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**From Dissensus to Convergence: Integrating Crisis Terminologies  
Within a Multidimensional Risk Framework**

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## **From Dissensus to Convergence: Integrating Crisis Terminologies Within a Multidimensional Risk Framework**

### **Abstract:**

Existing crisis management literature abounds with overlapping terminologies—emergencies, crises, disasters, extreme events, black swans, dangerous contexts—yet the field lacks consensus on how these terms differ or can be unified in an integrated framework. In parallel, risk management scholarship underscores the importance of continuous hazard assessment and governance, but rarely connects systematically with crisis typologies. Our study addresses this persistent conceptual fragmentation by proposing a multidimensional typology that merges crisis-related terms with insights from organizational and risk management theories. Using a mixed-methods approach—four focus groups (N=24 participants) and a Delphi study (N=15 experts)—the research identifies key dimensions such as magnitude, threat, VUCA (Volatility, uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity) and CRD (Complex Risk Dynamics) to distinguish crisis types and across varying contexts. Our findings highlight how crises evolve through non-linear dynamics and interconnected systemic risks, differing from traditional linear assumptions. This research contributes by clarifying conceptual distinctions, integrating risk governance dimensions, and advancing dynamic, context-specific approaches to crisis management. [Academy of Management (AoM) - Annual Conference 2025 - MOC Division - Scholarly Submission # 23973 : Accepted].

**Keywords:** Complex risk dynamics (CRD), Crisis management, Extreme contexts, Sensemaking, Typology





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