



Capitalism and Neoliberalism Have Made the World Better

Cato's Johan Norberg on politics, progress, and why he remains optimistic.

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"People think the world is in chaos. People think that the world is on fire right now for all the wrong reasons," says author and Cato Institute senior fellow Johan Norberg. "There is a segment of politicians who try to scare us to death, because then we clamber for safety we need the strong man in a way."

But despite the political situation in Europe and America, Norberg remains optimistic. His new book, *Progress: Ten Reasons to Look Forward to the Future*, shows what humans are capable of when given freedom and the ability to exchange new ideas. "In the 25 years that have been considered neo-liberalism and capitalism run amok what has happened? Well, we've reduced chronic undernourishment around the world by 40 percent, child mortality and illiteracy by half, and extreme poverty from 37 to 10 percent," explains Norberg

Reason's Nick Gillespie sat down with Norberg during the [International Students for Liberty Conference](#) to talk about his book, the current political climate in the West, and how technology is creating a younger generation that will look past politics for answers to societal problems.