Citizen's capitalism: a dynamic economic and political system built to last

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Citizen’s Capitalism: a dynamic economic and political system built to last

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Fundamental change is needed. Our free-market democracies are not truly democratic. Money buys laws, money buys power, money buys democracies. As firms become behemoths due to capital accumulation and concentration, countries’ governments regularly close their eyes and bow down to their requests while we suffer the consequences we sternly voted against: from pollution to socio-geographic inequality.

Citizen’s Capitalism is a possible solution. Every UK adult citizen could become a shareholder of the 300 most impactful UK firms in the UK. Collectively, we the citizens would own 30% of these firms, earning quarterly dividends of up to £250 and gaining ±20% voting power within these firms. This would enable us to become owners of capital and hedge us from economic divergence as we would be an inherent part of growth. We would have a say in how firms produce, where they invest, and how much they pay executives, ensuring better citizen representation in decisions that greatly affect the nation. This would also allow us to reduce welfare taxes increasing market efficiency, greatly benefiting firms, and ultimately, us. The 30% however is not enough to hinder firm’s independence as we must protect capitalism’s meritocratic and entrepreneurial nature. The Alaskan PFD experience points to increases in SME activity, creating jobs and boosting entrepreneurship where it’s needed the most.

Citizen’s Capitalism is, in essence, a system flexible enough to nurture human ingenuity and dynamic enough for everyone to benefit from the immense mountains of wealth created by capitalism over the long-run.