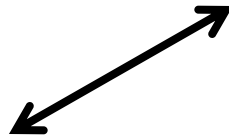


NIC Global Trends

- ✓ **2020: Mapping the global future (Dec 2004)**
 - ✓ **“At no time since the formation of the Western alliance system have the shape and nature of international alignments been in such a flux.”**
- ✓ **2025: A Transformed World (Dec 2008)**
 - ✓ **Global multipolar world with key uncertainties**
- ✓ **2030: US Leadership in a Post-Western World (Dec 2012)**
 - ✓ **Individual empowerment ... diffusion of power ... energy/water/food**
- ✓ **2035: Paradox of Progress (Jan 2017)**
 - ✓ **Promise and peril**
- ✓ **2040: A More Contested World (March 2021)**

Global Trends 2040

- ✓ **Global Challenges**
 - ✓ **Climate Change**
 - ✓ **Disease**
 - ✓ **Financial Crises**
 - ✓ **Technology Disruptions**
- ✓ **Impact on:**
 - ✓ **Communities**
 - ✓ **Societies**
 - ✓ **States**
 - ✓ **International system**



- ✓ **Fragmentation**
 - ✓ **Exacerbated by system shocks**
- ✓ **Disequilibrium**
 - ✓ **Challenges/needs ~ capacity**
 - ✓ **Systems eroding**
- ✓ **Contestation**
 - ✓ **Polarization, rising tensions**
 - ✓ **More prone to violence**
 - ✓ **Competitive geopolitics**
- ✓ **Adaptation**
 - ✓ **Imperative to survive**
 - ✓ **Could contribute to inequality**

Scenarios 2040 ??

- ✓ **Renaissance of democracies**
 - ✓ **U.S. leads resurgence of democracies**
- ✓ **A World Adrift**
 - ✓ **China leading but not dominant**
- ✓ **Competitive Coexistence**
 - ✓ **U.S. vs China competing**
- ✓ **Separate Silos**
 - ✓ **Unraveling of globalization ... return of blocs**
- ✓ **Tragedy & Mobilization**
 - ✓ **EU & China respond to environmental crises**

Global Trends – The Good News

Economics

1. Globalization & the information age have enabled an explosion of global wealth and a reduction in extreme poverty.
 - ✓ Since the 1970s ... **global population has risen about 50%** (from 5 billion to 7.5+ billion) ... But the number of people in the world living in **extreme poverty has been reduced by 50%** (from almost 2 billion to under 1 billion).
 - ✓ Principal “**winners**” have been:
 - ✓ **Middle classes** in emerging economies, especially China, India
 - ✓ The **most affluent** in the developed “post-industrial” world (including **10-15%** of U.S. population, **5%** in W Europe, Japan)

Global Trends – The Bad News

Economics

1. Expansion of global wealth has been accompanied by **greater gaps between rich and poor**, both in actual wealth and opportunities to access wealth
 - ✓ Principal “losers” in this global wealth expansion:
 - ✓ The **very poor** in sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, Asia, and the Middle East ... [*The Bottom Billion*, Collier, 2007]
 - ✓ Citizens of rich countries with stagnating incomes, much of the population of former communist countries ... **exacerbated by changing nature of work**, less access to quality **education** & retraining, dependence on **debt** during 2008 financial crisis
 - ✓ **Both create a crisis of expectations, in both rich & poor societies**

Global Trends – The Good News

Demographics

- 2. Overall global population growth rate is declining** after almost 50% growth in last half-century ... 7.6 billion today ... 8.6 billion (2030) ...9.7 billion (2050) ... 11.2 billion (2100)
- ✓ Declining fertility rates
 - ✓ Improved maternal and post-natal health (after baby boom)
 - ✓ Increasing numbers of women seeking employment out of the home
 - ✓ Growing urbanization
 - ✓ Higher life expectancy worldwide

Global Trends – The Bad News

Demographics

2. Changing distribution of global demographics will add stress – in different ways – to all countries.
 - ✓ Bulk of population growth in future decades confined to the **poorest countries** least able to cope with that growth
 - ✓ Africa ... Over 50% of global growth by 2050 ... Nigeria 3rd most populous country after India & China
 - ✓ “**Youth bulges**” persist in Africa, South Asia, Arab world
 - ✓ In **wealthy countries** – **population aging, working-age populations decreasing** ... Increased burdens on support systems for aging
 - ✓ People in distress will **migrate** to places where they perceive opportunities for a better life for themselves and their children

Global Trends – The Good News

Technology

- 3. Rapid technological growth has enabled:**
 - ✓ Explosive economic growth
 - ✓ Transformations in manufacturing and energy
 - ✓ Democratized access to information
 - ✓ New frontiers in healthcare and the fight against disease
 - ✓ People across boundaries and cultures to interact
 - ✓ An end to major conflict between major powers *[so far]*

Global Trends – The Bad News

Technology

3. Technology is a **value neutral tool** – for every benefit and advantage, there is also **vulnerability to its exploitation**:
- ✓ Socioeconomic dislocation as a result of the changing nature of work and increased automation
 - ✓ Proliferation – and fragmentation – of information and media place new burdens on the consumer to assess reliability, think critically
 - ✓ Advances in biotechnology raise difficult ethical & moral issues
 - ✓ Interconnectedness heightens localism & populism as people believe their identities are being threatened – **institutions lose legitimacy**
 - ✓ New weapons technologies [*e.g. cyber, bio, etc*] enable even

Global Trends – The Good News

Politics

4. End of the 20th century witnessed an unprecedented rise in democratic governance and pluralist political institutions

- ✓ **Defeat of Fascism and Soviet Communism as credible contending models of development and governance**
- ✓ **Collapse of empires – imperial structures that had been the principal model of international relations for centuries**
- ✓ **Even among autocratic regimes, the “vocabulary” and “edifices” of democratic governance were essential both at home and abroad**
- ✓ **Projections of the “End of History” (Fukuyama) plus growth of information technologies foreshadowed converging interest globally and increased cooperation to tackle shared**

Global Trends – The Bad News

Politics

4. Globalization brought winners & losers ... *the losers fought back!*
- ✓ **Democratic governance is hard** ... it takes generations to develop the “civic virtues” that make pluralism work & **can't be imposed**
 - ✓ **Socioeconomic dislocation** reaped by globalization create fear, anxiety, and impatience with which governments can't cope
 - ✓ **More actors mean more voices** seeking to be heard – and frustrated by the result – but institutions are weak and exploitable
 - ✓ **Challenges to good governance increase beyond the capacity of most systems to cope ...¹¹ so governments cultivate distractions**

Implications – “Top Ten”?

- 1. Industrial & information revolutions created transformative opportunities ... heightened expectations ... seeded dangers**
- 2. The global economy – and the nature of work – are shifting (*again*)**
- 3. Societies – both rich and poor – are unraveling at home**
- 4. The rich are aging ... the poor aren't (*but they ARE urbanizing*)**
- 5. Technology accelerates progress ... but creates disruptive discontinuities**

Implications – “Top Ten”?

6. Ideas and identities can create **new communities** ... but they can also drive a wave of **exclusion & intolerance**
7. Governing is getting more **necessary** ... but **harder**
8. Conflict is more **lethal** – blurring civilian/military lines ... also more **likely** ... and less **manageable**
9. **Societies and institutions** are more vulnerable to **systemic risks** – interdependence of complex systems (environmental, financial, informational, etc)
10. 20th century **“liberal world order”** – and the institutions that sustained it – is breaking down