



International Issues and Challenges

Global Risks

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A Global Risk is widespread (several countries) and long-lasting (10+ years)

We can measure the risk level by **Probability x Impact**

BUT – who measures ‘Impact’ in what way?

Insurance companies measure future potential losses. This is economic.

The COST of an event is not just Financial. It is also Social and Environmental.

Does an insurance company care about the loss of biodiversity, or the flooding of a poor country like Bangladesh with few people insured?

An oil tanker crash is economically positive, but socially and environmentally negative.

All events, whether Political, Economic, Social, Environmental or Technological, have multiple effects (social, environmental, economic, political...)

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1. Watch the Global Risks report video (2m) [Global Risks Report](#) video

Open the [2020 Global Risks report.pdf](#)

2. Look at page 2 of the report to see how the WEF has changed its risk priorities over the last few years

3. Look at page 3 (Figure II) to see the current 2020 analysis of risk (Impact x Likelihood)

4. Look at page 4 (Figure III) to the gap between the opinions of Stakeholders (banks, insurance companies etc.) and Shapers (a network of young people involved in dialogue and action)

Why is there a gap between 'stakeholders' and 'Shapers'?

5. Look at page 5 (Figure IV) to see the interconnections of the result of Risk Events happening.

Economic Risks

Trade Wars – e.g. [USA / China](#) [WTO Trade Rules](#) [Chinese holding US debt](#) (CNBC)

Trade Agreements – e.g. [CETA](#) ([European Commission](#)).

[Protectionism](#) – Import quotas, Technical barriers, Domestic subsidies, Tariffs, Export Subsidies etc.

Sanctions – e.g. [Venezuela](#), [Iran](#), [Russia](#), [Cuba](#), [Belarus](#)

Debt Crisis – [Sovereign Debt](#), [Greece](#), [Eurozone](#), [Coronavirus debt crisis](#)

Stock Market Crash – e.g. [Wall Street Crash](#), [Crash now?](#), [Historical crashes](#)

Financial Failure – e.g. [SupPrimes crisis](#)

Depression – (greater than recession) decline > 10% GDP. e.g. [US Great Depression of the 1930s](#)

Inflation – [Money supply and the risk of Inflation](#) (in French, English subtitles)

Political Risks

War. See '[List of ongoing armed conflicts](#)' (Wikipedia)

Weapons of Mass Destruction. [WMDs](#) (EKU). [WMDs](#) (FBI)

Terrorism. See '[Terrorism Risk Assessment of Public Spaces](#)' (European Commission). [USA](#), [France](#), [UK](#) etc.

Crime and Corruption. [Corruption](#) (European Commission). [Organized Crime and Corruption](#). CPJ.

Debt Control. [Global Debt](#) (CNBC)

Riots and Protests. [History in the USA](#) (Black Rifle) [World's biggest riots](#) (Matadornetwork)

Loss of democracy. [Decline of democracy](#) (Independent) [Decline of Democracy](#) (Axios)

Loss of Human Rights. [5 Human Rights Issues](#) (The Conversation)

Changes in Tax Law and legislation. [Tax legislation](#) (IFS) [Regulatory Strategy](#) (McKinsey)

Social Risks

Migration. [humanitarian](#) (The New Humanitarian), [economic](#) (EC) and [environmental](#) (Foresight)

Poverty (<50 or 60% average income). [Global poverty](#) (World Vision) [Global Multidimensional Poverty Index](#) (UN)

Inequality (see Gini scores and 10/10, 20/20 wealth ratios) [Gini index](#) (SDS), [Inequality](#) (OECD)

Unemployment (level of unemployment benefit) [Unemployment](#) (Business Insider) [Job Crisis](#) (OECD)

Health hazards ([viruses](#) (Institut Pasteur), [poor housing](#) (UK. BRE group), [water-born diseases](#) (7Activestudio), [air pollution diseases](#) WHO), [allergies](#) (AAAA), [insect-born diseases](#) (Institut Pasteur) [Vector-borne diseases and Parasites](#) (WHO)...))

Health risks related to [dangerous chemicals](#) (Healthy working lives) and [radiation](#) ([pesticides](#) (LifeWorks), [herbicides](#) (DiChiara), [fungicides](#) (IATP), [food additives](#) (Faithful Palate), [household products](#) (Women's voices), nuclear pollution, [5G](#) (Cent)...))

Hunger and Famine [World Vision](#), [United Nations](#), [International Rescue](#)

Water crises [NetFlix](#), [United Nations](#)

Environmental Risk

[Environmental shocks](#) (Naomi Klein)

Climate change – [Extreme Weather](#) (Futurism)

Climate change - [Rising Sea Levels](#) (CCTN)

Climate change - [Air Pollution](#) (WHO)

Water Pollution [Britannica](#),

[Sea Pollution](#) (NRDC) and [Sea Warming](#) (Let's talk science)

Biodiversity Loss ([United Nations](#))

Technological Risk

Cyber attacks [NATO](#), [ITGovernance](#)

Automation, mechanisation and robotisation [Fortune](#), [ISG](#)

Technical change [Labour and Technology](#) (Transform Europe) [Diplomarbeiten24](#)

Data Fraud and Theft [Identity theft](#) (ITRC) [Fraud](#) (NCA)

Information Infrastructure Breakdown [Audiopedia](#), [Cybersecurity](#) (APPA)