

METAMODERNITY

Meaning and Hope in a Complex World

By Lene Rachel Andersen

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Technological development, climate change and globalization are challenging the national institutions and modes of governance we created during the industrial era. In order to maintain meaningful lives, social calm and liberal democracy, we need to upgrade our meaning making to match the complexity of the world we are creating.

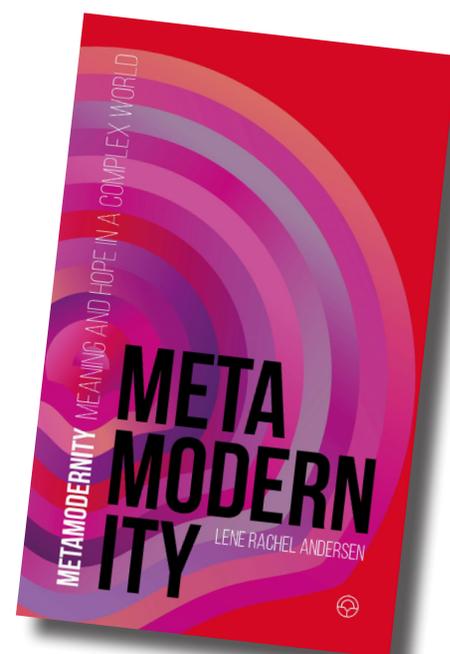
Metamodernity is an alternative to both modernity and postmodernism, a cultural code that presents itself as an opportunity if we work deliberately towards it. It contains both indigenous, premodern, modern, and postmodern cultural elements and thus provides social norms and a moral fabric for intimacy, spirituality, religion, science, and self-exploration, all at the same time.

Metamodernity provides us with a framework for understanding ourselves and our societies in a much more complex way. It is a way of strengthening local, national, continental, and global cultural heritage among

all and thus has the potential to dismantle the fear of losing one's culture as the economy as well as the internet and exponential technologies are disrupting our current modes of societal organization and governance.

Metamodernity will thus allow us to be meaning making at a deeper emotional level and a higher intellectual level compared to today; it will allow us more complex understanding, which may match the complexity of the problems we need to solve. Appropriate meaning making is the best prevention against the frustrations that generally lead to authoritarian ideologies and societal instability.

Using metamodernity as the filter through which we see the world and as a template, we can create, among other things, new and appropriate education, politics and institutions for our societies of the 21st century. A vision such as this may even give hope.



Release date: June 20th 2019

ISBN: 978-87-93791-01-5

Publisher: Nordic Bildung

LENE RACHEL ANDERSEN



Lene Rachel Andersen (b. 1968) is an economist, author, futurist, and *Bildung* activist. After studying business economy for three years, she worked as a temp teacher before she studied theology. During her studies, she wrote entertainment for Danish television until she decided to quit theology, become a fulltime writer and focus on technological development, big history and the future of humanity.

Since 2005, Andersen has written 15 books and she has received two Danish democracy awards: Ebbe Kløvedal-Reich Democracy Ba-

ton (2007) and Døssing Prisen, the Danish librarians' democracy prize (2012). Among her books is *The Nordic Secret* (2017), co-written with Club of Rome member Tomas Björkman. Lene is one of the co-founders of the Copenhagen based think tank Nordic Bildung.

Lene Rachel Andersen is a full member of the Club of Rome.

