

UTOPIA(S) RELOADED +++ 26 – 28 October 2023 +++ Vienna

GSIS

The Institute for a Global  
Sustainable Information Society

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# THE DREAM OF A PEACEFUL DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF THE HUMAN SOCIETY

Forum InformatikerInnen für Frieden und gesellschaftliche Verantwortung e.V.

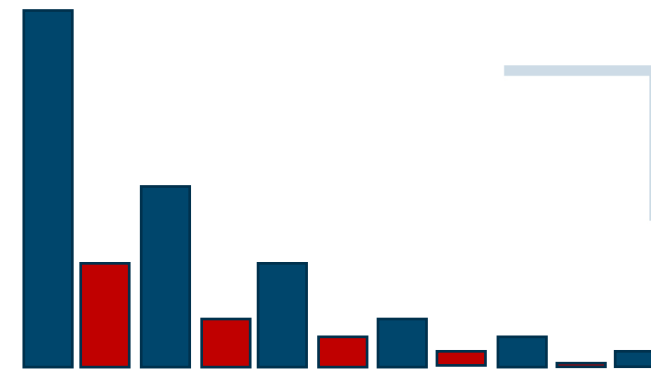
## Utopian dream

In 2025, two UN conferences start on **global peace** and **global sustainability** resp.

In 2030, both conferences end with spectacular agreements signed by most member states (with the exception of a small number of small states)

**Global peace:** Reduction of the expenses for military affairs and military personnel by 75 percent per year within the next ten years and the promise to solve conflicts between **states peaceful**

**Global sustainability:** To reach the goal of a world-wide sustainable economy and social sustainability for all people, two billion US-Dollar per year will be spent and sustainability forces will be formed of the size of the armies of today



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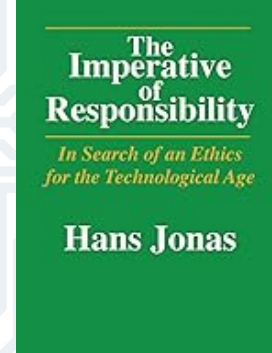
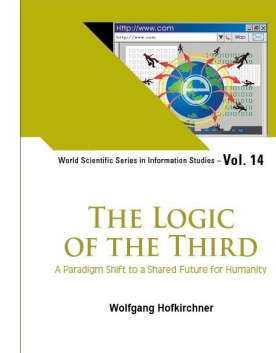
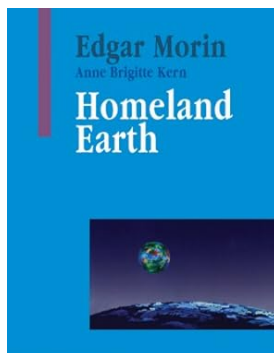
## Utopian dream

Both agreements will be supervised by a **global peace and surveillance system**, i.e., a worldwide digital network of platforms to monitor, surveil, plan, and manage disarmament and peace keeping on one hand and building a world worth living on the other hand

Confer the UN Charter and 17 goals of the UN Agenda 2030



Confer the ideas of homeland earth, convivialist manifestos, digital humanism, the logic of the third (anthropozene), the imperative of responsibility, ...



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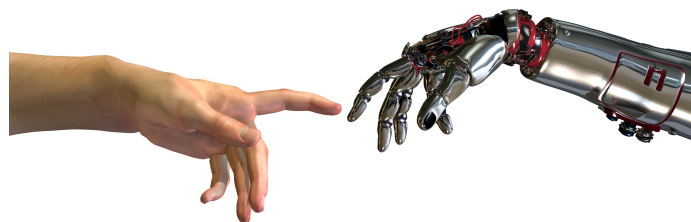
## Dystopian reality (wrt technology and digitization in particular)

Major trends in science and technology (developments for decades, lots of money spent, lots of experts involved spending labour and creativity) point in directions quite opposite to sustainability and peace

They are chosen according to the goals and expectations of politics and economy

In the artificial intelligence strategies of many states, for example, AI is considered as guarantee of future surplus

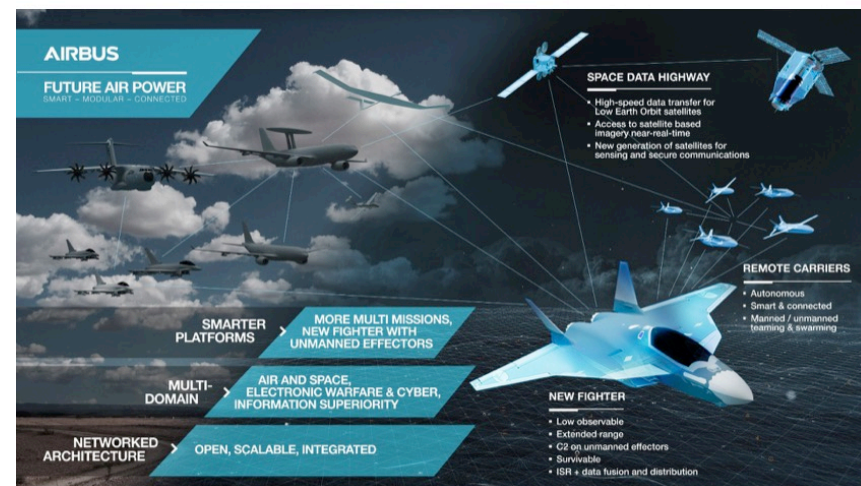
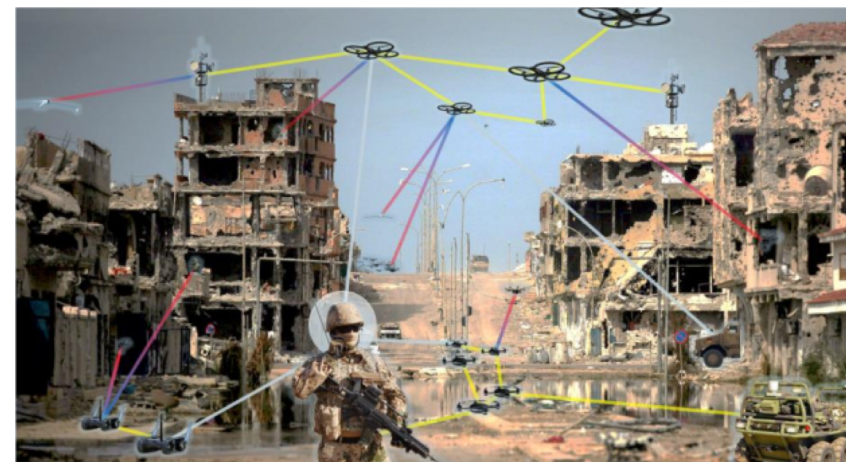
Science and technology follow the trace of money and the mainstream



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## Military affairs, armament and war

- Thinking war anew (the old killing and destruction)
- Using upcoming technologies like unmanned drones, autonomous lethal weapons, battle management systems, man-machine-teaming, artificial intelligence, robotics, ... (not to forget the contributions of physics, chemistry, biology, engineering, ... )
- see, e.g., the Future Combat Air System (FCAS)
- The military complex is the contrary of a sustainable affair



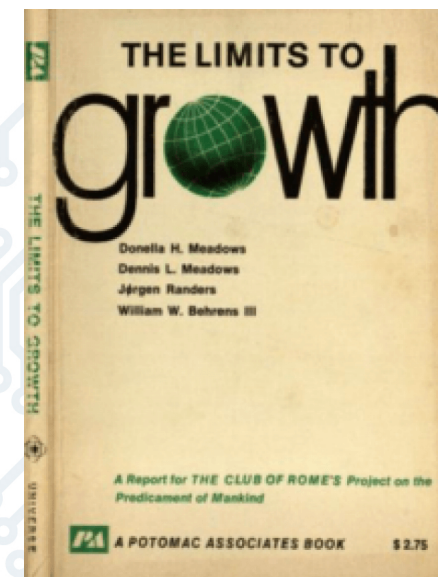
Top right: Künstliche Intelligenz in den Landstreitkräften, Amts für Heeresentwicklung, Bundeswehr 2019  
Bottom right: Airbus, Infographik zum FCAS-Projekt

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## Policy makers and economic powers

- The Big Five and several companies like them accumulate unbelievable amounts of money by means of information and communication technology often employing artificial intelligence methods and influence politics and society
- Social surveillance in the large and in the small by governments, secret services, police, ....
- Geostrategic contest of the major powers for world leadership  
(Who will lead in artificial intelligence, will lead the world)

One could know better



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## Autonomous (land, water and air) vehicles and systems of all kind

- Technologically quite challenging
- First operating systems in use
- But it is not yet clear to which extend it will work
- If it will work well, it may be good for climate and nature
- If it will work well, myriads of employments will get lost
- There is a lack of negotiation processes in politics and society
- Are ethical aspects properly considered?

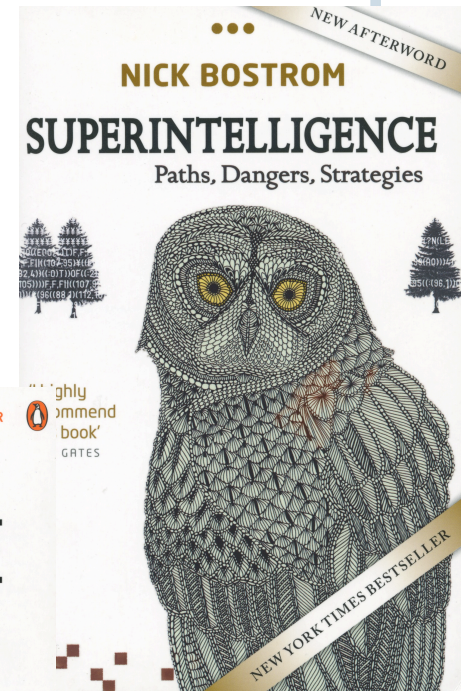
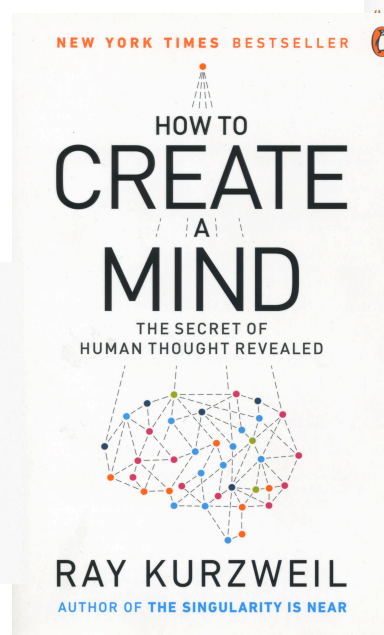
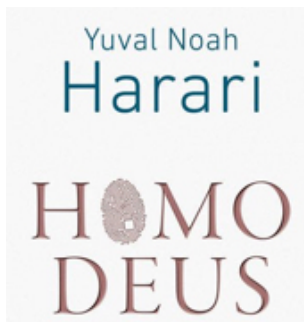
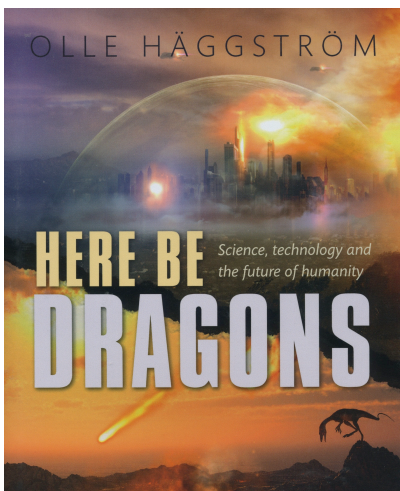


Uber autonomous vehicle prototype spotted in San Francisco,, Dllu , 2016,, CC BY-SA 4-0

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# Superintelligence

- Machines that think as good as human beings or better
- Transhumanism will lead humankind into posthumankind with the help of artificial intelligence and/or gene technology
- above all, speculation and medial event
- Total nonsense





## A bit of a conclusion (not too pessimistic)

- Transformation of the human society to an economical and social sustainability may not be impossible
- The use of science, technology and, in particular, digitization including AI and robotics may help
- But science and technology will not take the initiative; they try to provide what is required and paid
- I do not see any reason why the major trends cannot be redirected
- In this case, there would be enough money and personnel

**Humankind is asked to act**

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**Thanks  
for your  
attention**

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