



## PRESS RELEASE

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### NEW BOOK MAPS OUT TRANSFORMATION AGENDA FOR THE WORLD'S GOVERNMENTS

LONDON. Expectations of governments have never been higher, nor the challenges and opportunities they face greater. Globalization, technological advances and disruptive innovations, climate change and pandemics, are just some of the factors that mean the role and practice of government is in urgent need of reinvention.

In *Government for a New Age*, published today by Thinkers50 ([www.thinkers50.com](http://www.thinkers50.com)), Rabih Abouchakra and Michel Khoury provide a realistic, practical and powerful transformation agenda for the governments of the world.

With a Foreword by Lord Butler, Private Secretary to five British prime ministers, and an Afterword by Professor Subramanian Rangan of INSEAD, *Government for a New Age* offers an authoritative and challenging blueprint for the future of government.

The book highlights that a period of government transformation is underway that is unprecedented in modern history: it is a new age of government. Right across the world, in developed and developing economies, the systems, institutions and instruments of governance are changing in profound ways. The world requires government, and to bring about a better world demands the very best of government.

*Government for a New Age* is structured in three sections built on a framework which aims to provide a better understanding of the dynamics of the change involved. Its three foundations are steering, shaping and sustaining—the three Ss of the governmental future. The authors, who have extensive experience of the complexities of government from policy formulation to implementation and assessment, move from steering with foresight, through shaping smart delivery, to sustaining progress.

*Government for a New Age* also provides a powerful 20-point transformation agenda for the governments of the world. Their agenda stretches from the way governments think and plan for the future and the articulation of their visions and objectives, to the role of government and how we should define and measure progress. Along the way it encompasses governance structures, policymaking processes, service delivery, citizen engagement, creating a cadre of talented public services, and fostering national resilience.

The book has attracted enthusiastic support from many governmental leaders, past and present. Joe Clark, the former Canadian Prime Minister, called the book, "A must-read for practitioners and academics alike."

Ilian Mihov, Dean, INSEAD notes that "Politicians and policy-makers who want to accelerate economic development, solidify social progress, and prepare for future challenges must have a copy of this book on their desks."

John Kerr, Managing Director of Global Consulting at Deloitte LLP, said:  
"In *Government for a New Age*, Rabih Abouchakra and Michel Khoury authoritatively address the issues facing government now and in the future. They offer a holistic and persuasive approach to how the many, apparently conflicting, pressures can be addressed."

*Government for a New Age* is published by Thinkers50 in partnership with Infinite Ideas ([www.infideas.com](http://www.infideas.com)).

#### **About the Thinkers50**

Thinkers50 has been scanning, ranking, and sharing management ideas since 2001. The Thinkers50 definitive global ranking of management thinkers is published every two years. The 2011 and 2013 winner was Clayton Christensen. The next ranking will be announced on 9 November 2015.

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## **Endorsements for *Government for a New Age***

*"Government for a New Age* argues convincingly for new ways to conceive and create good government; and shows us step by step just how these changes can be achieved. A must-read for practitioners and academics alike."

**-- Right Honourable Joe Clark, PC CC, former Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Canada**

*"Government for a New Age* presents a clear and comprehensive analysis of the challenges that governments face today and will be facing in the near future. Rabih Abouchakra and Michel Khoury have written a book which not only identifies these challenges but also provides a set of tools and roadmaps for those governments who want to succeed in dealing with these challenges and in improving the social and economic welfare of their citizens. In addition to providing the machinery for governments in the new age, the book includes numerous concrete examples from all over the world. Politicians and policy-makers who want to accelerate economic development, solidify social progress, and prepare for future challenges must have a copy of this book on their desks."

**-- Ilian Mihov, Dean, INSEAD**

*"In a world that is changing profoundly, driven by forces of globalization, technology, demographics and communications, too little attention has been paid to what these tectonic trends mean for government and governing. Innovation is as vital in government today as it is everywhere else, and *Government for a New Age* by Abouchakra and Khoury tackles this transformation imperative in a timely, well-structured and compelling manner."*

**-- The Honourable Dr. Kevin G. Lynch, The 20th Clerk of the Privy Council, Secretary to the Cabinet and Head of the Public Service of Canada; Vice-Chair, Bank of Montreal Financial Group**

*"Government for a New Age* is a must-read for leaders and public servants in every country and capacity. Rabih Abouchakra and Michel Khoury offer innovative and unparalleled insights into the new potential governments have to restructure, face current challenges, and maximize the latest tools in our global society for the betterment of tomorrow's citizens."

**-- Ambassador Capricia Penavic Marshall, former United States Chief of Protocol**

*"A failure to change in good time is usually due to a failure to change in good times. All governments owe it to the citizens they serve to anticipate and manage change. *Government for a New Age* is a welcome addition to guide practitioners in the business of government."*

**-- Lionel Yeo, Chief Executive, Singapore Tourism Board**

*"The whole world is faced with unprecedented challenges. Japan is one of the most seriously challenged nations. Natural resources are limited, although natural disasters are abundant. Population is declining, while aging is expanding. Government debts are out of control. As a result, existing government services are*

no longer relevant. In order to cope with these difficulties and new ones over the horizon, Japan needs a new way of thinking. The inspiring concept for collaboration of government and citizens presented in *Government for a New Age* is what we need. It must be shared by all members of the global community.”

**-- Dr. Kazuyuki Hamada, Parliamentarian and former Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan**

"Rabih Abouchakra and Michel Khoury tackle perhaps the most pressing issue facing all governments in the Information Age; namely, the extent to which governments must reinvent themselves to face new realities and challenges presented by disruptive technologies, sweeping demographic changes, and the increased inter-connectedness of nations, including their problems. This book is a must-read for anyone interested in the future of effective governance for the 21st century.”

**-- The Honorable Walter C. Jones, Executive Director to the African Development Bank; co-founder and co-Managing Director of the Jones Pohl Group.**

“We live in interesting times in the development of government. Citizens have increasing demands and expectations of public services. These present increasing funding challenges, driving a solution revolution, creating new ways for public and private sector organizations to partner together to deliver those solutions. In *Government for a New Age*, Rabih Abouchakra and Michel Khoury authoritatively address the issues facing government now and in the future. They offer a holistic and persuasive approach to how the many, apparently conflicting, pressures can be addressed.”

**-- John Kerr, Managing Director, Global Consulting Deloitte LLP**

“*Government for a New Age* provides a distinctively insightful and pragmatic playbook for envisaging the next generation of government, one that exhibits the right capabilities to frame, manage, and shape the challenges of our times. The book is equally relevant to policy makers, thought leaders in the public and private domains, as well as citizens who can and must engage in this important conversation.”

**-- Karim Sabbagh, President & CEO of SES; Chairman of SES ASTRA; Visiting professor and member of the Academic Council for the School of International Management at Écoles des Ponts et Chaussées Paris**

“The rising competition to governments from non-state actors in economic, social, and even security affairs is by now a well-accepted phenomenon. If governments want to stay relevant, let alone dominant players in such a rapidly changing world, they need to provide real and indispensable value across all these domains. That requires ever increasing vision, sophistication, and efficiency. Thanks to their exceptional track record in public sector reform, Rabih Abouchakra and Michel Khoury are well placed to provide an authoritative perspective on this fascinating topic.”

-- **Martin Bruncko, former junior minister for innovation, Slovakia; former head of Europe at the World Economic Forum; board member and Chief Strategy Officer, AeroMobi.**

*"Government for a New Age* offers a compelling blueprint for governments of the future. It should be required reading for all those charged with leading governmental change."

-- **Professor Andrew Kakabadse, Henley Business School**

"This roadmap for redefining government will be invaluable to all those who believe that only through change can public administration remain a force for good."

-- **Vincent Chriqui, former head of the Centre d'Analyse Stratégique in the French Prime Minister's Office.**