their
commercial bank account. This also happens with independent federal
contractors and, of course, the defense contractors. The deposits do not
say ?Chase Bank? or ?Wells Fargo Bank.? Looking at those facts, someone
might reasonably believe the MMT account, but you say there is an
additional step where the banks get involved prior to the deposit labeled
as ?from? the Treasury. I am simply asking you to provide us with evidence
of that step.

If you can?t find it on a government website, might you have time to make a
Freedom of Information Request? Here?s the website:
<https://www.treasury.gov/foia/pages/gofoia.aspx>

Thank you. Best,

Rodolfo
3. 5. Voting Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018 Platform
     Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and SustainabilityNational
     Debt (voting@gpus.org)

  7. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Howard Switzer)

Message: 5
Date: Mon, 30 Jul 2018 00:05:00 -0400 (EDT)
From: voting@gpus.org
To: natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org
Subject: [usgp-nc] Voting Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

Voting has begun for the following proposal:

Proposal ID: 923
Proposal: 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal -  Economic Justice and SustainabilityNational Debt
Floor Manager: Andrea Merida, andreamerida@gmail.com
Voting Dates: 07/30/2018 - 08/05/2018

Voting ends at Midnight Pacific Time

Message: 7
Date: Sun, 29 Jul 2018 23:20:37 -0500
From: Howard Switzer <hmsarchitecture@gmail.com>
To: National Committee Votes and GP-US Work
<natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

Perhaps you missed this from Sue's post, answering your question, Rodolfo.
Not sure why you would choose to believe MMT and not history and the many
progressive economic thinkers over the years.

\*#5\* Last, but not least, I refer you to the website of the Securities and
Exchange Commission (SEC). Here you can search the balance sheets of all
publicly traded corporations. By law, these corporations must submit
financial statements to the SEC. Search the balance sheet for the
'long-term debt' of Lockheed, and then search the 'financial notes' usually
at the bottom of the statement. You can generally find the names of the
Wall Street banks that have loaned (created) money for the weapons
manufacturer and how much. If the names of the banks are not disclosed, you
can find the amounts of bank credit available to the corporation. Search
for 'bank' or 'credit facility'.

<https://www.sec.gov/edgar/searchedgar/companysearch.html>

The entire corporate capitalist system is saturated with private bankmoney,
created to issue loans or to buy securities. It is incredible that the
banking power to create money can be kept so out of the awareness of our
society. But people are waking up. This past week, in my Green Party local,
we were sharing our definitions of capitalism. A visitor asked, 'Why do we
hear so much about the banks?'

Howard Switzer
GPTN alt.
4. Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt] (Sue)
  5. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Rodolfo Cortes Barragan)
  6. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Rodolfo Cortes Barragan)

Message: 4
Date: Sun, 29 Jul 2018 12:47:44 -0400
From: "Sue" <peters.s@startmail.com>
To: natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org
Subject: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 -
2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt]

Rodolfo,
#1 Here is a link to a manual on money creation, originally published
by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago in editions ranging from
1961-1992.?

<http://www.rayservers.com/images/ModernMoneyMechanics.pdf>

I would also refer you to a video of Professor Joseph Huber explaining
the two separate circulations of money: reserves and bankmoney
(credit).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G5Meb5yCUxU&t=1383s>

#2 As for the link between the the private banks and Department of
Defense money, I refer you to the following as a source of reports from
the U.S.Treasury. These reports are issued monthly, and show sources of
tax revenue, deficit, expenditures, and bond sales. ?

<https://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/fsreports/rpt/mthTreasStmt/mts0518.pdf>

#3 I also refer you to the U.S. Code Title 12, which is the laws
relating to the role of banks and banking, and includes the Federal
Reserve system. Here is a link to the powers of the Federal Reserve in
buying and selling government debt in their open market operations:

<https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/12/355>

Notice that the Fed is allowed to buy and sell government securities
'but only in the open market'. This is a very important legal
stipulation. The 'open market' means the Fed buys and sells government
securities by NOT going directly to the Treasury but by going to the
private commercial BANKS, listed on the New York Fed's website under
'Primary Dealers'. All sales and purchases make money for these banks.
And, remember, when private commercial banks buy securities, they are
creating their bankmoney (credit) to do this.

#4 I also refer you to the U.S.Treasury bond auction rules on the
website of the New York Fed Bank:

<https://www.newyorkfed.org/aboutthefed/fedpoint/fed41.html>

Notice that most Treasury bonds are auctioned to the same 'Primary
Dealers' again. The big banks are creating their bankmoney (credit) to
buy the Treasury bonds. They fund the deficit.

#5 Last, but not least, I refer you to the website of the Securities
and Exchange Commission (SEC). Here you can search the balance sheets
of all publicly traded corporations. By law, these corporations must
submit financial statements to the SEC. Search the balance sheet for
the 'long-term debt' of Lockheed, and then search the 'financial notes'
usually at the bottom of the statement. You can generally find the
names of the Wall Street banks that have loaned (created) money for the
weapons manufacturer and how much. If the names of the banks are not
disclosed, you can find the amounts of bank credit available to the
corporation. Search for 'bank' or 'credit facility'.

<https://www.sec.gov/edgar/searchedgar/companysearch.html>

The entire corporate capitalist system is saturated with private
bankmoney, created to issue loans or to buy securities. It is
incredible that the banking power to create money can be kept so out of
the awareness of our society. But people are waking up. This past week,
in my Green Party local, we were sharing our definitions of capitalism.
A visitor asked, 'Why do we hear so much about the banks?'

Sue Peters
Member, NY County GP
Member, NYS State Committee
Advisor for money reform, National Committee
GreensForMonetaryReform.org

Message: 5
Date: Sun, 29 Jul 2018 11:16:17 -0700
From: Rodolfo Cortes Barragan <rodolfo.cortes.barragan@gmail.com>
To: Sue <peters.s@startmail.com>
Cc: National Committee Votes and GP-US Work
<natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

Hi Sue,

Thanks for this info. On #5, I can't find the information you're referring
to. Could you send it as a PDF? To be extremely clear, what I'm looking for
are documents that can attest to what you are saying, which is that FIRST
the federal government asks banks for money and THEN that money is sent to
the relevant government department. What the MMT people say, as far as I
understand, is that the money goes from the government to banks.

So for example, last Friday July 27, the Pentagon awarded $48,401,010 to
Lockheed. Where can we find the documents showing the government asking for
that money prior to July 27? What the MMT people essentially claim is that
that money was directly deposited from the government's money-making
ability into bank accounts for Lockheed Martin, rather than what you are
saying.

If you can send the relevant documents, that'd be very useful.

Thank you. Best,

Rodolfo

Message: 6
Date: Sun, 29 Jul 2018 11:17:32 -0700
From: Rodolfo Cortes Barragan <rodolfo.cortes.barragan@gmail.com>
To: Sue <peters.s@startmail.com>
Cc: National Committee Votes and GP-US Work
<natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

I apologize that I didn't include my state affiliation in the previous
email. It is now corrected, and here is the link to that Pentagon contract
with Lockheed:
<https://www.defense.gov/News/Contracts/Contract-View/Article/1586909/>

Best,

Rodolfo Cortes
GPCA Alt.

  1. Re: Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Rodolfo Cortes Barragan)

  5. Re: Proposal 923 - 2018 Platform Amendment - Economic Justice
     and Sustainability National Debt (charles sherrouse)

----------------------------------------------------------------------

Message: 1
Date: Sat, 28 Jul 2018 15:45:39 -0700
From: Rodolfo Cortes Barragan <rodolfo.cortes.barragan@gmail.com>
To: National Committee Votes and GP-US Work
<natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>
Cc: Sue Peters <peters.s@startmail.com>
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923
- 2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt
Message-ID:

Hi Sue,

As a Green candidate for Congress, I am interested in learning more about
the money system. Thus, thanks for any clarification:

Is there a government document that can substantiate the private banking
money  process outlined in your email?

For example, can you show me a document showing the government asking Chase
Bank for the money to pay Lockheed Martin through DoD contracts? At this
moment, I have only been able to find evidence of Congress accepting
campaign donations from Lockheed (FEC website), voting for specific
Lockheed products under various authorizarion/appropriations bills (House
Clerk website), and DoD awarding Lockheed those contracts (Pentagon
website.)

Could you send the documents or links I?m trying to find? The link between
the the private banks and DoD money? Thanks.

Rodolfo Cortes
GPCA Alt.

Message: 5
Date: Sun, 29 Jul 2018 01:24:00 -0400
From: charles sherrouse <options@critpath.org>
To: natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org
Subject: Re: [usgp-nc] Proposal 923 - 2018 Platform Amendment -
Economic Justice and Sustainability National Debt

This proposal presents the absurd and politically untenable position
that there is no consequence to unconstrained government spending.  This
is counter to both common sense and popular opinion across the political
spectrum.

The proposed growth in deficit spending would parallel a growth in
consumption of natural resources.  It would expand the economy,
requiring increased commodification of anything possible, from
'intellectual property' (kitchen gadget patents, Taylor Swift hits, DNA
sequences) to land claims on Mars.

The connection between government spending, in excess of taxation, and
inflation is well documented.  Increasing money in circulation decreases
its value canceling out the effect of economic stimulation, while
destabilizing the economy.  The destabilization hits those on the bottom
the hardest.

Cutting excessive military spending could double the social services
budget while reducing US imperialistic reach.  There is also plenty of
under-taxed wealth that could fund expanded services, infrastructure
development and income security.

The expectation that giving license to print cash at will, would result
in increased spending on social needs, rather than on military expansion
and corporate subsidies, is counter to history.

I strongly advocate voting against platform amendment proposal 923.

charles sherrouse
alternate, PA

  5. Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 - 2018
     Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
     SustainabilityNational Debt (Sue)

Message: 5
Date: Sat, 28 Jul 2018 17:50:37 -0400
From: "Sue" <peters.s@startmail.com>
To: natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org, "Sue Peters" <peters.s@startmail.com>
Subject: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 923 -
2018 Platform Amendment Proposal - Economic Justice and
SustainabilityNational Debt

To national committee members,

I am Sue Peters, a member of the NY County Greens, NYS State Committee,
and advisor for money reform to the national committee. I wish to
encourage you to vote NO to proposal 923-amend GPUS Platform National
Debt. Here are my reasons.

Let me list here many of the current platform items that NB/MMT wants
to REMOVE with proposal #923:

1. Greens will reduce our national debt.
2. Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama have irresponsibly
expanded our national debt by trillions of dollars to finance tax cuts
for America's wealthiest citizens, war, corporate welfare and bailouts
of Wall Street and the automotive industry.
3. Working people and the small business community are bearing a
disproportionate amount of the federal debt burden.
4. We cannot ignore the consequences of our nation's past deficits and
the related costs of debt service.
5. Reduce our national debt by increasing taxes on large corporations,
the super rich and pollution.
6. Oppose privatization of Social Security.

In its stead, this proposal would like us to believe that our national
government, without changing any law, can:
1) create as much money as it wants
2) not only ignore its national debt of 20.4 trillion dollars, but
increase the debt without any damage to its citizens

This proposal ignores that, today, the creation of our money supply is
the private commercial banks. This power - to create and issue our
money as bank debt - was given to the banks by the Federal Reserve Law
of 1913. This law was written by very influential bankers for
themselves. Specifically to put our government into debt. And now they
have managed to put all of us into debt - students, homeowners,
businesses, farmers, etc. etc. This system of private bank money can be
changed by the writing of a law based on 'Greening the Dollar' in our
platform. Dennis Kucinich did just that and submitted the law,
H.R.2990-The NEED Act, into Congress in 2010 and 2011. It is the first
plank of the national GP platform to be made into a law.

Please listen to my talk at the GP national meeting in Salt Lake City:

<http://infostation1.net/sue/2018-07-19%20%20to%2007-22%20GP%20SALT%20LAKE%20CITY%20-%20GPUS/2018-07-20%20MONEY%20CREATION%20TALK%20-%20GP%20national%20meeting%20-%20Sue%20Peters/>

If you cannot listen to the recorded talk (minutes 14-57), then simply
review the powerpoint.

Sincerely,

Sue Peters
Member, NY County GP
Member, NYS State Committee
Advisor for money reform, National Committee
GreensForMonetaryReform.org
212 864 0229