
CIVILIZATION 5.0

The Sovereign Manifesto

A holistic layer where the individual, the economy and the state are re-integrated around the sovereign human.

Darryl S Astin
Society OS Pty Ltd

00 — INTRODUCTION

The crisis of fragmentation

We live in a fractured world. Our digital lives are owned by corporations. Our economic lives are unsettled by automation. Our civic lives are watched by systems we never consented to.

These systems are failing because they are disconnected. Each treats the human as something less than whole — a user, a cog, a subject. Society OS proposes the opposite: a holistic layer where the individual, the economy and the state are re-integrated through a sovereign, bottom-up architecture.

01 — THE GRAND UNIFICATION

Three revolutions, one era

Web, industry and government are all crossing into their fifth chapter at once. They only add up if you connect them.

Web 5.0 — The Sovereign Web

From browsing to living.

The web we were given treats the person as the product. Web 5.0 flips it: you own your data, and your AI acts as an exoskeleton that works for you — not a landlord that rents your attention back to you.

Industry 5.0 — The Sovereign Worker

From automation to augmentation.

We reject the fantasy of removing the human from the loop. Industry 5.0 empowers the Centaur — a person paired with a capable agent fleet — so that one skilled individual can do what once took an organisation. Augment the human; do not replace them.

Government 5.0 — The Service State

From ruling to serving.

Not an invisible watcher — a visible servant. Public services that are proactive, consent-based and auditable, built bottom-up around the citizen. We reject the surveillance state as firmly as we reject the corporate walled garden.

Sovereign. Sphere. Society.

Freedom and order are not opposites. A fractal, three-layer model lets individual sovereignty and shared safety hold at the same time.

Layer 1 — Sovereign (The Self)

“My data, my rules.”

The privacy and control of the individual comes first. Everything above this layer is opt-in, and consent can always be withdrawn.

Layer 2 — Sphere (The Tribe)

“Our norms, our culture.”

The shared values of families, guilds, teams and companies. Groups set their own standards above the individual baseline — never below it.

Layer 3 — Society (The Whole)

“Universal floor.”

The baseline of safety and lawful conduct every participant can rely on. A floor, not a ceiling — the minimum that makes shared life possible.

This solves the paradox of freedom through a **double-veto**: no layer can override the one below it without consent, and no individual can override the shared floor that keeps everyone safe.

Each layer accelerates the next

The power is not in the layers — it is in how they feed one another:

1. Sovereign data (Web 5.0)	You own what you create.
2. Personal production (Industry 5.0)	You put it to work, on your terms.
3. Accountable governance (Government 5.0)	A lighter state, because the record is clean.
4. Protected rights (back to the self)	Which protects the sovereignty you began with.

04 — THE ENGINE ROOM

Intelligence. Action. Trust.

A civilisation layer needs three things to work. We compose best-in-class components for each role — and lock in on none of them, so no single vendor ever becomes the point of control.

Intelligence — the nervous system

The sensing and reasoning layer that lets an agent understand context. Best-in-class models, composed, never a single point of control.

Action — the hands

The workflow layer that turns intent into governed, auditable execution across the economy and public services.

Trust — the ledger

An immutable, independently verifiable record so that a claim of sovereignty can be checked, not merely believed.

05 — AN OPEN COMMONS

Give away the seed. Keep the orchard.

A civilisation layer is not something you can own your way into. It has to be adopted, not imposed — so we are releasing it the way the open movements that actually reached everyone were released: as a commons anyone can take, translate, fork and build on, without asking us first.

Free to share

This manifesto is released under a Creative Commons licence. Copy it, quote it, print it, put it on your own site. The only condition is honest attribution.

Free to fork

Adapt it for your country, your sphere, your language. Disagree with a line and rewrite it. A commons gets stronger every time someone improves it — share-alike, so the improvement stays open too.

Why give it away

Creative Commons freed culture; Linux and Red Hat gave away the code and earned their keep on the assurance layer. Ubiquity is the moat. We give away the seed — the standard and this manifesto — and tend the orchard, not the fence.

A standard that can be turned off by the company that wrote it is not a standard — it is a leash. So we made it impossible to pull: an open commons cannot be recalled. That is the whole point. Safety

THE SHORT VERSION

The Sovereign Theses

If you read nothing else, read these. Eight lines you can screenshot, quote and pass on.

- | | |
|----|---|
| 01 | The person is not the product. You own your data, your identity and your agents — or someone else owns you. |
| 02 | Augment the human; never remove them. One skilled person with a capable agent fleet is the new unit of production. |
| 03 | The state should serve the citizen, not surveil them. Public power must be proactive, consent-based and auditable. |
| 04 | Freedom and safety are not enemies. A floor no one falls through; a ceiling no one can impose on you. |
| 05 | A standard that can be switched off by the company that wrote it is not a standard — it is a leash. |
| 06 | Safety comes from ubiquity, not from a corporate kill-switch. The more people who hold the standard, the safer everyone is. |
| 07 | Give away the seed; keep the orchard. Open the standard so it reaches everyone, and earn your keep on trust. |
| 08 | This is bottom-up or it is nothing. A civilisation layer is adopted, never imposed. |

The decentralised future

Society OS is not a product. It is a movement — for a future where technology serves biology, the state serves the citizen, and the economy serves the worker.

Welcome to Civilization 5.0.

This manifesto is released under [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 \(CC BY-SA 4.0\)](#). Take it, translate it, fork it.

Society OS Pty Ltd. A single Australian provisional patent application (2026900773, filed 2 February 2026) is on file; it is unexamined and confers no enforceable rights. The Open Conformance Foundation is being established. This manifesto sets out design intent and direction, not shipped guarantees.

By Darryl S Astin · Society OS Pty Ltd