



CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF
EXISTENTIAL RISK

Cambridge Conference on Catastrophic Risk 2024

Conference programme

Cambridge, UK
17 - 18 September 2024

Overview Schedule

	Monday 16 September	Tuesday 17 September	Wednesday 18 September		
09:00		Registration & Coffee	Coffee		
09:15					
09:30		Introduction			
09:45					
10:00		Keynote: Are we doing a better job to stay safe and alive, Mami Mizutori	4: Intergovernmental governance of global catastrophic risks		
10:15					
10:30					
10:45					
11:00					
11:15		Coffee	Coffee		
11:30					
11:45		1: Emerging technical and scientific challenges and solutions	5: What might history tell us about the future of existential and catastrophic risk studies?		
12:00					
12:15					
12:30					
12:45					
13:00		Lunch & Networking	Lunch & Networking		
13:15					
13:30					
13:45					
14:00					
14:15		2: Systemic risk and global catastrophic risk	Panel 1: A recent history of the field		
14:30					
14:45					
15:00					
15:15					
15:30	Optional Walking Tour / Workshops	Break	Panel 2: Policy making for emerging issues		
15:45					
16:00					
16:15					
16:30					
16:45	3: Global catastrophic risk reduction, response and resilience	Poster Session 2	Break		
17:00					
17:15					
17:30				Opening reception	Panel 3: The future of local preparedness to global risk
17:45					
18:00					
18:15					
18:30					
18:45	Poster Session 1				
19:00	Free time	Conference Dinner	Closing remarks		
19:15					
19:30					
19:45					
20:00					
20:15					

Poster Session

Poster Session

Conference Schedule

Monday 16th September

15:30 - 17:30 Optional satellite workshops

17:30 - 19:00 Opening Reception

Tuesday 17th September

09:00 - 09.30 Registration

09:30 - 10:00 Introduction

Keynote

Are we doing a better job to stay safe and alive?

Mami Mizutori

10:00 - 11:00

Respondents: Belinda Cleeland, Simon Institute for Longterm Governance and Matthew Connelly, Centre for the Study of Existential Risk

11:00 - 11:30

Coffee

11:30 - 13:00

Session 1: Emerging technical and scientific challenges and solutions

Co-chairs: Lalitha Sundaram, Centre for the Study of Existential Risk and Nina Desai, Global Health Visions

Public health's problem with normalcy; slow-moving threats and why we struggle to perceive them.

Freya Jephcott, Centre for the Study of Existential Risk

**Emerging Technologies, Geopolitics, and Existential Risk:
Addressing Technological Convergence**

Margaret E Kosal, Sam Nunn School of International Affairs,
Georgia Institute of Technology

**Existential Terrorism and Information Hazards: Mapping the
Risk Landscape**

Mel Cowans, University of Cambridge

AI Diffusion in the Global South; A Curse or a Blessing?

Rafael Andersson Lipcsey, Equiano Institute

**Scalable Safety in Complex AI-Human Systems: A
Collaborative, Quantitative Agent Risk and Governance
Framework**

Rafael Kaufmann & Thomas Kopinski, The Gaia Consortium

Q&A

13:00 - 14:30

Lunch & Networking

14:30 - 16:15

Session 2: Systemic risk and global catastrophic risk

Co-chairs: Constantin Arnscheidt, Centre for the Study of
Existential Risk and Pia-Johanna Schweizer, Research
Institute for Sustainability, Helmholtz Centre Potsdam

**Evolution of the polycrisis: Anthropocene traps that
challenge global sustainability**

Peter Søgaard Jørgensen, Stockholm University

**Convergence of Goals: Will Mitigating Extreme Risks Be
Otherwise Beneficial?**

David Manheim, Alter.org.il

**From understanding to managing systemic risks: Using
conceptual models to identify leverage points for systemic
resilience**

Edward Sparkes, United Nations University - Institute for
Environment and Human Security

Mitigating Cascading Risks: A Participatory System Dynamics Approach to Flood Resilience in the Himalayas
Sabuhi Essa, University of Cambridge

Derailment risk: The consequences of the climate and nature crisis could challenge action to tackle its root causes

Laurie Laybourn, Chatham House and the Global Systems Institute, University of Exeter

Q&A

16:15 - 16:30 Break

16:30 - 18:00 **Session 3: Global catastrophic risk reduction, response and resilience**

Co-chairs: Lara Mani, Centre for the Study of Existential Risk and Jenty Kirsch-Wood, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

Island in the Storm: Evaluating New Zealand's Resiliency to the Unthinkable Consequences of Nuclear Conflict

Matt Boyd, Adapt Research Ltd

Participative foresight techniques for reducing, responding and building resilience against Climate Change Catastrophic Risks

Maximiliano Santana Rodríguez, IARAN and TEC de Monterrey and Eilidh Kennedy, IARAN

Latin America's role in Global Catastrophic Risk management: insights, opportunities, and challenges

Mónica Alejandra Ulloa Ruiz, Observatorio de Riesgos Catastróficos Globales

Resilient foods for preventing global famine against shocks like nuclear winter and infrastructure collapse: one decade later

Juan B. García Martínez, Alliance to Feed the Earth in Disasters

Co-evolution of Science-led and Design-led Policy Advice against Global Catastrophic Risks

Yuna Lee, University College London

Q&A

18:30 - 19:00 **Poster Session 1**

19:00 - 20:30 **Conference Dinner**

Wednesday 18th September

09:00 - 09:30

Coffee

09:30 - 11:00

Session 4: Intergovernmental governance of global catastrophic risks

Co-chairs: Ken Mbeva, Centre for the Study of Existential Risk and Pamla Gopaul, African Union Development Agency

Space Wars: How State Conflict Is Going Extraterrestrial

Joanna Rozpedowski, Center for International Policy

Hiatus in the Greenhouse: Has the IPCC helped or hindered?

Robin Russell-Jones, Help Rescue the Planet

Weaving a Web of Resilience: Integrating Indigenous Knowledge in Global Catastrophic Risk Management

Dr Elena Kavanagh, University College Cork, Ireland

The Web of Prevention as a framework for analysing governance of GCRs

Catherine Rhodes, Centre for the Study of Existential Risk

Outline of a future Convention on Existential Risk

Manfred Kohler, Regulatory Institute

Q&A

11:00 - 11:30

Coffee

11:30 - 13:00

Session 5: What might history tell us about the future of existential and catastrophic risk studies?

Co-chairs: Matthew Connelly, Centre for the Study of Existential Risk and Julia Irwin, Louisiana State University

The Political History of Environmental Risk in North-South Relations

Frank Gerits, Utrecht University, the Netherlands and University of the Free State, Bloemfontein South Africa

What can we learn from taking an African perspective on existential risk?

Tanja Hichert, Centre for Sustainability Studies, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

Towards a global history of urban catastrophes. War, disasters, and urban resilience in the early twentieth century.

Pierre Purseigle, University of Warwick

The intergovernmental governance of disasters in connection to natural hazards: lessons from the last hundred years

Lukas Schemper, Leibniz Center for Literary and Cultural Research, Berlin

Liberalism after the end of the world

Apolline Taillandier, Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence

Q&A

13:00 - 14:30

Lunch

13:00 - 14:30

Poster session 2

14:30 - 15:15

Panel 1: A Recent History of the Field

Matthew Connelly, Director, Centre for the Study of Existential Risk

Catherine Rhodes, Research Affiliate, Centre for the Study of Existential Risk

Anders Sandberg, the Mimir Center for Long Term Futures Research at the Institute for Futures Studies

15:15 - 16:00

Panel 2: Policy making for emerging issues

Alex Marcoci, Centre for the Study of Existential Risk and
University of Nottingham

Margaret E Kosal, Sam Nunn School of International Affairs,
Georgia Institute of Technology

Tom Hobson, Centre for the Study of Existential Risk

16:00 - 16:15

Coffee

16:15 - 17:00

Panel 3: The future of local preparedness to global risk

Jessica Bland, Centre for the Study of Existential Risk

James Ginns, The Centre for Long-Term Resilience

Jackie Whyte, European Commission Joint Research Centre

Sadi Shanaah, University of Warwick

Pre-recorded video from Aarathi Krishnan, Centre for the
Study of Existential Risk Affiliate and RAKSHA

17:00 - 17:15

Closing remarks

Posters

Tuesday 17 September Poster Session 1

Session 1: Emerging technical and scientific challenges and solutions

1.	Humanising Warfare in the Age of Autonomous Weaponry Shagufta Sen, University of Delhi
2.	Addressing Big Data as a Global Catastrophic Risks (GCR) Through Ontology and International Standards Daniel Novotný, University of South Bohemia
3.	A Framework for a Forecasting-Based AI Risk Assessment Guillem Bas, Observatorio de Riesgos Catastróficos Globales
5.	AI-relevant regulatory precedents: A systematic search across all federal agencies Bill Anderson-Samways, Institute for AI Policy and Strategy

Session 2: Systemic risk and global catastrophic risk

6.	Leveraging the finance sector to mitigate GCRs: making the link to systemic financial risk Katie Stewart, ShareAction
7.	A Taxonomy of Systemic Risks from General-Purpose AI Risto Uuk, Future of Life Institute & KU Leuven
8.	Catastrophic Food Risk Beyond Production: Modelling Supply Chain and Infrastructure Disruption Impacts on Food Distribution Ross Tieman, Alliance to Feed the Earth in Disasters
9.	Standardizing Cascading Risk Factors Trond Arne Undheim, Stanford University

Session 3: Global catastrophic risk reduction, response and resilience

10.	Leveraging Communication Channels for Sub-Saharan African Contributions to GCR-focused AI Governance George Gor, The Future Society
11.	Expanding cropland area to prevent mass starvation in case of a global catastrophe Luísa Lopes Monteiro - presented by Michael Hinge, University of Canterbury, Christchurch
12.	Existential Resilience Toby D Pilditch, Transformative Futures Institute; University of Oxford; University College London
13.	It's In The Name: Value of Disaster Risk Reduction Frameworks for Global Catastrophic Risk Reduction Ximena Barker Huesca
14.	How can we prepare production for the next pandemic? Lessons to learn from COVID-19 emergency consortia Nikolai Kazantsev, Institute for Manufacturing

Open Poster Session

15.	Trends in Public Attitude Towards Existential Risk and Artificial Intelligence Ayushmaan Sharma, Existential Risk Observatory
16.	Creative approaches to communicating global catastrophic risks Lara Mani, Centre for the Study of Existential Risk
17.	Democracy at the End of Times: The Political Psychology of Perceived Global Collapse Sadi Shanaah, University of Warwick
18.	A drop in the bucket: insights from a systematic global compilation of AI safety research Zachary Arnold, Emerging Technology Observatory, Center for Security and Emerging Technology, Georgetown University
19.	Applying the IPAT model for investigating variations in slow global catastrophic risks over time Emma Engström, Institute for Futures studies, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden

**Wednesday 18 September
Poster Session 2**

Session 4: Intergovernmental governance of global catastrophic risks

20	<p>International AI Safety Assurance Agreements : Lessons from History, Feasibility Factors, and Hypotheses for the Future Charles Martinet, Sciences Po Paris; Centre pour la sécurité de l'IA</p>
21	<p>Navigating collapse: Balancing development and ocean governance amidst large-scale marine socio-ecological change Reuben Makomere, University of Tasmania Faculty of Law</p>
22	<p>Feminist Foreign Policy: a meaningful tool to address catastrophic risks? Ines K T Grange</p>
23	<p>Reimagining governance beyond nation states: Exploring transboundary identities in addressing global catastrophic risks Siddhi Ashar, Forum for the Future</p>
24	<p>The Complex Relationship Between Militaries and Global Catastrophic Risk Zachary Kallenborn, Center for Strategic and International Studies; George Mason University; National Institute for Deterrence Studies; University of Maryland and John Fogle, Alliance to Feed the Earth in Disasters</p>

Session 5: What might history tell us about the future of existential and catastrophic risk studies?

25	<p>Facing the Abyss: A Historical Analysis of Delta Communities' Exposure to Risk Dario Fazzi, Leiden University</p>
26	<p>Existential Resilience Thomas Moynihan, Centre for the Study of Existential Risk</p>

Open Poster Session

27	<p>Probabilistic risk assessment of solar particle events considering the cost of countermeasures to reduce the aviation radiation dose Moe Fujita, Graduate School of Advanced Integrated Studies in Human Survivability, Kyoto University</p>
28	<p>Creating superhumans, disrupting human nature: can germline genome editing endanger our species? Aleksandra E. Kornienko, University of Vienna, Gregor Mendel Institute</p>
29	<p>Both eyes open: Vigilant Incentives help Auditors improve AI Safety Paolo Bova, Teesside University</p>
30	<p>The value of humanity's potential and its alleged normative force Kritika Maheshwari, TU Delft</p>
31	<p>The UNDRR/ISC Hazard Information Profiles – Standardized hazard definition and information to support hazard understanding and data analytics Virginia Murray, Global Disaster Risk Reduction</p>

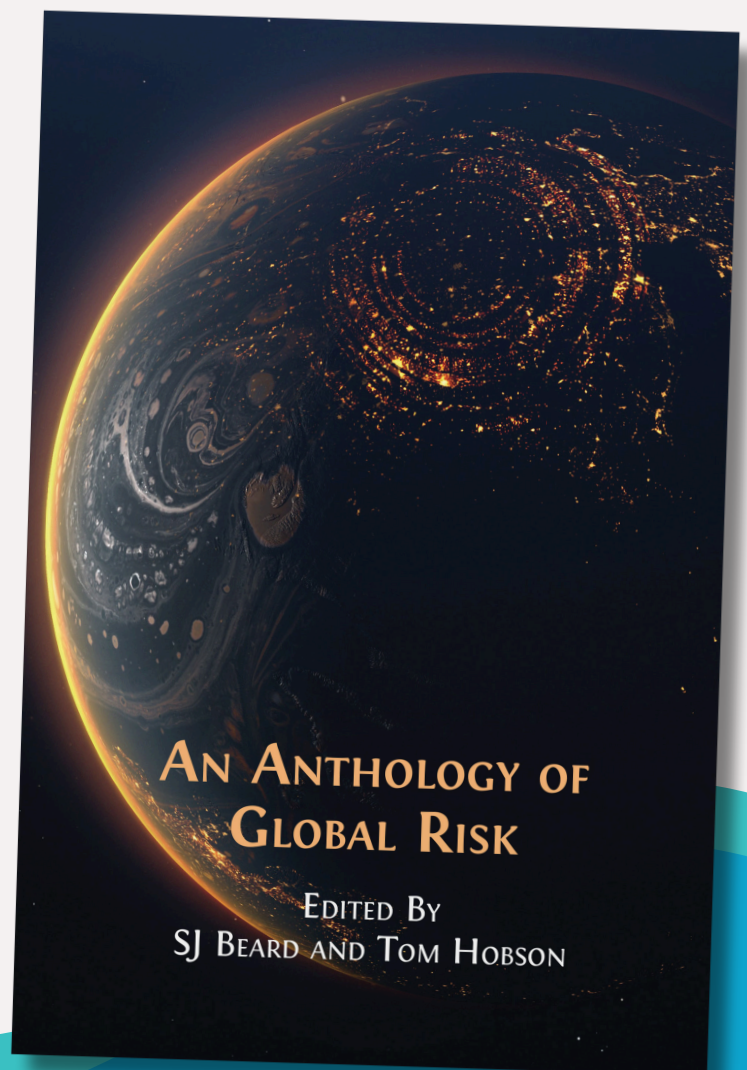


An Anthology of Global Risk

Out now

This anthology brings together a diversity of key texts in the emerging field of Existential Risk Studies.

At its heart, this book highlights the ongoing development of new academic paradigms and theories of change that have emerged from a community of researchers in and around the Centre for the Study of Existential Risk. The chapters in this book challenge received notions of human extinction and civilization collapse and seek to chart new paths towards existential security and hope.



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