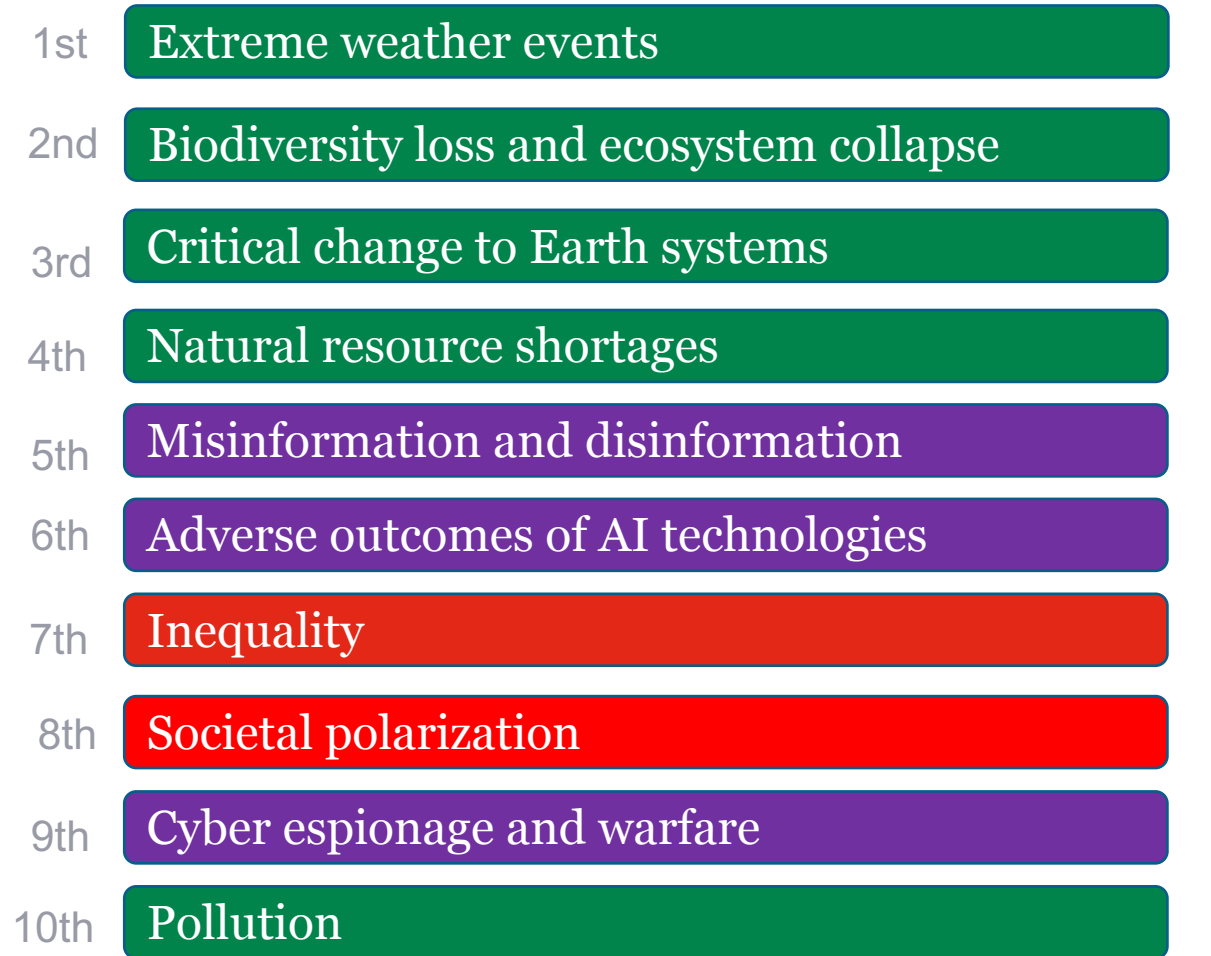




Interdisciplinarity and transformation – knowledge in a complex and changing world

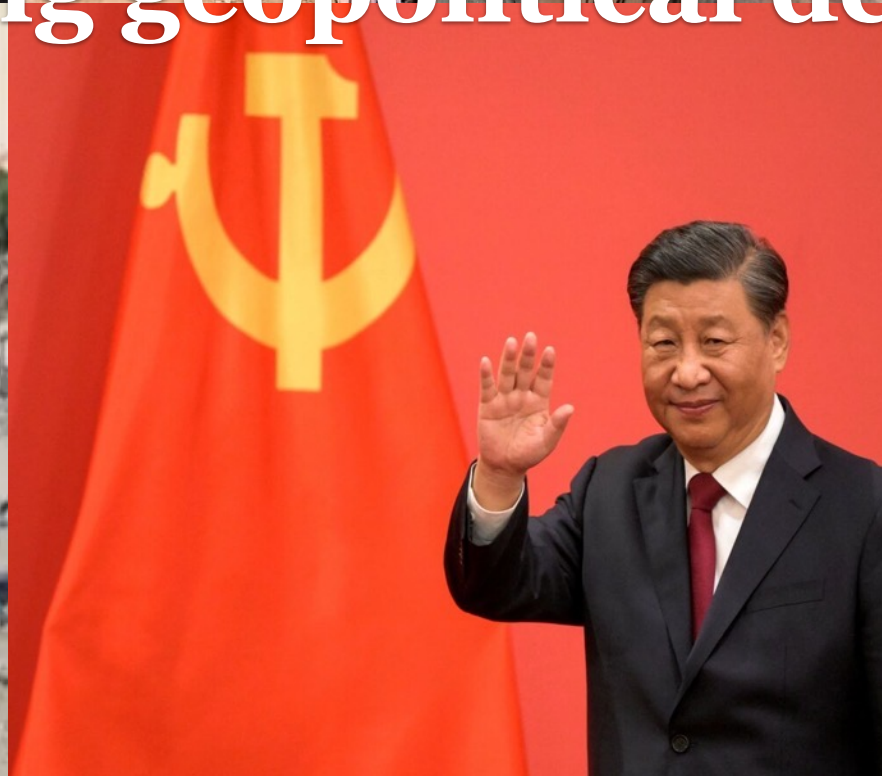
Idar Kreutzer, special advisor
31 October 2025

Global risks





Challenging geopolitical development



A photograph of a dramatic, stormy sky with dark, heavy clouds hanging over a field of tall, golden grass.

Climate, environment and
biodiversity

An abstract digital background featuring a dense array of vertical lines in various colors (blue, yellow, orange, red) that create a sense of depth and movement, resembling a data visualization or a digital forest.

Digitalisation, AI and quantum
technology

Four defining trends

A photograph showing an elderly man with white hair and a young boy in a white lab coat. The boy is using a blue and yellow stethoscope to listen to the man's chest. Both are smiling.

Health and aging population

A photograph of a diverse group of young people of various ethnicities and ages. They are all smiling and have their hands stacked on top of each other in the center, symbolizing unity and teamwork.

Democracy and inclusion

Biodiversity on the brink



85% of the planet's
wetlands have been
lost

66% of the marine
environment has been
significantly altered

75 % of the Earth's land
surface has been
significantly altered

One million species
are at risk of
extinction

ASPI's two-decade Critical Technology Tracker:

The rewards of long-term research investment



Advanced information and communication technologies

Technology	Tech monopoly risk	Top 5 countries				
Advanced optical communication	9/10 3.6					
Advanced undersea wireless communication	9/10 6.1					
Advanced radiofrequency communication	6/10 3.3					
Distributed ledgers	7/10 2.9					
High-performance computing	6/10 1.3					
Mesh and infrastructure-independent networks	6/10 1.8					
Protective cybersecurity technologies	4/10 1.6					

Advanced materials and manufacturing

Technology	Tech monopoly risk	Top 5 countries				
Advanced composite materials	9/10 4.1					
Advanced protection	8/10 3.4					
Coatings	10/10 11.6					
High-specification machining processes	9/10 3.4					
Nanoscale materials and manufacturing	10/10 11.2					
Novel metamaterials	9/10 4.0					
Smart materials	9/10 6.0					
Advanced explosives and energetic materials	6/10 2.9					
Advanced magnets and superconductors	5/10 2.2					
Continuous-flow chemical synthesis	5/10 2.3					
Critical minerals extraction and processing	7/10 3.9					
Wide and ultrawide bandgap semiconductors	6/10 2.4					
Additive manufacturing	6/10 1.4					



Næringslivets Hovedorganisasjon

Veien til vekst

Norsk konkurransekraft
- Veien til vekst

Knowledge is responsibility

The higher education sector has four key roles:

- Develop new knowledge and research
- Science-based education
- Innovation – put knowledge to use
- Contribute to an informed public discourse

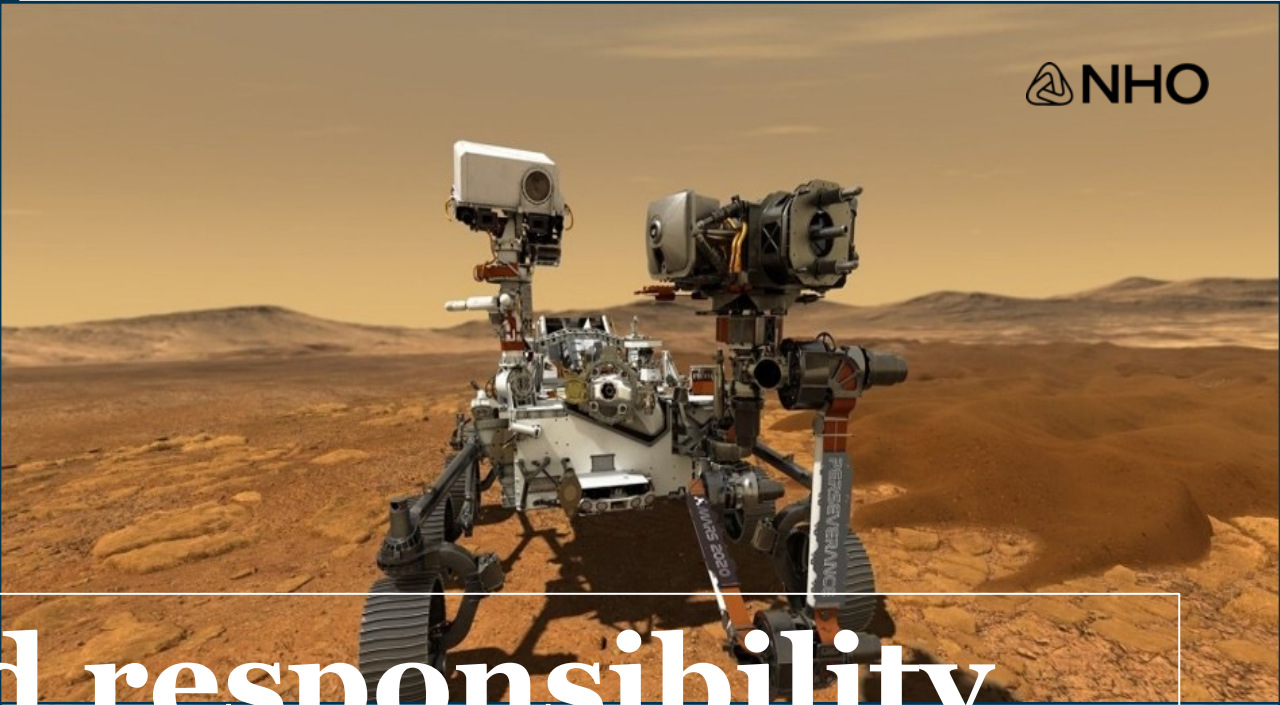
The role of business

- Efficient production of goods and services
- Develop new solutions, processes and technologies
- Create good jobs
- Value creation that generate tax revenues
- Drive productivity development and restructuring
- Ensure efficient resource allocation and utilization

Time for collaboration

- Strategic focus on innovation and talent
- More research in critical and emerging technologies
- More effective collaboration between education, research and business
- Focus on contextual understanding, critical thinking and interdisciplinary collaboration

Opportunity and responsibility



2025 Edelman Trust Barometer

Global Report
Trust and the Crisis of Grievance

Trust is a valuable resource that
must be managed actively and wisely



”

*Coming together is a beginning,
staying together is progress,
and working together is success.*

- Henry Ford



