



Evidence for Policy in Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Summer School 2026

Tallinn, 26-28 May 2026

Class No. 8

Exploring systemic cascading impacts with foresight

Class will take place in room M 224 – 2nd floor of the Mare building

Class Coordinator



Lydia CALDANA

Foresight Policy Analyst, European Commission's Joint Research Centre, Belgium

Lydia Caldana is currently a Policy Analyst at the EU Policy Lab of the Commission's Joint Research Centre. Before joining the JRC, she was a foresight strategist working with both the private and public sectors, engaging in futures, cultural and consumer research and consulting as well as training, certification, and capacity-building in foresight. Lydia has led global managerial positions in the private sector for a Fortune 500 company as well as at market research and strategic consultancy companies. Lydia holds a master's degree from The New School in Liberal Studies, specialising in Gender & Sexuality Studies and Global Urban Futures.



Caroline PARQUET

Foresight Policy Analyst at the EU Policy Lab of the Commission's Joint Research Centre

Caroline Parquet is currently a Policy Analyst at the EU Policy Lab of the Commission's Joint Research Centre. Before joining the JRC, she was a coordinator for interinstitutional relations at the EU Anti-Fraud Office supporting the cooperation between the EU Commission and the European Public Prosecutor Office. Caroline Parquet has also a record of project development and management as she led several EU funded projects related to Civil Protection, CBRN risk management, and the control of transfers of conventional weapons and dual-use goods. She holds a master's degree in International Relations and Diplomacy from the College of Europe and another one in political sciences from Sciences Po Strasbourg.

Class assistant

Harshita Nilay Mardikar

Speakers



Wendy SCHULTZ

Director of Hyphae, member of the OECD Expert Group on Strategic Foresight

Dr. Schultz has been engaged in futures research and participatory foresight globally for over forty years. She has designed futures research projects for NGOs, government agencies, and businesses. She is currently running foresight methods training, process design, and scanning for Canada's International Development Research Council's GPE KIX Observatory on Education System Resilience. She is the author of a report on Law in the Emerging Bio Age for the UK Law Society (see report and video online).

Wendy is Co-Founder at Jigsaw Foresight and the Director of Infinite Futures. She is a member of the OECD Expert Group on Strategic Foresight; a Fellow of the Geneva Centre for Security Policy; a Senior Fellow of the Center for Post-Normal Policy and Futures Studies; a member of the Association of Professional Futurists; a Fellow of the World Futures Studies Federation; and a Fellow of the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce.

Aim(s) of the Class

From the Competence Framework 'Science for Policy' Cluster E Collaborate, Item 5: Systems Thinking:

- Understand how one's own work and objectives interact with and impact other projects and policy issues.
- Acknowledge that every human action has environmental, social, cultural and economic impacts.
- Understand the diversity of drivers at the science-policy interface.
- Grasp the main components and interactions of a system.
- Identify and weigh trade-offs and interact with systems towards a desirable sustainable outcome.

Additional aims:

- Explore long-term (usually at least 10 years) foresight methods.
- Discover how future risk that have not yet necessarily materialised, can affect other risk and their materialisation and how to be today better prepared to tackle them (i.e. building up resilience).
- Find methods to rank future risks and what aspects to look at.
- Understand the concept of a polycrisis and identify drivers leading to it.

Recommended readings

The class does not necessarily need preparation, but for optimal experience a short prereading document describing the different risks explored is available here:

https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/sites/default/files/Preparatory%20reading_0.pdf

For after workshop, additional information is available at:

https://joint-research-centre.ec.europa.eu/jrc-news-and-updates/navigating-uncertainty-new-polycrisis-exploration-tool-policymakers-2025-03-26_en