

Futurism isn't about predicting the future—and never was

From AI convergence to human accountability, futurists don't forecast outcomes; they build the ability to navigate uncertainty with intent.

PAYMENT CONNECTIVITY CYBERSECURITY

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The term “**futurist**” is often misunderstood. It is commonly associated with prediction – trying to forecast what the world will look like in five, ten, or twenty years. In reality, futurism is less about prediction and more about agility, especially as the world continues to move faster than our assumptions.

Today, technologies evolve more rapidly than the organizational, regulatory, and cultural systems designed to absorb them. AI, agentic systems, decentralized architectures, quantum technologies, and sovereignty constraints are no longer progressing independently—they are converging. Together, they are transforming how decisions are made, how trust is distributed, and how value is created.

In this environment, the futurist is not the person who can merely anticipate trends. The futurist is the one best equipped to navigate uncertainty, manage complexity, and make intentional choices, even in face of ambiguity.

Innovation is a trajectory; not a breakthrough moment

True innovation is rarely a single breakthrough. Many of the technologies we now consider foundational— digital payments, wireless connectivity, even the internet—were once perceived as risky or premature. None of these innovations arrived fully formed. They matured progressively and became trusted through iteration, validation, and alignment across ecosystems.

The same applies today to AI and automation. Progress is not about speed alone. It is about building confidence over time, through architecture, governance, and continuous learning. In trusted domains, “almost right” is not enough.

Responsibility in a world of convergence

As systems become more autonomous and interconnected, capability scales faster than certainty. Responsibility cannot be an afterthought—it must be embedded from the start.

This means recognizing that AI fluency does not equal intelligence, that autonomy does not remove accountability, and that human behavior remains a critical factor in security and resilience. It also means resisting the temptation to delegate control before systems are fully validated, especially where trust chains are involved.

But responsibility is not only technical. In a convergent world, no single discipline can see the full picture. This places an obligation on futurists across all domains to continuously learn, challenge assumptions, and work beyond functional boundaries.

We all have a shared responsibility to:

- ➔ Learn: stay curious, question what we think we know, and update our understanding as technologies and contexts evolve.
- ➔ Be agile: understand how technology, security, regulation, human behavior, and business models interact, where unintended consequences may appear, and how to benefit from disruptions.
- ➔ Collaborate: combine domain expertise with transversal thinking, co-innovate across teams, and learn from one another to surface blind spots early

Shaping the future, intentionally



The future is not something we predict. It's something we prepare for and something we help shape and inspire together.

For IDEMIA Secure Transactions, being a futurist means pairing ambition with responsibility: advancing innovation while preserving trust. It means ensuring that new technologies, new use cases, and new ways of working contribute directly to the evolution of our products, our customer experiences, and our ecosystem.

This balance is not optional. It is what defines meaningful innovation in an ever evolving, interconnected world—and what allows us to grow, adapt, and lead with confidence.

By Marc Bertin, Chief Technology Officer at IDEMIA Secure Transactions