

ASG Commons and Commoning - Human Rights and Sustainability

The aim of this ASG is to generate new understandings and to expand research on commoning, understood as the social practices for the co-creation and maintenance of commons. Deeply rooted in the history of human communities, the commons is now recognized as being fundamental to historical human-environment relations, and is now viewed as a 'third option' beyond the market and state for restoring balance in how humans relate not only to all life on the planet, but also to one another. This ASG group seeks to integrate, consolidate and develop research on how commons and commoning relate to human rights and sustainability. Building on different ontological and methodological perspectives, the team integrates a diverse community of scholars to engage with commons-based solutions.

This ASG group gathers research expertise that spans much of the breadth of commons and commoning, including: political ecology, human geography, housing, fisheries, public space, health, agriculture, social anthropology, food sovereignty, indigenous land rights, ecosystem management, social welfare services, digital communications, and human rights law. This diverse team recognizes the need to engage with the "wicked problems" by adopting an extended understanding of transdisciplinarity suitable for the task of examining sustainability and human rights dimensions of commons and commoning. The seminars and workshops will strategically bring together researchers, activists, policymakers and practitioners to create a plan of action for an action research platform that enables knowledge exchange between our fields of study, as well as knowledge exchange with the non-academic community-at-large on commons and commoning.

Activities

13th of October – Open research seminar on "Research in a post-truth world" with professor Michael Hall, University of Canterbury, New Zealand

12 December – Open lecture on "The capitalist personality" with Dr. Christopher Swader, Department of Sociology, Lund University

22nd of February – Open lecture "Design Challenges for Human Rights Cities" with professor Martha F. Davis, Northeastern University School of Law, Boston

2nd of May – Open lectures on "Solidarity and the Struggles for Commons and Commoning in Buenos Aires, Argentina" with Gabriel Videla (geographer and founder of Colectivo Ecologico Unidos, Laguna Roche, and Dr. Paola Raffaelli (sociology)

8 May – Open lecture on "Politics of the Commons and the Welfare State" with Pierre Sauvêtre, associate professor of sociology at University of Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense

22 May – Open lecture "Intellectual Enclosures and the fight for the Commons" with Jens Stillhoff Sørensen, associate professor, School of Global Studies, Gothenburg University

Members

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