

Credits & Recommendations

To follow up on the more accessible acknowledgments I already shared, I also wanted to credit some of the people and organizations that have influenced my systemic work. The list mostly includes well-known actors in their respective disciplines who, to varying degrees, already have their fair share of professional “success.” This is not meant to discredit lesser-known people or organizations; however, these individuals and groups are usually well connected and can redirect you to less visible people and/or organizations whose work deserves more recognition than it currently gets.

While I have only included people and communities whom I believe to genuinely have positive intentions with their work (as far as I can tell), I encourage you to always reflect critically and constructively on what you engage with. It is also wise to remain reasonably cautious of underlying interests, especially when it comes to powerful actors in general.

If you are younger and find this list too academic, I can still highly recommend educating yourself on important topics such as authoritarianism and populism (there is a certain “[playbook](#)” behind these dynamics, irrespective of country or party), digital platforms (a good starting point would be learning about “[enshittification](#)” to understand their underlying business models), AI (or, more precisely in many cases, large language models), psychology (especially marketing psychology and, more broadly, metacognition), or group dynamics (such as cult-like behavior). Once you have a basic understanding of the patterns behind these topics, you will be much more likely to recognize them in real life and be less susceptible to their effects.

Based on my own experience, there are open communities I can point you to if you are interested in learning more about some of the topics I am working on. [Disclosure: I have been involved with all three communities but have neither received compensation nor been asked to mention them here.]

- * [All Tech Is Human](#) (responsible technology, including AI)
- * [RADAR](#) (futures thinking and collective imagination)
- * [Systems Innovation Network](#) (systems thinking)

Some of the living scholars, thinkers, and practitioners who have influenced my work in recent years [listed in alphabetical order]:

- * [adrienne maree brown](#) (emergent strategy)
- * [Cassie Robinson](#) (stewarding organizational endings)
- * [Frédéric Laloux](#) (reinventing organizations, which also inspired the teal color scheme of my current website)
- * [Fritjof Capra](#) (systems view of life)
- * [Harvey M. Chochinov](#) (dignity therapy)
- * [Helen Bevan](#) (facilitating large-scale change in health care)
- * [Indy Johar](#) (working on the infrastructure-level of systems change)
- * [Jane McGonigal](#) (whom I would credit with introducing me to the idea of connecting psychology and futures thinking)

- * [Jason Hicke](#) (ecological economics)
- * [Jenny Grettve](#) (for being another „Renaissance soul“ worth listening to)
- * [Julia Roig](#) (democratic change and conflict transformation)
- * [Kate Raworth](#) (doughnut economics)
- * Maria Popova via [The Marginalian](#) (philosophical essays on meaning)
- * [Martin E. P. Seligman](#) (positive psychology)
- * [Otto Scharmer](#) (learning from the emerging future)
- * [Phoebe Tickell](#) (moral imagination)
- * [Rachael Dietkus](#) (trauma-informed design)
- * [Rebecca Solnit](#) (in-depth analyses on, e.g., hope in dark times)
- * [Robin Wall Kimmerer](#) (indigenous wisdom)
- * [Simon Sinek](#) (although I mainly engaged with his work in earlier years, he is one of the authors who significantly influenced my approach to leadership)
- * [Steffi Bednarek](#) (climate psychology)
- * [Stuart Candy](#) (experiential futures)
- * [Thea Snow](#) (systems change in government)
- * [Vanessa Machado de Oliveira/Andreotti](#) (hospicing modernity)

For more works on futures thinking and collective imagination, I can highly recommend RADAR's [reading list](#).

If you're looking for introductory works on systems thinking, you might find the [recommendations](#) by the Systems Innovation Network helpful.

For book suggestions on responsible technology, I generally recommend All Tech Is Human's reading lists, for example the latest one from [summer 2025](#).