



European
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FUTURE IN THE MAKING

FTA²⁰¹⁸

FUTURE-ORIENTED
TECHNOLOGY ANALYSIS

Joint
Research
Centre

Educating for the Future: How to Integrate Futures Literacy Skills into Secondary Education

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**FUTURE
IN THE MAKING**



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Goal: To make use of tools of futures research to eradicate global poverty and improve human well-being globally

Means: Research, education and development activities focusing on global capacity building for futures thinking (individual futures literacy)

Outcome: Individuals with higher level of futures literacy = more future literate society

Proactive
futures mindset

Futures Literacy

Personal resilience

Cognitive capacity

Knowledge of the surrounding world
Understanding the driving forces that
shape the future
Visionary capacity to imagine
alternative futures
Creative thinking
Critical thinking
Systems & complexity thinking

Emotional capacity

Self-knowledge
Individual time perspective
Openness towards change and
alternatives
Empathy
Intuition
Ethical awareness and commitment

Active skills

Planetary living skills
Complexity skills
Creativity skills
Empathy skills

Futures teaching in a nutshell

Teaching goals

- Understanding the dynamics that shape the future
- Own role & responsibility in the building of the future
- Creative and critical outlook on the future
- Self-knowledge, trust in the future, own place in the world
- Personal resilience
- Proactive futures mindset

Key teaching themes

- Time perspective: past-present-future
- Understanding forces that shape the future: weak signals, trends, megatrends, black swans
- Possible, propable, preferable futures
- Own agency

Different levels of perception

- Images of future
- Futures pathlines and scenarios
- Futures workshops
- Artistic methods
- Futures games
- Environmental scanning
- Various other methods, endless opportunities



Micro level:
Personal futures



Meso level:
Local futures



Macro level:
Global futures

The four dimensions of changing the school (Salminen, J. 2017)

RHETHORICAL

- Visibility campaign for the concept of futures literacy: social media, blog posts, media interviews, key educational fairs
- First national futures literacy day for schools

INSTITUTIONAL

- Active participation in the current on-going upper secondary school reform
- Active dialogue with the Finnish educational administration

TEACHER

- Support and coaching to teachers to facilitate futures thinking
- Teacher's handbook for futures teaching in secondary schools
- Strengthening FFRC's capacity to support teachers interested in integrating futures perspective into their teaching

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STUDENT

- Inspiring learning methods for futures thinking
- Mobile learning course on futures literacy

More information



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