

Dag O. Hessen

# The World at the Tipping Point. How bad can it get?

Verden på vippepunktet. Hvor ille kan det bli?

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70 000 years ago, there existed a species, comprised of scattered populations of a few hundred individuals each, who generally lived peaceful lives in a corner of Africa. Today, that species consists of 9 billion individuals, and it has begun to fundamentally alter the planet. The species in question is us.

What we are doing to the earth, can be registered on a geological timeline showing hundreds of thousands of years. So extensive are the emissions of climate gases and the reduction in biodiversity that we caused, during only a brief moment in the long history of the earth.

Dag O. Hessen, professor of biology at the University of Oslo, is not one for mincing his words. science, not fearmongering, he explains the contemporary state of nature and climate – and how badly things may turn out. The great risk factor is the different feedback loop mechanisms that will intensify the changes. Simultaneously, human culture is constantly changing. Perhaps are we, too, standing at the tipping point? Will we be able to turn this development in time, to avert the worst possible scenarios? This book is a powerful appeal for the need to do more – and to do it quicker.

**Winner of the 2020 Brage Prize for Best Non-Fiction AND the Brage Honorary Award**

Nominated for the 2020 Nordic Council's Environmental Prize



*'The World at the Tipping Point' is important, wise and engaging. This is a book that everyone needs to read!'*

Maja Lunde - Bestselling author of "A History of Bees"

*'Give us more books and professors like this! For those looking for a knowledgeable and engaged rendition of the most flammable political and existentially complex problem of our time, The World at the Tipping Point is highly recommended.'*

NRK



Photo: Anne Valeur

Dag O. Hessen (b. 1956) is a Professor of Biology at the University of Oslo. He is a distinct voice in the debate on topics like evolution, climate, ecology and biology as a way of understanding humanity. He has written many scientific works on themes like ecology and evolution, and has also published a number of popular science books about evolution, biology and the environment. He has received several awards for his promotion of popular science.

#### Foreign sales

Switzerland

#### Previous titles

The Compassionate Human, 2017

C. An Unauthorized Biography, 2015

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