



Challenges of Population Changes, Youth, and Policies in the Global North: Insights from Finland

- International Conference on Population and Development - 2024 Navigating Challenges and Exploring Opportunities
- 18-20 November 2024
- Lucknow, India
- Prof. Helena Helve
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25.12.2024

Some earlier studies

- Helve, H. (1993). *The world view of young people: A longitudinal study of Finnish youth living in a suburb of metropolitan Helsinki*. Suomalainen tiedeakatemia : Academic Bookstore , distr. : Tiedekirja, distr. [Annales Academiae scientiarum Fennicae, Series B, Humaniora](#), ISSN 0066-2011; tom. 267.
- Helve, H. (2013). From higher education to working life: Work values of young Finns in changing labour markets (In Helve & Evans eds. *Youth and work transitions in changing social landscapes*. Tufnell Press, 2013), pp. 119-137.
- Helve, H. (2015). Re-thinking youth and citizenship. Value groups and citizen types of young Finns. *Italian Journal of Sociology of Education*, 7(1), 32-66.
- Helve H., Côté, J.E., Svynarenko A., Sinisalo-Juha E., Mizokami S., Roberts S. E. & Nakama R., (2017). Identity Horizons Among Finnish Postsecondary Students: A Comparative Analysis. [Identity: An International Journal of Theory and Research](#), 17(3), pp. 191 - 206.
- Helve, H. (2019). Perspectives on Adolescence, Identity Formation and Transitions. *The Japanese journal of adolescent psychology*, 31(1), pp. 1-17.
https://doi.org/10.20688/jsyap.31.1_1
- Helve HM. Hermeneutic-Phenomenological Interpretation of Coronavirus Experiences, Their Meanings, and the Prospects of Young Finns in Education and the Labor Market in Lapland. *Societies*. 2022; 12(4):112.
<https://doi.org/10.3390/soc12040112>
- Helve, Helena M. 2023. "Values and Solidarity of Young Finnish Millennials and Generation X". *Youth* 3, no. 1: 401-413.
<https://doi.org/10.3390/youth3010027>

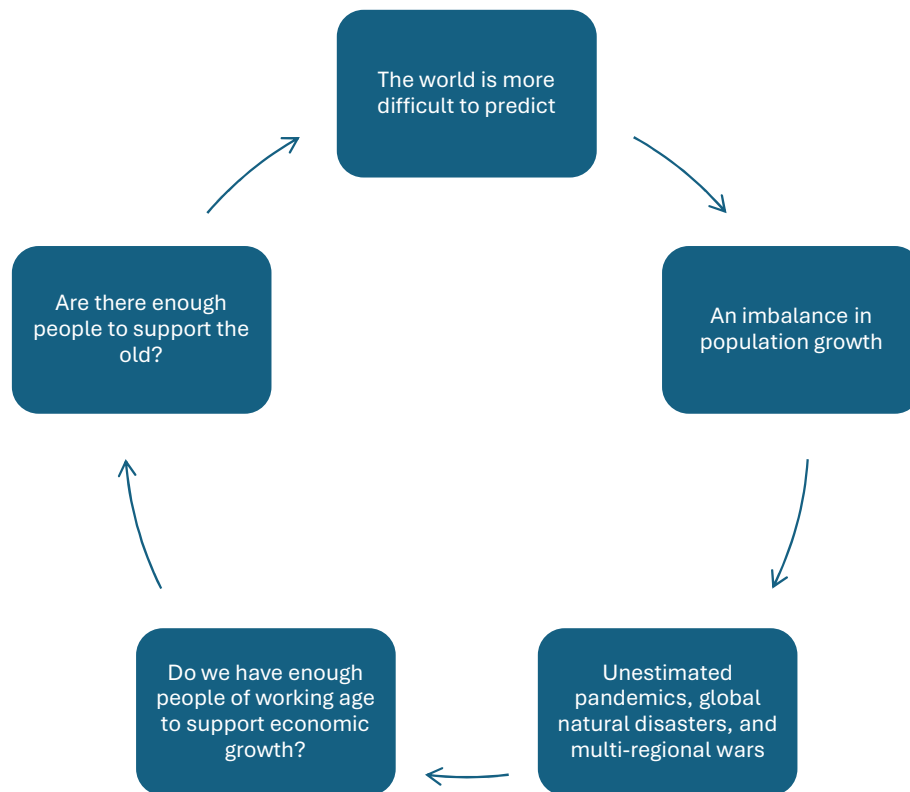


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**Examples of the five biggest
world by population (2024)
compared to Global North**
(based on the latest *United Nations Population Division* estimates)

		Population	Yearly Change	Net Change	Density (P/Km²)	Land Area (Km²)	Migrants (net)	Fert. Rate	Med. Age	Urban Pop %	World Share
1	<u>India</u>	1,450,935,791	0.89 %	12,866,195	488	2,973,190	-630,830	2.0	28	37 %	17.78 %
2	<u>China</u>	1,419,321,278	-0.23 %	-3,263,655	151	9,388,211	-318,992	1.0	40	66 %	17.39 %
3	<u>United States</u>	345,426,571	0.57 %	1,949,236	38	9,147,420	1,286,132	1.6	38	82 %	4.23 %
4	<u>Indonesia</u>	283,487,931	0.82 %	2,297,864	156	1,811,570	-38,469	2.1	30	59 %	3.47 %
5	<u>Pakistan</u>	251,269,164	1.52 %	3,764,669	326	770,880	-1,401,173	3.5	20	34 %	3.08 %
Northern											
Countries:											
90	Sweden	10,606,999	0.53 %	55,505	26	410,340	50,115	1.4	40	87 %	0.13 %
114	Denmark	5,977,412	0.49 %	29,276	141	42,430	25,639	1.5	41	87 %	0.07 %
117	Finland	5,617,310	0.29 %	16,125	18	303,890	26,894	1.3	43	86 %	0.07 %
119	Norway	5,576,660	1.04 %	57,493	15	365,268	44,356	1.4	40	86 %	0.07 %
179	Iceland	393,396	1.51 %	5,838	4	100,250	3,543	1.5	36	84 %	0.00 %

Unestimated future sights:



- The life expectancy increases in many countries
- Mass-ageing
- Continued migration from rural areas to cities
- Females education and workforce high
- Declining fertility rates
- Political developments are unpredictable, given the scope for human agency in shaping of their life.

Greta Thunberg

Swedish environmental activist

**Raised awareness around climate change since 2018
large demonstrations and school strikes started 2018
all over the globe**

**Fridays for Future FFF-
movement**

**Climate change is a major
threat for intergenerational
justice in their future adult
lives**

<https://youtu.be/u9KxE4Kv9A8?t=72>



Finnish Youth Research Insights:
Planetary Youth Research (Laine,
S. (2023). New Framework Proposal:
Planetary Youth Research. *Youth and
Globalization*, 5(1), 15-43.

<https://doi.org/10.1163/25895745->

- First Pillar: Youth Research - One of the Core Disciplines to Foster Identification with Future Generations
- Second Pillar: Towards Universal Consciousness of All Members of the World Community - Young People's Values and Attitudes towards World Community – planetary citizenship
- Third Pillar: Human Relationship with Nature Based on Harmony – Multimethodological and multiscientific Youth Research
- Fourth Pillar: Need for a New Environmental Ethics related to action and emotional engagement
(sofia.laine@youthresearch.fi)





A lot Moderately A little Not at all

25.12.2024

NUORISOTUTKIMUSSEURA RY.



NUOLI
NUORTEN LUONTO-
JA ILMASTORYHMÄ

The Ombudsman for Children (Elina Pekkarinen)

Advocates for children's rights

Ensures that their interests are represented in legislation and decision-making in

- demographic status,
- physical and mental health,
- family and living conditions, -
- education and skills,
- employment, and
- engagement in leisure and culture.

(<https://lapsiasia.fi/en/front-page>)

LAPSIASIAVAIKUTUSTETTU
OMBUDSMAN FOR CHILDREN

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Fostering the rights of children

The Ombudsman for Children in Finland is an autonomous and independent authority that promotes the realisation of the rights and best interest of children. The Ombudsman for Children ensures that the position and rights of children are taken into account in legislation and decision-making.

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Brochures and materials on children's rights

Here you can find brochures about the rights of children in different languages. The material can be used and distributed freely.

- > Do you know about the rights of the child?

Rights and legal protection of children

Information and instructions in matters related to individual children and families

- > Legal protection
- > Where to find help
- > Frequently asked questions

Publications

The office of the Ombudsman for Children in Finland has an own publication series.

- > See all publications
- > The well-being of Sámi and Roma children
- > Report to Parliament 2022

Children's Day at Work 2024

Let's bring the kids to the workplace on Friday 22 November 2024!

Children's Day at Work is an event that lets workplaces hear and focus on the voices of children of various ages. There are many ways to implement Children's Day at Work.

[REGISTER YOUR WORKPLACE](#)

SHORTCUTS

- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- General comments of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child
- Report to Parliament by the Ombudsman for Children 2022
- Child Barometer
- Bring Your Child to Work 2022

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Conclusions and Discussion

The generational gap between older and younger populations affecting younger generations' ability to secure decent futures

Young people are increasingly tasked with managing risks related to climate change, economic and political crises, and the threat of terrorism—factors largely beyond their control

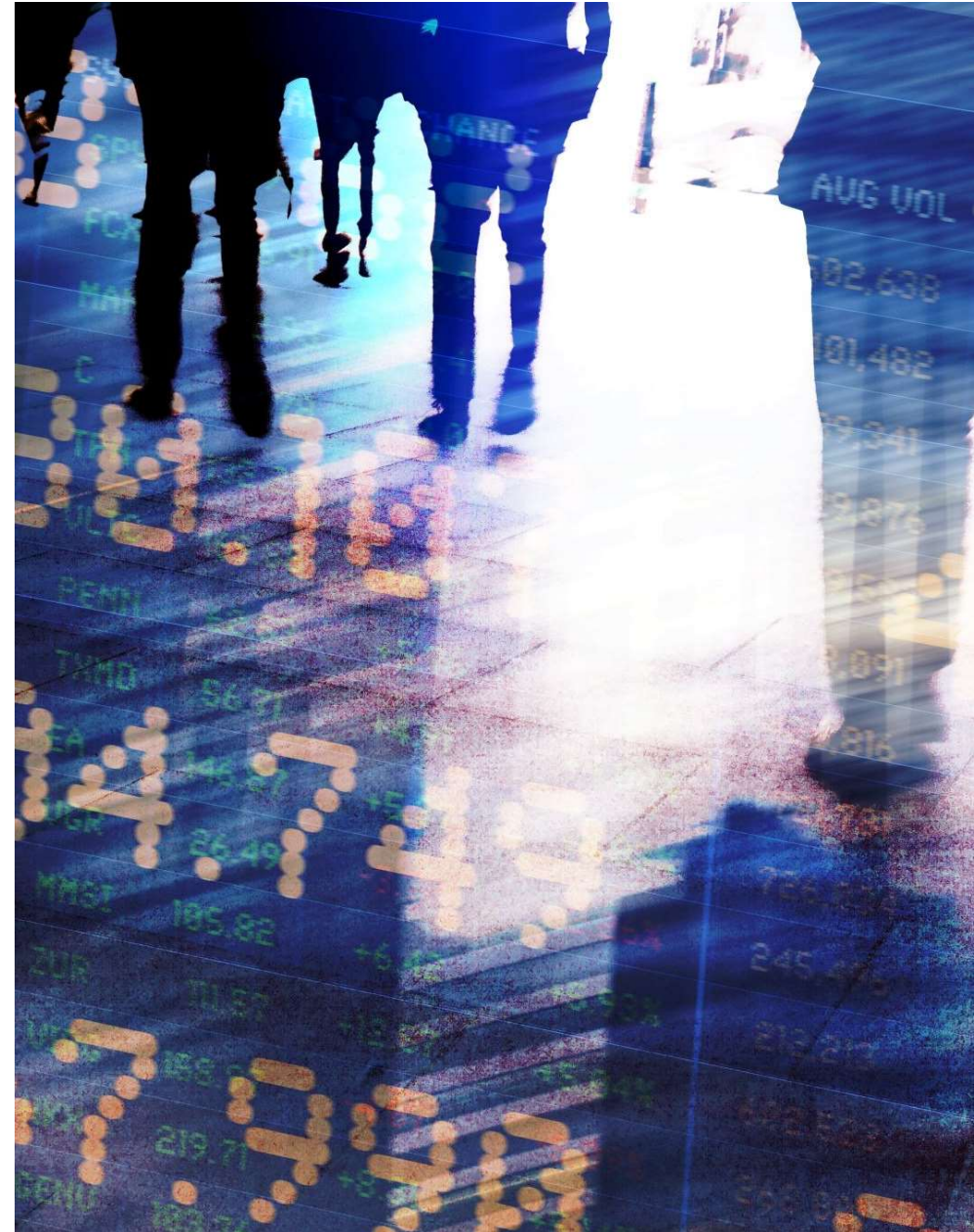
Global insecurity is likely to shift the balance of military power in various regions, and today's youth must navigate an ever-increasing uncertainty

Need for innovative solutions to tackle the intertwined challenges of climate change and sustainability e.g. Planetary Youth Research

Global security is achieved by enforcing human rights and rule of law, and enabling sustainable development and cohesion across the whole globe

25.12.2024

A scientific and political dialogue must be opened in order to address the changes facing both the global North and South





25.12.2024

Young people are the
key to global
prosperity

- Thank you!