

Dr. Ulrich Schachtschneider

Energy Consultant/ Freelance Social Scientist/ Concrete Utopian

Unconditional Basic Income and Degrowth
European Conference 20 May 2016, Hamburg
Green Basic Income -
Time Sovereignty for Lifestyles of Degrowth

1 Basic Income:

Reducing the „Must Having“

2 Lifestyles of Degrowth:

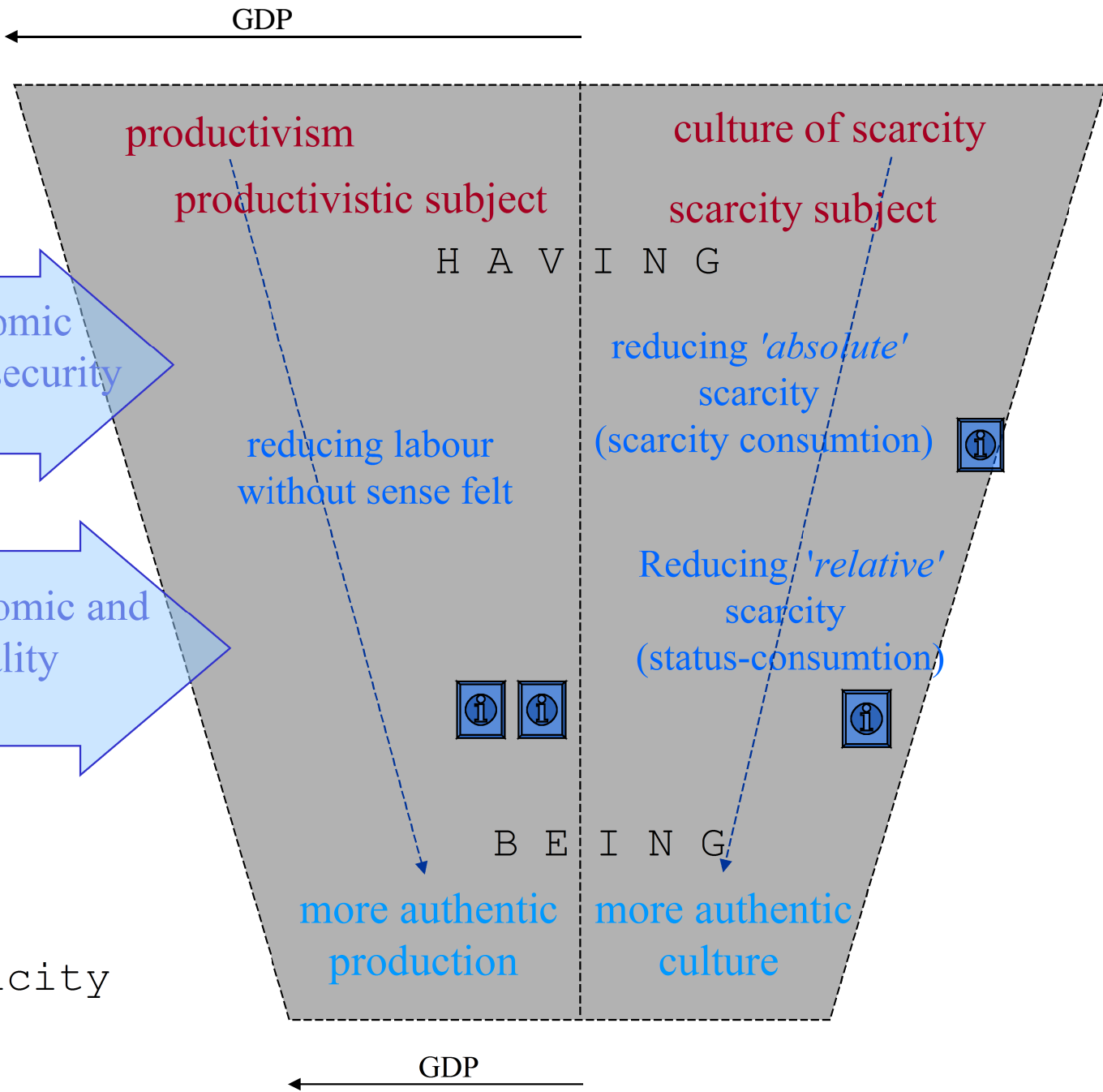
Being mode(s) of Existence

3 Best way of Financing: Green!



Uopcoming debate
Basic Income as libertarian social state

- reduced buerocracy
 - freedom oriented reformation of social state
 - feeding innovation/creativity
 - economical redistribution
 - liberation of work
- ecology? growth
critique?



= authenticity grant

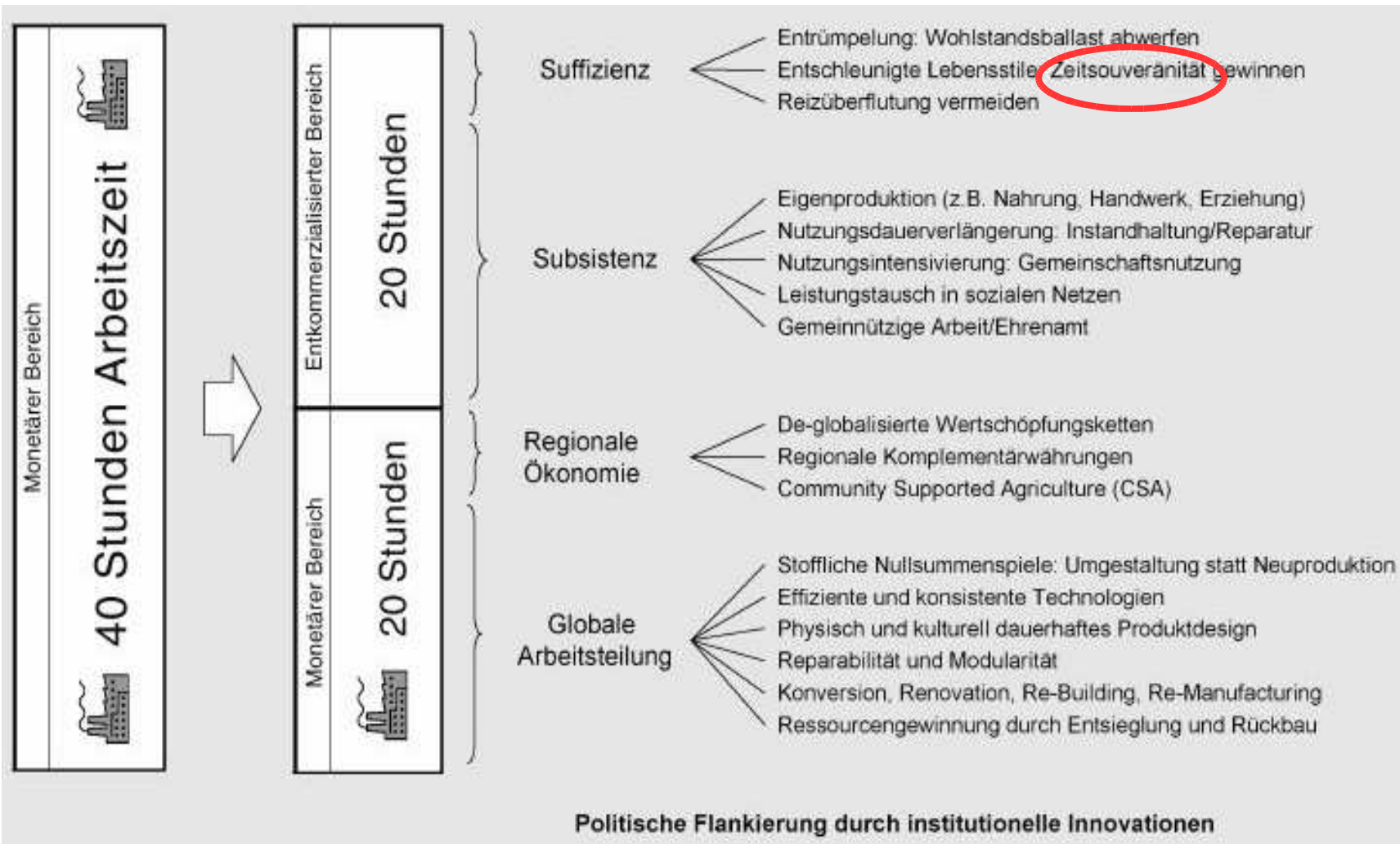
Thesis 1:

Basic Income feeds time sovereignty feeds degrowth

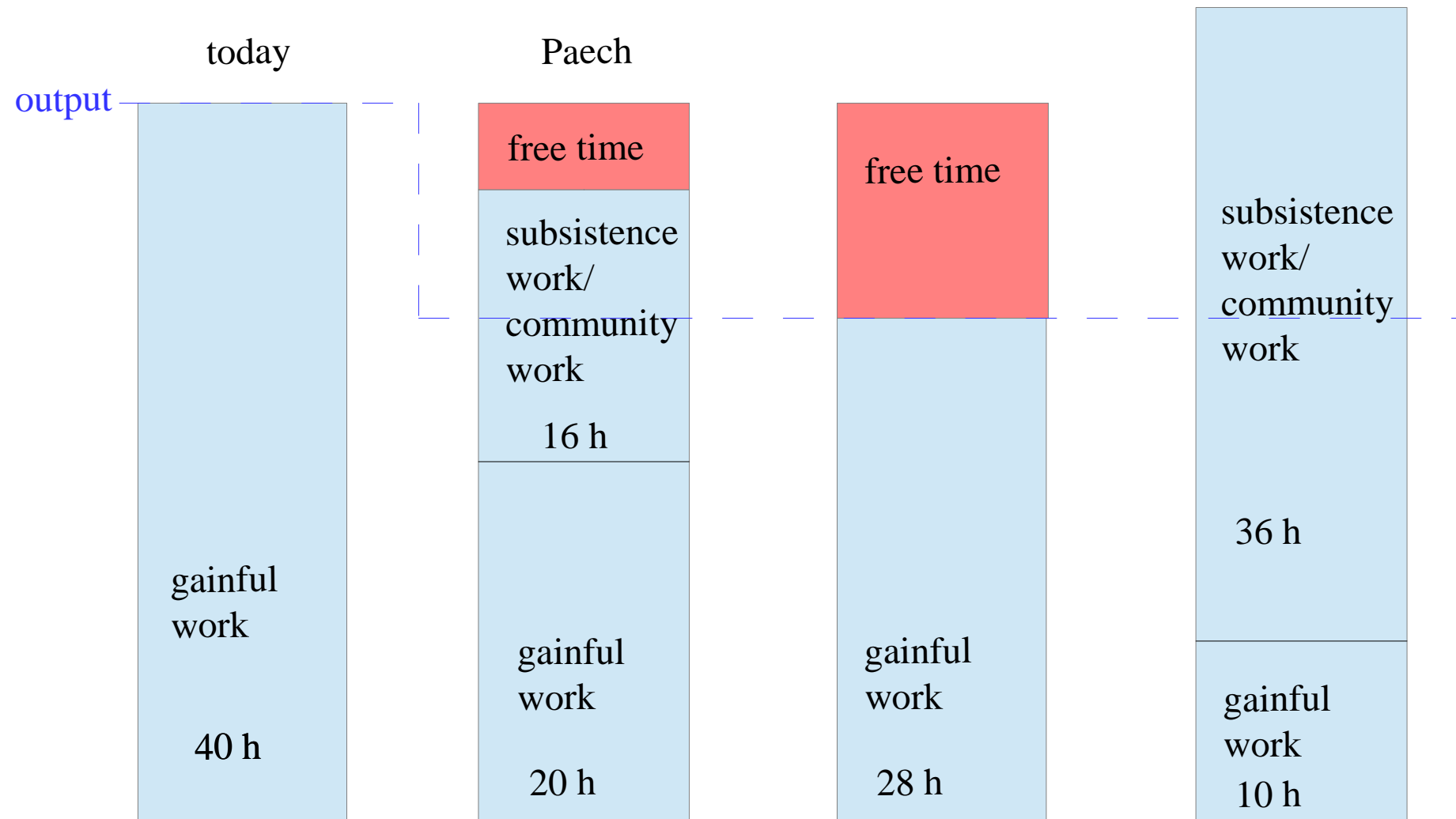
More equality and more security coming with Basic Income are feeding time sovereignty as absence from external coercions: Using life time for other purposes than those activities, which have to be undertaken only to ensure material and social existence.

This will lead to overall less gainful employment, that in effect means degrowth and strengthen the „Being mode of existence“ (Fromm).

Work-Lifestyles of Degrowth: Bisherige Debatte



(Work-)Lifestyles of Degrowth with Basic Income



presumption for height of output:

- constant labour productivity with gainful work
- 50% reduced labour productivity with subsistence work

Thesis 2: Basic Income feeds various (work-)lifestyles of Degrowth

Basic Income is allowing various (work-)lifestyles of Degrowth:
Time sovereignty means the possibility of choice: The individual mixture of gainful work, subsistence and community work can be chosen due personal preferences.

All kinds of mixtures can reduce the „Having-orientation“
(Fromm).

All kinds of mixtures can constitute the „Being mode of
existence (Fromm).

(Work-)Lifestyles of Degrowth with Basic Income:
Reducing the „Having-Orientation“

Green Basic Income

Having-orientation	Structural bottom	Subsistence work/ Community work	Gainful work deceleration as option
Having as social character (Fromm)		Reduction through	
world relation: occupying and having	alienated heteronomy in industrial society	self arrangement	cooperation in planning product and production through BI more competitive
	egoistic capitalism	absence of profit striving	option for social corporate goals through BI

(Work-)Lifestyles of Degrowth with Basic Income:
Sustaining „Being Mode(s) of Existence“

Green Basic Income

Being Orientation		Subsistence work/ community work	Gainful work deceleration as option
		promotion through	
loving	caring for somebody or something (instead of controlling)	realisation within work	financial space for realisation within work Bigger: slowness more competitive
learning	for cognition (instead for examen/ for profit)		
speaking	for discourse (instead of defending own standpoint)		
activity	„joyfully using abilities“ (instead of „business“)	identification with production	cooperation in planning product and production through BI bigger: quality through timeintensive processes more competitive
growing	developing personality (instead reeling through accelerated changes)	constant work relationships	fluid work relationships more stable relationships through more time intensive participation are possible

Thesis 3:

Green financing of Basic Income is feeding being-orientation in gainful work

Financing the Basic Income through taxes on resources will make slow but resource-light products and services more competitive. Thus being-orientations of lovingly caring, of cognition interest, of joyful activity will become even within marketbased gainful work more competitive. Even time intensive participation can take place to a bigger extend without economic disadvantages and in this way feed more stable work-relations as guestfriendly environment for the growing of personalities.