Global Strategic Trends
Programme overview
Finland
June 2017
DCDC is the MOD’s think-tank.
Continuum of thought

Future strategic context
Future themes and deductions

Strategic direction
Vision and tasks

Future concepts
How we will fight – capability insights

Strategic Trends Programme

NSS and SDSR

Concepts

Concept Lead

Doctrine
Strategic trends programme

**Strategic context for planning and decisions**

**Continuous programme, running since 2001**

**A programme looking out 30 years**

**Not the Future – but an aid to thinking about the future**

**Our principal method is to identify robust trends and project these forward**

Development, Concepts and Doctrine Centre
“My sense of the MOD’s Development, Concepts and Doctrine Centre, its product Global Strategic Trends…is that we are internationally competitive at being able to set out how the world is evolving over time.”

General Sir Richard Barrons
Former Commander of Joint Forces Command
Giving evidence to the Defence Committee

“Global Strategic Trends was one of the main contributions to the policy-making process that culminated in the 2015 UK strategy.”

House of Commons briefing paper 7431
Reaching a Global Audience

- 15,000+ copies of the publication demanded and distributed.

- Over 22,000 views of the supporting online animation.

- International media coverage to a potential global audience of over 15 million people.

- Hundreds of briefings given to key collaborators, partners and allies across Whitehall, Europe and the World.
Producing Global Strategic Trends
The future is a wicked problem

Cannot

Can
Trends based approach
Number of pubs in the UK
Joe Farman discovers hole in the Ozone 1985
CFCs and the ozone hole

![Graph showing CFCs and ozone hole evolution over years.](image-url)
The problem of complexity
Identified GST6 work-strands

**Thematic**
1. Environment (including climate change)
2. Resources, materials and waste
3. Food & water
4. Energy
5. Demography (ethnicity, migration & ageing)
6. The human habitat
7. The built environment (where we will live)
8. Globalisation & its impacts
9. The human race (health and augmentation)
10. Culture (identity, and cultural homogenisation)
11. Community & values (rights and relationships)
12. Work, lifestyle and leisure
13. Art, expression and design
14. Belief systems (including religion and ideology)
15. The global political order and governance
16. The role of the state, non-state actors and individuals
17. The global economic system (including money and value)
18. Inequality
19. Law, justice and ethics.
20. Conflict, violence and security
21. Crime and corruption
22. Artificial intelligence
23. Transport
24. Automation
25. Manufacturing
26. Education, knowledge and learning
27. Communications and information

**Geographic**
1. Asia-Pacific (including Oceania)
2. Central Asia
3. The Middle East
4. The High North (including the Arctic)
5. Africa
6. Europe
7. Russia
8. Oceans
9. Space
10. North America
11. Latin & Central America and the Caribbean
12. Antarctica & southern islands

**Greater degree of international collaboration**
- Much greater use of outsourced research
- Greater degree of international collaboration

**Cabinet Office hosted Stakeholder series of meetings**
Bringing it all together