



ICTA-UAB

Institut de
Ciència i Tecnologia
Ambientals



Research and Degrowth

Degrowth Alumni Conference



March 27 & 28, 2025

10am - 6pm

UAB, Bellaterra



Research and Degrowth



ICTA-UAB

Program

Thursday March 27

- 9-10** Registration
Room Sala Perello
- 10-11** Welcome & Presentation Program
Room Sala Perello
Facilitator: Jana Kenkel & Brenda Nistor
- 11-11:30** Coffee Tsuru Catering
Room Sala Perello
- 11:30-13** Session 1: Degrowth in the Professional World
Panel A
Room Sala Perello
Facilitator: Brenda Nistor
Speaker 1: Nikol Krejcova
Speaker 2: Sara Mahdi
Speaker 3: Samuel Suter
Speaker 4: Jaume Grau López
- Panel B
Room Aula 1
Facilitator: Marula Tsagkari
Speaker 1: Alejandra Infante Velado
Speaker 2: Alan Fortuny
Speaker 3: Bascule Coop
Speaker 4: Karolina Pietrzak
- 13-15** Catering
Room Sala Perello
- 15-16:30** Session 2: Degrowth Art & Activism
Panel A
Room Sala Perello
Facilitator: Eva Navarro
Speaker 1: Emilie de Bassompierre
Speaker 2: Majda Ibrakovic
Speaker 3: Michel Cardito
Speaker 4: Angela Huston Gold
- Panel B
Room Aula 1
Facilitator: Carlo Sella
Speaker 1: Anna Nordahl Carlsen
Speaker 2: Lavrenty Repin
Speaker 3: Sims Rodrigues
Speaker 4: Emma Park
- 16:30-17** Poster Session
Room Aula 1
- 17-18** Online Session: News from the Masters & R&D
Room Sala Perello
Speaker: Ksenija Hanacek, Marula Tsagkari,
Mariona Bonfills

Friday March 28

- 9-10** Registration
Room Sala Perello
- 10-11** Alumni Stories Presentation
Room Sala Perello
Speaker: Nathalie Roy
- 11-11:30** Coffee Tsuru Catering
Room Sala Perello
- 11:30-13** Session 3: Degrowth in Academia
Panel A
Room Sala Perello
Facilitator: Nathalie Roy
Speaker 1: Jean-Michel Hupé
Speaker 2: Annie Witschas
Speaker 3: Tommaso Marconi
Speaker 4: Neha Saigal
- Panel B
Room Aula 1
Facilitator: Lucia Muñoz Sueiro
Speaker 1: Donatella Gasparro
Speaker 2: Eva Navarro
Speaker 3: Susana Rivera
Speaker 4: TBC
- 13-15** Catering
Room Sala Perello
- 15-16:30** Alumni Assembly
Room Sala Perello
Facilitator: Eva Navarro & Steph McDonagh
- 16:30** Let's grab drinks and tapas!

Panel 1.A: Degrowth in the Professional World

Thursday, March 27 11:30-13:00 Sala Perelló UAB
Facilitation: Brenda Nistor

	Titel	Abstract	Bio
Nikol Krejcova	Tips for campaigns against negative environmental impacts	When we want to stop the project harmful to the environment we need to stand against so much wealth and power. We can use campaigning and I would like to share with you tips which made a difference in international campaign against Turów lignite mine extension or destruction of old growth beech forests in Czechia.	Nikol Krejcova has been active in the environmental movement for twenty years. She lives in Prague and has worked as campaigner in Greenpeace for last six years.
Sara Mahdi	Communicating degrowth effectively	Degrowth is radical, necessary, and... completely trapped in the ivory tower, gathering dust alongside unread economic theories. Meanwhile, the climate crisis is escalating, and we need to talk about solutions that actually make sense—without sending people into a panic spiral. This workshop, will aid you in how to make degrowth click with anyone, using humor, memes, and plain English (no PhD required). Expect cringe PowerPoint aesthetics, solid comebacks for “but what about my iPhone?”, and strategies to make degrowth not just understandable, but irresistible. Come for the memes, stay because capitalism is crumbling anyway.	Sara is a degrowth and climate researcher, political ecologist, and political-scholar-activist. In her work, she deploys fresh narratives and research, mixing natural and social sciences, getting audiences to join the dots between politics, economics, climate change, race, inequality, and social justice. She currently leads communications and messaging at Rethinking Economics International while finishing her Masters in Degrowth at ICTA.

Samuel Suter	Promoting sufficiency policy implementation in Swiss municipalities	I would be happy to share some insights from my 1.5 years in the professional world after finishing the political ecology masters. Briefly, I talk about my first year at WWF Switzerland, where I got to co-develop a gamified workshop format (strategy game) aimed at facilitating inclusive policy dialogue in the topic of the Swiss food system. Then, I will talk about my current occupation at the Swiss research institute WSL, where our goal is to promote the implementation of sufficiency policy in Swiss municipalities. I will talk about how we try to achieve this ((1) through accompanying individual municipalities with a needs- and practice-oriented visioning process, and (2) through policy briefs trying to alter framework conditions to be more sufficiency-friendly), what obstacles we face, and how we hope to overcome them.	Samuel Suter was born in Luzern (Switzerland), and after studying an economics bachelor's, he went on to do the political ecology master's from 2021 - 2023. He is interested in degrowth policy and practice and invested in learning about practices of nonviolence and empathetic dialogue. He gets sparked by Artivism/Co-Creation, sports, music, and radical honesty.
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Jaume Grau López	Planetary Boundaries, the crisis of biodiversity and social participation in the Convention on Biological Diversity	<p>The Global Ecological Crisis has two principal axis: climate change and biodiversity loss. The climate emergency is very well known and is in the center of the political debate, with the science-coherent policies and the denialists and neoliberal capitalists clash, and all the collateral discussions and effects. But the biodiversity crisis has not reached the public opinion with enough momentum to have a significant influence in the public policies. Nevertheless, global approaches as the Stockholm Resilience Center's Planet Boundaries warn that the biosphere integrity (both at the functional and genetic levels) is wrecked and is reaching concerning non-return points or tipping points that will result in a global erosion of the living conditions of most of the organisms on Earth, but specially of humanity. The UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) have held 16 Conferences of Parties (CoP) so far, with important agreements such as the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework for 2030, the global strategic plan for Biodiversity. The evidence that the socioeconomic model has to be totally revised under sustainability and more ecocentric views come year after year, from the scientific reports such as the Global Biodiversity Outlook or the IPBES (Intergovernment Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services). But, even under the light of the overwhelming evidence, neither the public opinion and mass-media nor the governments are putting attention and efforts to address this critical challenge. The recent COP16 of CDB, held in Cali, Colombia, in october 2024, showed that even the great energy and ambitious actions displayed by the Indigenous Peoples and the Environment Organiations, little impact was achieved in politicalm terms and in public opinion due to the scarce attention by mass-media. The presentation will highlight the most updated headlines about the dimension of the global biodiversity crisis as well as the thriving role of global ONG in the CBD process in contrast to the inaction by governments and insufficient attention by mass-media.</p>	<p>Jaume Grau López has a Degree in Biology in the University of Barcelona (2000), and a Masters in Political Ecology, Environmental Justice and Degrowth in the ICTA-UAB (1st edition of the Masters). He has been activist in several social and environmental movements, and has been specially active in Ecologists en Acció since 2002, attending several CoP of both the Convention of Biological Diversity and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. He lives in an intentional community in central Catalonia (Vidalia)"</p>
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Panel 1.B: Degrowth in the Professional World

Thursday, March 27 11:30-13:00 Aula 1 UAB
Facilitation: Marula Tsagkari

	Titel	Abstract	Bio
Alejandra Infante Velado	How non-formal education and non-profit entities can help support Degrowth	Since more than two years I've been professionally working writing and managing Erasmus+ funded projects on the issues of plant-based consumption, food security, sustainable urban mobility, artistic environmental education and modernization of the CCS, always with the priority of social inclusion as the funding pillar. From the moment that I began to gain interest in the degrowth theories, movement and practices, I've realised they are much in line with the projects that my NGO (LAND Impresa Sociale) is supporting. And, although I'm aware of the challenges that dealing with European Commission fundings can imply for the degrowth movement and ethics (something that I will bring up in my contribution), I want to present some of our projects (ECOPRISE, EU FOOD SECURITY HUB, EXTOR, and others), dealing with the topics of social entrepreneurship, food security and responsible rural tourism, and open the discussion on how these type of fundings and initiatives can practically help to bring degrowth principles and consciousness closer to the general population, including the younger part of it, and improve the conditions of disadvantage territories, helping to regenerate them, environmentally and socially.	Alejandra is 26 years old, Double Major in Political Science and International Studies by Uc3m. She is currently enrolled full-time in ICTA-UAB Online Master of Degrowth, while she works as a PM and project writer for Erasmus+ funded projects for LAND, an Italian social enterprise in Palermo, which is starting an agrivoltaic plant with future project of energy community, while dealing with social inclusion in a disadvantaged territory.

Alan Fortuny How to
organize
degrowth
transitions

The book *L'escata: Ecosocialism as if our life depends on it*, offers tentative explanations for the working class to oppose capitalism, austerity, and ecocide. It articulates ecosocialism as both an existing framework and a viable alternative to achieve public abundance and global justice within environmental limits. The book proposes a strategic roadmap to prioritize non-reformist reforms while dismantling neocolonial institutions and enabling the organizational capacities necessary for democratic planning. The analysis of the ecosocialist project is complemented by an examination of the revolutionary subjects driving transformation. Three case studies illustrate the application of the theoretical principles outlined in the book: Ending Germany's support for the ethnic cleansing of Palestinians. Ecosocialism and the energy transition in Empordà. The international degrowth network (IDN) as a vector of transformation. The book provides a class-relevant critique of capitalism alongside a thorough analysis of the politics of the far right and progressive movements. It goes beyond ecosocialist principles, presenting a comprehensive programme and framework for transformation. This includes a cohesive set of policies and a theory of change for an ecosocial transition, with an explicit focus on the role of the state and revolutionary agents. These contributions represent a significant addition to the existing degrowth literature and advance the field by addressing critical questions of political organization.

Born in Barcelona and based in Germany since 2016, Alan has been engaged in environmental activism for nearly a decade. His focus now includes Palestine solidarity and Mera25. Professionally, he supports impact-driven organizations as a data scientist at Leonardo Impact. He is also passionate about running, climbing, and biking the world while advocating for keeping fossil fuels in the ground. Powered by plants and organic farming, he is a proud father to a 3-year-old daughter, who continues to teach me the secrets of life and joy.

Bascuel Coop BASCULE and the Degrowth Movement: Challenging Blind Spots Through Strategy, Positionality, and Action

In this panel, Daniela and Rosalie, co-founders of BASCULE, will outline how our team developed our cooperative. We will explain how our approach was informed by insights from the Degrowth movement, while also addressing its limitations. Specifically, we seek to integrate the movement's critique of growth and its strategy for socio-ecological transformations while overcoming its intellectual focus, lack of decolonization practices, and minimal practical actions. To illustrate this, we will share our work in two key areas: activist research conducted with and by social movements, and workshops designed to support political and activist mobilizations.

Bascule is a non-profit consultancy supporting social actors in bringing about radical change. Our team —Rosalie, Daniela, Federico, and Anouk—first crossed paths in Barcelona while pursuing the master's degree in Political Ecology, Environmental Justice & Degrowth. As we completed our degrees, we became acutely aware of the multi-crises facing our world and disillusioned with the "green" job market, which too often seemed mired in greenwashing and low-impact roles. This realization nourished our commitment to confront and transform the systems driving these crises and inspired us to create our own path—a place where activism and professional purpose could converge. From our activist backgrounds, we also saw that necessary work was already being done by various radical actors, yet their efforts were often limited by scarce resources. Inspired by systemic thinking, grassroots organizing, and direct action, we envisioned Bascule as a cooperative to support and amplify the work of socio-ecological actors. From strategy to operations, our team's ad hoc skills & expertise, network and tailored services are put in service of transformational initiatives.

Karolina
Pietrzak

Business in
Degrowth Way

The presentation talks about Business in Degrowth Way. It compares the current business values with those proposed by Degrowth, as well as it defines the role of the business in the system transition. It shows the alternative forms of organisations with the real examples from Germany and Poland (for instance FC St. Pauli and Spółdzielnia Dobrze).

Karolina has Master in Power Engineering at Technical University in Warsaw. Since 2012 has been leaving in Hamburg and working on the front of energy transition globally, focusing on the offshore wind development. In 2023 she became a mother of Liah and student of the 3rd Master on Degrowth cohort. Currently she is working on the first Degrowth guide in Polish and setting a new business in more degrowth way.

Panel 2.A: Degrowth in Art & Activism

Thursday, March 27 15:00-16:30 Sala Perelló UAB
Facilitation: Eva Navarro

	Titel	Abstract	Bio
Emilie de Bassompierre	Creating alliances for a popular ecology movement	The presentation I proposed would be sharing lessons learned from organizing in Belgium with Code Rouge and Brigades d'Actions Paysannes, specifically how some of us have been working on creating alliances between environmental activists, trade unions, and farmers. I would like to discuss shortly what has been our approach so far; what challenges we are meeting and how we are trying to deal with them; and how this has influenced my understanding of positionality within social & environmental struggles. I hope to sketch some hope and motivation for building a broader base for eco-socialism and anticapitalism.	Since being part of the 4th Degrowth Masters cohort, Emilie (she/they) has been trying to balance paid and unpaid labour hoping it all serves to undermine the capitalist empire. (Writing nice advocacy papers with NGOs in Brussels, sabotaging evil companies and people, helping out on farms, or other such fun activities). They hold no certainties about the future, but they are committed to making the present a nicer time to be in.

Majda
Ibrakovic

Green
colonialism in
Europe's
periphery:
exposed and
resisted

The energy transition in Bosnia and Herzegovina is a perfect example of how capitalist imperatives, under the guise of 'green and sustainable', drive land dispossession and environmental degradation. The fragmented governance structure has created a fertile ground for privatisation and neoliberal exploitation by domestic elites and transnational capital. Renewable energy projects epitomize this dynamic, displacing local communities, disrupting ecosystems and commodifying natural resources for profit. By the same logic, intense prospecting and exploitation of transition minerals by international corporations' extractive practices, further entrench the green colonialism foundations. Despite BiH's challenging political context, local struggles emerge as land defenders and environmentalists continue to organise, resist, defend and protect the natural and cultural heritage of their land.

Majda Ibrakovic is a geographer, environmentalist and activist from Bosnia and Herzegovina. She is a member-coordinator of the environmental network Eko BiH, currently engaged in CSO Eko forum Zenica. She works on advocacy and campaigns for a fair energy transition, which includes organising and supporting communities, grassroots, revealing corporate greenwashing tactics, specifically in extractive industry and the alleged sustainable transition projects in BiH. She is currently a scholar of Degrowth: Ecology, Economics and Policy master programme at UAB/ICTA – Barcelona.

Michel Cardito	Degrowth and social movements: the case of Italy	<p>Is degrowth a social movement? What is the relationship between degrowth and other social movements? These are the questions that prompted my research, which focused on the Italian context. With a militant researcher's perspective, I wanted to analyze what are the realities that deal with degrowth in Italy, their mutual relations and their relations with principal social movements. The outcomes of this research are partially unexpected and can provide important elements for strategic reflection on whether and how we are building a degrowth movement and what are the directions of evolution we want to have to produce social change.</p>	<p>Michel Cardito is a doctor, facilitator and activist currently based in Trento, Italy. He has been a degrowth activist in Italy since 2014 and president of a major organisation, Movimento Decrescita Felice, for the last five years.</p>
Angela Huston Gold	Coalition building for transnational activism	<p>United for Climate Justice is an international coalition of activist moments formed in response to the need to collaborate beyond national borders to achieve structural change. Its first campaign aims to stop fossil subsidies at the European level as a leverage point to dismantle global fossil capitalism; its longer-term goals are degrowth and a people-powered just transition. In this session we will reflect on the challenges and opportunities for building a cohesive campaign with activists from the diverse contexts of East and West Europe, Africa, Latin America – all of whom are impacted differently by the desired economic and ecological transition.</p>	<p>Angela Huston Gold is an interdisciplinary systems thinker, strategist, and activist researcher. With a decade of experience in public services planning in Africa, she specialises in building diverse coalitions for transformative change. Angela is a research and strategy contributor for United for Climate Justice and a consultant with Disrupt Development.</p>

Panel 2.B: Degrowth in Art & Activism

Thursday, March 27 15:00-16:30 Aula 1 UAB
Facilitation: Carlo Sella

Titel	Abstract	Bio
Anna Nordahl Carlsen	Searching for my eco-niche: Art as a tool in the paradigm shift The western capitalist system is depleting our sense of belonging and genuine experience of life. As we strive for a post-growth society, how can we engage not only the intellect but also the heart? This presentation explores how artistic research and storytelling serve as vehicles in the process of fermenting our superficial social culture into something more meaningful and collectively just. We explore the artist as an interbeing with the ability to create spaces where deeper connections can flourish. The presentation is a personal one. It is the story of a recovering economist stepping out of her comfort zone, in search of her eco-niche.	Anna Nordahl Carlsen is a community weaver, an activist, and a shapeshifter who strives to reduce the synthetic separations created by western economic system. She is an environmental economist turned grassroot economist. Currently living in Maputo, she seeks deeper relations with the Mozambican Mangroves and mythologies from the continent.

Lavrenty
Repin

Hihiri Pipiri
Transcultural
Creative
Network

Friends of Hihiri Pipiri is a 501(c)3 Not-For-Profit Organization dedicated to Artists as Translators and Mediators. Through transcultural experiments, mediation and co creating existences beyond the imagined, Hihiri has resisted enclosure and bordering by supporting freedom of movement initiatives, restored abandoned buildings into schools, libraries, clinics and community spaces, provided humanitarian relief during disasters and crisis and engaged creatively in marginalized hard-to-reach communities across five continents. This presentation will focus specifically on strategies and solutions that have enabled Hihiri Pipiri to successfully carry out ambitious projects on shoestring budgets, and the lessons we learned through practising the ethos of “do more with less”. The presentation will concurrently delve into the benefits of artist-led humanitarian projects, the creative practices around distribution of responsibility, and how to operate at the intersection between formal, institutional methods and the anarchic, decentralized ideals that are at the core of the organization’s premise.

Lavrenty Repin is an Artist-Researcher engaged in diverse fields including activism, transcultural practice, performance art, history and literature. His work is motivated by two beliefs: that many answers for today's problems are found in our past, and that there can never be 'homelessness' on our bountiful planet.

Sims Rodrigues	Colectivo Grietas	<p>Through art exhibitions, Colectivo Grietas approaches socio-ecological transformations through different lenses: from people's relationships to the city, to land, to their bodies, to non-human beings; from their emotions and their sense of (in)security; and their reflections on a degrowth-oriented future. Their first exhibition in March 2023 was an interactive space, where a diverse audience (people living in Barcelona, family and friends, university colleagues) could reflect on the interconnections between these themes. They challenged the audience to ask themselves: where are transformations taking place? Why could I wish to participate? And if I am already participating, how does it make me feel and transform me in return? Meanwhile, they are asking ourselves the same questions: behind the exhibition is a creative lab for collaboration, where they help each other to think deeper into their topics and to develop their artistic approaches.</p>	<p>Sims Rodrigues, originally from the US, studied Intersectional Studies, Sustainability Studies and Political Ecology. He is interested in socio-ecological transformations, agroecology and cycling.</p>
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Emma Park

The Art of
Crip Time

To what extent is the degrowth movement willing to confront its own role in reproducing the exclusionary structures it claims to resist? Crip* time and crip* culture have shaped alternative ways of living, resisting, and adapting in Western societies for decades, yet degrowth pedagogy largely fails to engage with these frameworks—overlooking those who have long embodied its principles. This presentation critiques how the movement often disregards the people, processes, and theories that inherently challenge capitalist notions of productivity, efficiency, and progress—particularly within disabled, neurodivergent, and working-class communities. It will ask how degrowth can move beyond rhetoric to dismantle exclusion in practice, challenge dominant narratives, and adopt strategies that foster truly inclusive, accessible, and interdependent spaces for systemic change.

*In disability culture, "crip" is a reclaimed term that challenges ableist norms, embracing disability as a source of identity, community, and resistance rather than limitation.

Emma/ Emma Jayne/ EJ Park has been called a dancer, theatre-maker, collaborator, facilitator, movement director, dramaturg, intimacy coordinator, activist, organiser, and occasional drag king. They're not fussed about definitions. They research, think, make, and do - preferably in collaboration. Their work is a series of overlapping explorations of failure, belonging and power. It always begins in the body but manifests in various forms in the hope of bridging the gap between post-capitalist ideology and everyday actions. Based in rural South-West Scotland, they travel between Scotland, London, and Lebanon to work and live.

Panel 3.A: Degrowth in Academia

Friday, March 28 11:30-13:00 Sala Perelló UAB

Facilitation: Nathalie Roy

Topic	Abstract	Bio
Jean-Michel Hupé Responsibility and possible actions within Academia	The “sounding of the alarm” by the scientific community about the escalating environmental disasters has not had the expected results. The rising of populist and fascists regimes all over the world compromises capacities to change drastically the socioeconomic system and give a chance to halt the suicidal trajectory of our societies. What can, or should, be the role of scientists in this context? Since 2018, a collective of scientists of all disciplines in Toulouse is experimenting new forms of interactions between science and societies, away from the naïve vision that science produces neutral knowledge to inform decision-makers and fuel political action. This collective defends a position of “political ecology” (atelier d’écologie politique, “Atécopol”), in the sense that all major environmental issues are intertwined with social, cultural, technical, and political factors, power and domination issues. All disciplines are therefore concerned, in STEM as much as in social sciences and humanities. Atécopol considers that the responsibility of scientists is not only to produce knowledge, but also to take part in social change, as scientists. Atécopol has now more than 260 members in Toulouse, and a dozen of other political ecology collectives were created in France following the same model. Atécopol is an informal, horizontal network of scientists, yet it also benefits from institutional recognition. I will present the key principles and experiences of Atécopol, so we could discuss whether this model should be extended through European academia.	Jean-Michel Hupé is a CNRS researcher with a PhD in neuroscience. In 2018, while attending to the first edition of the Degrowth master in Barcelona, he created with colleagues Atécopol in Toulouse. In 2020, he left his neuroscience lab to join a humanities lab and practice political ecology full time.

Annie
Witschas

Digital
capitalism, AI,
and the quest
for unlimited
growth

In times when capitalism is increasingly struggling to contain its crises, digital capitalists have found their new poster child for a solution: Artificial Intelligence (AI). Proponents in Silicon Valley and beyond see AI as an opportunity not just to increase productivity, but to unleash a whole new dimension of technological acceleration, leading to unprecedented growth and prosperity. This project not only comes with a devastating environmental footprint and exploitative labour conditions, but also follows a set of harmful ideologies that are currently gaining political traction, for instance in Trump's cabinet. Without claiming to provide ready answers, I am hoping to bring the tech elites growth agendas onto the Degrowth radar and spark discussions on suitable resistance strategies.

Annemarie Witschas is a member of the research group "Ethics and Critical Theories of AI" at Osnabrück University. Her research explores the intersection of digital technologies and power, as well as their implications for liberatory politics, spanning from futures thinking to sexuality. She is currently in the 4th edition of the online Degrowth Master at UAB.

<p>Neha Saigal Feminist climate justice and Degrowth from the Global South</p>	<p>The impacts of climate change are inequitable and gendered and women in the Global South, especially those who are poor and disadvantaged due to different intersectional vulnerabilities, bear a disproportionate burden of the climate crisis. These gender inequities, perpetuated by the climate crisis, need to be seen in context of these countries' colonial histories, which established its rule on extractive relations and capitalism. They introduced laws that impacted women, especially those from marginalised communities, further widening gender relations and inequities. The presentation aims to initiate an inquiry and develop a new framework or discourse around the climate crisis which is based on feminist epistemology, degrowth and climate justice and proposes a Gender Transformative Climate Framework, which challenges the dominant approach to climate action and brings the focus to gender equality and justice as a pathway to change. The framework integrates women and marginalised groups in climate change decision-making at all governance levels, leverages feminist leadership that challenges patriarchal norms, and envisions alternative economic systems which place care and social safety nets over perpetual economic growth. It thus provides an alternative to the current policy paradigm on climate solutions which is largely driven by patriarchy and neo-colonialism, promoting top-down, one-size fits all, technocratic solutions.</p>	<p>Neha is an intersectional feminist working on the intersections of gender, caste, climate change and poverty in India. She is currently working as a Director at Asar, an Indian organisation working in the social and environment space. Neha is committed to fostering leadership of civil society activists and grassroots leaders through community organising and regenerative practices and is associated with Mobilisation Lab that supports building capacity of organisations and leaders on people powered campaigns. Neha is interested in building a collective understanding on degrowth and delinking as an agenda from the Global South which is also the focus of her Masters project.</p>
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Tommaso
Marconi

Western
sahara the
case of green
colonialism
and the
resistance of
saharawii
people

The Sahara desert is rich in resources and the 50 years prolonged occupation of western sahara by the moroccan army is entering a new phase that is called green colonialism. To supply europe with green energy the moroccan monarchy is building more and more green power plants expropriating land and legitimizing the colonial oppression in saharawii people.

Tommaso Marconi is a master student of UAB, born in Firenze, Italy, interested in research areas such as colonialism, global south, communalism, buen vivir, indigenous struggle. As a journalist he is covering the saharawii struggle. The article on green colonialism in western sahara has been published in autumn 2024 in magazines such as jacobin, el independiente, sub media, freedom news.

Panel 3.B: Degrowth in Academia

Friday, March 28 11:30-13:00 Aula 1 UAB

Facilitation: Lucia Muñoz Sueiro

	Topic	Abstract	Bio
Donatella Gasparro	Agrarian Degrowth: developments and the way ahead	Degrowth has been rediscovering rural areas and lifeworlds as key elements for socio-ecologically emancipatory futures. In this talk, I'll share recent developments in the intersection of agrarian studies and degrowth, reflecting on the progress of including rural people and spaces as active agents in shaping degrowth futures. I'll build on: i. the work I'm doing in my PhD, in which I study the degrowth potential of subsistence socio-materialities in rural Southern Italy; ii. the collective research we're developing on real-existing degrowth at ICTA-UAB; iii. and the international collaborations with which we've been bringing this topic to degrowth gatherings and spaces.	Donatella Gasparro, alumna of the 4th edition of the presencial master, is currently a PhD candidate at the Scuola Normale Superiore (Florence, Italy) in Political Science & Sociology, where she works at the intersection of political ecology and critical agrarian studies. She collaborates with ICTA-UAB within the project "REAL - A Post Growth Deal", in the research cluster working on "Real-existing degrowth". She is a member of the editorial collective of the Italian degrowth publication "Quaderni della Decrescita" and is active in spreading degrowth ideas in Italy and Europe.

Eva
Navarro

Ecofeminism
& Degrowth

Degrowth, a leading paradigm addressing our socio-ecological crisis, criticizes the highly destructive animal factory-farming industry. However, it does not challenge the commodification of sentient beings and the underlying system that perpetuates the oppression of the "less-than-human". Animals-as-food, reduced to "flesh machines", are exploited with institutional legitimacy rooted in societal belief systems. Drawing upon posthumanist and ecofeminist perspectives, this article argues that to achieve a just transformation, the degrowth proposal must gain ethical congruence and dismantle anthropocentric worldviews. Adopting an anti-speciesist framework becomes crucial to overcoming socio-ecological collapse, fundamentally reshaping our interactions with cohabiting individualities within the biosphere.

Eva is a project manager and researcher working at the intersection of Ecofeminism, Degrowth and Political Ecology. With a background in Psychology and Political Philosophy, her interdisciplinary knowledge enriches her practice. She coordinates ecofeminist educational programs for female entrepreneurs, with a focus on strengthening rural communities, and runs the association GENS (Grup d'Experimentació en Naturisme i Sostenibilitat).

Susana
Rivera

Just
transitions and
sustainability

The shift to a system fitting within the existing planetary boundaries is a pressing global imperative. Decarbonization, or reducing fossil fuel dependency and minimizing the quantity of energy used per unit of economic output, is often championed as the solution. However, nearly a quarter of emissions do not stem from the energy sectors and decarbonization could perpetuate pre-existing sets of disparities and generate an unequal distribution of winners and losers. Decarbonization's socio-economic risks and challenges in equity and justice have been addressed within JT frameworks. However, JT literature is fragmented in its methodological approaches, often lacking empirical rigor and actionable frameworks for implementation. I aim to present my paper, a study that provides a systematic literature review of methodologies applied in JT peer-reviewed literature from 2010 to 2022, and addresses this gap by (1) determining what methodological frameworks have been used to study transitions through a justice lens; (2) identifying the strengths, limitations, and research gaps within these methodological approaches (3) highlighting areas for future inquiry. The format of my presentation is a conventional presentation, in which I aim to communicate the findings of this study, which should serve as a critical resource for scholars, facilitating robust, context-specific JT research and supporting broader efforts to move towards a world within planetary boundaries together with a more equal allocation of responsibilities and costs by providing a roadmap for future methodological innovation.

Susana Rivera is currently pursuing a PhD hosted by CUBS & MaREI focusing on the Dingle Peninsula and its journey to a more sustainable and just future as well as social metabolism analysis. Before settling in Ireland, she has completed the Degrowth master's degree in its first installment, as well as another in Ecology and Environmental Management at UB, both of which deepened her passion for exploring the intersection of social and environmental issues, and systemic change.

