

PopDigests

Policy Briefs

Discussion Papers

Policy Insights

Books and Reports

Yearbook

Policy Brief

Policy with Foresight - Preparing for the future in a scientifically rigorous and actionable way

This brief is an orientation for using anticipatory methods to support policy making. It is based on the recommendations of leading foresight and forecasting experts, who shared their expertise in a workshop in November 2023, which was part of the Policy Lab of the project Towards a Resilient Future of Europe ("FutuRes").

[Download Policy Brief 43/2024](#) (241.64 KB)



Population and Policy

Brief

No 43
January 2024

Authors
Kate Dearden
Peter Weissenburger

Policy with Foresight

Preparing for the future in a scientifically rigorous and actionable way

Using anticipatory methods in policy should start with identifying the specific question and timeframe for which insights are needed.

It is fundamental to assess which anticipatory methods can paint the kind of "bigger picture" often needed in long-term policy planning.

The outputs of anticipatory methods depend on having relevant and robust data. Consider whether the available data suffice to carry out the chosen method. Are further data needed?

Anticipatory methods are a process rather than a one-time assessment.