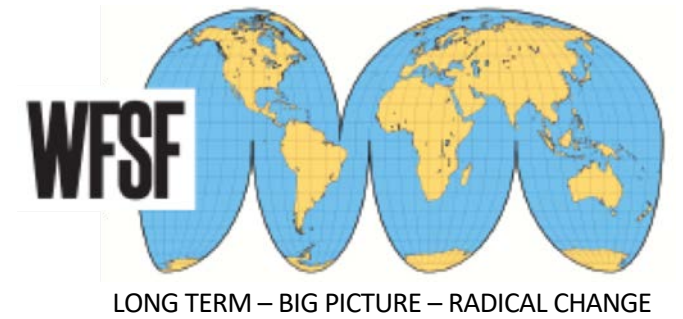


PARTNERSHIPS & RESEARCH



WFSF Research Committee
UNESCO & UN
WFSF-PMU Research Fund



INTRODUCTION

What does WFSF offer

- a) Access to researchers and a global network of highly competent actors in Futures Studies
- b) Promote futures literacy
- c) Stimulate the younger generation in thinking on long-term futures
- d) Advisory role in the political system (long-term policy research/development/action plan)
- e) Futures readiness heuristics
- f) Credibility
- g) Validation

Values we stand for

- a) Scientific curiosity about thinking about Futures
- b) Freedom of expression for futures studies
- c) An open exchange of information/views
- d) Attention to human rights, democratization, citizen empowerment, diversity and inclusion of unheard voices

Ways to reach the objectives

- a) The WFSF becomes a partner in developing research projects for interested organizations involving both individual and institutional members
- b) The WFSF Research Committee finds or defines opportunities, publish them to the WFSF community, and supports those members who want to position themselves toward it

Objectives of WFSF Research Committee

- a) Stimulate future-oriented research in academic institutions, government agencies, international and national non-government organizations, and other bodies
- b) Support and sponsor projects, and cooperate with national and international futures research institutes and organizations, for common aims and objectives

Types of partner organizations

- a) Foundations
- b) Universities
- c) Associations
- d) Research entities
- e) Corporates
- f) Governments/Authorities
- g) NGOs
- h) Media
- i) Accreditation project

MEMBERS OF THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Chair of the Research Committee



Andreas Ligtvoet, PhD

Andreas Ligtvoet has been thinking about futures and futures studies for more than 20 years and joined WFSF as a member in 2000. He currently works at Technopolis Group as a senior consultant with expertise in the green economy, sustainable energy, circular economy, industrial ecology, and cooperation – topics closely related to the fate of our earth. He likes to employ a range of qualitative and quantitative (futures) research methods, such as serious games and simulation models.

Other large chunks in his professional CV are the Delft University of Technology and RAND Europe. At Delft, his major research (leading to his Ph.D.) focused on different methodological approaches for analysing cooperation, specifically in energy and industry networks. He supported several physical infrastructure providers with advice on asset (risk) management and futures studies. He also led a stakeholder dialogue project on the future of the Dutch energy system. At RAND, he contributed to and led a range of projects in the fields of science and technology foresight, education, ICT and health. Andreas obtained his M.Sc. degree in Science & Policy from Utrecht University, the Netherlands, focusing on technology transfer of energy efficient technologies.

Next to his professional life, Andreas is a keen supporter of sustainable development through activities as (former) board member of the Peakoil Netherlands Foundation and working groups in political parties.

Member of the Research Committee



Dr. Erik F. Øverland

Dr. Erik F. Øverland is the President of The World Futures Studies Federation, WFSF (wfsf.org) and the Co-Editor-in-Chief and co-founder of European Journal of Futures Research, EJFR. He also holds a part time position as a guest researcher at the Freie Universität Berlin, Germany. In Norway he is senior policy advisor to the Minister of Education and Research and has represented Norway as official delegate to several working groups in the EU and to the Steering Committee for Educational Policy and Practice, CDPPE, at The Council of Europe. Dr. Øverland has published several books and scientific articles about futures studies, and is one of the most experienced foresight practitioners in Norway. Øverland was the Project Manager of Norway2030 by the Norwegian Government (1998-2001) and has conducted futures studies for agencies and business enterprises both in Norway and abroad.

Two of his most influential publications are the article: Øverland, E.F. (2013): Universal Perspectivism. Transcending “facta” and “futura” through foresight theory building, Themed issue 2013-1, On the Horizon, Emerald Publishing, and a textbook at the university level: “CARPE FUTURUM. How to manage the future”, Cappelen Publishing 2010. Contact details: president@wfsf.org.

Member of the Research Committee



Helga Veigl

Helga studied for her PhD in Futures Studies (The Science of Foresight) at Corvinus University in Budapest. Helga is from Hungary and travelled and worked in the USA and the Middle East for several years. She is currently living in Rijeka, Croatia and is a resident in UAE. She is a full-time professional futurist at The Futures Lab, Inc. She is a member of the Scientific Committee for Futures Studies for WFSF and Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University (KSA) for the Futures Research Grants.

With specific emphasis on systems thinking, foresight processes and modelling she is an experienced workshop facilitator on multiple foresight projects. Helga is an expert in weak signals and the application in creating future insights, indicators and scenarios. Helga is the founding member and former Secretary of Hungarian Association of the Club of Rome. She is an Academic Researcher and has worked on multiple EU and government research projects on strategic economic development including environmental and future climate scenarios. Helga is also the co-author of book chapters and journal articles on Futures Studies theory and practice.

Helga is also a creator of critical digital developments that she designs and manages. She developed the data system that manages and supports the various foresight methods and maps of the foresight process. On the foresight consulting jobs her designs and visuals are a major contribution for the development of the scenario narratives.

UNESCO

WFSF and UNESCO are partners since 1974

“WFSF represents one of the most extensive and long-established international future studies networks. UNESCO maintains close and regular relations with it and has on many occasions supported its activities, both intellectually and financially.”

(from UNESCO website)

Cooperation between WFSF and UNESCO has taken many forms, including:

- a) UNESCO financed participants from developing countries to attend WFSF events until 1990;
- b) Introductory Courses in Futures Studies in the Asia Pacific Region (early 1990s), Budapest (1999-2005); Egypt, DR Congo & Malaysia (2013-14);
- c) WFSF Members participate in UNESCO International Expert Meetings;
- d) WFSF contributes to written consultations by UNESCO.

WFSF-UNESCO Publications

- a) Joint WFSF-UNESCO publications include: The Futures of Culture Series (1990-1993) coordinated and edited by Professor Eleonora B. Masini, WFSF President (1981-1990):
 - b) Futures of Culture Volume 1, Eleonora B. Masini [Working Group on the Futures of Culture, Paris, January 1990]
 - c) Futures of Culture Volume 2: Eleonora B. Masini [The Prospects for Africa and Latin America, 1992]
 - d) Futures of Asian Cultures Volume 3: Eleonora B. Masini & Yogesh Atal [Futures of Asian Cultures, 1993]

UNESCO Foresight Section

- a) The Foresight Section of UNESCO, currently led by WFSF Fellow & former Executive Board Member, Riel Miller, organises a diversified range of events at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris and elsewhere as a contribution to global debates on some of the key challenges of our time:
- b) The UNESCO Future Forum series brings together leading scientists, intellectuals, artists and decision-makers from all parts of the world in a spirit of forward-looking interdisciplinary inquiry.
- c) The UNESCO Future Lectures cycle offers world-renowned personalities to share their views with an audience including representatives of the Member States, the Secretariat, intellectual and scientific communities, the media and the public at large.
- d) The UNESCO Future Seminars gather high-level experts on select strategic and technical issues.

UNESCO Participation Program has funded several WFSF projects, including:

- a) Futures courses for young people in Budapest from 1999-2005;
- b) WFSF World Conference in Budapest in 2005;
- c) An Online Centre for Pedagogical Resources PP: 2006-2007 (implemented 2008).

The aim of the OCPR in Futures Studies was to develop an interactive global repository to act as a hub to gather, store and interlink the diversity of futures pedagogical resources being created globally (including school, undergraduate, graduate, professional and lifelong learning). This encourages participation and collaboration in the ongoing establishment and development of the futures field, particularly through furthering access to leading-edge pedagogical research and practice.

UN

ECOSOC

WFSF has been a Special Consultative Partner with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) since 1987. ECOSOC is the UN Platform on social and economic issues. Please review the UN chart below to see where ECOSOC is placed within the UN family. It is at the same level as the UN General Assembly and the UN Security Council.

UNESCO is actually one of the Specialised Bodies under the umbrella of the UN ECOSOC (like WHO, IMF, UNIDO and others).

Our Special Consultative Status with ECOSOC means we may participate in high-level UN Events at the UN Headquarters in New York, Geneva and/or Vienna. WFSF Executive Board Member Dr. Dana Klisanin is the WFSF President's Envoy to the UN Meetings in New York.

DESA

WFSF collaborates with the Department of Economic & Social Affairs. DESA is a part of the UN Secretariat providing an activities arm of ECOSOC.

UNDP

We have a new collaboration with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) which allows us to use their UN Teamworks Knowledge Sharing Platform for implementing our projects. Our LEALA project members in DR Congo, Malaysia and Egypt will be the first participants for this new service . The UNDP is one of the Programmes under the umbrella of the UN General Assembly (like UNICEF, UNITAR and related organisations such as the WTO).

WFSF-PMU RESEARCH FUND

WFSF-PMU partnership

- a) The WFSF and PMU Agreement was signed in 2019 for a 5-year collaboration, as well as establishing a chapter and research funds per agreement. PMU has developed and operates the Middle East & North Africa (MENA) Chapter of WFSF.
- b) Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd Center for Futuristic Studies (PMFCFS) and World Futures Studies Federation (WFSF) announced FIRST FUTURES RESEARCH GRANT PROPOSAL on February 12, 2020.
- c) The objective of this grant was to encourage more researchers to explore and research in disciplines related to energy, sustainability, education, youth empowerment, environment, climate change, and artificial intelligence.
- d) PMFCFS received more than 100 proposals from multiple countries such as Australia, Brazil, United States, Finland, France, Italy, Jordan, Malaysia, Mexico and Saudi Arabia.

If you have any further question, or you are interested in partnerships, please contact the WFSF Research Committee:
ResearchCommittee@wfsf.org



LONG TERM – BIG PICTURE – RADICAL CHANGE

<https://wfsf.org>

