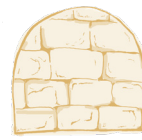


Walls



Global unrest,
political instability

In the world of Walls, nationalist parties rise across the globe. Political conversations shift, and right-wing policies on migration, gender, and economic matters dominate. Digital platforms amplify disinformation, fueling mistrust, isolation, and fear, while interstate warfare escalates, further destabilising the international order.

Conflict
Escalation

By 2026, war in Ukraine threatens to spread westward, and a growing regional conflict between Iran, Lebanon, and Israel draws in global powers, heightening tensions worldwide. Diplomatic efforts give way to increasing military expenditures, as governments focus on defense rather than peacebuilding.

Worsening
Inequality and
Climate Impact

Meanwhile, rising inequality and the impacts of climate change exacerbate tensions across the world. In parts of sub-Saharan Africa, persistent droughts and floods displace millions, leading to clashes between displaced groups and local populations. Governments declare states of emergency, and civic freedoms are curtailed in response to growing unrest.

A Global
Pandemic and
Nationalism

By 2030, a new pandemic emerges, leading industrialised nations to close their borders and halt contributions to global supply chains. Xenophobia intensifies as certain groups are blamed for the spread of the disease. The economic toll disproportionately affects low-income countries, deepening global divides.

Surveillance and
Technology

As the world adapts to these challenges, states increasingly rely on technology for surveillance, control, and to suppress civil dissent. Private companies are drawn into state security, raising concerns about their influence on governance. Civil society organisations find it harder to operate under restrictive regulations.

Geopolitical
Rivalries and
Fragmentation

By 2032, geopolitical tensions rise, with regional powers like China, Russia, and the US asserting dominance within their spheres of influence. Economic competition leads to resource exploitation, particularly in regions like Central Africa but also other places, fueling new conflicts. Multilateral institutions struggle to maintain relevance.

A Fractured
Global Order

As the year 2035 approaches, the world is more fragmented than ever, with strong authoritarian states pursuing their own interests and civic freedoms under threat. Former leaders call for a return to global cooperation, but any path forward remains doubtful.

This is the world of Walls.

Maze

Rising Global Risks

In the world of Maze, the risk of a new world war rises as the conflicts in Ukraine and Gaza escalate, involving more international powers. The UN struggles to respond effectively, with divisions in the Security Council stalling action. Conflicts in Myanmar and West Asia remain unresolved, highlighting the growing disfunction of global institutions.

Calls for UN Reform

By 2025, civil society calls for reform following the UN's Summit of the Future. At the UN's 80th anniversary, the President of the General Assembly urges nations to reimagine a UN fit for the 21st Century. The Pact for the Future becomes a rallying cry for those advocating for a more inclusive multi-lateral system. Yet progress is slow, and fractures within the UN deepen, spurring civil society to press for meaningful change.

Public Pressure and Campaigns

In 2027, civil society groups, artists, and activists launch a campaign for UN reform. Social media amplifies two messages: one critiquing global militarisation costs and advocating for the redirection of funds toward peacebuilding, and another emphasising the climate crisis. These campaigns resonate, prompting public calls for accountability.

Diplomatic Efforts and Emerging Alliances

By 2029, reform efforts gain traction as non-permanent Security Council members, known as the Elected Ten, push for greater representation. In a historic move, Article 109 of the UN Charter is invoked. A conference to review the charter follows, focusing on expanding permanent membership and democratising decision-making.

Structural Changes to the UN

In 2035, after prolonged negotiation, the UN Security Council sees significant changes: new permanent members join, and veto powers are restricted. The General Assembly gains more binding authority. and a transparent Secretary-General selection process reflects growing demands for democratic reform within the organisation.

Peacebuilding and Local Leadership

As the UN reforms the global peacebuilding infrastructure improves, with stronger support for local leaders and reliable funding from multilateral sources. Though civil society has more influence, bureaucratic barriers and state resistance persist, leaving questions about the depth of these changes.

A Reimagined UN

As reforms unfold, a Global Citizens Assembly introduces a platform for citizen participation in governance. Regional representation improves, with marginalised countries re-engaging in hopes of addressing historical imbalances. However, challenges remain, testing if these reforms will drive lasting global change.

This is the world of Maze.

Bridges



A World in Crisis

In the world of Bridges, humanity faces multiple crises: climate change, violent conflict, inequality, and mass displacement. Governments and global institutions struggle to respond, leaving communities to fend for themselves. Civil society groups step in, and grassroots movements grow, demanding systemic change and challenging elite

Media and Narrative Shifts

By 2026, the #InvestInEquitableNarratives campaign takes hold. Led by youth, it amplifies diverse voices and counters dominant media narratives. In South Africa the #IAmHere campaign empowers individuals to share their stories, inspiring similar movements that challenge mainstream portrayals of conflicts and social issues.

Economic Transformation and Wage Growth

At the same time, economic transformation is underway. Worker activism prompts wage growth for low- and middle-income workers, while new political forces push for fairer resource distribution and sustainable economic policies. Many countries adopt green technologies, and resilient, community-driven economies reduce dependency on global supply chains.

Community-led Platforms and Media

By 2030, community-owned social media platforms gain popularity, promoting diverse content and amplifying minority voices. People-centered journalism flourishes, and alternative media becomes a trusted source for addressing global challenges. Fact-checking initiatives and open-source platforms set a new standard for digital communication.

Civil Society Influences Politics

As grassroots activism gains momentum, civil society begins to shape politics. In the United States, a third party wins seats in Congress, breaking political deadlock. In Pakistan, mass protests lead to the government to resign, paving the way for a democratic transition. Civil society infrastructure grows, fostering more accountable and inclusive governance worldwide.

Global Governance and Citizen Assemblies

As participatory democracy gains traction, citizen assemblies begin to emerge, ultimately leading to the development of a Global Citizens Assembly. These assemblies drive collaboration beyond traditional systems, amplifying public voices and pushing for equitable governance.

A New Era of Peace and Economic Justice

By 2035, the Global Climate Governance (GCG) framework is launched, ushering in a new era of global cooperation based on the principles of mutual benefit and shared responsibility. As green technologies alleviate economic pressures and lessen competition over resources, civil society groups take the lead in peace initiatives. This approach reduces geopolitical tensions and promotes lasting peace.

This is the world of Bridges.

Towers



Global Political Tensions

In the world of Towers, global tensions are rising. The influence of authoritarianism and populism grows, especially in Europe and North America. At the same time, the BRICS+ countries—Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa—challenge Western dominance, leading to economic and diplomatic tensions.

Domestic Crises in the US and Europe

By 2026, domestic unrest erupts in the United States and Europe. In the US, riots break out, and militias mobilise, forcing the government to focus on internal stability. Meanwhile, Europe turns inward, intensifying border controls and focusing on economic protectionism amidst growing migration concerns.

Climate Emergency and Regional Responses

At the same time, climate disasters strike with increasing intensity. Severe droughts in West Asia and Africa cause massive displacement, while historic floods devastate Latin America and Southern China. The US and Europe isolate themselves further, leaving the affected regions to fend for themselves. As trust in global institutions declines, regional alliances and local civil society groups step in to manage the fallout.

Rise of Regionalism

By 2030, the global system fractures. Regionalism becomes the dominant political framework, as countries band together based on shared histories and identities. Latin America, Africa, and Asia strengthen intra-regional cooperation, focusing on trade and climate adaptation. They increasingly trade in their own currencies or adopt digital currencies, bypassing traditional global institutions.

Power Struggles and Governance

However, challenges remain. Regional powers like Russia and China expand their influence through military and economic means. In the Middle East, tensions between Iran and Saudi Arabia divide the region, while the occupation of Taiwan by China disrupts Asia-Pacific relations.

In many regions, conflicts are managed through controversial power-sharing agreements. Regional leaders pursue these arrangements to bring stability, but civil society groups argue that such deals often entrench authoritarian elites and fail to address the root causes of violence.

A Fragmented Global Order

By 2035, the world is shaped by regional alliances, each with distinct values and priorities. Civil society's role is diminished, and proactive global cooperation remains elusive. The future remains uncertain as regions pursue self-reliance and grapple with their own internal challenges.

This is the world of Towers.