

PhD Colloquium of the
Leibniz Research Alliance on Energy Transitions

Leibniz Conference Energy Futures – Emerging Pathways in an Uncertain World?
PhD Colloquium | Wednesday, May 6th | Berlin Social Science Center WZB

Call for Participation:
Tackling the transition with a Green (New) Deal?
The impact of energy and climate research in times of large-scale policy measures.

The Leibniz Research Alliance on Energy Transitions regularly hosts doctoral colloquiums on specific topics relevant to energy transitions with one or more of its member institutes. The colloquium provides an opportunity for doctoral researchers to present their research questions, goals, designs and methods (and possibly also results), and discuss them with an interdisciplinary audience at an early point in their career. The colloquium is open for up to 15 participants from any academic discipline whose dissertation project relates to energy and climate policies and how it informs clean energy futures. We encourage applications from doctoral candidates at any stage of their PhD and from inter-/transdisciplinary research settings.

Application deadline: March 15th, 2020

Abstracts should not exceed 250 words, and include the title of your research project as well as a short summary of your central research questions/arguments and illustrate how your PhD project relates to contemporary energy policy (see below). The deadline for the submission of abstracts and a short CV is **March 15th, 2020**. Please send both documents to Leslie Quitzow (leslie.quitzow@wzb.eu) and Dženeta Hodžić (dzeneta.hodzic@wzb.eu). You will receive an invitation to the colloquium by April 10th, 2020.

All selected PhD students are obliged to attend the Leibniz Conference on “Energy Futures – Emerging Pathways in an Uncertain World”, which will be kicked off with a keynote and reception on the evening of Wednesday, May 6th. You can register for the conference [here](#). For the conference program and more information, please visit our website leibniz-energiewende.de.

Travel costs for accepted participants will be covered by the Leibniz Research Alliance on Energy Transitions within the limits of the Bundesreisekostengesetz.

Tackling the transition with a Green (New) Deal?
The impact of energy and climate research in times of large-scale policy measures.

On February 7th, 2019 the newly elected Representative to the US Congress Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Senator Edward Markey issued the Green New Deal Resolution, a massive package of policy proposals calling for a ten-year national mobilization to achieve net-zero GHG emissions, meet 100% of power demands through renewable energy, eliminate emissions from the transportation and the agriculture sector, upgrade infrastructure to be energy efficient and provide universal access to clean air and water (amongst other goals).

In December, 2019 the European Commission launched a similar policy package, the European Green Deal to become “the world’s first climate-neutral continent by 2050”¹. Echoing the objectives of the GND, it covers the policy areas of clean energy, sustainable industry, building and renovating,

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en

sustainable mobility, biodiversity and reducing GHG emissions as well as overall pollution. Thought of as an ambitious strategy and set of measures with the purpose to “enable European citizens and businesses to benefit from sustainable green transition”, it will have a substantial impact on local communities, urban infrastructures and society as a whole.

Your contribution should demonstrate how your PhD project relates to contemporary pressing energy policy such as the Green New Deal (GND) or the European Green Deal (EGD), *particularly pertaining to the social and societal impact of your research*. To this end, you can focus on economic implications, technical and/or socio-cultural questions related to energy generation and sustainability, political implications and legal implications for energy democracy/energy justice.

The first part of the PhD colloquium will be kicked off with a short input on the GND/END, after which the participants will get the chance to present their research projects and their relation to the GND/END. There will be no time for extended presentations; the focus will be on the discussion of recurring themes and insights in relation to the aforementioned policy measures and their implications. The second part of the colloquium will be led by Benjamin Sovacool (University of Sussex) on “Research design and codes of practice for maximizing the impact of energy and climate social science”. The colloquium will close with a joint lunch at the WZB.

Program

Wednesday, May 6th 2020
 Berlin Social Science Center WZB
 Reichpietschufer 50
 D-10785 Berlin

Room A310

9.00	Welcome & introductions
9.30 - 11.30	Part I: Green Deals and energy research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Input on the GND/EGD <i>by Dr. habil. Weert Canzler & Dipl.-Ing. Leslie Quitzow (both WZB)</i> - Short presentations about the relation of the PhD projects to the GND/EGD - Commentary/discussion <i>with Prof. Dr. Maarten Wolsink (University of Amsterdam)</i>
11.00 - 11.30	Coffee break
11.30 – 13.30	Part II: Workshop with Prof. Dr. Benjamin Sovacool (University of Sussex) “Research design and codes of practice for maximizing the impact of energy and climate social science” <i>Abstract:</i> Researchers today need to secure funding, collaborate, share data, publish results, commercialize research, and demonstrate impact. Early career researchers in particular are faced with multiple pressures around these challenges. This presentation will help scholars, especially early career researchers, gain an understanding of how to design their research more effectively, of the scholarly publishing process and how to improve your chances to get your work published, and how to get the most out of conferences. Using examples from the energy and climate social sciences field, it will bring attention

to the importance of clearly articulating research questions, objectives, and designs. It will provide a framework for conceptualizing novelty. It will suggest codes of practice to improve the quality and rigor of research. It will provide guidelines for improving the style and communication of results. It will lastly discuss what academic (and non-academic) impact are and propose ways to enhance it. In doing so, the presentation will give you first-hand insights into successful research methodologies, the editorial and review process and what journal editors look for, as well as advice on how to successfully network and plan conferences to develop your research career.