Higher Purpose Forum / IAED: Toward a Reformation in the Sphere of Economics

James Edgerly
September 24, 2026

HIGHER PURPOSE forum | Exploring important questions together

Presented by
International Association for Peace and Economic Development (IAED)

Reformation in the Sphere of Economics

via Zoom

FRIDAY - September 25, 2026 11:30 PM EST (New York)

SATURDAY - September 26, 202 6 :30 PM AEST (Australia)

(Registration Required)

Dear Friend,

An *Integral Society* of the future (ie. a sustainable, peaceful world) will be realized when the cultural, political and economic spheres are harmonized to enable individuals to attain personal autonomy and freedom. Since the Renaissance and Reformation, the political and cultural spheres have shifted from top-down rule by Kings to political democracy of the people, and from Papal authority to personal accountability in religion. The economic sphere has not yet experienced a similar reformation. Today centralized economic control by banks and wealthy elites have limited full participation in the economy by working people. A democratization of the economy is the next area that needs reform for individuals to attain economic and personal autonomy, preserving social cohesion.

This program will lay the foundation for a new vision for transforming the present economy to a decentralized system, designed to overcome the political corruption, economic chaos and cultural division afflicting our society. In the upcoming IAED

series on *Building an Integral Economy*, specific policies and reforms to economic institutions will be presented.
Use the coupon code “IAED” at checkout to receive a 30% discount when purchasing Dr. Anderson’s book, *Integral Economy* from the paragonhouse.com website. An e-book is available outside of the U.S.

Register for the Webinar

If the Zoom Webinar is full, you can view it on YouTube here

Download a PDF of the speaker Bios

New York, USA (EST): Friday Sept 25th, 2026 at 11:30 pm
Australia (AEST): Saturday, Sept 26th, 2026 at 1:30 pm
Click here for webinar times in other time zones

Gordon L. Anderson

President, Paragon House Publishers

Building an Integral Economy: History beckons us toward a Reformation in the Sphere of Economics.

Gordon L. Anderson has a Ph.D. in Philosophy of Religion from Claremont Graduate University. He developed a broad understanding of social systems working with Morton A. Kaplan, Distinguished University Professor at the University of Chicago. This included organizing major conferences on the Soviet System (1985), the Chinese System (1987), and Liberal Democratic Societies (1989).

As the President of Paragon House Publishers (1994-), Anderson published a series of books on integral philosophy including writings by Ken Wilber, Allan Combs and Steve McIntosh. He also served as an adjunct professor at the California Institute of Integral Studies. As Editor-in-Chief of International Journal on World Peace (1992-2021) Anderson edited articles related to governance, the economy, and society.
Anderson has related practical experience as chair of the finance committee of the University of Bridgeport, and as President of the Legislative Evaluation Assembly of Minnesota.

Victor Perton

Chief Optimism Officer at The Centre for Optimism.

The Economics of Optimism

A former Victorian parliamentarian and barrister, Victor served as **Victoria's Commissioner to the Americas** and as a senior adviser for the Australian G20 presidency. He has ten years board experience across water utilities, road safety, compensation and thinking skills. His work addresses the optimism gap affecting much of the developed world, where declining confidence in national progress, institutions and the future can weaken investment, innovation, growth and the national will to solve problems, pursue opportunities and build a better future. He is also the author of ***Optimism: The How and Why***. He explores how personal and national optimism strengthen leadership, social cohesion, prosperity and public policy.

James B. Edgerly

Founder and Director, Higher Purpose Forum

Reflections and Commentary

Higher Purpose Forum (HPF) is an independent educational and discussion forum exploring contemporary issues through a Unificationist perspective and seeking pathways toward a more peaceful world. Since its founding in 2019, HPF has brought together presenters and participants to examine topics including spirituality and science, race and social justice, economic democracy, family and world peace, and contemporary affairs.
Jim brings a unique combination of business leadership and ministry experience. During a **35-year business career**, he specialized in restructuring distressed industrial companies and served as a senior consultant at Arthur D. Little, and as a senior partner and executive in several companies. His

work included major corporate rehabilitation projects in Central Europe and the United States.
Jim is a graduate of **Columbia University** and the **MIT Sloan School of Management**. His continuing work through the Higher Purpose Forum reflects his longstanding interest in connecting spiritual understanding, thoughtful dialogue, and practical approaches to the challenges facing society

Dr. John Bellavance

Moderator, IAED

Asia – Pacific Coordinator,

International Association for Peace and Economic Development

We look forward to your participation and engagement in this event.
You can download our framework document at the link below.

Headwing Economics Framework

International Association for Peace and Economic Development

We affirm our belief that business leaders have the opportunity and responsibility to work in collaboration with other sectors of society to make the world a better place, addressing its most significant challenges, and promoting world peace, long-term mutual prosperity and truly sustainable development

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SPEAKERS

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