

FUTUREtakes

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Second Transcultural Thematic Issue

“Transcultural Impacts and Perspectives on the Future”

Perspectives from Canada, Italy, South Africa, Southeast Asia, Southwest Asia (Middle East), the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

What if?

- **Famine and malnutrition**
- **Water shortages**
- **Refugee crises**
- **Energy costs**
- **Environmental degradation**
- **Unemployment; underemployment**
- **Healthcare costs and inaccessibility**
- **Security and governance challenges**
- **Poverty**
- **Armed strife**
- **Stressful lifestyles**
- **Alienation**
- **Education costs**
- **Sweatshops; child labor**
- **Orphans**
- **Economy meltdown risks**

What hidden assumptions (for example, about the economy, resources, education, healthcare, working patterns, or demographics) did societies and their leaders make that permitted these challenges to arise? How might long-term planning have avoided or mitigated these challenges by uncovering these hidden assumptions?

What lessons from various peoples and nations might be useful in addressing these challenges?

How might things have been different if another society had become dominant? That is, how would another society have addressed these challenges – or would they have arisen at all? What other challenges might have emerged instead?

What will be the “challenges after next”?

send your thoughts to forum@futuretakes.org