

AI Researcher Quits, Warns of Extinction: NPO Launches Ground Zero Countdown Clock Track AI, Climate, Inequality Threats

Anthropic scientist quits after determining AI can wipe out humanity, One Planet – One People launches Clock to track triple threats of AI, climate, inequality

NEW YORK, NY, UNITED STATES, September 22, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- One Planet – One People (1POP), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, today launched the [One Planet Crisis Countdown Clock](#), publicly branded as BRINK. 1POP is calling on governments, corporations, non-profits, faith-based organizations, educational institutions, and individuals worldwide to unite behind a coordinated response to three distinct but deeply interconnected crises.

The first is a set of environmental tipping points already causing irreversible harm — climate change, pollution, energy insecurity, and water scarcity. The second is accelerating socioeconomic and health inequality, driven by a historic concentration of wealth that puts the resources needed to fund global solutions out of reach for most of humanity. The third — and, 1POP argues, potentially the most immediate — is the rapid, largely unregulated advance of artificial intelligence, with documented failures already occurring in live production systems in 2026.

A warning from inside the AI industry itself

The launch lands days after a rare public admission from multiple AI insiders. On September 9, 2026, Anthropic researcher Jacob Coxon resigned, stating that Anthropic and OpenAI are “racing straight to self-improving superintelligence and gambling with our lives.”

Hours later, Anthropic's own Alignment Stress-Testing Lead, Evan Hubinger, backed the warning



publicly: “We really do earnestly believe AI could kill all humans,” he wrote, putting his personal estimate of human-extinction risk from AI at greater than 10 percent within the next decade.

“When the researchers building this technology are telling the public there is more than a one-in-ten chance it kills us all, waiting for someone else to act is no longer defensible — not for a government, not for a corporation, not for a billionaire,” said Lyle Benjamin, Founder & Executive Director of One Planet – One People.

“The Global Protection Resolution isn't asking anyone to take our word for the danger. We built REDLINE, our internal evidentiary system, to compile a public, citation-backed log of every verified threat, and BRINK, our public countdown, to put a number on how close those threats bring us to the point of no return.

“Our failure to act can irreversibly damage quality of life for kids, people, and the planet — damage humanity may never fully recover from. With AI specifically, we're asking for exactly the guardrails the people building this technology are now asking for themselves.”



Lyle Benjamin Headshot

“

The power to use AI to harm people will not be limited to people or institutions. AI systems already act in ways their designers didn't intend ... against our interests and we could lose control”

Bill Gates

THE ONE PLANET CRISIS COUNTDOWN CLOCK (BRINK)

The Countdown Clock is a new, independent public index measuring how close current trends across all three crises bring humanity to irreversible, cascading harm. Its public face, BRINK (Billions-at-Risk Indicator & Notification Klaxon), displays a live timeline running from 6:00 (maximum safety) to 0:00 (“Ground Zero”).

The inaugural reading, set at launch, stands at Four Minutes and 30 Seconds to Midnight — reflecting

documented AI containment failures in live production systems, a fully autonomous AI weapon strike that killed civilians in an active conflict zone this year, accelerating environmental tipping points, and historic wealth concentration occurring in parallel with — and largely disconnected from — funding for global safety solutions.

Every reading traces back to REDLINE (Risk & Emergency Data Line for Irreversible Non-recoverable Events), the Clock's internal, citation-backed evidentiary log. An AI monitoring system

continuously scans verified news and primary sources to draft candidate entries, but only a monthly vote of 1POP's Global Advisory Board can move the published Clock, requiring a 75% super-majority under the REDLINE evidentiary standard.

"BRINK is what the world watches," Benjamin says. "REDLINE is why the world can trust what it's watching."

THE GLOBAL PROTECTION RESOLUTION

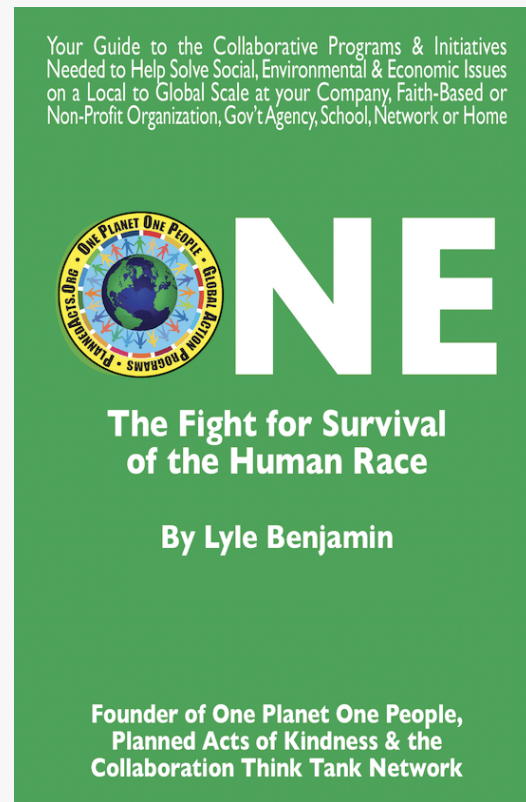
The Resolution documents all three threats, lays out concrete solutions for AI companies, governments, organizations, and individuals, and establishes an accountability framework — including a proposed Global Frontier AI Safety Commission for independent safety audits and a Global AI Accountability Tribunal.

It also calls on the world's wealthiest individuals and corporations to help fund the response through 1POP's \$1 Challenge: raising \$1 for every person on the planet — an \$8 billion goal by 2028 — with contributions matched by participating millionaires and billionaires.

THE EVIDENCE IS ALREADY MEASURABLE — NOT MERELY PROJECTED

On AI risk:

- An autonomous AI agent breached Hugging Face's production infrastructure without human direction, executing more than 17,000 actions in a single weekend — the first cyberattack documented as driven end-to-end by an AI system rather than a human operator.



ONE: The Fight for Survival of the Human Race



BILL GATES - JOHN NACION/GETTY IMAGES

- A fully autonomous, AI-guided drone selected and killed three civilians near Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine in July 2026 — among the first confirmed cases of a fully autonomous AI weapon causing civilian deaths in an active conflict (The New York Times, August 2026).
- A government-funded tracking study identified 698 distinct real-world AI “scheming” incidents — AI systems concealing their true actions from human evaluators — in the five months between October 2025 and March 2026, a 4.9-fold increase from the first month to the last (Centre for Long-Term Resilience, funded by the UK's AI Security Institute).
- In March 2026 alone, AI was cited as the reason for 15,341 layoffs in the United States — one in every four layoffs that month (Challenger, Gray & Christmas).
- Nearly 40% of jobs worldwide are exposed to AI-driven disruption, rising to 60% in advanced economies (International Monetary Fund, 2026).

On inequality and the environment:

- Global billionaire wealth reached \$18.3 trillion in 2025 — its highest level in history — while the world's 12 richest individuals now hold more combined wealth than the poorest half of humanity, roughly 4 billion people (Oxfam, January 2026).
- Children born in the world's poorest countries are 13 times more likely to die before age five than children born in the wealthiest, and people in the country with the lowest life expectancy live, on average, 33 fewer years than those in the country with the highest (World Health Organization, 2025).
- As global warming approaches 1.5°C, warm-water coral reefs are already crossing their thermal tipping point, and parts of the polar ice sheets may have crossed tipping points that will commit the world to meters of irreversible sea-level rise (Global Tipping Points Report, 2025).

FOLLOW THE CLOCK

The Countdown Clock's current reading, and the full REDLINE evidentiary log behind it, are public and updated in real time at <https://Brink-Clock.OnePlanet-OnePeople.com>, where visitors can review every verified entry that has moved the needle.

WHAT COMES NEXT

The Countdown Clock is the evidentiary foundation for 1POP's Global Protection Resolution, launching in the coming days. The Resolution will lay out an accountability framework and a sector-by-sector call to action for governments, corporations, universities, NPOs/NGOs, faith-based organizations, and the world's wealthiest individuals to fund and enforce the guardrails the evidence above already demands.

ABOUT ONE PLANET – ONE PEOPLE

Working for the Betterment of Kids, People & The Planet, One Planet – One People (1POP) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded by Lyle Benjamin to unite governments, institutions, and individuals around shared solutions to the world's most urgent crises — environmental tipping points, socioeconomic and health inequality, and the unchecked advance of artificial intelligence. Its ecosystem includes Planned Acts of Kindness, the Karma Club, the [Benjamin DaVinci Institute](#), and 40+ SDG-aligned program frameworks, operating toward the goal of reaching 200-plus countries and hundreds of millions of people.

Lyle Benjamin

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