

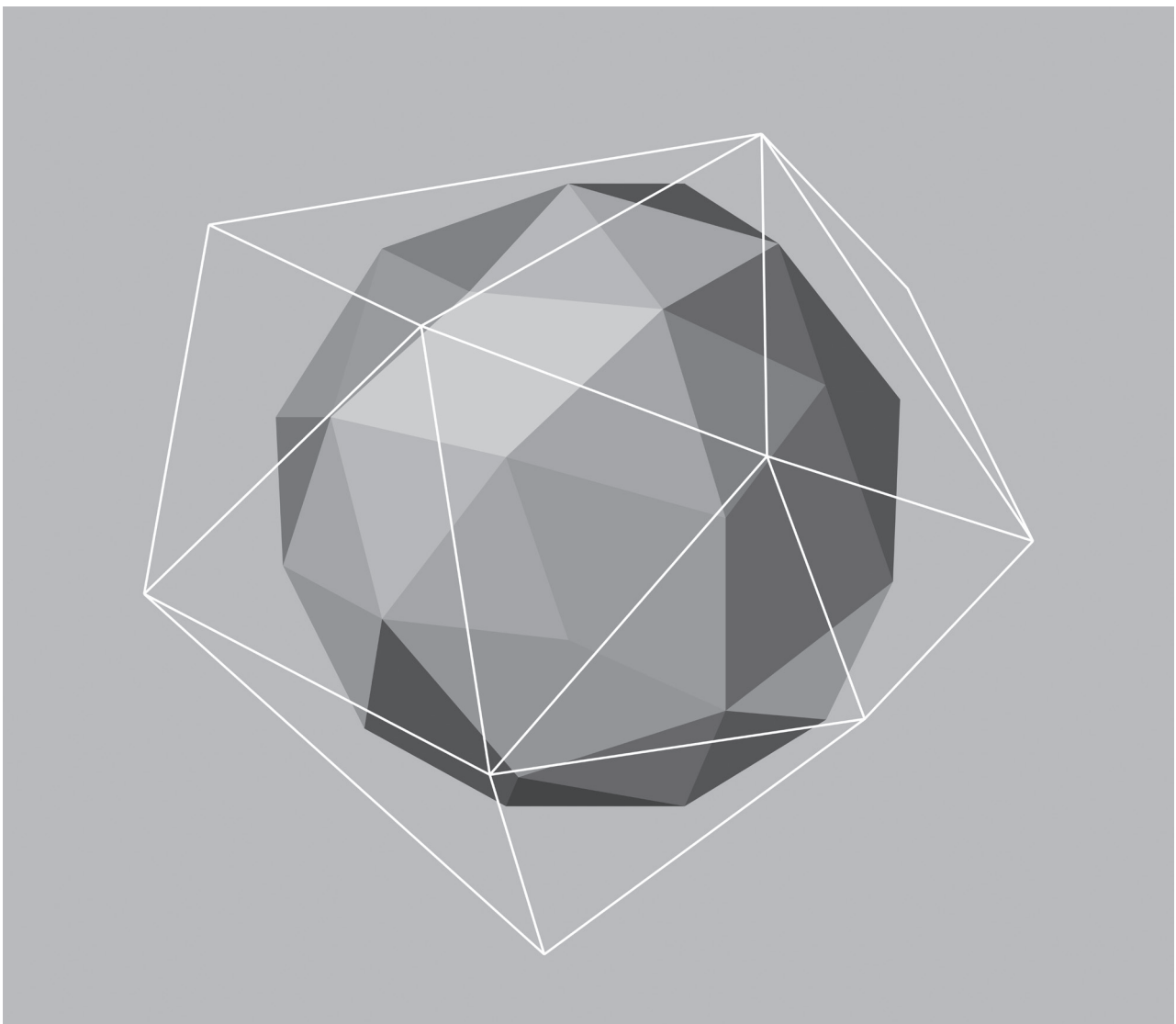
Global  
Challenges  
Foundation

Prize Competition

THE GLOBAL CHALLENGES PRIZE 2017

# A New Shape

Remodelling Global Cooperation



## ABOUT THE GLOBAL CHALLENGES FOUNDATION

**The Global Challenges Foundation** aims to incite deeper understanding of the most pressing threats to humanity - and to catalyse new ways of tackling them. Founded in 2012 by Swedish investor and author Laszlo Szombatfalvy, the Foundation's work is rooted in the belief that today's global challenges require global solutions, and in order to deliver these solutions, new forms of international cooperation are needed.

The Global Challenges Foundation's approach grew out of the analysis of financial risk employed by Mr Szombatfalvy in a five-decade career as a successful investor. This objective, scientific approach to evaluating risk led him to conclude that the impacts of today's big global risks, such as climate change, conflict and extreme poverty are being gravely underestimated by political and business leaders, who are too often influenced by short term interests.

The Global Challenges Foundation believes 21st century risks – termed 'global catastrophic risks' when they threaten the survival of at least ten per cent of the world's population – are the product of an increasingly interdependent world. They transcend national borders and demand solutions that our current systems of global governance struggle to deliver.

**While the rapid pace** of industrial development has caused many of the risks currently facing humanity, the Foundation is inspired by the belief that human ingenuity, if properly channelled, can secure a better future for current and future generations.

The Global Challenges Foundation's mission is to act as a convening platform to draw together the brightest minds from academia, politics, business and civil society to discuss how these risks might be better managed by the world community in the interests of all citizens.

The Foundation produces an annual report assessing Global Catastrophic Risks, complemented by Quarterly Risk Reports that bring together diverse perspectives from around the world on the management of global risks.

In 2015, the Foundation financed The Earth Statement in anticipation of COP21 climate change talks in Paris. Al Gore, Mary Robinson, Desmond Tutu and 100 other leading individuals signed the petition that distilled the work of 17 of the world's leading climate scientists for world leaders.

**“The risks we face today are so dangerous and so global they’ve outrun the international system’s ability to deal with them.”**

*The Global Challenges Prize 2017*

# A New Shape: Global cooperation remodelled

In November 2016, the Global Challenges Foundation launched a new prize competition, a quest to find models of global cooperation capable of handling the most pressing threats to humanity.

**T**he Global Challenges Prize 2017: A New Shape offers US\$5 million in awards for the best ideas for a global governance framework that can better manage the threats posed by four interlinked ‘mega-risks’: climate change, environmental damage, conflict (including nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction) and extreme poverty. Participants are also asked to consider the implications of a rapidly expanding world population, predicted by the United Nations to rise to 11 billion by 2100.

**The Global Challenges Prize 2017: A New Shape Prize** is so called because it is about reshaping or restructuring how global cooperation works. The prize competition is not looking for blueprints for solving the individual issues or to avert specific risks. Rather, entrants are asked to focus on designing a model or framework capable of galvanizing decisive international action on increasingly interlinked global challenges. The proposed model may encompass an entirely new global framework or a proposed reform for existing systems.

Through this prize competition,

the Global Challenges Foundation is seeking to stimulate visionary thinking in global governance from the brightest minds in academia, politics, business and civil society, to forge bold and transformative approaches. The Foundation is publicising the prize worldwide, partnering with respected institutions on multiple continents and collaborating closely with experts and practitioners working within existing global governance institutions such as the United Nations.

The Global Challenges Foundation’s prize competition is open to everyone – individuals, groups of individuals, companies or associations – anywhere in the world, from April 2017 – September 2017. The best entries will be evaluated by an expert academic panel and the winners will be chosen by an international jury comprised of respected global figures. Final awards will be made in May 2018 and discussion of the winning entries will be promoted at the highest levels globally.

**For more information** about the Global Challenges Prize 2017: A New Shape, please visit:  
[www.globalchallenges.org](http://www.globalchallenges.org)

“We’re trying to solve today’s problems with yesterday’s tools. We believe a new shape of collaboration is needed to address the most critical challenges in our globalised world.”



**Global Challenges Foundation**

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