

# Governance Foresight: Then, Now, Maybe



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Today, I want to say something about  
the evolution of governance foresight

—especially three recent stages—

and consider two alternative futures.

The focus will be on Korea, the US,  
and elsewhere in the world,  
as appropriate.

As I have said many times before,  
the proverbial Man from Mars would be astounded to  
learn that it is necessary to argue that  
governments should systematically  
engage in foresight  
as an essential part of their activities.



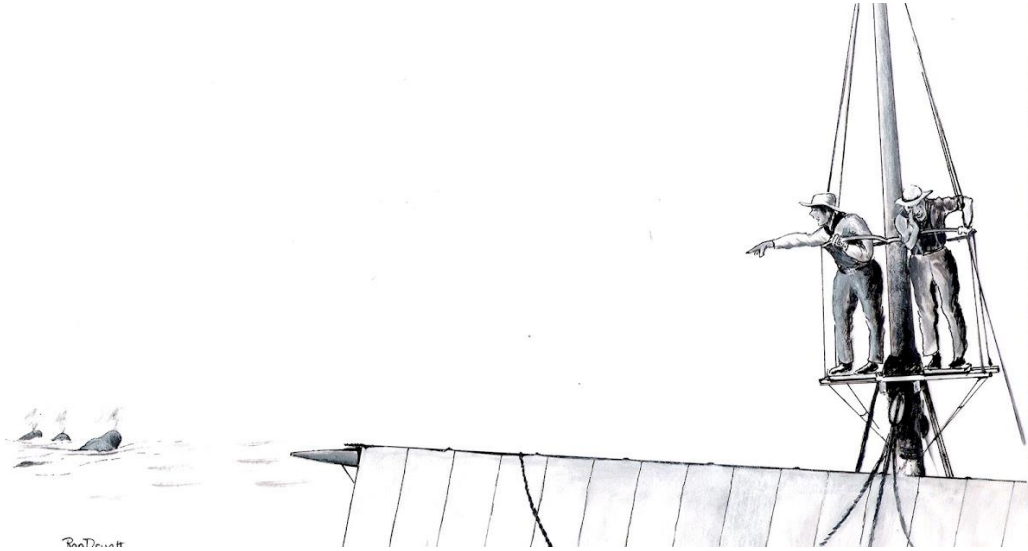
“After all”, he would say, “the words  
'government', 'governance', 'governor',  
and all the rest

come from a Greek word meaning

*Steersman*

—the person who steers a ship safely home  
through uncertain waters.”





“It is impossible for the Steersman  
to guide a ship  
without proper and continuous foresight.”

“So, how is it possible for governors  
to guide the Ship of State

without continuous foresight as well?”





“How is it possible to make public policy  
for this fast-moving world  
until you have

prudently determined

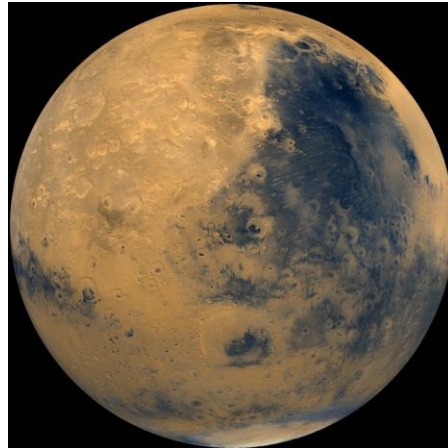
what challenges and opportunities might lie ahead?”





“If policy is made  
without rigorously scanning the horizon,  
then policy will be made  
on the basis of past or current experiences  
that may or may not be relevant for the futures.”

The man from Mars  
would think we humans  
are nutty  
to even have to discuss the issue  
of governmental foresight,  
it would be so obvious to him.



And therein lies the problem.

All governments,  
even those created very recently,  
are based on cosmologies, principles, and technologies  
more than two hundred years old.



The first modern democratic governments were formed in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century.



The best way to look forward  
was to look backwards.



The pace of social and environmental change  
was,  
or was perceived to be,  
very, very slow.



Basing decisions on the past  
made perfect sense

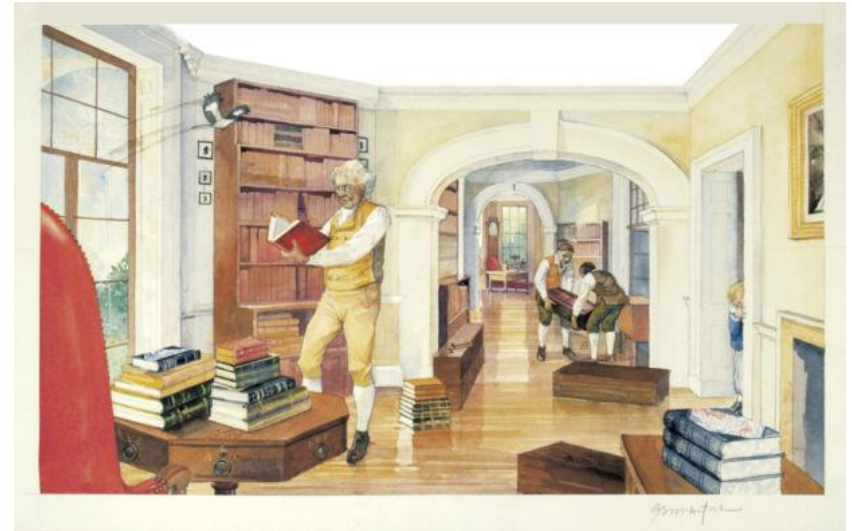
and was often  
successful.



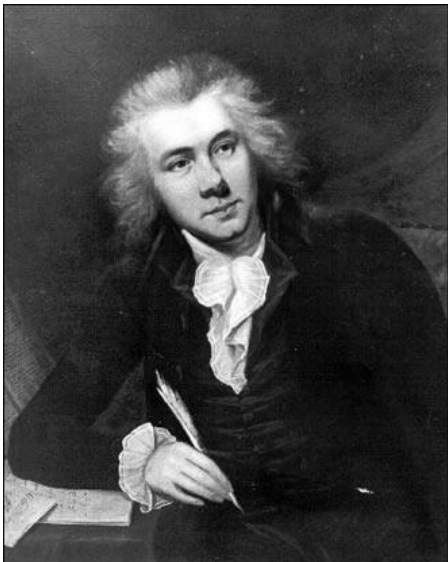


Since the pace of life was so slow,  
new laws were seldom needed  
and almost never urgently so.





Elected officials  
were all intelligent people,  
learned in the ways of the past.



Out of their accumulated wisdom,  
they could frame laws  
that would solve  
the few problems facing them

--and keep them solved  
forever.





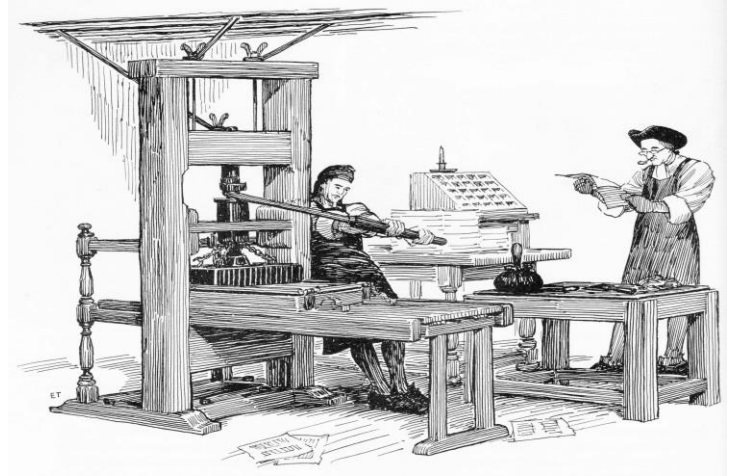
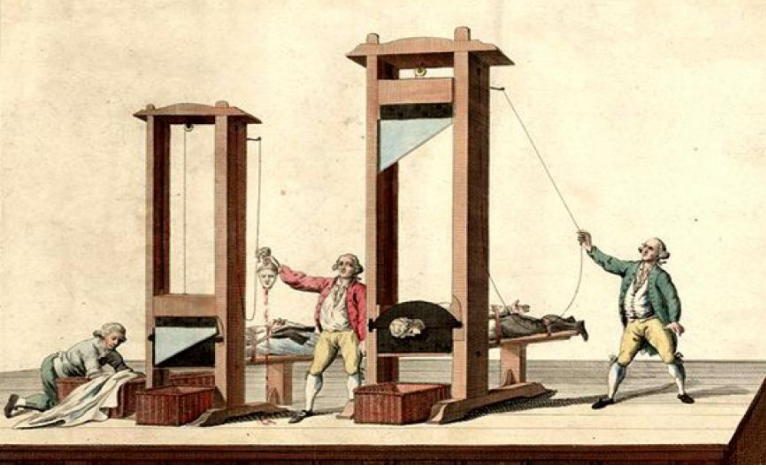
Similarly,  
only a few people were needed  
to administer  
the few laws that were passed.

And no special expertise was needed.

When the first modern government was “constituted” out of 13 small and isolated British colonies in America,

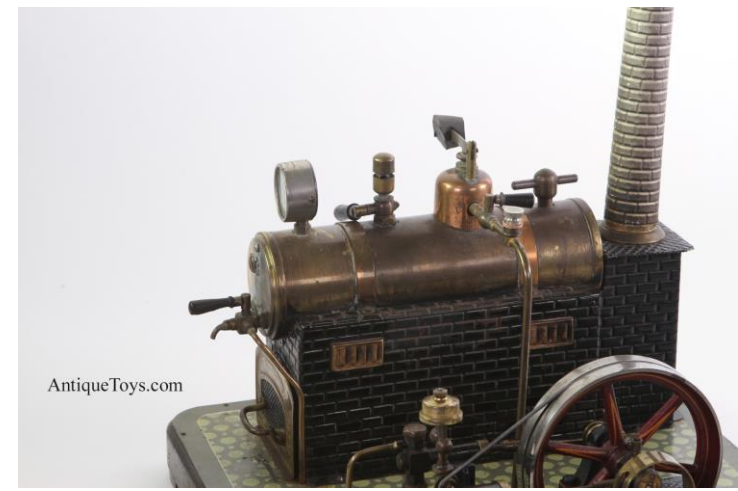


all the world was still overwhelmingly agricultural, pre-industrial.



Cutting-edge technologies of the time were the guillotine and the printing press.

The steam engine was still just a toy.





National populations were  
small,

spread out,

focused on local issues,

poorly educated,





The US Constitution was designed for a  
tiny, weak,  
decentralized community  
of yeoman farmers  
and slave plantations.



The total population of the US,  
according to the first national census in 1790,  
was merely **3,929,214**.

New York was the largest city  
with a population of **33,131**.



Unfortunately,  
ever since the American Constitution  
was ratified in 1789

whenever people have created new governments  
anywhere in the world,

they have followed  
**the same logic, cosmologies, and technologies**

the US Founding Fathers used so long ago.

*The United States  
in Historical and Comparative Perspective*



*The First  
New Nation*



*Seymour Martin Lipset*

But the world changed  
suddenly after

“The First New Nation”

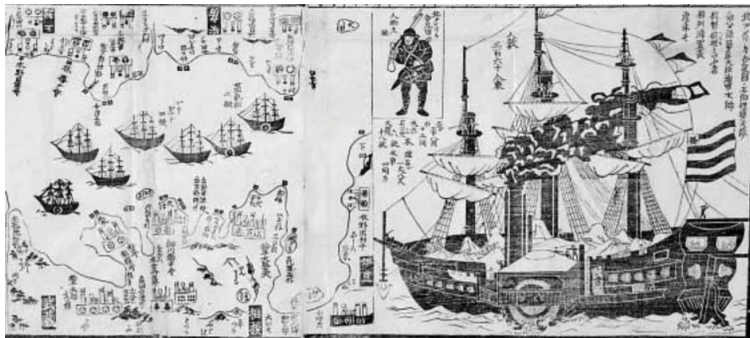
was “constituted”.

By the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century,  
the world, led by the West,  
was on the road  
to industrialism, development,  
and perpetual progress.





Suddenly the West was awash with change.



Tomorrow was no longer like today  
—it was bigger and better.  
There was more of everything good  
(and often bad),

Generations strove  
to make the lives of their children  
better than—  
and thus different from—  
their own lives.







To keep up with the dizzying pace of change, governments began adding new functions and institutions to the old structure as fast as they could.



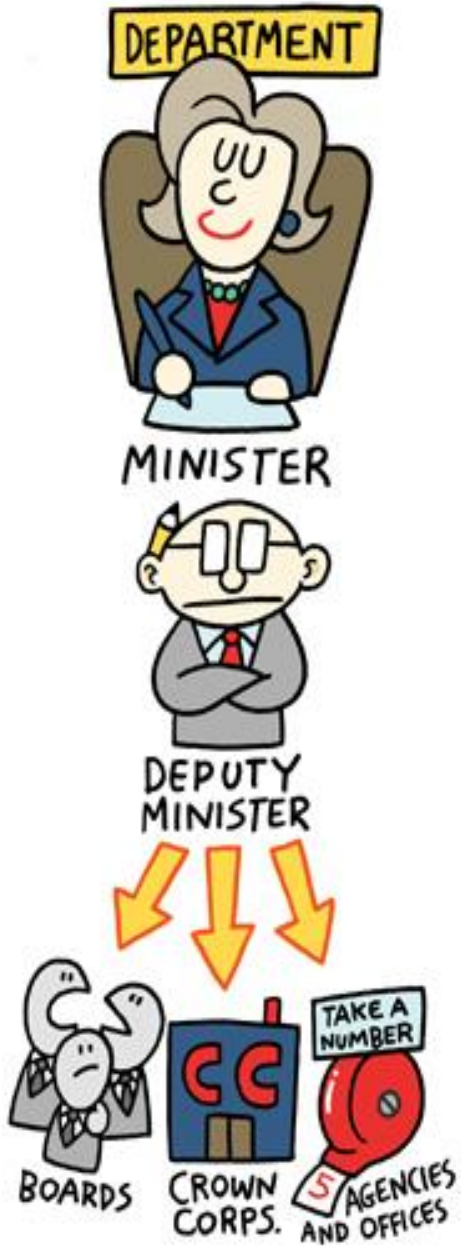


We are still governed by  
pre-industrial cosmologies  
within  
pre-industrial structures.



Some governments tried to keep up  
with change  
by creating  
independent regulatory agencies

<i>Component of the Federal Bureaucracy</i>	<i>Characteristics</i>	<i>Examples of Agencies &amp; Departments w/ Rationale</i>
<b>Cabinet Departments</b>		
<b>Independent Executive Agencies</b>		
<b>Independent Regulatory Commissions</b>		
<b>Government Corporations</b>		



These agencies were intended to be "independent" of immediate political pressures, and so were staffed by professional bureaucrats with job security.

In addition,  
executive offices  
grew into a huge, powerful, and  
complex agencies.



They all were created as  
*responses*  
to  
*immediate* pressure.



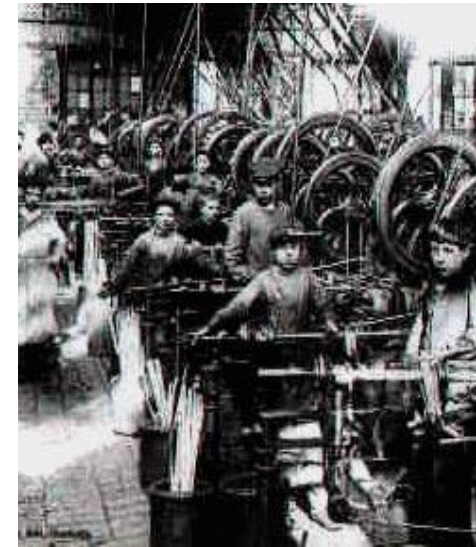
None was structured to have  
a systematic and consistent  
foresight capability.



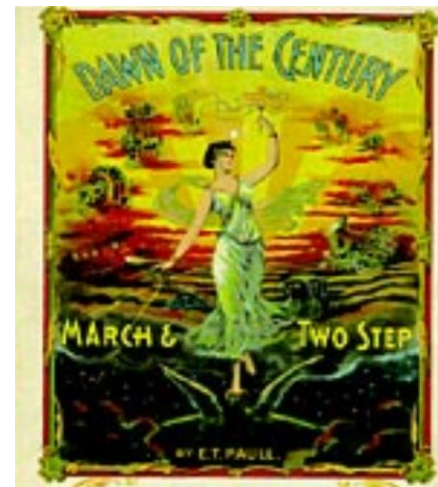
But why should they?



There was absolutely no doubt what the future of America, or Japan, or Germany, or Korea *should be* from the mid 1860s onward.



*The official future,*  
towards which  
every ounce of energy,  
every penny of money,  
every brain cell, and  
every muscle was devoted was  
**Continued Economic Growth.**





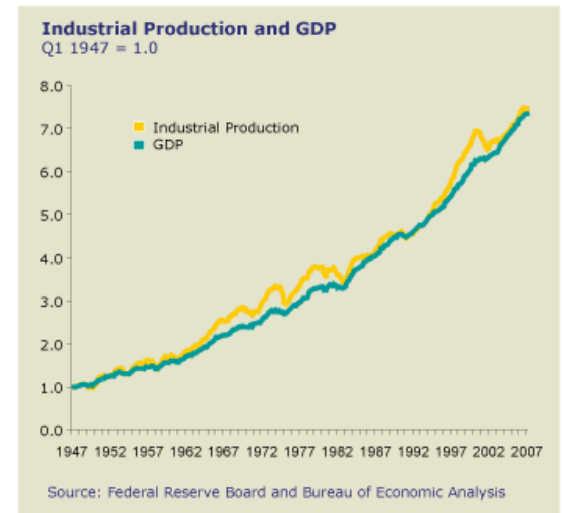
**The entire purpose of all modern institutions**

from government to the family

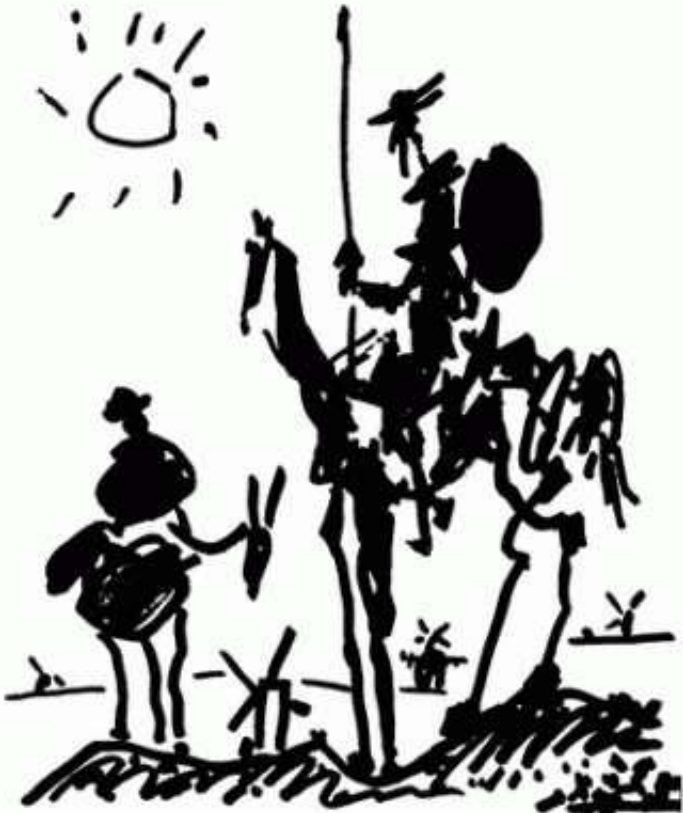
**was to produce people and processes**

**that would keep the nation and the economy growing.**

ever and perpetually growing,  
getting bigger,  
more prosperous,  
more developed,  
world without end.



So why have a  
Ministry of Foresight  
when the future is  
so clearly known?





All of the government's attention  
could be devoted to  
doing whatever is necessary  
to keep  
the economy growing.



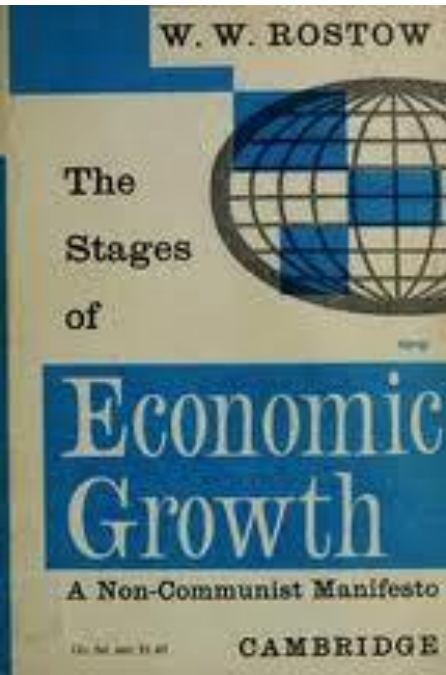


There were, moreover, basically only

**two paths**

by which a national economy could grow.





One path was to follow

## “The Stages of Economic Growth”

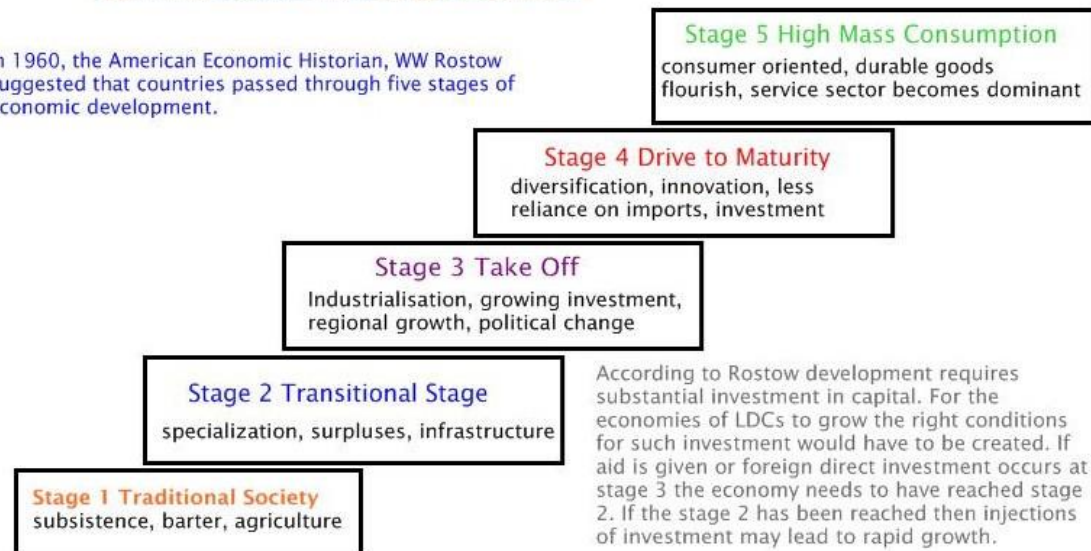
first exhibited by the UK, Germany, France,  
and the US,

as explained by W. W. Rostow and others.

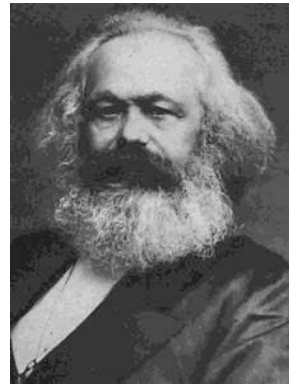
Rostow's Model - the Stages of Economic Development

<http://www.bized.co.uk/virtual/dc/copper/theory/th9.htm>

In 1960, the American Economic Historian, WW Rostow suggested that countries passed through five stages of economic development.



The other way was to follow the path  
revealed by Karl Marx,



pioneered by Vladimir Lenin, Joseph Stalin,  
and Mao Zedong,



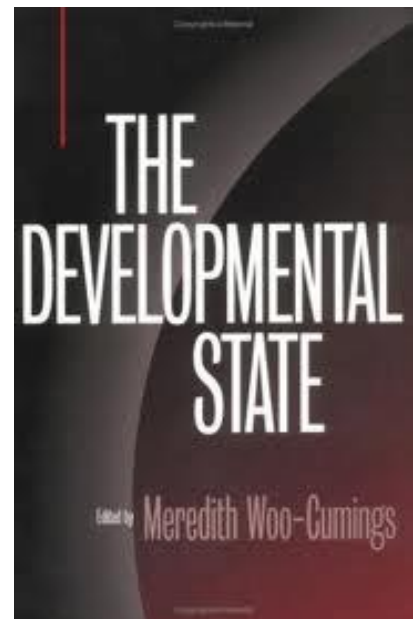
as exemplified by the Soviet Union and China,

or as re-imagined  
by Kim Il Sung  
in North Korea.



It was not easy for nations to “develop”.

But it was not “rocket science” either.



All you had to do was  
**get rid of traditional values and institutions,**  
**and then carefully follow the path laid out**  
by the proper ideology and policy  
**while paying close attention**  
to the ever-changing present,





and eventually your nation would

“catch up”

with the “Advanced Nations”,

while the “advanced nations”  
would continue to advance.



This was the condition of governance and foresight  
until the end of the Great Depression of the 1930s  
and, for most of the world,  
**the end of the Second World War in 1945.**

For most of the “advanced” world,

**1945-1960**

was a period of

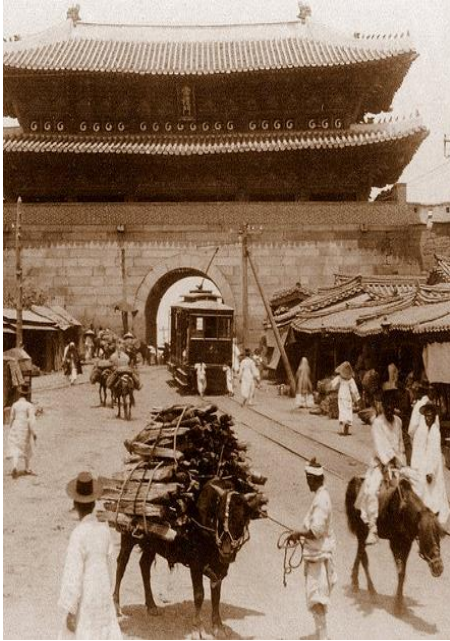
postwar and post-depression

**recovery and economic growth**

**via massive governmental**

**coordination, planning and legislation.**





The same was basically true  
for Korea  
after the end of fighting  
on the peninsula in 1953.



The next phase,  
**1960-1980**  
was a period when

*national government experts planned for*  
*The Future*  
of *national economic growth,*  
*via either communism or capitalism.*

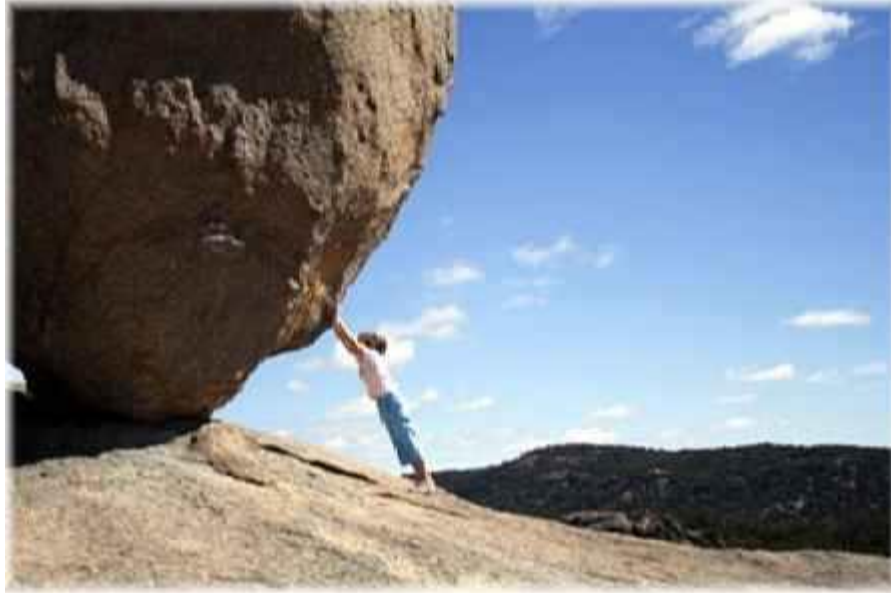
The Communist path towards

**national economic growth  
via government planning**

lasted about five years longer,

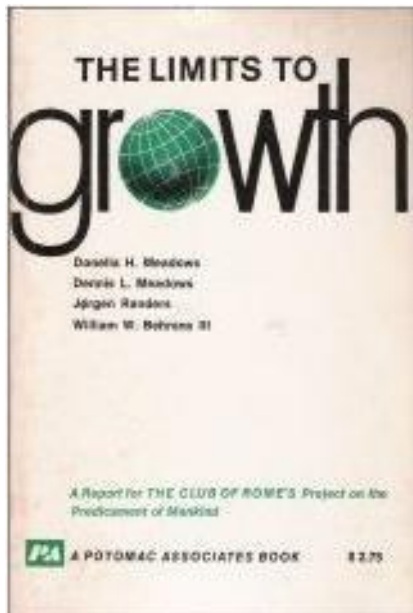
and then eventually ended  
with the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1989-90.

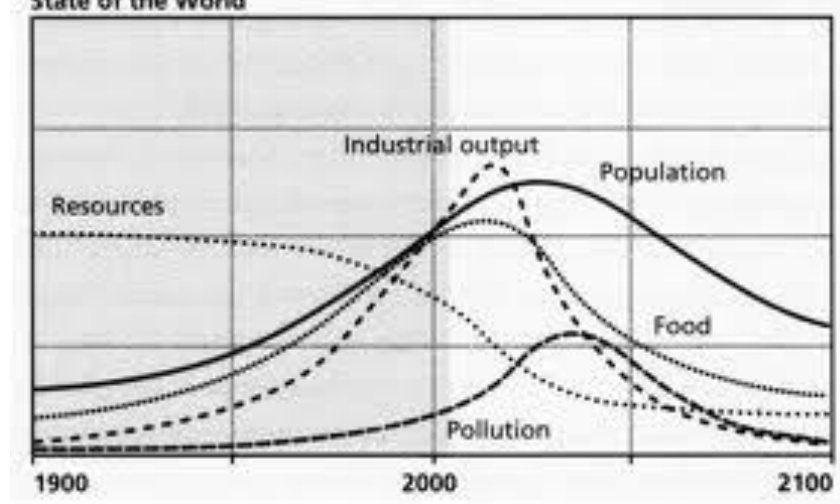
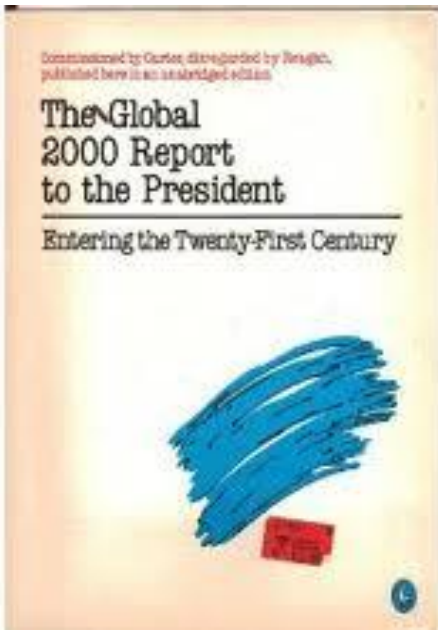




In the 1960s,  
a few scholars first became aware  
that the pace of social change  
was accelerating,  
and permanently so.

Endless economic growth fueled by  
endless **technological change** caused  
rapid national and global **population growth**,  
along with serious **environmental, energy,**  
**and resource challenges**,  
led to the dawning awareness of  
*the “limits to growth”*.

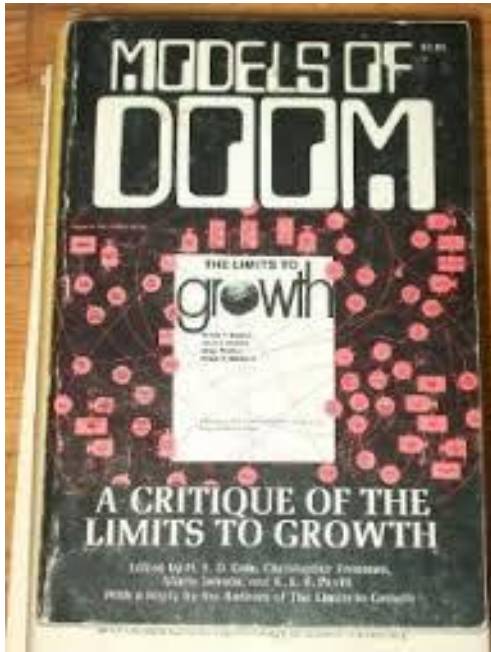




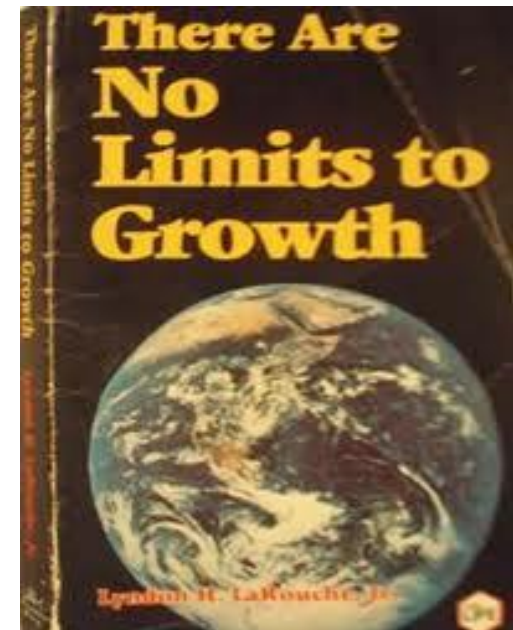
Many governments enacted policies seeking to “balance”

the opposing forces for growth and the forces calling for restraint.





The forces for  
unrestrained economic growth  
were vastly stronger  
and were always victorious.



**Governments**  
were encouraged to establish  
**“Lookouts”**  
**and “Institutions of Foresight”**  
to advise them how to make public policies  
on the basis of the futures,  
and not just on the past or present.

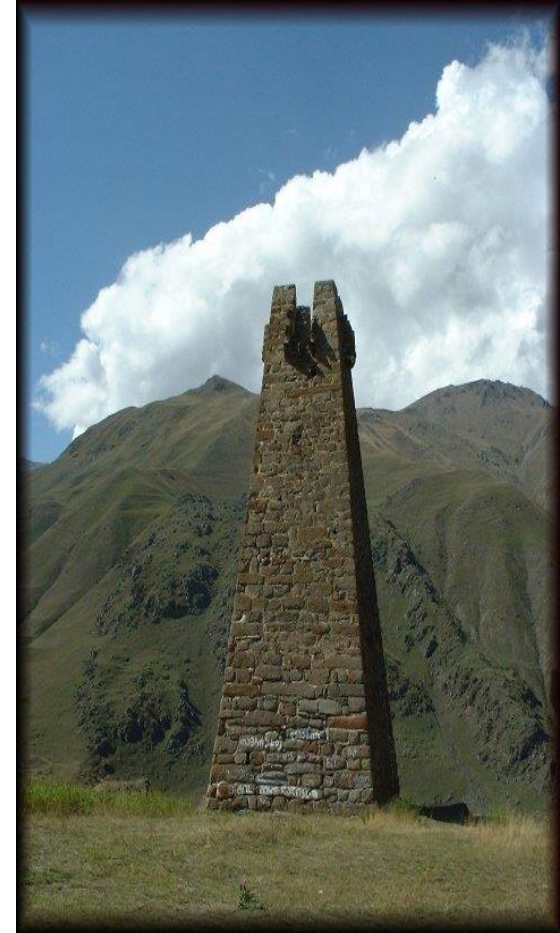
The Art of  
Conjecture

Bertrand de Jouvenel

*Translated from the French by Nikita Lary*

BASIC BOOKS, INC., PUBLISHERS

*New York*





## congressional clearinghouse on the future

555 house annex #2      washington, d.c. 20515      (202) 226-3434

(SAMPLE OF LETTER THAT WENT TO ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERS)

Robert Edgar  
Chairman

David Cochran  
Vice Chairman

Executive Committee  
Berkley Bedell  
Newt Gingrich  
Albert Gore  
William Lehman  
Gillis Long  
Charlie Rose  
Phil Sharp  
Timothy Wirth

Advisory Committee

March 10, 1983

TO: Berkley Bedell  
Newt Gingrich  
Albert Gore  
William Lehman  
Gillis Long  
Charlie Rose  
Phil Sharp  
Timothy Wirth

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CONGRESS

by the  
OFFICE OF  
TECHNOLOGY  
ASSESSMENT

MARCH 15, 1978

Most institutions of foresight during this first period were focused on increasing the abilities of *governments* to look ahead in order to enact policies in part on the basis of anticipated challenges and opportunities.

# 40+10 Years of Foresight

**THE FUTURE** is everything we can imagine: the fearsome, the inspiring, the inevitable, the essential. 40 years ago, our founders imagined a world in which it would be possible to improve human lives and build better institutions by thinking systematically about the future. Today, we call this practice **ForeSight to InSight to ActiOn**.

**WORLD OF CHANGE**  
Our imaginations have led us through four decades of world-changing social and technological innovation.

**UNIVERSITY OF FORESIGHT**  
Our founders were visionaries who saw the power of computer networks to build collective intelligence—and recognized the critical need to bring the intelligence to planning for the future. They assembled experts, aggregated opinions, tabulated cross-impacts, and modeled the results.

**STILL IN OUR FIRST DECADE**, we factored in human communication. The computer became a tool not just for processing exact quantitative data, but a platform for connecting experts in so-called invisible colleges to address the most complex problems of the day. Building the platform and increasing the impacts went hand-in-hand. We changed the horizon of groupware, telehealth, the connected household, the new informed consumer, and 21st century organizations reorganized to thrive in a world of hyperconnectivity.

Along the way, we took a methodological turn. We went out into the world, into people's homes and workplaces. We followed them through their days, along their routes of travel. We were trying to understand the personal ecologies of daily life—the tools and activities that shaped everything from the way people reach their children to the way they manage their health. These intimate ecologies focused us on human issues: on emerging health solutions, global sustainability, our expanding encounter with our ability to re-engineer ourselves.

As that frontier tapers, so our computer-based community also broadens its true face: a new bottom-up medium for human expression. We found narratives embedded once again in collective consciousness—not as much by experts this time as by young people, people from around the world, people who are doing what we do. Thinking about the future.

**SOFTLIM**  
This is the threshold for the next ten years, for the decade that will take us to our half-century mark. We first ourselves again reexamining the **tools** of our practice. Blogs, which alternate reality games. These are the **new platforms** for a new, more real-time based forecasting—not using the wisdom of the many to engage the coming century.



**WORLD CLIMATE CHANGE AND VARIABILITY**  
Roy Amara and Hubert Lignicki lead the Institute's work on the dynamics of long-term growth.

**WORLD CLIMATE CHANGE AND VARIABILITY**  
Roy Amara and Hubert Lignicki lead the Institute's work on the dynamics of long-term growth.

**HEALTH CARE OUTLOOK**  
Roy Amara and Ian Morrison launch an annual forecast for the health care industry.

**THE FUTURE OF TELEPHONY**  
Andrew Sauer establishes IFT's new revenue focus on the phone as an instrument of change.

**THE DELIGHT METHOD**  
Old Halpern develops the Delight Method for assessing user experience.

**CRISIS-IMPACT ANALYSIS**  
Old Halpern defines a game-like process for assessing interdependencies of forecasts.

**SOCIAL EVALUATION OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES**  
Old Halpern brings a sociological perspective to assessing new computer and communication technologies.

**SOCIAL INDICATORS**  
David Linton leads the development of social indicators as a methodology of human well-being.

**Mathematical Modeling**  
Roy Anderson, Hubert Lignicki, and others explore a range of mathematical modeling techniques to address issues from a day.

**Simulation & Role Playing**  
Roy Anderson, Hubert Lignicki, and others explore a range of simulation and role playing techniques to address issues from a day.

**Survey Research**  
Andrew Sauer explores applying survey research techniques to anticipate the future.

**Ethnographic Futures**  
Chris Clark, Jan English-Locke and others explore the foundation for IFT's ethnographic practice, using anthropological techniques to explore how users see a "future culture".

**Mapping the Future Landscape**  
Roy Anderson, Hubert Lignicki, and others explore the art of envisioning future objects as a way to understand present choices.

**Artifacts of the Future**  
Roy Anderson, Hubert Lignicki, and others explore the art of envisioning future objects as a way to understand present choices.

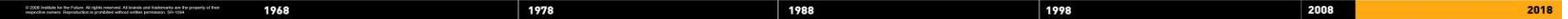
**Blogs & Wikis**  
Roy Anderson, Hubert Lignicki, and others explore the art of envisioning future objects as a way to understand present choices.

**Signals**  
Roy Anderson, Hubert Lignicki, and others explore the art of envisioning future objects as a way to understand present choices.

**Forecasting**  
Roy Anderson, Hubert Lignicki, and others explore the art of envisioning future objects as a way to understand present choices.

**Maximally-Multiplayer**  
Roy Anderson, Hubert Lignicki, and others explore the art of envisioning future objects as a way to understand present choices.

**Human-Future Interactions**  
Roy Anderson, Hubert Lignicki, and others explore the art of envisioning future objects as a way to understand present choices.



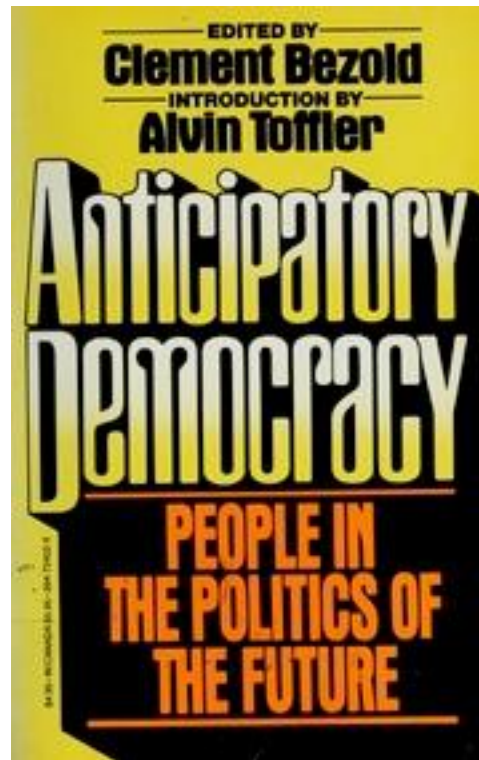
# Foresight institutions aimed at helping corporations in the private sector grow vis-a-vis other corporations were of *secondary importance* during this time.



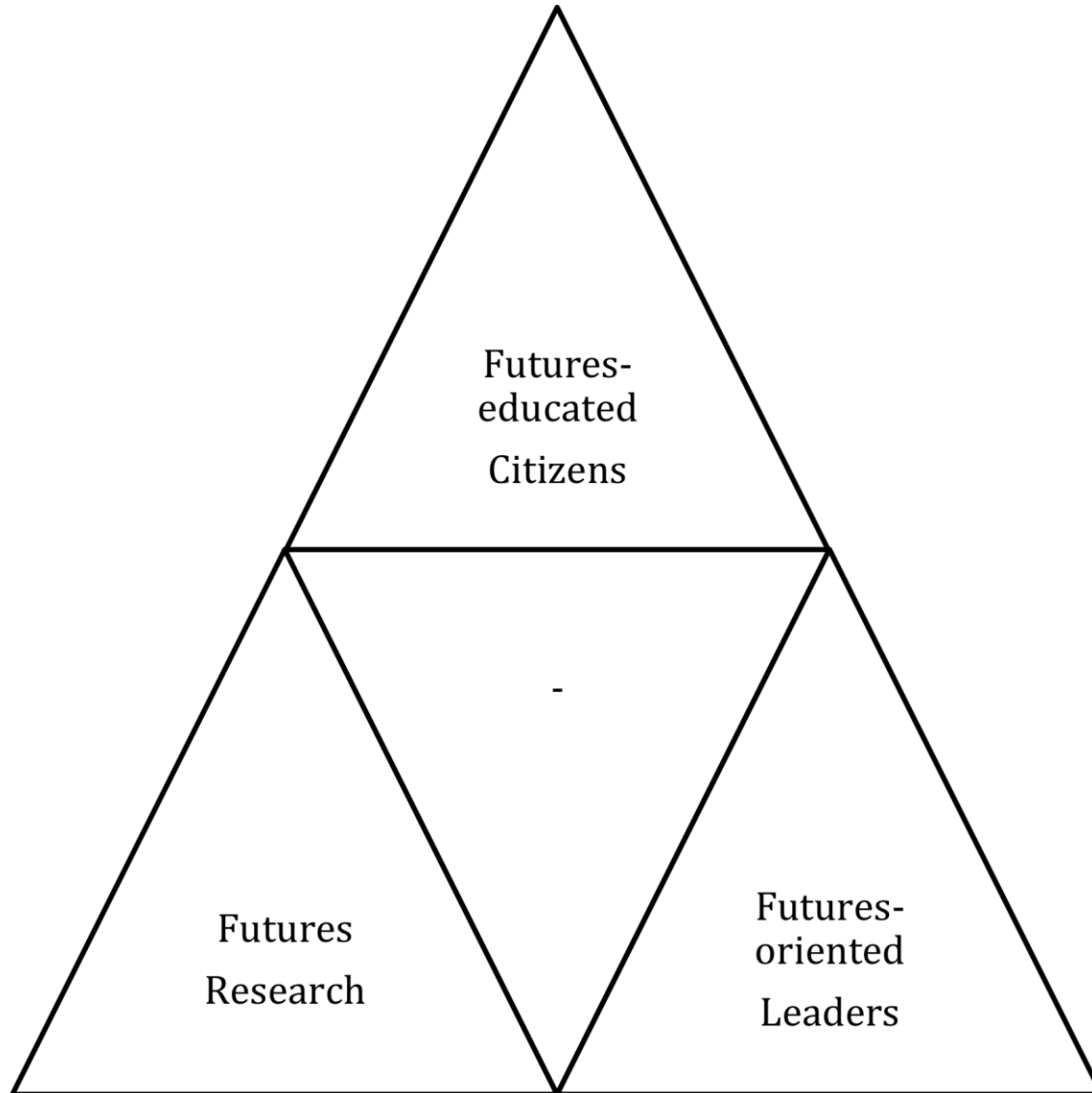
In 1970, Alvin Toffler  
introduced the concept of

**“AD”**

**“Anticipatory Democracy”**



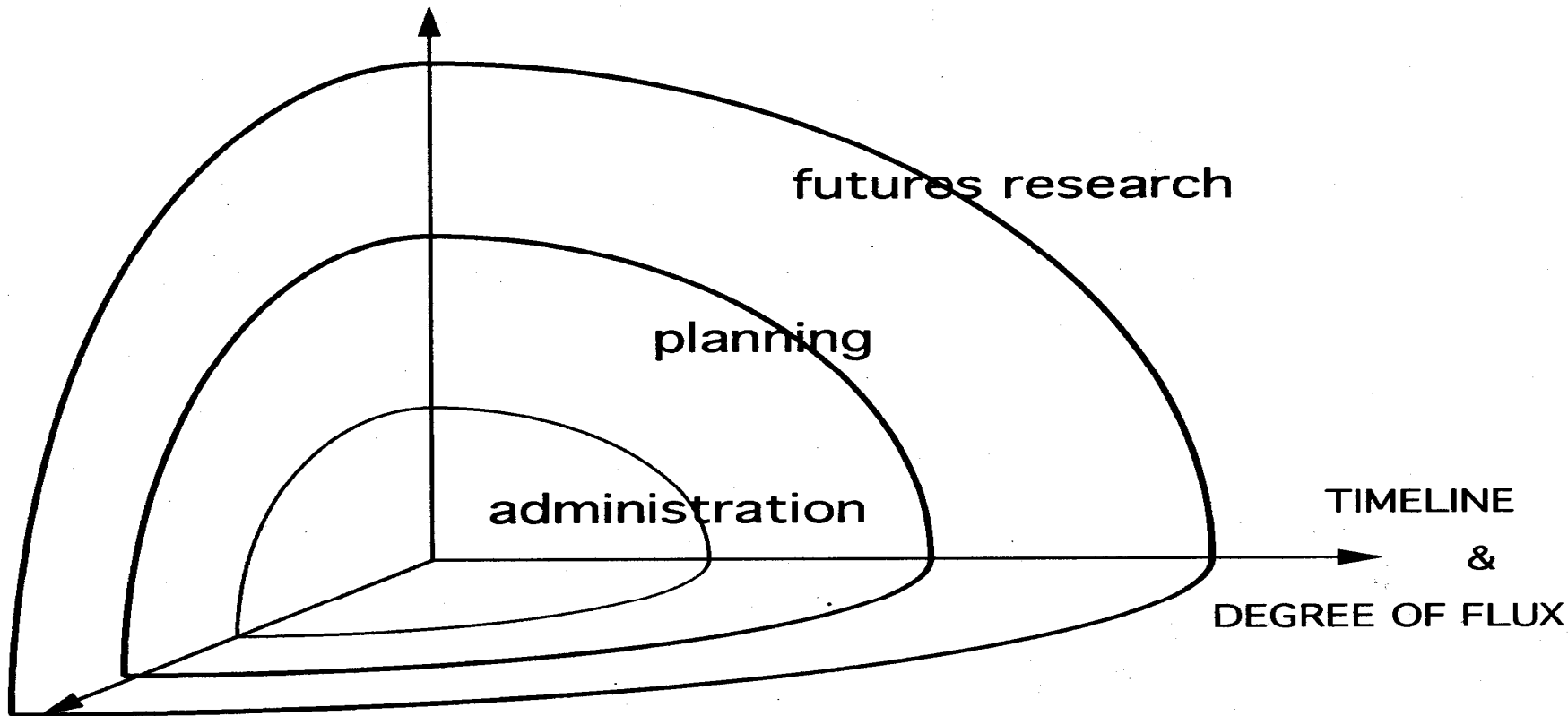
**AD— a new form of democracy based on  
a triangle of futures-oriented institutions and people:**



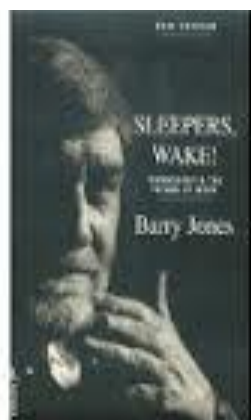
**Foresight exercises were to be undertaken**

**before doing planning,**  
which was then to guide  
day-to-day decision-making by public administrators.

DEGREE OF PARTICIPATION



MAGNITUDE OF INTENDED ACTIONS

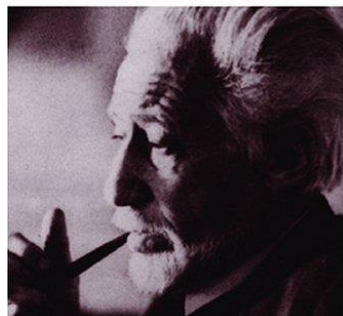


Institutions of foresight  
were created in many countries  
during the 1970s  
in legislatures  
administrative offices,  
and, most interestingly,  
in judiciaries.

LIBRARY OF MODERN THINKERS

BERTRAND  
DE JOUVENEL

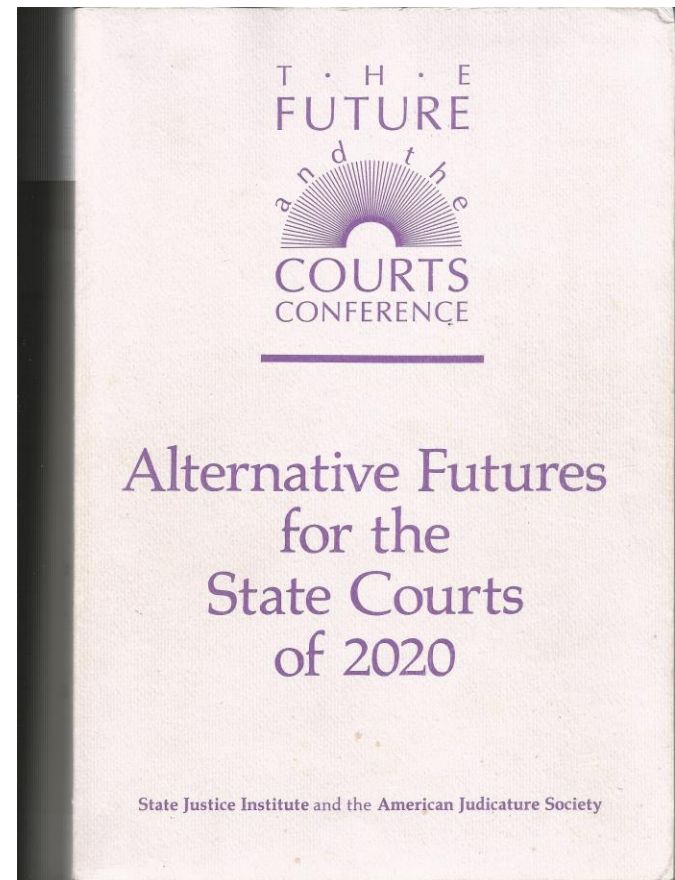
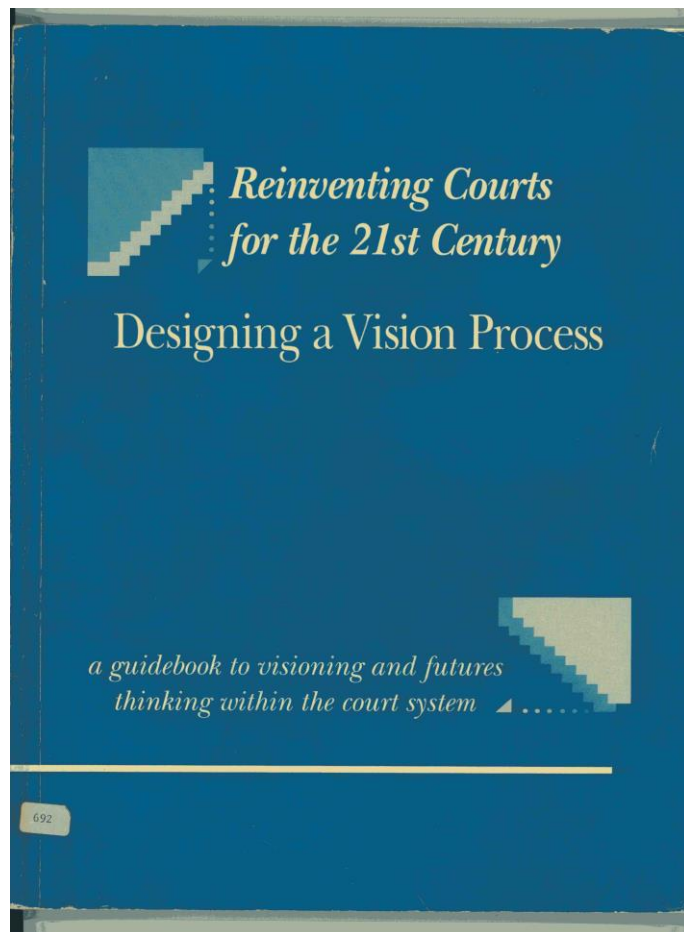
Daniel J. Mahoney



 Institute for  
FUTURES STUDIES

Torbjörn Lundqvist

**The Emergence of  
Foresight Activities in  
Swedish Government  
Authorities**



While judicial foresight  
was “invented”  
in the courts of Hawaii,  
and spread worldwide,

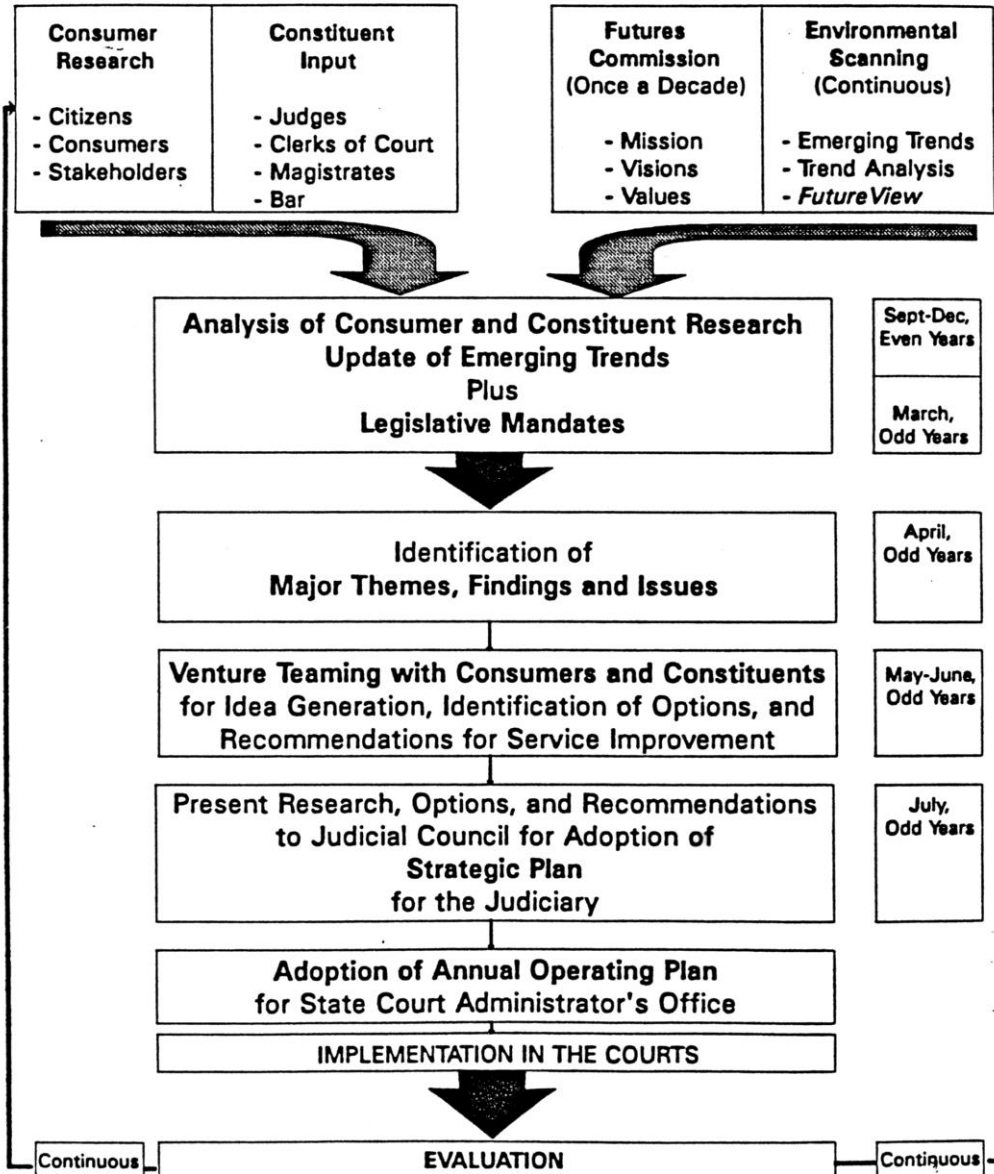


the Commonwealth of Virginia  
and the nation of Singapore  
engaged in extensive judicial futures activities  
for several decades.



# THE JUDICIARY'S STRATEGIC PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

VIRGINIA

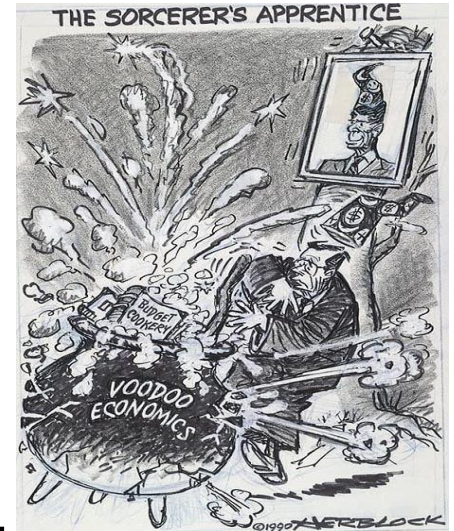




Nonetheless, most institutions of governance during this phase remained profoundly unfutures-oriented: constantly reacting to what others did to them.



The rise and global spread of what  
Republican George H. W. Bush ridiculed as  
“*voodoo economics*”



**in 1980**

**marked the end of the period of**  
*national economic growth guided by government experts*  
sometimes informed  
by governmental foresight activities,  
  
and the beginning of the next period  
—a stark contrast to the decades before.

**From 1980 to either 2016 or 2020**

**corporations replaced governments  
in competing for dominance**

***in The Future  
global economy  
by “chasing S&T”.***

a term coined in

*“Homo economicus: from planning  
to chasing technology and innovation”*

*(“Foresight in governments – practices and trends around the world”)*

*by Iana Dreyer and Gerald Stang,  
Yearbook of European Security, 2013, p. 13*

**Foresight,**  
whether done by governments  
or, increasingly, by the private sector,  
**was from 1980 onward primarily focused on**  
**enabling *multinational corporations***  
and other private economic actors  
**to compete**  
in the increasingly  
*technologically-driven global economy.*



From 1980 onward  
**policies of most advanced governments  
were greatly *influenced by corporations*  
seeking to gain  
global wealth and market share  
from other corporations.**

As Charlie Wilson,  
Chairman and CEO of General Motors said:

“What is good for General Motors  
is good for America”.

**GENERAL MOTORS GOLDEN FIVE for '58**

PRESENTED HERE are five typical offerings of 1958 automobiles from our five car Divisions in celebration of the fiftieth year of General Motors. They are automobiles that — to be worthy of this event — were dedicated to surpass their own traditions. And, while each maintains its own personality, all five cars benefit — as does the public — from the combined ingenuity of their own engineering staffs and the styling, research, development and testing resources of General Motors.

From the General Motors Technical Center comes a steady flow of advanced engineering and design developments — basic betterments in transmissions and engines — new ideas in comfort and safety features — new concepts in styling and appointments. It is this General Motors leadership which has created such outstanding values in the cars now ready for your inspection in the showrooms of GM dealers. They offer you, we believe, the widest selection and the most satisfying motoring to be found today.

*The GM Golden Anniversary Chevrolet*

*The GM Golden Anniversary Pontiac*

*The GM Golden Anniversary Oldsmobile*

*The GM Golden Anniversary Buick*

*The GM Golden Anniversary Cadillac*

1908  
GM  
1958

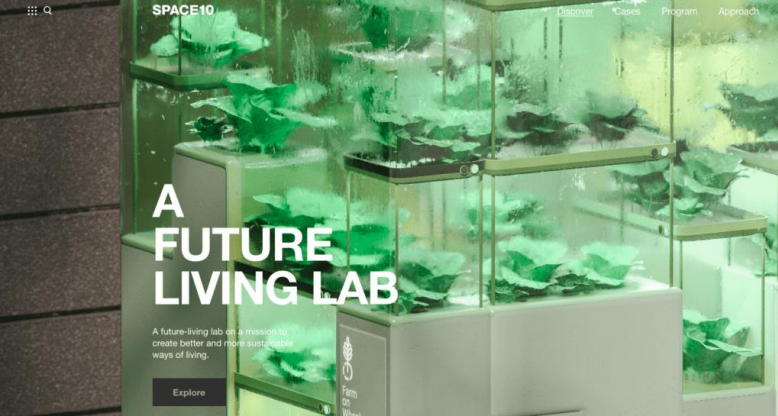
FROM THE PROGRESS OF THE PAST... THE PROMISE OF THE FUTURE.

*History of Samsung (6):  
Entering the Global marketplace 1981~1983*



Samsung said the same for Korea.





*Very little social or environmental foresight was exercised by either governments or corporations during this period.*



**Corporations engaged in competitive short-range foresight**

chasing “the next new thing”  
as it emerged from science and technology research labs  
so they might exploit it for their profit.

**Private foresight flourished  
while governmental foresight declined**  
to almost nothing in the United States,

to some significance in Europe and other western nations,  
with only a few small and globally-attuned nations—

especially **Finland and Singapore** in the lead—

### **Tulevaisuusvaliokunta**



So what might be the futures  
of governance, economics, and foresight?

Here again there seem to be  
two major alternatives,



depending on how current events unfold:

EITHER

2016--onward,

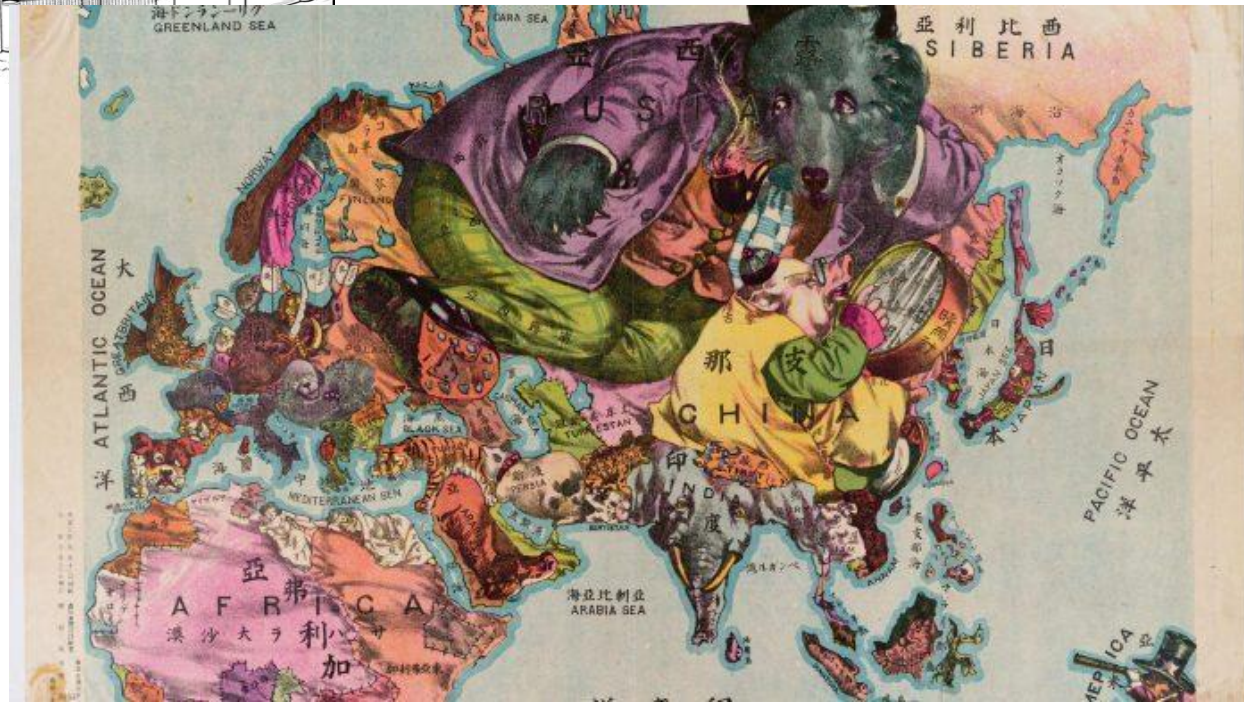
Autocratic nations brawling blindly behind barricades  
oblivious to  
engulfing global tsunami of change;

OR

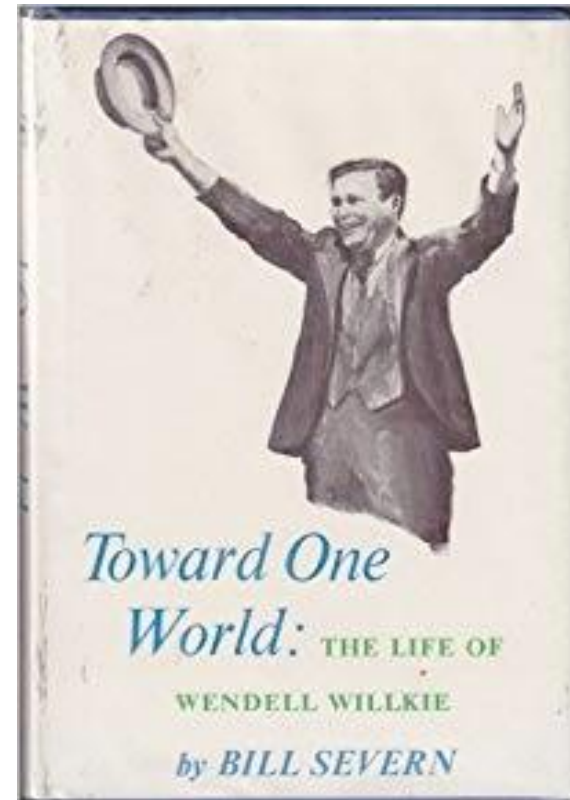
2020--onward,

Anticipatory democracies  
continuously struggling to co-design  
Preferred Futures  
fit for the global Anthropocene Epoch.

**First, 2016--onward,**  
**Autocratic nations brawling blindly behind barricades**  
**oblivious to engulfing global tsunami of change.**



Even during the darkest days  
of the Second World War,  
some politicians, such as  
Republican presidential candidate,  
Wendell Willkie,  
were dreaming of *One World*  
—some kind of a global commons  
democratically governed.



However, as we saw, instead,  
from 1945 until about 1960,  
nations were mostly focused on  
their own national economic growth,  
guided by national political leaders.



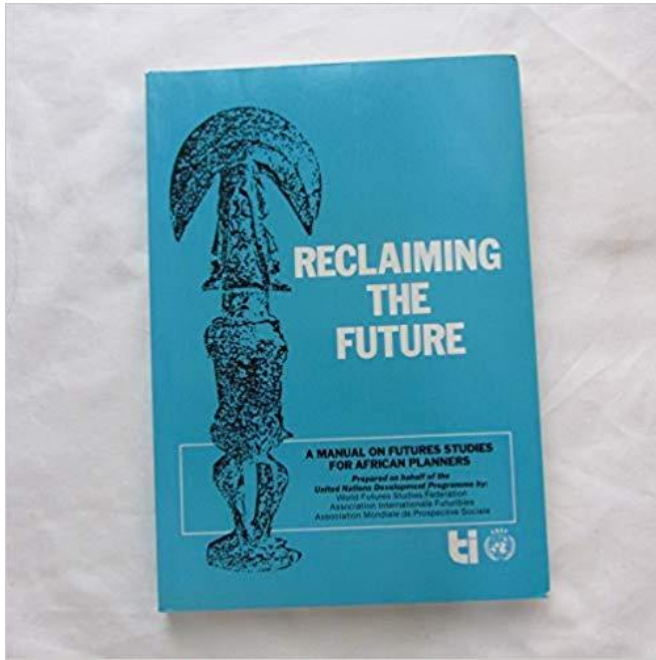


But also during this time,  
global, cooperative, and peace-oriented institutions  
such as the United Nations,



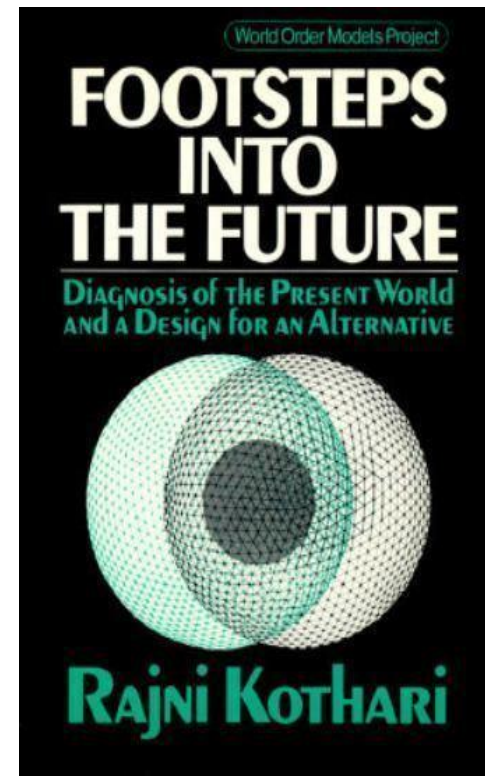
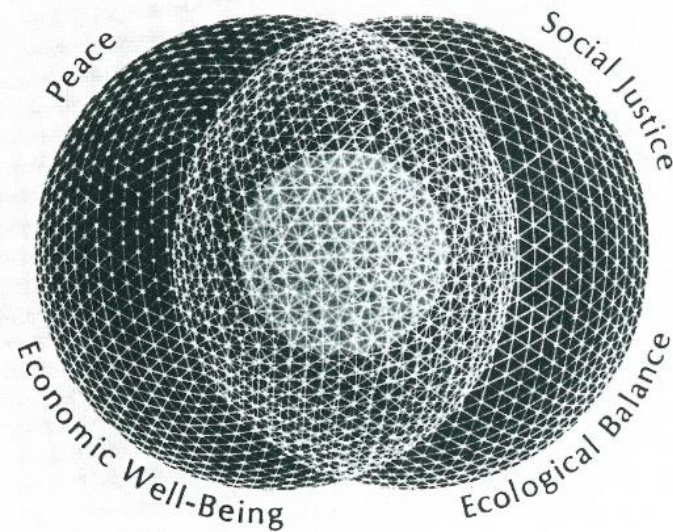
and transnational regional institutions  
such as SEATO and the European Union  
were created.





The UNDP and UNESCO  
both created globally-oriented  
futures research units





Global futures-oriented academic and activist movements, such as WOMP The World Order Model Project also flourished.



**This was not in any way supposed to be  
Global Governance.**

But it was not typical  
governance by sovereign nations either.



Governments were to become weaker and weaker  
as the global corporate sector grew in power and influence,  
until, perhaps,  
the State would indeed “fade away”  
as Karl Marx himself predicted  
—though by different processes.



GLOBALIZATION

©2016



Various global institutions such as  
The World Bank, and  
The International Monetary Fund

increasingly exercised powers that exceeded those  
of even the largest and most prominent nation-states.









Nonetheless even during this period of globalization there were many voices in opposition, increasingly desiring to preserve and return to values and institutions that made their nation-state Great Again,



culminating in 2016

when people once considered marginal and absurd

suddenly gained significant power  
through national elections,

such as

Jimmie Akesson, Andrej Babis, Kristian Thulesen Dahl,  
Rodrigo Duterte, Norbert Hofer, Diane James,  
Jaroslaw Kaczynski, Koike Yoriko, Marine Le Pen,  
Li Keqiang, Sylvi Listhaug, Nikos Michaloliakos,  
Narendra Modi, Viktor Orban, Frauke Petry, Vladimir Putin,  
Matteo Salvini, Donald Trump, Timo Soini, Geert Wilder,  
and many more,



These nationalists  
have been warmly praised and embraced  
by the duly-elected president of the United States.



# Has the time of intense nationalism finally returned?

Will the nations of the world become mercantilist, isolated, and hostile to one another for an extended period of time?





Has elite-led, neoliberal economic globalization with its resulting social and environmental miseries

been overcome by patriotic, culture- religion- and tradition-focused nationalism?



**If so, then formal governmental foresight  
may be at an end as well,**

since some of these national leaders

(with the enthusiastic approval of their numerous followers)

**rely on their gut instinct and genius,**

their extraordinary ability  
to close the deal by being  
**continuously disruptive  
and completely unpredictable.**

And even if you, in your nation,  
want to plan rationally for the futures,  
how can you do that if rival nations are  
**purposely**  
acting irrationally and unpredictably?





Nonetheless, global processes  
--especially environmental and technological--  
are continuing unabated,  
well beyond the control of any single nation  
--if they can effectively be under the control  
of humanity at all.

So might we see,  
in response

after 2020,

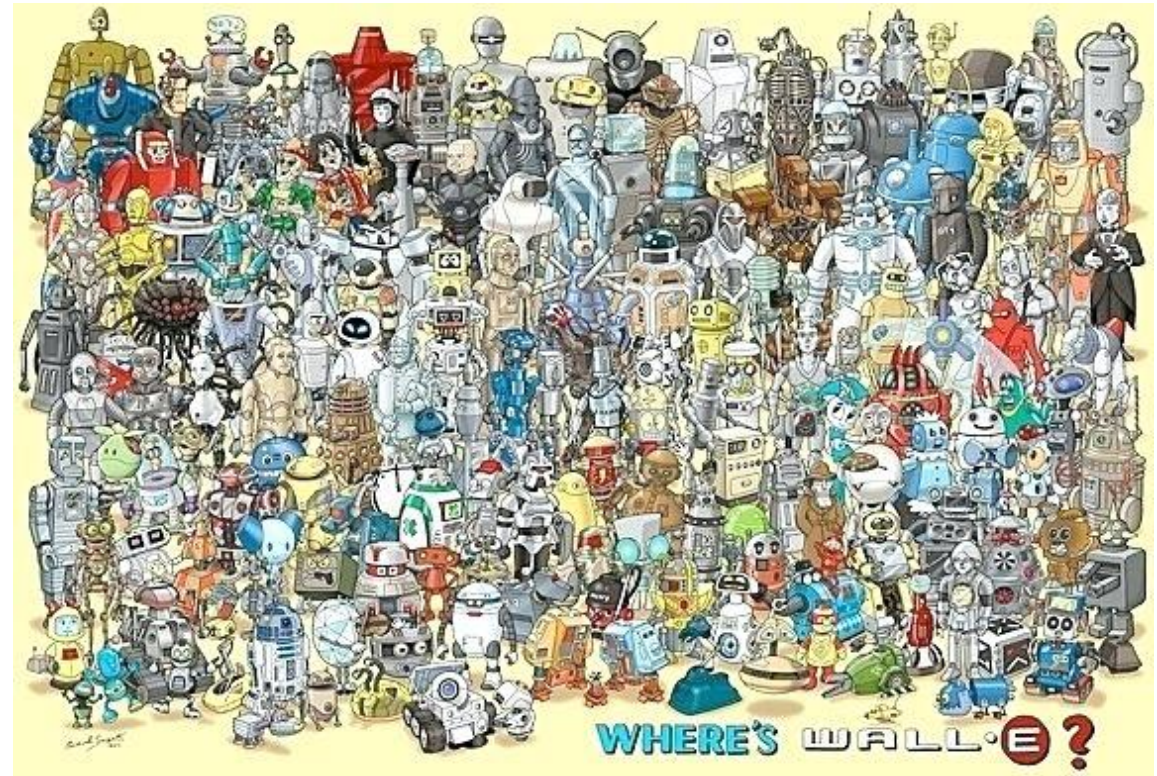
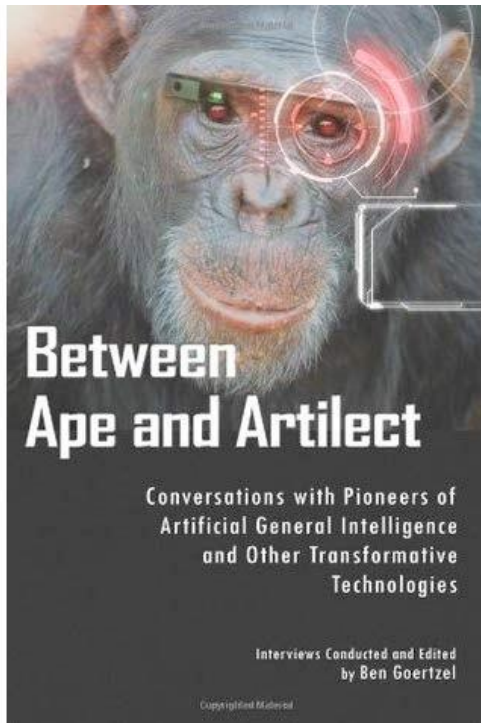
a late flowering of  
Anticipatory Democracy

that is both local and global?

Everyone everywhere in the world  
will be facing overwhelming, novel tsunami.



--the accelerating omnipresence of multitudes  
of autonomous, mobile, evolving,  
**cultures of artificially-intelligent entities**



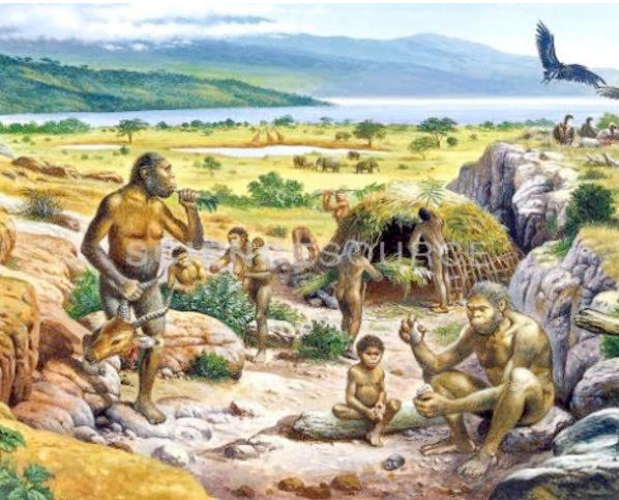


--and accelerating, substantial, unprecedented,  
human-influenced

**global climate change and sea level rise.**



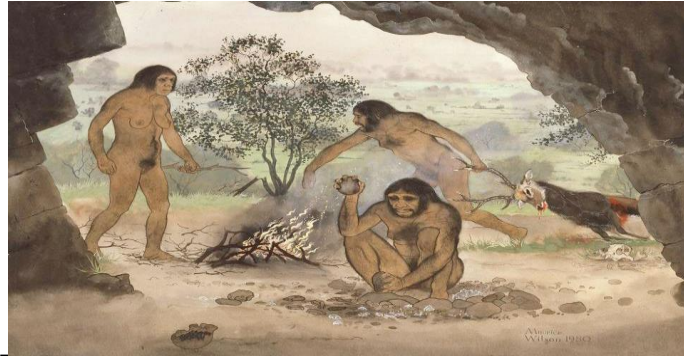
These are among the more dramatic and convincing bits of evidence that **human activities** **have pushed the geology and biosphere of the Earth from the Holocene Epoch,** into which *homo sapiens, sapiens* evolved 12,000 years ago,



**into the Anthropocene Epoch.**



When the Holocene began,  
entirely **natural processes** operated  
wholly without human influence.



Humanity was bounded  
by the operation of those processes,



but over time,  
humans

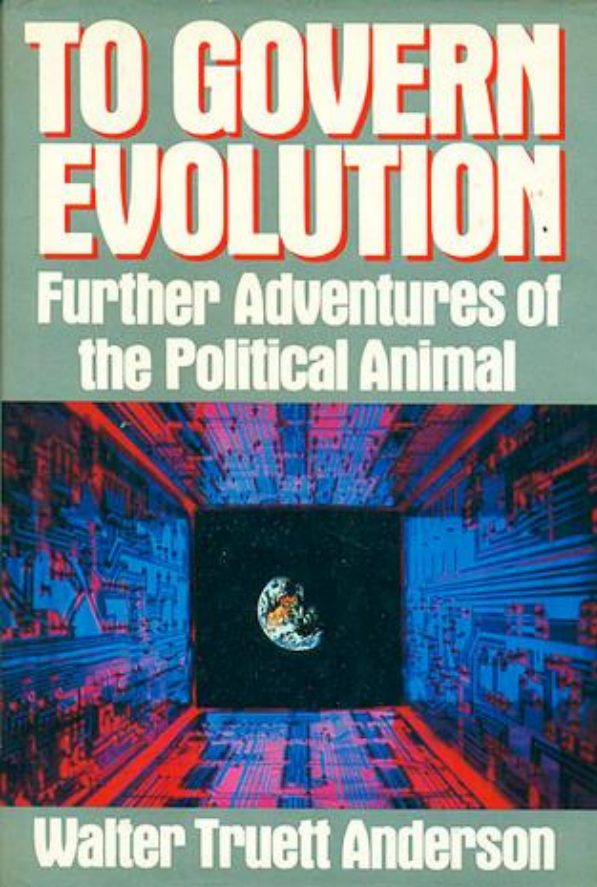


developed impressive power by learning how to use them.



In an evolutionary eye-blink,  
human activities  
**transformed**  
**all so-called natural processes**  
**into increasingly artificial processes.**





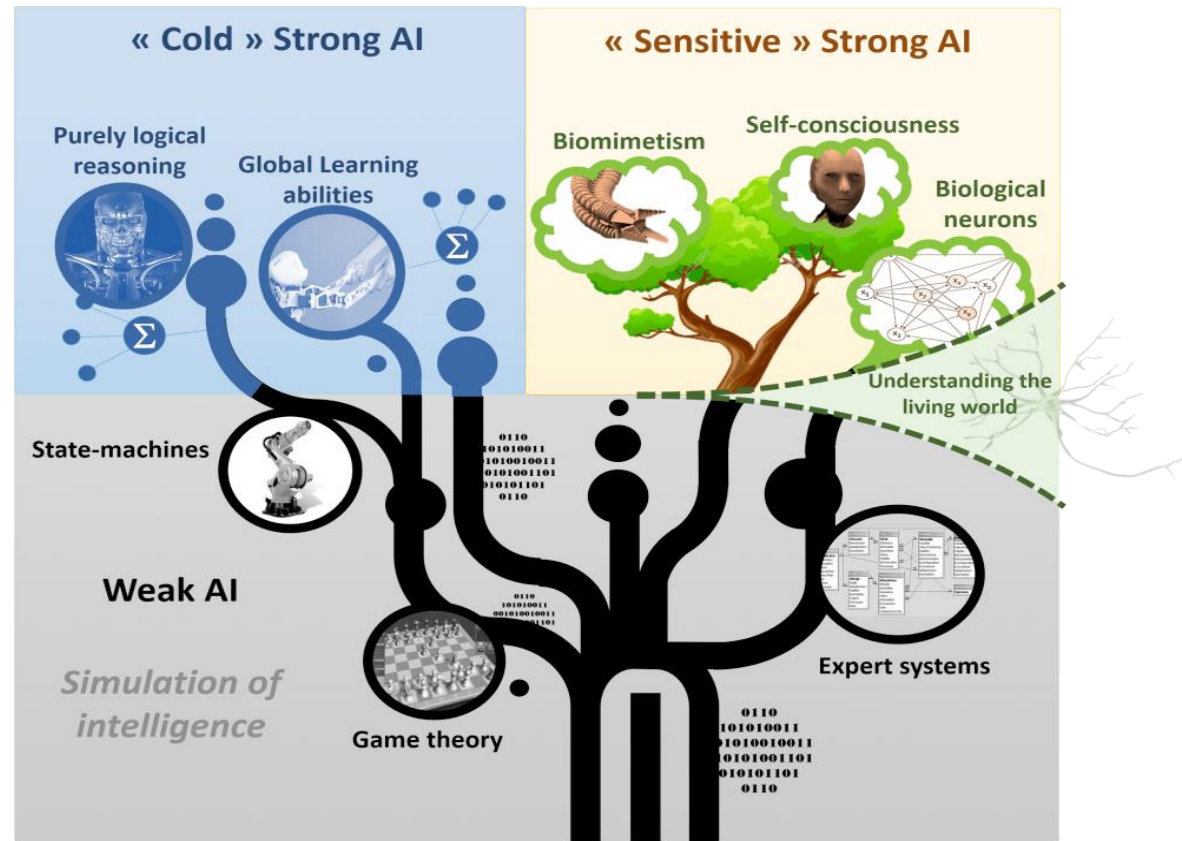
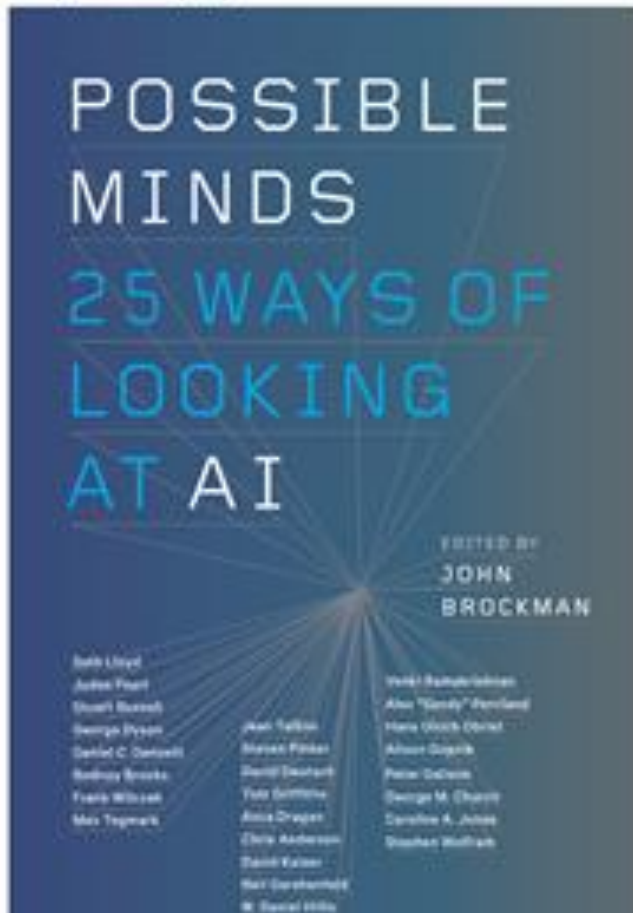
Understanding and guiding

both the continuing natural and  
the human-caused inter-dynamics

is essential.

New ways of thinking, governing, and acting  
are urgently required.

Fortunately, help may be on the way!



I think the evidence for “strong” AI is very compelling.

One of the features of strong AI is

that we are rapidly approaching a situation where **almost all major decisions and actions can be done by artifacts**



whose algorithms and operating code often no human fully understands or controls, but upon which we all must rely.

As AI gets smarter and smarter in so many ways,  
more and more decisions and behavior  
that humans had to do alone,  
or with other intelligent animals,  
will be done jointly with AI and humans thinking together.

Some “Wicked Problems” for us may become  
easy for AI to solve,  
climate change being among them.



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE  
& GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

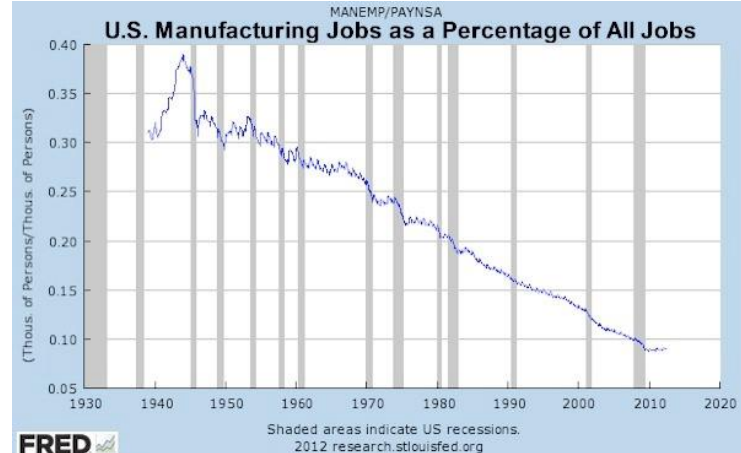
*"The goal of the future is full unemployment,  
so we can play."*

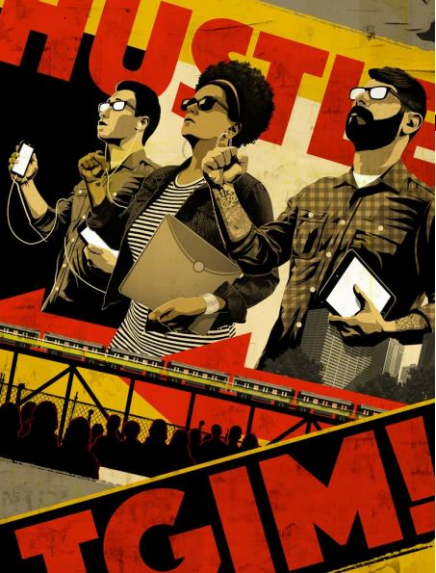


*"That's why we have to destroy the present  
politico-economic system."*

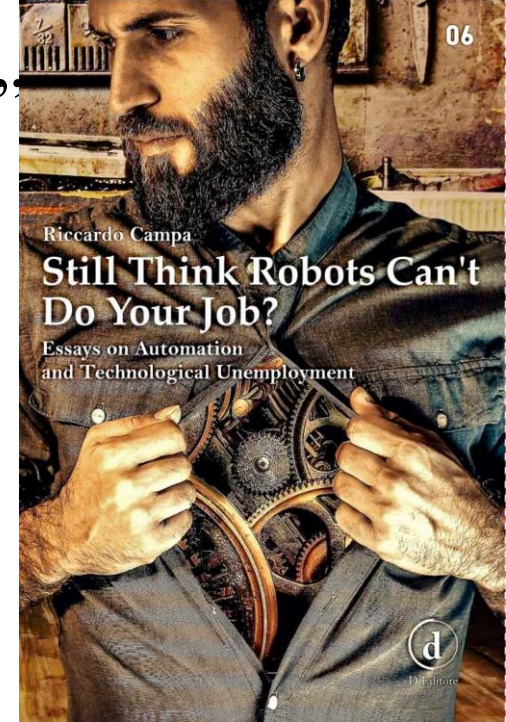
*- Arthur C. Clarke*

Another implication of strong AI is  
**the end of work and jobs**  
as a major focus of human life;





Some people may have to “work”  
some of the time,



but most people may not work at all,  
or very much of the time.





Among other things this means that education needs to shift from preparing people to “work”

**to preparing people  
to live meaningful, peaceful,  
intellectually and emotionally  
satisfying lives**



**without “working”.**



It also means that  
we must urgently begin serious discussions about

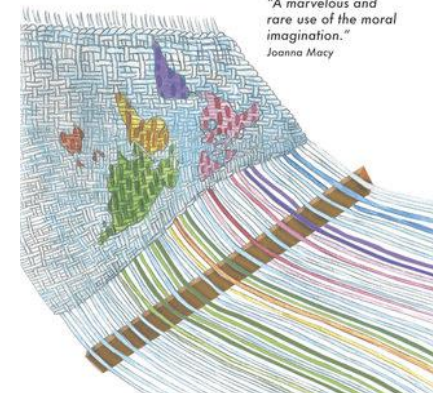
**designing ways  
by which people  
may gain fair access  
to goods and services  
produced without their labor.**



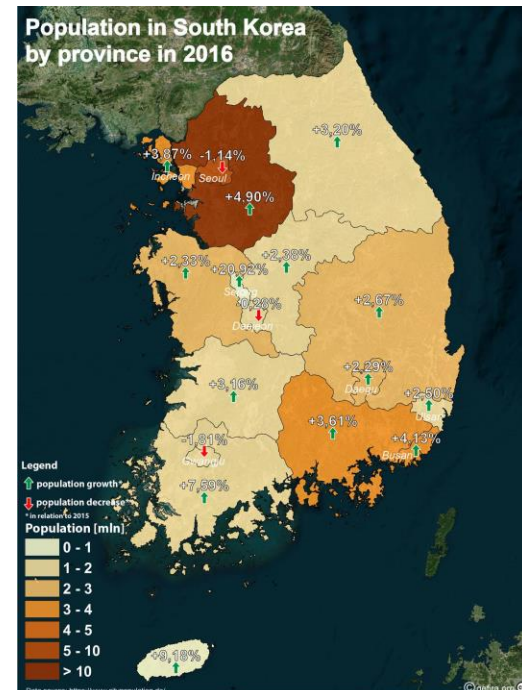
Reweaving  
Our Human Fabric  
Working Together to Create  
a Nonviolent Future

Miki Kashtan

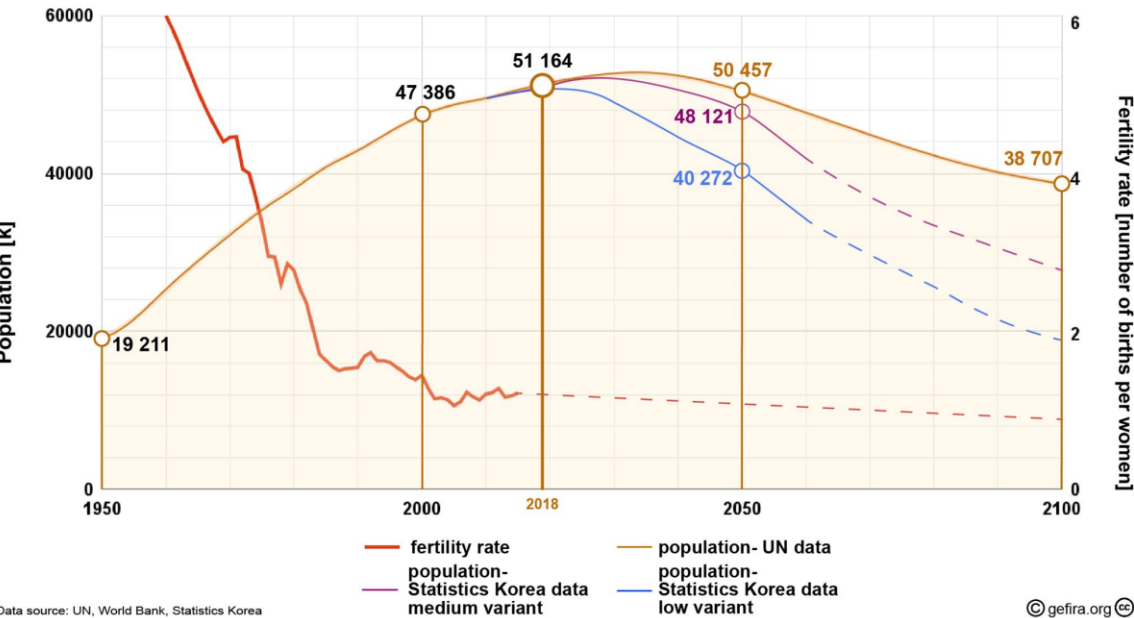
*"A marvelous and  
rare use of the moral  
imagination."  
Joanna Macy*



While global population is still increasing dangerously,  
in many parts of the world,  
including Korea,  
population is decreasing.



## Population in South Korea

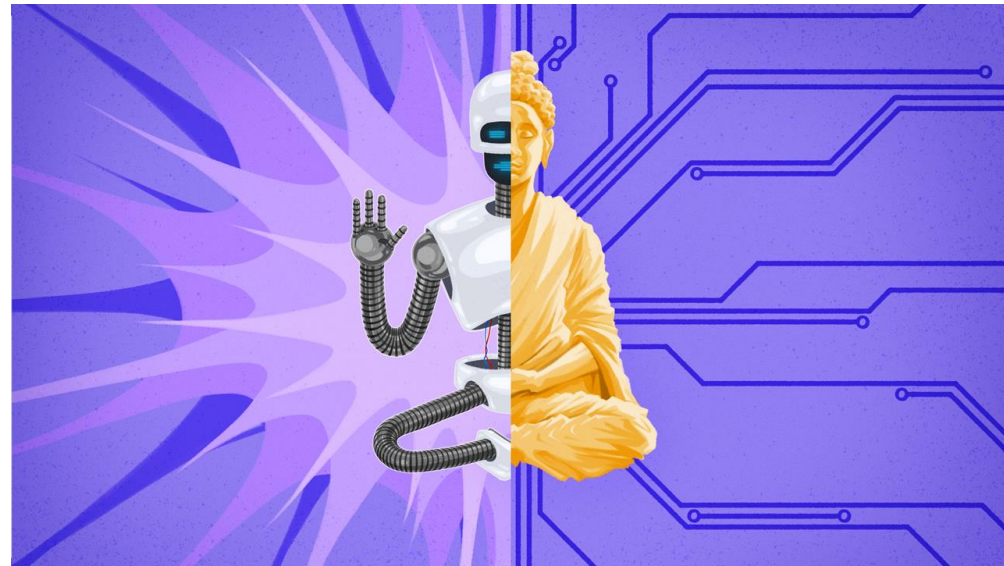
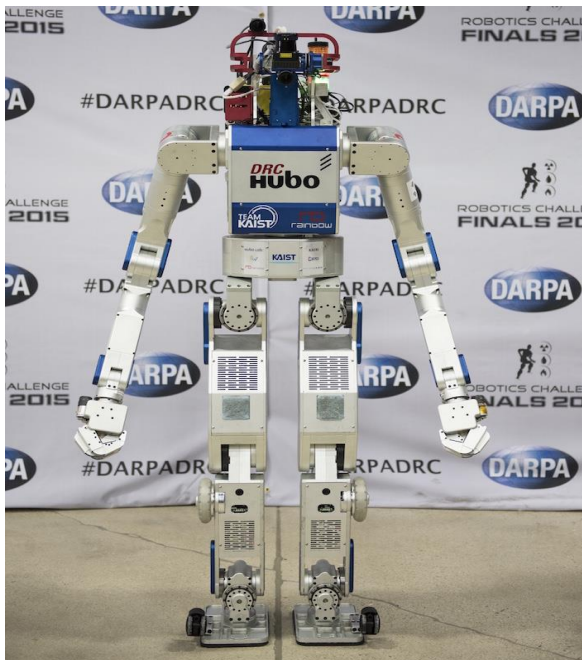


Some people think this is  
tragic  
because  
until recently  
people were needed

to keep the economy growing

But at the same time,  
many people are worried that  
robots will take all our jobs;

that there will be vast unemployment.



But aren't robots a solution to our concern about  
declining population?

**When population was growing,  
it made sense for the economy to grow also,**

**but it makes no sense to keep the economy growing  
if the population is declining,**

and if most people are needed  
as consumers

and not as producers!



So, instead of “earning a living” by working,  
humans can peacefully and cooperatively  
learn how  
To Govern Evolution.

Obsolete processes of law and governance,



such as the pompously combative  
Anglo-American “Adversarial System”  
that declares you are  
either the winner  
or the loser,  
and the winner takes all,



must be replaced by systems  
based on fairness, participation, conflict avoidance and  
resolution, sharing, and cooperation.

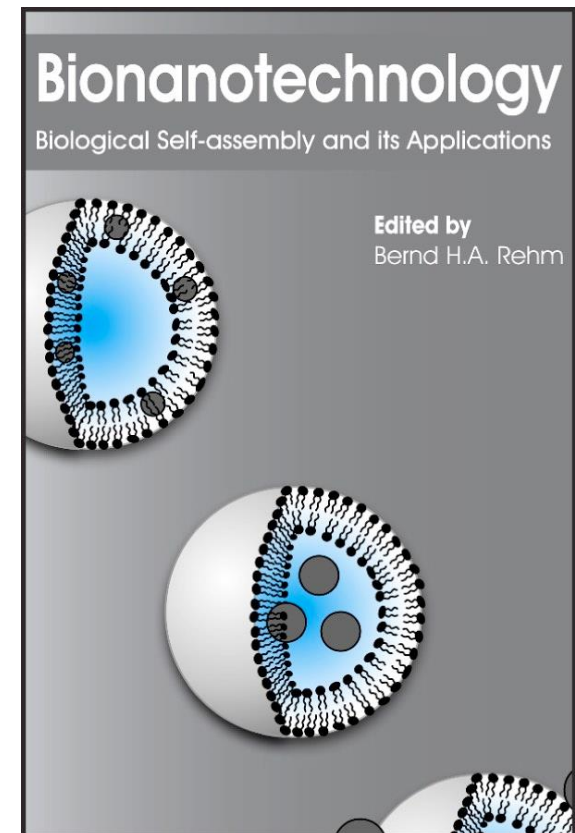




While climate change and artifacts  
are two major drivers of change,  
and deserve your keen attention,

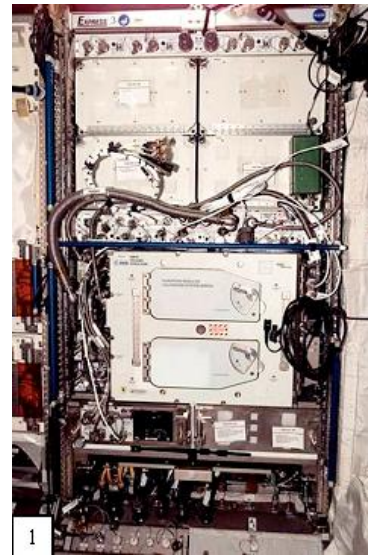
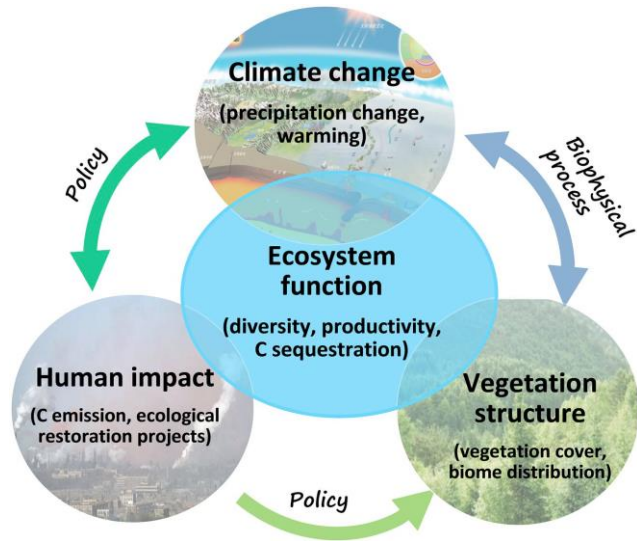
**there are other drivers of transforming change  
you need to consider as well.**

One is the entire area of what used to be called  
“genetic engineering”



and now emerging as “bionanotechnology”.

The causes and cures of climate change are biological,



and many artifacts  
will almost certainly also have components  
that are biological  
—and not just electro-physical.

In the mid 1980s,

**The Australian Commission on the Future**

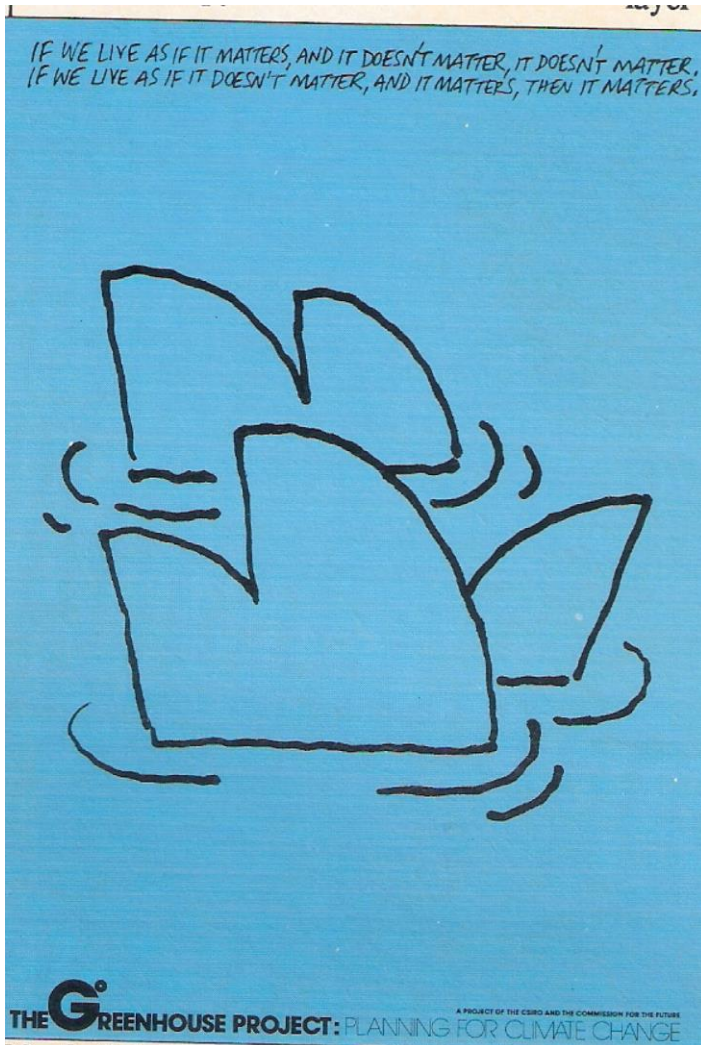
conducted a nationwide project on  
**The Greenhouse Effect.**

# A poster showed the sails of the Sydney Opera House sinking below the rising seas.

At the top is written:

“If we live as though it matters  
and it doesn’t matter  
it doesn’t matter.

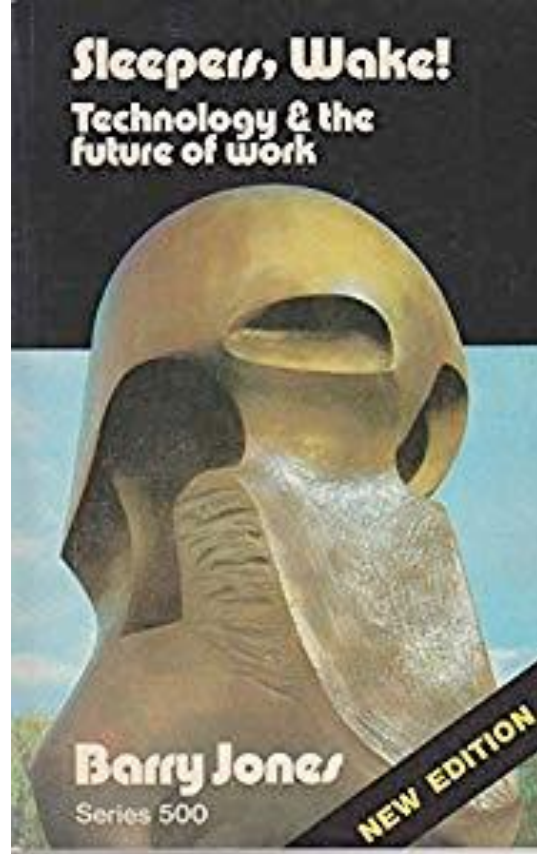
But if we live as though  
it doesn’t matter,  
and it matters,  
then it matters.



In this, I most sincerely believe.

And it is as true of AI and full unemployment  
as it is of climate change.

**It is only prudent that we live as though it matters.  
And if it doesn't matter,  
well, no matter:  
we are still better off.**



Indeed, the chairman  
of the Australian Commission on the Future,  
**Barry O. Jones**  
wrote a book about the same time titled:  
*Sleepers, Wake! Technology and the Future of Work*  
(1982)

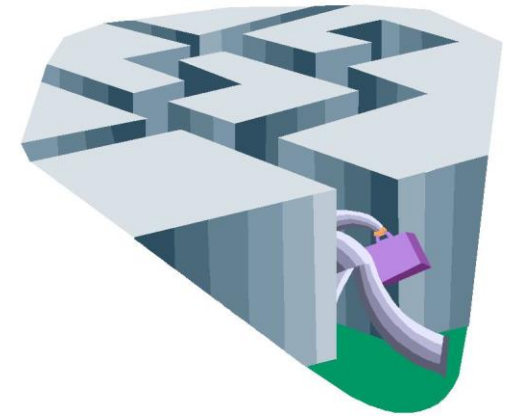




Modern Arab saying:  
“My grandfather drove a camel,  
my father drove a Ford,  
I fly a jet,  
my son will drive a camel.”

The once-monolithic view of the future  
has shattered into  
a kaleidoscope  
of wildly different views.





Suddenly no one can be quite sure  
what is coming next.



The need for futures studies and forecasting becomes more urgent every day.






All governments must incorporate  
serious alternative futures forecasting  
and preferred futures design  
into all  
of their institutions of governance.



Futures research and foresight need to become  
core competencies  
of all people, governments, and institutions.

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture  
Forest Service  
Northern  
Research Station  
General Technical  
Report NRS-P-107  




**Environmental Futures  
Research: Experiences,  
Approaches, and  
Opportunities**

**Foresight is no longer  
an elite activity,  
or a governmental activity,  
or a corporate activity alone.**

# THE LEADERSHIP FORUM ON FUTURES



Foresight must be exercised  
intelligently and compassionately

by all people  
on behalf of all people.

**Foresight is the heart of governing in a democracy.**





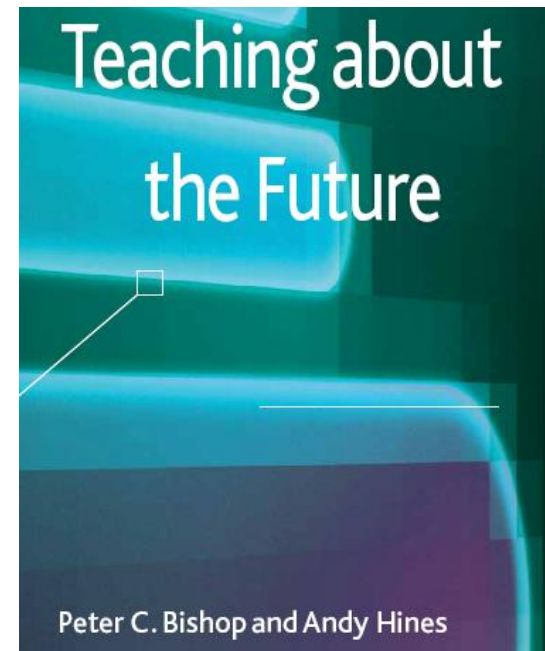
Therefore,  
all education must become resolutely  
foresighted.

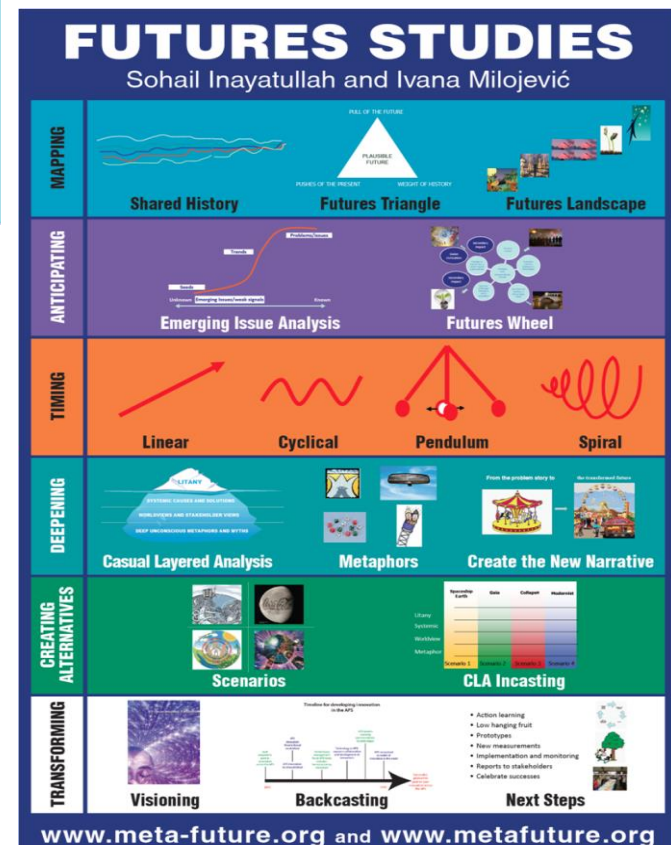
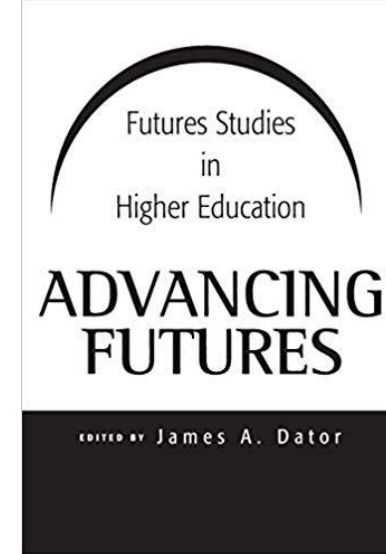
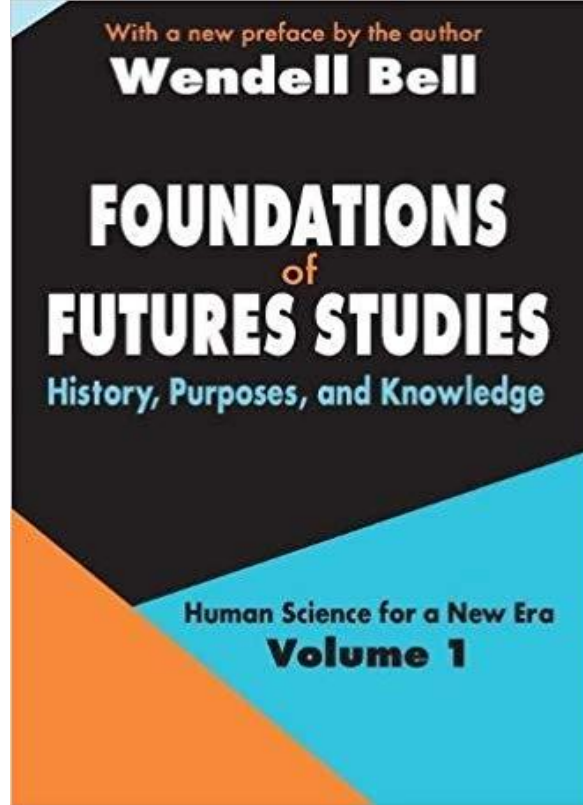
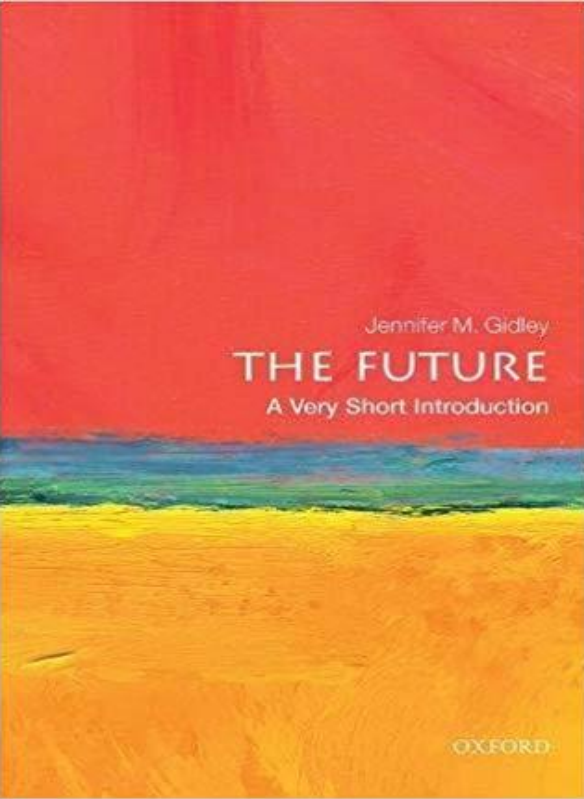
SKILLS FOR A  
CHANGING WORLD

August 2017

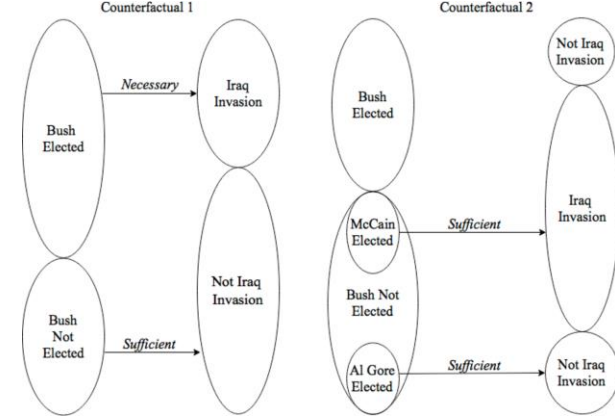
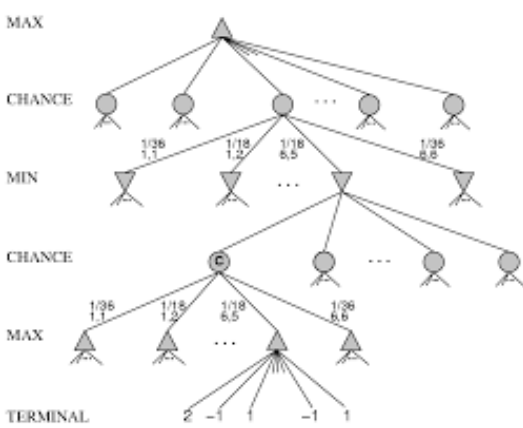
## Meaningful Education in Times of Uncertainty

Collection of Essays





All citizens need to understand what futures studies is and is not, and what challenges, opportunities and choices need to be made now.

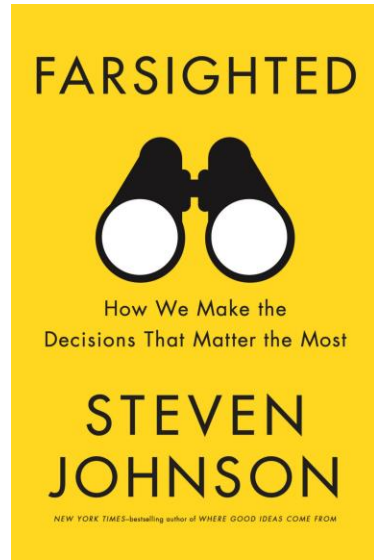


# History should be taught as an continuously ongoing exercise in Alternative Futures

showing how choices made in the past

created challenges, opportunities and  
decisions to be made in the present

on behalf of futures generations.



CO-CREATING

a Public Philosophy

for

Future  
Generations

Edited by

Tae-Chang Kim and

James A. Dator

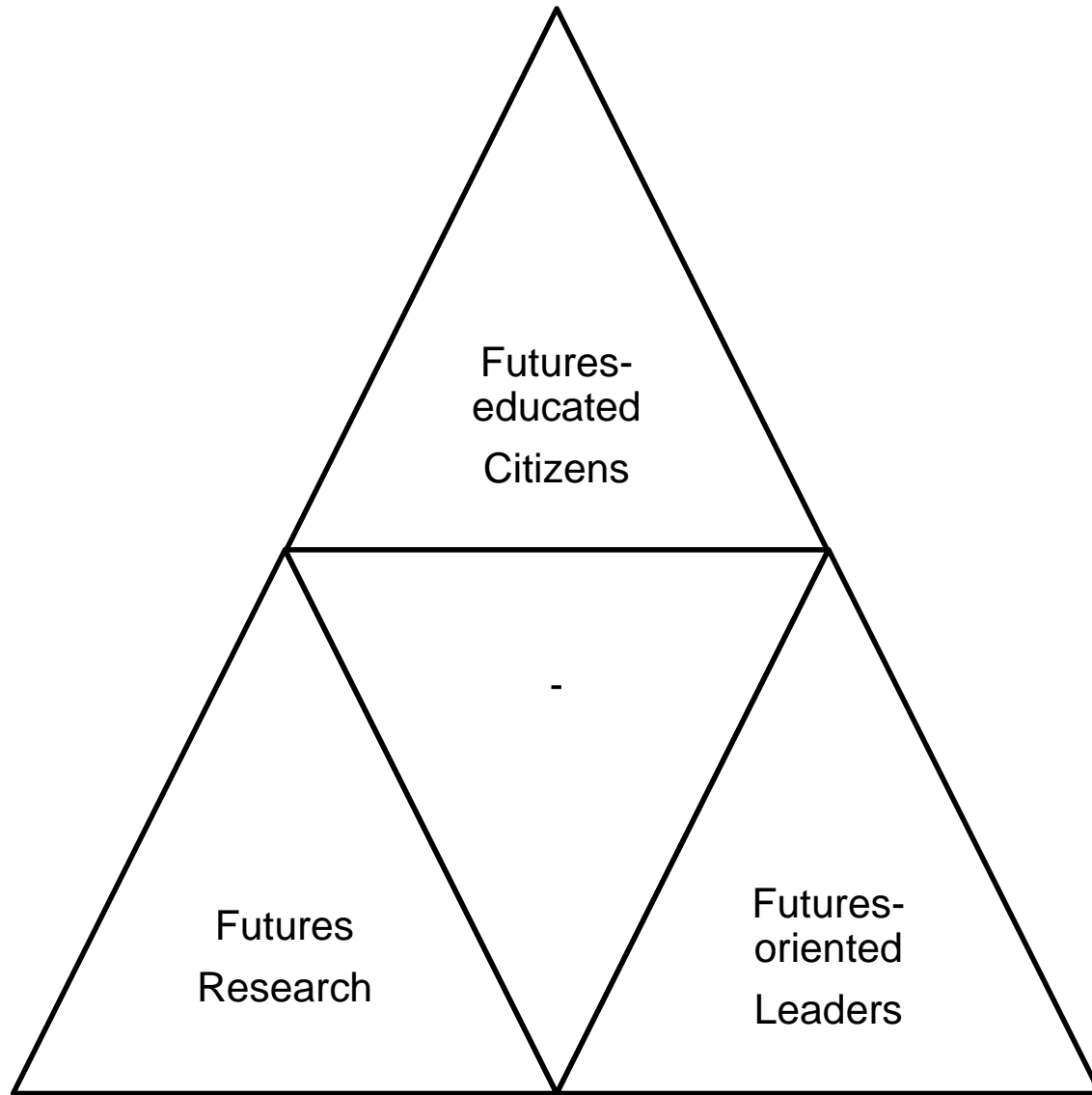
## Prudent foresight

**is also your obligation to future generations**

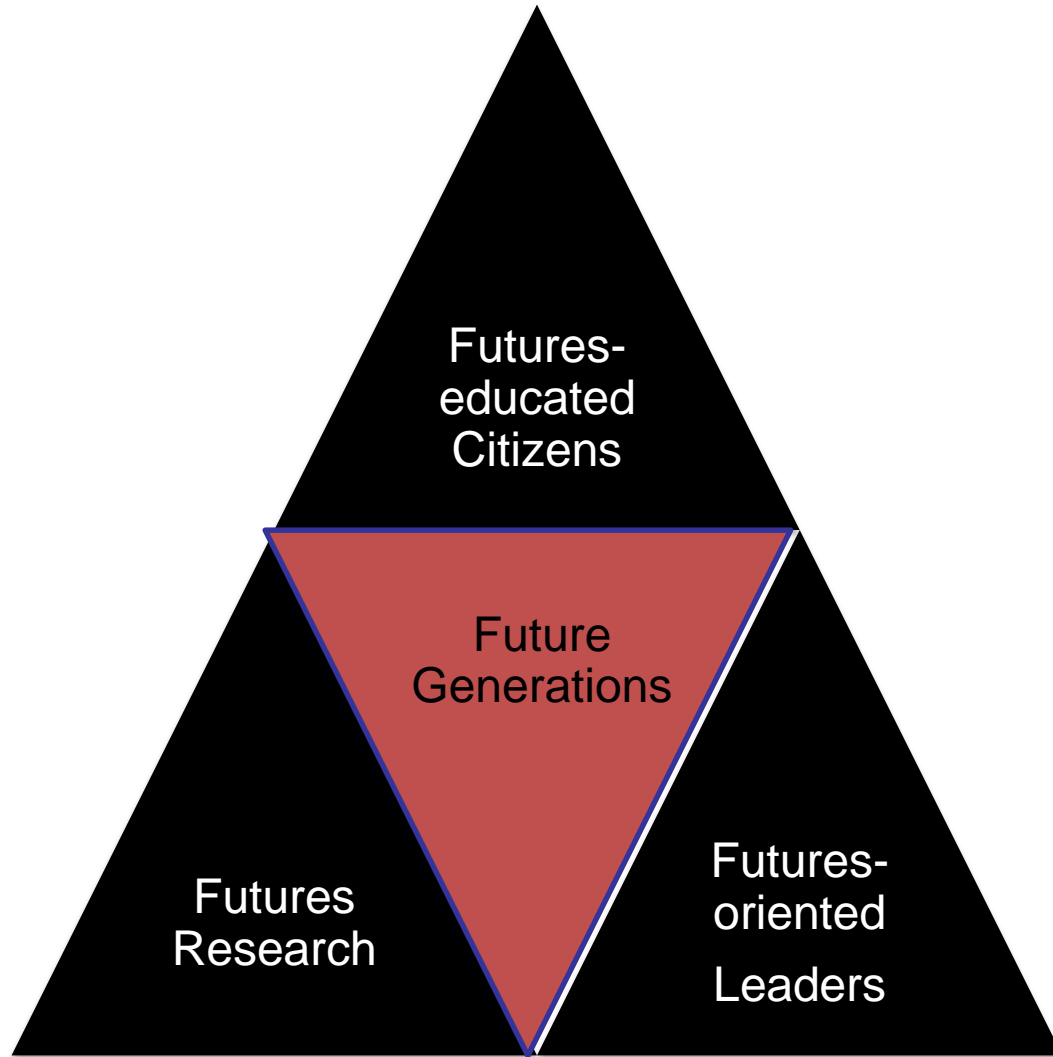
whose lives you influence  
by your decisions and actions today.



# The triangle of Anticipatory Democracy may not be enough



# Care for Future Generations must become the heart of Anticipatory Democracy now





Future generations:  
they are our conscience.





**NAFI is in a unique position  
in regard to governance foresight.**

While the specific history and trajectory  
of foresight in Korea  
is similar to what I have described,  
it also has special features of its own.

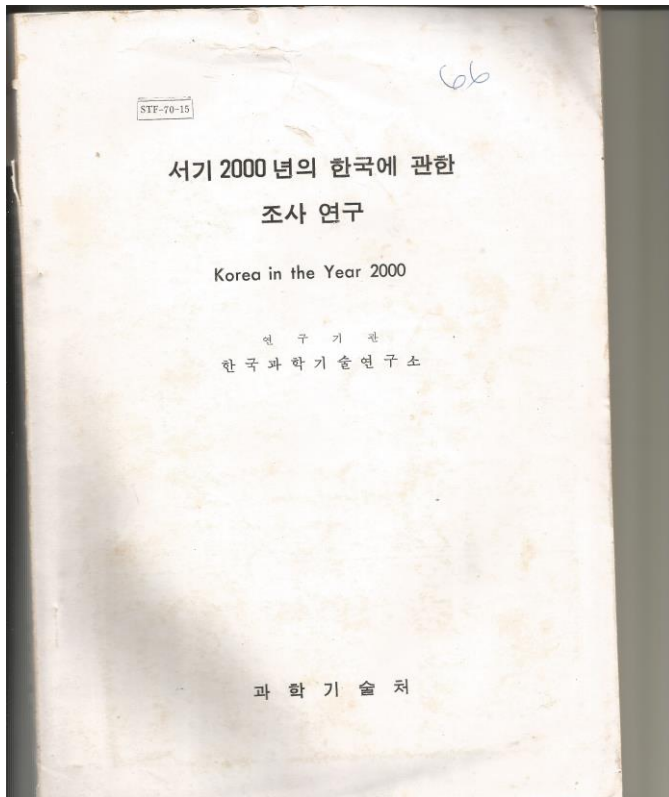


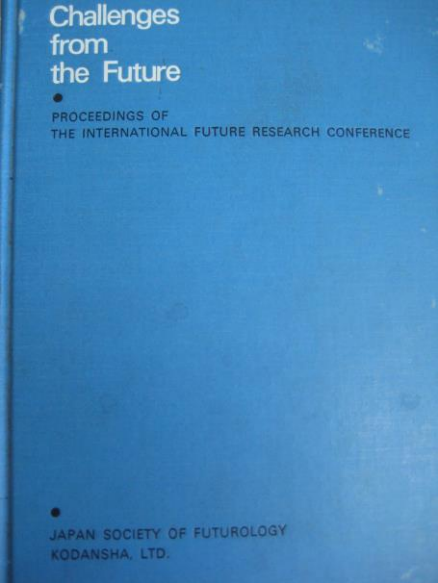
I know from deep personal experience that  
Koreans have been among the world pioneers  
of futures studies and foresight.

My first encounter with Korean futurists was in 1969.

I met Dr. Lee Hahn Been  
who was a visitor at the East West Center in Hawaii.

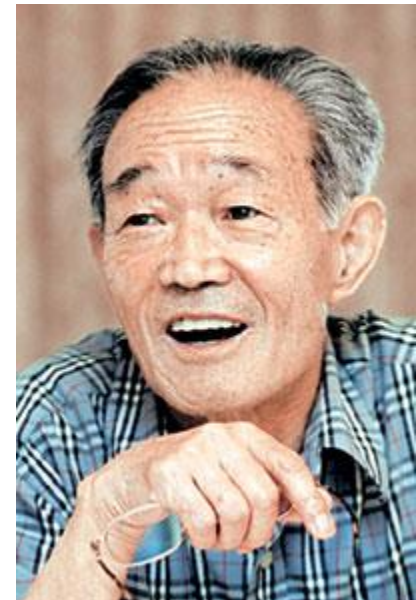
He introduced me to work he and colleagues were doing on  
**Korea in the Year 2000.**





Lee and three other Koreans  
(Choe Chunggho, Choi Hyung Sup, and  
Sohn Jung Mok)

attended a global conference of futurists held in Kyoto  
in 1970.

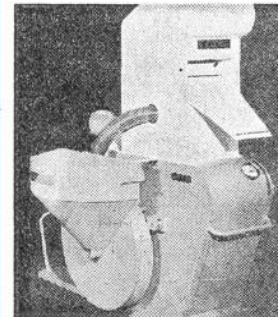


Dr. Samuel Lee of UHM arranged my first lecture tour in Korea in October 1980.

I gave many lectures in Seoul, as well as at Taejon University, and Dong-A University in Pusan.



이런 식으로, 이 책은 '인공지능'에 관한 여러 가지 문제를 소개하고 있다. 이 책은 '인공지능'에 대한 기초 지식을 소개하고 있다. 이 책은 '인공지능'에 대한 기초 지식을 소개하고 있다. 이 책은 '인공지능'에 대한 기초 지식을 소개하고 있다.



夫씨가 개발한 真空式 吸尘器.  
이 제품은 '인공지능'에 대한 기초 지식을 소개하고 있다. 이 책은 '인공지능'에 대한 기초 지식을 소개하고 있다. 이 책은 '인공지능'에 대한 기초 지식을 소개하고 있다.

### 하와이대 未來學研究所長 데이비드教授



**변형의 사회에 多角的 對處  
成長지중하면 副作用 많아**

미래학자 데이비드 교수는 '인공지능'에 대한 기초 지식을 소개하고 있다. 이 책은 '인공지능'에 대한 기초 지식을 소개하고 있다. 이 책은 '인공지능'에 대한 기초 지식을 소개하고 있다.

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**健康**

이 책은 '인공지능'에 대한 기초 지식을 소개하고 있다. 이 책은 '인공지능'에 대한 기초 지식을 소개하고 있다. 이 책은 '인공지능'에 대한 기초 지식을 소개하고 있다.

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Dr. Chun Tuk Chu, of Soongsil University,  
was a visiting professor  
in the Department of Political Science in 1987.

We had many discussions about futures studies.

**한국미래연구학회**

**The Korean Association for Future's Studies**

**본부 : 서울특별시 동작구 상도 1동 1-1**

**전화 : (02) 814-9611 (대) (포) 459**

**1-1, Sang-Do 1Dong, Dong-Jak Gu, Seoul, Korea. 156-743**

**Tel: (02) 814-9611 (ext.) 459**

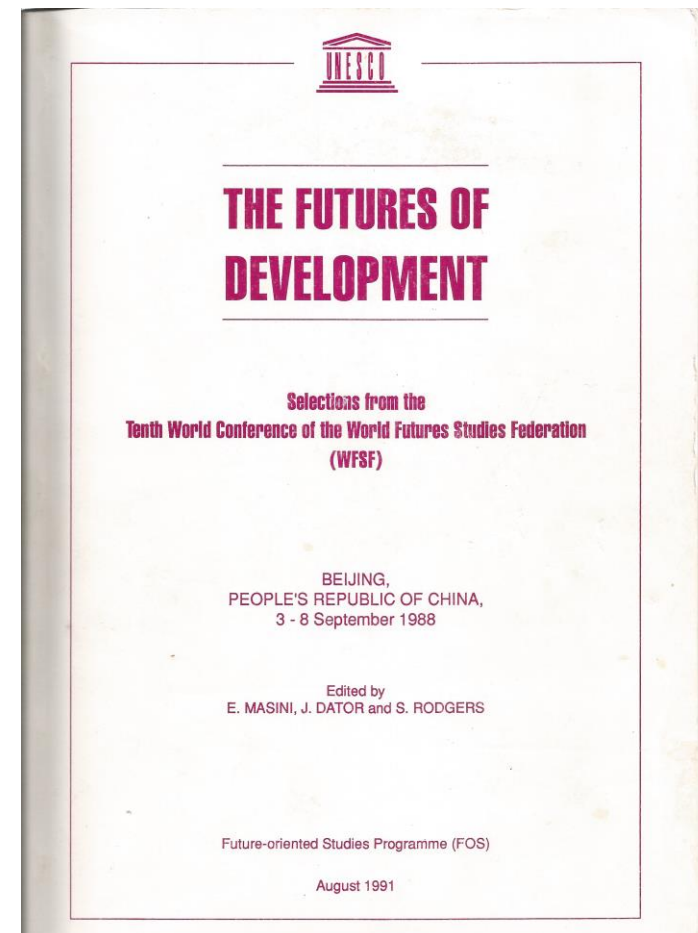
**Dear Jim Dator  
President, WFSF**

**1990. July. 5  
Seoul**



When Dr. Chun returned to Korea, he established  
the Korean Association for Futures Studies

He and six members of that Association attended  
the World Conference of  
the World Futures Studies Federation  
in Beijing in 1988.



Also at the Beijing Conference  
were futurists from North Korea.



I was invited to visit North Korea in December 1989  
by Hwang Jang Yop  
of the Korean Association of Social Studies  
and the Juche Academy.

\* 주 체 과 학 원 \*  
チュ チェ 科 学 院

〒 128 朝鮮民主主義人民共和国  
平壤市・万景台区域

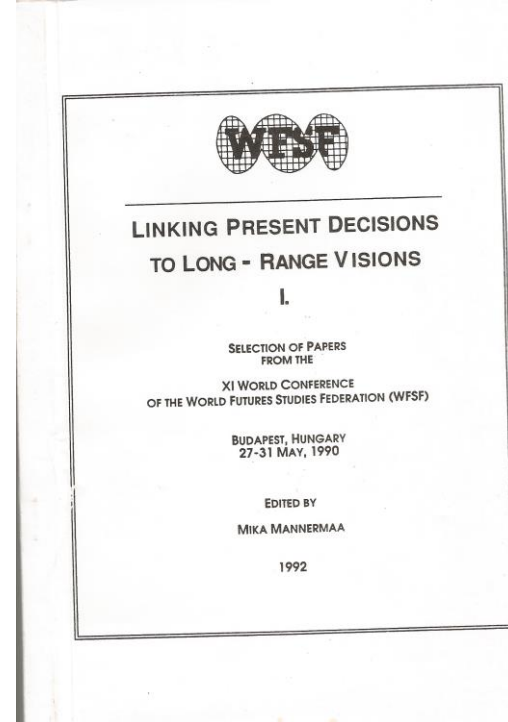
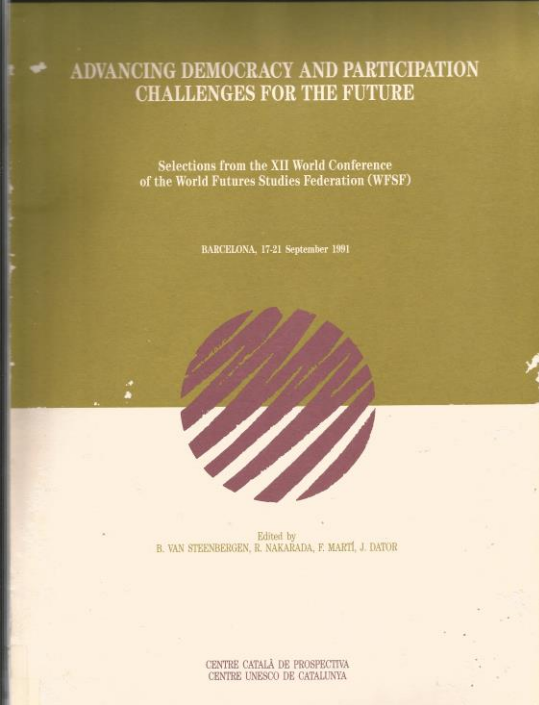
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Pyongyang, June 8, 1992

Dear Prof. Dator





Members of both  
the KAFS of South Korea  
and KASS of North Korea

attended the World Conferences of the WFSF  
in Budapest in 1990

and in Barcelona in 1991.

At the 1990 conference,  
Koreans from both organizations  
met and signed a document  
pledging to hold a conference of the WFSF  
on the Korean peninsula,  
perhaps meeting first in Pyongyang  
and then traveling to Seoul.

Though we came very close,

that conference never happened.



One of the delegates to the Beijing Conference  
from South Korea

was Dr. Kim Tae Chang,

Dean of the School of Public Administration  
of Chungbuk University.

# FUTURE GENERATIONS

ALLIANCE FOUNDATION

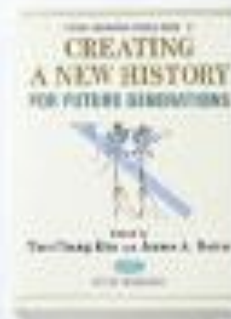
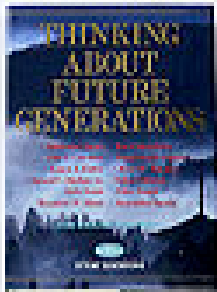
*...responsible living for the sake of our future*

FUTURE  
GENERATIONS

▶ About Our Logo

Dr. Kim was also Secretary General  
of the Future Generations Alliance of Kyoto, Japan.

Dr. Kim and I convened several conferences  
around the world,  
and edited books on futures generations.



I also visited Chungbuk University in 1992.



Mrs. Park Youngsook,  
of the global Millennium Project,  
was also directly responsible  
for my deep personal involvement recently in Korea.

Since 2006, she invited me many times a year  
to come to Korea to lecture about the futures  
with many groups and individuals.



Some of my excellent PhD students in futures studies at the University of Hawaii were young Koreans I met first in Korea during those lecture tours.







Then, in 2012,  
Dr. Lee Kwang Hyung

invited me to become an Adjunct Professor  
of the Graduate Program in Strategic Futures of Kaist,

and I have had the honor of offering  
an intensive futures course  
yearly since 2013.





In 2016, a new association of futurists was formed.

In 2018  
the Legislature passed  
The National Assembly Futures Institute Act  
and NAFI was established.

I have only described events in the history of foresight in Korea that I am personally aware of.

It is only the tip of the iceberg.

**Heo Kyungmoo and Seo Yongseok**  
have written an article titled,

“Foresight Practice in Korea”  
that will appear in the  
*World Futures Review*, Vol. 11, No. 3, 2019.

In that article,  
Heo and Seo show that  
the phases of foresight that Korea has experienced  
closely resemble those I outlined  
for governance foresight as a whole.

**The phases in the evolution of governance foresight  
for Korea are:**

The emergence of futures studies (1968-1981)

Diversification of futures studies (1982 - 1996)

Era of globalization and alternative futures (1997-2012)

Renaissance of future studies (2013 -

The futures of futures is up to you,  
but I hope you won't mind if I offer  
three suggestions:

**1. Foresight within the formal institutions of government  
should continue,**

perhaps with NAFI leading and coordinating the work of  
all units of government.



The novel and multiple challenges  
of the Anthropocene Epoch

**require the serious, guiding  
foresight from government**

that Korea uniquely is able to provide

as many governments elsewhere  
slide into obsolescence and stalemate.

**2. However, foresight now  
must become much more democratic and participatory.**

Lively experiments in Anticipatory Democracy  
should be sponsored by NAFI.

NAFI should also enable AD to rise  
spontaneously from the grassroots,  
in every village, city, precinct, province,  
and at the national level as well.

**3. Futurists should be at the forefront**  
of efforts at cooperation, closer ties, federation and  
perhaps unification  
of the peninsula

as well as the participation of Korea in  
future regional and global networks.

It is time for the dreams of pioneering Korean futurists  
to be realized in forms appropriate for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

# Governance Foresight: Then, Now, Maybe

Jim Dator  
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