



# The Future: Six Drivers of Global Change

By Al Gore



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**NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER**

From the former vice president and #1 *New York Times* bestselling author comes *An Inconvenient Truth* for everything—a frank and clear-eyed assessment of six critical drivers of global change in the decades to come.

Ours is a time of revolutionary change that has no precedent in history. With the same passion he brought to the challenge of climate change, and with his decades of experience on the front lines of global policy, Al Gore surveys our planet's beclouded horizon and offers a sober, learned, and ultimately hopeful forecast in the visionary tradition of Alvin Toffler's *Future Shock* and John Naisbitt's *Megatrends*. In *The Future*, Gore identifies the emerging forces that are reshaping our world:

- Ever-increasing economic globalization has led to the emergence of what he labels “Earth Inc.”—an integrated holistic entity with a new and different relationship to capital, labor, consumer markets, and national governments than in the past.
- The worldwide digital communications, Internet, and computer revolutions have led to the emergence of “the Global Mind,” which links the thoughts and feelings of billions of people and connects intelligent machines, robots, ubiquitous sensors, and databases.
- The balance of global political, economic, and military power is shifting more profoundly than at any time in the last five hundred years—from a U.S.-centered system to one with multiple emerging centers of power, from nation-states to private actors, and from political systems to markets.
- A deeply flawed economic compass is leading us to unsustainable growth in consumption, pollution flows, and depletion of the planet's strategic resources of topsoil, freshwater, and living species.
- Genomic, biotechnology, neuroscience, and life sciences revolutions are radically transforming the fields of medicine, agriculture, and molecular science—and are putting control of evolution in human hands.
- There has been a radical disruption of the relationship between human beings and the earth's ecosystems, along with the beginning of a revolutionary transformation of energy systems, agriculture, transportation, and construction worldwide.

From his earliest days in public life, Al Gore has been warning us of the promise and peril of emergent truths—no matter how “inconvenient” they may seem to be. As absorbing as it is visionary, *The Future* is a map of the world to come, from a man who has looked ahead before and been proven all too right.

### **Praise for *The Future***

“Magisterial . . . The passion is unmistakable. So is the knowledge. Practically every page offers an illumination.”—Bloomberg

“In *The Future* . . . Gore takes on a subject whose scale matches that of his achievements and ambition.”—*The New York Times Book Review*

“Historically grounded . . . Gore’s strengths lie in his passion for the subject and in his ability to take the long view by putting current events and trends in historical context.”—*Publishers Weekly*

“Provocative, smart, densely argued . . . a tour de force of Big Picture thinking.”—*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

“A luminously intelligent analysis that is packed with arresting ideas and facts.”—*The Guardian*

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### **The Future: Six Drivers of Global Change By Al Gore Bibliography**

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## Editorial Review

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Since exiting the political stage after the controversial presidential election of 2000, Al Gore has pursued a lucrative business career while continuing his series of works of environmental warning, which began with *Earth in the Balance* (1992). While less admonitory than *An Inconvenient Truth* (2006), Gore's green concerns persist in this new assembly of prognostications, which organize the author's vision of humanity's prospects into six categories. Those are economic globalization (which Gore tags as "Earth, Inc."), instantaneous communication ("the Global Mind"), international relations, demography and capitalism, human health and biotechnology, and natural resources and climate change ("the Edge"). Identifying trends in each area, Gore the polymath posits directions and destinations he sees as desirable and scolds what he regards as the impediment to their realization, namely, a corruption of American democracy by corporations, lobbyists, and campaign cash. Certainly a wide-ranging socioeconomic and scientific survey of humanity's next decades, Gore's palpably political imperative is the distinguishing trait of this contribution to futurology, a genre with a checkered past. Time will tell whether the author's predictions hold up. **HIGH-DEMAND BACKSTORY:** Some of former vice president Al Gore's books have cracked best-seller lists, and though this title will not likely do so, Gore's high media profile will draw plenty of attention to his new book. --Gilbert Taylor

Review

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"This is a great book. **From political policy and economics to science and the most thorny ethical issues, Al Gore has stated the human condition and the issues we face forthrightly, fearlessly, and in easily understood language**—and has said what must be done. I asked myself halfway through who else could have written a book of this magnitude. The only answer I could imagine was Jefferson."—E. O. Wilson, Harvard University, two-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize

"I'm a pro-growth supply-side economist, so my admiration for Al Gore may seem like an oxymoron. It's not. This book is amazingly rich in wisdom, practicality, and insight. Al Gore has a portfolio that warrants credibility and is an accomplished polymath who transcends ideology while turning our attention to **big issues, big ideas, and big solutions**. *The Future* frames the discussion whether you're conservative, agnostic, or liberal. It's a fascinating deep read."—Arthur B. Laffer, Ph.D.

"Whether he's discussing cyberspace, the environment, science, or the economy, Al Gore presents in this

book, with impressive breadth and well-researched depth, the challenges we have to meet to ensure that they become opportunities rather than threats. **If you are concerned about the massive changes the world is just heading into, then you should read this book. If you aren't, then you must read it!**—Tim Berners-Lee, inventor of the World Wide Web

#### About the Author

Former vice president **Al Gore** is co-founder and chairman of Generation Investment Management. He is also a senior partner at Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers, and a member of Apple Inc.'s board of directors. Gore spends the majority of his time as chairman of The Climate Reality Project, a nonprofit devoted to solving the climate crisis. Gore was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives four times and the U.S. Senate twice. He served eight years as vice president. He authored the bestsellers *Earth in the Balance*, *An Inconvenient Truth*, *The Assault on Reason*, and *Our Choice*. He is a co-recipient of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize.

#### Users Review

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##### Larry Davis:

Often the book *The Future: Six Drivers of Global Change* will bring that you the new experience of reading a book. The author style to clarify the idea is very unique. If you try to find new book you just read, this book very ideal to you. The book *The Future: Six Drivers of Global Change* is much recommended to you you just read. You can also get the e-book through the official web site, so you can easier to read the book.

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