

Helsinki Node Report on Activities 2025

Millennium Project Planning Committee

Dubai, UAE 17th November 2025

Sirkka Heinonen & Helsinki Node

Finland Futures Research Centre (FFRC), University of Turku



UNIVERSITY
OF TURKU



FINLAND FUTURES
RESEARCH CENTRE



The Millennium Project



T-WINNING
SPACES
2035



Funded by
the European Union
NextGenerationEU

HELSINKI NODE OF THE MILLENNIUM PROJECT



Osmo Kuusi



Sari Söderlund



Sirkka Heinonen



Mikko Dufva

Toni Ahlqvist



Juha Kaskinen



- **Dissemination of MP**
- **Call for regulations on transition from ANI to AGI**
- **Project co-operation**
- **Five Node meetings in 2025**

Contents

- 1. Turku FFRC Conference 2025**
- 2. Roundtable Discussion with Jerome Glenn & Cynthia Selin**
- 3. Further T-winning Spaces 2035 Project Co-operation**
- 4. Next Steps and Initiatives**

Publications

1. Turku FFRC Conference 2025

FUTURES OF TECHNOLOGIES

– Mutual Shaping of Socio-Technical Transformations

10–12 June 2025 | **Turku, Finland**

futuresconference2025.com
[#futuresconference2025](https://twitter.com/futuresconference2025)



The 25th Futures Conference focused on the Futures of Technologies.

The event was organised in collaboration with the VTT Technical Research Center of Finland Ltd on 10–12 June in Logomo, Turku, Finland.

Finland Futures Research Centre (FFRC) was happy to host 330 participants from 39 different countries, representing all the continents of the world.

Jerome Glenn as Keynote Speaker

**Rohit Talwar
as a Keynote Speaker**



MP Session at FFRC Conference on 11th June 2025

'The Radical and the Resilient: Narratives to highlight the road to desired futures of work'

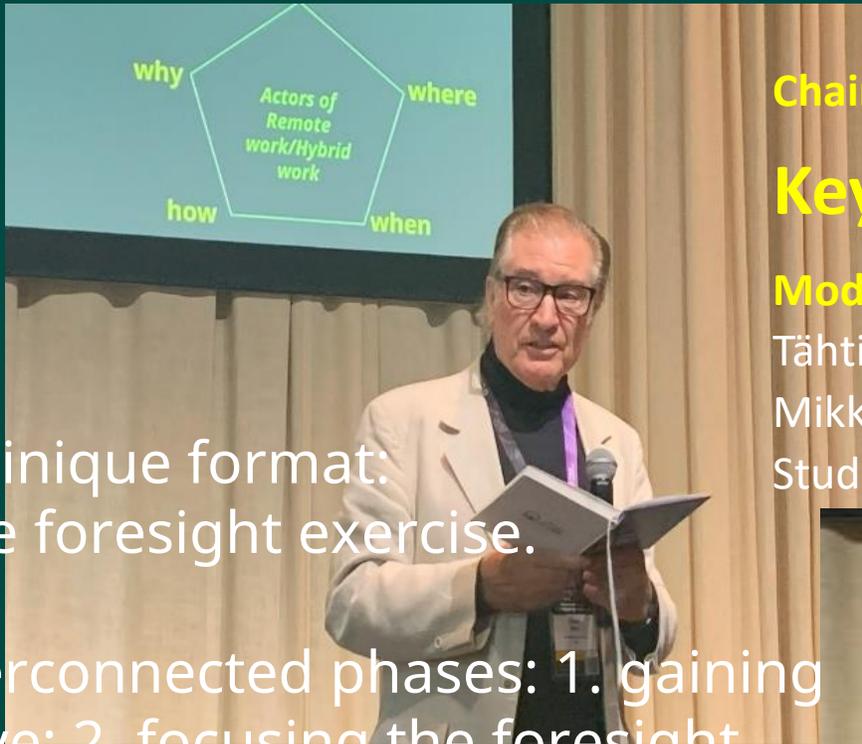
- Organised in co-operation between University of Turku, Aalto University, Millennium Project, and the Finnish Society for Futures Studies.
- Interactive Futures Clinique including futures provocations.
- Used radical narratives developed within T-winning Spaces 2035 project as the basis for group work.



Purpose

- Delve deeper into the four radical narratives and ideate how to make these narratives more **preferred**.
- The participants explored future uncertainties, disruptions, and opportunities for innovation.
- Utilised a modified Futures Wheel to structure the ideation process.
- Futures Window was shown in the beginning for stimulation

How it ran



- Futures Clinique format: interactive foresight exercise.
- Three interconnected phases: 1. gaining perspective; 2. focusing the foresight lens; and 3. digging up the 'diamonds'.
- Groups used a modified Futures Wheel with guidance of the trained **moderator** of each group.
- Three core themes as reflection lenses: **wellbeing, the environment, and AI.**

Chairs: Sirkka Heinonen, Saija Toivonen, Osmo Kuusi

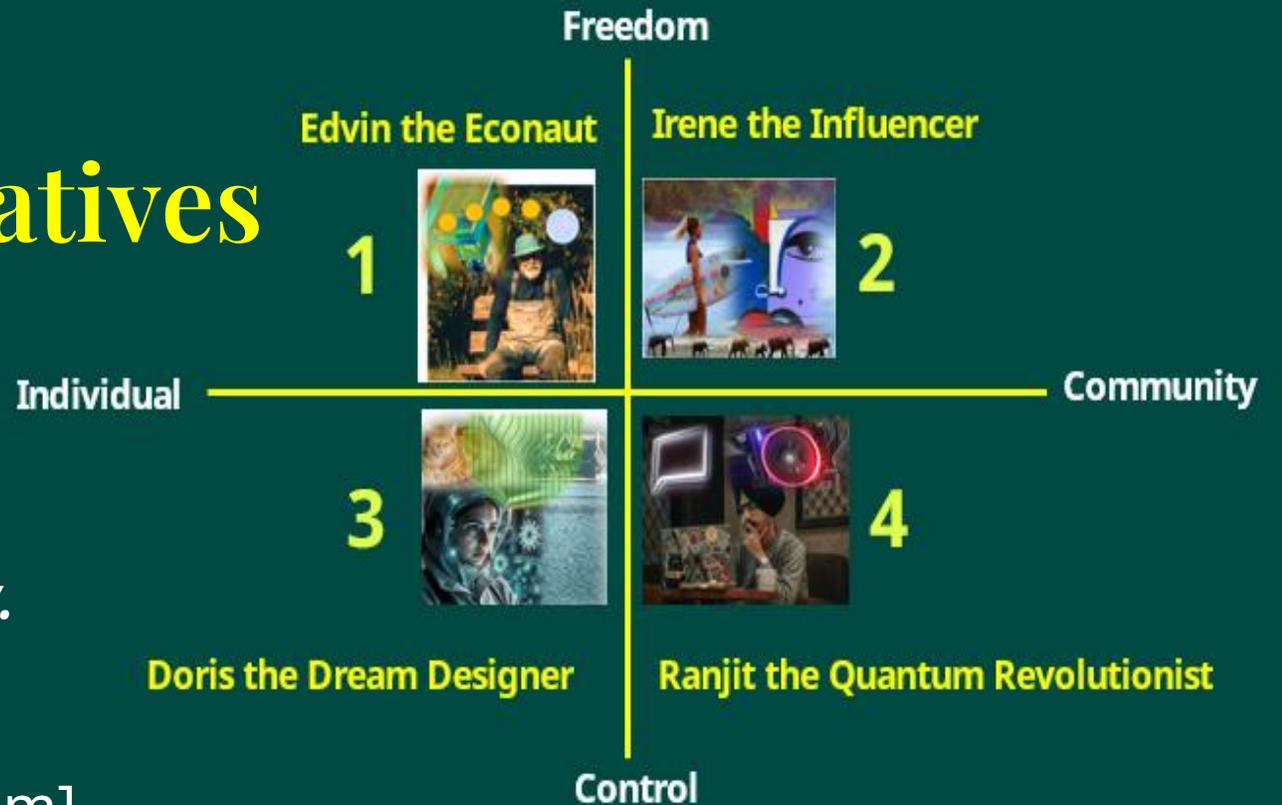
Keynote: Jerome Glenn (Millennium Project)

Moderators: Veli Virmajoki (FFRC), Elisa Oinonen (FFRC), Lassi Tähtinen (Aalto University), Riku Viitamäki (FFRC), Amos Taylor (FFRC), Mikkel Knudsen (FFRC), Hazel Salminen (Finnish Society for Futures Studies)



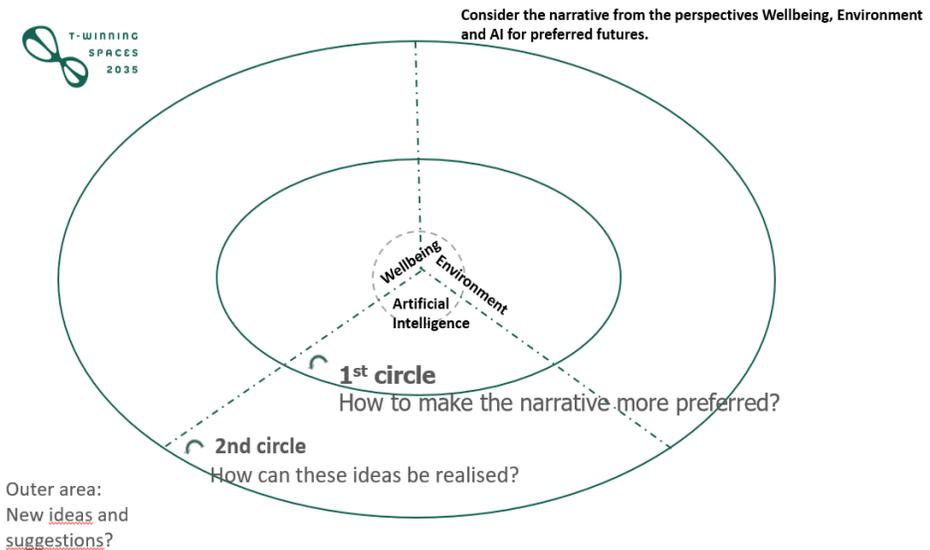
The four radical narratives (2035)

- Structured according to *Who, What, Where, When, How, and Why.*
[Two axes => four narratives.]
- **Edvin the Econaut** [individual + freedom]
- **Irene the Influencer** [community + freedom]
- **Doris the Dream Designer** [individual + control]
- **Ranjit the Quantum Revolutionist** [community + control]



Participation and inputs

- Seven groups worked with modified Futures Wheel in an engaged manner.
- The first circle prompts participants to explore how narratives could be made more preferable. The second circle: How can these ideas be realised?
- Participants invited to decide for themselves—reflecting on whose perspective they were prioritising.
- The session generated a free flow of ideas, not losing any 'diamonds'.

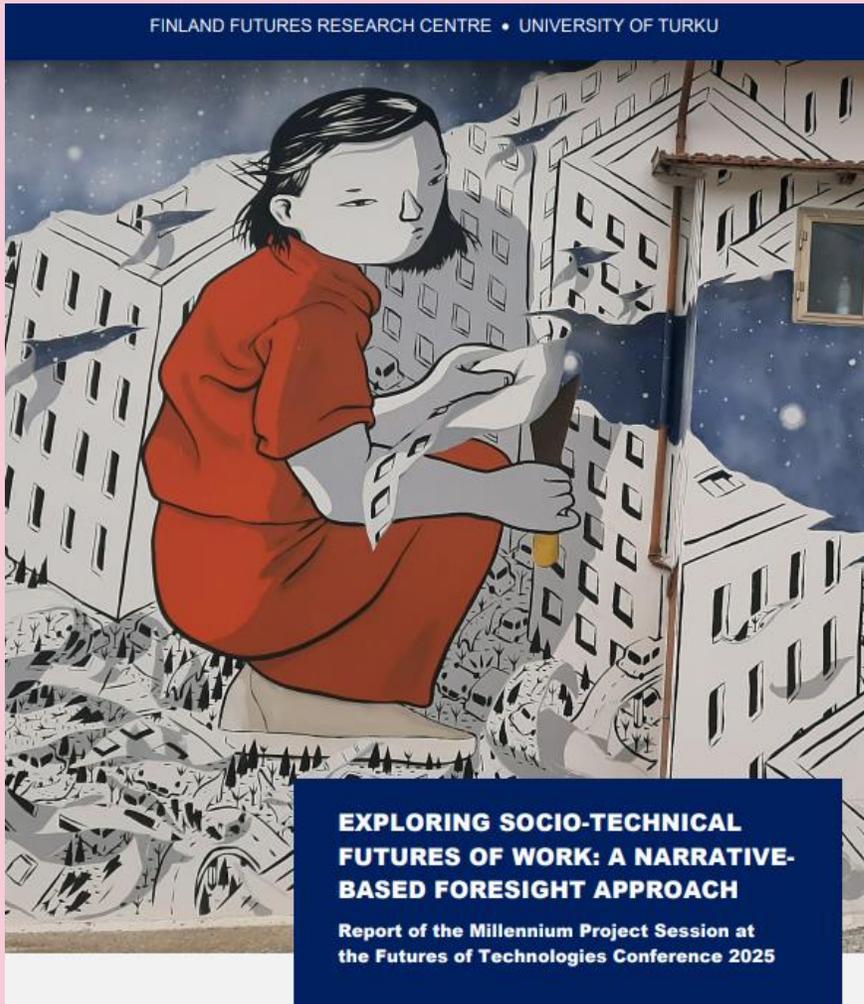


Key takeaways

- The Futures Wheel method was generally successful in structuring the futures dialogue.
- Findings included technological innovations, more well-being centric solutions and social process.
- **Next:** refine and prioritise themes and solutions; develop integrated narratives; translate ideas into strategic recommendations.



FFRC NEWSLETTER FUTUURI



Mara Di Berardo, Sirkka Heinonen, Amos Taylor,
Riku Viitamäki & Veli Virmajoki

Mara di Berardo from the Italian Node wrote a briefing of the MP Session to FFRC Newsletter FUTUURI

She was also in charge of writing the first draft of documenting the session, and first author in the published report



Meeting with the Committee of the Future

Counselor Olli Hietanen
Permanent Advisor Maria Höyssä
Sirkka Heinonen

...and Prime Minister's Office

Jerome Glenn and Jaana Tapainen-Thiess
(Secretary General of the Government Foresight Report)

Organised by Sirkka H.



Part 1 of the Finnish Government Report on the Future

- Presents strategic analysis of operating environment and systematic analysis of uncertainties.
- Some examples of the recognised uncertainties:
 - Great powers (Russia, China, US & EU)
 - Global economy
 - Green transition
 - Democracy and rule of law

2. Roundtable Discussion with Jerome Glenn & Cynthia Selin

Roundtable Interview Video with Jerome Glenn and Cynthia Selin: Viewing Futures of Technology through Certainties and Self-Actualisation

Highlights:

- AGI opens up a possibility for UBI
- Certainties offer long-term perspective
- Durable, long-lasting relationships
- Rigid systems should be opened up

Available at:

<https://ffrc.wordpress.com/2025/09/18/roundtable-futures-of-technology/>



3. Further T-winning Spaces 2035 Project Co-operation

Jerome Glenn
as member of the Advisory Board

Mara di Berardo
as special expert affiliate

Saija Toivonen, Associate Professor at Aalto University



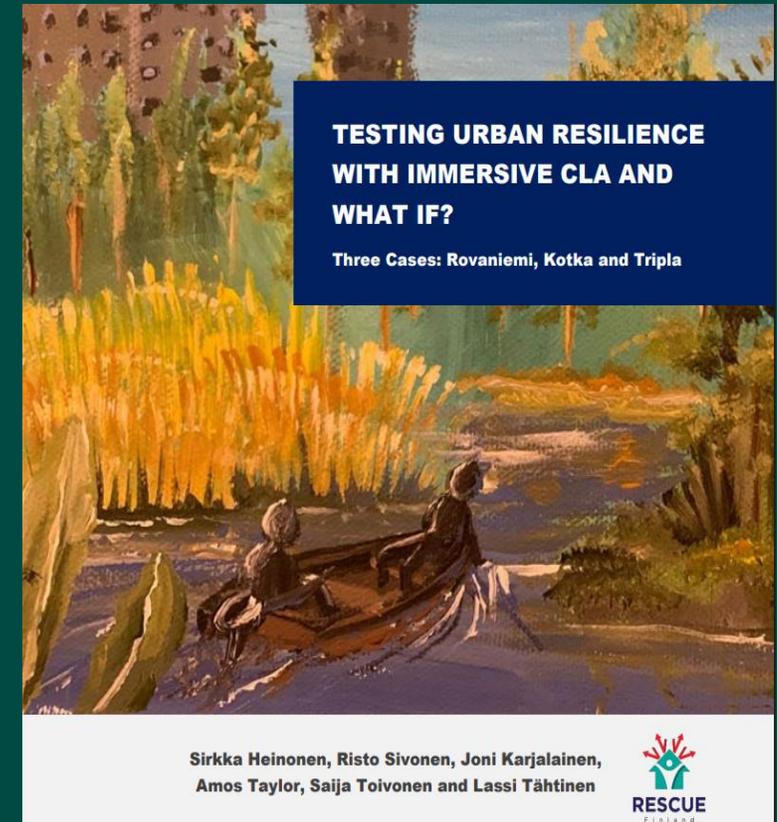
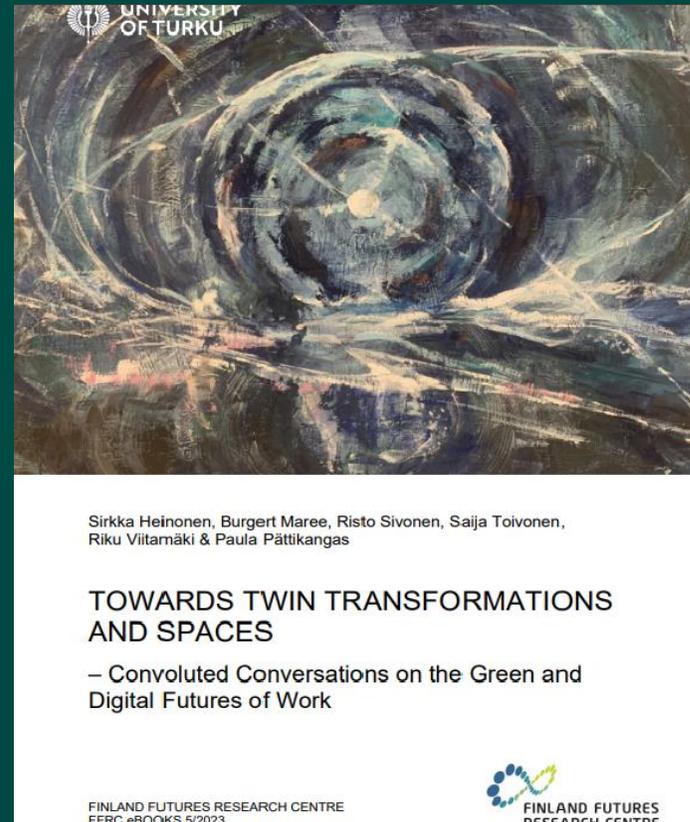
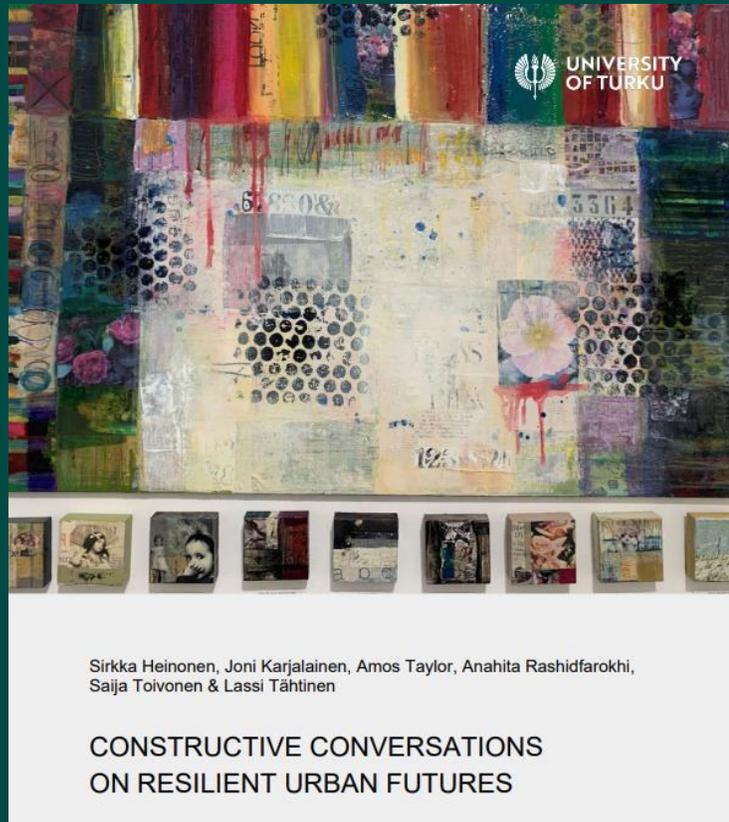
Why and how to use paradoxes in the T-winning Spaces project?

- The lesson from paradoxes is that there may not be any solution to a paradox or there may be several. Ambiguous cf. metaphors
- We are proposing the use of paradoxes into the field of futures studies and foresight.
- This is in analogy of the ancient use in the sense that paradoxes force us to think outside the box, compelling us to leave the conventional safe thinking sphere.
- For us, **paradoxes are part of futures provocation** – an approach pivotal in futures clinique processes (Heinonen & Ruotsalainen 2013).

The aim of paradox probing

- Paradoxes as tools to find ways to make sense of the transformation and of complexity, in the midst of uncertainties and ambiguities (= paradox probing)
- Through paradoxes preferred futures can be imagined
- Paradox probing means systematically taking into account relevant paradoxes and working with them
 - According to evidence, paradoxes can be used as promising tools for exploring non-explicit socio-cultural and techno-economic developments as well as for deconstructing assumptions

T-winning Spaces 2035 publications

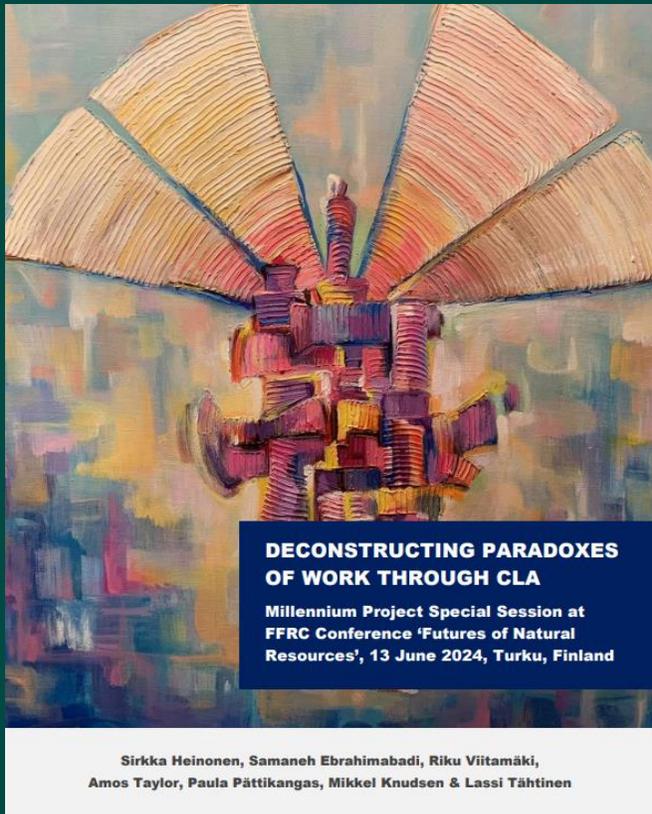


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https://www.utupub.fi/bitstream/handle/10024/174308/FFRC_eBooks_1-2023.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y

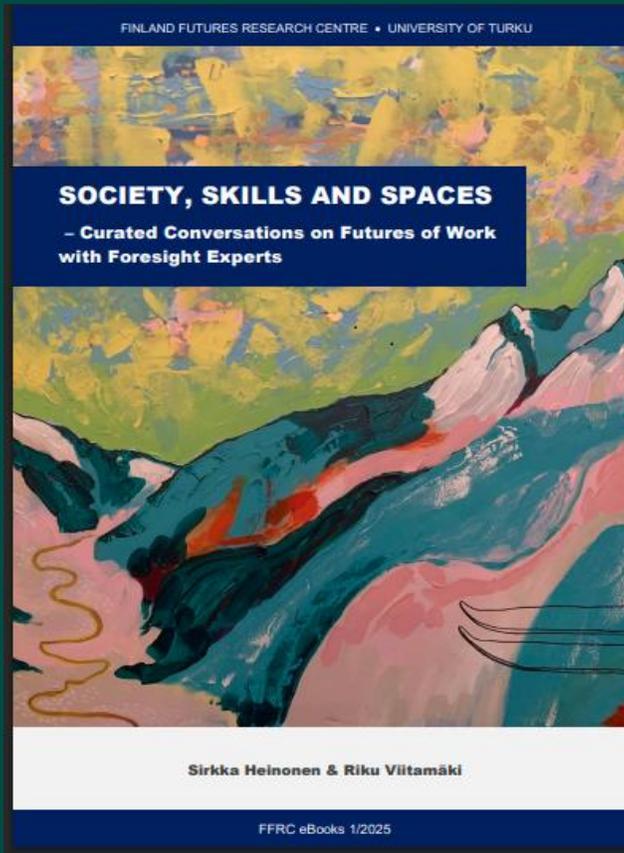
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https://www.utupub.fi/bitstream/handle/10024/176366/FFRC_eBook_1-2024.pdf?sequence=5&isAllowed=y

T-winning Spaces 2035 publications



Heinonen, S., Ebrahimabadi, S., Viitamäki, R., Taylor, A., Pättikangas, P., Knudsen, M. & Tähtinen, L. (2024). Deconstructing Paradoxes of Work Through CLA. FFRC eBook 4/2024.
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Di Berardo, M., Heinonen, S., Taylor, A., Viitamäki, R. & Virmajoki, V. (2025). Exploring Socio-Technical Futures of Work: A Narrative Based Foresight Approach. FFRC eBook 4/2025.
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4. Next Steps and Initiative of Osmo Kuusi

Tiina Neuvonen from UN Global Pulse
Visited FFRC Helsinki Office on 11th November

Interest in joining the Helsinki Node

Promotion of a Committee of the Future in Federal or of a State Parliament in Nigeria or in some of its Neighbor Countries (Ghana?)

Proceeding plan (PhD Martins Kwazema and PhD Osmo Kuusi)

Step 1 The starting of the Millennium Node of the young Nigerian or other well-educated West-Africans and its Adviser Board of senior futurists and policy experts

Step 2 A Futures Research Process of Internal Sources of Conflicts in Nigeria. Three scenarios of Nigeria (S1 long-term utopian, S2 realistic possible, S3 business-as-usual negative). A strategic roadmap based on S2. A draft of the research process and scenarios available.

Step 3 Node Contacts to Parliaments that might be interested to start a Committee of the Future that will discuss the results of the mentioned Futures Research Process

Thank You!

**Sirkka Heinonen
& Helsinki Node**

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The Millennium Project



**T-WINNING
SPACES
2035**



**FINLAND FUTURES
RESEARCH CENTRE**

T-winning Spaces FFRC website

<https://www.utu.fi/en/university/turku-school-of-economics/finland-futures-research-centre/research/t-winning-spaces-2035>

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Heinonen, Sirkka, Ebrahimabadi, Samaneh, Viitamäki, Riku, Taylor, Amos, Pättikangas, Paula, Knudsen, Mikkel & Tähtinen, Lassi (2024). Deconstructing Paradoxes of Work through CLA. Millennium Project Special Session at FFRC Conference 'Futures of Natural Resources', 13 June 2024, Turku, Finland. FFRC eBooks 4/2024 Finland Futures Research Centre, University of Turku ISBN 978-952-249-616-4 (pdf), ISBN 978-952-249-619-5 (print), ISSN 1797-1322

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<https://www.tutuseura.fi/julkaisut/julkaisusarjat/tulevaisuussarja/10-our-world-as-a-mosaic/>.

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Heinonen, Sirkka & Taylor, Amos with Paula Pättikangas and Riku Viitamäki (2024). Disruptive paradoxes of the futures of work – tentative discoveries for a new paradigm. 7th June at Trento conference 'Discovery of the Future in the Social and Human Sciences' at Trento University.

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