

COMMITTEE FOR THE FUTURE

The Committee for the Future (est. 1993) is a standing committee in the Parliament of Finland. The Committee consists of 17 MPs. It serves as a think tank for long-term futures, sustainable development, and science and technology policy in Finland. The Committee's counterpart cabinet member is the Prime Minister. Unlike other, field-specific parliamentary committees, the Committee for the Future does not usually discuss legislative resolutions. Instead, the Committee's mission is to generate dialogue with the Government on long-term, multi-field, and future-oriented problems and opportunities.

At least once per term, the Government issues a report on long-term future prospects along with its objectives and targets. The report is submitted to the Parliament by the Prime Minister's Office. The Committee for the Future then prepares the Parliament's response (the Parliament's Futures Report) to the Government. This way, arising important political themes can be recognised at such an early stage that different alternatives and policy lines are still completely open to deliberation. Since 2017, The Government's implementation for Agenda2030 for Sustainable Development is also submitted to the Committee for the Future during each electoral term.

The Committee for the Future has other duties as well, such as submitting statements to the other committees in connection with Government reports and, for example, the annual budget. The Committee considers societal issues and influences, and deliberates technological developments by providing foresight research commissions. The Committee evaluates the long-term impacts of various phenomena and contributes to political value discussions and decision-making.

During the parliamentary term of 2015–2018, the Committee for the Future is deliberating such issues as

- radical technologies
- methods of the arts
- educational exports
- futures of the welfare society
- the nature and holders (or owners) of expert knowledge
- revamping the innovation system
- future visions for children and young people
- sharing and platform economies
- the values, rights and responsibilities of a trust-based society.



PARLIAMENT
OF FINLAND

2/2018



Committee for the Future 2018



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