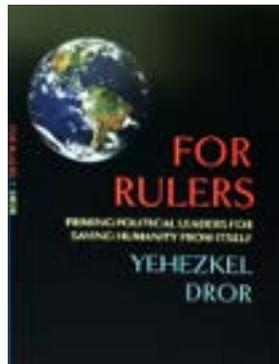




5F. Mirror for Rulers

By Yehezkel Dror

Editors' Introduction: At the end of his most recent book, *For Rulers: Priming Political Leaders for Saving Humanity from Itself*,¹ Yehezkel Dror presents to acting rulers and those who aspire to become rulers a set of qualities they require for becoming Singularity Rulers able to fulfil their increasingly fateful mission in the emerging Singularity epoch of radical transformations. Readers should understand that Yehezkel Dror distilled these seventeen qualities from a bent in his mind fusing scholarly studies, theory innovations, and personal mentoring, and advising political leaders around the world – as adjusted to the Singularity epoch as he envisaged it. A best-selling future book will compare the qualities and behaviors of past and present rulers with Yehezkel Dror's mirror on the wall. **Bob Krone and Gordon Arthur.**



Mirror, Mirror on the Wall

To sum up this preliminary discourse on the Singularity Rulers, who are essential for the thriving of humanity in the 21st century and beyond, and to add some more specifications, let me conclude with a kind of virtual “mirror.” In it, the required qualities of a Singularity Ruler are engraved, so that his or her reflection contrasts the actual self with what is needed – thus guiding existing and nascent politicians in self-evaluation as necessary for the climb to remake themselves more fully into Singularity Rulers.

¹ (Washington, DC: Westphalia Press, 2017).

Personal Mirror for Politicians Who Aspire to Become More Like Singularity Rulers

1. As a foundation for all you think and do, regard being a Singularity Ruler as a Promethean calling and mission that imposes on you many responsibilities, with privileges being but an instrument to help you to fulfill your tasks.
2. As a 21st-century high-level politician, or one aspiring to become one, your main mission is or will be to take care of the long-term future of humanity and your country as at least partly a Singularity ruler. This involves devoting much attention, contemplative as well as in action, to weaving the future up to founding parts of a new world.
3. This does not mean that taking care of the here and now is not part of your duty, but that you should not let “now-time” and “here I am” dominate your mind and monopolize your attention. Rather, taking care of the future should receive high priority in both your mind and actions.
4. To do so effectively, you must develop the character, values, cognitive abilities, knowledge, and behavioral skills essential for fulfilling your main mission as well as secondary ones.
5. As a politician, your duty is in part to those who elected and selected you. But you share responsibility for the future of humanity as a whole. Therefore, you should give considerations of *raison d’humanité* much weight in all your major decisions.
6. Weaving the future involves unprecedented moral issues, such as the meaning of “justice” on a global scale, justified uses of force, limiting the freedom of science and information, and handling the potentials of biotechnology. Pondering such issues is therefore a pressing “practical” condition for responsibly making up your mind on appropriate action. To do so, you should engage a lot in deep thinking, which provides valid grounding for practice and pragmatics.
7. Indeed, more is needed. To make up your mind in a responsible way, you need to engage in a lot of contemplation. Don’t let the pressures of daily events, your liking for company, and the temptations of being “practical” hinder you from engaging in solitude and in a lot of action-directed contemplation.
8. Thinking-in-history is at the core of your future-shaping endeavor. You must understand global processes to be able to optimize interventions with them, which will often take the form of grand-policies. This requires a thorough awareness of the complexity of historic processes, which are non-linear and dense not only with both qualitative and quantitative uncertainty, but also with inconceivability. No less important are the identification and invention of policy options that, if realized with an adequate critical mass, can change historic trajectories in desired directions. Developing your capacities to think, feel, and decide in such terms, as well as in frames of rise and decline, is imperative.

9. Beware of being captivated by simplistic slogans, such as “sustainability,” or being enslaved by simple “solutions,” such as leaving all difficult issues to the magic of the market. And avoid the mental cages of “political correctness,” even if you cannot say so in public.
10. Educating the public, and indeed “soulcraft,” are main missions of yours, as a value in itself and as a precondition for realizing new policies and mobilizing the support you need for doing so. Using new modes of interaction and communication well, such as social networking sites like Facebook, blogs, YouTube, and so on, can be very useful – and makes you less dependent on monetary resources and mass media popularity. But be careful not to slide from education of the public and soulcraft into the pits of propaganda and mass media spin.
11. The warning above is but an introduction to your difficult and painful task of engaging a lot in creative destruction, both in respect to your pet ideas and the external stubborn facts of fixed opinions, vested interests, and other tyrannies of the status quo.
12. Partaking in building decisive global governance, as essential for the future of humanity, is part of your mission. Cooperating with other Singularity Rulers is a main way to do so.
13. You depend on others to help you think and decide and to implement your choices. Be careful to avoid “yes-men or women” and cronies. Instead, build advisory and consultative staffs composed of persons willing and qualified to speak truth to power. But do not rely on any single group of advisors. The more important an issue is, the more you should expose yourself to a multiplicity of perspectives, views, evaluations, and options. And always be skeptical, both about yourself and others.
14. For all you do, however valid in itself, you need a lot of power. Unavoidably you will have to use stratagems that may be immoral. Do so sparingly, and take extra care not to let them poison your own mind.
15. Avoid “politics as the art of the possible,” being driven by public opinion polls and seeking easy compromises instead of fighting for the best option on its substantive merits. Explaining yourself, enlightening the public, and building appropriate coalitions of the willing should be your main tools for achieving needed consensus, not fake news or viewing quality media as your enemy.
16. Also needed is nurturing of a fitting personal philosophy, including a lot of stoic enthusiasm, so you can persist in trying to do the very difficult.
17. No human being can become a perfect Singularity Ruler. But you can strive to make yourself into something closer to one. This requires constant self-awareness, constant self-evaluation, and strenuous self-remaking assisted by counselors of high stature whom you trust.