

# The timeline of unsustainable development

The world economy is clearly on an unsustainable track, both from a social and an ecological perspective. This is best illustrated by the ever rising debt pile and carbon emissions. The economic and social consequences of climate change and out-of-control debt will be enormous. A large-scale reset of the global economy is therefore urgently required: more sustainable and resilient and less growth and debt-driven.

## Missed opportunities

Since the end of World War II we have had three important moments when we could have changed our course: in 1972, in 1987, and in 2015. In 2020/21, we find ourselves again at a crossroads. Will we take the right course this time?

**1972**

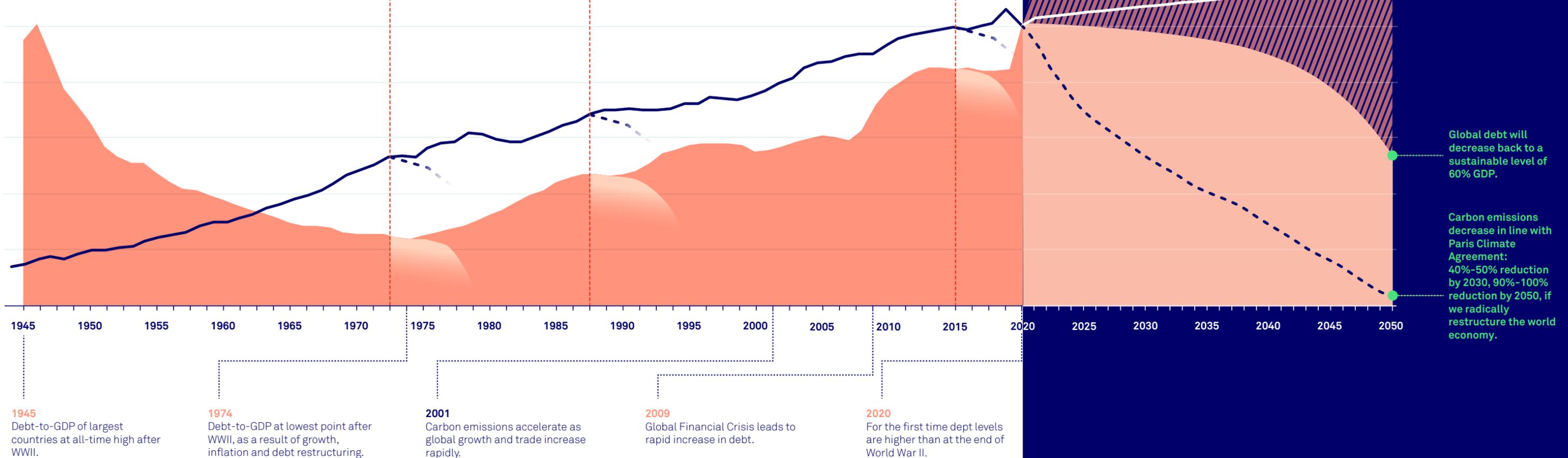
Club of Rome - Limits to growth. The earth's interlocking resources – the global system of nature in which we all live – probably cannot support present rates of economic and population growth much beyond the year 2100, if that long, even with advanced technology.

**1987**

Brundlandt Report - the first time sustainable development is defined as the way to go for the global society in UN report.

**2015**

Sustainable Development Goals as a 'world strategy' for a more sustainable world. Paris Climate Agreement: pledge to keep global temperature rise below 1.5 degrees.



# Building back better

If we make the right choices, we still have time to build ourselves a sustainable future. But a radical reset is needed and we have to act now. Join us.

**Debt to GDP**

Public debt as a % of GDP of advanced countries (i.e. major part of global debt and economy). Source: IMF, Fiscal Monitor October 2020

**Carbon emissions**

Global Carbon in carbon emissions equivalents. Source: IPCC, www.carbonactiontracker.org

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