## Table 3: Future of the Profession and of the Work Place

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIG member associations</th>
<th>Call to Action:</th>
<th>Members are encouraged to share their own thinking and material for upload to the FIG task force web site.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mika Petteri Törhönen:</strong> A glimpse of the future of land administration delivered at FIG WW 2019, Hanoi, Vietnam</td>
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**The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors** (RICS):

“In all of our market interactions over the last two years, there has been a growing and consistent theme ‘technology and disruption will bring both opportunities and threats to this profession, but regardless it [our professions] is set to change it’.

Much of RICS thinking has been informed by work on ‘Futures’ starting in 2015, when the first futures report ‘Our changing world, let’s be ready’ was produced, this has now been updated [www.rics.org/futures](http://www.rics.org/futures).

RICS thinking continually evolves, with regular thought leadership pieces at the RICS [World Built Environment Forums (WBEF)](https://www.rics.org/uk/wbef/), held annually.

## RICS insight publications upload to the Task Force Web page includes:
- Impact of emerging technology, Ai in the built environment,
- and Ethics and Technology in the built environment

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### Geospatial Information: UN-GGIM Sixth High Level Forum

Both the Implementation Guide and the Future Trends report are of significant relevance to our global geospatial community. The UN-GGIM Sixth High Level Forum anticipated the finalisation of the global consultation and review processes of the Implementation Guide of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework and the Future Trends in Geospatial Information Management: Five to Ten-year Vision third edition. This was to be launched in April 2020 and has been rescheduled into a series of three virtual high-level forum events to mark the launch.

**Event 1** - The Geospatial Landscape, and overview of Integrated Geospatial Information Framework and Future Trends in Geospatial Information Management

**Event 2** - Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, the nine strategic pathways and country-level action plans

**Event 3** - Future Trends in Geospatial Information Management: Five to Ten-year Vision, the relevance and application to national priorities and action plans

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[https://www.unggim6hlf.org/unggim6hlf/](https://www.unggim6hlf.org/unggim6hlf/)

Publications upload to the Task Force Web page includes:

- Pdf 1st edition
- Pdf 2nd Edition
The Professions and the work place

The Future of the Professions: how technology will transform the work of human expert.
Richard Susskind & Daniel Susskind

The professions are on the brink of transformation.

The future has already arrived; it is just not yet evenly distributed. In a technologically-based internet society increasingly capable machines will take on many of the tasks that have been the historic preserve of the professions. It is anticipated that an incremental transformation in the way that we produce and distribute expertise in society will lead eventually to a dismantling of the traditional professions.

Professionals are commonly charged with being elitist, they are frequently regarded as unaffordable and cynics cite their use of jargon as one of many illustrations of how they mystify and ring fence their discipline, so that only professionals are able to serve.

The main challenge the professionals’ see is that they need to streamline, polish, and modernise an institution that is in place for the duration. But, a pervading technical bias exists, with a tendency to underestimate the potential of tomorrow’s applications by evaluating them in terms of today’s enabling technologies, termed by Susskind as the inability of sceptics

People are seeing that professional organisations often discourage self-help, self-discovery and self-reliance. Although the professions are responsible for many of the most important functions and services in society; yet affordability to their work is woefully low. In a technologically based internet society there will be a wide range of new ways to create and share knowledge that are more affordable and accessible

The working environment is in a state of flux; but for today’s practitioners to thrive they will need to be willing to take on new skills and competencies. Especially they will need to communicate differently, to gain mastery of the data in their disciplines, to establish new working relationships with their machines and to diversify.
Introducing two recent texts that relate to the technological shift in the 21st century and highlight different perspectives of the role of robots and AI.

**A World Without Work: Technology, Automation and How We Should Respond, Daniel Susskind**

Daniel (and Richard) Susskind co-authored an earlier book that focused on the threat posed by machine learning to the professions, including Architects, Doctors, Lawyers etc (See above). Their newer book is much broader looking at the economic and social consequences of automation.

In the past the relationship between machine and human labour had been driven by two factors: the substituting effect, which caused people to lose their jobs, and the complementing effect, which allowed employees to do their work more productively.

The discussion is that if in the future the substituting effect prevails then a scenario may evolve that requires a change in political thinking. Part of the answer could be a ‘conditional basic income’... In addition the increase in leisure time would require societies to have a more coherent leisure policy coaxing people away from their smart phone technology.

**Roger Bootle** provides a more optimistic outlook that AI compliments the future of work. Outlined in his book ‘Al Economy: work wealth and welfare in the robot age”

**The Shift: The Future of Work is Already Here, Lynda Gratton**
<table>
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<th>Understanding “New Power”, Jeremy Heimans and Henry Timms</th>
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<td><strong><a href="https://hbr.org/2014/12/understanding-new-power">https://hbr.org/2014/12/understanding-new-power</a></strong> (December 2014)</td>
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<td>We all sense that power is shifting in the world.</td>
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<td>We see increasing political protest, a crisis in representation and governance, and upstart businesses upending traditional industries. But the nature of this shift tends to be either wildly romanticized or dangerously underestimated.</td>
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<td>The interesting and complex transformation that is just beginning is driven by a growing tension between two distinct forces: old power and new power.</td>
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<td>The power battle ahead, whether you favour old or new power values, will be about who can control and shape society’s essential systems and structures. Will new power forces prove capable of fundamentally reforming existing structures? Or allow traditional models of governance, law, and capital markets to basically hold firm?</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Power defined:</strong></td>
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<td>Old power works like a currency. It is held by few. Once gained, it is jealously guarded, and the powerful have a substantial store of it to spend. It is closed, inaccessible, and leader-driven. It downloads, and it captures.</td>
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<tr>
<td>New power operates differently, like a current. It is made by many. It is open, participatory, and peer-driven. It uploads, and it distributes. Like water or electricity, it’s most forceful when it surges. The goal with new power is not to hoard it but to channel it.</td>
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It explains a framework for understanding the players, using the TED organization as an example, and concludes with strategies to accommodate and influence power.