

# NEW REALITY



Bled  
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[www.bledstrategicforum.org](http://www.bledstrategicforum.org)

| Panel Discussion

## | **REALISTIC HOPE: HOW TRANSFORMATION HAPPENS FASTER THAN YOU THINK**

The numbers are being used to tell a gloomy story. We are running out of water, robots will take our jobs, we are eating ourselves to an early death, old age pension and health systems are bankrupting governments, and an immigration crisis is unravelling the European integration project. A growing list of nightmares, perfect storms and global catastrophes creates fear of the future.

One response is technocratic optimism – we'll invent our way out of these impending crises! Or we'll simply ignore them as politically too hot to handle, too uncomfortable for experts – denied until crisis hits.

Despite the gloom, there is another way to look at the future. We don't have to be pessimistic or optimistic – we can deliver realistic hope. Where does this hope come from? From future-oriented thinkers and doers who do not ignore reality, but taking these challenges into account, realise the possibility of making a better future for many more people.

History is littered with late lessons from early warnings. Learning from history is key to avoiding repeat mistakes. But being “futures FITT” (i.e. flourishing-in-turbulent transformation) benefits from learning with alternative futures.