

Degrowth Kaleidoscope: Real-Existing Utopia(s)

8th-10th November 2019, Plitvice Lakes, Croatia

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

The Institute for Political Ecology, in cooperation with the Green European Foundation, the Open Society Initiative for Europe and the Heinrich Böll Stiftung – Prague office, is organising the 3rd Green Academy Winter Seminar, focusing on the ongoing debates around the Green New Deal and degrowth concepts and practices in the context of climate emergency. We aim to explore deeper avenues of both at theoretical, political and practical levels and identify present convergencies and conflicts. During the seminar, space and time will be ensured for exchanges and interactions to develop and unfold, and hopefully translate into strategies for creating conditions for change in specific areas of interest (housing, debt, labour).

We'll also introduce you to our degrowth donut visualizations, which include the novelty of cultural excesses and shortfalls in envisioning a democratic construction of a degrowth transition. Degrowth donut is one of the tools for designing policies for a transition - a transition to a sober maturity on a fair-shared and precariously imbalanced planet. The kaleidoscopic perspective of the movement and the variety of interconnections and differences will ensure explorations of specific sectors where degrowth can make a fundamental difference, while at the same time not ignoring the relevance of emerging Green New Deal policy programmes on both sides of the Atlantic. Demands for a socially just and planned transition need to be articulated precisely, in order to head off reactionary responses to the climate emergency. And this we shall redesign as we go, for the further Europeans slide into climate chaos without establishing a convivial sociality, the more likely we are to contend with authoritarian and inegalitarian powers to which emergency conditions often give rise.

The politics of this historical dynamic - the actors, alliances, institutions and social processes creating degrowth transitions - are the subject of lively debates in Europe and beyond, taking form right before our eyes. Given the fact that in 2020 Croatia will take over the EU Presidency, we will aim to explore the ways our thinking and actions can become turning points that enable Europe to take a different course.

With this Call we invite scholars, activists, politicians, practitioners and researchers to join our Winter Seminar. We offer 12 places that will ensure

- An intellectually and politically exciting program, debates and networking;
- Free accommodation in two-bed rooms and meals included from the 8th (Fri) to the 10th (Sun);
- Free transport from Zagreb to Plitvice and back;
- Co-financed travel costs (70%) from European destinations to Zagreb and back (once all travel documentation is submitted to IPE);

Participation in seminar is open to participants from all EU countries, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of North Macedonia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Albania and Turkey. The call is open until **October 13th, Sunday, 23:59**. All applicants are asked to express their interest and send their CV (1 page) and motivation letter (1 page) that describes their interest and form of engagement in/with the topic to vedran@ipe.hr.

All successful applicants will be notified about the selection outcome by the 18th of October 2019 and asked to begin with preparations, which will include travel organisations and reading the proposed literature.