

## Goals and Means

People are always in search of goals they wish to realize, yet no goals can be realized without effective plans of action. Plans of action are usually chosen to achieve well defined goals, making each plan a means to reach an end. Since situations change and evolve continuously, goals and the requirements to achieve them must change as well. Therefore, plans of action need to be flexible and dynamic, able to recognize change and deal with it constructively. In fact, the age we live in today has made change the only unchanging fact of life. Nonetheless, every plan of action has to have a set of principles and certain terms of reference to guide its movement toward its final destination. The absence of principles deprives all plans of their compass, causing them to lose their sense of direction. On the other hand, principles need to be realistic to be recognized and respected.

Lack of dynamism is more likely to transform plans into rigid bureaucratic rules, while transforming unrealistic principles into mere slogans that could easily become obstacle hindering progress. Persons, groups and nations that refuse to interpret and reinterpret principles they believe in and adapt to changing life conditions are more likely to condemn themselves to backwardness and helplessness. And in so doing, they allow friends and foes to transform them into mere objects to be manipulated and exploited; and thus falsify their will and control their destiny.

Throughout history, rejectionist forces have demonstrated a great ability to define issues they stand against, but have failed to identify with clarity issues they stand for; they have failed to provide alternatives to ideas and plans they do not like. Therefore, the best way to change whatever you do not like, and pursue goals you like and wish to accomplish is to always think positively and try to articulate new ideas; lofty goals must be governed by moral principles and be pursued with dynamism and perseverance.

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