

Existential Threat

An **existential threat** is a danger that poses a risk to the continued existence, survival, or fundamental nature of something, such as humanity, a nation, or an organization. It represents a catastrophic, often irreversible risk that could lead to complete destruction, collapse, or fundamental change.

Key aspects and examples of existential threats include:

Humanity/Civilization:

Risks that could cause human extinction or the permanent collapse of society, such as nuclear war, global pandemics, severe climate change, or artificial intelligence.

Nations/Organizations:

Dangers that could destroy a country's sovereignty or an organization's viability, such as intense military conflict, economic collapse, or, in business, critical supply chain disruptions.

Nature:

Irreversible damage to planetary systems.

The term is often used in political and environmental contexts to describe situations that demand urgent action to prevent total failure.