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| --- | --- |
| **Subject:** | Fw: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC |
| **From:** | [Rita Jacobs](https://www.startmail.com/email_compose?send_to=Rita+Jacobs+%3Crjacobs%40arq.net%3E) |
| **Date:** | Monday, November 12, 2018 at 8:57 AM |
| **To:** | [Sue Peters](https://www.startmail.com/email_compose?send_to=Sue+Peters+%3Cpeters.s%40startmail.com%3E), [Kevin](https://www.startmail.com/email_compose?send_to=Kevin+%3Ckev4321%40fastmail.fm%3E), [Will Decker](https://www.startmail.com/email_compose?send_to=Will+Decker+%3Cwdecker2%40cox.net%3E) |
| **Attachments:** | * [ATT00001.txt (0.4KB)](https://www.startmail.com/attachment/download_received/ATT00001.txt?startMessage=1&passed_id=22931&mailbox=INBOX&ent_id=2&passed_ent_id=0) | |

**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of voting--- via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 12, 2018 12:05 AM  
**To:** natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org  
**Cc:** voting@gpus.org  
**Subject:** [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Discussion has begun for the following proposal:  
  
Proposal ID: 939  
Proposal: Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC  
Floor Manager: Andrea Merida, andreamerida@gmail.com  
Discussion Dates: 11/12/2018 - 11/25/2018  
Voting Dates: 11/26/2018 - 12/02/2018  
  
Voting ends at Midnight Pacific Time  
  
The GP-US strives for consensus, which involves several steps,  
 taken in order.. Clarifying questions and responses from the group making the proposal. Airing of concerns and discussion about how to improve the proposal by taking into consideration those concerns. Call for consensus on the final proposal.  
  
Background: An understanding of our national monetary and banking systems, as well as the monetary history that gave rise to our present institutions, is critical for representatives and voters in a democracy. The present  
debt-based monetary system is the major contributor to adverse economic conditions, the increasing wealth disparity, and systemic paralysis in responding to climate change. However, this debt-based monetary system  
is rarely, if ever, included in the curriculum of high schools and undergraduate studies at colleges and universities.  
  
Along with removing spending from the defense budget, our party platform plank called ‘Greening the Dollar’ answers the question "How are we going to pay for the Green New Deal?" ‘Greening the Dollar’ includes monetary changes proposed by more than 200 reputable economists in response to the Great Depression of the 1930’s.  It proposes a monetary system that is based on historical experience to support a far more equitable and sustainable society than we have now.  This monetary transformation will enable all citizens to have access to food, shelter, healthcare, and education, without our governments and people being ensnared by debt.  
  
If established, the Mission Statement of the Banking and Monetary Reform committee will include providing educational materials to Green Party members and Green Party candidates, drafting Green Party position statements and press releases with respect to pending or new legislation affecting banking and monetary systems, proposing platform amendments, endorsing organizations that advocate banking and monetary  
reform that agrees with the Green Party’s ten values, and promoting actions advocating banking and monetary reform.  
  
  
Proposal: Establish a new GPUS standing committee: Banking and Monetary Reform  
Committee (BMRC)  
  
Resources: Inform state parties of the creation of the new committee, and request that they recruit and approve members to serve on the committee. Temporary officers (members who have drafted and promoted this proposal) may conduct meetings until the election of officers. Further administrative matters required by the bylaws will be completed when the required number of states are represented on the committee. We  
expect that this will take three or four months to finalize the active committee.  
  
Contacts:

GPMI: Rita Jacobs, NC alternate delegate, 517 694-8109, [rjacobs@ARQ.net](mailto:rjacobs@ARQ.net);

GPTX: Kevin McCormick, NC alternate delegate, 430 558-9714, [kev4321@fastmail.fm](mailto:kev4321@fastmail.fm);

GPTN: Howard Switzer, Co-chair, 931 589 6513 howard@howardswitzer.com ;  
  
  
References: 1.<http://www.GreensForMonetaryReform.org>  
2.<http://www.monetary.org>  
3.Stephen Zarlenga and Robert Poteat , "The Nature of Money in Modern Economy —  
Implications and Consequences"  
<http://www.monetary.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Economic-Journal-Pap>er.pdf  
4.Asad Zaman, "The Battle for the Control of Money"  
<http://iei.kau.edu.sa/Files/121/Files/153873_29-02-06-Zaman.pdf>  
5.Explaining money creation by commercial banks: Five analogies for public education  by Ib Ravn  
<http://www.paecon.net/PAEReview/issue71/Ravn71.pdf>  
  
  
  
Full details are available at:  
<http://gp.org/cgi-bin/vote/propdetail?pid=939>  
  
Please send your comments to natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org.  
  
Thank you and have a wonderful day!  
--The GP-US Voting Admin

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| **Subject:** | Fw: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC |
| **From:** | [Rita Jacobs](https://www.startmail.com/email_compose?send_to=Rita+Jacobs+%3Crjacobs%40arq.net%3E) |
| **Date:** | Monday, November 12, 2018 at 9:10 AM |
| **To:** | [Sue Peters](https://www.startmail.com/email_compose?send_to=Sue+Peters+%3Cpeters.s%40startmail.com%3E), [Kevin](https://www.startmail.com/email_compose?send_to=Kevin+%3Ckev4321%40fastmail.fm%3E), [Will Decker](https://www.startmail.com/email_compose?send_to=Will+Decker+%3Cwdecker2%40cox.net%3E) |
|  |  |

HI all,

Jan Martell answered the questions before I even got through my email this morning.

I'm not including Howard on these forwards because I know that he reads all the mail from the National Committee. - Not sure about Kevin.

I will perhaps also respond later to Ryan Giglio.

I have an appointment this morning and will be out for a couple of hours. We're off and running.

Rita

**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Janet Martell via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 12, 2018 8:45 AM  
**To:** Ryan Giglio via Natlcomvotes  
**Cc:** Janet Martell  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

I think we should clarify the difference between our standing committees, which are designed to carry out the administrative work of an electoral party - raising funds, supporting candidates, making rules, publicizing, gaining ballot lines etc. - and those built around issues campaigns such as monetary reform, animal rights, climate action, peace action etc. which organize the activist side of of the party.  
  
Committees working on issues campaigns in North Carolina are called Working Groups rather than committees, and we have described how this works in the following way:  
  
"Why Working Groups?  
Greens are activists. The NC Green Party is an electoral political party that is energized, informed and empowered by activist movements and issues campaigns. These movements are larger than the party,  
nation-wide, world-wide, and intersectional. Because NCGP is independent of other political parties and nonprofit organizations and is accountable to its principles and to its membership base, we organize  
our participation in movement work through NCGP Working Groups. The work of these groups falls into several different areas, including research and education, member engagement, organized actions, and media  
promotion. This work is essential to informing our candidate campaigns, growing party membership, boosting donations, and increasing public awareness of NCGP principles."  
  
Because of limited resources, we have identified four Working Groups right now. Our guidelines go on to describe the work in more detail, and how we interface with non-Green activists.  
  
Jan Martell  
Alt, NC  
  
  
  
On 11/12/18 7:48 AM, Ryan Giglio via Natlcomvotes wrote:  
> Can someone explain why we need a committee of this nature? We already have committees, some that are much more important than this one would be, that lack volunteers. Why should we form this committee dedicated to a single issue when we can’t even get significant work done on the other committees we have?  
>

**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of rubies200 via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 12, 2018 9:44 AM  
**To:** The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** rubies200  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Agree, Ryan Giglio. It is insane to create more committees when the current committees can't even function right now.

Nekita Gandy

Delegate GPMS

**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Ann Link via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 12, 2018 11:23 AM  
**To:** natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org  
**Cc:** Ann Link  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Working groups are a great idea! Would be good for people more interested in issues than administrative work and could provide specialized content for our website, social media, etc. - Ann Link. delegate from the Women’s Caucus  
  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Philena Farley via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 12, 2018 12:14 PM  
**To:** National Committee Votes and GP-US Work  
**Cc:** Philena Farley; Ann Link  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

We don't have enough material that we are fiscally conservative, or is the confusion we are eco-socialist instead of DSA? Either way, I think a working group is a good idea.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Subject:** | Fw: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC |
| **From:** | [Rita Jacobs](https://www.startmail.com/email_compose?send_to=Rita+Jacobs+%3Crjacobs%40arq.net%3E) |
| **Date:** | Monday, November 12, 2018 at 1:24 PM |
| **To:** | [Sue Peters](https://www.startmail.com/email_compose?send_to=Sue+Peters+%3Cpeters.s%40startmail.com%3E), [Kevin](https://www.startmail.com/email_compose?send_to=Kevin+%3Ckev4321%40fastmail.fm%3E), [Will Decker](https://www.startmail.com/email_compose?send_to=Will+Decker+%3Cwdecker2%40cox.net%3E) |
|  |  |

I disagree with his interpretation here. Our proposal does include the general mission statement.

I'm not to concerned about it. If it did not follow procedure I don't think the Steering Committee would have let it go forward. I may or may not respond to this.

Rita

**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Gerry, David via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 12, 2018 1:05 PM  
**To:** natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org  
**Cc:** Gerry, David  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Greetings,  
  
        This proposal puts the cart before the horse and is in  
complete violation of the bylaws on how to establish a committee.  
  
3-1.2 To establish a new committee, a Mission Statement describing  
each committee’s general mission and duties and responsibilities  
must be approved by the National Committee by a two-thirds vote.  
  
3-1.3 In conjunction with or after the establishment of a new  
committee, the National Committee shall approve Committee Rules,  
that will guide each committee’s internal operations and  
decision-making. Until the adoption of such Rules a Committee may  
meet, but may not conduct internal committee elections nor make  
proposals to the National Committee.  
  
David Gerry  
Delegate Green-Rainbow Party (Massachusetts)

**\*\*\*\*\***

**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 17, 2018 5:22 PM  
**To:** The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

I can't speak to the other committee's problems but we have people from at least 5 states interested in working on this BMRC committee.  As I understand it a committee is a working group....in that it is a 'group' that 'works' together in an official capacity. There is no GP rules or structure for a "working group" so I presume you mean an ad hoc committee of some kind with no rules, oversight or rights?

I'm not at all sure what delegate Farley is referring to, "fiscally conservative" (?) is not how I would describe Green Party economic or monetary policy, quite the opposite in fact.  Most money today is tied up in the speculation economy, making a few rich at everyone 's expense, and almost nothing going to the real economy where we all live. Please try to understand why anything physically possible and socially desirable is also financially feasible.   Can we not think of things physically possible and socially desirable? Wouldn't that be for the common good?

Imagining that banking and monetary reform is "fiscally conservative"  indicates exactly why we need this committee to educate Greens about banking and monetary reform.  We've got a bunch of species to save and money can provide the power to do it, to move people and materials needed to do it.  That should not be difficult to understand.  We see money moving people and materials in bad directions all the time but it is not just people that do it, its the system which is designed to enslave and why we propose to change it.

Monetary literacy was once the heart of the farmers alliance and progressive movements and parties, they had revival tents touring the nation teaching about banking and monetary reform which made progressives of the late 19th century some of the best informed people in the world.

I don't understand why eco-socialists are so obsessed with saying NO all the time, always trying to derail movements instead of helping them. Nothing is ever good enough for them unless it has 'socialist' stamped on it.

Our website speaks much better to that which we support but are we just yelling at the powers-that-be to do it?  Do we not understand that we have our own plan we intend to implement that would change the world?

Howard Switzer

GPTN alt.

**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of rubies200 via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 17, 2018 10:03 PM  
**To:** Howard Switzer; The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** rubies200  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Delegate Switzer--

I am not, nor probably ever will be, an 'eco-socialist'. I don't even have a firm definition of what that term means, in an operational sense.

There are too many committees that don't even function because of long-forgotten resentments. I'm not aware of one of the most vital committees, BRPP, has ever had a regular meeting in many a year because of a calendar issue, or some such problem.

And how would a committee further inform delegates who were sent to represent state parties, anyway? Presumably, we are all here because our states had enough confidence in our intelligence that they chose us.

Committees exist to work on problems that arise at the national level. Not as an educational tool. The GPUS is not a college.

Nekita Gandy

Delegate GPMS

**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 18, 2018 1:05 AM  
**To:** The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Thank you delegate, Gandy, I understand and agree, I don't know what an eco-socialist is either but from here it seems more like anarcho-socialists trying to make themselves palatable with a prefix.

And I agree we have had committees not functioning based on old resentments and worse.

I am hoping the BRPP is about the get past the old resentments, there are some signs of life.

The Accreditation Committee is the biggest mess no one speaks of, having been packed with 50 people who have no interest in being there except to keep the committee, normally about 7 people, from doing their job, rude and salacious attacks on anyone and everyone who identified with Green values. Pretty disgusting behavior now a matter of record but they would probably say they are just doing politics better than us.  Getting a bunch of people to act like jerks based on lies is no better than what Donald Trump is doing, and I suppose it is "being better at politics," but its not a better politics.

However I agree that a BMRC would not be a critical committee for the functioning of a party just as the Animal Rights Committee, the Peace Action Committee and the Eco-action committees are not critical committees.  However like the Animal Rights, Peace and Eco Committees, the BMRC will attract new people to get involved in the party.  We actually have people from 6 states now interested in helping Greens and their candidates understand money and banking better so they can talk intelligently about it and as such there could be a short segment on it in each campaign school.

Howard Switzer

GPTN  alt.

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of rubies200 via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 18, 2018 1:38 AM  
**To:** The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** rubies200  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Delegate Switzer, these other committees have made the same argument you make for the BMRC.

However--what actual difference have they made to the GPUS, besides siphoning off new blood from populating the VITAL committees relevant to the continued functioning of the GPUS?

I say, nothing at all. I respectfully submit to you that--if you want a debate society--then perhaps you should look to a coalition of states working jointly on this project.

Then, the states may make a proposal to change the platform to reflect your deliberations, to the body of the national GPUS.

That would also be a method of getting new blood interested in the GP at the state level, then at the national. Which grows each states' own GP. Same difference as the goal you say will attract people to the national GPUS, but more helpful to local parties.

Nekita Gandy

Delegate GPMS

**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 18, 2018 2:37 AM  
**To:** The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Delegate Gandy,

I don't believe there is any instance where one of those committees syphoned off anyone from a critical committee, more likely the other way around which goes to my pont.

I am not interested in a debate society either, the BMRC mission is stated clearly.

Howard Switzer

GPTN alt.

\*\*\*\*\*

**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Justin Beth via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 18, 2018 10:44 AM  
**To:** National Committee Votes and GP-US Work  
**Cc:** Justin Beth  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Good morning Nekita and fellow Greens,

I don't want to keep this debate going regarding "eco-socialism", but I did want to share my thoughts on it... because this seems to be part of the crux of a split within our party.

For those that feel the term "eco-socialism" hasn't been well defined, I would encourage you to read over the wikipedia article related to this subject.

<https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eco-socialism>

|  |
| --- |
| [Eco-socialism - Wikipedia](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eco-socialism)  en.m.wikipedia.org  Eco-socialism, green socialism or socialist ecology is an ideology merging aspects of socialism with that of green politics, ecology and alter-globalization or anti-globalization.Eco-socialists generally believe that the expansion of the capitalist system is the cause of social exclusion, poverty, war and environmental degradation through globalization and imperialism, under the supervision of ... |

My thoughts on the matter is this: Our  party's principles (as spelled out in our platform) contain a belief that we need to protect our planet and many aspects of our platform recognize that we need a more equitable society where all people are guaranteed the right to live a healthy and productive life. We believe in very socialist based ideas such as Universal Single-Payer Healthcare, Worker-owned Cooperatives, the creation of Public Banks, and a federal jobs program to give us our Green New Deal... to name a few examples. By our platform's very nature, our party is based on eco-socialism... that is a simple fact of what we are and our platform represents our shared beliefs.

That being said, I can't imagine that there's anyone in our party that agrees with 100% of our platform...and that's okay, because we operate on consensus. Nekita...if you don't 100% agree in the parts of our platform related to the socialist aspects of our party, so be it (however it is there). Obviously, there is enough in the platform that you do agree with, otherwise you wouldn't be with us. I would point out that our platform is not entirely socialist in all aspects and would contest that our platform has enough for everyone... even those that don't see themselves as being socialist. And that's great, because that means our party is stronger and more inclusive. In this way, our party does accurately best represent the majority of Americans.

This agreement must also be understood by those that feel that some in our party that don't share the socialist aspects of our platform should be expelled. We must seek inclusion and get input from various voices on our platform, if we want to continue to speak to all Americans.

Sorry to rehash these arguments, Nekita. But rather than sweep these things under the rug, perhaps we need to recognize that this is an underlying source of tension and be open to considering various sides of this argument as we move forward.

My recommendation is that we do move forward from this, but move forward in a collaborative way respecting all opinions while we make our case for what we personally believe in. Let's allow all of us that support our awesome platform to exist in our party, so we will better be able to complete in this political landscape.

And I totally agree with you Nekita...another committee is not what we need at this point in time. Rather, we should consider: (1) Eliminating the committees that are are not sustainable; (2) Identify integral committees; and (3) Repair those integral committees that are broken, so we can efficiently accomplish tasks that are necessary for our party's survival and success.

I also agree with your recommendation to those that would pursue this topic, do so. However, this topic does not perform an integral function and should not be allowed to distract from our core mission of electing Greens.

\*\*\*\*

**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 18, 2018 1:43 PM  
**To:** The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Thank you Justin, and you are right that there is an underlying source of tension in the party today.

As a long time witness on this list I would like to share my viewpoint on how that happened as well as how we might heal this unfortunate rift.

It began in 2016 when a number of people calling themselves eco-socialists who had joined the party began promoting a split in the party based on their perception that the party was a capitalist party, a charge they've made numerous times in their effort to change a clause in our platform in order to claim it as eco-socialist. The evidence that this was so was the term "stakeholder capitalism" that was in Section IV buried in This misunderstanding, to put it mildly, was used to organize what they see as a take-over of  the party from "capitalist Greens"  to make it an eco-socialist party. I believe this misunderstanding was based on the lack of  conventional anti-capitalist rhetoric in our platform  as well as not understanding the more subtle anti-capitalist nature of the Green platform.

That said I think it is fair to see the Green Party as somewhat "eco-socialist" given the social and economic policies in our platform but Greens early on eschewed the term socialist in favor of Green for practical reasons of public perception and hope our eco-socialist comrades will labor to understand what I have to say rather than react reflexively.

One problem is the watered-down conventional definition of Capitalist/Capitalism.  As Noam Chomsky wrote in Manufacturing Consent, “the terms of political discourse are designed so as to prevent thought and to make meaningful political discourse very difficult if not impossible."  Another problem is adherence to an archaic view of money. Even while Marx noted that “Money plays the largest part in determining the course of history.”  he believed in the defunk commodity theory of money. As Nobel laureate in chemistry and brilliant monetary scientist Frederick Soddy (founder of ecological economics) wrote “In an age when production and distribution are increasingly done by automatic mechanisms it is incredible that so many would believe in Marx’s doctrine that wealth originates with human labor, or that gold was money.”

The conventional definition of Capitalist/Capitalism conflates it with Free Enterprise and free markets which is convenient for the real capitalists as it obfuscates them and their control over the real primary force of production, which is money, and assures that neither enterprise nor markets are free.  The few Capitalists control of the money system through the private profit-motivated commercial banking industry which allows them to dominate industries, governments, thus public policy, as well as most households.  By believing that capitalism is 'ownership of the means of production' a person owning even a small business and the tools of their trade or service is targeted as a capitalist providing a bulwark against identifying the real capitalists, those who control the issuance and supply of money.  With what Martin Van Buren called the Money Power they are able to dominate not only industry and government but to exploit people and ecosystems with impunity.

I think those of us seeking to form a Banking and Monetary Reform Committee would be thrilled to know that it was not necessary in that Greens had a firm grasp of why our monetary plank is a powerful revolutionary proposal. However from the comments often made it is clear we do not and there is much confusion about money being promoted out there by powerful interests, as we saw with the MMT effort to remove our monetary plank, and we think it important that Green eco-socialists have a basic understanding of money and credit, which is now used as money in the current system, in order to defend this powerful revolutionary tool.

in solidarity with the money commons,

Howard Switzer

GPTN  Alt.

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Bruce Dixon via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 18, 2018 11:36 PM  
**To:** The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** Bruce Dixon  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

I think this party has enough non-functional and irrelevant committees as it is.

We don't have ballot access in a dozen states.  While a majority of US voters say they want a third or fourth party, and the GP has existed more than 20 years we are sooooo tiny we cannot afford an office or a press operation. Let's get real.  We need to build a party, not to committeefy some more.

I always wanted to use that word "committeefy"....

Look at where this party is, and tell me honestly that this is anywhere near the top ten things we need to do in ofer to transform ourselves into a mass membership party.  Those people who are intensely interested in monetary refrom whould have their own discussion group, but not another committee. No ma'am and no sir.

Please and thank you.

Bruce Dixon

GA

candidate for SC

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rita Jacobs via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 9:07 AM  
**To:** National Committee Votes and GP-US Work  
**Cc:** Rita Jacobs  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Hello Delegate Dixon,

Thank you for commenting on our proposal

You state that " . . . the party has enough non-functional and irrelevant committees."

To me this implies that you have already judged that any committee we form will be irrelevant and nonfunctional. I ask that you clarify which committees you believe are irrelevant and nonfunctional, and please explain what your reasons are for thinking so.  Perhaps then we can discuss this further.

I understand your frustration in wanting to grow the party faster than we have. Any number of things can contribute to growth of the party. The membership of the Green Party of Michigan doubled after the democrats dumped Bernie Sanders. We added some very active and dedicated members as a result.

I am sure that many party members continue to encounter people who have no idea that GPUS has a comprehensive platform and is more that just a group of tree-huggers.

You have suggested that those who are interested in monetary reform have their own discussion group, but not a committee. Do you also think that we are an oppressed group that would qualify to form a caucus? I doubt it. I find you reasoning to be somewhat oppressive, however.

I am Co-chair of the Peace Action Committee. We have not been irrelevant and nonfunctional. I joined that committee because I believe that we need to publicize the fact that we are the only party of peace. That certainly is something that attracts new members. We have been very active, and I suspect will continue to be so because of war culture in our country.

There are a handful of people who understand the monetary system in this party. Some of them have been meeting online for a long time. They are actively promoting our platform, but are unable to do so in an official capacity on behalf of the Green party. I hope that others do not deny them the opportunity to act officially on behalf of the Green Party.

Peace and best wishes,

Rita Jacobs

Alt delegate, GPMI

**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 10:15 AM  
**To:** The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Delegates,

Rita is right.  These Greens are already working like a functioning committee out promoting our platform, meeting regularly, making videos and presentations about it and publicly challenging the status quo.

Why deny them the opportunity to act officially on behalf of the Green Party?

The party will continue to grow because we are the only party with a comprehensive plan to get us all a better future.

Howard Switzer

GPTN Alt.

**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Philena Farley via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 10:29 AM  
**To:** National Committee Votes and GP-US Work  
**Cc:** Philena Farley  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

If established, the Mission Statement of the Banking and Monetary Reform committee will include providing educational materials to Green Party members and Green Party candidates, drafting Green Party position statements and press releases with respect to pending or new legislation affecting banking and monetary systems, proposing platform amendments, endorsing organizations that advocate banking and monetary reform that agrees with the Green Party’s ten values, and promoting actions advocating banking and monetary reform.

This still sounds like a working group for the Media Committee and/or Green Pages.  <http://greensformonetaryreform.org> Just needs to be recognized as an official working group website for Monetary Reform?   Do we even have any "Greening the Dollar" literature?  I thought there were different brochures broken down by the 10KVs.  <http://www.gp.org/download> we don't have any memes either.

|  |
| --- |
| [Greens for Monetary Reform - Greening the Dollar](http://greensformonetaryreform.org/)  greensformonetaryreform.org  'Greening the Dollar' is in Chapter IV of the Green Party US Platform and contains the essential elements of Dennis Kucinich's NEED Act (HR2990 of the 112th Congress). Under this monetary reform, we would have publicly created money. The national currency would originate from government debt-free and then circulate permanently, rather than originating as bank credit and later disappearing from ... |

Monetary literacy was once the heart of the farmers alliance and progressive movements and parties, they had revival tents touring the nation teaching about banking and monetary reform which made progressives of the late 19th century some of the best informed people in the world.  - Howard

Hey, why not.. Lets promote it heavily.. If certain people hijacked the "Green New Deal" marketing strategy, let's see if we get progressive candidates adding "Greening the Dollar" to their platforms all of the sudden.  j/s

Philena Farley

Ohio Delegate

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 10:33 AM  
**To:** The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Delegates,

Consider this about broadening our appeal.

Quilting is a 4 billion dollar a year industry and there are a couple million women into quilting.

One of our monetary reformers makes beautiful original quilts which she takes to quilting shows.

Her quilt patterns are artful representations of the issues and how they can be solved with monetary reform.

Quilters are voters.

Would we spurn her participation?   Why?

Howard Switzer

GPTN Alt.

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rita Jacobs via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 8:30 AM  
**To:** Natcom votes  
**Cc:** Rita Jacobs  
**Subject:** [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Hello delegates,

We have reformatted this proposal to stress that the actual request is for approval of our mission statement, and now reads as follow:

**"Proposal**

Approve the following Mission Statement in order to establish a new GPUS standing committee: Banking and Monetary Reform Committee (BMRC);  
  
  The Banking and Monetary Reform Committee will provide educational materials to Green Party members and Green Party candidates, draft Green Party position statements and press releases with respect to pending or new legislation or events affecting banking and monetary systems, propose platform amendments when deemed necessary to support Green monetary policy, endorse organizations that advocate banking and monetary reform that agree with the Green Party policy and values, and promote actions advocating banking and monetary reform."

The background information and other information as originally posted has not changed.

This proposal has been sponsored by three state parties: Michigan, Texas, and Tennessee. We expect that New York will join in sponsoring this proposal before the end of the discussion and voting period.

Those of us in multiple states who initiated this proposal ask that you cast your votes of approval. We find a need for members and candidates to become informed on a very important issue that affects everyone. We also find a need for those outside the party to recognize that we have platform issues on a variety of important issues, which will help improve public recognition and understanding of the Green Party.

Peace and best wishes,

Rita Jacobs,

Alt Delegate, GPMI

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of rubies200 via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 11:05 AM  
**To:** The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** rubies200  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

NO ONE is telling you not to meet, Howard. What I am saying is that we do NOT need any more committees at the national level when the ones that already exist, are NOT functional.

Remember--"committees are where good ideas go to die." You do NOT need a committee to present good ideas to delegates. That is what the DX list is for--discussing ideas.

Nekita Gandy

Delegate GPMS

Nekita Gandy

Delegate GPMS

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of elie yarden via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 11:43 AM  
**To:** natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org  
**Cc:** elie yarden  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

But the intention here is fragmenting.  Like the "Green New Deal” Or the mission to get the European Green Parties to become signatories to a petition to the ICC.  But perhaps even more so its attempt to substitute a doctrinaire solution — monetary — for the ‘wholistic’ and distinctively ecological and pragmatistic foundations of Green politics.  Why would anyone sanction a formal structure for and idea that some people rightly wish to study? If I choose to study the foundations of ecological politics with a group of people deeply interested in doing this, I might seek a WordPress site where such discussion could occur.  But why should this all-important task be relegated to a committee.

The mission might change as the result of critical examination.  A mission statement is useful in describing the function of a a sub-committee.  But if the mission centers on the propounding of a predefined position it is destructive to the party building work of the National Committee.  Neoliberals delight in observing the market behavior of ideologues om the parties and committees of the GPUS.  Especially when we get to the point of determning the ‘opportunity cost’ of political ideas.

Some of this is to be expected.  Self-agrandizing projects are standard political fare.  And politically regressive.  If this is not pointed out, this party degenerates and dies.  And the ideas and circumstances that led to its creation are assumed by another.  The concept of an ecological politics will not go away just because the GP-US cannot sustain it.  Change is slow.

Elie Yarden

alternate, MA

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Kristin Combs via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 12:25 PM  
**To:** National Committee Votes and GP-US Work  
**Cc:** Kristin Combs  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Thank you Elie for eloquently stating my thoughts.

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 12:14 PM  
**To:** The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Delegate Yarden,

It is not an "attempt to substitute a doctrinaire solution" at all.

Rather it is about making people aware of the ‘wholistic’ and distinctively ecological policies of the Green Party of which monetary reform is a key component.

It is about supporting all our solutions and educating about how we pay for them without further encumbering society with crushing debt.

It is about how we put the public in charge of public policy.

To aggrandize means "to increase the power or reputation of something," in this case it is not the "self" but the Green Party and its platform.

How is that fragmenting anything?

Howard Switzer

GPTN alt.

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rita Jacobs via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 12:41 PM  
**To:** National Committee Votes and GP-US Work  
**Cc:** Rita Jacobs  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Hello Delegate Yarden,

Where do you get the idea that the intention here is an "attempt to substitute a doctrinaire solution — monetary — for the ‘wholistic’ and distinctively ecological and pragmatistic foundations of Green politics."

Are you suggesting that we should simply allow the public to stumble along in their misconception that the Green Party is a group of tree huggers? I don't know what else to make of your statement here. I have been trained to write in plain English so people don't need to struggle about my meaning.

I think some discussions from last summer on proposed platform amendments that would change our position on monetary issues have shown that there is a lack of knowledge and understanding of how our monetary systems works. And we were presented with so-called experts to advance and defend those platform amendments. Fortunately the amendments were voted down.

Right now the money supply in this country is under the complete control of banks, and new money can only come into existence by creation of debt. This is a tremendous amount of power for the banking industry,  and a huge windfall to banking institutions. It contributes directly to many of the problems in our society and in our present economy. This power has far-reaching effects, and is really not understood by voters and most politicians because it is not part of any curriculum in educational institutions. This is a very important issue.

This has nothing to do with self-aggrandizing. I view that as a personal attack, and a poor attempt at undermining the work that we would hope to accomplish in this committee. This committee is not asking anyone to give up their own work and we are certainly not trying to divide or restructure the party. It is an attempt to do something positive and good for the party. Perhaps that is difficult for some people to understand.

I don't really know what to make of all this opposition.

Rita Jacobs

Alt delegate GPMI

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 1:41 PM  
**To:** The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

 Delegate Yarden,

I only have one vote, same as you.

Not sure how you can blame me for the proposal failing?

Is that grudge the source of your opposition?

Howard Switzer

GPTN alt.

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On Mon, Nov 19, 2018 at 12:27 PM elie yarden via Natlcomvotes <[natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org](https://www.startmail.com/email_compose?send_to=natlcomvotes%40green.gpus.org)> wrote:

Since you address me personally in a public forum I answer accordingly.

Delegate Switzer, I have participated with you in a well designed discussion conerning a mission statement for the GPUS over a period of several weeks, which failed, because it was not the statement that you intended.  I may be influenced by that experience.

But whatever my prejudices, the setting up of a special institution — that is what a committee with a mission statement is — to make people aware of the distinctively ecological approach of the GP-US when that is already the task of the GP, seems strange.

If the GP-US is failing in eduating people about how we pay for solutions without incurring crushing debt, it is not likely that a committee is a place to do this.  But the delusion of putting a public controlled by the techniques of neo-liberal economics and private corporate determination of compulsory education, in charge of public policy does not accord with the political facts.  Monetary reform may well turn out to be a consequence of enlightenement than its source.

What is missing in the Platform?  Get it there.

Elie Yarden

Platform Committee

Alternate, MA G-RP

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Justin Beth via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 1:57 PM  
**To:** National Committee Votes and GP-US Work  
**Cc:** Justin Beth  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Dear Delegate Switzer and other on this thread...

Hello, Howard. Thanks for initiating this topic. As we've discussed this, I've developed a couple of questions I was hoping you or some of the other proponents for this committee could answer for me. My initial feeling, as I stated earlier, would be to not form another committee, but I could be swayed based on the answers to these questions:

(1) Is the "Ad-Hoc" Committee that is currently meeting on this subject still developing its platform, or is the platform already mature?

(2) Does Section IV.I (Banking and Insurance Reform) of our platform already address the language that would be recommended by this new committee or would this sub committee be producing new language to adjust the platform?

(3) Besides a change to the platform, what other deliverables would this committee, if formed, produce?

(4) Would this sub committee need to be permanently in existence, or would its work be accomplished after meeting certain goals (could this sub committee meet on a short term basis, until its goals are achieved)?

(5) How would the products of this sub committee directly impact the election of our Green Party candidates (how does it tie in with our goal of electoral success)?

I could possibly think of some other questions, but this is a good start. I'd just like to have a better understanding of this committee's exact purpose, how long this committee will need to be in existence, and how does it support our primary function as a party... to get candidates that represent our platform elected.

Thanks in advance for your time with this, Howard.

In solidarity,

Justin Beth

Alternate Delegate, Maine

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 2:34 PM  
**To:** The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Thank you Justin, all good questions that I am happy to answer,

Unfortunately I have to rush off to work now. (at 73 one would think I would be done with that)

I will return later this evening to answer them.

Howard Switzer

GPTN  Alt.

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Andrea Merida via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 2:39 PM  
**To:** The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** Andrea Merida  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

I'm concerned about the "proposing platform amendments" part.  What does that mean, in practical terms?

Andrea Merida Cuellar, SC

Colorado

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rita Jacobs via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 2:51 PM  
**To:** National Committee Votes and GP-US Work  
**Cc:** Rita Jacobs  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Hello Andrea,

I will answer that, since I am the one who recommended that it be included in our mission statement. As a member of the Peace Action Committee, I reviewed our platform as it related to our pillar of peace and nonviolence, and in doing so, I recommended to the Peace Action Committee an addition to the platform. We discussed it and agreed to submit it to the Platform Committee. When we did so, we were informed that our committee was not able to submit a platform amendment to the Platform Committee, because our mission statement did not include submitting platform amendments.

Part of our work will involve reviewing pending legislation. It is not possible to look into the future and see everything that may arise with respect to the monetary system. Legislation may change some of what we now have. We did not wish to run into a problem if we wanted or needed to recommend a platform addition or amendment.

I hope that answers your question.

Peace and best wishes,

Rita Jacobs

Alt delegate, GPMI

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Philena Farley via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 2:27 PM  
**To:** National Committee Votes and GP-US Work  
**Cc:** Philena Farley  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

That's one of the main reasons I would specifically like some type of "Greening the Dollar" material as well.   Esp as we work on Ballot Access here in Ohio.

Bruce Dixon said, "We don't have ballot access in a dozen states."  Yeah, I know.. that's why this is important, esp the areas I target, and our recent "Community Bill of Rights" issues failing in some local areas too.  I'm tired of the "hippies" association too.

Philena Farley

Ohio Delegate

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**From:** Rita Jacobs  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 3:34 PM  
**To:** National Committee Votes and GP-US Work  
**Cc:** Justin Beth; Rita Jacobs  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Hello Delegate Beth,

I will answer your questions from my perspective since Howard had to go to work.

(1)The GPUS platform includes monetary reform as part of an overall plan to correct our economic, wealth inequality, and other issues. From that perspective, we do not have any immediate plans to change the platform. However, as I mentioned in my answer to another question, we cannot foresee what might change in the future, and may wish to propose platform additions or amendments. It is not the committee's platform, it is the GPUS platform.

(2) The committee has not recently discussed any amendments to the platform.

(3) Our intention is to produce materials for use by members and candidates. For instance, we have discussed the use of videos, power-point presentations, position papers, etc. for disseminating information about the current monetary system in understandable format, and distributing it to members and candidates. Part of that discussion includes working with candidate committees in the distribution of information to candidates. We would also advocate for monetary reform by endorsing other organizations that advocate for reform that is compatible with the Green Party Platform, and also directly advocating for reform. Part of our work will include the review of pending legislation that would affect the monetary system.

(4) I do not foresee that the committee would be meeting only on a short term basis. I am a newcomer to the present group that has studied this issue, and they have been meeting for several years. They attend conferences and meetings to advocate for the reforms that are in the Green Party platform. I do not foresee a change in that regard. By forming a committee, we hope to add more members to assist.

(5) The monetary system is not something that is understood by ordinary citizens or politicians, yet it is a substantial reason for the money culture that exists in this country, and is a major reason for the existence of extreme debt levels. Those running for office need to be aware of problems within the current system. For those in local and state elections, the establishment of public banks is a viable solution to many local issues. There are other actions that can be taken on local levels to achieve certain local goals. See also the answer to number 3 above.

I hope that I have answered your questions to your satisfaction. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about our proposal. If you have any other questions, please feel free to ask.

We presently have 3 state parties sponsoring this proposal, and expect to add one more before the end of discussion and voting time.

Peace and best wishes,

Rita Jacobs

Alt Delegate, GPMI

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**From:** Andrea Merida <andreamerida@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 3:04 PM  
**To:** Rita Jacobs  
**Cc:** The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Thanks, Rita, for that explanation.

There isn't anything inherently wrong with that goal, except that what we have seen, and what others are pointing to, is the insular nature of our committees.  What really should be happening is for members of committees to report back to their state parties about matters facing these committees and then use their internal, democratic processes to move a proposal to the NC for action.

Bringing an issue back to a state party or caucus is good practice, because it naturally means that more people can become informed on an issue and can have the chance to weigh in.

What I don't see just yet, from the other issue-based action groups, is an outreach function.  I was glad to see a strong statement recently from Latinx about the immigration detention situation.  It has been very difficult to get the IC to make public statements, and among them are subject-matter experts that are fairly unparalleled. But if members treat this committee as yet another internal discussion group, and worse, another listserv to post article links, I don't see the need for it.

I respect your impetus.  I just think that an informal working group would serve the purpose better.  As it is, we don't have alignment on some of the monetary ideas that get discussed on this list.  In fact, I'm on the record of being more concerned with justice-related issues as concern oppressed communities, and in the circles I'm in, no one talks about monetary reform.  They talk about social justice.

Thanks for listening.

Andrea Mérida Cuéllar, SC  
Colorado

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Kevin McCormick via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 3:36 PM  
**To:** The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** Kevin McCormick  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

I am in favor of establishing the committee on Banking and Monetary Reform.  I want to note the objections I have seen in this discussion so far.

Nekita Gandy says: "Committees exist to work on problems that arise at the national level. Not as an educational tool. The GPUS is not a college."  
  
Ryan Giglio says: "Why should we form this committee dedicated to a single issue when we can’t even get significant work done on the other committees we have?"  
  
Justin Beth says: ". . .this topic does not perform an integral function and should not be allowed to distract from our core mission of electing Greens."

Mr. Dixon says:  "Look at where this party is, and tell me honestly that this is anywhere near the top ten things we need to do in ofer to transform ourselves into a mass membership party."

Elie Yarden says: "If the GP-US is failing in eduating people about how we pay for solutions without incurring crushing debt, it is not likely that a committee is a place to do this.  But the delusion of putting a public controlled by the techniques of neo-liberal economics . . . in charge of public policy does not accord with the political facts."

Elie Yarden says: "But the intention here is fragmenting. . . its attempt to substitute a doctrinaire solution — monetary — for the ‘wholistic’ and distinctively ecological and pragmatistic foundations of Green politics.

Now my comment:

I believe that developing our platform on monetary reform will help to transform the GP into a mass membership party.  The GP idea of a Green New Deal is steadily being adopted by progressive groups, but without monetary reform the idea is incomplete and possibly ineffective.  One of the main problems an anti-establishment party faces is that of credibility.  The GP platform planks such as the Green New Deal, Medicare for All, and numerous social justice initiatives are met with the question of "how will you pay for it?"  A thorough understanding of the GP monetary system platform will answer that question.  Moreover, it will show how truly unaffordable the present banking cartel debt-money system really is.

I think we all should accept that the public and most GP members do not have a good understanding of the establishment monetary system, or of the Greening the Dollar parts of the GP platform.  There are unstated assumptions in a question such as "how are you going to pay for it,"  such as how money is created and how it is to be used.  The present system punishes environmental stewardship and social altruism simply by withholding money from those activities.  Somehow this question never arises in terms of the military budget, bank bailouts, or corporate subsidies.  These uneconomic activities are affordable because the banking cartel debt-money system makes them affordable.  Our own society is governed by the needs of the banking-cartel system -- property and financial speculation, government debt, and a social hierarchy designed around controlling access to money.

But "sustainability" does not sustain the banking cartel or corporate oligarchy and so it is not affordable.  We all see the impending ruin from climate change and extreme social inequality, but we cannot change direction because we don't know how to steer the ship -- it is done with money.  It is not merely creating the currency or allocating funds to programs.  The monetary system is like the heart and vascular system of a society.  The monetary system is also like a web of incentives and disincentives which influence social direction in ways that are often subtle or unnoticed.  Political leadership must understand how a monetary system works or they will fail and perhaps destroy the very society they claim to serve.

We are aware of the crisis in Venezuela.  A significant factor in this crisis was the rampant counterfeiting of the currency, which caused massive monetary inflation.  The implication is that the Venezuelan government did not understand their monetary system or how it could be attacked.  There is a similar situation in Argentina, where right-wing elements created a financial crisis and used it to solidify their grip on the society.

So I suggest that we really need to develop a good working understanding of monetary systems and the Greening the Dollar platform provisions.

The Greening the Dollar idea proposes a public-money monetary system.  The money would be created directly by Congress under the Constitution (. . . the power to coin money and regulate the value thereof), without borrowing.  Compare this to the present system which places the money creation and issuance in the banking cartel, which creates money to fund loans.  Hence, it is called "debt-money."  This gives the banking cartel the power to decide who is funded and for what purpose.  Not surprisingly, the greater power and wealth of the oligarchs is the main purpose.  The GP platform would take that away from the banks and put it under Congress, which has some democratic responsiveness.

Given that democracy is a key value of the GP, we also need to put out material for the public.  The public needs to be informed of how the GP would change the monetary system and how the GP could "afford" the Green New Deal and Medicare for All, while at the same time promote economic security and social justice.  I personally believe an informed public would insist on responsible management of the monetary system and the GP proposals would prove to be very successful.

A truly transformative/revolutionary political party will have monetary reform among its basic tenets.  The money system is one of the most fundamental political institutions, which is why it is so rarely discussed in the establishment media and removed from education as much as possible.  The nature and workings of the monetary system, and proposed replacements, must be well understood by the party membership and the general public.  A committee that will develop and provide information and education on this topic is very important to the GP and to all of us.

Thank you,

Kevin McCormick  
Texas Alternate

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of frank young via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 4:23 PM  
**To:** 'National Committee Votes and GP-US Work'  
**Cc:** frank young  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Kevin McCormick says, “The nature and workings of the monetary system, and proposed replacements, must be well understood by the party membership and the general public.  A committee that will develop and provide information and education on this topic is very important to the GP and to all of us.”

To be “well understood” a replacement monetary system committee’s product should be plainspoken, succinct, and edited such as to not require a doctorate in economics nor in anything else to be understood.  If the committee’s primary objective is to show off its superior intellect and its propensity to make complicated that which it could better make simple, then it will fail. For it to be effective, a monetary system replacement committee is no place for vanity. Why not? Because it will be trying to effectively replace in a committee report a lifetime of human experiential education in the current economic system we’ve practiced for all of our decades.

Frank Young

WV Delegate

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Kevin McCormick via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 6:00 PM  
**To:** natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org  
**Cc:** Kevin McCormick  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

I very much agree.  If the committee's product is not easily understood by the public, then the committee will not have done its job.  That said, those who have delved into the subject will know there are many half truths and mistaken ideas.  Excessive jargon and technicalities are often a cover for misdirection or needless mystery.  So I would hope the committee will stress clarity and simplicity.

Kevin McCormick

Texas Alternate

**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Joanna Herlihy via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 5:55 PM  
**To:** The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** Joanna Herlihy  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

I wish that I understood the difference in functioning between a standing committee and an informal working group, which Andrea suggested as more appropriate for this issue in the GP.  Couldn't they do more or less the same thing?

Joanna Herlihy

MA delegate

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rita Jacobs via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 7:34 PM  
**To:** Joanna Herlihy; National Committee Votes and GP-US Work  
**Cc:** Rita Jacobs  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Hi Joanna,

The difference I see is that it is difficult to recruit people to be part of an informal group  - and less difficult if the committee is recognized by the party.

I still don't understand why others express opposition to this committee. This committee will not prevent anyone else in the party from being active in whatever state party, caucus or committee they are active in. This is an important issue even if others don't see it as important. I feel like discrimination or personalities are at work here, rather than objective thinking. We are trying to do some positive good for the party, and we're being pushed aside by some members. It doesn't make sense.

Rita Jacobs,

Alt delegate,

GPMI

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rodolfo Cortes Barragan via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 9:46 PM  
**To:** National Committee Votes and GP-US Work  
**Cc:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Texas Alternate McCormick,

There is no need for this committee. Do you want to know how the Green New Deal will be paid for? Here's a short version:

- Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez will call for the introduction of the Green New Deal Appropriations Act of Fiscal Year 2020

- It will have some trillions of dollars for lots of Green projects. This would NOT be debt. This would be the money supply.

- It will get voted down in committee, but if it weren't, it would advance as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Acts

Eventually, when there is enough support in Congress, the Green New Deal would be allowed to come to the floor as part of the larger Consolidated Appropriations Act of Fiscal Year \_\_\_\_\_.

It will then pass in the House and the Senate. When the President signs it, the Federal Reserve will work with the Treasury to make sure all the checks clear. The GND will then be a % of the discretionary budget...money that is authorized and appropriated into existence at the DISCRETION of Congress.

That's all there is to it. The part of our platform regarding Greening the Dollar was inaccurate when it was placed there, and it is inaccurate today. Eventually, we will get it right.

Rodolfo Cortes

GPCA Alt.

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 2:20 AM  
**To:** The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Delegate Cortez has been misled. Government does not create our money they borrow it from the banks who do.

If government did there would be no national debt and there would not be so much household and corporate debt either.

There would be no systematic concentration of wealth and poverty would have disappeared, the constant growth imperative would be gone, the boom/bust "business cycle" would be stabilized.

When the appropriations come from Congress to U.S. Treasury, UST will borrow the money and it WILL be debt becasue that is how money is created in our system by law.

Congress could change that law, of course, and THAT is what Greening the Dollar does with 3 simple reforms.

 To say government creates our money is repeating a myth, a convenient myth for the ruling elite who do.

Compare a banks balance sheet to any other business, even a financial business, and you discover the banks create money.

"Silence is Golden" as the old banker's saying goes.

Howard Switzer

GPTN  Alt.

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rita Jacobs via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 9:10 AM  
**To:** National Committee Votes and GP-US Work  
**Cc:** Rita Jacobs  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Hello Delegate Cortes,

The proposal before this committee is for approval of a mission statement for a committee to be created. It is not a debate over a current economic theory. I recall you had some one-on-one debates with delegate Switzer during discussions on platform amendments last summer. I think it would be appropriate to take your discussion off this list if you want to have a person to person debate with delegate Switzer.

I spearheaded this proposal, and there are three state parties sponsoring this proposal, and we expect that New York will join us during discussion or voting. Any information disseminated by the committee will be based on actual federal laws and regulations that govern our monetary system, and the proposed reforms that are part of our official platform. Our current monetary system leaves the control of our money supply and distribution in the hands of the banking cartel which leaves it with extensive power that should be exercised by the government, and used for the common good of the people in a democracy.

Peace and best wishes,

Rita Jacobs

Alt delegate, GPMI

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Ann Link via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 6:02 AM  
**To:** natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org  
**Cc:** Ann Link  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

The advantage of a committee is that their functions can be approved by the national committee and they can operate independently like other issue committees such as Peace Action. They can issue white papers and submit proposals to the national committee for example. I like the idea of working groups but we don’t have any formal framework for their participation. If they wanted to submit a proposal to promote a monetary reform conference for example they would have to get states or caucuses to sign on - Ann, delegate from the Women’s Caucus

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rodolfo Cortes Barragan via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 9:13 AM  
**To:** National Committee Votes and GP-US Work  
**Cc:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan; Ann Link  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Every year Congress passes a discretionary budget. For example, some billions to the National Science Foundation, other billions to the Dept of Agriculture, other billions to the Dept of Energy, etc. It’s called the discretionary budget because it’s at the discretion of Congress.

The money is then typed into existence by staff at the Fed and the Treasury, in the amounts ordered by Congress. The money then appears in the commercial bank accounts of firms and individuals doing business w the federal government (i.e. government contractors.) This is not debt owned to anyone. This is new money entering the money supply (the sum total of all dollars.)

We have a situation where corporate interests, such as Lockheed Martin, want lots of that money. That’s why they go after Congress. Notice they don’t go begging the banks for money. They go to Congress. Specifically, they corral members of the Appropistions and Armed Services Committees. Why? Because they want more money for Lockheed projects to be written into appropiations bills. When that money appears in Lockheed’s commercial bank accounts, that’s not debt on anyone. That’s free money for Lockheed. It’s new money entering the money supply, overwhelmingly going to Lockheed (1/10 discretionary dollars goes to Lockheed.)

What we want is for Congress to do this for the Green New Deal. All it would take is a successful vote in Congress. This stuff about Greening the Dollar is a distraction. The Congress already has the power to employ the  dollar for public purpose. What it lacks is political willpower.

Rodolfo Cortes

GPCA Alt.

On Tue, Nov 20, 2018 at 5:25 AM Rodolfo Cortes Barragan <[rodolfo.cortes.barragan@gmail.com](https://www.startmail.com/email_compose?send_to=rodolfo.cortes.barragan%40gmail.com)> wrote:

Delegate Switzer claims that balance sheets exists which prove his point. Yet I have repeatedly asked him to provide those balance sheets. I have linked him to the FOIA requests office where he may get help in securing those sheets. He has failed to produce that evidence.

On one occasion he did link to an SEC balance sheet, but that balance sheet did not contain the information he claimed existed (long-term debt of military contractors to private banks.) the balance sheet showed no such thing.

It is sad that the Democrats will get the credit for the Green New Deal. It is sad that (some) in the Green Party still refuse to learn actual economics and instead choose to follow a random persons’ writings (Zarlenga.) The reality about the monetary system is the reality described by economics professor Stephanie Kelton.

Thank you to the Pennsylvania Green Party for their MMT speaker at their last event. The truth is on your side.

Rodolfo Cortes

GPCA Alt

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**From:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan <rodolfo.cortes.barragan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 9:21 AM  
**To:** Rita Jacobs  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Hello Delegate Jacobs,

Delegates Switzer, McCormick, and yourself are trying to form a new committee. In responses, most delegates have expressed concerns regarding the mere addition of a committee. My concerns are more about the content of your committee. Let me know if I have somehow violated some rule that bars me from expressing disapproval of the content of a committee but which allows others to comment on other aspects of the proposed new committee. Thanks.

Best,

Rodolfo Cortes

GPCA Alt.

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Kevin McCormick via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 9:59 AM  
**To:** natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org  
**Cc:** Kevin McCormick  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

This comment would be more appropriate in a paper submitted to the proposed committee.  I do not think the committee's role would be to espouse a particular theory.  Rather, the committee would produce various materials designed for educational and informational purposes.  It would be helpful to the GP membership and GP candidates to have concise explanations of the various monetary system theories which they might encounter.

I would expect advocates of the MMT theory to put together a summary and explanation of the MMT theory and submit it to the committee.  The committee's role would be to assure that the materials are accurate and understandable, such that a GP member could read the paper(s) and have a good understanding of the MMT theory.  Likewise, advocates of the AMI theory or other theories, would also provide a summary and explanation.  I would also expect explanations of the status-quo monetary system.  The committee should not be a debating forum -- it should be a service to the GP membership and the public.

Then there is material developing the actual GP platform, which would be focused on the platform language and what it means in terms of monetary reform.

The monetary debate will continue and circumstances will change, so it is more than just creating a collection of papers and educational materials, but I can imagine that the GP will be quite well informed at some point and the committee would no longer be needed.

I have just read Zeese and Flowers on how the U.S. empire is failing.  If so, we can expect the monetary reform debate to intensify.  I believe it will serve the GP well to be informed and fluent on this topic, while the duopoly parties flounder.  <https://popularresistance.org/us-empire-is-failing-time-to-change-course/>

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| [protest-outside-of-dublin-post-office-at](https://popularresistance.org/us-empire-is-failing-time-to-change-course/) | [US Empire Is Failing, Time To Change Course | PopularResistance.Org](https://popularresistance.org/us-empire-is-failing-time-to-change-course/)  popularresistance.org  The Pentagon and elites who profit from war are trapped in a devastating cycle that will bring greater insecurity to the world and risks another world war, including a nuclear war. This makes the work to build a movement of movements for peace an imperative. That is why we are currently abroad building relationships |

Regards,

Kevin McCormick  
Texas Alternate

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rodolfo Cortes Barragan via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 10:13 AM  
**To:** kev4321@fastmail.fm; National Committee Votes and GP-US Work  
**Cc:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

It would be great for the committee to strive for education. It's unfortunate that the committee willfully chose as founding members only individuals who are known to be on one side of a huge educational divide. Both the AMI-based and the MMT-based crowd claim that the other is incorrect, yet the committee is made up of only AMI-supporting individuals, rendering the anti-MMT view powerless before the committee even begins its educational work. This doesn't give the impression of a fair and open committee. It gives the impression of one side of the debate attempting to forming an additional party structure to further cement their already dominant position.

Rodolfo Cortes

GPCA

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of rubies200 via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 10:15 AM  
**To:** kev4321@fastmail.fm; The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** rubies200  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Delegate McCormick,

There are books in bookstores and videos on Youtube about MMT, or any other monetary theory or economic pitch this committee would or could supposedly come up with. Delegates have that choice to find out for themselves. I say again--this very thing is what the DX list is for. If a delegate chooses to subscribe and engage in a debate, so be it.

Again, you don't need a standing committee to do that.

Nekita Gandy

Delegate GPMS

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Bruce Dixon via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 11:16 AM  
**To:** The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** Bruce Dixon  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

 I’m not going to identify here and now which party committees I believe are irrelevant and/or non-functional because in the absence of some well understood and shared criteria for effectiveness and functionality, my individual opinion would have little value, and might be unnecessarily divisive.

I certainly DO have opinions about what’s relevant and effective, opinions based upon study and observation and reflection, and already expressed in some of my writing about the Green Party in Black Agenda Report, because unfortunately the GP does not have its own outlet for publishing intra-party opinions on this kind. But I’m just one guy. A mass based party is the work of many hands, many hearts, many minds, a collective effort.

We need some broad discussion of problems and solutions, not just one guy sounding off. We need a collective effort to assess and identify the reasons our party is as weak and ineffective as it is, not just one more individual sounding off.

It seems beyond dispute however that our party is in crisis. We have to face up to it. The GP has existed more than 20 years now, and during all that time multiple polls have indicated that the American people really want to see an alternative to the Democratic and Republican parties. But so far we have been unable to develop a mass base, unable to overcome the barriers to ballot access is about a third of the states, unable to win more than a handful of partisan elected offices. Currently we are unable to raise the pittance it takes to staff a national office and a full time press operation. We take what I consider to be the correct positions on most issues, but we remain unable to compete effectively with Democrats and Republicans, we are weakly organized at every level.

It is therefore entirely appropriate and necessary that we closely examine our party and its practices, its culture, its rules and its structure to carefully assess our practice and identify the reasons for our failures. A key piece of this must be soberly assessing the roles and the work of our party’s committees and caucuses.

So instead of me sounding off as an individual about the shortcomings of this or that committee or caucus, I am inviting you and the rest of the party to join in a collective effort to critically assess the relevance, the effectiveness of our party’s structure, whether some of its culture and customs contribute to or detract from its growth into the mass-based party which the American people, and presumably all of us want to see.

This will require doing something new. Our party’s national committee does not have anything like a tradition of robust debate over party affairs, over what the committees and caucuses and the steering committee does. We will have to develop such a tradition, or face continued failure.

Respectfully,

Bruce A. Dixon

Georgia

candidate for steering committee

404-797-2087

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 12:38 PM  
**To:** The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Sure. It happens that scientific research and analysis has been done on how balance sheets show that banks create money.

Here is a paper on that by Dr. Richard A. Werner

International Review of Financial Analysis, 36 (2014): 71–77. <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1057521914001434>

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| [1-s2.0-S1057521914X00062-cov150h.gif](http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1057521914001434) | [How do banks create money, and why can other firms not do the same? An explanation for the coexistence of lending and deposit-taking](http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1057521914001434)  <http://www.sciencedirect.com>  Thanks to the recent banking crises interest has grown in banks and how they operate. In the past, the empirical and institutional market micro-struct… |

As for "Zarlenga's book" it is a collection of the history to which there is no "counter-evidence".  Dr. Michael Hudson, who I'm sure you are aware of, had this to say about it

“Stephen Zarlenga’s Lost Science of Money book provides the needed background for seeing the basic structural issues at work.”   You should read it before criticizing it.

Howard Switzer

GPTN

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rodolfo Cortes Barragan via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 12:47 PM  
**To:** National Committee Votes and GP-US Work  
**Cc:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

I believe my previous attempt to send this message got blocked. Here it is again.

Delegates,

Delegate Switzer does not seem to understand why Modern Monetary Theory calls itself a theory. It is not because MMT doesn't deal with facts and laws. It's because it's an organized body of knowledge. In science (I'm a scientist), we refer to organized bodies of knowledge as theories, i.e. the theory of gravity, the theory of evolution, the theory of plate tectonics, etc. Nobody would claim that those theories aren't bases in fact. Similarly, MMT is an organized body knowledge. It is a scientific theory.

By contrast, AMI is an outdated belief system, like psychoanalysis (which is not scientific). Like psychoanalysis, AMI has a founding text (Zarlegna's book), and dutiful followers who reject the weight of the counter-evidence (with almost the same level of conviction as Freud's followers).

Delegate Switzer, you claim that the balance sheets show the evidence that you are correct. Show us the balance sheets.

Rodolfo Cortes

GPCA Alt.

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rodolfo Cortes Barragan via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 12:53 PM  
**To:** National Committee Votes and GP-US Work  
**Cc:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Delegate Switzer,

This paper outlines a process whereby the banks create money, but that is not at issue in this debate. What is at issue is YOUR claim that the government does not create money. Painly, it does. It does it through acts of appropriation. Professor Hudson is solidly in agreement with that. That’s why he and I had such a pleasant chat at the MMT meeting in New York.

Best,

Rodolfo

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 1:43 PM  
**To:** The natlcomaffairs (aka USGP-DX) listserv is used to discuss issues related to coordinated national actions and current issues.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** [usgp-dx] The Greening the Dollar vs MMT debate

Appropriations do not create money, they go to U.S. Treasury which provides  
money from the national account or borrows the money if there is not  
enough, which there generally isn't.  
This and the associated compounded interest is why we have a growing  
national debt and why government is so limited.  Thus most money is  
actually credit being used as money.  
  
Greening of the Dollar, on the other hand, specifically gives government  
the exclusive power to issue money, real money that is a public asset not a  
debt.  
  
The only money created by the government is the coins becasue they are sold  
at face value for which our government receives the seigniorage. That makes  
them money, not debt.  
Government prints the bills, the Federal Reserve Notes, but sells them at  
cost of production and the banking cartel gets all the seigniorage (profit)  
on them when it issues them.  
The vast majority of money however, as we all know, is created  
electronically by the banking cartel as debt.  
  
Few economists have the nerve to break with the conventional view that  
would threaten their career.  Dr. Hudson and the MMT folks seem to think  
that continuing the growth of debt will alleviate the problem, hyper  
Keynesianism which has been proven wrong.  
Like trying to dig yourself out of a hole, it only makes it deeper.  
  
  
Howard Switzer  
GPTN

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rodolfo Cortes Barragan via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 1:48 PM  
**To:** National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] The Greening the Dollar vs MMT debate

The appropriated money is NOT borrowed from anyone. It is deposited into  
existence by the currency issued. It then becomes a savings account or free  
floating cash for currency users. We need appropriations for the people,  
just like the banks get.

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of elie yarden via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 1:55 PM  
**To:** natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org  
**Cc:** elie yarden  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Since we already know the truth of money and and the transformational role that that knowledge plays in dealing with the disatrous consequences of Climate Change, as well as the persistence of involuntary poverty; it is difficult to see what the establishment of a committee would do other than publicize the matter.  Are there any new discoveries to be made?

If Government does not make the laws that allow banks to make money. How is a made thing as betokened differ if made by a craftsperson herself or manufactured per her instructions?  I have always suspected yjsy sll money was counterfeit and oreder to be paid for my wisdom in aluminum bars that are easily weighed.  People independent of money can allow the weight of a kilo to br decided by the market.  This enables one to carry ones own kilo weight to choose which merchant use the preferable kilo weight.

Allowing the market to determine th weight of a kilo us a good idea if I have one of my own to judge it by.  People essential to a market economy become buyers and sellers in a market society.

Social relations are matters of politics and political economy; not economics.

Elie Yarden

alternate,  MA G-RP

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of elie yarden via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 2:10 PM  
**To:** natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org  
**Cc:** elie yarden  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

One minor query,

Since the Green New Deal is quintessentially a Democratic Party ‘idea’ why should not that party tget the credit for the slogan.

Just think how many Democratic voters will vote Green when they see the slogan.

smeared  all over Green Party literature!

Elie Yarden

alternate MA G-RP

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 2:21 PM  
**To:** The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Thank you Delegate Yarden,

Yes, I agree, money is much more a matter of social relations, politics and political economy; not economics.

The pseudo-science of economics only confuses and mystifies the issue on behalf of the banking cartel, which is its job.

Howard Switzer

GPTN ALt.

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of GPUS Forum Managers via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 2:36 PM  
**To:** 'National Committee Votes and GP-US Work'  
**Cc:** GPUS Forum Managers  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Please take this discussion to the affairs (dx) list.  The only appropriate issue related to Proposal 939 is whether or not to establish a standing committee on Banking and Monetary Reform.

Discussion of various monetary theories belong there, not on this, the votes list.

Continued violations of listserve protocols will result in the Forum Managers issuing Advisories and Warnings.

 GPUS Forum Managers

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Paul Krumm via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 2:50 PM  
**To:** natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org  
**Cc:** Paul Krumm  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

I would say that MMT is a theory.  I would also say that AMI is a theory.  Each is built on a set of assumptions, as are all theories.

In my analysis, I have found inconsistencies as well as what I see as invalid assumptions in MMT.  I have also found what I see as invalid assumptions in AMI theory.  Our present money system also has its set of assumptions, which have holes and ramifications which are not acknowledged.  **The validity as well as the value of any theory has to be judged on the basis of whether its assumptions, its hypotheses, and its results represent the kind of reality we value and want to live in.**

In all three of these theories, I have seen ignorance of the ramifications of assumptions outside of the realm of centralized creation of money, namely the mutual creation of money.  Little discussion is also given to accounting vs commodity money.  I have only in the last week begun to see discussion of how monetary trade interfaces with reputation and unpaid contributions to the commons, which are values that if quantifiable, are quantifiable only in different ways than monetary trade.

We need  to discuss the money issue in a wider context in my view, looking at the logical assumptions of each theory, to see to what extent they are a) valid and b) congruent with the 10 key values of the Green Party.  Only then can we begin to see what kind(s) of money system(s) Greens should be proposing and supporting.

In peace, Paul Krumm

Kansas alternate

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 3:09 PM  
**To:** The natlcomaffairs (aka USGP-DX) listserv is used to discuss issues related to coordinated national actions and current issues.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] The Greening the Dollar vs MMT debate

If so gov  would not have a national debt and gov would not be making  
interest payments. It requires a manipulation of mind-numbing and  
convoluted language to explain that away.  
Which Dr. Firestone delivered extensively recently.  Complexity is often a  
device for claiming sophistication and evading simple truths, especially  
regarding money.  
  
Howard Switzer  
GPTN

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 3:12 PM  
**To:** The natlcomaffairs (aka USGP-DX) listserv is used to discuss issues related to coordinated national actions and current issues.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** [usgp-dx] political economy - not economics

Thank you Delegate Yarden,  
  
Yes, I agree, money is much more a matter of social relations, politics and  
political economy; not economics.  
The pseudo-science of economics only confuses and mystifies the issue on  
behalf of the banking cartel, which is its job.  
  
Howard Switzer  
GPTN

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 3:28 PM  
**To:** The natlcomaffairs usgp-dx (aka USGP-DX) listserv is used to discuss issues related to coordinated national actions and current issues.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** [usgp-dx] Assumptions

Greening of the dollar is not based on assumptions, it is based on  
historical experience and analysis.  It only addresses one question;  
Should our money be issued privately as debt by a profit motivated banking  
system controlled by a few individuals or should it be issued publicly and  
transparently by an elected government as an asset for public purpose?  
That's it.  
  
What are the specific "assumptions" you think Greening the Dollar is based  
on?  
  
Howard Switzer  
GPTN Alt.

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of rubies200 via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 3:53 PM  
**To:** The natlcomvotes (aka National Committee Votes) listserv is for decision-making and management of GP-US affairs.  
**Cc:** rubies200  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Again, all of this discussion needs to happen on the DX list--not on a standing committee.

Nekita Gandy

Delegate GPMS

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rodolfo Cortes Barragan via Natlcomaffairs [natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org](mailto:natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org)GPDX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 3:45 PM  
**To:** Howard Switzer  
**Cc:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan; National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] The Greening the Dollar vs MMT debate

The national debt is not a convention debt by any means. It shouldn't even  
be called a national debt. It is the MONEY supply. It is the money in your  
pocket, in you bank account, etc. Some would call this their savings  
account. Others would say it's their paycheck. The national debt is not a  
problem that needs fixing. If we WERE to fix it, nobody would have any  
money - we'd have to give it up to the IRS. That's literally what it would  
take to "fix" the debt. I trust that you will understand why that would  
crash the economy. Also, even if you could point me to the exact interest  
you claim we are paying, that's hardly important. The U.S. can always pay  
its debts via discretionary spending.  
  
Rodolfo Cortes  
GPCA Alt.

\*\*

**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rodolfo Cortes Barragan via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 3:58 PM  
**To:** National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] Assumptions

Delegate Krumm is correct. We have to keep an open mind and analyze all  
proposals deeply. We always have to remain vigilant to one of social  
psychology's core teachings:  
  
In social psychology, they have something called "effort justification." In  
the classic studies, participants who expended effort to become a part of a  
group later defended the group, even when the group had clearly been shown  
to be in the wrong. Similarly, people go through life learning something  
and go through considerable confusion and anxiety and anger in order to  
unlearn it. Even in the 1700s, there were still Europeans who swore that  
the Earth has flat. Today, there are people who still say climate change is  
not real. To give up their former beliefs is not something humans look to  
kindly.  
  
For decades, this party has held on to a flawed belief: that the U.S.  
government does not create it's own money. I used to hold this belief not  
too long ago. But I try to remind myself of the lessons of social  
psychology: Just because you have defended something, doesn't mean that  
thing you defended is right. The AIM view is wrong.  
  
In the world of today, the U.S. Congress can order the creation of as many  
dollars as it wants and pay it to someone. For example, when I was in  
graduate school, Congress passed huge science budgets, in 2009, 2010. The  
National Science Foundation got that money and gave it out to young  
students, such as myself. \*That's how it works. \*  
  
Congressional committees decide on a budget to bring to the floor. It gets  
a vote. Passes in the Senate. Signed by the President. Done. Money into  
citizens' accounts. Issued NOT AS debt, but as money as you and I know it.  
It is not debt. It is the money supply, issued by the U.S. Treasury  
directly into the bank accounts of private individuals or employers doing  
business with the federal government (such as universities, military  
contractors, civilian contractors, etc.)  
  
Rodolfo Cortes  
GPCA Alt.

\*\*

**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Ryan Giglio via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 4:22 PM  
**To:** National Committee Votes and GP-US Work  
**Cc:** Ryan Giglio  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Delegates Switzer and Cortez are showing exactly what would happen within this committee. We don’t need yet another committee that wastes their time endlessly arguing over a single issue. If the people behind this committee proposal want to educate Greens on monitory policy, then do as Delegate Nikita suggested and put it on the DX list as well as other Green Party based media resources

\*\*

**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Ryan Giglio via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 4:22 PM  
**To:** National Committee Votes and GP-US Work  
**Cc:** Ryan Giglio  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Ryan Giglio

Arkansas Delegate\*

\*\*

**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of elie yarden via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 4:29 PM  
**To:** natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org  
**Cc:** elie yarden  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

I am reminded by an invitation that just came in my e-mail;

"**Economics versus Political Economy**

**Tim Thornton  
GDAE Visiting Research Scholar**

Up until the 1870’s what we now call economics was called ‘political economy’ and classical political economists such as Adam Smith or Karl Marx saw themselves as practitioners of a unified social science that necessarily incorporated what we today call the disciplines of politics, international relations, philosophy, sociology and history. This seminar looks at the fields of economics and political economy from past to present and makes the case for the recovery of a multidisciplinary and pluralistic ‘political economy’ as a superior means to comprehend contemporary economy and society.

Dr. Tim Thornton is a Visiting Research Scholar at GDAE at Tufts University. He is Lecturer in Politics, Philosophy and Economics at the Department of Politics and Philosophy

at La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia.

**Brown Bag Lunch Series**

Bring your lunch and join us:

**Tuesday, November 27 12:30-1:45**Cabot 206, The Fletcher School 160 Packard Ave, Medford, MA

**Global Development And Environment Institute at Tufts University"**

of a particular prejudice that may color my thinking on the subject.  It is of course rooted in the conception of ecological politics and language.  Our knowledge is frequently categorical, and it is one of the peculiarities of Green Party -- and other 'new politics’ --thought to look critically at categopries that serve a section of society.  Thus the field of economic monetary theory separateing the economic from politics will of necessity provide further opportunity for NeoLiberal strategies to undermine the Demos in the substitution of 'homo economicus' for 'homo politicus.’ The categories under which we operate are likely to be conventional.  They have gotten us to where we are.  The Green Parties were established to deal with the problems caused by acting in the terms that create an justify poverty, and the inability to come with the effects and consequences of catastrophic climate change, and the industrialization of life forms (including the human).

Elie Yarden,

alternate, MA G-RP1

Thank you, delegate Nekita Gandy, for reminding us of the distinction between rational consensus seeking and marketing ideas.

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**From:** Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of elie yarden via Natlcomvotes <natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 7:05 PM  
**To:** natlcomvotes@green.gpus.org  
**Cc:** elie yarden  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

I doubt that I made any such suggestions.  Especially since I do not regard debates to be a ggod way of arriving at a rational consensus.  Arriving at a rational consesnus involves much more research, hearing all serious voices, and development of theory, thatn can be done in dicating practice.

Elie Yarden

alternate, MA G-RP

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 9:42 PM  
**To:** The natlcomaffairs (aka USGP-DX) listserv is used to discuss issues related to coordinated national actions and current issues.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** [usgp-dx] political economy 101 was about proposal 939

Yes, thank you Elie, I believe I've mentioned this myself before. That  
"economics is the study of wealth while ignoring power and that "political  
science" is the study of power while ignoring wealth. Political economy is  
the study of the relationship between power and wealth without which one  
can hardly understand the society we live in.  
  
Yes, in the 1870s after the banking cartel had Lincoln shot they pursued a  
strategy to formally take over the nations monetary authority, which  
required splitting political economy into two uncommunicative halves along  
with bribing universities, professors and politicians to support their  
private central bank scheme. They accomplished that in 1913 by establishing  
the Fed, which the banking cartel would and does to this day, control.  
First they took us to war, then they blew a giant bubble which they  
intentionally burst in 1929 in order to take control of vast amounts of the  
wealth. As soon as they stopped issuing credit in 1929 they began  
collecting millions of people's, homes, farms, businesses and banks.  
  
Once one understands the relationship between power and wealth today it is  
then easy to see that money is the problem as it is used to corrupt our  
institutions, it is used to rape our planet, and it is used to oppress and  
exploit the people. This happens through the exclusive private control of  
the issuance of money.  
  
I'm not trying to sell anything but ecologically aware democracy.  
  
Greening of the Dollar changes the relationship between wealth and power by  
taking the money power away from exclusively private interests and giving  
it exclusively to the public's elected government. With that power in  
public hands, a prerequisite for ecological economics, government can  
pursue its responsibility to society unencumbered by an elite controlling  
the money power for personal gain. Instead money would be a public utility  
and would have much less importance to government since government could  
issue as much as needed which would be determined by whether or not we had  
the resources and expertise to do something.  
  
Ecological wisdom would then become part of how to scientifically  
determined whether or not we could safely use said resources to do  
something.  You would never get THAT from the privately controlled system  
we have today. In such a system anything physically possible and socially  
desirable would be financially feasible without incurring debt to private  
interests.  
  
You call that a hobby horse?  You toy with critically important concepts.  
  
Howard Switzer  
GPTN Alt.

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 10:30 PM  
**To:** The natlcomaffairs (aka USGP-DX) listserv is used to discuss issues related to coordinated national actions and current issues.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] The Greening the Dollar vs MMT debate

While I agree that the national debt is not a conventional debt I disagree  
that it should not be called a debt because it is a real debt on which we  
pay interest.  
True, it is not like conventional debts in that government is not required  
to pay the principle back as long as we pay the interest, which covers the  
banks expenses and profits.  
This is why the national debt has continued to grow. In this system it  
cannot be paid off becasue, as you say, its people's paychecks, it is all  
the money in circulation that the government has spent.  
The principle cannot be paid off in a system where credit is used as money  
becasue when the principle is paid off that money is extinguished.  
Just as it was created out of nothing by keystrokes in the banks ledger, it  
would disappear back into nothing by keystrokes in the banks ledger which  
would create a monsterous depression.  
  
In the transition to Greening the dollar, where overnight all money becomes  
US government money, the banks would not extinguish the money but would  
return it to government as the loans are paid off which would provide  
government an enormous amount of money to use for public purpose.  Once the  
outstanding loans are paid off and all the money returned to its rightful  
owners, the people, banks would only lend money that people wanted to  
invest in a time deposit savings account. If for any reason this was not  
enough for the economy to run smoothly government could lend money to the  
banks, at interest of course and provided the bank had enough assets to  
secure the loan....right?  
  
I know you think you know and that you don't believe me but you don't have  
to, just study outside the box. Perhaps begin with a book that "provides  
the needed background for seeing the basic structural issues at work.”  
  
Howard Switzer  
GPTN

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Paul Krumm via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 12:37 AM  
**To:** Howard Switzer via Natlcomaffairs  
**Cc:** Paul Krumm  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] Assumptions

Howard and all,  
  
I apologize for the length of this post.  I try to keep things shorter,  
but was unable to do so to cover the territory that I believed needed to  
be covered.   It is also a continuation of an earlier conversation on  
money with Howard.  
  
The assumptions in this case have to do with precisely what Howard says  
below.  AMI theory assumes that money should be issued "publicly and  
transparently by an elected government as an asset for public purpose".   
This basic assumption drives AMI theory. While this assumption is based  
on historical experience, it is still an assumption.  
  
This can be compared with the assumption of the present money system,  
which, as Howard says is that "the money [should] be issued privately as  
debt by a profit motivated banking system controlled by a few  
individuals".  As Howard also notes, MMT theory obscures this process in  
an attempt to maintain the status quo.  That is my major quarrel with  
MMT.  Because it obscures the lack of validity of its major premis, all  
of its following arguments are garbage from a logical standpoint.  
  
It can also be compared with the assumption of mutual money that money  
should be an instrument that facilitates the mutual trades involved in  
provisioning.  
  
My major quarrel with AMI theory, which I have raised with Howard  
before, is the fact that AMI theory ignores the rules of double entry  
book keeping in its creation of money.  Anything that is created out of  
nothing also denies the second law of thermodynamics.  It has to be  
recognized that if the double entry nature of money is to be  
acknowledged, that government created money, like bank created money,  
has to be acknowledged as a loan on the part of the citizens/taxpayers  
to the government.  
  
The fact that this is a loan is obscured by the fact that there is no  
repayment date on this loan. (In discussion with Bernard Lietaer on fiat  
money issuing, he considered it a tax, not a loan, however the result is  
the same.  I prefer the term loan, as it makes more sense when applied  
to our current money system.)  
  
In the AMI system, in order for us citizen/taxpayers to get money to  
spend, we first have to either work for the government, work for someone  
who has worked for the government, or be the recipient of a gift of  
money from the government.  Thus the central government is the decision  
maker concerning what money is to be created for.  And then we have to  
depend on the government to either tax us more, or provide more jobs and  
pay for them by creating more money, in order to maintain the proper  
amount of money in circulation for the economy to run smoothly with  
neither inflation or deflation.  
  
I will note that maintaining the proper amount of money in circulation  
is not an issue with mutual money, as it is created and/or extinguished  
with each transaction.  All these facts only become evident when  
government and privately created money are compared with mutual money,  
where its double entry nature is acknowledged as a part of system  
structure.  
  
Howard's argument that government created money is an asset has to bring  
up the nature of the book keeping equation assets = liabilities +  
equity.  At the end of the accounting period, equity is converted to an  
asset.  I have always been uneasy with this equation.  Why is equity on  
the same side of this equation with liabilities, and then converted to  
an asset?  
  
Only recently have I come to see what this equation is saying. The  
explanation came in seeing the connection between the rise of  
capitalism, and the enclosure of the commons.  This equation was part of  
that transition.  In this equation, equity represents liabilities that  
are a taking from the earth, a taking from labor, and/or a taking from  
the knowledge base of the culture, that is externalized as a liability,  
named equity, and appropriated as an asset; profit to the owner.  
  
Accepting the validity of the assets = liabilities + equity equation is  
based on the concept of enclosure of the commons, and the right of  
ownership being sacrosanct, with ownership being a license to take  
whatever value the owner wants from what is owned and appropriate it to  
him/herself, meanwhile externalizing whatever costs can be  
externalized.  This paradigm underlies the loan executed in the creation  
of government money.  We have to ask if this paradigm is consistent with  
the 10 key values.  It is the crux of capitalism.  Then we have to ask  
what kind of economic relationships do we want to have, and what kinds  
of institutional structures will be consistent with and promote these  
relationships.  In my experience mutual money has to be looked at in  
this process.  
  
In peace, Paul Krumm  
  
Kansas alternate

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rodolfo Cortes Barragan via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 4:00 AM  
**To:** National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] The Greening the Dollar vs MMT debate

Howard,  
  
Look, the U.S. government, if it has a debt, CAN ALWAYS PAY IT. We are not  
going to go broke for any reason. Congress can always order the creation of  
money. That's what they do EVERY SINGLE YEAR....and day/minute (if you  
truly go into it.)  
  
Seriously. When you attempt to refute me, you bring up issues that are NOT  
germane to my points. You also bring up non-answers (for example, that  
article you linked to earlier. I had asked for a balance sheet. The article  
provided NO SUCH BALANCE SHEET.) You keep saying "the balance sheets show  
it!"  
  
\*But you are unable to produce even one balance sheet which supposedly  
proves your point, all the while telling \*me\* that it is \*I\* who refuse to  
examine the evidence. \*  
  
Looks, this is not about the banks. I am not making ANY points about the  
banks. The banks are a different topic. What's important here is the  
Congress' authority to order the creation of money in the form of public  
money, which you essentially claim doesn't exist.....WRONG.  
  
How do you think the banks get bailed out? Congress orders it so!  
  
How do you think military contractors get paid? Congress orders it so!  
  
How do you think NASA scientists get paid? Congress orders it so!  
  
How do you think FEMA gets money to pay for disaster relief? Congress  
orders it so!  
  
For some reason, you are under the impression that Congress is powerless to  
inject money into the economy. Um....Howard, \*Congress, via the Treasury  
and its bank the Fed, injects billions of dollars into the economy every  
single day. \*  
  
For example, yesterday (Nov 20), this advertising firm:  
<http://www.ddb.com/offices/north-america/usa/ddb-chicago/>

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| [author_generic.png](http://www.ddb.com/offices/north-america/usa/ddb-chicago/) | [DDB Worldwide](http://www.ddb.com/offices/north-america/usa/ddb-chicago/)  <http://www.ddb.com>  About DDB Chicago. DDB Chicago is a full-service advertising agency with a team of 300 hundred people offering our clients in-house capabilities ranging from strategic planning, research and analytics, account and project management, to creative services including ideation, design and production across all forms of media. |

Received $4,000,000,000 from the Department of Defense for "contract for  
services in support of the U.S. Army Marketing and Advertising Program."  
<https://dod.defense.gov/News/Contracts/Contract-View/Article/1695728/>  
  
That is money created out of thin air (key-strokes) by the Fed and the  
Treasury working in synchrony. Money ordered to exist under the Department  
of Defense Authorization Act of 2018. It is NOT BANK MONEY. It is not a  
loan. Nobody has any (any) responsibility to pay it back. \*It is not a  
loan.\* It is public money that appeared in the bank account of DDB,  
"deposited. source: U.S. Treasury."  
  
It is money created to meet Congressional demands. Congress decided it  
wanted to spend (at least) FOUR BILLION DOLLARS for ads for the military.  
Having won that award after a competition with other companies, BBD  
marketing will pay employees, pay for their equipment, do movies/ads in  
favor of the military, etc. This is the money supply at work. Congress, the  
issuer of the currency, provides the supply of dollars that people use in  
the economy. These are not loans that BDD or anyone else has to pay back. \*It  
is public money used for corporate purpose. \*  
  
For some reason, you pretend as if Congress doesn't have the ability to use  
the public money. \*WRONG. \*The dollar is already public. Congress orders  
its creation and chooses its private benefactors every day. It has nothing  
to do with the banks. The banks are simply the middleman between the  
civilians and the government: They do not themselves create the money that  
appears in the accounts of government contractors (such as DDB). The money  
paid out to BBD yesterday is not a loan made by the bank to \*ANYONE\*. It is  
"free money," i.e, public money. In the same way, Congress could pay out to  
every single American student money for free college, etc.  
  
Howard, please stop pretending Congress is powerless to use the public  
money for public purpose. They already do it anyway! It's called Social  
Security. What Greens/progressives/socialists want is for Congress to spend  
MORE on the public purpose. More money for Social Security. More money for  
Medicare.  
  
It's as easy as an appropriations bills. Yet, you insist on claiming  
otherwise. Please stop.  
  
\*Rodolfo Cortes\*  
\*GPCA Alt. \*

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rodolfo Cortes Barragan via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 10:42 AM  
**To:** National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] Assumptions

Delegate Krumm,  
  
You write “MMT theory obscures this process in an attempt to maintain the  
status quo.”  
  
Please explain what you mean or if the following clarifies.  
  
To be sure.  MMT is ideologically-free. It simply describes how money  
operates in states that control their own currency. These states can be  
completely different. Canada. The USA. The USSR. Very different societies.  
But they all had a money system that could be described as MMT. States that  
can’t be described by MMT: all the states using the Euro.  
  
MMT is not ideological. MMT simply describes the accounting procedures of  
countries that control their own money supply.  
  
Rodolfo Cortes  
GPCA Alt.

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Wesson Gaige via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 11:49 AM  
**To:** National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** Wesson Gaige  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] The Greening the Dollar vs MMT debate

I don’t think Howard and Rodolfo are listening to each other.  
  
Wesson Gaige  
GPTX Co-chair  
GPTX delegate  
GPAX Co-chair  
He/Him/His  
  
Healthcare not Warfare  
  
"Whatever the problem, community is the answer.  There is no power greater than a community discovering what it cares about."  Margaret Wheatley

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rita Jacobs via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 12:36 PM  
**To:** National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** Rita Jacobs  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] Assumptions

Hello Delegate Krumm,  
  
  
Thank you for a respectful, cogent and logical explanation of the ongoing discussion about monetary systems and theories.  
  
  
We experienced over the summer an attempt by the Green Party of Nebraska to amend the GPUS platform by totally changing our present platform to conform with MMT theories.  I recognized that those trying to defend the platform amendments did not know or pretended to not know anything about the present debt-based system in the US for creating new money. While I was not familiar with either MMT or AMI theories, I had learned enough about money creation in the U.S. to know that the amendments being presented made no sense, and much of the information presented denied reality as I know it. I have a background as a former IRS employee and several years practicing law. I made it a point of studying the present monetary system after I retired. During the discussion concerning those amendments I became acquainted with a few others who were knowledgeable and made sense. I realized that were only a very few members of the National Committee who understood the present system and understood a nee  
 d for reform.  
  
  
As a result of that experience, I suggested to those few that engaged in the debate that we form a committee on Banking and Monetary Reform. And that has led us to the current proposal to the National Committee.  
  
  
If this committee is established, I hope you consider joining the committee. Certainly we would be open to listening to other theories and welcome logical discussion. And it is important for other members and candidates of the Green Party to understand the present system and the need for reform. And according to information I have read, economists generally do not give much consideration to monetary theory, but model banks as financial intermediaries, rather than a means of credit creation.  
  
  
Thank  you for taking the time to engage in this discussion.  
  
  
Peace and best wishes,  
  
  
Rita Jacobs,  
  
Alt delegate GPMI

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**From:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan <rodolfo.cortes.barragan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 1:35 PM  
**To:** National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** Rita Jacobs  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] Assumptions

And so, Delegate Jacobs reveals the true nature of the proposed committee: Far from being an educational endeavor, it is actually a think tank meant for those who agree with Jacobs and Switzer to have a formal party apparatus to peddle their views. They have no intention at all of considering the MMT view (i.e. engaging in fair and open educational dialogue.) If they had such an intention, they wouldn’t have packed their proposed committee with their known supporters and none of the opposition.

Rodolfo Cortes

GPCA Alt.

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**From:** William Nogueras <nogueraswilliam@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 2:02 PM  
**To:** National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan; Rita Jacobs  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] Assumptions

Hello Everyone

I would like to ask if I have this right.

Everyone who supports MMT is against the proposed committee. And

Everyone who supports AMI wants the proposed committee?

Do I have this right?

William Nogueras

Latinx Caucus ALT.

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**From:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan <rodolfo.cortes.barragan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 2:21 PM  
**To:** William Nogueras  
**Cc:** National Committee affairs discusion list; Rita Jacobs  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] Assumptions

Delegate Nogueras,

Many delegates are against the committee simply because it aims to exist as a committee.

I personally oppose the committee not because Greens shouldn’t form a committee to dive into economics, but because the committee would be peddling falsehoods. Much like Plessy vs. Ferguson, Greening the Dollar was wrong when it was left in the books and it is wrong today. It will eventually be repealed.

Rodolfo Cortes

GPCA Alt.

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of frank young via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 2:23 PM  
**To:** 'National Committee affairs discusion list'  
**Cc:** frank young  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] Assumptions

Alternate Delegates Cortes said, "They have no intention at all of  
considering the MMT view (i.e. engaging in fair and open educational  
dialogue.) If they had such an intention, they wouldn’t have packed their  
proposed committee with their known supporters and none of the opposition."  
  
But Proposal 939 provides that:  "IMPLEMENTATION: Inform state parties of the creation of the new committee, and request that they recruit and approve members to serve on the committee."  
  
How can a committee that has not even yet been created be "packed" already?      
  
Frank Young  
WV Delegate

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rodolfo Cortes Barragan via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 2:26 PM  
**To:** National Committee affairs discusion list; fyoung@mountain.net  
**Cc:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] Assumptions

Delegate Young,  
  
The committee is ideologically, at baseline proposal stage, packed with the  
ideas of three people. They all support AMI.  
  
Contacts: GPMI: Rita Jacobs, NC alternate delegate, 517  
694-8109, rjacobs@ARQ.net; GPTX: Kevin McCormick, NC alternate  
delegate, 430 558-9714, kev4321@fastmail.fm; GPTN: Howard Switzer,  
Co-chair, 931 589 6513howard@howardswitzer.com ;  
  
Rodolfo Cortes  
GPCA Alt.

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Michael Trudeau via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 2:32 PM  
**To:** National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** Michael Trudeau  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] Assumptions

There is no need for such a committee, especially in a party that cannot  
even organize its own ballot access, fundraising, media, or outreach  
nationally. Please make it a discussion group and then take it off-list so  
we don't have to read about it.  
  
In that vein, let's get rid of the "Discussion" listserv entirely and make  
it an "Organizing" listserv.  
  
Michael Trudeau  
Delegate  
North Carolina

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rita Jacobs via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 2:39 PM  
**To:** National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** Rita Jacobs  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] Assumptions

Delegate Cortes,  
  
  
Your assumption that I support AMI is not true. I really don't know much about AMI. What I do know is that our platform  is based on legislation introduced by Dennis Kucinich (the NEED Act) while he was a Congressman. I agree with the Green Party Platform. I know how our present system works, and I know that it needs to be reformed. And I know that knowledge of our monetary system and how it works is suppressed by those in power.  
  
  
Rita Jacobs  
  
Alt Delegate, GPMI

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 2:40 PM  
**To:** The natlcomaffairs (aka USGP-DX) listserv is used to discuss issues related to coordinated national actions and current issues.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] The Greening the Dollar vs MMT debate

Wesson,  
  
I listen to Rodolfo and find he ignores internationally recognized  
scientific research from as far back as 1916 that indicates that the  
sovereign prerogative to manufacture the currency of the nation has  
effectively been privatized and granted to the commercial banks.  There  
were even books by progressives exposing the commercial banker's scheme to  
have government give them this exclusive privilege, via a private central  
bank, before it happened. I shared a recent scientific analysis of the  
system published in The International Review of Financial Analysis, that  
made the same conclusion based largely on a study comparing bank balance  
sheets to other businesses balance sheets. Rodolfo ignores history and  
science merely repeating MMT axioms that have been proven not to be true,  
that is what I hear.  
  
Rodolfo posits that the monetary system is as it should be and requires no  
change and in so doing provides support for the continuation of capitalism  
which requires the private control of capital which is done through the  
creation and use of money.  He blames government while ignoring the  
overwhelming control and influence of privately created money on  
government.  He insists government creates all our money and says we can  
ignore the continual growth of the public debt and the associated interest  
payments now amounting to a half trillion per year.  If government can  
create money why would government be forced to shut down due to lack of  
money?  Is it becasue the banks refuse to extend credit to government for  
selfish reasons or is government just being mean to its employees?  
  
I don't think it is that we are not listening to one another, I think we  
have a basic disagreement over the truth of the matter. I am very sorry  
that Rodolfo is invested in such an erroneous view of how the system works.  
  
To those saying we need to consider other systems I say that is fine but  
that is not what this is about.  This is about the private control of our  
money system versus the public control of our money system. Greening the  
Dollar makes it an exclusively public monetary system. As long as the  
public is put in control of the monetary system I am okay with any number  
of systems. Any that allows the continuation of any private control of our  
money system I oppose.  Rodolfo, against all evidence to the contrary,  
insists that the public is already in control of the money system which  
would make Greening of the Dollar superfluous. (?)  He uses academic  
positioning to claim sophistication on the matter while providing no  
evidence. What more can I say?  
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1057521914001434>

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| [1-s2.0-S1057521914X00062-cov150h.gif](https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1057521914001434) | [How do banks create money, and why can other firms not do the same? An explanation for the coexistence of lending and deposit-taking - ScienceDirect - ScienceDirect.com | Science, health and medical journals, full text articles and books.](https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1057521914001434)  <http://www.sciencedirect.com>  When the non-financial corporation, such as a manufacturer, grants a loan to another firm, the loan contract is shown as an increase in assets: the firm now has an additional claim on debtors — this is the borrower's promise to repay the loan. |

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1057521914001070>  
<https://positivemoney.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/SovereignMoney-AnIntroduction-20161214.pdf>  
  
Howard Switzer  
GPTN Alt.

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**From:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan <rodolfo.cortes.barragan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 2:47 PM  
**To:** Rita Jacobs  
**Cc:** National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] Assumptions

Rita,

Thank you for stating that you do not affiliate with AMI. Can the same be said for Kevin McCormick? Howard Switzer certainly affiliates with AMI, and McCormick made a supporting statement yesterday. It does not look like not an ideology-free educational proposal that we have before us. The approach could have been made to include Greens who do support MMT, rather than neutral Greens such as yourself or pro-AMI Greens such as your colleagues. It is clear that the proposal for the committee is ideologically tinged and one-sided.

Rodolfo Cortes

GPCA Alt.

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of frank young via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 2:49 PM  
**To:** 'National Committee affairs discusion list'  
**Cc:** frank young  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] Assumptions

But again, there is yet no such committee.  If you want to be on the committee (if it comes to be), have your state party vet and recommend you for such a committee.  Then it’s up to the National Committee, and not the initial proposers, to approve or disapprove of committee members.  
  
   
  
Frank Young  
  
WV Delegate

\*\*\*

**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rodolfo Cortes Barragan via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 3:08 PM  
**To:** National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] The Greening the Dollar vs MMT debate

Once again, Switzer side-step the key argument. There is nothing (\*nothing\*)  
in the articles sent by Howard that disputes the core reality that the U.S.  
Congress can create money out of nothing through acts of appropriation.  
  
Moreover, Switzer misunderstands the relationship between money and  
capitalism. The Soviet Union also had an MMT-based monetary system. It was  
called the ruble. It's still called the ruble. AThere is nothing  
ideological about MMT. It has nothing to with capitalism. It merely  
describes a token economy, like that in the U.S.  
  
Also note that the attached papers from Switzer still do not show the core  
balance sheets he says exists that show the U.S. government in debt to the  
banks. \*Provide the right evidence for your argument Howard. \*Don't just  
toss out some evidence and hope that your audience will be convinced  
because it looks fancy and complicated.  
  
To help you, here's the link to the FOIA request form on the Treasury's  
website:  
  
<https://www.treasury.gov/FOIA/Pages/index.aspx>

|  |
| --- |
| [Freedom of Information Act](https://www.treasury.gov/FOIA/Pages/index.aspx)  <http://www.treasury.gov>  Steven Terner Mnuchin was sworn in as the 77th Secretary of the Treasury on February 13, 2017. As Secretary, Mr. Mnuchin is responsible for the U.S. Treasury, whose mission is to maintain a strong economy, foster economic growth, and create job opportunities by promoting the conditions that enable prosperity at home and abroad. |

Rodolfo Cortes  
GPCA Alt.

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Wesson Gaige via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 2:13 PM  
**To:** National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** Wesson Gaige  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] Assumptions

I think alternate Rodolfo is seeing and ascribing intent which does not exist.  Texas would not be sponsoring it otherwise.  There is nothing preventing his (or anyone else's) participation in this proposed committee.   
  
It has been clear to me for some time that this topic is difficult to understand and needs to be deciphered into a form we can all understand.  And that is what I understand the purpose of this committee to be.   
  
Wesson Gaige  
GPTX Co-chair  
GPTX delegate  
GPAX Co-chair  
He/Him/His  
  
Healthcare not Warfare

\*\*\*

**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 4:11 PM  
**To:** The natlcomaffairs (aka USGP-DX) listserv is used to discuss issues related to coordinated national actions and current issues.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] The Greening the Dollar vs MMT debate

That Congress "can" create money is not in dispute, Congress can change the  
law that would allow it to do so. That is what Greening the Dollar demands.  
The question is "does" government create money?  
Its pretty simple logic that there would be no debt if Congress created  
money, there would be no reason for a debt, there would be no reason to  
shut down government for lack of funds etc. etc..  
If government could create money there would be no reason not to fund  
healthcare and education or rebuilding the nation's infrastructure becasue  
spending on anything people use and need would not be inflationary.  
If government could create money anything physically possible and socially  
desirable would be financially feasible.  
Rodolfo insists there is no public debt.  But government has a loan that  
gets rolled over every year as Congress borrows more to pay it off and the  
debt increases.  
  
Anyone who doesn't understand that capitalism is the private control of the  
of money doesn't know what capitalism is.  It is CAPITAL - ISM.  
  
The founding of the USSR was funded by capitalist western banks and  
controlled through Ruskom Bank. The capitalists don't care what kind of  
government you have as long as they control it via the purse, which they do  
to this day.  
This is nothing new, as the First Prime Minister of England, Benjamin  
Disraeli said, “The world is governed by very different personages from  
what is imagined by those who are not behind the scenes.”  
  
Sorry you thought Dr. Werner's paper was too complicated,  Rodolfo, I  
thought you were a scientist.  
  
  
  
Howard Switzer  
GPTN Alt.

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rodolfo Cortes Barragan via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 4:12 PM  
**To:** National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] Assumptions

Thanks or clarifying, Delegate Gaige.  
  
Rodolfo Cortes  
GPCA Alt.

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rita Jacobs via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 4:21 PM  
**To:** National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** Rita Jacobs  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] Assumptions

Dear Delegate Cortes,  
  
  
There was an open and fair exchange all summer during discussions of the platform amendments. The MMT view was considered, and was rejected by the National Committee. Apparently it was also rejected by the state party that introduced the amendments, as no one from Nebraska voted in favor of the platform amendments.  
  
  
Our intention here is to retain a platform that reflects Green values. I hope you carefully read what Delegate Krumm said - to which I was responding.  
  
  
Rita Jacobs  
  
Alt. delegate GPMI

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rodolfo Cortes Barragan via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 5:30 PM  
**To:** National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] The Greening the Dollar vs MMT debate

Delegate Switzer's response invites a line by line response.  
  
"That Congress "can" create money is not in dispute, Congress can change the  
law that would allow it to do so. That is what Greening the Dollar demands."  
  
The Congress already does this. That's what it's doing right this moment.  
To find out exactly what is being spent on any one working day, visit the  
various Executive department websites and click on their contracts. That is  
all money allocated by Congress through acts of appropriation. There is no  
need to Green the Dollar. It is already Green.  
  
"The question is "does" government create money?  
Its pretty simple logic that there would be no debt if Congress created  
money, there would be no reason for a debt, there would be no reason to  
shut down government for lack of funds etc. etc..:"  
  
Howard, you are mistaken. The "debt ceiling" is political theater meant to  
trick people who think like you. It is NOT a truly meaningful number.  
Congress can always raise it, and there are NO consequences. That's because  
it's not a "debt ceiling" at all. That's what they call it, but that's a  
misnomer. But it's actually a "money supply ceiling." Note that the  
conversation you already acknowledged that the "national debt" = the moneys  
supply.  
\*Do you notice how internally inconsistent you are? \*  
  
"If government could create money there would be no reason not to fund  
healthcare and education or rebuilding the nation's infrastructure becasue  
spending on anything people use and need would not be inflationary."  
  
Very impoverished logic here Delegate Switzer. "If not X, then not Y." The  
reason Congress doesn't fund these benefits is because they don't want to  
write it into the appropriations acts. That's it. \*There is no other limit  
other than political willpower. \*  
  
"If government could create money anything physically possible and socially  
desirable would be financially feasible."  
  
Congress can do that right now. It \*refuses\* to do so.  
  
"Rodolfo insists there is no public debt."  
  
No, Rodolfo says that the "national debt" is not what people think it is.  
You have already acknowledged that in previous responses. You are now going  
back.  
  
"But government has a loan that  
gets rolled over every year as Congress borrows more to pay it off and the  
debt increases."  
  
Even if you were correct and it was a loan, Congress could \*ALWAYS\* pay it.  
  
"Anyone who doesn't understand that capitalism is the private control of the  
of money doesn't know what capitalism is.  It is CAPITAL - ISM."  
  
That is a cartoonish take meant to obscure the truth I stated, which is  
that socialist economies are ALSO directed by tokens of exchange, i.e.  
money issued by the state. This is a key reason for the success of the  
Soviet Union - it used it's sovereign currency to fund its rise against the  
U.S. The main monetary trouble comes when nations give away their power to  
issue their own currency, or peg it to an outside currency (as happened in  
post-Soviet Russia.)  
  
If a nation preserves its monetary sovereignty (like the U.S. and China and  
Britain and Canada and Australia), it can spend its way out of depressions  
and recessions. That's what we did in 2008/9. The problem is that Congress  
insists on allocating most of the money it creates for the rich, rather  
than for the poor. \*But the core reality is that, today, the U.S. Congress  
could pass a Green New Deal to give us all free healthcare, education,  
housing, etc. The only reason it doesn't do so is because they don't want  
to. It has nothing to do with the banks. The banks would actually \*love\*  
for customers to get money from Uncle Sam. It would be good for their  
business. But importantly, don't for a second pretend that money would be  
debt. It would be added money supply. Some of that would become debt as  
citizens enter private contracts, but the money would be coming from  
Congress' power of the purse. It is NOT debt owed to the banks. \*  
  
"Sorry you thought Dr. Werner's paper was too complicated,  Rodolfo, I  
thought you were a scientist."  
  
Oh please. The papers are not complicated at all, hence I read them in 10  
minutes. \*They do not support your counter-arguments to my argument. \*  
  
Rodolfo Cortes  
GPCA Alt.

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**From:** Wesson Gaige <wesgaige@me.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 5:34 PM  
**To:** Rita Jacobs; Kevin McCormick; Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** RE VOTES debate

If I may,

I think the debate needs to be not about MMT vs. AMI.  Rodolfo is acting like a TROLL and Howard has taken the  bait.  This raucous debate will not help persuade anyone that the committee is needed.  Let’s just ignore Rodolfo and focus on the merits of creating the committee.

Tell me if I’m out of line.

Wesson Gaige

GPTX Co-chair

GPTX delegate

GPAX Co-chair  
He/Him/His

\*\*

**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Jon Louis Mann via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 5:48 PM  
**To:** National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** Jon Louis Mann  
**Subject:** [usgp-dx] The Greening the Dollar vs MMT debate

I haven't been following this debate too closely. I barely have time to decide which posts to choose to skim in sequence, but I did catch Cortes's comment about packing their the committee with their supporters.  
I don't know if it is true? If so, it is a perversion of the open and free exchange of ideas.  
I know for a fact that it is going on in California in the LA County Greens, and it resulted in their puppet master boycotting the GA in Bakersfield last year over gentrification in Santa Monica... I have heard there are power struggles going on in Colorado and elsewhere where the interactive dialectic marketplace is being suppressed? I expect this from the duopoly but not in the Green party...  
I'm Jon Mann, a Mann for the People, and I approve this message!~).  
Alt Delegate CA

\*\*

**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rodolfo Cortes Barragan via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 6:08 PM  
**To:** Jon Louis Mann  
**Cc:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan; National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] The Greening the Dollar vs MMT debate

Hello Delegate Mann,  
  
I am somewhat satisfied with the response I received in response to my  
statement on that. I recognize that the committee is not yet appointed and  
hence future potential members of the committee could support MMT. However,  
the initiation of the call for the committee, on the whole, comes from  
individuals who are extremely hostile to MMT (Switzer is a core member of  
the group seeking the formation of the committee.) Thus, the process of  
forming the committee already has an ideological lens. Yes the MMT  
proposals were unsuccessful last summer, but there were certainly Greens  
who voted for them. Those Greens were left out of the process of initiating  
this committee.  
  
Rodolfo Cortes  
GPCA

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 6:14 PM  
**To:** net\_democracy@yahoo.com; The natlcomaffairs (aka USGP-DX) listserv is used to discuss issues related to coordinated national actions and current issues.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] The Greening the Dollar vs MMT debate

Delegate Mann,  
  
As Rita Jacobs and others have pointed out there is no committee to pack,  
those of us seeking to form one do so because of our interest in having a  
good ecological, democratic open and transparent monetary system.  
Greening the Dollar demands only that control of the money supply must be  
under public authority. It has not been so in this country since 1913 when  
our private central bank was formed.  
MMT claims our government does control the money despite all of history and  
evidence to the contrary.  
The whole world knows the US has a private central bank except most the  
people in the US apparently.  
  
Howard Switzer  
GPTN alt.

\*\*

**From:** William Nogueras <nogueraswilliam@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 7:00 PM  
**To:** National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** Rita Jacobs; Rodolfo Cortes Barragan  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] Assumptions

Hello Everyone

I don't know anything about MMT or AMI and after a hundred or so emails on this subject, I still don't know anything about it.

Can you guys please come together as Greens and put something together explaining both, the MMT and AMI in layman's language for me and who knows how many other Greens to learn and understand?

We need Greens to explain this to the rest of us. Yes, those that favor MMT will promote it more favorable and those that favor AMI will also promote it as favorable too.

That is obvious and cannot be avoided. It is a natural thing to promote an idea one believes in.

But as both sides continue this discussion, please keep in mind that many people are depending on you to help us understand this.

We need a space for this and please, do not refer me to a public library or Barn's and Noble store. LOL

We need you to explain it to us.

Thank you.

William Nogueras

Latinx Caucus ALT.

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Jon Louis Mann via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 7:27 PM  
**To:** Howard Switzer  
**Cc:** Jon Louis Mann; natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org  
**Subject:** [usgp-dx] listserv for discussing issues related to coordinated national actions and current issues

I accept your rebuke, Howard Switzer... I was just asking, not accusing you personally. I accept that there is there is no committee to pack, however, I am legitimately concerned that there are those who do pack the stack...  
I agree that control of the money supply must be under public authority. Do you happen to know what, if any, nations do not have a private central bank?

\*\*

**From:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan <rodolfo.cortes.barragan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 7:31 PM  
**To:** nogueraswilliam@gmail.com  
**Cc:** National Committee affairs discusion list; Rita Jacobs  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] Assumptions

Hello William!

So great to see other names on this list serv! Speaking personally, my perspective can be found in 7 minutes I just uploaded to youtube. This comes from a recent forum on independent politics that Green activists hosted in L.A.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8\_MSmoRzqs8](https://youtu.be/8_MSmoRzqs8)

Best,

Rodolfo Cortes

GPCA Alt.

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Jon Louis Mann via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 7:35 PM  
**To:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan  
**Cc:** Jon Louis Mann; National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Subject:** [usgp-dx] The Greening the Dollar vs MMT debate

Thank you Roldolfo, I don't know enough to have a position. As I said, my concern is that there are attempts to control the narrative. I have seen it here in CA.

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rodolfo Cortes Barragan via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 9:00 PM  
**To:** National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] The Greening the Dollar vs MMT debate

Switzer,  
  
I have noticed that when you are cornered, you try to make the person you  
are engaging out to be a joke. You try to discredit their intelligence  
through your "LOL"s. You try to make it seem as if their statement is  
ridiculous because THEY are ridiculous people who would of course have  
ridiculous ideas. But you don't really get at the heart of the idea. You  
just laugh about it, creating a distraction. I've seen you do it in many  
debates with many people on different issues. I wonder why you have this  
action tendency.  
  
Anyhow, when you have the evidence (balance sheets) that you claim exists  
to prove your ideas correct and mine wrong, I will be very eager to examine  
it.  
  
Rodolfo Cortes  
GPCA Alt.  
\*\*

**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rita Jacobs via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 9:45 PM  
**To:** William Nogueras; National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** Rita Jacobs  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] Assumptions

Hello Delegate Nogueras,  
  
  
There is a website available to Greens that explains the problem that requires monetary reform and how our platform addresses that. It is written in understandable language. You can view that here: <http://www.greensformonetaryreform.org/>

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| --- |
| [Greens for Monetary Reform - Greening the Dollar](http://www.greensformonetaryreform.org/)  <http://www.greensformonetaryreform.org>  'Greening the Dollar' is in Chapter IV of the Green Party US Platform and contains the essential elements of Dennis Kucinich's NEED Act (HR2990 of the 112th Congress). Under this monetary reform, we would have publicly created money. The national currency would originate from government debt-free and then circulate permanently, rather than originating as bank credit and later disappearing from ... |

Greens for Monetary Reform - Greening the Dollar<<http://www.greensformonetaryreform.org/>>  
[www.greensformonetaryreform.org](http://www.greensformonetaryreform.org)  
'Greening the Dollar' is in Chapter IV of the Green Party US Platform and contains the essential elements of Dennis Kucinich's NEED Act (HR2990 of the 112th Congress). Under this monetary reform, we would have publicly created money. The national currency would originate from government debt-free and then circulate permanently, rather than originating as bank credit and later disappearing from ...  
  
I cannot explain exactly what AMI is since I don't really know. But I do know what the problem with our monetary system is. This should explain much of it for you.  
  
Peace and best wishes,  
  
Rita Jacobs  
Alt Delegate, GPMI

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 9:38 PM  
**To:** The natlcomaffairs (aka USGP-DX) listserv is used to discuss issues related to coordinated national actions and current issues.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] The Greening the Dollar vs MMT debate

Wesson, yes.  
This committee is not bound to any ideology except that of democracy,  
meaning the people have the power.  Now .01% of the people have the power,  
don't we all want to change that?  
This is what Greening the Dollar was designed to do and to help guarantee.  
We seek the best in monetary solutions based on historical experience and  
good science in order to accomplish that.  
  
  
  
Howard Switzer  
GPTN  Alt.

\*\*

**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of William Nogueras via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 7:23 PM  
**To:** National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** William Nogueras  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] The Greening the Dollar vs MMT debate

Does the Green Party platform support MMT or AMI?  
  
William Nogueras  
Latinx Caucus ALT.

\*\*

**From:** Paul Krumm <pkrumm@gyldwynds.info>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 10:34 PM  
**To:** Rita Jacobs  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] Assumptions

Rita,

Thank you for this note.  I had resisted getting involved in the Banking and Monetary Reform discussion as I had a feeling that it was dominated by AMI people.

I do feel that if a group can get together that honestly looks at the values baked into various ways of creating money, we can develop proposal(s) that entail democratic values to bring to the national committee.  Not sure an official committee is necessary for that initiative.

In peace, Paul Krumm

Kansas alternate

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**From:** Howard Switzer <hmsarchitecture@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 11:07 PM  
**To:** The natlcomaffairs (aka USGP-DX) listserv is used to discuss issues related to coordinated national actions and current issues.  
**Cc:** nogueraswilliam@gmail.com; Rita Jacobs  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] Assumptions

I think beyond any comparisons the question has to be first, how does this disastrous system work and what can we do about it?

Greens for Monetary Reform is one place where I think it is described in plain language.  And here is a very good short TED talk that does it in less that 15 minutes.

He is European and their central banks are at least partly publicly owned, but the money system is the same. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CvH66fz9nyU>

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| --- | --- |
| [th?id=OVP.c7LeWcn0K_7zKoarTdgx_QEsDh&pid](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CvH66fz9nyU) | [Where Does Money Come From? | Ole Bjerg | TEDxCopenhagen](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CvH66fz9nyU)  <http://www.youtube.com>  Where does money come from? How is money created? Can commercial banks create money by issuing new loans? Knowing that electronic money represents 95% of the total money supply, have we privatized the creation of money in our societies? Ole Bjerg believes that we have handed a vital societal power -- money creation -- to the financial sectors ... |

Howard Switzer

GPTN  Alt.

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Paul Krumm via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 11:01 PM  
**To:** natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org  
**Cc:** Paul Krumm  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] The Greening the Dollar vs MMT debate

The Green  party plank has two sections.  One reflects the AMI position,  
and the other promotes money creation at the local level.  
  
In peace, Paul Krumm  
  
Kansas alternate.

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 22, 2018 1:13 AM  
**To:** The natlcomaffairs (aka USGP-DX) listserv is used to discuss issues related to coordinated national actions and current issues.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] The Greening the Dollar vs MMT debate

Yes, thank you Paul, there are two two sections, once might say one global  
and one local.  
Greening of the Dollar is about reclaiming sovereign (public) power over  
money which entails taking the money power away from the powerful private  
banking cartel which can only happen at the national/global level.  
Because the private money dominates the economy and public policy it acts  
as a road block to the success of local currencies, clearing that roadblock  
seems an important prerequisite for local publicly issued currencies to  
flourish.  
So the two sections can be seen as a cohesive strategy to put money to work  
for people instead of the other way around.  
  
Howard Switzer  
GPTN  Alt.

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Kevin McCormick via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 22, 2018 9:27 AM  
**To:** natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org  
**Cc:** Kevin McCormick  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US Proposal: ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

If this committee (BMRC) is formed, I will ask the  to be nominated by  
the Texas GP to serve on the committee.  So I am giving an outline of my  
qualifications here.  This is also in response to the comment about  
packing the committee with an ideological bias.  I apologize for talking  
too much.  
  
I am not affiliated with the American Monetary Institute (AMI  
<http://monetary.org>).  I have read the book they promote, "The Lost

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| --- |
| [American Monetary Institute](http://monetary.org/)  monetary.org  Monetary.org |

Science of Money," and I am aware that AMI worked on the NEED Act which  
was proposed in Congress by Denis Kucinich.  I have also participated in  
many discussions with Rita Jacobs and Howard Switzer and I consider  
myself to be pretty familiar with the AMI concepts.  Besides that, I  
have read several papers by MMT proponents and watched numerous videos  
on the internet which featured MMT advocates (including Rudolfo's  
link).  I am also familiar with the ideas of Public Banking and the  
Austrian gold-bug school.  I have also read all or part of several other  
books and papers on monetary issues.  
  
I believe that commercial banks presently create about 97% of the money  
in circulation.  I believe that if something is labeled "debt," draws  
interest, and must be repaid, then it just might be debt.  Even so, this  
"debt" could be a charade created by contrivance and arbitrary laws to  
favor special interests.  The U.S. monetary system is a perfect example  
of how the actual workings of a monetary system can be hidden.  I am  
also aware that there is a tremendous amount of propaganda, obfuscation,  
and misdirection in the information the public sees regarding monetary  
issues.  This is not hard to understand once one realizes that the  
privilege of creating money is a direct path to power and wealth.  
  
That being said, the basic fact about money is that it is a creation of  
the human mind.  This means that it can be thought of in many ways, with  
the only real limitation being that it must be useful to have  
relevance.  A monetary system should serve the society that uses it, but  
I think it will be made to serve those who control it.  The reason this  
is an important issue is that social relations are manipulated by  
controlling access to money.  This can be a class structure, activities  
that are encouraged or discouraged, or the wealth of society diverted to  
certain purposes.  
  
I very much support the Greening the Dollar platform and think that a  
public money system is the best type for the future, and something the  
Green Party should support.  The idea of an ideological bias is relevant  
here.  The committee should do its best to recommend and explain  
monetary concepts that promote the GP platform.  This may be interpreted  
as ideological bias, but that is really too broad and misses the point.   
A monetary system by itself is just a system so there must also be  
social and political policies, but the monetary system can make these  
easy or difficult to implement.  
  
I want to emphasize that a public money system should be clearly  
explained and readily understood by the public.  There is no requirement  
for undecipherable jargon or unfathomable complexity, but there is a  
requirement that the basic ideas be sound and the implementation be  
consistent.   
  
Kevin McCormick  
Texas Alternate

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**From:** Howard Switzer <hmsarchitecture@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 22, 2018 11:57 AM  
**To:** wesgaige@me.com  
**Cc:** Rita Jacobs; Kevin McCormick  
**Subject:** Re: RE VOTES debate

yes, so I've realized...

Howard Switzer

\*\*\*

**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 22, 2018 12:26 PM  
**To:** The natlcomaffairs (aka USGP-DX) listserv is used to discuss issues related to coordinated national actions and current issues.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** [usgp-dx] How the current system causes problems

"HOW THE CURRENT PROCESS OF MONEY CREATION IS CAUSING A RISE IN POVERTY,  
INSTABILITY AND INEQUALITY" TALK BY BEN DYSON, FOUNDER OF POSITIVE MONEY  
(VIDEO)  
Ben Dyson, founder of Positive Money presenting at Meaning Conference 2014  
on 18th November in Brighton, UK. He got into the nitty gritty of how the  
current process for money creation is causing a rise in poverty,  
instability and inequality. And challenged the audience to imagine what a  
modern and sustainable system could look like.  
<http://positivemoney.org/2014/12/current-process-money-creation-causing-rise-poverty-instability-inequality-video/>  
  
  
  
Howard Switzer  
GPTN  
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**From:** Paul Krumm <pkrumm@gyldwynds.info>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 22, 2018 10:34 PM  
**To:** Rita Jacobs; Kevin McCormick  
**Subject:** Proposal background

I have been discussing the Banking and Monetary Reform proposal with  
Howard, and he recommended that  I contact the two of you.  
  
While I feel that the wording of the proposal is balanced, the second  
paragraph of the background is totally oriented toward the centralized  
creation of money by the central government, which in my mind is  only  
one of the possibilities that needs to be considered.  That paragraph  
also gives credence to those who see the proposal as stacked for the AMI  
proposal.  I for one cannot in good conscience vote for the proposal so  
long as that wording is left intact.  
  
I didn't get involved in this discussion until now because I saw it as  
an AMI front, which would ignore the bottom up philosophy of the mutual  
money alternative, and don't know if it is too late to make a change, or  
even if you two who Howard said wrote the proposal feel a change is  
necessary.  I still do think the position taken in the Background is  
limiting, and a disservice to the proposal.  If you want help in  
changing that wording I am willing to help.  
  
In peace, Paul Krumm  
  
Kansas alternate

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Howard Switzer via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 5:58 PM  
**To:** The natlcomaffairs (aka USGP-DX) listserv is used to discuss issues related to coordinated national actions and current issues.  
**Cc:** Howard Switzer  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] The Greening the Dollar vs MMT debate

Not true.  That government spends is not proof that they create the money  
they spend, which is in fact borrowed by US Treasury when Congress  
allocates spending.  
  
It is a pretty insane notion that the "debt ceiling" is political theater  
meant to trick people who think like me and no other reason.  
There is no money supply ceiling, the banks simply decide to loan more  
money into existence or not.  Look at the numbers out there, there is  
obviously no ceiling for it is on an exponential rise.  
  
I did NOT say that the national debt was the money supply, it is only a  
small portion of it, household and corporate debt is the majority of the  
money supply, all of it privately issued as loans.  
  
Right, just blame government for not funding the people's needs and wants,  
private money has no influence? Congress just doesn't do it becasue because  
they don't want to?  LOL That is very naive'.  
On what grounds does Congress not want to do it? They are just mean?  It  
couldn't be that the money people don't want to fund giving people stuff  
that they sell?  
  
You are the one that called Dr. Werner's paper complicated, not me.  
  
Howard Switzer  
GPTN alt.

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Rodolfo Cortes Barragan via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 7:53 PM  
**To:** Jon Mann; National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** Rodolfo Cortes Barragan  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] listserv for discussing issues related to coordinated national actions and current issues

No, the Federal Reserve is not a "private central bank." It is a central  
bank that has a some private characteristics. It's most important general  
characteristic, the creation of money, is solidly under the control of the  
U.S. Congress, i.e., the public through it's (usually ineffective)  
Representatives.  
  
Rodolfo Cortes  
GPCA Alt.

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Wesson Gaige via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 7:59 PM  
**To:** National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** Wesson Gaige  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] Assumptions

William,  
  
Thanks for expressing this sentiment.  I have expressed it many times without success.  We need something that explains it in terms the lay person can understand.  The discussion always goes deep into academic terms which becomes quickly not understandable.  I’m hoping that this committee can help.  
  
Wesson Gaige  
GPTX Co-chair  
GPTX delegate  
GPAX Co-chair  
He/Him/His

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of Wesson Gaige via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 7:53 PM  
**To:** National Committee affairs discusion list  
**Cc:** Wesson Gaige  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] The Greening the Dollar vs MMT debate

William,  
  
The Green Party’s position is in the Platform in the section called ‘Greening the Dollar’.  From my laymen’s perspective, I don’t it falls entirely in either the MMT or AMI camp.   
  
  
Wesson Gaige  
GPTX Co-chair  
GPTX delegate  
GPAX Co-chair  
He/Him/His

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**From:** Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs-bounces@green.gpus.org> on behalf of elie yarden via Natlcomaffairs <natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 23, 2018 12:44 PM  
**To:** natlcomaffairs@green.gpus.org  
**Cc:** elie yarden  
**Subject:** Re: [usgp-dx] [us [usgp-nc] Discussion Has Begun on GP-US ID 939 - Establish a Standing Committee -Banking and Monetary Reform Committee BMRC

Addressing the specific views expressed in the email letter of Delegate Kevin McMccormick of Texas, (And could not agree more.) I very much doubt that matters so close to the heart of Green Party politics and electoral effectiveness, or other specific policies such as those concerning energy use, reduction of waste, industrial agriculture, public education, and migration of species can be handled by standing committees that work by trying to promote their conclusions (or lack thereof in their deliberations of these matters) in the platform proposals submitted to consideration of the National Committee.  The fragmentation of policy interferes with the ecological status of such suggestions and may leave the party far more vulnerable to attack by special interests who would like the inclusive (and principled) politics of the the GPUS to disappear.  
  
I would suggest that people who demonstrate the thoughtfulness of Delegate McCormick join the Platform Committee which is in need of fresh and energetic intellectual workers.  
  
Elie Yarden,  
alternate,  MA G-RP

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