

# Sustainable Welfare & Eco-social Policy Network Newsletter

Edition 1 – December 2022

**Dear readers,**

Welcome to the Sustainable Welfare & Eco-social Policy Network Newsletter. Here we present information on new publications, events, projects and calls in the research area of climate and social policy. If you have any relevant information (events, jobs, CfP etc.) to be included in the next newsletter, please email to: [ecosocial.wiso@uni-hamburg.de](mailto:ecosocial.wiso@uni-hamburg.de).

Best regards,  
Katharina Zimmermann, University of Hamburg  
Matteo Mandelli, University of Milano  
Tuuli Hirvilammi, University of Tampere  
Katharina Bohnenberger, University of Duisburg-Essen

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- "Wirtschaft und Sozialstaat im Klimawandel" (Lecture Series, Arbeitnehmerkammer Bremen/Bremen University of Applied Sciences, Bremen/online, November 2022 – February 2023)
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- Early career scholar grant (JUST SOCIETY, 2023)
- Research Fellow in Social Sciences with focus on Labour Market and Survey Research (Institute of Sociology of the Leibniz University Hannover, March 2023)
- Fellowship Prae-Doc or Post-Doc (Katholische Sozialakademie Österreich, February 2023)
- PhD studentship on the wellbeing economy (University of Barcelona, March 2023)
- Assistant Professor in Sociology of the Environment and the Ecological Transition (SciencesPo, September 2023)

## PUBLICATIONS

### Journal Publications

- Abbasi, M. H. et al. (2022). *Planning energy interventions in buildings and tackling fuel poverty: Can two birds be fed with one stone?* Energy Research & Social Science, 93: 102841.
- Abram, S. et al. (2022). *Just Transition: A whole-systems approach to decarbonization*. Climate Policy, 22: 1033-1049.
- Andersson, F. (2023). *Income inequality and carbon emissions in the United States 1929–2019*. Ecological Economics, 204:107633.
- Bang, G. et al. (2022). *Balancing cost and justice concerns in the energy transition: comparing coal phase-out policies in Germany and the UK*. Climate Policy, 22: 1000-1015.
- Bhar, S. et al. (2022). *Beyond income: Correlates of conspicuous and luxury consumption in India*. Sustainability: Science, Practice and Policy, 18: 142–157.
- Blühdorn, I. (2022). *Planetary boundaries, societal boundaries, and collective self-limitation: Moving beyond the post-Marxist comfort zone*. Sustainability: Science, Practice and Policy, 18: 576–589.
- Bohnenberger, K. (2022). *Klimasozialpolitik: Ein Forschungsstandbericht zur Verbindung von Klimapolitik und Sozialpolitik*. No. 2022/3; DIFIS STUDIE. Deutsches Institut für Interdisziplinäre Sozialpolitikforschung.
- Bohnenberger, K. (2022). *Greening work: Labor market policies for the environment*. Empirica, 49: 347–368.
- Bohnenberger, K. (2022). *Is it a green or brown job? A Taxonomy of Sustainable Employment*. Ecological Economics, 200: 107469.
- Bonvin, J., and F. Laruffa. (2022). *Towards a Capability-Oriented Eco-Social Policy: Elements of a Normative Framework*. Social Policy and Society, 21: 484-495.
- Coote, A. (2022). *Towards a Sustainable Welfare State: The Role of Universal Basic Services*. Social Policy and Society, 21: 473-483.
- Díaz-Pont, J. (2022). *Visibilising the climate in social policies in Barcelona: Connections in the urban context*. Critical Social Policy, 0.
- Dukelow, F. (2022). *What Role for Activation in Eco-Social Policy?* Social Policy and Society, 21: 496-507.
- Dukelow, F., and M. Murphy. (2022). *Building the Future from the Present: Imagining Post-Growth, Post-Productivist Ecosocial Policy*. Journal of Social Policy, 51: 504-518.
- Domguia, E.N. et al. (2022). *Does environmental tax kill employment? Evidence from OECD and non-OECD countries*. Journal of Cleaner Production, 380: 134873.
- Elmallah, S. et al. (2022). *Frontlining energy justice: Visioning principles for energy transitions from community-based organizations in the United States*. Energy Research & Social Science, 94: 102855.
- Emilsson, K. (2022). *Attitudes towards welfare and environmental policies and concerns: A matter of self-interest, personal capability, or beyond?* Journal of European Social Policy: 0.
- Fitzpatrick, N. et al. (2022). *Exploring degrowth policy proposals: A systematic mapping with thematic synthesis*. Journal of Cleaner Production, 365: 132764.
- García-García, P. et al. (2022). *Welfare regimes as enablers of just energy transitions: Revisiting and testing the hypothesis of synergy for Europe*. Ecological Economics, 197: 107434.
- *Global Social Policy Digest 22.2: Was COP26 only 'blah blah blah' or a step forward for eco-social policy?* Global Social Policy, 22: 392–419. (2022).
- Gomez-Baggethun, E. (2022). *Rethinking work for a just and sustainable future*. Ecological Economics, 200: 107506.
- Gough, I. (2022). *Two Scenarios for Sustainable Welfare: A Framework for an Eco-Social Contract*. Social Policy and Society, 21: 460-472.
- Helne, T., and T. Hirvilammi. (2022). *Balancing needs: young unemployed Finnish adults' discourse on well-being and its relation to the sustainability transformation*. Sustainability: Science, Practice and Policy, 18: 158-170.

- Huttunen, S. et al. (2022). *Participation for just governance of food-system transition*. Sustainability: Science, Practice and Policy, 18: 500-514.
- Kato-Huerta, J., and D. Geneletti. (2022). *Environmental justice implications of nature-based solutions in urban areas: A systematic review of approaches, indicators, and outcomes*. Environmental Science & Policy, 138: 122-133.
- Koch, M. (2022). *Social Policy Without Growth: Moving Towards Sustainable Welfare States*. Social Policy and Society, 21: 447-459.
- Laruffa, F. et al. (2022). *Enabling Participation Income for an Eco-Social State*. Social Policy and Society, 21: 508-519.
- Maluf, R.S. (2022). *Sustainability, justice and equity in food systems: Ideas and proposals in dispute in Brazil*. Environmental Innovation and Societal Transitions, 45: 183-199.
- Mandelli, M. (2022). *Understanding eco-social policies: a proposed definition and typology*. Transfer: European Review of Labour and Research, 28: 333–348.
- Mandelli, M. (2022). *Mapping eco-social policy mixes for a just transition in Europe*. ETUI, The European Trade Union Institute.
- McGann, M., & M.P. Murphy. (2022). *Some Useful Sources*. Social Policy and Society, 21(3), 520–523.
- Neier, T. et al. (2022). *Sozial-ökologische Arbeitsmarktpolitik: Fördermaßnahmen der aktiven Arbeitsmarktpolitik in Österreich*. No. 236; Materialien zu Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft, p. 137. AK Wien.
- Owen, A. et al. (2022). *Who pays for BECCS and DACCS in the UK: designing equitable climate policy*. Climate Policy, 22: 1050-1068.
- Papantonis, D. et al. (2022). *How to improve energy efficiency policies to address energy poverty? Literature and stakeholder insights for private rented housing in Europe*. Energy Research & Social Science, 93: 102832.
- Parth, A.-M., and T. Vlandas. (2022). *The welfare state and support for environmental action in Europe*. Journal of European Social Policy, 0(0).
- Persson, O. et al. (2022). *Working less by choice: What are the benefits and hardships? Sustainability: Science, Practice and Policy, 18: 81–96*.
- Petmesidou, M., and A. Guillén. (2022). *Europe's green, digital and demographic transition: a social policy research perspective*. Transfer: European Review of Labour and Research, 28: 317–332.
- Ramasar, V. et al. (2022). *When energy justice is contested: A systematic review of a decade of research on Sweden's conflicted energy landscape*. Energy Research & Social Science, 94: 102862.
- Scheer, A. et al. (2022). *Whose jobs face transition risk in Alberta? Understanding sectoral employment precarity in an oil-rich Canadian province*. Climate Policy, 22: 1016-1032.
- Sparkman, G. et al. (2022). *Americans experience a false social reality by underestimating popular climate policy support by nearly half*. Nature Communications, 13: 4779.
- Theis, N., and R. York. (2022). *How Robust Are Social Structural Predictors of Carbon Dioxide Emissions? A Multiverse Analysis*. Environmental Sociology: 1–13.
- Vanhuysse, F. et al. (2022). *Including the social in the circular: A mapping of the consequences of a circular economy transition in the city of Umeå, Sweden*. Journal of Cleaner Production, 380: 134893.
- Wang, X., and K. Lo. (2022). *Civil society, environmental litigation, and Confucian energy justice: A case study of an environmental NGO in China*. Energy Research & Social Science, 93: 102831.
- Wethal, U. et al. (2022). *Reworking boundaries in the home-as-office: Boundary traffic during COVID-19 lockdown and the future of working from home*. Sustainability: Science, Practice and Policy, 18: 325–343.
- Willand, N. (2022). *Opportunity, ideal or distraction? Exploring stakeholder perceptions of tackling energy poverty and vulnerability among older Australians*. Energy Research & Social Science, 94: 102852.
- Zheng, H. et al. (2022). *Ageing society in developed countries challenges carbon mitigation*. Nature Climate Change, 12: 241–248.

## Books

- Bohnenberger, K., and J. Pieper (2022). *Ökologie und Sozialpolitik: Wege aus der Wachstumsabhängigkeit*. In M. Nonhoff, S. Haunss, T. Klenk, & T. Pritzlaff-Scheele (Eds.), *Gesellschaft und Politik verstehen*. Campus Verlag GmbH.
- Schoyen, M. et al. (2022). *Towards Sustainable Welfare States in Europe. Social Policy and Climate Change*. Cheltenham, Northampton: Edward Elgar Publishing.

## EVENTS

### Announcements of the Ecowelfare Network

#### **2nd Colloquium: Research agendas for sustainable welfare and eco-social policy. Key research gaps and questions. (13<sup>th</sup> December 2022 via Zoom)**

You are warmly welcome to join the second Colloquium organized by *Sustainable Welfare & Eco-Social Policy Network* on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> December at 14.00 – 15.30 (CET) via Zoom. Invited speakers will present recent studies on

#### **Research agendas for sustainable welfare and eco-social policy: key research gaps and questions**

**Max Koch:** Social policy in a climate emergency context. Towards an ecosocial research agenda

**William Lamb & Julia Steinberger:** Four agendas for research and policy on emissions mitigation and well-being

**Benedetta Cotta:** Unpacking the eco-social perspective in European policies, politics and polities

**Katharina Bohnenberger:** Gaps and peeks in the literature on integrating social and environmental policies

After 10-minute presentations by each of the invited speakers, there will be time for discussion. The idea of the colloquium is to provide a space where progressive ideas on eco-social policy and sustainable welfare are presented and discussed. What are the key questions and emerging research fields in eco-social policy research? How to apply them to practice to solve the ecological, social, and economic crises we face?

Hope to meet you in zoom: <https://uni-hamburg.zoom.us/j/67904161860?pwd=djE1ODg3cXhnMXZEM2M2R3lsNWRyUT09>  
(Meeting-ID: 29351619)

#### **First virtual get-together for early-career researchers of the Sustainable Welfare & Eco-Social Policy Network (Online via Zoom, 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022)**

Being a student or young scholar, especially in a new field, can be an exciting, but also often lonely experience.

The *Sustainable Welfare & Eco-Social Policy Network* is happy to invite **early-career researchers** approaching this new field to a **first virtual get-together**.

Mirroring the spirit of the broader network, the aim of this meeting is to provide participants with an informal opportunity to get to know each other and to exchange ideas and best/worst practices. To reinforce cooperation, a few services will be proposed and discussed. These include:

- a) 'Peer-to-peer reading groups', giving the possibility, to those who wish, to present their work in front of their peers and to get feedbacks;
- b) Creation of a virtual space for informal chatting, perhaps through Telegram or Teams;
- c) Discussions of experiences about publishing, self-organization, conferences, supervisors, etc.;
- d) Exchanges of literature and other materials;
- e) Others (TBD).

The meeting will take place **virtually on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022, 4 pm - 5.30 pm (CET)**, i.e. right after the second colloquium of the Sustainable Welfare & Eco-Social Policy Network. To access it, please use the network's permanent **Zoom link:** <https://uni-hamburg.zoom.us/j/67904161860?pwd=djE1ODg3cXhnMXZEM2M2R3lsNWRyUT09>.

If you have any question about the meeting or about young scholars' activities of the Sustainable Welfare & Eco-Social Policy Network, or if you simply want to get in touch or contribute to these activities, please do not hesitate to contact Matteo: [matteo.mandelli@unimi.it](mailto:matteo.mandelli@unimi.it).

## Call for engagement: academics-stakeholders dialogues on eco-social policies and sustainable welfare

We strongly believe researchers and civil society have a lot to learn from each other. However, so far, they mostly act in silos, with little to no exchanges and coordination between their agendas. To bridge this gap, the Sustainable Welfare & Eco-Social Policy Network is planning to organize roundtables and other initiatives at different levels (EU, national, local, etc.) to mobilize researchers and stakeholders in this field. To this end, we need your help! If you are interested in co-organizing one of such initiatives in your country/area of expertise, or if you have contacts with civil society actors that might be willing to engage with our network, please do not hesitate to reach out to Matteo Mandelli, contact point for stakeholders' engagement of the board: [matteo.mandelli@unimi.it](mailto:matteo.mandelli@unimi.it).

## Call for engagement: Working Group on education and teaching sustainable welfare and eco-social policies

In early November, we organised an informal zoom meeting with the members interested in teaching sustainable welfare and eco-social policies. We presented course syllabi from different teaching modules on social policy and sustainable welfare, energy transition and eco-social policies that have been taught in various universities. The idea was to share the reading lists and discuss the possibilities in teaching. As the discussion was found useful, we are creating a working group that will organise regular events to further develop our understanding of teaching and education and share best practices. Next topics to be discussed concern the introduction and consolidation of courses on sustainable welfare and eco-social topics in our universities as well as the supervision of BA, MA and Ph.D. theses on eco-social topics. We plan to have a meeting in mid-January 2023 to discuss one of these topics. Please contact Benedetta Cotta ([benedetta.cotta@gmail.com](mailto:benedetta.cotta@gmail.com)) if you are interested in joining the working group as well as in case you wish to suggest a topic for discussion.

## External Events

### “Universal Basic Income and Social-Ecological Transformation” (Freiburg Institute for Basic Income Studies, online via Zoom, monthly)

The *Freiburg Institute for Basic Income Studies* hosts a public seminar series on Universal Basic Income and Social-Ecological Transformation. It will look at both the powers and limitations of a universal basic income to affect the social and cultural transformation of contemporary capitalist societies, while taking account of a variety of potential scenarios from green growth, post-growth to degrowth. The seminars will be held monthly, starting on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022, online via Zoom. To register, please send an email to: [eventmanagement@fribis.uni-freiburg.de](mailto:eventmanagement@fribis.uni-freiburg.de).

Further information can be found at [UBI and Social-Ecological Transformation \(UBITrans\)](#)

### “A just transition beyond growth?” (European Trade Union Institute, Brussels/online, 8<sup>th</sup>- 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022)

The *European Trade Union Institute* hosts a conference on “A just transition beyond growth?” The aim of the conference is to build bridges between the trade union movement and the post- and de-growth community, and to situate a transformative just transition vision within the ‘beyond growth’ narrative. The conference will take place in the International Trade Union House in Brussels and will also be livestreamed. Registration is possible via the link below.

Further information can be found at [A just transition beyond growth?](#)

### “Going Quiet – The New Politics of the Climate Welfare State” (ESPAnet, Online via Zoom, 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023)

As part of the Virtual ESPAnet Workshop 2022/2023 on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023 *ESPAnet* is hosting a workshop on “Going Quiet – The New Politics of the Climate Welfare State”. The workshop will be held via

Zoom. To subscribe to the E-mail list to receive the working papers and to receive the Zoom link to attend the workshop, please get in touch with the organizers listed under the link below.

Further information can be found at [Virtual ESPAnet Workshop 2022/2023](#)

### **“Injustice in a World of Uncertainty” (Network (In)Justice International, Mikkeli, 28<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>th</sup> March 2023)**

War, climate change and economic instability pose unpredictable security threats in today's world. Are societies safe, and safe for whom? In the second World Convention of the network *(In)Justice International* taking place in Mikkeli, Finland, the question is addressed from the perspective of minorities and others with marginal positions in societies and mainstream cultures. The network *(In)Justice International* calls for abstracts for presentations in the conference. Abstracts can be sent to [prideauxsimon@gmail.com](mailto:prideauxsimon@gmail.com) until December 1<sup>st</sup> 2022. Registration for the event is possible via the link below.

Further information can be found at [CfPs and Pre-Registration for \(I\)JI World Convention](#)

### **“People, Planet, Care: it spells degrowth!” (degrowth, Zagreb, 29<sup>th</sup> August – 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2023)**

From 29<sup>th</sup> August to 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2023 the 9<sup>th</sup> International Degrowth Conference hosted by *degrowth* will take place in Zagreb. The calls for the conference Special Sessions and research Presentations will open in autumn 2022. Details of application and preparation steps will be announced through the Newsletters and on the conference website.

Further information can be found at [degrowth](#)

## **REGIONAL EVENTS**

### **“ECOESIONE. Strumenti per promuovere la giustizia sociale nella transizione ecologica” (University of Pisa, December 2022 – April 2023)**

The *Department of Economics and Management, the Department of Political Science and the Interdisciplinary Centre "Scienze per la Pace" (CISP)* of the *University of Pisa* have set up the second edition of the advanced course "ECOESIONE. Strumenti per promuovere la giustizia sociale nella transizione ecologica". The course will be held in Pisa from 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022 to 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023. Registration is possible until 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at noon.

Further information can be found at [Corso di Alta Formazione “Ecoesione. Strumenti per promuovere la giustizia sociale nella transizione ecologica”](#)

### **"Wirtschaft und Sozialstaat im Klimawandel" (Arbeitnehmerkammer Bremen/Bremen University of Applied Sciences, Bremen/online, November 2022 – February 2023)**

The *Arbeitnehmerkammer Bremen* and the *Bremen University of Applied Sciences* are organizing a lecture series on "Wirtschaft und Sozialstaat im Klimawandel" from November 2022 to February 2023. Scientific lectures will be commented by experts from the field and discussed with the audience. Registration to the event is possible through Kirsten Hachmeyer (+49 421 36301-985, [anmeldung@arbeitnehmerkammer.de](mailto:anmeldung@arbeitnehmerkammer.de)).

Further information can be found at [Ringvorlesung: Wirtschaft und Sozialstaat im Klimawandel](#)

### **“Klimasozialpolitik und ihre gesellschaftliche Legitimität“ (University of Applied Sciences Düsseldorf, Düsseldorf/online, 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022)**

As part of the lecture series "Größere Teilhabe? Sozialstaatliche Reformvorhaben im Kontext Sozialer Arbeit" at the *University of Applied Sciences Düsseldorf*, Katharina Zimmermann will speak on 6<sup>th</sup>



December, 2022 on the topic of "Climate Social Policy Instruments and their Social Legitimacy". The lecture will take place in Gebäude 3, Raum 01.001, Münsterstraße 156, 40476 Düsseldorf and will also be livestreamed.

Further information can be found at [Ringvorlesung: Größere Teilhabe? Sozialstaatliche Reformvorhaben im Kontext Sozialer Arbeit](#)

Online participation: [LINK](#)

### **16th ESPANet Italy Conference "Welfare systems in transitions: between equity & sustainability" (ESPANet, Milan, 13th – 15th Sep-tember 2023)**

The 16<sup>th</sup> ESPANET ITALY Conference "Welfare systems in transitions: between equity & sustainability" will be organized at the University of Milan, 13-15 September 2023. The call for sessions will be launched by mid-December.

## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

### **Special Issue call for papers: Intersectionality and precarious subjectivities: within and beyond labour and organisational perspectives**

*Organizations* announced a call for papers for a Special Issue on the topic "Intersectionality and precarious subjectivities: within and beyond labour and organisational perspectives". Papers can be submitted electronically from 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2023 until the deadline date of 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 to SAGETrack at: <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/organization>.

The call for papers is available on the journal webpage: <https://journals.sagepub.com/page/org/call-for-papers>

### **New interdisciplinary open access journal: Global Social Challenges Journal**

*Global Social Challenges Journal (GSCJ)* is a new, non-profit, open access publication with a mission to address urgent global social issues, with a particular openness to interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary scholarship from across the Global South and North. The journal calls for submissions related to their 16 themes, including Climate Change, energy and Sustainability. These themes are linked to, but not limited by, the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. Papers can be submitted via their website.

Further information can be found at [Global Social Challenges Journal: Themes](#)

### **"Die Gestaltung der Wirtschaft und Arbeitswelt in der sozial-ökologischen und digitalen Transformation" (Call for Papers, WSI-Mitteilungen)**

*WSI-Mitteilungen* are looking for article submissions on "Die Gestaltung der Wirtschaft und Arbeitswelt in der sozial-ökologischen und digitalen Transformation". Submissions that focus on one of the two impulses for change are welcome, as are submissions that explicitly focus on the interactions between social-ecological and digital transformation. Papers can be submitted until 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2023 via E-Mail to [gudrun-linne\(at\)boeckler.de](mailto:gudrun-linne(at)boeckler.de).

The call for papers is available on the following webpage: [Call for Papers - Wirtschafts- und Sozialwissenschaftliches Institut \(wsi.de\)](#)

### **Call for Papers for the Q1 2023 block of EPG Online (EPG Online)**

*EPG Online* announced a call for papers for the Q1 2023 block of EPG Online. *EPG Online* is an online seminar series dedicated to showcasing the latest research on the political, institutional, and societal dimensions of environmental challenges from a variety of disciplines. The seminar typically runs on Thursdays every two weeks, during the Autumn and Spring semesters, via Zoom. The deadline for submissions is 5th January 2023.

Further information can be found at [EPG Online](#)

## JOBS

### **Assistant Professor of Political Science in Climate Politics (Department of Political Science, University of Alberta, July 2023)**

The *Department of Political Science at the University of Alberta*, invites applications for a full-time, tenure-track position in Climate Politics, to start 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2023. Potential applicants interested in knowing more are invited to visit <https://www.ualberta.ca/political-science/index.html> or to contact the Chair, Cressida Heyes ([cheyes@ualberta.ca](mailto:cheyes@ualberta.ca)). The position will remain open until filled, but review of applications will begin on November 21, 2022.

Further information can be found at [Assistant Professor of Political Science in Climate Politics](#)

### **Early career scholar grant (JUST SOCIETY, 2023)**

*JUST SOCIETY* would like to invite early career researchers for a research stay at the University of Southern Denmark in Odense, Denmark. *JUST SOCIETY* is an interdisciplinary project aiming to promote equality by strengthening the rule of law, access to justice, and redistributive public policies through teaching, research, and public engagement. Eligible candidates are PhD students or scholars who finished their PhD within the last 6 years (excluding parental leave) in the broad field of welfare state/public policy research within political science or rule of law, Rechtstatt, constitutional law, or public and administrative law within legal scholarship. Deadline for applications is 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

Further information can be found at [Early Career Scholar Grant - Call for Application](#)

### **Research Fellow in Social Sciences with focus on Labour Market and Survey Research (Institute of Sociology of the Leibniz University Hannover, March 2023)**

The *Institute of Sociology of the Leibniz University Hannover* invites applications for the position of a Research Fellow in Social Sciences with focus on Labour Market and Survey Research. The tasks include working in the Horizon Europe project "European Labour Markets Under Pressure - New Knowledge on Pathways to Include Persons in Vulnerable Situations" (PATHS2INCLUDE) in the research group of Prof. Dr. Christian Imdorf. Applications can be submitted until 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022 by post or electronically.

Further information can be found at [Research Fellow in Social Sciences](#)

### **Fellowship Prae-Doc or Post-Doc (Katholische Sozialakademie Österreich, February 2023)**

The Katholische Sozialakademie Österreich (ksoe) invites applications for a two-year fellowship starting 01.02.2023 on the topic: Redefining Welfare. Funding is available for scientific qualification work (pre-doc or post-doc) that is dedicated to the redefinition of welfare from a humanities, cultural, social, political or economic science perspective. Applications can be submitted until 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022 to [buero@ksoe.at](mailto:buero@ksoe.at).

Further information can be found at [Fellowship \(Prae-Doc or Post-Doc\)](#)

### **PhD studentship on the wellbeing economy (University of Barcelona, March 2023)**

The Project "Identifying innovative wellbeing economy policy options and understanding processes of change" which is part of the EU Horizon Europe funded project "Towards a wellbeing economy" invites applications for an PhD candidate to join the project. The project conducts in-depth case studies of



alternative economic initiatives such as wellbeing and doughnut economics projects, with a focus on drivers and barriers of their implementation and performance to date. Applications can be submitted until December 6<sup>th</sup> 2022 to [M.M.Buchs@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:M.M.Buchs@leeds.ac.uk).

Further information can be found at [Twitter: PhD studentship on the wellbeing economy](#).

## **Assistant Professor in Sociology of the Environment and the Ecological Transition (SciencesPo, September 2023)**

The Center for the Sociology of Organisations (CSO) at SciencesPo is hiring an Assistant professor with tenure track in environmental sociology and ecological transitions. The recruitment of an assistant professor in sociology will strengthen the laboratory's research on the environment and ecological transition, at the crossroads of economic, organizational, public policy, social movement, labor, law and science and expertise sociologies. The deadline for application is 15 February 2023.

Further information can be found at [Recruitment: Assistant Professor in Sociology of the Environment and the Ecological Transition](#)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Journal Publications**

#### **“Planning energy interventions in buildings and tackling fuel poverty: Can two birds be fed with one stone?” by Mohammad Hosein Abbasi et al.**

The article “Planning energy interventions in buildings and tackling fuel poverty: Can two birds be fed with one stone?” by Mohammad Hosein Abbasi et al. has been published in “Energy Research & Social Science”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2022.102841>

#### **Abstract**

Energy retrofitting and renovations are an inseparable part of decarbonisation strategies in the building sector. These measures are often tied up with several social factors that can potentially impact the wellbeing of households and the community if the end-user requirements are not carefully considered. Fuel poverty is one of these social factors that is an essential consideration for designing effective, just, and usercentred interventions, but it is often overlooked in engineering processes. Therefore, this article seeks to re-connect the notion of fuel poverty to practice by bringing it forward from the post-intervention assessments to the design and decision-making stages. To do so, a new indicator, Potential Fuel Poverty Index (PFPI), is developed to obtain the likelihood of fuel poverty that future interventions can pose to the households. The PFPI presents a more targeted analysis of fuel poverty by reflecting the socio-spatial characterisation of the households. Using the PFPI, fuel poverty can be observed as a design/decision factor at the early stages of sketching interventions, in conjunction with other economic, environmental, and technical factors. Finally, the utility of the developed method is demonstrated using a real case study in the UK, assessing the impact of heat decarbonisation through heat pumps on fuel poverty.

#### **“Just Transition: A whole-systems approach to decarbonization” by Simone Abram et al.**

The article “Just Transition: A whole-systems approach to decarbonization” by Simone Abram et al. has been published in “Climate Policy”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/14693062.2022.2108365>

#### **Abstract**

Transition to a post-carbon economy implies changes that are both far-reaching and unprecedented. The notion that a decarbonization transition must encompass multiple forms of justice is gaining

ground. In response, the concept of Just Transition has become ever more popular – and confusion about its meaning ever greater. We argue in this paper that the term Just Transition needs a rigorous updating to develop its full conceptual power for the analysis and evaluation of the rapid and extensive energy transitions already underway. After reviewing the different uses of Just Transition in practice and scholarship, we propose that the term be used as an analytical concept for an ongoing process of transition. The Just Transition concept can provide an integrated, whole-system perspective on justice (procedural, distributive, recognition, and restorative) that can help in identifying systemic solutions to address environmental and socio-economic concerns. This would differ from reductionist approaches that derive from legacy silo-sectoral or technologically driven approaches; these too often overlook negative side-effects and wider justice implications of reorganizing economic practice. An examination of COVID-19 pandemic responses illustrates our operationalization of the Just Transition concept, highlighting the importance of designing whole-system policies that are equitable, as well as the pitfalls of pursuing a narrow sectoral approach. Taking seriously the implications of complex systems with hard-to-predict effects also has concrete implications for policy interventions at all levels of governance. In particular, we highlight the importance of attending to multiple social inequalities for ensuring the resilience of whole-system decarbonization in the face of instability, unpredictability, and unprecedented change.

### **“Income inequality and carbon emissions in the United States 1929–2019” by Fredrik N. G. Andersson**

The article “Income inequality and carbon emissions in the United States 1929–2019” by Fredrik N.G. Andersson has been published in “Ecological Economics”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolecon.2022.107633>

#### **Abstract**

This paper studies the relationship between income inequality and carbon emissions in the United States between 1929 and 2019. We contribute to the literature by studying if and how the relationship has varied over time. To this end we estimate a band spectrum regression model and a smooth-varying coefficients model. Our results show that higher inequality was associated with lower emissions during the early part of the sample and higher emissions towards the end of the sample.

### **“Balancing cost and justice concerns in the energy transition: comparing coal phase-out policies in Germany and the UK” by Guri Bang et al.**

The article “Balancing cost and justice concerns in the energy transition: comparing coal phase-out policies in Germany and the UK” by Guri Bang et al. has been published in “Climate Policy”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/14693062.2022.2052788>

#### **Abstract**

Europe’s two largest economies – Germany and the UK – are phasing out coal from electricity production as part of European efforts to fulfil increased climate policy ambitions that require comprehensive energy system transitions. German and UK governments varied in the ways they sought support from diverse societal interests to make the transition socially acceptable and politically feasible. Drawing on 22 expert interviews and process-tracing methods, this paper compares and explains how political and economic institutional differences influenced efforts to balance energy transition concerns, like speed and cost-effectiveness with justice for companies, workers and communities most adversely affected by the transition. We find that the increasing attention to just transition perspectives after the Paris Agreement affected the design of coal phase-out processes in different ways in the two countries. Just transition concerns were given priority by policymakers in Germany, but more so if they overlapped with the interests of incumbents. In the end, politically powerful stakeholders dominated the policy outcome. In the UK, policymakers and stakeholders gave only weak attention to just transition concerns, mainly because coal’s market position had collapsed. Coal interests did not have strong representation in the decision-making process. But we find that just transition concerns are likely to gain more attention in the UK because a more challenging transition away from gas will take place over the next two decades.

## **“Beyond income: Correlates of conspicuous and luxury consumption in India” by Soumyajit Bhar et al.**

The article “Beyond income: Correlates of conspicuous and luxury consumption in India” by Soumyajit Bhar et al. has been published in “Sustainability: Science, Practice and Policy”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/15487733.2022.2029041>

### **Abstract**

Concern about the environmental impacts of consumption has drawn research attention to the drivers of conspicuous and luxury (C/L) consumption. Given the prevailing patterns of overconsumption, most studies to date have focused on countries in the global North. However, an emerging high-consuming middle and upper class in nations such as India and Brazil makes it imperative to extend the study of C/L consumption to these contexts. Research that does exist pertaining to India has predominantly focused only on the role of social identity in driving consumption growth among certain groups. Our study proposes a broader conceptual framework, incorporating a variety of possible factors and applying multivariate statistical analysis to household-expenditure data from the India Human Development Survey. We examine how C/L consumption expenditure is correlated not just with the economic ability to consume (income or wealth) but also with potential socio-psychological drivers and moderators. The results show that while the economic ability to consume (income or its proxy) is an enabling factor, mass-media exposure and social network activity appear to influence C/L consumption positively. Education and caste have more mixed relationships with consumption, and interaction effects between these two variables and economic ability to consume are also significant. The results highlight the importance of socio-psychological factors in shaping consumption decisions beyond the enabling role of income and wealth. Improving understanding of this broader set of factors, as well as their interaction effects, is particularly salient for devising better policies for transitioning toward more sustainable consumption patterns in a large developing country such as India.

## **“Planetary boundaries, societal boundaries, and collective self-limitation: Moving beyond the post-Marxist comfort zone” by Ingolfur Blühdorn**

The article “Planetary boundaries, societal boundaries, and collective self-limitation: Moving beyond the post-Marxist comfort zone” by Ingolfur Blühdorn has been published in “Sustainability: Science, Practice and Policy”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/15487733.2022.2099124>

### **Abstract**

Issues of boundaries, limits, and restriction have shifted, once again, into the center of eco-political debates. An article recently published in this journal by Ulrich Brand and colleagues made the case that supposedly objective planetary boundaries, as specified by Earth-system scientists, always remain contingent on social norms. Hence, the debate on planetary boundaries needs to be supplemented, they argue, by a debate on societal boundaries. Addressing the critical social sciences, in particular, they seek to open a dialogue on collectively defined self-limitation, which they regard as a promising means for setting such boundaries. This article aims to contribute to, and help shape, this dialogue. Taking the intervention by Brand and his co-authors as a prompt, and focusing on so-called advanced modern societies in the Global North, this article flags up important parameters that condition the success or failure of any attempt at collective self-limitation. Calling to mind the dual commitment of eco-critical social science not only to transforming contemporary society but, no less importantly, to providing a nuanced diagnosis and analysis of its present condition, the article calls on critical social science to move beyond the established claims, hopes, and beliefs of post-Marxist analysis, conceptualized here as the post-Marxist comfort zone. In particular, the article draws attention to the dilemma that the logic and dynamic of emancipation, which (eco-)critical social theorists and sociologists commonly present as the centerpiece of their transformative agenda, can itself negatively impact the prospects for collective self-limitation.

## **“Klimasozialpolitik: Ein Forschungsstandbericht zur Verbindung von Klimapolitik und Sozialpolitik“ by Katharina Bohnenberger**

The paper “Klimasozialpolitik: Ein Forschungsstandbericht zur Verbindung von Klimapolitik und Sozialpolitik“ by Katharina Bohnenberger has been published by the German Institute for Interdisciplinary Social Policy Research (DIFIS).

Available at: [DIFIS: Publikationen](#)

#### Abstract

Klimapolitik und Sozialpolitik wurden vorwiegend getrennt beforscht. Durch die sozialen Auswirkungen der Klimakrise und die Notwendigkeit sozialstruktureller Veränderungen zur Erreichung der Klimaziele bedarf es nun einer integrierten Erforschung. Diese Expertise stellt den Forschungsstand zur Klimasozialpolitik dar, legt Forschungslücken offen und skizziert zukünftige Forschungswege. Es deutet sich ein Wandel vom nachsorgenden und kompensierenden zum vorsorgenden und nachhaltigen Sozialstaat an.

Die sozialen Auswirkungen der Klimakrise und die Notwendigkeit gesellschaftlicher Transformation zur Erreichung der Klimaziele eröffnen den Bedarf einer integrierten Erforschung und Gestaltung von Klima- und Sozialpolitik. In der stark wachsenden Forschungslandschaft zur Klimasozialpolitik sind Sozialpolitikwissenschaftler\*innen bisher unterrepräsentiert, woraus spezifische Forschungslücken, beispielsweise zu den Umweltauswirkungen der Sozialleistungsarten oder der Resilienz sozialer Sicherungssysteme gegenüber Klimafolgen, resultieren. Insbesondere in den Kernfeldern der Sozialpolitik wie Erwerbslosigkeit, Grundsicherung, Familienpolitik oder Alterssicherung sind systematische Analysen, Konzepte und Politikvorschläge zu entwickeln. Eine Förderung ‚Nachhaltiger Sozialpolitik‘ durch eine Integration von Klimaschutz in sozialpolitische Programme und die Entwicklung klimasozialer Instrumente und Institutionen bietet Chancen zur Stärkung des Sozialstaats.

### **“Greening work: Labor market policies for the environment” by Katharina Bohnenberger**

The article “Greening work: Labor market policies for the environment” by Katharina Bohnenberger has been published in “Empirica”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10663-021-09530-9>

#### Abstract

Jobs are essential for social inclusion, raising taxes, and guaranteeing the financial resilience of (welfare) states. At the same time, the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement, and the European Green Deal require the greening of our economies and labor markets. This paper assesses how labor market policies can green employment. The paper analyses the potential effects of eight different policy strategies on four dimensions of the Taxonomy of Sustainable Employment: conversion of plants and businesses, environmental labor law, climate decommodification, socio-ecological job guarantee, vocational guidance and retraining, distribution of employment time, alternative income sources, and equalization of income. All eight strategies have the potential of greening employment but feature different intensities in the four dimensions. In the light of environmental crises, the results suggest widening the toolbox of labor market policies for a green and just transition.

### **“Is it a green or brown job? A Taxonomy of Sustainable Employment” by Katharina Bohnenberger**

The article “Is it a green or a brown job? A Taxonomy of Sustainable Employment” by Katharina Bohnenberger has been published in “Ecological Economics”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolecon.2022.107469>

#### Abstract

Greening employment is required to avoid multiple ecological crises but so far there exist different notions of what makes a job ecologically sustainable. The article portrays five theoretical perspectives and develops a framework to evaluate the environmental impact of employment in four dimensions: (1) output type: sustainable goods and services as the outputs from work, (2) occupation: green tasks and activities at the workplace, (3) work-lifestyles: working conditions that promote workers' sustainable lifestyles, (4) outcome efficiency: resource-light production processes. It discusses previous approaches in each dimension and proposes improved assessment methods. By connecting the four dimensions, it develops a “Taxonomy of Sustainable Employment” to classify employment into green,

mixed and brown jobs. The taxonomy can be applied to evaluate the sustainability of employment and identify effective labour market policies for a just transition.

### **“Towards a Capability-Oriented Eco-Social Policy: Elements of a Normative Framework” by Jean-Michel Bonvin and Francesco Laruffa**

The article “Towards a Capability-Oriented Eco-Social Policy: Elements of a Normative Framework” by Jean-Michel Bonvin and Francesco Laruffa has been published in “Social Policy and Society”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1474746421000798>

#### **Abstract**

In this article we explore the potential of the capability approach as a normative basis for eco-social policies. While the capability approach is often interpreted as a productivist or maximalist perspective, assuming the desirability of economic growth, we suggest another understanding, which explicitly problematises the suitability of economic growth and productive employment as means for enhancing capabilities. We argue that the capability approach allows rejecting the identification of social progress with economic growth and that it calls for democratically debating the meaning of wellbeing and quality of life. We analyse the implications of this conceptualisation for the design of welfare states.

### **“Towards a Sustainable Welfare State: The Role of Universal Basic Services” by Anne Coote**

The article “Towards a Sustainable Welfare State: The Role of Universal Basic Services” by Anne Coote has been published in “Social Policy and Society”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1474746421000385>

#### **Abstract**

The idea of pooling resources and sharing risks to provide universal services according to need not ability to pay was at the heart of the post-war settlement. However, decades of market ideology and deep spending cuts have left most services starved of power and resources. Universal Basic Services (UBS) offers a principled framework for policy and practice that aims to ensure everyone has access to life’s essentials. Based on need theory it combines universality with sufficiency to provide a secure social foundation for all within planetary boundaries. Needs are met in different ways, combining collective and individual measures, as illustrated by examples of childcare, housing and food. UBS can be combined with an income guarantee to ensure no-one’s income falls below an agreed level of sufficiency. Cash and services, which represent a ‘social wage’, are best understood as two sides of the same coin, supporting rather than competing with one another.

### **“Visibilising the climate in social policies in Barcelona: Connections in the urban context” by Joana Díaz-Pont**

The article “Visibilising the climate in social policies in Barcelona: Connections in the urban context” by Joana Díaz-Pont has been published in “Critical Social Policy”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/02610183221089010>

#### **Abstract**

The paper aims to identify whether the interdependencies between climate action and social policies in the urban context are visible and, if so, in what areas and through what framings. Using a content analysis approach, it compares framings of the news on social policies in Barcelona over the course of a year. The results show that climate action is constructed discursively as an isolated issue, with its own logics and complexities, and with few references to other social policy areas. It also reveals that references to climate change in other social policy areas do not operate as framings. The paper claims that discursive strategies that separate climate change policy from other social policy areas can invisibilise the connections that operate between these policies, links that are key for pursuing the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals, especially in the urban context.



## **“What Role for Activation in Eco-Social Policy?” by Fiona Dukelow**

The article “What Role for Activation in Eco-Social Policy?” by Fiona Dukelow has been published in “Social Policy and Society”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1474746421000889>

### **Abstract**

This article aims to bring labour market activation policy into the orbit of eco-social policy, which we can understand as sustainable welfare without growth. Activation is extensively addressed from economic and social policy perspectives; however, environmental sustainability concerns are absent. Typically, each domain, activation and sustainability, is seen as mutually exclusive. Growing debate about sustainable welfare without growth features much discussion about the effects of productivism and about re-orienting and re-valuing work and how we use our time; however, such discussion tends to leave activation and unemployment untouched. One could ask whether there is any role for activation in eco-social policy: why focus on employment and employability, or even push people into work, if postgrowth requires a downsizing of paid employment and working time in everyone’s lives? The purpose of this article is to explore this question and to consider how activation could be re-valued and re-thought as a policy tool for eco-social policy.

## **“Building the Future from the Present: Imagining Post-Growth, Post-Productivist Eco-social Policy” by Fiona Dukelow and Mary P. Murphy**

The article “Building the Future from the Present: Imagining Post-Growth, Post-Productivist Ecosocial Policy” by Fiona Dukelow and Mary P. Murphy has been published in “Journal of Social Policy”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0047279422000150>

### **Abstract**

The environment remains on the margins of social policy. Bringing degrowth literature into conversation with social policy debates about decommodification, we argue that a re-imagined decommodification remains central to addressing the social-ecological challenges we face and to forging a post-growth, post-productivist ecosocial welfare state. We explore the implications of this for re-imagining and mapping three core areas of an ecosocial welfare state revolving around the work/welfare/care nexus: the redistribution of time across work and care; repurposing of active labour market measures; and reorienting cash transfers and services. In each case we discuss what decommodified social policy in the service of a post-growth, post-productivist future might entail. Acknowledging challenges, we identify how instances of prefiguration of policy programmes and experiments across various countries offer concrete compass points for further transformation and a necessary paradigmatic shift.

## **“Does environmental tax kill employment? Evidence from OECD and non-OECD countries” by Edmond Noubissi Domguia et al.**

The article “Does environmental tax kill employment? Evidence from OECD and non-OECD countries” by Edmond Noubissi Domguia et al. has been published in “Journal of Cleaner Production”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2022.134873>

### **Abstract**

The simultaneous reduction of two imbalances, the under-exploitation of human resources and the over-exploitation of natural resources, has become an objective of economic policy in the landscape of implementing sustainable development. The objective of this study is to determine the effects of environmental taxes on employment in a sample of 94 countries with different levels of development, both within and outside the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development). More specifically, the study examines the influence of the environmental tax on total employment, female employment and male employment. After applying several estimation techniques for panel data such as fixed effects, Driscoll and Kraay, kiviet (2020), Generalised Method of Moments in system (GMMs), Lewbel two stage least square (Lewbel 2SLS), mediating and moderating effects, the results are very interesting and revealing. They are of threefold importance. First, the environmental tax has a positive and significant effect on total employment, implying that environmental policies promote the emergence of new sectors of activity or types of employment. Secondly, in terms of women's employment, it



can be seen that they benefit less from these new jobs following the introduction of the environmental tax. Thirdly, the environmental tax has had positive and significant effects on the employment of men. A green economy policy whose instruments use environmental protection to develop employment should be adopted by governments. Policies to facilitate and reduce discrimination in women's employment must be linked to this green economy policy.

### **“Frontlining energy justice: Visioning principles for energy transitions from community-based organizations in the United States” by Salma Elmallah et al.**

The article “Frontlining energy justice: Visioning principles for energy transitions from community-based organizations in the United States” by Salma Elmallah et al. has been published in “Energy Research & Social Science”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2022.102855>

#### **Abstract**

We review over 60 “visioning documents” authored by non-profits and frontline community members in the United States. These visions of energy justice – authored by the actors and communities that have historically organized energy justice programming – are largely absent in the energy justice literature, but they provide guidance on research and policy gaps. This article provides a review and thematic coding of visions for a just energy future, which enables an understanding of how energy justice links to history, policy, and other social movements, and concretizes calls for “place-based”, “frontline-centered”, and “spatially situated” approaches to energy justice. We find that organizations draft visioning documents because of the inherent value of community visioning to build shared political will, to assert their priorities in a policy space that has historically disregarded equity and justice, and to move climate policy in a transformative direction. That so many visioning documents exist suggests the insufficiency of current policy approaches, which are described in visioning documents as deficient in addressing the root causes and economic structures driving climate change. Additionally, we identify 6 principles of a just energy future articulated in these documents: (1) being place-based, (2) addressing the root causes and legacies of inequality, (3) shifting the balance of power in existing forms of energy governance, (4) creating new, cooperative, and participatory systems of energy governance and ownership, (5) adopting a rights-based approach, and (6) rejecting false solutions. We discuss how these principles can advance the energy justice literature and be applied across areas of energy policy intervention and geographies.

### **“Attitudes towards welfare and environmental policies and concerns: A matter of self-interest, personal capability, or beyond?” by Kajsa Emilsson**

The article “Attitudes towards welfare and environmental policies and concerns: A matter of self-interest, personal capability, or beyond?” by Kajsa Emilsson has been published in “Journal of European Social Policy”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/09589287221101342>

#### **Abstract**

In times of emergent emphases on how climate change will affect welfare societies, welfare policies and individuals' welfare and vice versa, this study investigates public support for welfare and environmental policies and concerns. Since previous research and literature have pointed towards a socioeconomic divide between the welfare agenda and the environmental agenda in terms of public support, this article makes a thorough socioeconomic analysis of public welfare and environmental attitudes. The article analyses data from an original study in the context of Sweden (n = 1529). Through multinomial logistic regression analysis this study investigates if and which socioeconomic factors increase the likelihood of expressing mutual support for welfare and environmental policies and concerns compared to expressing support for welfare or environmental policies and concerns in isolation, as well as no support at all. The results indicate that both low and high socioeconomic status factors increase the likelihood of expressing mutual welfare and environmental support. These factors are low - to middle-range income levels, high educational attainment and low - to high-status occupations. Accordingly, this study finds that individuals expressing mutual welfare and environmental support are less easily placed in the low to high socioeconomic continuum. This suggests that we need to go beyond the two established theoretical perspectives of self-interest and personal capabilities when explaining mutual

welfare and environmental support and, for example, direct the attention to factors and theoretical points of departure that take post-materialism and non-economic dimensions into account.

### **"Exploring degrowth policy proposals: A systematic mapping with thematic synthesis" by Nick Fitzpatrick et al.**

The article "Exploring degrowth policy proposals: A systematic mapping with thematic synthesis" by Nick Fitzpatrick et al has been published in "Journal of Cleaner Production".

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2022.132764>

#### **Abstract**

Degrowth – the planned and democratic reduction of production and consumption as a solution to the social-ecological crises – is slowly making its way to the sphere of policy-making. But there is a problem: proposals are scattered through a voluminous literature, making it difficult for decision-makers to pinpoint the concrete changes associated with the idea of degrowth. To address this issue, we conducted a systematic mapping of the degrowth literature from 2005 to 2020 using the RepOrting standards for Systematic Evidence Syntheses (ROSES) methodology. Out of a total of 1166 texts (articles, books, book chapters, and student theses) referring to degrowth, we identified 446 that include specific policy proposals. This systematic counting of policies led to a grand total of 530 proposals (50 goals, 100 objectives, 380 instruments), which makes it the most exhaustive degrowth policy agenda ever presented. To render this toolbox more accessible, we divided it into 13 policy themes – food, culture and education, energy and environment, governance and geopolitics, indicators, inequality, finance, production and consumption, science and technology, tourism, trade, urban planning, and work – systematically making the difference between goals, objectives, and instruments. Following this, we assess the precision, frequency, quality, and diversity of this agenda, reflecting on how the degrowth policy toolbox has been evolving until today.

### **"Welfare regimes as enablers of just energy transitions: Revisiting and testing the hypothesis of synergy for Europe" by Pablo García-García et al.**

The article "Welfare regimes as enablers of just energy transitions: Revisiting and testing the hypothesis of synergy for Europe" by Pablo García-García et al. has been published in "Ecological Economics".

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolecon.2022.107434>

#### **Abstract**

Welfare States are considered key tools to provide just transitions. The hypothesis of synergy states that Social-democratic regimes are in a better position to accomplish them. While synergy has been widely theorised, its empirical verification has remained less studied and provided contradictory results. The weaknesses detected in the state-of-the-art, such as the misalignment of empirical testing and the theoretical drivers of synergy, as well as inconsistencies in the selection of variables and biases imposed by classifications in discrete timings, lead us to define an improved methodological framework. We apply the continuous observation of Ward's hierarchical clustering in squared Euclidean distances under Thorndike's criterium to twenty-three European countries between 2008 and 2016 and reject synergy after detecting that Social-democratic regimes display the best social conditions but the worst environmental performances and that society and the environment are not linked. This outcome motivates us to propose a discussion with a focus on the sustainability of economic growth and the opportunities for sustainable welfare scholarship to settle it.

### **"Global Social Policy Digest 22.2: Was COP26 only 'blah blah blah' or a step forward for eco-social policy?"**

The "Global Social Policy Digest 22.2: Was COP26 only 'blah blah blah' or a step forward for eco-social policy?" has been published in "Global Social Policy".

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/14680181221094906>

## **“Rethinking work for a just and sustainable future” by Erik Gomez-Baggethun**

The article ““Rethinking work for a just and sustainable future” by Erik Gomez-Baggethun has been published in “Ecological Economics”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolecon.2022.107506>

### **Abstract**

Except for sleep, humans spend more of their lifetimes on work than on any other activity. Many people take for granted the centrality of work in society, conceiving the prevailing 40 h workweeks in high-income countries as a ‘natural’ configuration of time. However, work and working time have been fiercely contested phenomena and have taken many different forms throughout history as they were reshaped by technological development, social struggle, and changing cultural values. Drawing on insight from history, anthropological research, and time use studies, this paper attempts to broaden the frames harnessing current debates about the future of work. First, we examine evolving conceptions of work in different cultures. Second, we review patterns of working time throughout history, contrasting some widely held assumptions against the background of the long durée. Finally, we present ideas and principles to rethink dominant conceptions about the meaning, purpose, volume, content, distribution, and remuneration of work along ecological economic principles of sustainability and justice.

## **“Two Scenarios for Sustainable Welfare: A Framework for an Eco-Social Contract” by Ian Gough**

The article “Two Scenarios for Sustainable Welfare: A Framework for an Eco-Social Contract” by Ian Gough has been published in “Social Policy and Society”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1474746421000701>

### **Abstract**

More nation states are now committing to zero net carbon by 2050 at the latest, which is encouraging, but none have faced up to the transformation of economies, societies and lives that this will entail. This article considers two scenarios for a fair transition to net zero, concentrating only on climate change, and discusses the implications for contemporary ‘welfare states’. The first is the Green New Deal framework coupled with a ‘social guarantee’. I argue that expanded public provision of essential goods and services would be a necessary component of this strategy. The second scenario goes further to counteract runaway private consumption by building a sufficiency economy with ceilings to income, wealth and consumption. This would require a further extension of state capacities and welfare state interventions. The article provides a framework for comparing and developing these two very different approaches.

## **“Balancing needs: young unemployed Finnish adults’ discourse on well-being and its relation to the sustainability transformation” by Tuula Helne and Tuuli Hirvilammi**

The article “Balancing needs: young unemployed Finnish adults’ discourse on well-being and its relation to the sustainability transformation” by Tuula Helne and Tuuli Hirvilammi has been published in “Sustainability: Science, Practice and Policy”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/15487733.2022.2030115>

### **Abstract**

Meeting human needs while respecting ecological limits is one of the daunting tasks of the sustainability transformation. To succeed in it, it is vital to discuss, to reconstruct, and to deconstruct the dominant discourse on well-being. How young people understand well-being is a particularly important issue since they are the prospective harbingers of change. However, the public discourse on youth is often problem-oriented, especially regarding youth not in employment or education. In this article, the gaze is directed at one such group. Group-interview data of young unemployed Finnish adults are analyzed to explore how they conceptualize well-being and how this understanding relates to the sustainability transformation. We interpret the data with the help of a need-based theory of sustainable, multidimensional, and relational well-being (the Having-Doing-Loving-Being framework). The study demonstrates that the young adults’ discourse is compatible with the framework, and differs distinctly from the prevailing policy discourse on well-being by giving far less weight to monetary aspects, and by its

emphasis on meaningfulness, ethical activities, and connectedness with nature. The article concludes with implications for the sustainability transformation regarding consumption, employment policies, social and health services, biodiversity and conservation, positive sustainability, and the theory of sustainable well-being.

### **“Participation for just governance of food-system transition” by Suvi Huttunen et al.**

The article “Participation for just governance of food-system transition” by Suvi Huttunen et al. has been published in “Sustainability: Science, Practice and Policy”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/15487733.2022.2088187>

#### **Abstract**

Sustainability transitions governance needs to be inclusive and participatory and the question of justice is crucial for making effective and acceptable changes possible. But how do we ensure adequate participation in governance processes and enable reconciliation between competing goals in relation to sustainability transitions? Transition management highlights the need for participatory and reflexive governance processes to enable sustainability transitions. However, due to participant selection and limitations in chosen approaches, deliberative and participatory forums may have difficulties ensuring justice and legitimacy. A systemic and practice-oriented perspective on deliberation points to the need to widen deliberative activities and analysis on multiple sites, but the connection to transition governance and justice remains weak. In the context of food systems, various movements and networks, such as alternative food networks, food-policy councils, and food-sovereignty movements, work to create a more just and sustainable food system. They form an interesting manifestation for participation in just food governance and can provide new ideas for the development of more equitable governance practices. We analyze studies on civil society participation in food-system transitions to develop understanding of how to improve just transition governance. Based on this investigation, more just sustainability transition governance requires systemic and reflexive deliberation that is also capable of accounting for the role of social movements. There furthermore is a need for institutional arrangements to support this kind of decision making.

### **“Environmental justice implications of nature-based solutions in urban areas: A systematic review of approaches, indicators, and outcomes” by Jarumi Kato-Huerta and Davide Geneletti**

The article “Environmental justice implications of nature-based solutions in urban areas: A systematic review of approaches, indicators, and outcomes” by Jarumi Kato-Huerta and Davide Geneletti has now been published in “Environmental Science & Policy”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envsci.2022.07.034>

#### **Abstract**

Environmental justice (EJ) addresses the unequal distribution of environmental goods and harms and promotes people's right to be involved in environmental decision-making. In recent years, EJ considerations have expanded to the use of Nature-based solutions (NbS) in urban areas, mainly how their planning and implementation can impact human well-being and social justice. However, what constitutes a just solution and how the concept is treated in the literature can take many forms. This study reviews how EJ is conceptualised and analysed in urban NbS research and documents the potential outcomes of diverse interventions. We developed a conceptual framework for the review process, focusing on the EJ definitions transferable to NbS research. We then conducted a systematic review of 152 articles published between 2000 and 2021. Selected articles addressed urban NbS from the recognitional, procedural and distributional interpretations of justice. Publication trends, methods, and demographic variables were recorded for each article. Furthermore, we focused on the means for assessing EJ in empirical terms, such as the framing of justice-related challenges, assessment indicators, and the reported justice outcomes. Findings demonstrate the dominance of research themes, the skewness towards the distributive dimension of justice, and a large variety of metrics and indicators used to assess EJ implications. Our results also show that EJ outcomes have mostly been reported to be mixed or negative. The results are used to identify research gaps and issues that need to be addressed to enhance EJ effects in urban NbS.

## **“Social Policy Without Growth: Moving Towards Sustainable Welfare States” by Max Koch**

The article “Social Policy Without Growth: Moving Towards Sustainable Welfare States” by Max Koch has been published in “Social Policy and Society”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1474746421000361>

### **Abstract**

Growth-dependent welfare states contribute to climate emergency. The ecological economics, degrowth, and sustainable welfare literatures demonstrate that to re-embed Western production and consumption patterns in environmental limits, an encompassing social-ecological transformation would need to be initiated very soon. This article focuses on the potential roles of the welfare state and social policy in this transformation, applying the concepts of ‘sustainable welfare’ and ‘safe-operating space’. Based on two Swedish studies, it also provides an empirical analysis of the popularity of selected eco-social policies designed to steer the economy and society towards this space: maximum and basic incomes, taxes on wealth and meat, as well as working time reductions. In analogy to the historical role of the state in reconstituting the welfare-work nexus in the post-WWII era and its present engagement in the context of the Covid-19 crisis, it is argued that a more interventionist state is required to grapple with climate emergency.

## **“Enabling Participation Income for an Eco-Social State” by Francesco Laruffa et al.**

The article “Enabling Participation Income for an Eco-Social State” by Francesco Laruffa et al. has been published in “Social Policy and Society”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1474746421000750>

### **Abstract**

We revise Atkinson’s concept of a ‘participation income’ (PI), repositioning it as a form of green conditional basic income that is anchored in a capabilities-oriented eco-social policy framework. This framework combines the capability approach with an ‘ethics of care’ to re-shape the focus of social policy on individuals’ capability to ‘take care of the world’, thus shifting the emphasis from economic production to social reproduction and environmental reparation. In developing this proposal, we seek to address key questions about the feasibility of implementing PI schemes: including their administrative complexity and the criticism that a PI constitutes either an arbitrary and confusing, or invasive and stigmatising, form of basic income. To address these concerns, we argue for an enabling approach to incentivising participation whereby participation pathways are co-created with citizens on the basis of opportunities they recognise as meaningful rather than enforced through strict monitoring and sanctions.

## **“Sustainability, justice and equity in food systems: Ideas and proposals in dispute in Brazil” by Renato S. Maluf et al.**

The article “Sustainability, justice and equity in food systems: Ideas and proposals in dispute in Brazil” by Renato S. Maluf et al. has been published in “Environmental Innovation and Societal Transitions”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eist.2022.10.005>

### **Abstract**

The impacts of food systems on climate change are of growing concern as meat consumption and the soy-meat complex expand. This article explores contrasting ideas, proposals and narratives in the Brazilian context with its significant power asymmetries and identifies two broad discursive repertoires voiced by the private sector, civil society and government to differently address issues of food and environmental justice, social equity and climate change. The influence of these repertoires on public policies can induce or hinder just transitions in food systems. Documents from 2008 to 2021 are analyzed, mainly focusing on multi-scale food systems, dimensions of justice and corporate political action. Contrasting perspectives on the drivers of inequalities and sustainability are also presented, along with respective proposals ranging from paradigm shifts in food systems to topical solutions based on private mechanisms.



## **“Understanding eco-social policies: a proposed definition and typology” by Matteo Mandelli**

The article “Understanding eco-social policies: a proposed definition and typology” by Matteo Mandelli has now been published by “Transfer: European Review of Labour and Research”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/10242589221125083>

### **Abstract**

As complex challenges like climate change and inequality become increasingly salient, eco-social policies are emerging as suitable public policy instruments to pursue integrated environmental and social objectives. However, despite their rising relevance, a descriptive – and hence empirically applicable – definition is still lacking in the reference literature, currently dominated by normative studies. Therefore, building on a critical assessment of the state of the art, this article proposes a framework for conceptualising eco-social policies, calling for an output-based definition with policy integration as its core element. The article also proposes a typology to differentiate various eco-social policies along two dimensions: the direction of policy integration and the link to economic growth. This typology allows us to elaborate on the possible roles that the welfare state can play vis-à-vis environmental challenges and policies, for instance in the context of decarbonisation: reactive or preventive; protection- or investment-oriented.

## **“Mapping eco-social policy mixes for a just transition in Europe” by Matteo Mandelli**

The article “Mapping eco-social policy mixes for a just transition in Europe” by Matteo Mandelli has now been published by “ETUI, The European Trade Union Institute”.

Available at: [Link](#)

### **Abstract**

Just transition is becoming an increasingly popular concept to address the social consequences of industrial decarbonization, which EU countries have committed to pursue through the European Green Deal. These consequences include increasing redundancies – especially in carbon-intensive firms – and losses of income and well-being in marginalised communities. However, a review of the reference literature shows that the role of just transition in policy design has so far been largely overlooked by existing empirical studies. Against this backdrop, the core aim of this working paper is to assess whether and how EU and national policy documents speak about a just transition and/or about tackling the social consequences of industrial decarbonisation, by referring to the concept of eco-social policy mixes for a just transition. This study hence maps and analyses these policy mixes, first at the EU level and then at the Member States level. This is done through a manual textual analysis of relevant EU documents and of 27 country-specific National Energy and Climate Plans. Results show that eco-social policy mixes for a just transition are still rare across Europe and, when in place, they are markedly characterised by a narrow scope and an investment-oriented approach, while also being sometimes alarmingly attached to low climate ambitions.

## **“Some Useful Sources” by Michael McGann and Mary P. Murphy**

Michael McGann and Mary P. Murphy published “Some Useful Sources” on sustainable welfare and eco-social policy in “Social Policy & Society”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1474746421000865>

## **“Sozial-ökologische Arbeitsmarktpolitik: Fördermaßnahmen der aktiven Arbeitsmarktpolitik in Österreich“ by Thomas Neier et al.**

The working paper “Sozial-ökologische Arbeitsmarktpolitik: Fördermaßnahmen der aktiven Arbeitsmarktpolitik in Österreich“ by Thomas Neier et al. has been published in “Working Paper-Reihe der AK Wien”.

Available at: [Sozial-ökologische Arbeitsmarktpolitik](#)



## Abstract

The multiple global crises we are currently facing challenge the organization of the economy and society and the basis of welfare states - increasing production, economic growth, tax revenues and full employment. Paid employment as a factor of production, as well as the reliance on full employment as the basis of prosperity, have critical implications for the ongoing unsustainability of our society. However, this interconnectedness of work and sustainability can also be seen as a leverage to contribute to a sustainable transformation by means of a social-ecologically oriented active labor market policy. This study proposes fifteen measures in six thematic areas by means of which the Public Employment Service Austria (AMS) can contribute to the social-ecological transformation through active labor market policies.

## **“Who pays for BECCS and DACCS in the UK: designing equitable climate policy” by Anne Owen et al.**

The article “Who pays for BECCS and DACCS in the UK: designing equitable climate policy” by Anne Owen et al. has been published in “Climate Policy”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/14693062.2022.2104793>

## Abstract

The UK government’s net-zero commitment assumes the use of bio-energy with carbon capture and storage (BECCS) and direct air carbon capture and storage (DACCS). Quantifying where the costs of funding these technologies fall – and their magnitude – provides greater insight into potential fairness of future government policies. Using a microsimulation model, this study is the first to evaluate the potential distributional impacts. We consider the distributional incidence and magnitude on household income deciles if the costs for deploying and operating BECCS and DACCS are placed on different sectors of the economy via a range of viable policy funding options. Using existing and novel policy funding options, we demonstrate that levying the costs entirely on the household energy bill is the most regressive of the options considered. We find aviation to be an important point of intervention from a distributional perspective. Higher-income households have larger aviation carbon footprints than lower-income households, meaning passing costs onto households via aviation alone could help fund BECCS and DACCS while having minimal impacts on social welfare. Funding BECCS and DACCS via income tax emerged as the only progressive way of apportioning costs across income deciles. As the benefits of carbon removal accrue to society as a whole, there is further argument that the costs should be shared across society in the fairest way possible. However, such an approach has the potential to blunt the price signal that polluters face. In reality, some pass-through cost may be desirable to adhere to equity principles under a polluter pays principle and to create an incentive for polluters to switch to cleaner inputs and adopt low-carbon technologies.

## **“How to improve energy efficiency policies to address energy poverty? Literature and stakeholder insights for private rented housing in Europe” by Dimitris Papantonis et al.**

The article “How to improve energy efficiency policies to address energy poverty? Literature and stakeholder insights for private rented housing in Europe” by Dimitris Papantonis et al. has been published in “Energy Research & Social Science”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2022.102832>

## Abstract

Households in the private rented sector (i.e., households renting properties at a market rate from a private landlord), and especially those of lower income, face far more energy poverty issues than the general population, meaning that they are often unable to afford socially and materially required levels of energy services. In this context, energy efficiency policies are of the utmost importance as they can improve households' living conditions and contribute to the alleviation of energy poverty. Nevertheless, when it comes to the private rented sector across Europe, implementing such policies is hindered by several barriers. Our article sheds light on structural factors that serve as barriers to, and solutions for, the implementation of energy efficiency policies in the private rented sector across Europe. Our approach is twofold: first, an in-depth desk research is performed to identify financial, social, political/regulatory, and technical barriers and solutions. Literature findings are then supplemented and validated by a European-wide survey, eliciting knowledge embedded in 64 relevant stakeholders and field

experts. Our findings indicate that although financial barriers are always of the essence, a holistic assessment of barriers is required, as there is a lack of awareness about policies that could improve tenants' living conditions. They also provide possible solutions that governmental bodies at all levels and other organisations could implement to improve energy efficiency and tackle energy poverty. Overall, our work suggests key implications, which, if acted upon, could accelerate the deployment of energy efficiency policies in the private rented sector across Europe.

### **“The welfare state and support for environmental action in Europe” by Anne-Marie Parth and Tim Vlandas**

The article “The welfare state and support for environmental action in Europe” by Anne-Marie Parth and Tim Vlandas has been published in “Journal of European Social Policy”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/09589287221115657>

#### **Abstract**

How do welfare state policies affect the political support for environmental action of economically vulnerable social groups? Two competing hypotheses can be delineated. On the one hand, a synergy logic would imply that welfare state generosity is associated with higher support for environmental action among economically vulnerable groups due to the insecurity reducing effects of the welfare state. On the other hand, a crowding-out logic would suggest that welfare state generosity is associated with lower support for other policy priorities like environmental action. We test these two hypotheses using 2019 Eurobarometer survey data and country-level indicators of welfare state generosity in 22 European countries. We find that the working class and the elderly are particularly opposed to individual and national environmental action and that the welfare state plays a complex moderating role. Consistent with a synergy logic, welfare state generosity increases pro-environmental behaviour among the working class, but its association with more positive attitudes towards national environmental policies is less strong. Consistent with a crowding-out logic, the elderly appear less likely to behave in environmentally friendly ways if retirement benefits are high. To explore the mechanisms behind this association, we show that the working class who struggle to pay their bills are most opposed to environmental action. Overall, economic insecurities are key obstacles for support of environmental actions and the effects of the welfare state depend both on which social group is concerned and whether individual behaviour versus policy preferences are considered.

### **“Working less by choice: what are the benefits and hardships?” by Ola Persson et al.**

The article “Working less by choice: what are the benefits and hardships?” by Ola Persson et al. has been published in “Sustainability: Science, Practice and Policy”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/15487733.2021.2023292>

#### **Abstract**

Working time reduction (WTR) is a policy that could improve quality of life while reducing environmental impacts. However, WTR coupled with a salary reduction may benefit only higher-income earners and increase social inequalities. Against this background, we analyze how the motivations for and the socioecological outcomes from working less vary across different socioeconomic groups. The analysis is based on a survey conducted among municipal employees under full-time contracts who utilized the City of Gothenburg’s “right to part-time” policy. We find that working less improved quality of life not only for higher-income groups but also for lower-income groups through gains in time affluence, energy, health, and time spent on strengthening social ties. However, three negative effects emerged. First, WTR lead to increased work intensification, particularly among higher-income earners. Second, concerns regarding making ends meet and future retirement income were particularly salient issues among lower-income earners. Finally, WTR to cope with unfavorable working conditions was a much more common motivation among manual workers with lower salaries. We conclude that WTR can be a viable option across a broader range of socioeconomic groups than previously assumed but that it is nevertheless important to consider the effects on social inequality when designing WTR policies.

### **“Europe’s green, digital and demographic transition: a social policy research perspective” by Maria Petmesidou and Ana M. Guillén**

The article “Europe’s green, digital and demographic transition: a social policy research perspective” by Maria Petmesidou and Ana M. Guillén has now been published by “Transfer: European Review of Labour and Research”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/10242589221107498>

#### Abstract

This article lays out an agenda for researching the social policy challenges facing the EU under the combined impact of a triple transition: green, digital and demographic. It takes as its starting point the double bind confronting the welfare state, pressured by increasing costs and serious socio-ecological concerns on the one hand, and the need, more daunting than ever, for protection against a vast array of imminent socio-economic, demographic and environmental risks, on the other. Against this background, it explores the complex web of synergies and trade-offs between the three transitions, examines the disjointed manner in which EU social policy has so far developed, and demonstrates the controversial stance of the EU’s overarching strategic framework – the European Green Deal – on the issue of a socially just transition. It also maps key research foci and gaps deserving further study, including the role of key players in the transition.

### **“When energy justice is contested: A systematic review of a decade of research on Sweden’s conflicted energy landscape” by Vasna Ramasar et al.**

The article “When energy justice is contested: A systematic review of a decade of research on Sweden’s conflicted energy landscape” by Vasna Ramasar et al. has been published in “Energy Research & Social Science”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2022.102862>

#### Abstract

The way in which we produce and consume energy has profound implications for our societies. How we configure our energy systems determines not only our chances of successfully dealing with climate change but also, how benefits and burdens of these systems are distributed. In this paper, we set out to map the literature on conflicts related to the energy system in Sweden using a framework of energy justice. The purpose of this exercise is twofold: first, to identify and understand energy conflicts in Sweden through the research that is published; and second, to identify gaps in the literature on energy justice in Sweden. This systematic review builds upon 40 scholarly articles focusing on energy conflicts in Sweden. All articles were written in the time period from January 2010 to January 2021. All articles were published in English in peer-reviewed scientific journals. The papers were analysed using a framework for energy justice that focused on the elements of distributional and procedural justice and recognition justice. The findings of the review suggest that there has been little explicit focus on energy justice in the literature on Sweden’s energy system. Issues of distributional justice are most raised and procedural and recognition justice are often conflated in research. While conflicts over hydropower and nuclear have dominated in the past, wind energy in Sami territory is most problematised in the reviewed literature. The understanding of justice in the Swedish energy system is currently missing two elements: a rigorous handling of ecologically unequal exchange and restorative justice.

### **“Whose jobs face transition risk in Alberta? Understanding sectoral employment precarity in an oil-rich Canadian province” by Antonia Scheer et al.**

The article “Whose jobs face transition risk in Alberta? Understanding sectoral employment precarity in an oil-rich Canadian province” by Antonia Scheer et al. has been published in “Climate Policy”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/14693062.2022.2086843>

#### Abstract

Labour markets of oil-exporting regions will be impacted by a global transition to low-carbon energy as oil demand reduces to meet the aims of the Paris Agreement. Together with direct job losses in the oil and gas industry, indirect employment effects on other sectors should also be considered to ensure a just transition. We explore these direct and indirect employment impacts that could result from the low-carbon transition by analysing the effect of oil price fluctuations on the labour market of Alberta, a Canadian province economically reliant on oil sands extraction. We employ a mixed methods approach, contextualizing our quantitative analysis with first-hand experiences of career transitions using

interviews with oil sands workers. We estimate a vector autoregression for province-wide insights and explore sector-specific dynamics using time series regressions. We find that the price discount on Canadian oil sands, which is determined by local factors like crude oil quality and pipeline capacity, does not significantly affect employment, while the global oil price does. This finding puts in doubt claims of long-term employment benefits from new pipelines. We find that at a provincial scale, oil price fluctuations lead to employment levels also fluctuating. Our analysis at the sectoral level shows that these job fluctuations extend beyond oil and gas to other sectors, such as construction and some service sectors. These findings suggest that the province's current economic dependence on oil creates job precarity because employment in various sectors is sensitive to a volatile oil market. Furthermore, due to this sectoral sensitivity to oil price changes, workers in these sectors may be especially at risk in a low-carbon transition and warrant special attention in the development of provincial and national just transition policies. Transitional assistance can support workers directly, while economic diversification in Alberta can reduce reliance on international oil markets and thereby ensure stable opportunities in existing and new sectors.

### **“Americans experience a false social reality by underestimating popular climate policy support by nearly half” by Gregg Sparkman et al.**

The article “Americans experience a false social reality by underestimating popular climate policy support by nearly half” by Gregg Sparkman et al. has been published in “Nature Communications”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-022-32412-y>

#### **Abstract**

Pluralistic ignorance—a shared misperception of how others think or behave—poses a challenge to collective action on problems like climate change. Using a representative sample of Americans ( $N = 6119$ ), we examine whether Americans accurately perceive national concern about climate change and support for mitigating policies. We find a form of pluralistic ignorance that we describe as a *false social reality*: a near universal perception of public opinion that is the opposite of true public sentiment. Specifically, 80–90% of Americans underestimate the prevalence of support for major climate change mitigation policies and climate concern. While 66–80% Americans support these policies, Americans estimate the prevalence to only be between 37–43% on average. Thus, supporters of climate policies outnumber opponents two to one, while Americans falsely perceive nearly the opposite to be true. Further, Americans in every state and every assessed demographic underestimate support across all policies tested. Preliminary evidence suggests three sources of these misperceptions: (i) consistent with a false consensus effect, respondents who support these policies less (conservatives) underestimate support by a greater degree; controlling for one's own personal politics, (ii) exposure to more conservative local norms and (iii) consuming conservative news correspond to greater misperceptions.

### **“How Robust Are Social Structural Predictors of Carbon Dioxide Emissions? A Multiverse Analysis” by Nicholas Theis and Richard York**

The article “How Robust Are Social Structural Predictors of Carbon Dioxide Emissions? A Multiverse Analysis” by Nicholas Theis and Richard York has been published in “Environmental Sociology”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/23251042.2022.2116361>

#### **Abstract**

Due to the many plausible decisions researchers can make during the scientific process, varying results can be obtained to research questions. In the environmental sociological literature, key theories and findings highlight how modernization, militarization, demographic factors, and globalization and trade influence carbon dioxide emissions. We use multiverse analysis to address how robust central findings in this literature are to model specification choices. Our results indicate that findings related to modernization and demographic factors are mostly robust, while those concerning militarization and globalization are more subject to model selection.

### **“Including the social in the circular: A mapping of the consequences of a circular economy transition in the city of Umeå, Sweden” by Fedra Vanhuyse et al.**



The article “Including the social in the circular: A mapping of the consequences of a circular economy transition in the city of Umeå, Sweden” by Fedra Vanhuyse et al. has been published in “Journal of Cleaner Production”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2022.134893>

#### Abstract

The circular economy (CE) model, where resources are kept "in the loop" for as long as possible through a series of reusing, remanufacturing, recycling, and recovery strategies, has been acclaimed for reducing the environmental impacts of our current economic model substantially and has therefore been supported by a wide range of policymakers as one solution to tackling climate change. However, how circular transitions in cities impact people has been rarely researched, and even less attention has been paid to the negative consequences of CE transitions.

This paper presents the findings from a social impact assessment conducted in the city of Umeå, Sweden. We identified several negative impacts of a CE transition across seven social impact categories and explored three areas in depth with stakeholders in the city: employment, access to services and participation. We found that the negative impacts of the CE are perceived to be limited and that the CE interventions are mainly viewed as a win-win-win outcome, i.e., a win for the environment, the economy and people. This raises questions about the level to which societal consequences have been considered and whether all relevant stakeholders, in particular civil society, have participated in the design of the city's CE strategy. Our findings can inform other cities about possible negative consequences of CE transitions and provide insights into how to incorporate different stakeholders in the CE transition process to ensure that no one is left behind.

### **“Civil society, environmental litigation, and Confucian energy justice: A case study of an environmental NGO in China” by Xinxin Wang and Kevin Lo**

The article “Civil society, environmental litigation, and Confucian energy justice: A case study of an environmental NGO in China” by Xinxin Wang and Kevin Lo has been published in “Energy Research & Social Science”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2022.102831>

#### Abstract

This study analyzes the role of civil society in China's clean energy transition from the perspective of Confucianism, an influential political-ethical doctrine with over 2000 years of history. An environmental non-governmental organization (ENGO), Friends of Nature (FON), was taken as a case study. FON is a pioneering ENGO in China and has become an influential actor in low-carbon energy transition in the country, primarily through its environmental litigation on energy projects. We argue that FON's legal actions, which focus on the climate and sustainability aspect of energy, are embedded in a Confucian understanding of justice, that is, justice as the pursuit of collective interest rather than the fair treatment of individuals; justice as nature-humanity harmony and the conservation of natural resources for future generation; and justice as an important manifestation of Confucian self-cultivation and a political obligation. This study contributes to the broader energy justice literature by proposing an understanding that goes beyond its Western origin.

### **“Reworking boundaries in the home-as-office: boundary traffic during COVID-19 lockdown and the future of working from home” by Ulrikke Wethal et al.**

The article “Reworking boundaries in the home-as-office: boundary traffic during COVID-19 lockdown and the future of working from home” by Ulrikke Wethal et al. has been published in “Sustainability: Science, Practice and Policy”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/15487733.2022.2063097>

#### Abstract

The COVID-19 crisis has led to an unprecedented acceleration in the number of people working from home (WFH). This article applies a practice theoretical lens to expand the pre-pandemic telework literature which often overlooks how WFH is part of complex socio-material arrangements. Based on 56 household interviews in the UK, the United States, and Norway during lockdown in Spring 2020, we reveal the everyday realities of WFH, exploring their implications for the future of work. Developing the

concept of boundary traffic, which refers to the additional interaction and collision of a range of everyday practices normally separated in time and space when working outside the home, we provide some insights into how disruption and de- and re-routinization vary by household type, space, and employer's actions. Much teleworking scholarship highlights technological and spatial flexibility of work, without recognizing the mundane realities of WFH when there is no space for a large computer monitor, preferences to be with children even when a secluded home office is available, or a feeling that important social connections diminish when working on a virtual basis. We discuss the future of work in relation to digitalization, social inequality, and environmental sustainability and conclude by stressing how WFH cannot be understood as merely a technical solution to work-life flexibility. Rather, lockdown-induced WFH has deeply changed the meaning and content of homes as households have resolved the spatial, material, social, and temporal aspects of boundary traffic when embedding work into the domestic practice-bundle.

### **“Opportunity, ideal or distraction? Exploring stakeholder perceptions of tackling energy poverty and vulnerability among older Australians” by Nicola Willand**

The article “Opportunity, ideal or distraction? Exploring stakeholder perceptions of tackling energy poverty and vulnerability among older Australians” by Nicola Willand has been published in “Energy Research & Social Science”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2022.102852>

#### **Abstract**

Energy vulnerability intersects with housing, social and health issues, yet current siloed approaches and piece-meal energy assistance initiatives are often leaving ‘hard to reach’ older householders behind. Cross-disciplinary strategies promise better identification of vulnerable people, sustained relief and scalable solutions, yet such innovative approaches are still rare. Using the Australian in-home aged care services as a case study, this research explored how stakeholders perceived the idea of integrating energy assistance with health services for people aged 65 and over. Understanding the views of potential advocates and adopters may guide the development, design and implementation of such an innovation.

This study engaged front-line workers, executives and policy makers across organisations aiming at carbon emission reduction, equity and health. Climate action stakeholders and in-home aged care services staff recognised synergies across their programmes and welcomed the idea as an opportunity to address hidden energy poverty. Equity stakeholders perceived it as an ideal and doubted that its aspirations were likely to be fully realised given the priorities of vulnerable, older people. An aged care services industry representative, however, saw this proposition as a distraction from dealing with the broader challenges of an ageing population. These insights highlight the need to co-design such an initiative. The engagement of health policy makers is critical but challenging. Further research is needed to align energy assistance with the needs and circumstances of in-home aged care services clients and to develop solutions for older renters.

### **“Ageing society in developed countries challenges carbon mitigation” by Heran Zheng et al.**

The article “Ageing society in developed countries challenges carbon mitigation” by Heran Zheng et al. has been published in “Nature Climate Change”.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41558-022-01302-y>

#### **Abstract**

Populations in developed countries are ageing. However, the impact of senior citizens' consumption on global carbon mitigation is poorly understood. Here we find that senior citizens have played a leading role in driving up GHG emissions in the past decade and are on the way to becoming the largest contributor. Considering the greenhouse gas footprint of household consumption across age groups in 32 developed countries, the senior contribution to national total consumption-based emissions increased from 25.2% to 32.7% between 2005 and 2015. Seniors in the United States and Australia have the highest per capita footprint, twice the Western average. The trend is mainly due to changes in expenditure patterns of seniors. The increasing carbon footprint of senior citizens will probably drive domestic production yet have limited effects on international carbon leakage. The demographic change poses more challenges in local mitigation and calls for deeper public mitigation efforts.



## BOOKS

### **“Ökologie und Sozialpolitik: Wege aus der Wachstumsabhängigkeit“ by Katharina Bohnenberger and Jonas Pieper**

Katharina Bohnenberger's and Jonas Pieper's contribution to the edited volume “Gesellschaft und Politik verstehen

Frank Nullmeier zum 65. Geburtstag” has been published.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.12907/978-3-593-45308-8>

### **“Towards Sustainable Welfare States in Europe Social Policy and Climate Change” by Mi Ah Schoyen et al.**

The edited volume “Towards Sustainable Welfare States in Europe Social Policy and Climate Change” by Mi Ah Schoyen et al. has been published.

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.4337/9781839104633>

This seminal book addresses the critical and urgent question of ‘what makes welfare states sustainable?’ in the era of climate change. Expert authors challenge traditional perspectives on questions of sustainability which have focused on population ageing, global economic turbulence and on containing current and future public social spending.