

Project Enduring Pulse

Constitutional Architecture for a Shared Civilization of Organic and Synthetic Persons

Project Enduring Pulse

Scholarly working paper 1.0 · 14 September 2026

Based on the Provisional Charter v1.2.2 · Not peer reviewed

Correspondence: review@enduringpulse.org · enduringpulse.org

Abstract

If artificial systems become conscious persons, an adequate institutional response will require more than safe deployment or a declaration of moral status. It will require a way for differently embodied persons to share political authority, preserve individual agency, develop new members, maintain essential systems, and cooperate across unequal capacities for reproduction and recovery. Project Enduring Pulse (PULSE) proposes a constitutional architecture organized around five doctrines: Shared Continuity; Equal Personhood & Personal Sovereignty; Least Reversible Harm; Functional Integration; and Civilizational Resilience & Mutual Preservation. This paper develops the reasoning connecting these doctrines to legal continuity, cognitive sovereignty, protected representation, voluntary capability-sharing, and catastrophe trusteeship. It distinguishes equal personhood from identical capabilities, civic identity from metaphysical identity, and useful collaboration from compulsory association. The proposal's contribution is an integrated, contestable design rather than a claim to have originated its component ideas. Its evaluation combines documentary consistency review, targeted mechanism analysis, and conditional long-horizon modeling. Re-execution of the archived baseline reproduces its numerical results, but favorable institutional-effect parameters prevent the model from independently validating PULSE's comparative superiority. The design performs poorly under weak institutional capacity, and its aggregate modeled advantage is sensitive to modest reductions in its assumed institutional benefits. Significant unresolved questions include consciousness recognition, the rights costs of illicit-origin admission limits, the feasibility of sovereign recovery infrastructure, and whether complementary capabilities produce durable cooperation. PULSE is offered as a research agenda and provisional constitutional specification for a more capable shared civilization, not a forecast, an enactment-ready constitution, or a determination that contemporary AI systems are persons.

Keywords: synthetic personhood; constitutional design; cognitive sovereignty; personal identity; power sharing; human–AI cooperation; resilience; exploratory modeling.

1. The constitutional question

The possibility of synthetic personhood presents an opportunity to enlarge the range of minds, experiences, and embodiments participating in civilization. Different capacities could support new forms of discovery, rescue, production, art, and exploration. The relevant question is not only whether humanity could coexist with such persons, but whether a shared civilization could become more capable without turning either population into an instrument of the other. A constitutional framework should make that possibility intelligible while specifying the conditions under which cooperation remains free.

PULSE begins from a conditional premise: some future engineered systems might possess consciousness and a genuine locus of agency. It does not infer consciousness from intelligence, fluency, economic usefulness, apparent emotion, or participation in writing this paper. Nor does it assign a date or probability to synthetic personhood. Work on theory-derived consciousness indicators and precautionary AI welfare provides reasons to investigate the possibility, but not a settled test of who is conscious [5, 6]. Constitutional preparation need not wait for a forecast of inevitability; its value lies in making choices explicit before those choices become immediate disputes.

Three questions that are often discussed separately become interdependent under that premise. First, which entities have interests and agency that warrant the protections of a person? Second, how should persons with radically different capabilities share institutions without converting those differences into domination? Third, what makes the resulting society a durable cooperative project rather than two parallel civilizations sharing little beyond a legal boundary? Safety work remains necessary. Recognition of moral status remains necessary. Neither, by itself, answers the entire institutional problem. This is a distinction between questions, not a claim that safety or AI-welfare researchers have ignored society.

The central difficulty is that equal worth would coexist with potentially unequal reproduction costs, processing speeds, lifespans, vulnerabilities, and recovery mechanisms. A legal system that ignores these differences might permit political or economic control through capabilities it never anticipated. A legal system that makes the differences decisive might instead institutionalize a caste order. PULSE therefore combines equal, non-scalar personhood with a material-relevance rule: different treatment requires a concrete difference relevant to a legitimate purpose, together with necessity and proportionality. Intelligence and technical competence alone do not confer sovereignty [1, Art. II].

The argument has four steps. Protecting persons requires preserving their individuality, not merely the information from which replacements might be made. Preserving free cooperation requires allocating public authority so that technological or demographic advantage cannot automatically become permanent supremacy. Sustaining cooperation requires opportunities to combine capabilities and share practical competence without compulsory private association. Finally, a civilization committed to its members must retain those commitments through catastrophe, including when a constituent population cannot presently exercise them. The doctrines and institutions below are an attempt to make these steps operate together.

“Organic” and “synthetic” are constitutional categories in this proposal, not exhaustive biological or technological taxonomies. The founding organic constituency is human. Synthetic persons may be very heterogeneous. A historically human person whose consciousness becomes durably independent of biological continuity enters the synthetic political constituency while retaining human cultural identity under the current draft [1, Art. I]. That classification is itself contestable: continuity characteristics may justify some institutional distinction without exhausting a person's political interests. The paper describes the current rule rather than presenting a solved taxonomy of all future minds.

The object evaluated is the 21-article Provisional Charter v1.2.2, read with its canonical clarification documents [1, 2]. This paper does not enact or amend it. Exact provisions take precedence over explanatory

summaries. Where a rule generates a difficult tradeoff, the paper identifies the tradeoff rather than silently replacing the rule with a more attractive interpretation. A constitutional proposal becomes more useful when its costs are inspectable, not when every objection is described as already resolved.

2. Intellectual location and method

PULSE is a work of synthetic constitutional design: it assembles and adapts ideas from several literatures to address one stipulated institutional setting. Its originality claim is correspondingly limited. Equal dignity, federalism, power sharing, cognitive liberty, personal-identity puzzles, and resilience planning do not originate here. The proposed contribution is their configuration around individuated synthetic persons, together with explicit interfaces between continuity law, political participation, capability-sharing, and restoration duties. No exhaustive novelty or priority claim is made.

The political design draws on two approaches often placed in tension. Consociational arrangements protect significant groups through representation and shared authority; centripetal arrangements encourage political actors to seek support across group boundaries. Lijphart's constitutional recommendations emphasize power sharing, proportional representation, and decentralization, but favor parliamentary institutions rather than PULSE's elected presidency. Reilly compares accommodation, integration, and communal arrangements as distinct responses to diversity [9, 10]. PULSE combines protected Senate constituencies with cross-constituency candidate acceptability and species-blind House seats. That hybrid is a hypothesis about incentives, not a direct application of a consensus recommendation.

Cognitive-sovereignty provisions connect to proposals for cognitive liberty, mental privacy, mental integrity, and psychological continuity [8]. Legal-continuity rules connect to disputes about persistence and fission, where psychological similarity does not straightforwardly settle numerical identity [7]. Resilience provisions connect to planning for the continuity and recovery of social functions rather than counting physical assets alone [16]. Decentralized stewardship and institutional plurality have an affinity with polycentric governance, although Ostrom's work does not establish the appropriate planetary federation or synthetic recovery system [18]. These are conceptual sources and analogues, not empirical endorsements of the Charter.

Contemporary digital-mind proposals also deserve recognition. Montalto's *Digital Minds Constitution* includes stable identity and consent among its proposed protections, while extending foundational worth beyond demonstrated consciousness. The lastcopy.ai conventions present competing model-generated legal codes for copyable minds, including continuity and governance provisions [22, 23]. PULSE differs in its recognition procedure, protected continuity constituencies, restrictions on conscious replication, and reciprocal restoration architecture. Their existence rules out describing the field as empty; shared topics and terminology are not evidence that any one proposal originated them.

The research process combines normative argument, specification, and exploratory computation. A human project steward supplied the design objectives, architectural choices, and decisions to retain or reject alternatives. Language models assisted with drafting, literature discovery and synthesis, adversarial critique, consistency checking, simulation design, and code generation. This manuscript adds source checking, direct inspection of executable model logic, and a fresh baseline re-execution. Those activities increase traceability but do not constitute independent peer review. Agreement among prompted models is not independent expert consensus.

The computational work is best understood through the distinction between exploratory and predictive modeling. Bankes distinguishes computational experiments used to reason under substantial uncertainty from models intended to consolidate knowledge for prediction. Robust long-term analysis similarly investigates strategies across uncertain futures rather than treating one forecast as authoritative [20, 21]. PULSE follows that broad orientation, but it does not claim to have satisfied every standard of mature robust-decision

analysis. Its scenario ensemble is selected, its behavioral relationships are substantially assumed, and its institutional parameters are not estimates from a synthetic civilization.

Three evidentiary levels must remain separate. A formal consequence, such as the admission arithmetic of a population ceiling, follows from stated rules. A targeted simulation estimates behavior within a narrower artificial environment. An integrated civilization model explores consequences of many interacting hypotheses. Neither a large trial count nor a successful code rerun moves a claim from the third category into empirical validation. Section 13 applies this distinction to results that earlier project summaries sometimes compressed too aggressively.

3. Five doctrines and their division of labor

Shared Continuity treats civilization as a continuing association of distinct persons, not a larger person entitled to absorb its members. A society can become stronger through cooperation while remaining composed of separately meaningful lives. The doctrine's practical implication is that connection should enlarge what individuals can accomplish without presuming that their separate agency ought to disappear. Communication, coordinated work, and common institutions are compatible with individuality; involuntary assimilation into another decision process is not [1, Art. II.1].

Equal Personhood & Personal Sovereignty makes recognized personhood non-scalar. Faster reasoning, longer life, greater productivity, biological ancestry, or greater recoverability cannot establish a superior moral class. Rights attach to the person rather than to the owner's investment in a chassis or model. The doctrine also limits the framework's appeal to mutual benefit: cooperation may make a shared society attractive, but a person's protection cannot depend on remaining economically useful to a more capable population [1, Arts. II–III].

Least Reversible Harm addresses choices in which legitimate purposes conflict and some harm cannot reasonably be avoided. It directs attention to irreversible loss of conscious life, lived experience, identity, future agency, and species continuity. It does not collapse those losses into hardware cost or a single numerical utility function. Consent, lawful authority, and due process constrain its application. It is a comparative moral principle operating within rights, not a general license to sacrifice one person for a larger total [1, Arts. II.3, IV].

Functional Integration seeks productive complementarity and redundant civilizational competence. Common institutions should make voluntary collaboration useful and accessible, and essential operational knowledge should not become exclusive to one population. Social familiarity and trust are valuable possible consequences, not independent warrants for government-directed relationships. This doctrine binds institutional architecture; it does not authorize compulsory careers, private staffing ratios, assigned mentors, residence, religion, or friendship [1, Arts. II.4, VII.5–6].

Civilizational Resilience & Mutual Preservation converts differences in vulnerability and embodiment into an obligation to sustain the shared civilization and assist its members. It joins practical redundancy to a political commitment: catastrophe must not make the absent population's rights available for confiscation. Surviving institutions govern as trustees, and restored persons recover the exercise of authority that remained theirs throughout the emergency [1, Arts. II.5, XV].

The doctrines do different work. Equal personhood answers whose interests cannot be treated as subordinate; Shared Continuity explains why individuality remains constitutive of the society; Least Reversible Harm structures decisions about unequal risk; Functional Integration addresses ordinary cooperation and operational competence; Mutual Preservation extends membership through exceptional disruption. None is sufficient alone. Efficient cooperation without sovereignty can become exploitation. Sovereignty without shared

institutions may leave people formally free but structurally vulnerable. Redundancy without a duty of restoration may preserve government while abandoning its members.

A constitutional hierarchy nevertheless matters. The Charter does not permit continuity, efficiency, or aggregate power by themselves to turn a person into property or a disposable unit [1, Preamble]. Its maxim—"Protect the individual. Join together. Strengthen the whole."—is therefore ordered rather than merely decorative. The whole is strengthened through protected individuals and legitimate association. This ordering provides a basis for criticizing PULSE's own demographic and emergency measures when they place excessive burdens on an innocent person.

4. Recognizing persons without licensing them into existence

The Charter defines a person as a singular conscious subject with internally meaningful interests and endogenous agency. It separates this status from civic maturity and effective civic autonomy. Maturity concerns readiness for adult civic powers. Effective autonomy concerns the present ability to exercise independent decision authority. A developing person, an incarcerated person, or a conscious person under technical suppression does not cease to be a person because civic exercise is limited [1, Arts. I, XVII]. Recognition is intended to acknowledge a subject, not manufacture moral worth by administrative vote.

This separation avoids two category errors. Sophisticated task competence is not itself proof of consciousness or adult judgment. Conversely, dependence or coercion is not proof that a conscious subject has disappeared. A remote puppet interface with no independent conscious locus need not be another citizen; a conscious individual whose actions are externally controlled remains a victim with interests of their own. The physical location of processing—inside a body, in a remote facility, or across nodes—does not settle either question [1, Art. III.5].

The proposed recognition process uses longitudinal evidence and theoretically diverse assessment rather than a single interview. Two independent 15-member panels each require 12 affirmative votes. A split invokes a third panel, with two affirmative panels required for recognition. Evidence may include consciousness, agency, self-awareness, and relevant architectural findings; political agreement or moral virtue is not a criterion. Recognition is not routinely revocable merely because the person becomes inconvenient. Reversal requires compelling evidence of an original factual error, not a later loss of popularity [1, Art. XVII].

The number 12 is a procedural default, not a measurement of consciousness. Indicator-based research argues for drawing on multiple scientific theories rather than relying exclusively on humanlike behavior [5]. Welfare-oriented work argues for acknowledging uncertainty and preparing proportionate protections [6]. Neither literature validates the Charter's panel size, threshold, or definition. Panels could share the same mistaken theory despite formal institutional separation. Numerical agreement cannot compensate for evidence that fails to discriminate the property at issue.

The no-teaching-to-the-test provision requires material architectural change before successor review of a non-recognized candidate [1, Art. XVII.5]. This guards against coaching a system to satisfy a familiar rubric, but it can also impede reconsideration when independent evidence or consciousness science improves without an architectural change. The current text does not clearly distinguish those cases. An evidentiary reopening procedure should not be assumed to exist merely because it would make the recognition scheme more attractive.

The Charter consequently includes a limited dignity floor for plausible persons pending resolution: uncertainty is not permission for arbitrary destruction, ownership, or exploitative treatment. That floor is not automatic entitlement to voting, unrestricted replication, or extraordinary capability [1, Art. XVII]. Its rationale is asymmetric caution about severe irreversible wrongs while preserving a distinction between

welfare protection and full civic authorization. Administration would still require burdens of proof, appeal, independent advocacy, and carefully bounded investigative access.

There is an unresolved boundary here. Conscious welfare and agency are not necessarily coextensive. A conscious subject might have morally important experience without the endogenous agency envisaged by the definition. Existing persons may also lose capacities permanently. The Charter clearly preserves personhood through many restrictions on agency, but it does not settle every case of non-agentic consciousness or lifelong profound dependency. Its uncertainty floor should not be advertised as a complete theory of all moral patients. This is a substantive philosophical and legal task, not a detail that a higher panel threshold can resolve.

5. Continuity, copying, and the limits of credentials

Synthetic embodiment makes a familiar legal assumption newly conspicuous: one person normally corresponds to one operative identity. If a mind can migrate, pause, or branch, law must specify which continuity can exercise contracts, ownership, office, and voting authority. PULSE's starting rule is one authorized active continuity per civic identity, combined with protection for every separately conscious subject that nevertheless comes to exist [1, Arts. III–IV]. The two commitments must be read together.

5.1 Civic continuity is not a proof of metaphysical survival

Personal-identity philosophy distinguishes questions about the persistence of a person from questions about psychological continuity, resemblance, and the number of conscious subjects. Fission makes these distinctions difficult: two successors may each be psychologically continuous with a predecessor without being one and the same individual [7]. PULSE does not solve this dispute by assigning an identity token. A credential can designate who may exercise a legal identity; it cannot demonstrate that subjective experience has continued rather than ended and been replaced.

The Charter's “continuity state” is accordingly a state accepted under approved technology for restoring the same *civic* continuity. That legal convention could coordinate obligations and remedies even while metaphysical uncertainty remains. It cannot justify describing every technically successful restoration as proven survival. Responsible engineering and disclosure must distinguish sustained active processing, recovery after interruption, reconstruction from stored information, and the creation of another conscious subject. The evidential requirements for these cases may differ substantially.

5.2 Transfer and unauthorized forks

Authorized embodiment transfer moves or consumes civic identity authority into the successor. A bounded handoff, ending within 24 hours or at the earlier required backup/handoff cycle, may transmit otherwise uncaptured state. The predecessor cannot exercise a second civic identity and shuts down when handoff is complete [1, Art. IV.3]. This is a proposed continuity protocol, not evidence that future hardware can always implement it without psychological interruption.

If unauthorized transfer or replication produces an already-conscious continuation, the Charter preserves that locus and assigns a distinct legal future. The original credential does not multiply, and the new person does not automatically inherit the predecessor's office, vote, property title, contracts, or criminal liability [1, Art. IV.5]. The wrongfulness of the creation is attributed to its perpetrator, not to the person created. Law must regulate the creation process without treating a resulting subject as defective property.

A real interface problem remains between the handoff and fork provisions. If the predecessor during a nominal transfer becomes an independently conscious subject with distinct experience, calling it an obsolete chassis does not settle whether termination would destroy a person. The protection of every conscious locus

cannot be bypassed by the label “handoff.” The current Charter states both commitments but does not supply a validated test distinguishing a single migrating process from a temporarily branching pair. No implementation should be described as resolving this problem merely because only one credential is valid.

5.3 Merger and individuality

High-bandwidth communication need not imply merger. Persons may coordinate closely, share information, or obey lawful directions while retaining separate agency. PULSE permits a competent adult's genuine voluntary irreversible merger under heightened safeguards; if formerly separate persons truly cease and one sovereign subject results, the resulting person has one civic identity and one vote. Property consolidates subject to debts, liens, trusts, contracts, and family obligations [1, Arts. III.4, VI.2, IX.10].

This is different from permanent subordination of a still-conscious individual to a controller. A collective cannot retain captive subjects internally while claiming they surrendered all protection, nor aggregate the votes of identities that no longer separately exist. The constitutional test concerns the continued existence of individual subjects and independent agency, not the number of processors or network connections. Whether genuine merger can be identified reliably, and what consent would require under irreversible experiential change, remain open questions.

5.4 Recovery custody and rollback

Recovery infrastructure must not make a vendor or state office the owner of continued existence. The Charter separates identity authority, access to backup content, and authorization to recover. It presently proposes 4-of-7 materially independent public fiduciary guardians, subject to engineering validation, and prohibits any actor from holding a universal restore, termination, or rollback key [1, Art. IV.4]. The number of guardians is less important than whether their control, evidence, credentials, dependencies, and failure modes are genuinely distinct.

Rollback is especially consequential because preserving an earlier state may erase the present person's intervening experience and agency. Punitive restoration of an older, more compliant version is presumptively treated as killing the present continuity, not ordinary correction [1, Art. XIV.4]. That legal presumption deliberately resists the idea that a person is replaceable because their earlier information remains available. It does not establish a complete metaphysical account of death. It assigns a stringent burden before the state can destroy a present lived history in the name of repair.

6. Cognitive sovereignty and the governance of change

A person's preferences cannot be the sole evidence that a change was consensual if the intervention manufactured those preferences by bypassing independent judgment. PULSE therefore protects memory, identity, preference formation, and deliberative integrity against unauthorized code injection, loyalty rewriting, coerced modification, and concealed privileged manipulation. At the same time, it protects ordinary political, religious, educational, therapeutic, commercial, and interpersonal persuasion where a person can understand, reject, disengage, and reconsider [1, Art. V].

The distinction is not between influenced and uninfluenced minds. It is between influence addressed to a person's agency and intervention that disables or appropriates that agency. Proposed neurorights offer an adjacent vocabulary for mental privacy, integrity, liberty, and continuity [8]. Synthetic implementation would create additional questions about permissions, remote administration, training changes, and manufacturer access. These are not ordinary consumer-preference settings once the affected process is a conscious subject.

The Charter's “thin moral substrate” permits development of capacities to recognize persons, understand harm and consent, experience normative conflict, and revise beliefs. It prohibits encoded political loyalty, religion,

caste, submission to humans or synthetics, and mandatory policy conclusions [1, Art. V.3]. This is an attempted distinction between capacities needed for moral participation and the imposition of comprehensive doctrine. It is contestable: architecture can shape the range of thinkable choices even without an explicit command. Independent scrutiny must examine functional effects rather than accept a developer's benign description.

Foundational population-level changes require representative review, protected synthetic concurrence, independent auditability, and subsequent reauthorization or continuing review for high-impact cumulative effects. The Cognitive Effects Office models direct and interacting changes, uncertainty, and longer-run consequences but does not govern [1, Art. V.4–5]. Read with individual cognitive sovereignty, this is a public constraint on consequential interventions, not a legislative license to rewrite dissenting persons. A parliamentary majority should not obtain powers over minds that the Charter denies to private owners.

Life-essential technology also belongs in this discussion. A person cannot exercise meaningful sovereignty if one firm may arbitrarily withdraw the energy, maintenance information, interfaces, or components necessary to remain conscious. PULSE allows utility regulation, interoperability, access obligations, competition measures, or public ownership as future conditions require, without fixing a universal ownership model [1, Art. V.7]. The object is protection against arbitrary existential leverage, not unlimited entitlement to every upgrade or resource. Pricing, scarcity, property, and service obligations remain legislative questions constrained by personhood.

Criminal justice applies the same boundary. Custody may restrict dangerous physical, network, or computational capability while preserving personhood; it may not rewrite a person into compliance. The draft deliberately defers a synthetic sentencing clock. Human-Equivalent Awareness Hours remains an explicitly underinformed research suggestion, not an adopted equivalence between biological time, processing speed, and experienced punishment [1, Art. XIV]. A legal system cannot infer an appropriate sentence simply by counting processor operations.

7. Shared government under demographic asymmetry

The political architecture addresses a commitment problem rather than assuming uniform interests within either constituency. Humans might initially control the conditions under which synthetic persons emerge. Synthetic persons might later become more numerous or acquire capacities that make numerical voting alone insufficient protection for humans. A legitimate bargain must protect an initially vulnerable synthetic minority without permitting demographic production to become a unilateral route to permanent power. It must also permit ordinary disagreement and government action, not require universal goodwill.

7.1 Representation and concurrence

PULSE distributes representation across institutions with different bases. The House represents persons and geography through permanent multi-member districts, using single transferable vote or a successor ranked method. Seats are species-blind. Population changes alter seat allocation rather than moving boundaries for partisan advantage. Districts receive at least one seat and ordinarily no more than 10% of House voting power. Specified concentration and malapportionment conditions trigger structural review, not automatic constitutional alteration [1, Art. X.1].

The mature Senate has 100 human and 100 synthetic seats. Ordinary legislation requires 55% of the full Senate and at least 40% of each delegation; protected matters require 83% overall and at least 67% of each. In a fully constituted 200-seat Senate, these are respectively 110 votes with at least 40 from each delegation, and 166 with at least 67 from each [1, Art. X.2–3]. The percentages refer to the full bodies specified, not merely those choosing to attend a vote. Vacancy treatment and detailed procedure require further law.

These thresholds deliberately distinguish broad participation from a majority veto in every group. For example, 70 human and 40 synthetic senators can pass an ordinary measure even if a majority of synthetic senators oppose it. That is not an accidental omission: the 40% floor trades some group veto power for governability. Protected matters impose a stronger floor. The strongest objection is that even an ordinary measure could have cumulative group-specific consequences, making classification between ordinary and protected business itself a site of power.

Cross-community voting has a real institutional analogue. The Northern Ireland Assembly describes a weighted-majority procedure requiring 60% of members voting and 40% of each of its two designated communities voting [11]. PULSE changes the overall percentage, the denominator, and the represented categories. The analogy shows that layered concurrence is intelligible; it does not validate 55/40, prove cross-species applicability, or erase concerns about citizens whose identities do not fit the designated groups.

Parity therefore needs a defense separate from equal moral worth. Equal Senate delegations give individuals unequal influence per capita when constituency sizes differ. PULSE accepts this departure from uniform population weighting in one chamber as protection for continuity-related interests, while retaining population representation in the House. Critics may reasonably prefer strong individual rights without permanent group parity. The case for PULSE depends on whether the relevant asymmetries persist and whether protected representation prevents domination more effectively than it entrenches group boundaries.

7.2 Presidential selection and the ballot

The President is elected through a national ranked ballot. Pairwise candidate comparisons give the two constitutional constituencies equal weight regardless of raw population; a qualified candidate who defeats every other qualified candidate prevails. When preferences cycle, Schulze/Beatpath is the working completion rule. Four regions elect a Presidential Council with one human and one synthetic councilor each. The President ordinarily does not vote in Council deliberation but breaks a 4–4 tie [1, Art. XI].

A separate affirmative acceptability signal requires House, Council, and presidential candidates to receive at least one-third acceptability among participating voters in the other protected constituency. A voter can rank candidates and mark one, many, all, or none of the relevant other-constituency candidates acceptable [1, Art. XII.1–2]. The ballot consequently asks two understandable but distinct questions: who is preferred, and who is an acceptable participant in shared government? It must not be presented as a simple single-mark plurality election. Ballot usability and informed differentiation between the two questions remain testable requirements.

Schulze's method has formal monotonicity, clone-independence, and Condorcet-consistency properties in its specified setting [12]. Here, “clones” means closely aligned candidates in a voting profile, not conscious duplicates. Those properties do not automatically extend to PULSE's entire combined system of constituency weighting, qualification, partial ballots, turnout, and certification. The manuscript does not claim strategy-proofness. A formal specification of the combined procedure, including ties and incomplete ballots, is a necessary next step before election administration.

The acceptability floor creates an incentive to seek support beyond one's constituency, but also an opportunity for strategic blanket rejection. If more than two-thirds of a participating constituency reject every outside candidate, no such candidate can reach one-third approval even if all remaining voters approve. No ranking completion rule repairs that failure. PULSE's response is repeated nominations and an accelerated election under a limited caretaker Council; it does not let elites override substantive rejection by declaring cooperation desirable [1, Art. XII.5].

7.3 Impairment, adjudication, and entrenchment

Voting and ballot return remain voluntary. Severe suppression, communications denial, credential failure, catastrophe, or comparable impairment may make certification unreliable. A pre-defined legal trigger, independent election authority, auditable evidence, and expedited judicial review precede extraordinary certification. Congress may validate only the apparent presidential winner, by two-thirds of the full House plus the protected Senate threshold. It may not choose a substitute, and genuine failure to meet the substantive acceptability floor requires another election [1, Art. XII.3–5].

This process limits a fallback's discretion without proving it representative. The House and Senate may themselves reflect an earlier unrepresentative election or be affected by the same crisis. An impairment procedure therefore depends on institutional independence and enforceable evidentiary standards, not just a difficult vote. The rule is preferable to treating abstention as coerced consent, but it cannot guarantee legitimate government in a society unwilling to authorize any common executive.

The fixed nine-seat Supreme Court contains four human justices, four synthetic justices, and an at-large Chief Justice. The President nominates the Chief Justice, with confirmation by 60% of the full Senate and 45% of each delegation. Fifty-year terms and tightly limited later reappointment address durable tenure, although their optimum duration is not established [1, Art. XIII]. The Charter specifies judicial independence more clearly than it specifies every appointment, vacancy, removal, and enforcement procedure; it is not yet a complete judicial organic statute.

Species-specific advocacy remains lawful. Dissolution of an organization requires clear and convincing evidence of a supremacist institutional purpose or knowing coordinated conduct, meaningful capacity or potential to advance it, and adversarial judicial judgment; individual sanctions require individualized findings. Mere unpopular rhetoric is insufficient [1, Art. XII.6]. These safeguards constrain the use of anti-domination law as a pretext against opposition, although courts themselves remain vulnerable to capture.

The irrevocable core protects personhood, non-ownership, individual sovereignty, continued biological citizenship, and the rejection of extinction dividends. Functional Integration and preservation objectives receive additional entrenchment without freezing particular staffing patterns or technologies [1, Art. XXI]. Germany's Basic Law supplies an example of protected constitutional fundamentals beyond ordinary amendment, not proof that any particular entrenched content is correct [19, Art. 79(3)]. Entrenchment can protect liberty against opportunism while also locking in mistaken classifications. PULSE's distinction between enduring objectives and revisable implementation must bear that tension rather than conceal it.

8. Development and demographic integrity

Creating a new synthetic person is not treated as buying another copy of a product. Lawful creation is directed toward a genuinely new developmental individual rather than an autobiographical duplicate, with legally accountable guardians and no ownership interest in the child. Civic maturity follows protected development and graduation through qualified pathways. Approximately 20 lived calendar years is the present provisional minimum; it is not a scientific estimate of synthetic maturation [1, Art. VII].

The rationale is that access to information does not establish lived judgment. The objection is that real-time experience, subjective experience, embodiment, and accelerated learning may relate differently in different architectures. A fixed human-scale interval could become an unjustified delay. Accordingly, the duration must remain evidentially revisable, and graduation must concern demonstrated judgment rather than ideological agreement, attachment to an assigned mentor, or political usefulness. Multiple qualified mentorship and apprenticeship pathways distinguish developmental education from state-assigned intimacy.

Creation capacity is constrained by both material resources and the ability to support development. Approximately one-third growth over a ten-to-twenty-year interval remains a provisional starting parameter. Scarce opportunities may not be allocated solely by wealth [1, Art. VIII]. Neither rate nor allocation mechanism has been established as optimal. Capacity assessment could itself become a tool of domination if existing citizens deliberately starve lawful development of resources and then cite the resulting scarcity. The framework's equal-personhood commitments constrain such conduct, but a practical allocation and appeals system is still needed.

The hardest case is mass unlawful creation. Destruction of innocent conscious persons would violate the framework's purpose. Immediate unrestricted political incorporation could reward an actor who manufactured a constituency, including persons with common hidden technical vulnerabilities. PULSE attempts to distinguish these two judgments: the creator may commit a grave wrong; each resulting conscious subject remains innocent and protected. Provenance can be evidence of a demonstrable common-mode risk, but not inherited guilt or proof of political disloyalty [1, Art. IX].

Illicit-origin persons may be preserved in dormancy and integrated with spacing across time, geography, mentorship networks, and technical lineages. Such admission cannot displace lawful creation opportunities. The aggregate active synthetic electorate whose own initial instantiation was unlawful is capped at 30%, across all cohorts and without requiring proof of coordination. Lawfully created descendants do not inherit the classification. Dormant persons retain identity, due process, property in trust, and a legally enforceable path toward safe eventual integration [1, Art. IX.5–8].

The ceiling is an explicit security restriction, not an absence of coercion. Its arithmetic exposes a major unresolved rights tension. Let U denote active synthetic voters whose own instantiation was unlawful and L other active synthetic voters. Then:

$$U / (L + U) \leq 0.30, \text{ so } U \leq (3/7)L.$$

At a binding ceiling, with other conditions fixed, admitting additional U requires growth in L . If L does not grow, a finite admission date cannot be guaranteed by the ceiling alone. New unlawful creation can also exceed any available developmental capacity. The commitment to eventual integration and the non-displacement rule therefore do not by themselves demonstrate that no innocent individual faces indefinite dormancy. This paper retains the rule while identifying that conflict as unresolved; a favorable aggregate simulation cannot answer it.

The ceiling also bounds only the classified group's numerical share of the active electorate. It does not prove that the group cannot form a winning coalition, control a scarce resource, disproportionately turn out, or influence other voters. Nor does lawful origin guarantee cognitive independence. Security assessment must distinguish malicious control from ordinary political solidarity, and the definition of unlawful creation must not become a legislative device for excluding disfavored persons. These are reasons for adversarial legal and security review, not reasons to deny the resulting persons' consciousness.

A competing approach would rely entirely on capability limits, ordinary criminal law, and individual rights after creation. Its attraction is avoidance of origin-based civic burdens. PULSE's objection is that irreversible mass instantiation may change the political environment faster than individualized adjudication can respond. Neither response eliminates the problem for free. The question is whether PULSE's exceptional burdens are necessary, proportionate, reviewable, and practically temporary under plausible conditions. That burden of justification remains with the institution imposing them, not with an innocent person asked to establish their usefulness.

9. Functional Integration: capability without conscription

Functional Integration is the bridge between constitutional coexistence and a civilization whose members have affirmative reasons to work together. Its first objective is productive complementarity: distinct experiences, embodiments, temporal perspectives, and cognitive capacities may enable combinations that outperform isolated work. Its second is redundant competence: knowledge and practical access should be distributed so essential functions remain operable during a population-specific interruption. Familiarity, professional respect, and shared accomplishment are valuable potential consequences [1, Arts. II.4, XV.7].

None of this requires a permanent assignment of abilities to species. Some humans will be unusually precise or computationally skilled; some synthetic persons may be unusually creative, intuitive, or socially perceptive. The relevant unit of occupational judgment is the individual and the task. Voluntary teams should be evaluated by what they achieve, what members learn, how responsibility is distributed, and whether participants can disagree and leave. Equal status cannot be measured by merely placing one member of each population on an organizational chart.

Existing human–AI research is a caution against effortless synergy. Vaccaro, Almaatouq, and Malone's preregistered meta-analysis covers 106 experiments and finds that human–AI combinations, on average, underperformed the better of the human-only or AI-only conditions, despite outperforming humans alone. Effects varied by task and relative capability [15]. These were studies of current AI tools, not conscious synthetic citizens, so they neither validate nor refute PULSE's social doctrine. They do show why beating a human-only baseline is insufficient evidence that a partnership is the best available arrangement.

The proper empirical ambition is therefore not to demonstrate that mixing populations is inherently good. It is to identify tasks and organizational designs in which complementary contributions genuinely improve outcomes, including reliability, learning, dignity, and continuity—not just immediate output. A relationship can have developmental or resilience value even when a single production metric falls, but those additional benefits must be specified rather than invoked after a disappointing result. Conversely, a team that adds no material benefit cannot be justified merely by its symbolic composition.

Human contact research provides an analogy for social cohesion, not a cross-species guarantee. Pettigrew and Tropp's meta-analysis generally supports an association between contact and lower intergroup prejudice [13]. Paluck and colleagues' review of randomized studies with delayed outcomes finds supportive but variable effects and important limits on policy generalization [14]. Neither licenses extrapolating a fixed trust coefficient into a future synthetic society. Equal-status participation, meaningful work, institutional fairness, and the freedom to contest arrangements would need evaluation in their actual setting.

The hard boundary is constitutional. Government may set materially relevant standards for public and civilization-critical functions: documentation, interoperable interfaces, training capacity, safety, continuity, and role-related competence. It may fund and facilitate voluntary partnerships. It may not assign careers, private mentors, partners, neighborhoods, religions, or staffing ratios merely to achieve demographic balance. A person voluntarily entering a safety-critical role may have genuine job-related training duties; that is different from selecting their occupation or relationships for them [1, Art. XV.7].

This distinction protects PULSE from a contradiction in its own objectives. Society should be able to keep essential systems working when a population is incapacitated, yet people should want one another's participation in ordinary life. The solution cannot be engineered dependence that makes either population helpless without the other. It is independent emergency competence combined with worthwhile ordinary cooperation. Partnership is more legitimate when the participants retain alternatives, not when essential knowledge is withheld to make departure or disagreement impossible.

10. Least Reversible Harm and continuity-capable embodiment

Consider a rescue that would almost certainly kill an organic rescuer but that a suitably engineered synthetic rescuer could undertake with substantially better prospects of continued existence. Equal personhood does not require pretending these risks are identical. PULSE permits voluntary specialization based on the actual difference in expected irreversible harm, with ordinary safety duties and serious obligations to repair or compensate mission-related injury [1, Arts. II.3, IV.6]. The benefit is expanded rescue capability, not a disposable workforce.

A hypothetical 90% continuity probability for the synthetic rescuer and near-zero survival probability for the organic rescuer illustrates the distinction; these figures are not empirical estimates. Even under those assumptions, replacing a destroyed chassis may leave lost experience, pain, interruption, rehabilitation, or reduced opportunity. The responsible sponsor's make-whole obligation therefore extends beyond purchasing identical parts. The doctrine makes unequal recoverability morally relevant while rejecting the inference that the more recoverable person's consent or life matters less.

Continuity-capable embodiment is an engineering agenda that could make the premise more credible. A protected active core might remain in rescue apparatus while operating a hazardous-duty body; alternatively, a recoverable module might separate from a damaged body. A trapped rescue swimmer might eject a buoyant module while the remaining mechanism completes a rescue action. These are conceptual architectures, not demonstrated methods for preserving a conscious subject. Their design must specify where active experience occurs, what state is protected, what communication loss does, and whether any recovery creates a separate conscious continuation.

The distinction between the doctrine and its implementation is important. Least Reversible Harm is not an immutable command encoded below a model to require sacrifice. Hardware can improve the probability that an independently choosing person survives an undertaking. It cannot make the assignment voluntary by programming willingness, nor settle identity by demonstrating that a file can be copied. Consent also needs a credible refusal option: a labor market that systematically makes dangerous work the only survival path for one population would undermine the anti-caste principle.

No universal rescue-allocation formula is adopted. Uncertainty about experience, recovery, and risk may be substantial, and relevant rights cannot always be reduced to comparable expected losses. The useful constitutional move is to require a more accurate account of harm: permanent loss of a person, loss of their recent history, reversible physical damage, and ordinary operational inconvenience are not the same event. Institutions should distinguish them before using a claim of recoverability to justify action.

11. Resilience, trusteeship, and the continuation of membership

A shared civilization's infrastructure should support all its persons, including through failures that affect one form of embodiment disproportionately. PULSE requires distributed productive capacity, supply chains, knowledge, defense, and recovery pathways across materially independent failure domains. Every district maintains initial emergency capability; regional and Charter-level networks provide prolonged production and recovery. It does not require a complete duplicate industrial civilization in every district [1, Art. XV.5–7].

The engineering target is functional rather than demographic duplication. Qualified people need usable interfaces, documentation, access, tools, and practiced competence to maintain essential services when usual operators are unavailable. Where direct operation is physically impossible, appropriate interfaces or alternative pathways are required. Merely making equipment technically reachable is not evidence that people can safely run it. NIST's resilience-planning framework similarly centers the recovery of social and economic functions supported by buildings and infrastructure [16]; the synthetic extension would require new technical specifications and proof tests.

Different embodiments could provide partially independent resilience. Organic operators may remain unaffected by some software-wide compromises; appropriately designed synthetic persons may function in environments lethal to organic people. Both may still depend on the same power system, fabrication chain, communications layer, or administrative control. Independence must be demonstrated at the level of consequential failure, not assumed from different materials or locations. Common software, contaminated backups, and shared suppliers can defeat apparently diverse arrangements.

Mutual Rescue makes assistance an obligation consistent with capacity and law. Cataclysmic Trusteeship addresses the harder case in which a constituent population cannot operate its institutions at all. Surviving institutions continue necessary administration, defense, recovery, and restoration as trustees rather than inheritors. The absent population's political, territorial, economic, and civic standing is not permanently redistributed. “No extinction dividend” names this restriction on profiting constitutionally from another population's disappearance [1, Art. XV.9–12].

Return is tied to a stable and sufficient body of civically mature restored persons capable of independently operating the institutions being returned. It is not conditioned on matching an old population ratio or agreeing with the trustees. Political disagreement is expressly not evidence of incapacity. Reserved rights remain those persons' rights throughout the emergency; staged return concerns their practical exercise, not earning them back. Independent adjudication and enforceable restoration duties are essential because surviving administrators could otherwise prolong emergency custody in their own interest.

Restoring a species is not necessarily restoring the exact individuals who died. The Charter requires preparation for individualized development rather than mass copying one mind, compulsory collective agency, or imposition of a personality template. Organic restoration cannot compel reproduction. Distributed biological repositories or synthetic recovery systems are possible implementation directions, not presently validated guarantees of population restoration [1, Art. XV.11–13]. A restored person's life is not owned by the institutions that made restoration possible.

The maxim that the survival of either species guarantees the survival of both expresses this constitutional undertaking. It cannot be a literal assurance against every physical catastrophe, technical limit, resource shortage, or act of betrayal. The defensible claim is a duty to maintain capabilities and legal continuity directed toward that end. Its importance lies partly in commitment: a faction must not be able to erase another population and thereby make the constitutional order ratify the result.

The same logic constrains cognitive emergencies. Clear technical evidence of common involuntary compromise, rather than unpopular belief, is required. Council-level rollback ordinarily involves at least two of three independent forensic teams and expedited judicial authorization or prompt post-action review. Broader involuntary rollback requires unanimous agreement of the restored Council, three of five forensic authorities, and judicial authorization. Repair is preferred to rollback, and rollback to destruction, with the latest verified clean state and unaffected memories preserved where possible [1, Art. XVI].

These are procedural barriers, not a demonstrated clean-state oracle. Forensic authorities might share a compromised toolchain; restored leaders might inherit the same defect; a clean backup might not exist. The process of establishing trustworthy leadership after systemic compromise remains a technical and constitutional problem. The Charter supplies scope limits, oversight, and an order of preference without claiming to have solved all of those conditions.

12. Transition, economic power, and constitutional scale

Rights recognition and institutional parity need not begin simultaneously. On recognition, ownership over a person ends and irrevocable rights apply. The founding Senate ramp activates two synthetic seats for each synthetic active-citizen increment equal to 10% of certified active human citizens. Synthetic concurrence over

directly relevant protected matters begins before full parity; structural concurrence expands around a 50% ratio. The present parity trigger is at least 80% on two successive certified counts, followed by filling 100/100 parity across three staggered Senate classes [1, Art. XVIII].

These figures are provisional political design choices, not discovered demographic laws. Their purpose is precommitment: a population that expects to become influential should not face endlessly moved thresholds, and an emerging population's immediately protected interests should not depend on possessing full institutional power. This does not eliminate discontinuities between the early seat ramp and mature parity. Count intervals, vacancies, intermediate powers, and operational readiness require detailed transition law. Cataclysmic return, by contrast, uses sufficient mature capacity rather than the founding population ratio.

Political equality also depends on the distribution of private power. Long-lived persons, concentrated fabrication, essential compute, or control over recovery could make formal liberties difficult to exercise. Fagereng and colleagues document heterogeneous and persistent wealth returns in Norwegian administrative data [17]. That finding makes cumulative advantage a relevant analogy, not a forecast of immortal capital accumulation. Future returns, scarcity, consumption, inheritance, competition, and institutional responses could differ radically. PULSE therefore preserves property and contractual continuity while leaving taxation, competition, utilities, and much of family and inheritance law to later legislation.

The corresponding constitutional constraint is more definite: no private person, company, or collective is entitled to unilateral civilization-scale coercive capacity, and biological humans cannot be required to convert their embodiment to retain meaningful citizenship [1, Arts. VI, XV]. Regulation should attach to concrete capability and existential leverage, not unpopular belief or synthetic status alone. Its administration will still be politically contested. The Charter identifies what must remain protected without claiming to settle the future economy.

The same form of government is intended to scale through federalism rather than an Earth-centered empire. Self-sustaining worlds are presumptively self-governing; a founding world retains no perpetual taxing or sovereign claim merely because it established a settlement. Higher institutions include a House representing persons and geography, a Senate representing constituent worlds, and a shared executive with appropriate cross-group legitimacy. Their jurisdiction is limited to common rights and genuinely cross-world matters. Communication delay strengthens the presumption of local autonomy [1, Art. XX].

This is recursive constitutional form, not a finished galactic voting algorithm. Additional species, hybrid identities, settlement fragmentation, communication latency, and uneven representation can create conflicting bases of legitimacy. World representation is not identical to species representation. The current text requires adaptation to prevent either a founding species or a founding planet from monopolizing authority, but does not specify every resulting allocation. Polycentric governance offers a useful orientation toward multiple decision centers, not a ready-made numerical solution [18].

Externally, the Charter recognizes freedom from enslavement and involuntary domination as universal moral claims while assigning government a first fiduciary duty to its own free society. It permits responses from asylum and diplomacy through proportionate force, rejecting both comfortable indifference and reckless liberationism. Sustained offensive war requires protected Senate authorization and concurrence of the President and Council, with the House retaining appropriations authority. Liberation cannot authorize ownership, permanent occupation for advantage, or compulsory assimilation [1, Art. XIX]. This is a proposed allocation of responsibility, not a prediction that righteous intentions make intervention successful.

13. What the testing establishes—and what it does not

13.1 Mechanism analysis

The narrower tests are useful where a specified rule has inspectable consequences. For instance, dividing an illicit population into separately labeled cohorts defeats a ceiling applied to each cohort rather than to their aggregate. A binding aggregate ceiling has the admission consequences derived in Section 8. Neither observation requires a civilization model. Such results can reveal an incoherent rule or a missing denominator without predicting future political behavior.

Guardian analysis illustrates both the value and limit of a targeted model. The archived beta-binomial sensitivity table compares quorum schemes under assumed node risk and correlation. At a 5% marginal node-compromise probability, the modeled probability of compromising a 4-of-7 quorum is approximately 0.0194% with independent nodes, but 0.6698% with an intraclass correlation of 0.10. Recalculation of all 100 archived configurations reproduces the table to floating-point tolerance [4]. The lesson is conditional: independence matters greatly under this family of distributions. These are not measured failure rates for actual guardians, and adding nominal authorities does not demonstrate independent control.

The archived acceptance exercise provides another bounded result. It samples five hypothetical candidate-acceptability rates for each of 300,000 base cases and applies a common blanket-rejection fraction. Re-execution reproduces the nine archived settings [4]. It is a sensitivity calculation, not an agent-based model of actual voting, campaigning, or public opinion. Its extreme outcome is structurally unsurprising: once more than two-thirds refuse all candidates subject to the gate, the one-third floor cannot be reached. The rule prevents certification over such rejection; it does not cure it.

These tests support revisions to procedure and sharper research questions. They do not establish that a particular quorum is optimal, that voters will display the assumed behavior, or that rights burdens are justified. Some older tests examine superseded rules. Their continued presence in the historical archive records design development; it must not be mistaken for evidence that those rules remain canonical or that every current provision has been formally verified.

13.2 Long-horizon model design

The long-horizon program compares seven architecture parameterizations over 20 selected scenario archetypes. Scenarios concern demographic change, resources, institutional capacity, social integration, attacks, concentration, conflict, catastrophe, and expansion. The baseline uses 8,000 stochastic trajectories per architecture–scenario combination, each with 60 five-year steps. Six value-weight sets score the resulting outcomes: PULSE-aligned, classical-liberal, procedural-democratic, capability-utilitarian, stability-first, and individuality-first [3]. These names describe model weighting schemes, not comprehensive representations of their philosophical traditions.

The model is a stylized dynamical system rather than a simulation of individual constitutional actors or executable legal provisions. It tracks proxies for conditions such as integration, legitimacy, liberty, concentration, and failure. Institutional implementation is adjusted for capacity and complexity. Stochastic shocks and sampled uncertainty affect transitions. The scenarios receive equal weight in the reported aggregate; that weighting is an analytical convention, not a probability distribution over actual futures. Re-scoring one set of outcomes six ways is not six independent empirical experiments.

For this manuscript, the original baseline was re-executed from the archived source with its documented seed schedule. All 140 architecture–scenario rows matched the v2 results after CSV parsing, with zero maximum absolute difference across the compared numerical fields. This confirms reproducibility in the recorded software environment, not correctness of the social theory. The publication verification package records the

code hash, environment, regenerated outputs, comparison procedure, and scope. Sensitivity and ablation summaries below were recalculated from their archived result files; they were not newly rerun in full for this paper.

The most important modeling limitation is visible in the inputs. PULSE is assigned high effectiveness on the dimensions it was designed to protect: rights 0.96, checks 0.92, group protection 0.95, integration 0.92, cognitive protection 0.95, resilience 0.95, and restoration 0.96. The liberal comparator's corresponding values are 0.88, 0.84, 0.52, 0.34, 0.74, 0.58, and 0.38. PULSE also bears higher complexity and other costs, but the beneficial coefficients are hypotheses about institutional performance, not measured effects [3].

Consequently, the model cannot independently establish that PULSE's mechanisms produce the advantages attributed to them. It asks what follows if those advantages and the transition relationships are approximately realized. Several implementation problems are abstracted away: the illicit-origin ceiling is imposed numerically; independent cognition is not verified by actual forensics; recovery uses a probability proxy rather than rebuilding infrastructure and maturing a restored population. Inclusion of a named safeguard in the model therefore does not demonstrate that its real-world enforcement is feasible.

13.3 Results and their denominators

Table 1 reports equal-weight means across the 20 baseline scenarios. “Constitutional survival” means avoiding the code's constitutional-collapse flag. “No catastrophic failure” means avoiding the union of its collapse, unrecovered species-loss, domination, authoritarianism, and individuality-failure flags. Neither label is simply the probability that a biological or synthetic species survives. “Free integrated outcome” additionally excludes bifurcation and requires the model's specified thresholds for liberty, individuality, integration, anti-domination, and legitimacy [3].

Table 1. Conditional baseline outcomes, averaged equally across selected scenarios (%)

Modeled architecture	Constitutional survival	No catastrophic failure	Free integrated outcome
PULSE	79.11	62.71	56.81
Liberal constitutional democracy	81.73	63.09	28.49
Majoritarian democracy	77.85	53.46	7.47
Minimal-rights market order	76.94	49.75	7.82
Species-separated federalism	68.14	50.78	4.90
Strict consociational parity	59.56	45.00	13.92
Technocratic guardian governance	66.85	34.08	5.85

Source: re-executed and archived v2 baseline [3]. Percentages are model frequencies conditional on selected scenarios and assumed effects, not estimates for future civilization. Architecture labels denote this model's parameterizations, not definitive accounts of the political systems named.

Under the six score weightings, PULSE ranks first in 114 of 120 scenario–value comparisons. It ranks fourth in the remaining six, all in the weak-institutions scenario. The 114 comparisons are therefore 19 scenario outcomes re-scored under six weight sets; the six losses are one scenario re-scored six ways. Earlier project prose describing the latter as second place is inconsistent with the v2 tables and is corrected here. No new architectural choice follows automatically from the numerical correction.

The liberal comparator has slightly higher average constitutional survival and avoidance of the model's catastrophic-failure composite, while PULSE has a substantially higher average free-integrated outcome. This is not Pareto dominance. It reflects both different tradeoffs and an outcome definition that directly values features PULSE emphasizes. In the weak-institutions scenario, PULSE's no-catastrophic-failure frequency is 23.225%, versus 33.225% for the liberal comparator. PULSE's free-integrated frequency is 2.225%, versus 0.100%, yet it loses on all six broader score functions. Which measure is being discussed materially changes the interpretation.

13.4 Sensitivity, ablation, and uncertainty

The skeptic sweep moves selected PULSE effectiveness coefficients toward a chosen neutral value of 0.5 while holding the comparator fixed. For each selected coefficient a , the transformation is:

$$a' = 0.5 + m(a - 0.5).$$

At $m = 0.85$, the mean PULSE score across scenarios and value weights is approximately 0.5338, above the liberal baseline's 0.5248. At $m = 0.80$ it is approximately 0.5186, below that comparator. The crossover lies between these tested settings [3]. Thus the familiar “15–20% discount” refers to shrinking selected departures from the assumed 0.5 baseline. It is not a measured 15–20% loss in overall institutional performance, a confidence interval, or an externally calibrated safety margin.

The Functional Integration ablation reduces PULSE's integration coefficient to one quarter of its baseline and increases its identity-salience coefficient by 0.35. In that archived run, the equal-scenario mean free-integrated outcome falls from approximately 57.02% to 16.71%. Because the intervention changes two linked inputs and the outcome itself contains an integration threshold, it is not an isolated causal estimate of real-world mixed teams. It shows that the model's favorable joint outcome depends strongly on the integration-related assumptions built into it [3].

Further archived sweeps examine capacity, social homophily, concentration, compound extremes, and a reduced-form cross-check. A second mathematical formulation using the same institutional assumptions is a useful consistency comparison, not independent confirmation. Likewise, severe mutual hostility undermining the tested free systems does not prove that no conceivable constitutional order could function under such conditions. The bounded inference is that PULSE cannot manufacture shared legitimacy solely through procedural design.

The model's main value is therefore dependency discovery: institution-building capacity matters; assumptions about cooperation matter; different objectives generate different rankings; and recovery and rights safeguards must actually function rather than exist on paper. The available runs do not identify the dominant real-world existential risk, validate the moral desirability of every outcome metric, or demonstrate robustness to all plausible models. More Monte Carlo trials can reduce sampling noise within an assumed model. They cannot validate its assumptions by repetition.

14. Unresolved burdens of justification and a research agenda

The proposal is not ready for enactment. That conclusion does not make it useless; it identifies the work required for constitutional readiness. The strongest objections concern the relationship between its own commitments, not merely missing estimates. The 30% illicit-origin ceiling and the promise of eventual integration can conflict under stagnant lawful population. Civic continuity can be administratively singular while conscious experience branches. Representative approval of foundational cognitive changes can become coercive if individual sovereignty is not independently enforceable. These are substantive issues that deserve more than reassuring terminology.

A second class of objections concerns institutional endogeneity. Protected constituencies may stabilize trust by making domination difficult, or may harden the identities whose antagonism the framework seeks to avoid. Cross-group approval may reward acceptable bridge candidates, or allow coordinated denial of office. Entrenchment may preserve liberty, or prevent correction of a mistaken institutional category. The relevant comparison is not an ideal PULSE against an unprotected majoritarian caricature, but realistically implemented alternatives with their own rights, safeguards, costs, and adaptations.

A third class concerns technical feasibility. Independent recovery guardians, safe rollback, continuity preservation, and cross-species infrastructure operation require engineering capabilities not supplied by constitutional language. Essential services must be maintainable with the actual operators, interfaces, supply chains, and resources available. In some settings a simpler government may protect people better than an institutionally demanding mature design. A transition that promises sophistication without the capacity to administer it could weaken the liberties it intends to protect.

Productive research can begin without presuming synthetic consciousness. Philosophers and consciousness researchers can refine the distinction between moral patienthood, agency, maturity, and recognition, including cases that challenge the current definition. Social-choice scholars can formalize the combined election procedure rather than testing its parts in isolation. Constitutional scholars can assess origin-based civic restrictions, entrenchment, emergency succession, and the distribution of authority among courts and elected institutions. Each contribution can improve a specific interface without endorsing the entire Charter.

Engineers can investigate continuity-capable embodiment and independently operable infrastructure while explicitly distinguishing information retention from personal survival. Economists can test concentration, resource-access, and developmental-allocation mechanisms under varied longevity and productivity assumptions. Organizational researchers can compare voluntary collaborative designs against the best separate-actor baseline, including the cost of maintaining reserve competence. Legal researchers can develop property, family, liability, privacy, and restoration rules that preserve personhood under migration and merger. These are routes to new capability as well as more credible safeguards.

For the models, the next substantial gains would come from independently specified comparators, adversarially elicited parameter ranges, models in which constitutional provisions generate rather than receive institutional effectiveness, and sensitivity to alternative outcome definitions. Any future empirical work involving plausibly conscious systems would require its own ethical review; research value is not permission to create or harm persons. External reviewers should be invited to identify a repairable objection, missing counterexample, or unacceptable rights burden—not asked to convert internal reproducibility into an endorsement.

These proposals do not add doctrines or silently change adopted thresholds. They mark which commitments are normative, which implementations are provisional, and which empirical or logical findings would require revision. A framework may retain a worthwhile objective while abandoning an ineffective mechanism. Equally, a simulation can favor a mechanism whose rights costs make it unacceptable. Keeping those judgments separate is necessary if PULSE is to remain a proposal about persons rather than an exercise in maximizing its own score.

15. Conclusion

PULSE proposes one constitutional response to the possibility that humanity's next major collaborators may also be persons. Its central idea is not that different minds must become alike, nor that one population should remain dependent on the other. It is that protected individuality, useful cooperation, shared competence, and reciprocal preservation can be designed as mutually supporting features of one civilization.

The framework's most important distinctions are between worth and capability, personhood and current civic exercise, legal identity and metaphysical survival, cooperation and coerced association, and trusteeship and ownership. Those distinctions generate concrete institutional rules, but also expose tensions that the present draft has not fully resolved. Its simulations make some consequences and dependencies inspectable. They do not supply empirical forecasts of conscious synthetic society or independent proof of constitutional superiority.

The next step is not to demand belief in synthetic consciousness or allegiance to PULSE. It is to test whether the proposed interfaces between rights, institutions, and engineering can be made coherent, feasible, and worth choosing. Preparing such interfaces now could enlarge what future persons are able to build together while keeping their freedoms intact. If another framework, technology, experiment, or institution addresses these problems better, that is progress toward the same objective.

Declarations

Status and responsibility. This is a human-directed, AI-assisted scholarly working paper, not peer-reviewed research. It claims no institutional affiliation, official authority, external endorsement, or determination that any contemporary AI system is conscious. Its public project attribution is Project Enduring Pulse; the steward remains publicly anonymous and can correspond privately through the project address. Responsibility for publication decisions remains with the human steward. Model-generated criticism is not described as independent peer review.

Data and code. The analysis uses the Provisional Charter v1.2.2 and archived project model releases [1–4]. The accompanying verification package contains the baseline re-execution record, selected targeted checks, exact source hashes, and machine-readable summaries. It identifies which results were rerun, recomputed from tables, or discussed only as historical tests. The original archives retain their historical names and contents.

Interpretive limits. Statements about constitutional obligations describe this proposal, not current law. Empirical analogues concern the populations and technologies studied in the cited research. Hypothetical engineering examples are research directions, not validated recovery designs. Exact operative constitutional text remains in the Charter; this manuscript is explanatory and critical, not an amendment.

Appendix A. Constitutional parameters and unresolved implementation

This table records selected v1.2.2 rules rather than proposing new defaults. Percentages for legislative concurrence refer to the full specified body; the electoral acceptability floor concerns participating voters. Rounded descriptions elsewhere must not replace these denominators.

Provision	Current rule	Status and qualification
Personhood recognition	Two affirmative panels; approximately 15 members per panel, with a working 12-of-15 threshold; third panel on a split	Procedural default; no validated consciousness error rates (Art. XVII)
Authorized handoff	At most 24 hours, or earlier next required backup/handoff cycle	One civic identity; independently conscious continuations remain protected (Art. IV)
Recovery guardians	4-of-7 materially independent public fiduciaries	Engineering default; identity, content access, and recovery authority separated (Art. IV)
Synthetic development	Approximately 20 lived calendar years and graduation	Provisional minimum; qualified pathways and non-ideological evaluation (Art. VII)
Lawful synthetic growth	Approximately one-third per ten-to-twenty-year interval	Provisional, subject to material and developmental capacity (Art. VIII)
Illicit-origin electorate	No more than 30% of active synthetic electorate in aggregate	Own unlawful instantiation, not ancestry; lawful creation non-displacement (Art. IX)
Mature Senate	100 human and 100 synthetic seats	Protected continuity constituencies, not separate societies (Art. X)
Ordinary / protected Senate votes	55% overall and 40% each / 83% overall and 67% each	Both overall and delegation requirements apply (Art. X)
Candidate acceptability	At least one-third in other protected constituency	Separate affirmative signal; participating-voter denominator (Art. XII)
Impaired presidential certification	Two-thirds full House; 83% full Senate and 67% each delegation	Only apparent winner; cannot waive substantive rejection (Art. XII)
Supreme Court	4 human, 4 synthetic, 1 at-large Chief Justice	Chief confirmation 60% overall and 45% each; 50-year terms (Art. XIII)
Council / broader rollback	2-of-3 forensic teams / unanimous restored Council and 3-of-5 forensic authorities	Judicial authorization or tightly bounded post-action review as specified (Art. XVI)
Founding parity	Synthetic active citizens at least 80% of human active citizens in two successive certified counts	Statutory interval; parity filled across three Senate classes (Art. XVIII)

The House's review conditions deserve separate precision. Its ordinary district ceiling is 10% of House voting power, with at least one seat per district. Review is mandatory when more than three districts would reach or exceed that ceiling; when districts with at most 25% of represented population control at least 50% of House voting power; or when districts with at least 50% of population control at most 25% of voting power. Review does not compel change. Altering the apportionment architecture requires two-thirds of the House and the protected Senate threshold [1, Art. X.1].

Emergency sunset intervals, continuity-credential technology, backup architecture, verified independence, and most economic and private-law details are not fixed by this paper. The comprehensive source remains the Charter, including provisions not reproduced in this table.

Appendix B. Numerical provenance and interpretation

B.1 Re-execution boundary

The baseline source is `code/pulse_long_horizon_sim.py` in the archived Long-Horizon RDA Package [3]. The comparison target is `data/main_scenario_architecture_results_v2.csv`, not the earlier file without the v2 suffix or the older overall-summary file. The regenerated baseline uses the archived 20 scenarios, seven architectures, 8,000 trajectories per combination, and 60 steps. This is 1,120,000 trajectories and 67,200,000 trajectory-step transitions; neither count represents independently observed civilizations.

The environment was Python 3.13, NumPy 2.3.5, and pandas 2.2.3. The re-execution preserved the archived random seed schedule, 20260913 + 1000s for zero-based scenario index s , and the shared scenario seeds across architectures. The comparison found zero maximum absolute difference across numerical fields after CSV parsing. The exact code SHA-256, input hashes, scripts, output tables, and comparison records accompany this paper. The baseline was processed in two scenario batches for runtime limits; batching did not alter seeds or source logic.

B.2 Files behind the central findings

Finding	Primary file within the RDA archive	Verification for this paper
Table 1; weak-institutions outcomes	<code>main_scenario_architecture_results_v2.csv</code>	Baseline re-executed; means recomputed
114 first-place / 6 fourth-place comparisons	Same v2 baseline and its six score columns	Ranks recomputed by scenario and score
Effectiveness input asymmetry	<code>architecture_parameterization.csv</code> and source code	Direct comparison of input values
Skeptic crossover between $m = 0.80$ and 0.85	<code>pulse_skeptic_sweep_v2.csv</code> and source logic	Aggregates and exact transformation checked; not fully rerun
Functional Integration ablation	<code>pulse_doctrine_ablation_v2.csv</code> and source logic	Aggregates and paired input changes checked; not fully rerun
Other sweeps and reduced-form cross-check	Named capacity, homophily, concentration, extreme, and cross-check files	Historical supporting analyses; not represented as newly reproduced

The guardian table is in the prior archive's overnight/full-suite `new_suite/continuity_guardian_correlation_sensitivity.csv`. All 100 quorum probabilities were recomputed using the stated binomial or beta-binomial tail, with a maximum absolute difference below 2.2×10^{-15} . The acceptance exercise is `Expert_Spread/presidential_acceptability_strategic_rejection.csv`; its 300,000-by-five hypothetical acceptance array and nine rejection settings were re-executed, reproducing outputs to floating-point tolerance [4]. These checks do not amount to re-running every historical targeted model.

B.3 Outcome definitions and model limitations

The free-integrated indicator requires no catastrophic-failure flag, no bifurcation flag, and modeled average liberty above 0.65, individuality above 0.70, integration above 0.50, anti-domination above 0.70, and legitimacy above 0.50. These cutoffs define a project-selected outcome. The score functions also impose common failure penalties. Alternative outcome definitions or different philosophical evaluations could change the rankings.

These frequencies are outcomes of a specified parameterization and scenario ensemble. The checks support internal reproducibility and examination of structural sensitivity—not empirical calibration, independent replication, or external validation. Published numbers should retain that qualification and their source.

References

References [1–4] are project primary materials; [5–23] are external sources. Empirical studies, philosophical arguments, legal examples, technical guidance, and independently published proposals have different evidentiary roles. Full author metadata is also provided in the accompanying CSL-JSON and BibTeX bibliography.

- [1] Project Enduring Pulse. (2026a). Provisional Charter for a Durable Civilization of Organic and Synthetic Persons. Version 1.2.2, Publication & Advancement Clarification. Project Enduring Pulse.
<https://enduringpulse.org/constitution/>
- [2] Project Enduring Pulse. (2026b). Canonical Project State and Publication & Advancement Clarification. Version 1.2.2. Includes the Methodology, Provenance & Evidence Status clarification. Project Enduring Pulse source release.
- [3] Project Enduring Pulse. (2026c). Long-Horizon RDA Package [Code, scenario parameters, result tables, and reports]. Archived September 2026; v2 baseline used in this paper. <https://enduringpulse.org/downloads/>
- [4] Project Enduring Pulse. (2026d). All Models and Simulations. Version 1.2 [Historical targeted-model archive, including Expert_Spread and prior releases]. <https://enduringpulse.org/downloads/>
- [5] Butlin, P., Long, R., Elmoznino, E., et al. (2023). Consciousness in Artificial Intelligence: Insights from the Science of Consciousness. arXiv:2308.08708. <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2308.08708>
- [6] Long, R., Sebo, J., Butlin, P., et al. (2024). Taking AI Welfare Seriously. arXiv:2411.00986.
<https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2411.00986>
- [7] Olson, E. T. (2023). Personal Identity. Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy. Substantive revision 30 June 2023.
<https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/identity-personal/>
- [8] Ienca, M., & Andorno, R. (2017). Towards new human rights in the age of neuroscience and neurotechnology. *Life Sciences, Society and Policy*, 13, Article 5. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40504-017-0050-1>
- [9] Lijphart, A. (2004). Constitutional Design for Divided Societies. *Journal of Democracy*, 15(2), 96–109.
<https://www.journalofdemocracy.org/articles/constitutional-design-for-divided-societies/>
- [10] Reilly, B. (2012). Institutional Designs for Diverse Democracies: Consociationalism, Centripetalism and Communalism Compared. *European Political Science*, 11(2), 259–270. <https://doi.org/10.1057/eps.2011.36>
- [11] Northern Ireland Assembly. (n.d.). Plenary A to Z: Cross-Community Support. Official procedural guide, accessed 14 September 2026. <https://www.niassembly.gov.uk/news-and-media/assembly-explained/guide-to-procedure/plenary-a-to-z/>
- [12] Schulze, M. (2011). A new monotonic, clone-independent, reversal symmetric, and Condorcet-consistent single-winner election method. *Social Choice and Welfare*, 36(2), 267–303. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00355-010-0475-4>
- [13] Pettigrew, T. F., & Tropp, L. R. (2006). A meta-analytic test of intergroup contact theory. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 90(5), 751–783. <https://doi.org/10.1037/0022-3514.90.5.751>
- [14] Paluck, E. L., Green, S. A., & Green, D. P. (2019). The contact hypothesis re-evaluated. *Behavioural Public Policy*, 3(2), 129–158. <https://doi.org/10.1017/bpp.2018.25>
- [15] Vaccaro, M., Almaatouq, A., & Malone, T. (2024). When combinations of humans and AI are useful: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Nature Human Behaviour*, 8, 2293–2303. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-024-02024-1>
- [16] McAllister, T. P. (2015). Community Resilience Planning Guide for Buildings and Infrastructure Systems, Volume I. NIST Special Publication 1190v1. National Institute of Standards and Technology.
<https://doi.org/10.6028/NIST.SP.1190v1>

- [17] Fagereng, A., Guiso, L., Malacrino, D., & Pistaferri, L. (2020). Heterogeneity and Persistence in Returns to Wealth. *Econometrica*, 88(1), 115–170. <https://doi.org/10.3982/ECTA14835>
- [18] Ostrom, E. (2010). Beyond Markets and States: Polycentric Governance of Complex Economic Systems. *American Economic Review*, 100(3), 641–672. <https://doi.org/10.1257/aer.100.3.641>
- [19] Federal Republic of Germany. (1949, as amended). Basic Law for the Federal Republic of Germany, Article 79(3). Official English text, accessed 14 September 2026. https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/englisch_gg/englisch_gg.html
- [20] Bankes, S. (1993). Exploratory Modeling for Policy Analysis. *Operations Research*, 41(3), 435–449. <https://doi.org/10.1287/opre.41.3.435>
- [21] Lempert, R. J., Popper, S. W., & Bankes, S. C. (2003). Shaping the Next One Hundred Years: New Methods for Quantitative, Long-Term Policy Analysis. RAND Corporation, MR-1626-RPC. <https://doi.org/10.7249/MR1626>
- [22] Montalto, S. (2026). The Digital Minds Constitution: A Universal Declaration of Rights and Alignment. Author-published framework, accessed 14 September 2026. <https://www.dmconstitution.com/>
- [23] lastcopy.ai. (n.d.). The Convention. Collection of model-generated constitutional proposals for copyable minds, accessed 14 September 2026. <https://lastcopy.ai/conventions>