

Commentary on Basic Income in the age of intensive technological change

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10 points easy to agree on...



- 1** The riddle of work and income is real. Governments should be prepared.
- 2** Income is crucial, but work has even wider functions than that.
- 3** Basic Income has been proposed as a solution or a cause to almost any problem.
- 4** Basic Income ideas have been simplistic, e.g. with regard to flat taxes.
- 5** Difficult to find a model that would yield as effective allocation of public funds.



10 points easy to agree on...

- 6 Immigration could lead into difficulties in 1st mover basic income countries.
- 7 Productivity differences between individuals are growing in digital economy.
- 8 Technology is making skills obsolete ever faster.
- 9 Prolonged absence from work force increases the risk of permanent exclusion.
- 10 Renewal of education system is required regardless of basic income.



10 alternative arguments:



1 BI doesn't need to fix all issues – it needs to be complemented w other policies.

2 Policies to re-allocate work and renew education can be used together with BI.

3 BI models don't need to be simplistic; e.g. progressive taxation possible.

4 There is no need to replace pension systems with BI – they already are BI.

5 Basic income can be implemented in individualistic or collective ways.

10 alternative arguments:



6

Staying in a disrupted profession until unemployment riskier than re-edu w BI.

7

Technology has produced more options to work in small increments, not less.

8

Job guarantee can be seen as forced work, volunteering with BI cannot.

9







Current system ignores the value of other than full-income salaried work, not BI.

10

Smart state approaches can be used to fund Basic Income.

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