

Global catastrophic risks bibliography

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To the reader:

For this bibliography, global catastrophic risk (GCR) is defined as risk of events that would significantly harm or even end civilization at the global scale. This bibliography features general discussions of GCR. The references may discuss ethical, methodological, or other trans-GCR issues. They may also present integrative, cross-GCR assessments. References analyzing specific GCRs have been omitted, except in select instances in which the discussion is of clear relevance to other GCRs.

This bibliography serves two core purposes. First, the bibliography serves as a resource for GCR researchers and other interested individuals. Literature on GCR appears in a wide range of often-disconnected places; this bibliography works towards a more unified GCR field. Second, the bibliography serves to respond to the concern that there is not a lot of GCR literature. While what constitutes “a lot” is a matter of opinion, in my experience people often underestimate just how much has been written on GCR, perhaps due to lack of awareness about the breadth of the literature.

The bibliography contains 115 entries, including book reviews and publications in the popular literature. Where possible, I have included links to open-access (subscription-free) web versions of the entries. While I have tried to make this bibliography comprehensive, I presume that I have overlooked some literature. Please send me any and all suggestions for further entries, or for updated links to existing entries, preferably via email to sethbaum@gmail.com.

Sincerely,
Seth Baum
12 July 2011

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