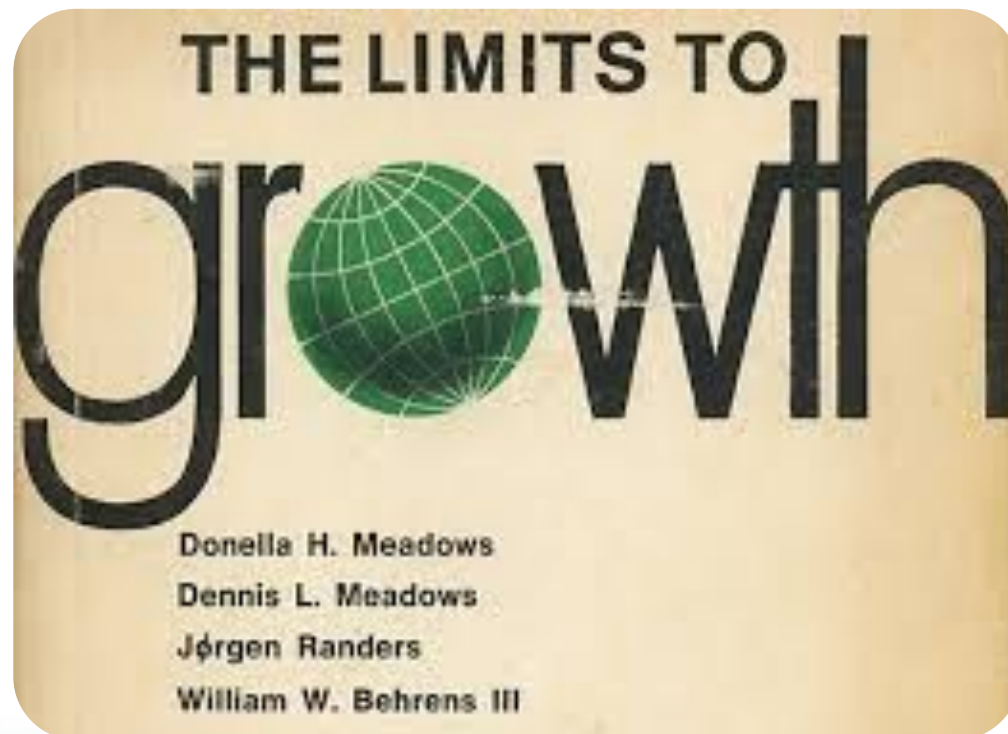


The Limits to Growth: The 30-Year Update

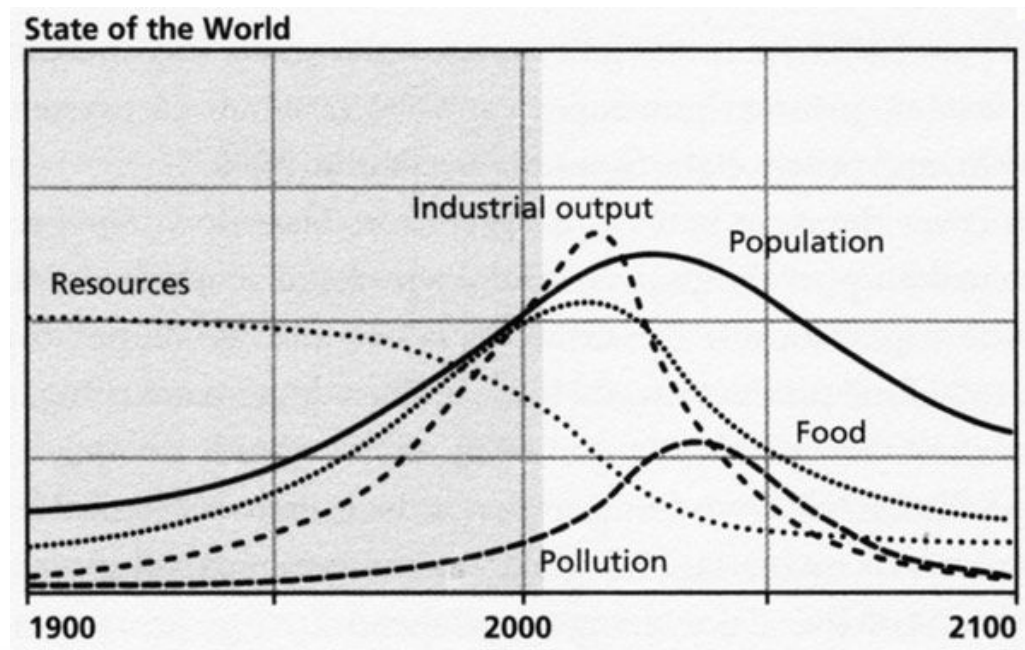


William W. Behrens III
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Презентация Марины Васюсиной, 1 ПА

General info about book

«The Limits to Growth» is a 1972 book about the computer simulation of exponential economic and population growth with finite resource supplies.



Its authors were Donella H. Meadows, Dennis L. Meadows, Jørgen Randers, and William W. Behrens III.



Purpose and contents

The purpose: was not to make specific predictions, but to explore how exponential growth interacts with finite resources. Because the size of resources is not known, only the general behavior can be explored.

Contents: the original version presented a model based on five variables: **world population, industrialisation, pollution, food production and resources depletion**. These variables are considered to grow exponentially, while the ability of technology to increase resources availability is only linear.



Reviews

Positive: Graham Turner found that the observed historical data from 1970 to 2000 closely matches the simulated results of the "standard run" limits of growth model for almost all the outputs reported. "The comparison is well within uncertainty bounds of nearly all the data in terms of both magnitude and the trends over time."

Negative: critics claimed that history proved the projections to be incorrect, which was specifically based on the popular belief that The Limits to Growth predicted resource depletion and associated economic collapse by the end of the 20th century.

A message of hope

Man can create a society in which he can live indefinitely on earth if he imposes limits on himself and his production of material goods to achieve a state of global equilibrium with population and production in carefully selected balance.



The message of book



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.



**Thank you for your
attention!**