



## From Political Ecology to Environmental Sociology and Environmental Humanities

*Lecture Series in Sustainability, Climate Crisis, Environmental Inequalities and Socio-environmental Movements*

**March - June 2022**

*\*The lectures will be online and open to all members of the Sociology Department of Sociology as well as other researchers and scientists with emphasis on postgraduate, doctoral and postdoctoral students*

**Thursday, 19:00 (EET/EEST) – see program below**

Link: <https://zoom.us/j/92585737341?pwd=N2hLMUJjWnk1cXZ2QWZsVORJbWlhUT09>

### **Aim**

Over the last several years and in response to the current environmental and climate crisis there is a shift of attention towards sociotechnical transitions to sustainability, climate change mitigation and adaptation, low-carbon energy systems and net zero emissions. This process of adoption of, and transformation to a 'greener' and more 'sustainable' present and future entails restructuring environment-society relationships while deepening environmental conflicts and creating profound new injustices.

Contrary to a traditional and public-discoursed argument, which assumes that the transitions are a linear process involving only firms, consumers, and the diffusion to the markets of new technologies, critical literature from the fields of Political Ecology, Environmental Sociology and Environmental Humanities invites attention to new uncertainties, side effects, possible social conflicts, and inequalities by bringing to light key players' practices, cultural beliefs and political struggles. And this is done by introducing concepts and theoretical tools from political economy, post-colonial studies, gender studies, social anthropology, and social movement theory.

Therefore, it researches what is new, what is transformed and what is missed within the current socio-environmental and climate crisis.

This lecture series aims to critically examine and reframe Sustainability, Climate Crisis, Environmental Inequalities and Socio-environmental Movements in three ways. First, analytically, by drawing attention to the way environmental protection is pitted against economic growth, when the regression of environmental concerns in favour of addressing socio-economic concerns is normalised. Second, empirically, by substantiating the link between economic politics,



environmental destruction, and deepening of social inequalities along class, race, ethnicity, and gender lines. Third, by highlighting the new wave of activism that struggles to bring the environmental question back into the heart of public concern.

Researchers and academics from Greece and abroad with long experience and research on the environmental issues from a Humanities and Social Sciences background will explore these issues in a dialogue with the participants.

The lecturers will examine applications and variations of this framework upon different expressions of human-environment interactions, will propose a critical understanding of sustainability and provide methods, tools, and concepts from the fields of Political Ecology, Environmental Sociology and Environmental Humanities useful for researching and analysing socio-environmental issues, conflicts, and struggles.

## Program

Date	Speaker	Title	Bibliography and References	Discussant
Thursday, 17/3/2022, 19:00 (EET/EEST)	<b>Giorgos Velegrakis</b> , Department of Sociology, School of Social Sciences, University of Crete	From planetary to societal boundaries: Introduction to the Lectures (in Greek).	Ulrich Brand, Barbara Muraca, Éric Pineault, Marlyne Sahakian, Anke Schaffartzik, Andreas Novy, Christoph Streissler, Helmut Haberl, Viviana Asara, Kristina Dietz, Miriam Lang, Ashish Kothari, Tone Smith, Clive Spash, Alina Brad, Melanie Pichler, Christina Plank, Giorgos Velegrakis, Thomas Jahn, Angela Carter, Qingzhi Huan, Giorgos Kallis, Joan Martínez Alier, Gabriel Riva, Vishwas Satgar, Emiliano Teran Mantovani, Michelle Williams, Markus Wissen & Christoph Görg (2021) From planetary to societal boundaries: an argument for collectively defined self-limitation, Sustainability: Science, Practice and Policy, 17:1, 264-291, DOI: 10.1080/15487733.2021.1940754.	<b>Georgios Tsiolis</b> , Department of Sociology, School of Social Sciences, University of Crete & <b>Vassilis Arapoglou</b> , Department of Sociology, School of Social Sciences, University of Crete
Thursday, 7/4/2022, 19:00 (EET/EEST)	<b>Rita Calvario</b> , Centre for Social Studies (CES), University of Coimbra, Portugal	The Political Ecology of Austerity: Crisis, Social Movements and the Environment (in English).	Calvario, R., Kaika, M., & Velegrakis, G., (2022) (eds.). The Political Ecology of Austerity: environment, social movements, and economic crisis. Routledge – Explorations in Environmental Studies. DOI: 10.4324/9781003036265.	<b>Giorgos Velegrakis</b> , Department of Sociology, School of Social Sciences, University of Crete



Σχολή Κοινωνικών Επιστημών  
Τμήμα Κοινωνιολογίας  
Πανεπιστημιούπολη Ρεθύμνου 74100, περιοχή Γάλλου  
Τηλ. 2831077465-6 Fax. 2831077467  
Email: [regist@social.soc.uoc.gr](mailto:regist@social.soc.uoc.gr)

University of Crete  
School of Social Sciences  
Department of Sociology  
University Campus, 74100 Gallos Rethymno  
Tel. +30 2831077465-6 Fax. +30 2831077467  
<http://www.soc.uoc.gr/social>

Date	Speaker	Title	Bibliography and References	Discussant
Thursday, 14/4/2022, 19:00 (EET/EEST)	<b>Zoi Christina Siamanta</b> , Department of History and Philosophy of Science, School of Science, NKUA	Environmental conflicts and justice in a multispecies planet (in Greek).	Danielle Celermajer, David Schlosberg, Lauren Rickards, Makere StewartHarawira, Mathias Thaler, Petra Tschakert, Blanche Verlie & Christine Winter (2021) Multispecies justice: theories, challenges, and a research agenda for environmental politics, <i>Environmental Politics</i> , 30:1-2, 119-140, DOI: 10.1080/09644016.2020.1827608.  &  Joan Martinez-Alier (2021) Mapping ecological distribution conflicts: The EJAtlas, <i>The Extractive Industries and Society</i> , Volume 8, Issue 4, 2021, 100883, ISSN 2214-790X, <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.exis.2021.02.003">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.exis.2021.02.003</a> .	<b>Nikos Serdedakis</b> , Department of Sociology, School of Social Sciences, University of Crete
Thursday, 5/5/2022, 19:00 (EET/EEST)	<b>Dimitris Pettas</b> , Marie Curie Postdoctoral Fellow, Institute of Urban and Regional Development, Technical University of Berlin, Germany	New forms of urbanization mediated by the platform economy (in Greek).	Dimitris Pettas, Vasilis Avdikos, Eirini Iliopoulou & Ioanna Karavasili (2021): "Insurrection is not a spectacle": experiencing and contesting touristification in Exarcheia, Athens, <i>Urban Geography</i> , DOI:10.1080/02723638.2021.1888521.  &  Dimitris Balampanidis, Thomas Maloutas, Evangelia Papatzani & Dimitris Pettas (2019): Informal urban regeneration as a way out of the crisis? Airbnb in Athens and its effects on space and society, <i>Urban Research &amp; Practice</i> , DOI: 10.1080/17535069.2019.1600009.  &  Myrto Dagkouli-Kyriakoglou, Simone Tulumello, Agustin Cocola Gant, Chiara Iacovone, Dimitris Pettas, Digital mediated short term rentals in the (post-)pandemic city, <i>Digital Geography and Society</i> , Volume 3, 2022, 100028, ISSN 2666-3783, <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.diggeo.2022.100028">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.diggeo.2022.100028</a> .	<b>Vassilis Arapoglou</b> , Department of Sociology, School of Social Sciences, University of Crete
Thursday, 26/5/2022, 19:00 (EET/EEST)	<b>Katerina Psarikidou</b> , SPRU, Sussex University, UK	Growing 'the social' through alternative agro-food networks: towards a socio- material turn in sustainability thinking	tba	<b>Eugenia Petropoulou</b> , Department of Sociology, School of Social Sciences, University of Crete



Σχολή Κοινωνικών Επιστημών  
Τμήμα Κοινωνιολογίας  
Πανεπιστημιούπολη Ρεθύμνου 74100, περιοχή Γάλλου  
Τηλ. 2831077465-6 Fax. 2831077467  
Email: [regist@social.soc.uoc.gr](mailto:regist@social.soc.uoc.gr)

University of Crete  
School of Social Sciences  
Department of Sociology  
University Campus, 74100 Gallos Rethymno  
Tel. +30 2831077465-6 Fax. +30 2831077467  
<http://www.soc.uoc.gr/social>

Date	Speaker	Title	Bibliography and References	Discussant
Thursday, 9/6/2022, 19:00 (EET/EEST)	<b>Sighard Neckel</b> , Humanities Centre for Advanced Studies "Futures of Sustainability" Universität Hamburg & Department of Social Sciences, Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences, Universität Hamburg, Germany	Infrastructures: sustainability as a common good (in English).	Frank Adloff/Sighard Neckel: Futures of Sustainability as Modernization, Transformation, and Control: A Conceptual Framework, in: Sustainability Science, Vol. 14 (2019), No. 4, 1015- 1025, Online: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s11625-019-00671-2">https://doi.org/10.1007/s11625-019-00671-2</a> .  & Sighard Neckel: Scholastic fallacies? Questioning the Anthropocene, in: Thesis Eleven, Vol. 165 (1), August 2021, S. 136-144. Online: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1177/0725513621993278">https://doi.org/10.1177/0725513621993278</a> .	<b>Georgios Tsiolis</b> , Department of Sociology, School of Social Sciences, University of Crete