

## We have two parallel economies

Strategy Note 266 said we must replace property and exchange with solidarity and sharing.

Mainstream economists only consider exchange-based relationships. Fortunately, human economies have much more happening than mere exchange.

We currently have two economies operating simultaneously: an exchange economy and a solidarity (exchange-free) economy.

In the exchange economy, we buy, sell, hire, get paid jobs, rent, barter, etc.

In our solidarity economy, however, nobody charges infants for food, care, and shelter. We just give them what they need to the best of our ability. Friends don't charge each other for playing together. Lovers don't count kisses to make sure they trade equally. Volunteers work without pay in our unions, worship congregations, and organizations for social change and service.

While our solidarity economy currently draws some resources from the exchange economy, we could replace those sources with solidarity-based ones. The exchange economy, however, depends fundamentally on our solidarity economy to produce and prepare people. Without our solidarity economy, the exchange economy wouldn't have workers, customers, or even owners.

The exchange economy needs our solidarity economy. Our solidarity economy does not need the oppressive exchange economy and would function better without it.

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