



## Perceptions of existential risk study

The Eclipse Bureau is an independent research organization, undertaking research into perceptions of existential risk among the general public and the ways in which these inform social, political and economic trends. Our aim is to develop a publicly accessible index of such risks using qualitative survey methods, around which an informed dialogue may take place. In developing the index a policy of radical inclusion will be adopted under which any conceivable risk will be listed in the index.

There are no right or wrong answers to any of the questions, we are only interested in your opinions. If you prefer not to answer a particular question just continue to the next applicable question.

If you have questions at any time about the survey or the procedures, you may contact us by email at : [contact@eclipsebureau.fr](mailto:contact@eclipsebureau.fr)

Thank you very much for your time and support, please begin the survey by turning the page.



## *Perceptions of existential risk study*

To complete this survey online, visit : [study.eclipsebureau.fr](http://study.eclipsebureau.fr)

[Q1]

An existential risk is a risk that poses large, permanent and negative consequences to humanity that are irreversible. Such a risk is one in which an adverse outcome would either annihilate humanity or permanently and drastically curtail its potential.

We are interested in what you consider to be the most imminent existential risk, please note this in the space provided below and any factors you think may contribute to it:

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[Q2]

Below are several categories of existential risks that have been suggested, Please read the descriptions and select the option you think could occur:

\* [Please choose only one of the following by marking an X in the box ] :

- Deliberate misuse of technology.** (eg. A nuclear holocaust, a genetically engineered biological agent or global warming) [*Continue to Q3a*]
- Accidental misuse of technology.** (eg. A physics disaster or unforeseen consequences of genetic engineering.) [*Continue to Q3b*]
- Natural or Cosmic disasters.** (eg. Climate change, naturally occurring disease, an asteroid or comet impact, resource depletion or ecological destruction.) [*Continue to Q3c*]
- Social, political or religious dead ends.** (eg. A misguided world government or repressive totalitarian global regime.) [*Continue to Q3d*]
- Something else.** [*Continue to Q3e*]

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[Q3a] **Only answer this question if your answer to [Q2] was *Deliberate misuse of technology.***

You said you felt risk(s) in the category of **Deliberate misuse of nanotechnology** could occur.

Why do you think risks involving *people deliberately misusing technology* are the most likely to occur ? Please note this in the field provided below:

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[Q3b] Only answer this question if your answer to [Q2] was **Accidental misuse of technology**.

You said you felt risk(s) in the category of **Accidental misuse of nanotechnology** could occur.

Why do you think risks involving people *accidentally misusing technology* are the most likely to occur ? Please note this in the space provided below:

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[Q3c] Only answer this question if your answer to [Q2] was **Natural or cosmic disasters**.

You said you felt risk(s) in the category of **Natural or cosmic disasters** could occur.

Why do you think risks involving *natural or cosmic disasters* are the most likely to occur ? Please note this in the space provided below:

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[Q3d] Only answer this question if your answer to [Q2] was **Social, political and religious dead ends**.

You said you felt risk(s) in the category of **Social, political and religious dead ends** could occur.

Why do you think risks involving *social, political and religious dead ends* are the most likely to occur ? Please note this in the space provided below:

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[Q3e] Only answer this question if your answer to [Q2] was **Something else**.

**Something else...**

Please tell us what you think is the most pressing existential risk facing humanity today and any human activities or external factors that you think may contribute to it :

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[Q4]

We are interested in what you consider to be probable or preferable futures for society.

Please note these in the space provided below, as well as anything that would need to occur in order for them to emerge from our present state :

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[Q5]

Do you have any additional comments ?

Please note these in the space provided below.

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[Q6]

We also have a few demographic questions if you would care to answer them :

\* [Please choose only one of the following by marking an X in the box ] :

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> ( <i>Continue to Q10</i> )

[Q7] **Only answer this question if your answer to [Q6] was Yes.**

What is your gender ? \*

\* [Please choose only one of the following by marking an X in the box ] :

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Male</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Female</b>

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[Q8] **Only answer this question if your answer to [Q6] was Yes.**

What is your age ?

\* [Please choose only one of the following by marking an X in the box ] :

<input type="checkbox"/> Younger than 18	<input type="checkbox"/> 45 - 54
<input type="checkbox"/> 18 - 24	<input type="checkbox"/> 55 - 64
<input type="checkbox"/> 25 - 34	<input type="checkbox"/> 65 +
<input type="checkbox"/> 35 - 44	

[Q9] **Only answer this question if your answer to [Q6] was Yes.**

Thinking about your income would you say you are able to get by :

\* [Please choose only one of the following by marking an X in the box ] :

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Very easily</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Somewhat easily</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>With some difficulty</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>With great difficulty</b>

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[Q10]

Thank you for your time, we may be undertaking similar studies in the future.  
Would you be interested in being contacted about them ? \*

\* [Please choose only one of the following by marking an X in the box ] :

- Yes**
- No** (*End of survey.*)

[Q11] **Only answer this question if your answer to [Q10] was Yes.**

Thank you !  
Please enter your email address in the space provided :

Thank you for your participation !

If you have any additional comments or feedback, please write to us at :  
[contact@eclipsebureau.fr](mailto:contact@eclipsebureau.fr)