



Global Foresight

Preparing for Future Trends

CSIS EXECUTIVE EDUCATION

Course Overview

What will the road to 2050 look like for you and your organization? This course weaves together the critical geopolitical issues, macro trends, and paradigm-shifting revolutions likely to occur in the next 30 years that leaders in government, business, and civil society must prepare for today. The program will provide participants with the tools to spot emerging trends and explore future uncertainty while addressing how the overall international system may cope with future crises. Drawing from the full range of CSIS expertise, Global Foresight focuses on seven key revolutions: population, resources, technology, information, economics, security, and governance.

This course is intended for professionals who want to develop a structured approach to address future uncertainty through analysis and strategy development. Participants will engage with the content through topical seminars, interactive workshops, and strategic leadership exercises, culminating in a practical crisis simulation.

Course Objectives

The curriculum focuses on a range of topics and skills that will enhance participants' ability to:

- Understand future trends and their relevance for organizational leaders
- Develop strategic foresight tools— from trendspotting to scenario planning— and learn to anticipate external challenges
- Apply the knowledge and skills acquired throughout the program to a dynamic crisis simulation

Register

DATES: October 17–20, 2022

TUITION: \$4,000

LOCATION: 1616 Rhode Island, Ave, Washington, D.C. 20036
Virtual participation available upon request

REGISTER: www.csis.org/global-foresight-course.

QUESTIONS: Please contact Eric Palomaa, Director of Partnerships, at epalomaa@csis.org.

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
9 AM	Welcome Session	Climate Change, Energy, and Mobility	The Digital Future	Democracy, Authoritarianism, and the Future of Governance
10 AM	BREAK			
11 AM	Seven Revolutions: Trends Shaping our World out to 2050	BREAK	BREAK	Crisis Simulation
		Remapping the Global Economy	Information and Trust in Media and Institutions	
12 PM	LUNCH			Emerging Markets Roundtable Lunch
1 PM	Shifting Demographics in Global Populations	Space and New Frontiers in Interational Security		
			BREAK	BREAK
2 PM	The Art and Science of Foresight	Trend Spotting and Analysis	BREAK	Leadership Debrief: Applying Future Lessons
3 PM			Scenario Planning Exercise	
4 PM	Team Assignment	BREAK		Networking Reception

FOCUS AREA	Revolution #1: Population and Demographics
	Revolution #2: Resources
	Revolution #3: Economics
	Revolution #4 and #5: Technology and Information
	Revolution #6: Security
	Revolution #7: Governance
	Interactive Exercises

Seminars

SEVEN REVOLUTIONS

Trends Shaping Our World Out to the Year 2050

Explore the paradigm-shifting changes already in motion across the globe in this introductory session, which will introduce key concepts in strategic foresight methodology and the likely future course of our planet.

THE ART AND SCIENCE OF FORESIGHT

There is no crystal ball for predicting the future, but there is a robust discipline, methodology, and skill set for preparing for it. Learn how experts translate the science and art of foresight into an actionable guide for leaders to navigate tumultuous times.

THE SHIFTING DEMOGRAPHICS OF GLOBAL POPULATIONS

As the global population surpasses 7.8 billion on its way to a projected 9.8 billion by 2050, historic changes in relative population growth, distribution, and demographics are on track to drastically reshape humankind as we know it. Identify changing outlooks in key regions across continents, nations, and communities.

CLIMATE CHANGE, ENERGY, AND MOBILITY

With the effects of climate change near-ubiquitous worldwide, transitioning the world's biggest economies to a net-zero emissions standard will be one of the greatest challenges humanity has faced. Explore projected impacts across sectors and issue areas, from changes in energy, food production, and migration patterns to risk management across public health and infrastructure.

THE DIGITAL FUTURE

The opportunities and risks of today's emerging technologies have the potential to shatter existing limits in knowledge, memory, cognition, and the human lifespan. Balancing the possibilities of technological innovation with key concerns around security, ethics and sovereignty will define the coming Fourth Industrial Revolution.

INFORMATION AND TRUST IN MEDIA AND INSTITUTIONS

Global access to information is evolving at a breakneck pace, amplifying the best and worst of human behavior. The inherent contradictions of the information revolution undergird the two biggest struggles of the next quarter century: one for freedom of knowledge and action, the other for truth and trust.

REMAPPING THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

Globalization, inequality, and the ever-increasing speed of industry disruption due to changing technologies and consumer patterns have mired the modern economic order in uncertainty. Looking to the world's economic future requires a new outlook that takes into account overlapping public health and climate crises, workforce demographic shifts, complex supply chains, and emerging technologies.

SPACE AND NEW FRONTIERS IN INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Great power competition is back and has spread to new domains both beyond and below the traditional threshold of kinetic warfare. New space-based capabilities, coercive tactics, cyberattacks, and gray-zone proxy wars are reframing modern conflict, stretching the abilities of traditional militaries and necessitating a new approach to international security and cooperation.

DEMOCRACY, AUTHORITARIANISM, AND THE FUTURE OF GOVERNANCE

Democratic institutions are on their back foot worldwide as they face complex new challenges from populations polarized by hyper-charged political and media environments. Ensuring the future of democratic governance requires the rebuilding of trust in core institutions, both domestic and multilateral, while rallying divided citizenries behind a clear vision for a better world.

Interactive Exercises

TREND SPOTTING AND ANALYSIS

Strategic global foresight requires identifying macro trend drivers and their interactions while detecting weak signals, avoiding bias confirmation, and ensuring organizational readiness. This team-based exercise allows for hands-on experimentation with foresight methodology, tasking participants with identifying issue-relevant trend drivers and indicators.

SCENARIO PLANNING

Scenario planning exercises allow individuals and organizations to explore uncertainties across multiple dimensions, pitting realistic scenarios against viable inputs to forecast plausible outcomes. Participants will create a translatable methodological framework, choosing scenarios and stakeholders while plotting trends, mapping risk, and creating a shared basis for discussing the future.

CAPSTONE CRISIS SIMULATION

The capstone crisis simulation presents a unique and fast-moving emergency scenario to participants, requiring them to work in small groups and apply newfound knowledge and methodologies to make strategic choices, assess capability and resourcing trade-offs, and identify ways to achieve meaningful results within constantly shifting constraints. Following the exercise, CSIS experts will assess each team's performance and provide detailed feedback.

CSIS Executive Education

The Center for Strategic and International Studies' (CSIS) Executive Education Program convenes professionals from diverse backgrounds at Washington, D.C.'s premier bipartisan think tank for transformative programming in leadership, communication, and global issues. For over 60 years, CSIS has brought independent research, innovative ideas, and practical policy solutions to some of the greatest security, regional, and transnational challenges facing policymakers and international thought leaders. Recognized as a "Defense and National Security Center of Excellence" by the University of Pennsylvania's Global Go To Think Tank Index, CSIS is led by Chairman Tom Pritzker and President and CEO John J. Hamre.

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