

*Fourth International Conference on Degrowth for  
Ecological Sustainability and Social Equity*

# Call for Papers

*2nd-6th September 2014, Leipzig*

*Bridging movements and research for the  
great transformation.*

The International Degrowth Conference has reached its fourth venue: since Paris 2008 the debate on how to turn away from a growth-oriented economy towards a more sustainable society has drawn world-wide attention. The fourth international conference will take place in a country that is considered as the European engine of economic growth. Different traditions of growth critique, such as the concept of a post-growth society stemming from the German-speaking com-

munity and the French and Southern European degrowth debate, are invited to a fruitful dialogue. The conference seeks to bring practitioners, artists, activists and scientists together and encompasses various formats for presentations, interaction, workshops, and exchange. This call for papers refers to the scientific track only, which aims at reflecting, substantiating, and developing further the scholarly work on degrowth.

## Conference structure

The scientific track will comprise the following formats:

- **Semi-plenaries** with eminent speakers and a scientific perspective on degrowth & post-growth
- **Short paper sessions** with presentations (20 min. each) and discussions of individual contributions
- **Core paper sessions** featuring longer presentations (25 min. each), prepared comments and longer discussions
- **Poster presentations** in the central hall of the conference venue
- **Special sessions** featuring presentations with a specific thematic focus or comprising further activities such as discussion workshops, reading sessions or the planning of a research network; prepared and submitted by an external session organizer



## Thematic threads and topics

The conference addresses three main thematic threads (see also [leipzig.degrowth.org/en/threads/](http://leipzig.degrowth.org/en/threads/)): **Organizing society**, **Building a**

**social and ecological economy**, **Living conviviality**. For the scientific track, contributions covering the following topics are invited:

<b>Organizing society</b> <i>Emancipatory politics, participation, institutions</i>	<b>Building a social and ecological economy</b> <i>(Re-)productivity, commons, society-nature relations</i>	<b>Living conviviality</b> <i>Buen vivir, creative commons, knowledge &amp; technology</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiple crises</li> <li>• Capitalism and economic growth</li> <li>• Conditions for degrowth</li> <li>• Societal organization and coordination beyond growth</li> <li>• Democracy beyond growth</li> <li>• Communal and regional organization</li> <li>• Infrastructure and public services</li> <li>• Transforming education</li> <li>• Public debt and taxation</li> <li>• Distribution and basic income</li> <li>• (Re)distribution, fairness and inclusion</li> <li>• Social movements, self-organized projects, new wave of protest</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (Eco)feminism and degrowth</li> <li>• Productivity and (re)productivity beyond growth</li> <li>• Planetary boundaries and environmental justice</li> <li>• Global South, BRIC and degrowth</li> <li>• Social metabolism and material flows</li> <li>• International trade and capital flows</li> <li>• Energy, housing, mobility</li> <li>• Monetary and financial systems</li> <li>• Scenarios and models of a post-growth economy</li> <li>• Agriculture and rural-urban relations</li> <li>• (De)commodification of nature</li> <li>• Work, labour, and socially meaningful activities beyond growth</li> <li>• Commons, solidarity, and gift economy</li> <li>• Forms and organization of businesses</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buen vivir and post-development</li> <li>• Cultural drivers of growth</li> <li>• (De)urbanization and (de)alienation</li> <li>• Convivial and experimental learning</li> <li>• Creative commons and open source</li> <li>• Spirituality, reconnection and relationality</li> <li>• Knowledge generation, research &amp; development, technology</li> <li>• Convivial technologies</li> <li>• Alternative welfare models: happiness, needs, and the good life</li> <li>• Cultural, anthropological, and ethical perspectives on degrowth</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>

The conference unfolds along three narrative steps, which offer a common perspective and a general framework respectively to each full day:

**Wednesday:** Facing the current crisis: critique & resistance.

**Thursday:** Building alliances.

**Friday:** Visions and strategies for transformation.

Scientific papers and discussions are required to build on the state of affairs and to develop further the current research on degrowth, post-growth and sustainability by addressing open challenges, implementing new research agendas and interlinking diversified approaches in a promising way.

## Submission procedure

Proposals for the presentation of individual papers and posters as well as for the organization of special sessions are welcome. Proposals should address one (or more) of the conference topics under the lens of one (or more) narrative steps.

- Core paper sessions require the submission of a full paper (approx. 3000-8000 words) and a short abstract (max. 150 words)
- Short paper sessions require the submission of a long abstract (max. 1200 words) and a short one (max. 150 words).
- Poster presentations require the submission of a long abstract (max. 1200 words) and a short one (max. 150 words).
- Special sessions with paper presentations can be proposed by submitting an abstract (max. 800 words) with the topic of the session and a list of speakers and presentation titles. Upon acceptance of the session, speakers on the speaker list will be required to submit long and short abstracts to undergo the review process.

- Special sessions comprising other formats require an abstract (max. 800 words) with information on structure, topic and objective of the session.

Scientists, practitioners, artists and activists are also invited to submit a short and generally comprehensible stirring paper. Your stirring paper will, if accepted, serve as an introductory paper for expert working groups of a so-called group assembly process ([leipzig.degrowth.org/en/gap/](http://leipzig.degrowth.org/en/gap/)). If you want to participate in this process, please submit a stirring paper of 1000 to 1500 words by February 28th, 2014.

**Extended deadline:** Proposals for special sessions have to be submitted until January 31st 2014, papers and abstracts until February 28th, 2014 ([leipzig.degrowth.org/en/submission-of-papers](http://leipzig.degrowth.org/en/submission-of-papers)). The review process will be concluded by the end of April.

**For further questions please contact:**  
[callforpapers@degrowth.de](mailto:callforpapers@degrowth.de)

### Call for Participation for practitioners and social movement activists

There will also be a Call for Participation (not to be confused with this Call for Papers!) aiming at interested organizations, initiatives and individuals. They are invited to contribute workshops and other theoretical or practical formats. You can find the Call for Participation here:

[leipzig.degrowth.org/en/call-for-participation](http://leipzig.degrowth.org/en/call-for-participation)

Organizers:

**konzeptwerk**   
**neue ökonomie**

 **Kolleg** | Postwachstums-  
gesellschaften

Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena

 FÖRDERVEREIN  
**WACHSTUMS  
WEIDE**

**UNIVERSITÄT LEIPZIG**

  
**Research  
& Degrowth**