

SC: Global Inequality

PART I — FORESIGHT SNAPSHOT | SC: Global Inequality | Fixed Time-Stamped Synthesis

2026 SC: Global Inequality

Card Type	Societal Challenge
Series	Immersive Futures Guild — Vision 2035
Layer	1 — Atomic Foresight Object
Status	Active
Confidence	Medium
Workshop	Circle of Scholars — January 2026
Facilitator	Circle of Scholars Workshop Team
Tags	global-inequality geopolitics access layer1 sc
Tally.so Form	https://tally.so/r/ilrn-if-sc-gi-2026

The geopolitical distribution of XR and AI research capacity, infrastructure investment, technology manufacturing, and platform governance is heavily concentrated in a small number of countries and regions. This creates structural inequalities in who shapes immersive learning futures — whose pedagogical traditions are encoded into global platforms, whose researchers can access cutting-edge tools, and whose communities bear the costs of extractive technology deployment without capturing equivalent benefits.

Key Drivers / Contributing Conditions:

- Technology manufacturing concentration in a small number of economies
- Research funding inequality across regions
- English-language and Western epistemological dominance in XR content and research
- Global South infrastructure deficits compounded by climate vulnerability

Educational and Design Implications:

- iLRN Geographic Chapters as structural equity mechanism
- Multilingual and multicultural Codex contribution as a governance requirement

- Research partnership models that transfer capacity rather than extract data

Tensions Carried Forward to Part II:

- How can a global foresight program avoid reproducing the inequalities it documents?
- When do 'global standards' impose uniformity that erases legitimate local variation?

Linked Scenarios / Strands: See cross-links above

Ways of Knowing: Tree · Garden · Lantern

PART II — COMMUNITY EVIDENCE & DIALOGUE TRACK | SC: Global Inequality | H2 2026 — Living

T	<p>COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION FORM — SC: Global Inequality</p> <p>Submit case examples, methodological challenges, cultural perspectives, and proposed evidence criteria via: https://tally.so/r/ilrn-if-sc-gi-2026</p>
---	---

Part II — Scope and Instructions
This section collects community responses, case examples, and challenges to the Part I foresight snapshot above.
It opens July 1, 2026 and undergoes synthesis review in September 2026, November 2026, and January 2027.
Contributions are submitted via the Tally.so form above and appear in the registers below after editorial review.
The Part I text is not modified in response to Part II contributions; it is versioned at the Annual Handoff review.
Contribution categories: Case Example Methodological Challenge Cultural/Community Perspective Proposed Evidence Criterion
Ways of Knowing accepted: Tree (evidence) Garden (practice) Lantern (futures)

Tensions Open for Community Response:

- How can a global foresight program avoid reproducing the inequalities it documents?
- When do 'global standards' impose uniformity that erases legitimate local variation?

Contributor / Date	Category	Way of Knowing	Contribution Summary
--------------------	----------	----------------	----------------------

[Awaiting contributions — form opens July 1, 2026]			
---	--	--	--

Revision #1

Created 25 May 2026 18:47:50 by Jonathon Richter

Updated 25 May 2026 20:20:18 by Jonathon Richter