

# Uncertainty

English

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## FUTURES DEFINITION

*Uncertainty is an inherent and unavoidable characteristic of complex, anticipatory socioeconomic systems that are regularly considered in the futures field. In uncertain contexts, future developments cannot usually be fully known, predicted, or controlled. In general use, uncertainty is often regarded as an unpleasant state, yet it is a necessary condition for emergence, novelty, and innovation. Navigating or even embracing uncertainty requires special competences and methodologies.*