

EU FORESIGHT: What is the Megatrends Hub

How to use megatrends to make your work future-proof

WHAT IS A MEGATREND?

Megatrends are long-term global driving forces that are observable in the present and are likely to continue to have a significant influence for a few decades. The European Commission has decided to monitor [14 Global Megatrends](#) relevant for the future of the world, with some focus on Europe.

EU FORESIGHT: WHAT IS THE MEGATRENDS HUB?

The Megatrends Hub is the European Commission's public website where the 14 selected megatrends are presented in a structured way. The Megatrends Hub was developed and is curated by the Competence Centre on Foresight of the Joint Research Centre (JRC). The Megatrends Hub represents one of the foresight tools designed and used by the Competence Centre on Foresight in its work. It is the infrastructure that supports the dynamic collective intelligence system underlying this foresight initiative. The Megatrends Hub is available under a Creative Commons license.

HOW DOES THE JRC DOCUMENT A MEGATREND?

To document a megatrend, the JRC involves experts from across its research teams to compile and curate qualitative and quantitative information from a range of authoritative and validated resources. This process is continuous to ensure that the information on the megatrends remains broadly up-to-date. The content of each megatrend is a concise summary of a broad range of information documenting the past and present evolution of the trend, complemented by an indication of the range of views that various stakeholders might have about its future evolution, a few leads on potential implications and references for further information. As such, it is a tool to support reflection on the future and does not convey any position of the European Commission. Moreover, the website uses many sources, including research and publications by the European Commission but not only.

HOW TO USE THE MEGATRENDS to make your work future-proof

The Megatrends Hub has been designed to make it easy to engage in *Megatrends Impact Analysis*, using our two Megatrends Engagement Tools. This methodology is best applied as a quick and straightforward future reality check on any issue of interest in the early stage of the policy cycle. It can be also used in the beginning of a foresight exercise to develop scenarios or test the robustness of a policy and its future-fitness. The main benefit of these tools is to make it possible to take all relevant megatrends in a multidisciplinary 360° perspective and understand their potential combined impacts on any issue of interest. This method can be applied by a multidisciplinary team with an understanding of the issue of interest in a half-day participatory workshop, or more extensively with an in-depth analysis of specific trend

developments and implications in the preparation phase. You can download the Megatrends Engagement Tools [HERE](#).

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE?

All users are invited to send their contributions to the Megatrends Hub editorial team. Please check our [GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTION](#) and contact us at: JRC-Megatrends@ec.europa.eu