



#ESGT Impact

Andrea's Quick Take On All Things...

ESG & TECHNOLOGY

May 5, 2021

SPECIAL EDITION

Launch of ESGT MEGATRENDS MANUAL e-book



A Special Report by
DIPLOMATIC COURIER

THE ESGT MEGATRENDS MANUAL

A BLUEPRINT FOR NAVIGATING RISK AND OPPORTUNITY IN TECTONIC TIMES

2021-2022 EDITION

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[Download The ESGT Megatrends Manual 2021-2022](https://mailchi.mp/gecrisk.com/resilience-689922)

Dear friends, clients and colleagues,

I am delighted to share a [free download of my latest e-book "The ESGT Megatrends Manual 2021-2022"](#), the first annual edition published by leading global affairs multimedia publisher [Diplomatic Courier](#)

Subtitled "A Blueprint for Navigating Risk & Opportunity in Tectonic Times", the e-book looks at five key multi-year Megatrends revolving around environmental, social, governance and technology (ESGT) issues, risks and opportunities that leaders in business, government and society should pay particular attention to over the next year.

The e-book draws on data and cases from premier sources such as the World Economic Forum, Edelman, NACD, Interpol, Freedom House, the Economist and many others as well as my recent book, [Gloom to Boom: How Leaders Transform Risk into Resilience and Value \(Routledge 2020\)](#).

You can [download The ESGT Megatrends Manual here](#).

I would love to hear your feedback so we can construct an even better edition around this time next year.

Thank you and [let me know what you think!](#)

[Andrea](#)

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MEGATREND #1 TECH DISRUPTION AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT

Tech Disruption at the Speed of Light is what happens when the pace, depth, and breadth of technological innovation across the world in every sector—business, government, and society—happens at break-neck speed in practically all walks of life—whether in biology, ecology, AI, quantum, nanotech, etc. This gives rise to both the potential for highly constructive developments or hugely destructive ones depending on whether the tech capabilities are in good or bad, knowledgeable or ignorant, ethical or unethical hands.

The speed at which technological change is happening is both a blessing and a curse for humanity—a blessing because it allows unprecedented developments such as the discovery of not one, two, or three but multiple COVID-19 vaccines in under one year. A curse because with the forced lockdowns taking place across the world and much movement of work from office to work from home (WFH), cybercriminal gangs and others have dramatically upped their cyber-attack game like never before.

While mostly centered around the T in ESGT, this megatrend is also deeply interconnected with other ESG categories. For example, the governance of technology is at the center of whether new technologies are created in a thoughtful and ethical manner, with diversity, risk management, and stakeholder inclusiveness in mind or not. The proper governance of technology can mean the difference between whether a particular AI that has been deployed to a police department's facial recognition capabilities is discriminatory or utilizes a more appropriate, diversity-sensitive data-set, for example.

The Danger and the Risk of Tech Disruption at the Speed of Light

Because of a multitude of social consequences from the pandemic in the past year (2020-2021), we have seen the overall rise in cyber-insecurity worldwide get turbocharged as the

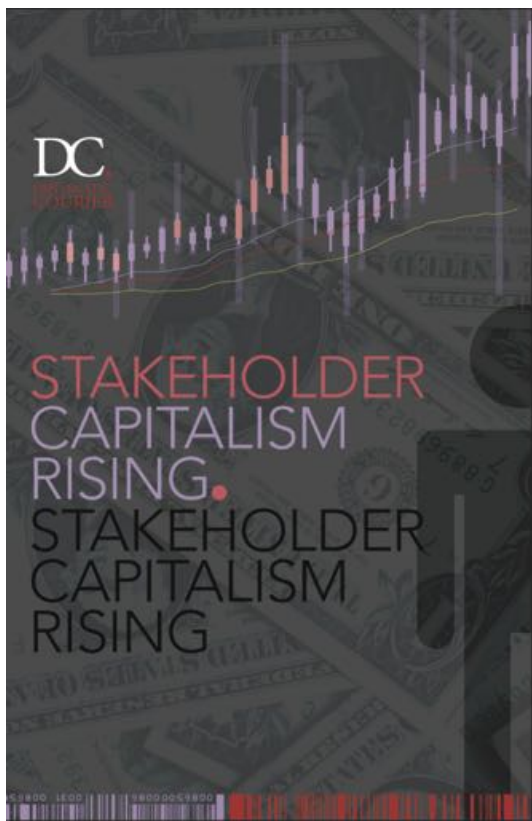
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Source: A. Bonime-Blanc, Gloom to Boom. Routledge 2020.

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MEGATREND #5 STAKEHOLDER CAPITALISM RISING

Milton Friedman's "shareholder primacy" form of capitalism has been taking incoming for more than a decade but with the pandemic forcing business to think more broadly about its other key stakeholders—namely employees and customers—the rise of Stakeholder Capitalism has advanced substantially in the past year. The pandemic has put in stark relief certain needs and expectations of key stakeholders (safety, health, WFH, equity, inclusion, and diversity) that were ignored for too long, adding rocket fuel to the rise of ESG investing. Indeed, 2021 may be an intensification turning point for this megatrend. This megatrend is mostly about stakeholders—all kinds but the key is to know which ones are the most important for your organization. Hence, we categorize this megatrend as mostly dominated by the S in ESGT but as with the other megatrends there are aspects of this megatrend that touch on all the other categories as well.





Source: A. Bonime-Blanc, Gloom to Boom, Routledge 2020.

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MEGATREND #1
TECH DISRUPTION AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT

MEGATREND #2
LEADERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL TRUST PLUMMETING

MEGATREND #3
COMPLEX INTERCONNECTED RISK INTENSIFYING

MEGATREND #4
GLOBAL GEOPOLITICAL TECTONICS SHIFTING

MEGATREND #5
STAKEHOLDER CAPITALISM RISING

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"ESGT Megatrends Manual"
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Learn more about [Gloom to Boom](#)