

Globalization and Conflict Mediation

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Technology

- ▶ 80% of all service jobs can be replaced by computer algorithms that have already been invented in the last 5 years.
- ▶ Globally more readers now get their information from social media (2.8 billion) than print media (2.7 billion). Nearly half the world's population has access to the internet (3.8 billion).
- ▶ For the first time in human history technology has what is called exponential growth meaning it doubles and doubles and doubles its abilities including the ability to essentially create new computers and algorithms on its own.
- ▶ In 2013, when asked by a US Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chair, if it is possible someone could hack into Chinese or Russian military computers and launch a nuclear weapon, the head of US Strategic Command General Robert Kehler answered with great concern, 'I don't know, I don't know'

Wealth and poverty

- ▶ In a twenty year period. global wealth is expected to surpass 100 trillion USD in 2025. (This is triple the size of global wealth in 2006).
- ▶ Moreover it is expected that 1 billion people could be lifted out of poverty between 2025 and 2030 (1/8th of the world's population).
- ▶ However, the world's eight richest billionaires control the same amount of wealth as half the globe's population
- ▶ Moreover, whereas 30 years ago young adults in the world's seven major economies used to earn more than national averages, now their earnings have slumped to 20% below national averages.
- ▶ People aged 60 and above make up 12.3 percent of the global population and by 2050 that number will rise to almost 22 percent.

Demographics

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- ▶ The population of Africa is expected to grow from 1.2 billion to 4.4 billion by 2100 making it by far the most populated continent.
- ▶ Meanwhile, the population of Europe is expected to decrease by nearly 100 million from 738 million to 646 million by 2100.
- ▶ Health care costs in the Western World are expected to eat up as much as 15% of national income in the coming years

Climate Change

- ▶ More jobs in America are currently created by solar and wind power than coal, oil and gas combined.
- ▶ At current rates and even with the Paris Protocols
 - ▶ Sea levels are expected to rise between 18 and 29 centimeters by the end of the century and continued melting at the poles could add between 10 to 20 centimeters
 - ▶ Between 2030 and 2050 climate change is expected to cause approximately 250,000 additional deaths per year from malnutrition, malaria, diarrhea and heat stress. This is the total number of casualties from the Syrian civil war over the last 4 years
 - ▶ Projections for temperature rise in the 21st century range from 2 to 4 degrees
 - ▶ The Maldives could very lose up to 77% of their land by 2100
 - ▶ The conflict in Syria may just be a small example of other conflicts to come due to the effects of climate change, poor leaders and the inability of countries to work together to prevent and resolve conflict.

Nuclear Risk

- ▶ Since 2000 there are now as many as 100 more nuclear weapons in existence in countries that are not signatories to the nuclear non-proliferation treaty.