

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910819105403321
Autore	Posner Richard A
Titolo	Catastrophe : risk and response // Richard A. Posner
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Oxford ; ; New York, : Oxford University Pres, 2004
ISBN	0-19-756244-2 0-19-988438-2 0-19-530647-3 1-280-42838-4 0-19-534639-4 1-60256-541-4
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (333 p.)
Collana	Oxford scholarship online
Disciplina	363.34
Soggetti	Emergency management Disasters Risk assessment Technological innovations - Moral and ethical aspects
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	What are catastrophic risks, and how catastrophic are they? -- Why so little is being done about the catastrophic risks -- How to evaluate the catastrophic risks and the possible responses to them -- How to reduce the catastrophic risks.
Sommario/riassunto	Catastrophic risks are much greater than is commonly appreciated. Collision with an asteroid, runaway global warming, voraciously replicating nanomachines, a pandemic of gene-spliced smallpox launched by bioterrorists, and a world-ending accident in a high-energy particle accelerator, are among the possible extinction events that are sufficiently likely to warrant careful study. How should we respond to events that, for a variety of psychological and cultural reasons, we find it hard to wrap our minds around? Posner argues that realism about science and scientists, innovative applications of cost-benefit analysis, a scientifically literate legal profession, unprecedented international cooperation, and a pragmatic attitude toward civil liberties

are among the keys to coping effectively with the catastrophic risks.
