

Review of: "The Role of Think Tanks in Megatrends Analysis and Future Research"

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The role of think tanks in megatrends analysis and future research

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The aim of this contribution is clearly expressed in its title.

It is not a research paper but rather a reflection (and partially a review) on think tanks and their role in megatrends and future research. The authors discuss think tanks and clearly define the difference with megatrends analysis, future research, and strategic foresight. Due attention is given to the work of the Think Tank and Civil Society Program (TTCSP) led by James McGann.

They also point out the relationship between megatrends and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG).

An interesting point made by the authors is that recently non-profit organizations prefer to work under the label of think tank instead of advocacy organization. Moreover, although originating mainly from the West, nowadays most countries from the Global South have understood the role of think tanks and harbor think tanks within their borders. The number of think tank reports (generally considered as grey literature) has been growing according to the authors. How do the authors know this, which database did they use?

The authors end their article with a spotlight on some think tanks, including the Millenium Project in Washington, The Copenhagen Future Institute, The Green Economy Coalition in London, the Center for China and Globalization in Beijing, the Civil Society Institute in Delhi, Cultural Infusion in Melbourne and 4Sing in Hamburg, Germany.

The article can also be seen as bringing attention to the authors' recent book about global perspectives on megatrends.