During last decade, some plots have become famous: those associated mainly to global changes and their impacts on the economic-social-political-environmental system. And this system has indeed become very complex and its evolution difficult to forecast. But, more important, its evolution can be faster than the capacity of the political-economical-social to react efficiently to these challenges in order to reduce the damages.

The first famous plot is the one linked to the climate change, usually described with the rocketing of temperature (see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hockey\_stick\_controversy). The second one is the one linked to the decoupling between jobs and growth (see https://hbr.org/2015/06/the-great-decoupling). Many other trends can be referred for this discussion, such as the increase of population, of megacities, of the earthmoving, whose human contribution has recently overcome the one from the nature.

If timescales of these changes are very important with respect to the capacity to mitigate or adapt, their geographical distribution is also relevant. As an example, the increase of population has to be analyzed taking into account the aging and this is varying dramatically across the planet, experiencing huge differences between Europe and the rest of the world.

Adopting the business as usual approach, that is the action is not efficient or their impacts are slower than the evolution of the system, some trends can be forecasted, even with some uncertainty, but which can influence our behavior in the near future. Some of these trends can change at once, as an example introducing new legislation or technologies, and this fast jump from a situation to another is called "tipping point" for a complex system, but the probability to happen can vary a lot between sectors: high for communication and, as an example, very low for transportation.

In the following, "rough" trends for some relevant aspects are shown, while more detailed work and analysis are well described in scientific journals.



Many studies have been already published about the future trends which can be useful for further reflection (<u>http://www.rolandberger.com/gallery/trend-</u>

<u>compendium/tc2030/content/assets/trendcompendium2030.pdf</u>, <u>http://www.europarl.europa.eu/EPRS/EPRS\_IDAN\_527417\_ten\_trends\_to\_change\_your\_life.pdf</u>).

Some of these trends suggest that indivuduals could adopt behaviours towards a "fortress society", that is, limiting phisical mobility and increasing the remote connectivity through web, drones etc.

Another reaction could be indeed something already happening: migration. That is, adapting to the geographical inhomogeneity of some challenges and looking for more favorable conditions.

But the two behaviors are not independent: the system as a whole, at planetary level, seems in fact not capable to manage the agglomeration of people in few areas and with political and economic barriers.