

# Seven Revolutions

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## What is “Seven Revolutions”?

Seven Revolutions is an ambitious effort to look at the pressing global trends that will fundamentally change the way we work, think, and live. The Center for Strategic & International Studies (CSIS), a bipartisan foreign policy think tank, has spent 20 years analyzing these trends and has prepared a dynamic presentation that lays out a series of important drivers and what they might mean for companies, governments, and societies around the world.

**We begin with a question: what will the world look like in 2030 and beyond? In answering this question, we focus on the seven areas in which we expect change to be most “revolutionary”:**

- (1) population
- (2) strategic resource management of food, water, and energy
- (3) technological innovation and diffusion
- (4) information and knowledge flows
- (5) economic integration
- (6) the nature and mode of security
- (7) the challenge of governance

The key points of our research are captured in a fast-moving, constantly-updated, multi-media experience that has been delivered around the world. Our audiences have included groups from government, military, corporate, academic, and nongovernmental sectors, with a common desire to investigate the important strategic issues on the horizon and to meet the challenges of tomorrow.

### Who uses “Seven Revolutions”?

The private sector has utilized this presentation for boards of directors and other senior leadership bodies, management conferences, and leadership or strategic planning workshops. Our corporate clients have included:

- Walmart
- GE
- American Express
- Corning
- John Deere
- Boeing
- Cargill
- Dow Chemical
- BAE Systems
- Merrill Lynch
- Raytheon
- Coca-Cola
- Honeywell
- Lafarge
- Allied Capital
- IBM
- General Motors
- ExxonMobil
- Lockheed Martin
- Monsanto
- Johnson & Johnson
- Charles Schwab
- The Business Council

Government and nongovernment organizations have been equally interested in the long-term thinking presented in Seven Revolutions. The audiences in these sectors are divided along lines similar to those of the corporate world—leadership and governing bodies, conferences, and strategic planning groups.

Finally, we have presented to conferences sponsored by leading intellectual and educational organizations, such as the Institute for Policy Studies in Singapore, St. Louis University, Penn State University, Notre Dame University, Bryant University, Syracuse University, Southeast Missouri State University, Fort Hays State University, and Virginia Commonwealth University, as well as professional membership groups, such as the American Society of Newspaper Editors, AdvaMed, the National Association of State College Presidents, and the Society of International Business Fellows.

The purpose of the Seven Revolutions presentation is to generate questions and spark dialogue about the future rather than provide specific solutions. For this reason, the question and answer session that follows the 45- to 60-minute presentation is as important as the presentation itself. The opportunity to dissect issues and test priorities with one of CSIS’s leading scholars is the first step toward identifying actions that will positively affect our future.

#### SCHOLARS WHO GIVE THE PRESENTATION

**Fariborz Ghadar**—Distinguished Scholar and Senior Adviser

**Michèle Ledgerwood**—Senior Associate, Abshire-Inamori Leadership Academy and Global Health Policy Center

**Alexander T.J. Lennon**—Editor in Chief, *The Washington Quarterly*, and Senior Fellow, International Security Program

**Karen Meacham**—Dean, Abshire-Inamori Leadership Academy, and Director of Educational Outreach

**Thomas Sanderson**—Senior Fellow and Deputy Director, Transnational Threats Project

**Johanna Nesseth Tuttle**—Vice President for Strategic Planning and Director, Global Food Security Project