

TRAVEL INFORMATION

This map has been drawn with a calm hand and a kind heart to help people entering the corridors of uncertainty. It is a mind-map for those seeking to explore new landscapes. It takes many perspectives to perceive what is happening now let alone predict what might happen next and this is merely my own modest attempt to do both. Hopefully people will use this map to have courageous conversations about where they are now and where they might wish to travel next. Every care has been taken to ensure that the thinking contained within this map is robust at the time of publication, but it will not be error-free and no responsibility can be taken for people blindly following conventional wisdom. Paths are no indication of rights of way and travellers should be careful not to confuse a clear view for a short distance. If in doubt stop moving and quietly sit down and think for a while. Finally, remember that while the future is largely unknowable it is not uneventful. Tomorrow is created from what we decide to do today. We should therefore spend less time worrying about what might happen and far more time discussing where it is that we want to travel and how we'd like to get there.

LOST PERSONS

Persons feeling lost or disorientated, especially those aged fifty plus, can contact the mapmaker for guidance, although it is ultimately each individual's responsibility to find their own way. Guided tours of key sights are available to people that ask politely. Lunch will be provided. Please note that alteration works can take place and some routes will be replaced without notice, in which case replacement shuttle services will operate.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This map was conceived and created by Richard Watson using material from his website nowandnext.com and various books, notably Future Files and Digital Vs. Human. Invaluable enthusiasm and support has been received from many people most of whom would like to remain anonymous for career reasons. Individuals happy to be named include Alan Sekers, Adam Morgan, Alex Ayad, Oliver Freeman, Jolanta Leonate, Jules Goddard and Dave Birch.

LARGE PRINTED COPIES

Large colour prints of this roadmap (A3, A1 and the rather magical A0 size) can be ordered by contacting Richard Watson via nowandnext.com or LinkedIn. There is no charge for these prints except to cover printing, postage and large cardboard tubes. Please note that shipping A0 sized prints to far-flung corners of the world can be rather expensive. If you want to print this map yourself from a digital file found online it is suggested that A3 should be the minimum size unless you have magnificent eyesight or a magnifying glass. If you need a very high resolution file this can be ordered via nowandnext.com and there is no charge, zero, zip, zilch.

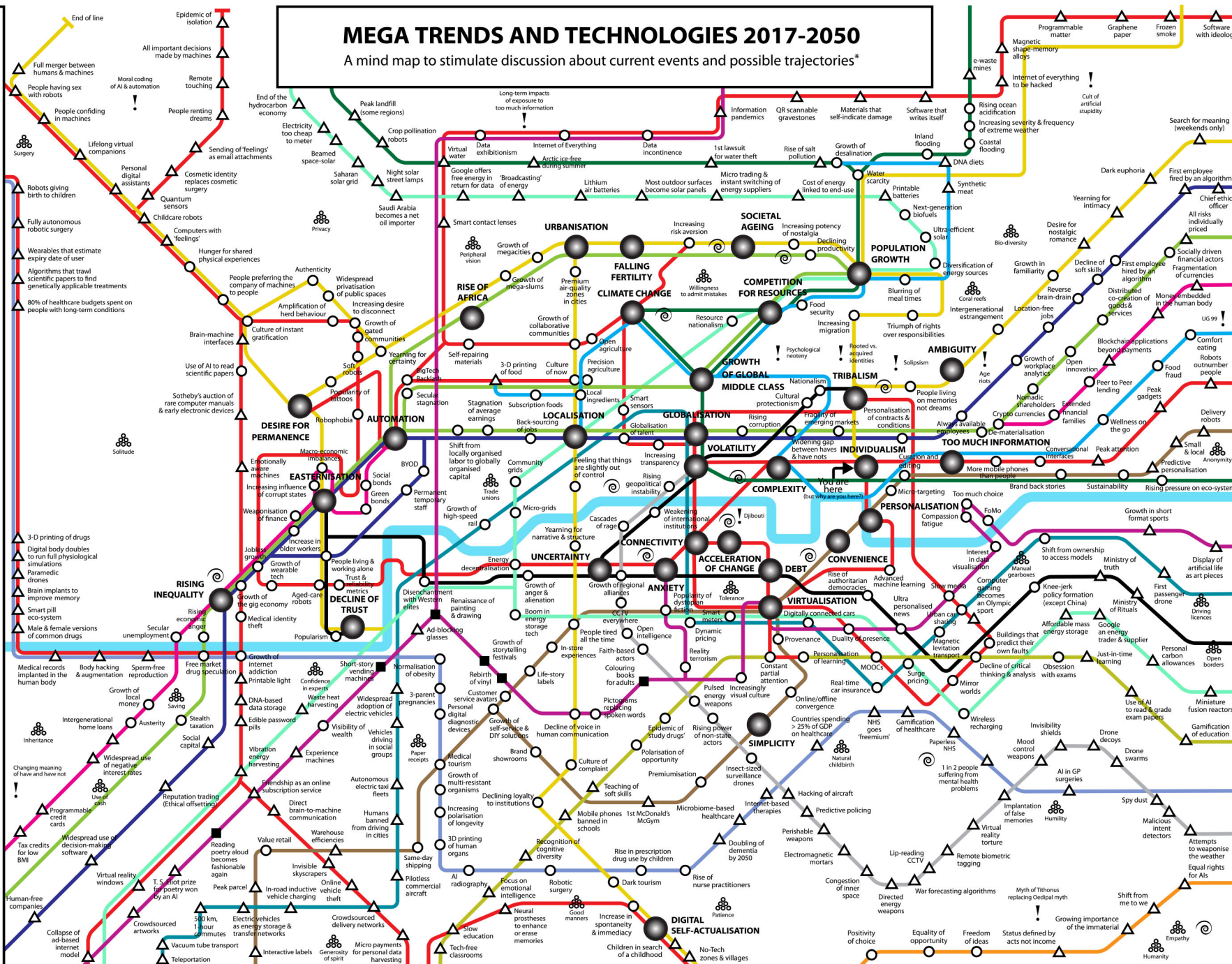
Copyright: Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International. Essentially this says you can do anything you like with or to this map, including commercial uses, but please say where it originally came from, which is me. Commentary and history for this map can be found at

<http://toprends.nowandnext.com/2017/05/08/map/>

Version one. London, UK. May 2017
 * Or otherwise, who can say?

MEGA TRENDS AND TECHNOLOGIES 2017-2050

A mind map to stimulate discussion about current events and possible trajectories*



TREND LINES

- Society
- Work
- Economy
- Money
- Food
- Technology
- Retail
- Environment
- Media
- Transport
- Politics
- Energy
- Education
- Health
- Security
- Values

LEGEND

- Mega Trends
- Now
- △ Next?
- Counter-trend
- ⊕ Partial trend
- ⊗ Dangerous
- ⚡ Current
- ⊙ Place of interest
- Projection: Subjective

GLOBAL GAMECHANGERS (What could possibly go wrong?)

- | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> △ Regulatory change △ Systemic financial collapse △ Inflation running at > 10% △ Rapid rise in US interest rates △ Major Chinese slowdown △ Global trade collapse | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> △ Severe food shortages △ Super volcano eruption △ Severe space weather △ Rogue asteroid △ Gamma ray burst △ Giant methane burp | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> △ Extreme climate change △ Major Syn-bio accident △ Loss of antibiotic efficacy △ Global pandemic virus △ Failure to treat obesity △ Mental health epidemic | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> △ Radiation from mobile devices △ Doubling of the Chinese birth rate △ Oil price shock △ Extended drought △ Mass unemployment caused by AI △ Biological terrorism | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> △ Destabilisation of China △ Collapse of EU △ Russian expansionism △ Water trading & speculation △ Collapse of EU pensions funding △ Major sovereign debt default | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> △ Weaponisation of near space △ Collapse of North Korea △ US/China war △ India/Pakistan war △ Blockage of the Strait of Hormuz △ Self-replicating killer robots | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> △ Decline of human intelligence △ Message received from outer space △ Finding out the Matrix is real (OMG) △ Return of the Messiah (look busy) △ People taking these things seriously △ Something I haven't thought of |
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