Global Strategic Trends Programme

DCDC Futures Team
Paul Norman
Introduction

DCDC is the MOD’s impartial think-tank.
Vision and mission

“

To be a leader in **innovative, impartial** and **respected** Defence thinking.

“

To develop, deepen and challenge the conceptual component of Defence’s contribution to National Power in order to produce outputs that inform Defence Policy and Strategy and guide operational activity and joint and single service education.

Development, Concepts and Doctrine Centre
A joint and integrated staff

- Total of 70 staff (37 military and 33 civilian)
  - Director Concepts and Doctrine (2* rotational)
  - 3 Heads of Department (1* military)
  - Chief of Staff (OF-5 military rotational)
  - Policy Adviser (civil servant)
  - 8 Assistant Heads (OF-5 military and civil service)
  - 35 desk officers (OF-4 military and civil service)
  - 16 support team

- Swedish Centre (4 x officers)
- One Australian officer
Part of a larger Network

- Aberystwyth University
- Academy of Military Science, Beijing
- Bespoke Industry Workshop
- Brazilian Ministry of Defence
- Brenthurst Foundation
- Bristol University
- British Geological Survey
- British Peace Support Team, South Africa
- BT Innovate
- Cabinet Office: Cabinet Secretary’s Advisory Group
- Cabinet Office: Government Office for Strategic Horizon Scanning
- Centre for Strategic Futures, Singapore
- Centre Interarmées de Concepts, de Doctrines et d’expérimentations
- Cranfield University
- Department for Business Innovation and Skills: Government Office of Science
- Met Office Hadley Centre
- Department for Energy and Climate Change
- Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs
- Department for International Development
- Department of Health
- Department of Transport
- DRPM Group
- Economic and Social Research Council
- Energy Research Partnership
- ESKTN
- Explore Strategic Business Insights Inc
- Firm Futures
- Foreign and Commonwealth Office
- National Security Strategy Network
- Wilton Park
- French Directorate of Strategic Affairs
- Getulio Vargas Foundation, Brazil
- HM Ambassador, Republic of Korea
- HM Treasury
- Home Office
- Igarapé Institute, Brazil
- Imperial College London
- India Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses
- Institute of Applied Economic Research, Brazil
- International Energy Agency
- International Institute for Strategic Studies, Singapore
- International Institute of Strategic Studies
- IR Consilium Ltd
- JLT Speciality Ltd
- Joaen bin Jasim Joint Command and Staff College, Qatar
- Joint Committee for National Security Strategy
- Kings College London
- Lee Kuan Centre for Innovative Cities
- London School of Economics
- McKinsey and Company
- Microsoft
- Ministry of Defence
- Defence Academy of the United Kingdom
- Defence Science and Technology Laboratory
- Royal College of Defence Studies
- North Atlantic Treaty Organisation Allied Command Transformation
- Norwegian Ministry of Defence
- Now and Next
- Observer Research Foundation, India
- Overseas development Institute
- Oxfam
- Oxford Analytica
- Panida Calogeris Institute, Brazil
- Potomac Institute for Policy
- PWC
- Rajaratnam School of International Studies
- RAND Europe
- Respublica
- Rio de Janeiro State University
- Risk Assessment and Horizon Scanning Office, Singapore
- Royal Holloway, University of London
- Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House)
- Royal United Services Institute
- Saudi Arabia Armed Forces War College
- Saudi Arabia based Defence Attachés from Australia, USA, Japan, Romania and Poland
- Saudi Arabia National Guard Command and General Staff College
- School of International Futures
- Scottish Government
- Shell
- Singaporean Ministry of Defence
- Slovak Republic (Institute for Security and Defence Studies Ministry of Defence)
- Swedish Armed Forces Headquarters
- Swedish Defence Research Agency
- Swedish Institute of International Affairs
- Swedish National Defence College
- The Diplomatic Institute, Qatar
- United Arab Emirates based Defence Attachés from France, Italy, Australia, Canada and Netherlands
- United Arab Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research

And many many more...
Global Strategic Trends Programme
Strategic trends programme

- Strategic context for planning and decisions
- Continuous programme, running since 2001
- A programme looking out 30 years
- Not the Future – but an aid to thinking about the future
- Our principal method is to identify robust trends and project these forward
Purpose of Global Strategic Trends Programme

- Long term strategic assessment for use in developing high level Defence and Security plans and policy (NSS / SDSR and the National Security Risk Assessment)

- Provide the strategic context from which to derive the Future Operating Environment, and other insights for policy making.

- Be a tool of influence, to support UK engagement overseas, and enable greater commonality in our concept and policy development among allies and partners.
Global Strategic Trends Programme

Future strategic context
Future themes and deductions

Strategic direction
Vision and tasks

Strategic concepts
How we will fight – capability insights
Global Strategic Trends - Programme so far….
Global Strategic Trends - Programme going forward…

- Project Launch: Method & Approach Published
- Research: Original Research Complete
- Research Review: Research year 1 Foundation Papers
- Workshops and consultation
- Launch: Summer 2018

Timeline:
- Data Search
- Data Analysis
- Trend Book Production
- Futures Gaming / Scenario & Shock Development
- Global Futures Survey 2050
Futures is a wicked problem

Cannot

Can
Events based approach
Trends based approach
Greater Data Driven and Academic Approach

Qualitative

Quantitative Data Management

The book/database of trends
Building GST 6

Global Future Survey

Literature Reviews

GST Review

GST6 Workshop

GST6 Workstrands
Q15 How much violence do you think you will experience in 2050?

- Less than today: 10%
- The same as today: 30%
- More than today: 60%

Q20 What do you think the greatest impact will be from changes in the global climate?
- Disasters
- Relocation
- Pollution
- Land
- Food costs
- Flooding
- Warmer
- Water
- Energy
- Migration
- Regions
- Sea levels
- Resources
- Extreme weather
- CO2
- Droughts
- Loss
- Climate
- Biodiversity
- Global
- Habitable
- Temperature
- Movement
- Population

Q29 What do you think the leading cause of death will be in 2050?
- Antibiotic resistance
- Lifestyle
- Infection
- Stupidity
- Old age
- Natural disasters
- Disease
- Climate change
- Cancer
- Global conflict
- Pandemic
- Water
- Obesity

Q18 If high quality meat can be grown from stem cells, without a live animal in 2050, do you think you would eat artificial meat?

- Yes: 80%
- No: 20%
Lit Search

Technology, innovation and enhancement

Geopolitics and Governance

Energy and Environment

Transhumanism
GST 4 suggests it maybe possible for the Chinese economy to surpass the US in the future. GST 1 & 3 do not mention it.

GST 3 suggests the transition between multiple and traditional identities will be seamless. GST 4 & 5 suggests there is likely to be friction.

GST 1 implies atheism will grow in importance, however GST 4 suggests religion will become increasingly influential.
Q6 How do you, or could you, envisage using Global Strategic Trends?

- To inform policy making: 70%
- To provide analysis for: 80%
- As reference or background: 60%
- To stimulate debate: 50%
- Not used: 10%

Q9 Are there any judgements that you feel should be given greater emphasis, if so which ones?

- Yes: 80%
- No: 20%
Identifying GST6 work-strands

**Thematic**
1. Environment (including climate change)
2. Resources, materials and waste
3. Food & water
4. Energy
5. Demography (ethnicity, migration & ageing)
6. The human habitat
7. The built environment (where we will live)
8. Globalisation & its impacts
9. The human race (health and augmentation)
10. Community & values (rights and relationships)
11. Work, lifestyle and leisure
12. Art, expression and design
13. Belief systems (including religion and ideology)
14. The global political order and governance
15. The role of the state, non-state actors and individuals
16. The global economic system (including money and value)
17. Inequality
18. Law, justice and ethics.
19. Conflict, violence and security
20. Crime and corruption
21. Artificial intelligence
22. Transport
23. Automation
24. Manufacturing
25. Education, knowledge and learning
26. Communications and information

**Geographic**
28. Asia-Pacific (including Oceania)
29. The High North (including the Arctic)
30. Africa
31. Europe & Russia
32. Oceans
33. Space
34. North America
35. Latin & Central America and the Caribbean
36. Antarctica & southern islands
Questions