



NICKLAS LARSEN

STRATEGIC BUSINESS DEVELOPER WITH EXPERTISE IN ADVOCACY, ADVISORY, PARTNERSHIPS AND FORESIGHT

Bio: With a decade of experience in international advisory, I excel and thrive in mission-driven portfolios, engaging in multifunctional roles, and developing business areas and partnerships within and outside of the organization.

In my current role, I am dedicated to empowering learners and leaders by fostering a culture of forward-thinking through practical application and advocacy. By utilizing futures thinking as a catalyst, I strive to instigate renewed agency and drive systemic innovation aligned with UN-objectives of democratizing and utilizing foresight for complex issues and to inform decision-making.

My varied engagements have provided me extensive experience in hosting, public speaking, teaching, advising, and facilitating complex learning spaces across such as public policy, healthcare, philanthropy, education and multilateral institutions.

CONTACT

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EDUCATION

Master of Science, Economics & Business Administration, International Business & Marketing, University of Southern Denmark, DK, 2014–2016.

Exchange semester, international relations, at University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 2015.

First Class BA, Business Administration
Profile in Strategic Management, De Montfort University, UK, 2013–2014.

Business student, Innovation and entrepreneurship, Niels Brock, CPH Business College, 2006–2009.

SKILLS

- Business development
- Corporate and non-profit partnerships
- Building relations, networks and community
- Strategy, innovation and risk process planning and execution
- Futures and foresight specialist
- Program, portfolio, and project management.
- Communication, publication, and editorial expertise.
- C-Suite and board advisory
- International keynote speaker

PERSONAL

I value curiosity, optimism, and adventure. I've started kickboxing and enjoy mountain hiking. I co-run a mentorship program with my friend, aimed at diverse talent in Copenhagen. The transformative nature of art motivates me. I'm happily married to my American husband, Thomas although we disagree on getting a dog.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Faculty and Instructor, BBA, Strategic Design Management, Parsons School of Design, Paris - The New School, 2023-present.



- Co-developed and taught two hybrid courses at a top design school, blending futures theory and design practice to address complex challenges with high student satisfaction and real-world applicability.

UNESCO Co-Chair in Anticipatory Leadership & Futures Capabilities, Aarhus University & CIFS, 2022-present.



- Developing business areas and advocating for anticipatory processes in education, public policy and culture.
- Launching the Futures Barometer, on Dane's attitudes and concerns towards the future, drawing significant political attention.

Educational Lead, Teach the Future, Denmark, 2022-present.



- Leading efforts to integrate futures studies into Danish school systems through successful advocacy. Initiated pilot projects with multiple institutions, attracting interest from major funders.

External Lecturer, IT University Copenhagen & The Danish National School of Performing Arts, 2021-2023.

- Developed and taught futures-infused coursework in performing arts and in entrepreneurship.

Senior Foresight Advisor, Staff Writer & Head of Arts & Culture, Copenhagen Institute for Futures Studies, 2020-present.



- Strategically transformed CIFS' image by forming alliances and partnerships, and its business model by diversifying into civic, philanthropic, cultural, educational and public sectors.
- Established a strong partnership with global and multilateral institutions like UNESCO and the OECD.
- I secured the esteemed title of a UNESCO Chair to CIFS and Aarhus University and initiated the systems portfolio to achieve its agendas.

Senior Foresight Advisor & Head of Membership Services, Copenhagen Institute for Futures Studies, 2019-2020.

- Pioneered CIFS' strategic focus on healthcare, enhancing economic resilience during the COVID-19 crisis ensuring organizational survival.
- Orchestrated networking events and delivered value to 60+ corporate members, including IKEA, Maersk, and New Balance.

Foresight Advisor, Copenhagen Institute for Futures Studies, 2016-2019

- Orchestrated international conferences, showcasing opportunities in genomics and Nordic health data.
- Built the Global Scanning Network, collecting and analyzing 3000+ early indicators of disruptions through community building and mentoring.

Research Analyst, Copenhagen Institute for Futures Studies, 2014-2016

- Provided essential research support, contributing to strategy, innovation, and risk management in multinational enterprises.

Previous roles were within startup and sales functions.

References available upon request

CERTIFICATES & AWARD

- Altinget's education in grant applications, 2021.
- PRINCE2 Foundation and Agile practitioner, Danish Technological Institute, 2020.
- Participatory Futures Practitioner Design, Action Foresight, 2020.
- Futures Literacy Lab Facilitator, Hanze University of Applied Sciences, 2020.
- Award: Valedictorian, highest graded student on the strategic management stream, De Montfort University, UK (via Niels Brock), 2014.

NUMBERS

- 100+ workshops and talks around the world.
- Initiated and mobilised 3 systemic initiatives for better futures.
- Close to engaged 4000 LinkedIn connections
- I closed my first DKK 1.000.000 contract at the age of 21.
- More 30.000 have engaged with my articles on Medium.

PROBONO, NETWORKS & VOLUNTEERING

- Network of Institutions for Future Generations: Member, 2023-present.
- Copenhagen Institute for Futures Studies: Board member, employee representative, 2022-present.
- UNGDOMSBUREAUET: Advisory Board Member, Future Generations Shaping Future Technologies, 2022-2023.
- Future Oriented Museum Synergies Network (FORMS): Member of Steering Committee, 2021-2022.
- Elsevier's FUTURES - The journal of policy, planning and futures studies: Peer reviewer, 2020-2023.
- Senior curator for the UNESCO Global Futures Literacy Summit with more than 8000 participants.
- SCENARIO Magazine: Advisory Board member to editor-in-chief, 2015-2019.

SELECTED PROJECTS

- Foresight process for the European Space Policy Institute, 2023.**
- Development of scenarios for the 'Futures of European Space Exploration' to inform long-term policymaking within the space sector.
- Educating cultural leaders with Danish Library Association, 2023.**
- Leading a collaborative project to create innovative formats among staff and citizens for SDG-aligned actions.
- Initiator of the Futures Philanthropy Initiative with PHILEA, 2023.**
- Organizing the integration of foresight into the civic and philanthropic sectors in partnership with the Philanthropy Europe Association.
- Capability developer at the Asian Development Bank, 2022/2023.**
- Designed and delivered an upskilling program for 200 staff and executives, while cultivating strong relationships within the ADB.
- Experiential futures designer for museums at FUTURIUM in Berlin, 2022.**
- Co-designed an immersive experience pilot for 100 people which has since become a permanent feature, enhancing the museum's offerings.
- Curator and negotiator for Novo Nordisk, 2020-present.**
- Curating, negotiating and securing high-profile keynotes on innovation, digital health and prevention to catalyze the digital transformation.
- Project manager to the Nordic Health 2030 movement, 2019.**
- Organized a Nordic Council of Ministers-funded project, forming a preventive health coalition aligned with Agenda 2030 and conceptualized and co-authored Nordic Health 2030 Magazine.
- Engaged in integral roles across a 3-year process, NRK, 2017-2019.**
- Delivered a series of large foresight projects on the future of Norway, media and then public service to serve as strategic input and guidance for top executives of NRK.



SELECTED KEYNOTES

- Moderator at the Danish Democracy Festival (Folkemødet), 2023.**
- Skillfully moderated a panel with executives of UNICEF Denmark and LEGO Group at a UN-event in front of a diverse audience. The panel explored essential competencies for youth to navigate complexity.
- Keynote and moderator, The Culture Meeting (Kulturmødet), 2021-2023.**
- Maintained a consistent and impactful presence at the significant cultural event by delivering engaging keynotes and moderating panels for three consecutive years.
- Keynote, Global Futures Forum - Coalition For the UN We Need, 2023.**
- Delivered a compelling keynote on anticipatory leadership and governance for an international audience, highlighting the importance of future-oriented leadership in the civic and multilateral sector.
- Keynote Speaker, World Pride in Copenhagen, 2021.**
- Delivered a keynote that explored futures lenses on the LGBTQ+ community.



SELECTED MEDIA & PUBLICATIONS

- 'Representing Unborn Generations' - Interview article with Sophie Howe, Future Generations Commissioner for Wales, Farsight, 2023.
- Hosted 5-episode TV program on 'Youth Futures' at Danish National Public Service Channel DRP3 (Hvem styrer dit liv?), 2022.
- 'A Clearer Role for the Board? Organizational Future-Preparedness after Covid-19' - Academic study with Aarhus University, 2021.
- 'Barriers to Developing Futures Literacy in Organizations' - Peer-reviewed article in FUTURES Journal, 2021.
- 'Derfor Skal Fremtiden på Skoleskemaet', MandagMorgen, 2021.
- 'Using the Future - Embracing Uncertainty, Improving Decision-Making and Democratizing Tomorrow', CIFS, 2021.
- 'What is Futures Literacy and Why is it Important?', Medium, 2020.