



Global Risks Report 2025

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Why in News?

The **World Economic Forum (WEF)** released the **20th Global Risks Report 2025**.

Note: Global Risks Report is an **annual** report published by the **WEF**. It presents an analysis of the **most pressing global risks** anticipated over **short-term (2 years)** and **long-term (10 years)** periods.

- Global risk is the **potential** for an event to **significantly harm global GDP, population, or natural resources**.

What are Key Findings of the Global Risks Report 2025?

- Top Risks for India:** The report highlighted the **top five risks** for India include **water supply shortages, misinformation and disinformation, erosion of human rights and civic freedoms, pollution** (air, water, and soil), and **labour and talent shortages**.
- Top Global Risks:**
 - Immediate Risks (Next 2 years):** **Misinformation and disinformation, Extreme weather events**, and State based armed conflict.
 - Long-Term Risks (Next 10 Years):** **Extreme weather events**, Biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse and Critical changes to earth systems.

| Risk categories | 2 years | 10 years |
|-----------------|---|--|
| Economic | 1 st Misinformation and disinformation | 1 st Extreme weather events |
| Environmental | 2 nd Extreme weather events | 2 nd Biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse |
| Geopolitical | 3 rd State-based armed conflict | 3 rd Critical change to Earth systems |
| Societal | 4 th Societal polarization | 4 th Natural resource shortages |
| Technological | 5 th Cyber espionage and warfare | 5 th Misinformation and disinformation |

- Geopolitical Bridges:** India and Gulf countries are emerging as **key multilateral alternatives** amid rising US-China rivalry, **bridging the West and East** to reduce tensions and promote cooperation.
- Trade Protectionism:** **Inflation Reduction Act, 2022** of US and **Make in India** in India highlights the growing trend of **gloeconomic confrontation** and **trade protectionism**.
 - Non-tariff barriers**, such as **subsidies** and **industrial policy**, are emerging as key drivers of **protectionism**.
- Multilateral Solutions:** **Rising geopolitical tensions**, the **fracturing of global trust**, and the **climate crisis** need **multilateral solutions** for achieving cooperation across borders.

World Economic Forum (WEF)

- **About:** WEF is an international organization for **public-private cooperation**, headquartered in **Geneva, Switzerland**.
 - It engages global leaders to shape agendas across **industries, regions, and globally**.
- **Foundation:** It was founded by **Klaus Schwab in 1971** as the **European Management Forum**, WEF emphasizes long-term benefits for all stakeholders, **not just short-term profits** for shareholders.
- **Evolution:** In **1973**, the WEF expanded its focus to **economic and social issues**. It introduced membership for the world's **leading 1,000 companies in 1975**.
 - In **1987**, it became the **World Economic Forum**, broadening its role as a platform for dialogue. It was recognized as an international organization in 2015.
- **Major Reports:** WEF publishes key reports, including the [Global Competitiveness Index](#), [Global Gender Gap Index](#), [Energy Transition Index](#), [Global Risk Report](#), and [Global Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index](#).

UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Questions (PYQs)

Prelims

Q. The Global Competitiveness Report is published by the (2019)

- (a) International Monetary Fund
- (b) United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
- (c) World Economic Forum
- (d) World Bank

Ans: (c)

Q. Which of the following gives 'Global Gender Gap Index' ranking to the countries of the world? (2017)

- (a) World Economic Forum
- (b) UN Human Rights Council
- (c) UN Women
- (d) World Health Organization

Ans: (a)