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To: "Dr. Baruch Fischhoff - Chair, National Academy of Sciences Study on Social & Behavioral Science and Improving Intelligence for National Security" <baruch@cmu.edu>

From: Lloyd Etheredge <lloyd.etheredge@policyscience.net>

**Subject: The World Social Capital chapter: Recommending a special DNI/NIC analysis**

Dear Dr. Fischhoff and Colleagues:

Concerning my earlier message about new measures of relationship- building in international relations: I suggest that you recommend to the DNI/National Intelligence Council a special exploratory study, a World Social Capital Report, outlining the rise of international networks and linkups, including (but not limited to) formal organizations like international organizations, NGOs, multi-national business corporations and financial institutions and trading links, elite linkups (Davos and the Trilateral Commission evolution), globalization of higher education, routine international air travel on a large scale, scientific and other professional networks, global communication channels (e.g., MTV, BBC television) and communication flows, the European unification process and the Warsaw Pact disintegration process, retribalization and the jihadist Internet, youth cultures, the environmental and human rights movements, global cultural flows, evolution, and cross-breeding models for popular music and the arts, international news that flows across national boundaries, intercontinental lifestyles, the "small world" connectivities and possible emerging properties of complex, adaptive systems, etc.

There is so much underway, but how do we - or, specifically, the DNI - make sense of it? Where does it lead? One of the exciting prospects actually is to think-through all of the relevant measures. Next, it will be useful to develop a range of causal theories; and additional work to interpret how we think about social capital - properties of networks and relationships that, as investments, can help to get things done - and choices.

The development of this social capital work - which is not yet rigorously and systematically applied to a global framework (so far as I know, but I may be wrong) - was reviewed in A. Portes "Social Capital: Its Origins and Applications in Modern Sociology" in the Annual Review of Sociology in 1998 (pp. 1 - 24). <1> In the US context, I am sure that Putnam's Bowling Alone will be known to you. The

concept - which intertwines with nation building and political/economic development ideas - also has been a focus for the World Bank and a series of sub-national publications and initial studies. Notably, social capital is not always beneficial - it can be a basis of organizing for conflict or political power (gangs, the Mafia, Islamic jihadism) or civic withdrawal (as Putnam's recent analysis of the growth of civil society and political disengagement in the collapse of the Weimar Republic.)

We ought to know a great deal more than was available for Global 2025.

Lloyd E.

<1> An early collection about these issues was Hedley Bull and Adam Watson (Eds.), The Expansion of International Society (Oxford UP, 1985). Their group viewed the European expansion that began in the 16th century as starting a global system with established economic, cultural, political, and conceptual links and moving through the colonial and post-colonial periods. Karl Deutsch's work on European unification reflects the beginning of modern social science quantification.

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