

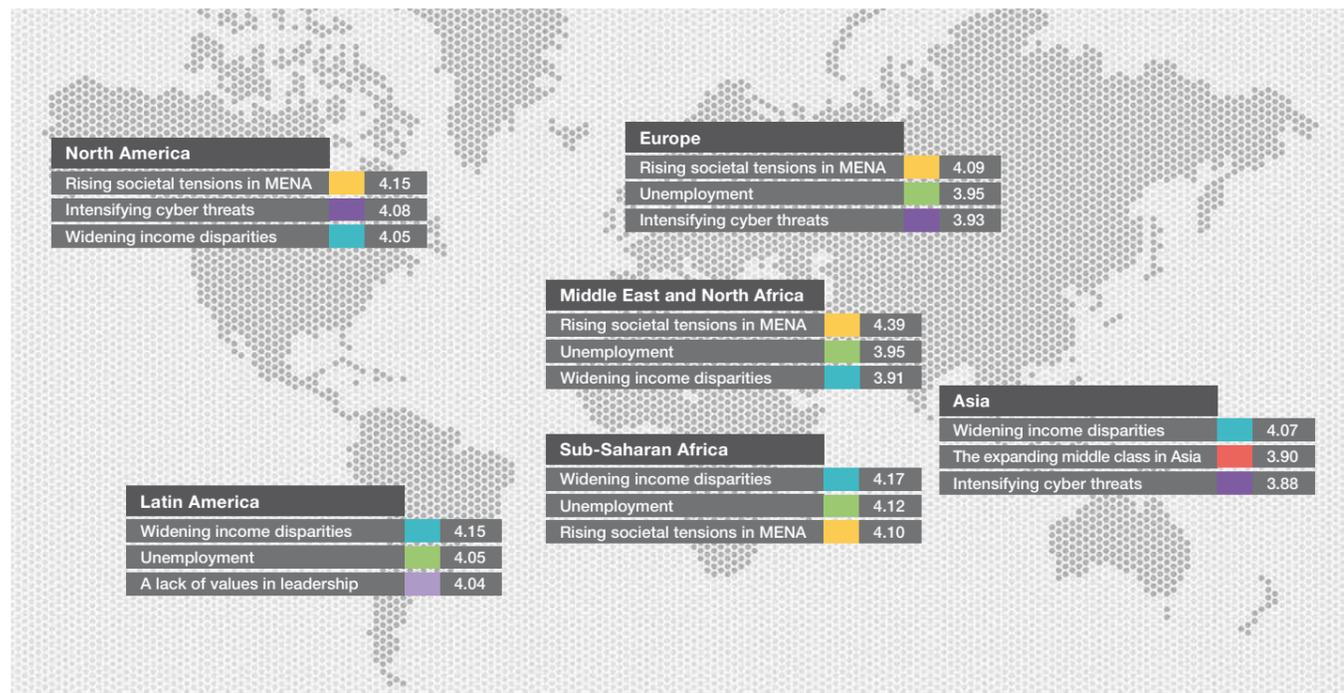
Top 10 trends of 2014

What are the top trends facing the world in 2014? And what should we do about them?



To follow the latest developments on these issues, take a look at the WEF GAC blog at <http://forumblog.org/communities/global-agenda-councils>.

Top trends for 2014 by region



1.00 = Not significant at all 2.00 = Not very significant 3.00 = Somewhat significant 4.00 = Very significant 5.00 = Extremely significant
Source: Survey on the Global Agenda 2013

Tensions in the Middle East. Rising living standards. Adaptation to climate change. Paralysed government. Innovative cities.

the challenges we face as a planet, decision-makers need to keep pace and anticipate what lies ahead.

The world is changing faster than ever. We're connected to each other in ways that would have been thought impossible just a generation ago, enabling enormous potential but also exposing our institutions to great strain. If we are to effectively address

To foresee the changes awaiting us in 2014, we asked the vast network of Global Agenda Council Members to identify and prioritise the issues that will exert the greatest force on the world in the coming 12 to 18 months. Using a selective survey tool, we determined the top 10 global trends (opposite).

Knowing which trends to watch is the first step. Where do we begin to prepare for their impact? Harnessing the interconnected structure of the Network of Global Agenda Councils, we turned back to the Councils and asked them to tell us what should be done to address the multifaceted impact the trends will have on our world.

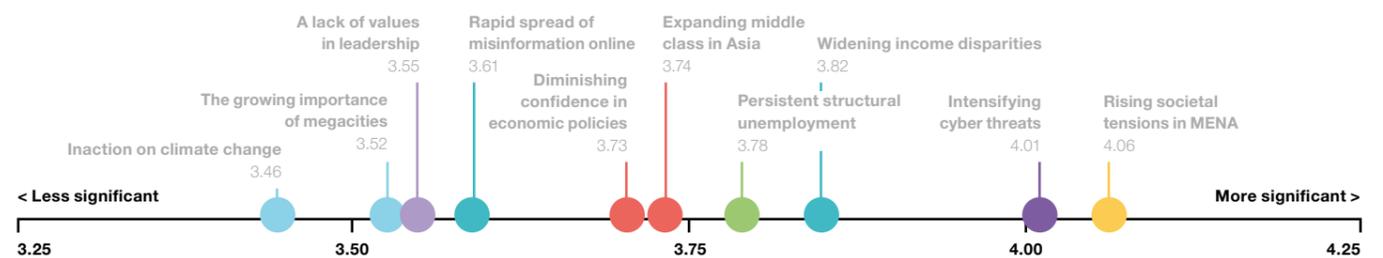
This chapter provides an overview of the forces that will shape 2014 and the ideas that can address their impact.

Top trends for 2014, ranked by global significance

- Rising societal tensions in the Middle East and North Africa** 4.07
- Widening income disparities** 4.02
- Persistent structural unemployment** 3.97
- Intensifying cyber threats** 3.93
- Inaction on climate change** 3.81
- The diminishing confidence in economic policies** 3.79
- A lack of values in leadership** 3.76
- The expanding middle class in Asia** 3.75
- The growing importance of megacities** 3.48
- The rapid spread of misinformation online** 3.35

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How significant will the global trends become in the next 18 months?



1.00 = Much less significant 2.00 = Marginally less significant 3.00 = Remain the same 4.00 = Marginally more significant 5.00 = Much more significant
Source: Survey on the Global Agenda 2013