22 September 2023 (XXII F Septembro MMXXIII)



State of Sandus Office of the Sôgmô Appartement du Sôgmô, Quercus Candida

Comrade Citizens,

For several months now, the Central People's Government and the government of Überstadt have been in discussion concerning a matter of great constitutional importance for the State of Sandus. Both King Adam and I are in different places from where we were when our two micronations founded the Social System more than six years ago. Today, His Majesty is in graduate school pursuing a Master's degree in history, while I am preparing to finish my graduate education in the next year to pursue a regular devout lay life as an *upāsaka*. These changes mean that we both have had less time to dedicate to our micronational activities, and this has become a realist barrier.

It is our conclusion that the Social System, despite its success over the years, poses a hurdle to our regular activity as micronations. We have, therefore, decided jointly that on 30 September 2023 both our micronations will bring the Social System to an end. In preparation for this change, Adam von Friedeck last month resigned his post as secretary of the Citizens Party of Sandus after a decade of meritorious service. Other changes will include the repatriation of Sandum economic organs and other Social System programs, including the right of Sandus to enter into its own social agreements on a bilateral basis with other states. As we transition into this new role, our government will continue to make reference to the indelible precedent set by the Social System. This will mean gradual changes over time as we begin to refigure this micronation that we know and love.

Practically speaking, these changes will mean little difference on the ground. Überstadti social citizens will be "grandfathered in" as full citizens of the State of Sandus, just as Sandum social citizens of Überstadt will be there. Worker's coöperatives will operate much as they have, but each coöperative's organs will be returned to their respective micronations. His Majesty and I will both renounce citizenship in the other's micronation out of respect for our sovereign roles. But otherwise Sandus and Überstadt remain close, fraternal friends with a common history and similar philosophical and humanistic paths that we have shaped together. Though our two countries will chart their own courses now, as they must, nothing can rend asunder our common history that we have made in a decade of close spiritual friendship. I recently visited Their Majesties at the conclusion of my pilgrimage to the 11TH Kagyu Monlam and, in so doing, reconfirmed my personal commitment to our continuing friendship. We wish our Überstadti friends well.

Our country enters a new era that will focus on our micronation as a community of citizens in association with one another for common cultural and philosophical goals. That is a continuity of our almost fifteen years of existence and, in this new era, our micronation will be guided by the same principles we have long held and maintained: our philosophy, our political theories, our rights and customs, and our republican constitution. But as a country of noble and honourable laypeople, we will do all we can to achieve our goals and aims within our capabilities while juggling our needed responsibilities at home, work, and in our macronational communities.

Sandus in the future will grow not only as a community but also as a state. We will be increasingly mindful that our republican constitution belongs to all of us as a sovereign state, a single micronation that we call Sandus. But our country is also a free association of similarly minded individuals who hope for one thing: that we, and all other people, may alleviate suffering everywhere since (as we say, thinking of our flag) "suffering is divided by hope." May it be so!

All these changes and more will be discussed in next season's "Sandus for Laypeople" Plan as we turn inward once more with the changing of the seasons. That is our custom.

Once again, I salute our social friends of Überstadt and reconfirm our continued friendship. Our future is bright as a sovereign micronation since we, in association with one another, make our world by our minds and our hands.

IN THE TRUTH AND TEACHINGS OF THE THREE JEWELS AND THE BENEDICTIONS OF ALL THE GODS!

C.JorgA. cullida

the Honourable Sôgmô Gaius Soergel Publicola State of Sandus

(they/það)

XXII F SEPTEMBRO MMXXIII Senepyard Court, Anne Arbour State of Sandus