



CENTRE FOR THE STUDY
OF EXISTENTIAL RISK
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The All-Party Parliamentary Group for Future Generations

Aims

To raise the profile of **long-term issues**; to create space for cross-party dialogue on **combating short-termism** in policymaking; and to identify ways to **internalise longer-term considerations** into today's decision-making.

Context

Political short-termism is a well-known issue. Long-term issues are neglected from the political agenda in favour of short-term, urgent issues. However, these long-term issues - like climate change, public health trends and catastrophic and existential risks arising from emerging technologies - have potentially widespread ramifications for the future of the UK and beyond. Emerging technologies, for instance, whilst carrying great potential for humanity, need to be implemented with forward-thinking caution.

It is vitally important for our children's children (and beyond) that Parliament and the public sector use proper foresight in addressing these risks, though without inciting an alarmist narrative. Other countries have begun to address political short-termism - e.g. the Finnish Committee on Future Generations and the Singaporean Centre for Strategic Futures - but there is no such body in Westminster.

Activities

Within its first 12 months, the APPG will carry out the following:

1. **Speaker events and discussion roundtables** to present cutting-edge research and bring together policy, academic and industry communities to discuss policy approaches to representing future generations
2. **Briefings** on scientific research to better inform Parliamentarians on catastrophic risks and potential policy options.
3. **Network building**: Identify key partners and build a strategic network of parliamentarians, academics, industry stakeholders and other APPGs.

Longer term, the APPG will continue these activities and also explore options for the internalisation of long-term considerations into current Parliamentary and policymaking processes.

Support and resources: The Secretariat will be based at the Centre for the Study of Existential Risk (CSER), a research institute at the University of Cambridge. CSER has strong links with other academic institutes and with industry.

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