

Press release

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Degrowth-Conference 2014: More than 600 contributions from all over the world

Leipzig – On 14 March the last submission period closed for contributions to the International Degrowth-Conference 2014 in Leipzig, Germany. After a first quick review it is clear that all expectations have been exceeded: more than 350 scientific papers were received from a broad range of disciplines such as economics, psychology, geography and urban planning. Further 260 proposals for practice-based activities were submitted by various civil-society organizations and initiatives. The majority of the contributions came from European countries, although there were also submissions from Japan, India, Mexico, Brazil and the United States.

Professor Tim Jackson, author of „Prosperity without Growth“, and member of the conference’s advisory board, sees the conference as an important step towards overcoming the growth paradigm: „I hope that this conference will help shape a positive vision of an equitable and sustainable post-growth society“. Nina Treu, programme coordinator of the conference, is pleased: “The high number of contributions shows the great interest in the topic. I am sure that now we can put together a conference programme with many superb presentations and activities.”

The *Fourth International Conference on Degrowth for Ecological Sustainability and Social Equity* will be held from 2 to 6 September at the University of Leipzig. The focus of the conference is on concrete steps towards a society beyond the imperative of economic growth. The conference will give room for scientific debates, exchange between activists and economic pioneers as well as artistic approaches to the subject. New scientific insights as well as concrete projects and policies will be presented, experimented with and discussed.

At the conference there will be seven keynote-speeches and more than 20 panel discussions. Around 250 activities will take place on the basis of the received submissions, in addition to an inspiring artistic programme. Confirmed speakers are among others Naomi Klein, Sunita Narain, Alberto Acosta, Esperanza Martinez, Harald Welzer, Joan Martinez-Alier and Angelika Zahrnt.

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