

# Funding the Future

## If you aren't extremely worried, you aren't paying atte...

Published: January 13, 2026, 1:41 pm

I don't by any means always agree with Paul Krugman, but that does not mean he cannot be right. Excepting his understatement of the risk from long Covid in here [he has the rest spot on:](#)

The image shows a screenshot of a Twitter thread by Paul Krugman (@paulkrugman). The thread consists of seven tweets. The first tweet asks, "Do you share my sense of dread about the year ahead? If not, why not? 1/". The subsequent tweets are replies to each other, discussing the author's fears about COVID-19, climate change, political catastrophe in America, ideological conflict, an attempted coup, and the author's despair. Each tweet includes engagement metrics such as replies, retweets, and likes.

**Paul Krugman** @paulkrugman  
Do you share my sense of dread about the year ahead? If not, why not? 1/  
12:41 PM · Jan 1, 2022 · Twitter Web App  
449 Retweets 441 Quote Tweets 3,268 Likes

**Paul Krugman** @paulkrugman · 20h  
Replying to @paulkrugman  
At this point I'm not personally all that afraid of Covid. I do know vaxxed/boosted people who've had breakthrough cases, but both anecdotes and the available data say that these cases are usually mild. For those acting responsibly, we're down to normal-risks-of-life levels 2/  
125 replies 180 retweets 1.2K likes

**Paul Krugman** @paulkrugman · 20h  
Longer term I'm terrified of climate change. But at this point that fear has been overtaken by the near-term risk of political catastrophe right here in America 3/  
174 replies 288 retweets 2.3K likes

**Paul Krugman** @paulkrugman · 20h  
We've always had ideological conflict, and these conflicts have often been won by people with bad ideas and sometimes by people with bad motives. But now half our political spectrum is controlled by a faction that is ruled not by ideology but by the will to power 4/  
107 replies 280 retweets 1.7K likes

**Paul Krugman** @paulkrugman · 20h  
We had an attempted coup a year ago; the GOP has now essentially endorsed that attempt and is preparing the ground for future cancelation of democracy. GOP policy on vaccines is a combination of bottomless cynicism and deep crazy 5/  
262 replies 414 retweets 2K likes

**Paul Krugman** @paulkrugman · 19h  
Despair is not a plan. Nobody should give up. But if you aren't extremely worried, you aren't lying attention 6/  
165 replies 170 retweets 1.6K likes

**Paul Krugman** @paulkrugman · 19h  
"paying" attention 7/  
194 replies 68 retweets 1K likes

Worry.

And remember, we are in the same boat. Only in the UK the extremists are in power and are already taking away your power to protest about it.