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*INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE*

# DEGROWTH AND THE POLITICS OF SPACE

## TOOLS FOR THOUGHT AND ACTION

## 21-23 OCTOBER 2026

## AMSTERDAM

## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION 1 DECEMBER

UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM

Design @sofiagreaves



# Degrowth and the Politics of Space
# Tools for Thought and Action

UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM

## Conference Programme, 21 - 23 October 2026

**Location:** [Plantage Dok](#) : Plantage Doklaan 8, 1018 CM Amsterdam

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## DAY 1: 21 October 2026

**08.45 - 09.15 Arrival and registration**

**09.15 - 09.45 Introduction by Organizers**

**09.45 - 11.15 Session 1: Space as a Living Organism (Tools for Thought)**

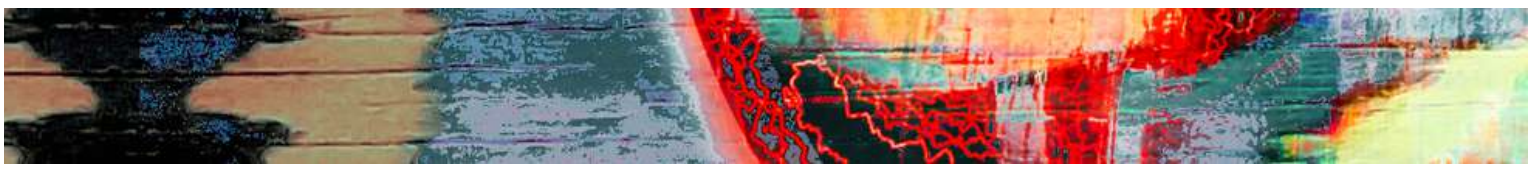
- **"After Metabolic Upscaling Degrowth, Urban Metabolism, and the Scale Question",** Nikos Katsikis (Technical University of Delft)
- **"Ports as Metabolic Catalyzers in the Spatial Politics of Degrowth",** Miguel Virizuela (University of the Basque Country)
- **"Bodies and Spatio-Somatic acts of Repair - Tools for Degrowth Spatial Politics",** Louis Alderson-Bythell (Royal College of Art)
- **"Habitability, Degrowth's Spatial Politics and Rewilding",** Nathalie Blanc & Maria Espín (CNRS)

**11.15 - 11.30 Break**

**11.30 - 13.00 Session 2: Spatial Policies, Spatial Democracy (Tools for Action)**

- **"Local Welfare Beyond Growth: Pluralising Social Provisioning through Democratic Spatiotemporal Infrastructures",** Angelina Kussy (Universitat Pompeu Fabra)
- **"Urban Heritage Conservation in China: Toward Post-Growth Planning?"** Mengci Xiao (University College London)
- **"Tools for Action: Degrowth Policy Uptake Framework",** Ananya Tiwari (Vrije University Amsterdam)
- **"Towards a Degrowth Mobility Paradigm",** Elias Isaksson (Umeå University) & Alexander Paulsson (Lund University)

**13.00 - 14.00 Lunch on location provided by [De Sering](#)**





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## DAY 1: 21 October 2026

### 14.00 - 15.30 Session 3: Spatial Methodologies for Degrowth (Tools for Thought)

- **“Counter-history: Methodologies for Understanding the Cultural Politics of Degrowth”,** Sofia Rafaella Greaves (OsloMet), Imogen Hamilton-Jones (London School of Economics and Political Science), Catarina Heeckt (LSE) and Elisa Schramm (University of Amsterdam)

- **"Studying Real-Existing Degrowth(s) (REDs): A Territorial Method for Studying Tentative Degrowth Dynamics in Actual Places”,**
  Angelos Varvarousis & RED Collective (Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona)

- **“Stabilizing Degrowth: Territorial Subjectivities”,** Johanna Waldenberger & Emma Jo Griffith (University of Amsterdam)
- **“Generating Systems Knowledge for Spatial Degrowth: Towards a Strategic Assemblage”,** Anna Pagani, (King’s College London)

- **“A Situated De-Growth Framework for Urban Densification in the Global South”,** Hector Steenbergen-Cockerton, (Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies) & Lucas Neesim Snaije (Institute for Housing & Urban Development Studies)

### 15.30 - 15.45 Break

### 15.45 - 17.15 Session 4: Beyond Center - Periphery Relations (Tools for Thought)

- **“Emancipatory Rural Degrowth Politics: Unleashing the Potential of Degrowth-akin Counter-hegemony from the Countryside”,** Donatella Gasparro (Scuola Normale Superiore, Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona)
- **“The Racial Politics of Space as Climate Obstruction”,** Burcu Yigit Turan, (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences)
- **“Left-behind Places: Toward Post-growth Spatial Policies?”** Max Rousseau (Université de Lyon/ENTPE) and Vincent Beal (Jean Monnet Saint-Etienne University)
- **“Urbicide and Degrowth: Possible Futures for Urbanity in the Arab World”,** Muhammad Alaraby (Future for Advanced Research and Studies)

### 17.30 Drinks, Restaurant Plancius: Plantage Kerklaan 61, 1018 CX Amsterdam



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## DAY 2: 22 October 2026

### 09.00 - 09.15 Arrival
### 09.15 - 10.45 Session 5: New Frames of Spatial Relations (Tools for Thought)

- **"Introducing Social-ecological Cycles for Postgrowth Planning: the Energetic Bases of Spatial Dynamics",** Silvio Cristiano (University of Florence) & Luigi Conte (Ca' Foscari University of Venice)
- **"Radical Vernacular: Degrowth, Dwelling, Domesticity, Diversity",** Mireille Roddier (University of Michigan)

- **"Beneath the Surface: Mycelial Infrastructures as Spatio-Temporal and Social Foundations for Degrowth",** Sarah Ware (Central European University), Hanna Völkle (EAF Berlin), Corinna Dengler (Vienna University of Economics and Business)

- **"Decolonising Spatial Politics through Relational Ontologies: Reimagining the Ethics of Degrowth",** Dodzi Koku Hattoh, (University of Ghana/University of Bonn)
- **"Open Foundational Regions as an Implicit Degrowth Agenda",** Bastian Lange (Humboldt University Berlin), Christian Schulz (University of Luxembourg), Martina Hülz (Academy for Territorial Development in the Leibniz Association)

### 10.45 - 11.00 Break
### 11.00 - 12.30 Session 6: Post-growth Planning (Tools for Thought)

- **"Deconstructing Pro-growth Ecological Representations in Urban Planning for a New Degrowth Imaginary",** Barbara Pizzo, (Sapienza Università di Roma), Valentina Vavalà (Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona)

- **"Planning, Land Rent and Financialization. Disentangling a Critical Nexus for Postgrowth Urban Development",** Laura Calbet Elias (University of Stuttgart)
- **"Sprawl Retrofit between Densification and Vegetable Gardening",** Eric Charmes (CNRS/University of Lyon)

- "**Detouristifying Space from the Lens of Degrowth Spatial Politics",** Filka Sekulova, (University of Barcelona), Macià Blázquez Salom (University of the Balearic Islands), Rob Fletcher (University of Wageningen) Ivan Murray (University of the Balearic Islands), Nora Müller (Trier University), Enrique Navarro Jurado (University of Malaga), Margalida Ramis, José María Romero (University of Granada) Yolanda Romero (Complutense University of Madrid)

*Session 6 continues overleaf*



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## DAY 2: 22 October 2026

### 11.00 - 12.30 Session 6: *continued*

- **"`Not do: Degrowth and Postgrowth Planning. Reflections on Reducing Urban Metabolism in Overdeveloped Territories",** José María Romero-Martínez (University of Granada), Yolanda Romero-Padilla (Complutense University of Madrid), Verónica Sanchez-Carrera (n'UNDO/n'Ot Global-Human-Environment), Alejandro Del-Castillo (n'Ot Global-Human-Environment)

### 12.30 - 13.30 Lunch on location provided by De Sering

### 13.30 - 15.00 Session 7: Land and Commons (Tools for Action)

- **"The Community Land Trust as Social Innovation and its Contribution to a egrowth Production of Space",** Francesca Bragaglia (Politecnico di Torino), Karl Krähmer (Università di Torino), Anna Pagani (King's College London)
- **"Land Reform as a Tool for Action in Degrowth: Lessons from Scotland",** Bita Vogler (University of Hamburg)
- **"From Inner-City Vacancy to Care Infrastructure: A Degrowth Perspective on Urban Transformation at M26",** Miriam Kreuzer (Academy of Fine Arts Vienna)
- "**Degrowth in Post-Capitalist Countrysides: Reflections from Experiences of Commoning Abandoned Lands and Challenging the Property Regime in Italy",** Emma Marzi (Scuola Normale Superiore)
- **"'Commons-Literacies' for Activating Degrowth Worlds: Lessons learned on Cultivating a New Vocabulary and Alternative Practice in the Context of Urban Agriculture in Amsterdam",** Tamalone van den Eijnden (University of Twente), Natasha Hulst (Schumacher Center for a New Economics)

### 15.00 - 16.30 Travel to Boterbloem farm, Lutkemeer Polder
Lutkemeerweg 262 B, 1067 TH Amsterdam

### 16.30 - 18.00 Guided Tours
### 18.00 - 19.00 Drinks on location provided by Boterbloem



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## DAY 3: 23 October 2026

**09.00 - 09.15 Arrival**
**09.15 - 10.45 Session 8: Institutions, Laws, Codes (Tools for Thought)**

- **"Thinking through Space Strategically: Municipalities as Entry Point for Post-growth Transformations",** Benedikt Schmid (University of Freiburg), Coline Chardon (University of Freiburg), Sarah Bretschko (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)

- **"Understanding Mobility as a Universal Basic Service as a Tool for Radical Transformation of the Tourism Sector",** Moritz Langer (Hochschule Rhine-Waal), Sebastian Amrhein (Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences)

- "**The Legal Production of Space: The Role of Law in Achieving Degrowth",** Inês Lameiras Azevedo (Iberian Centre for Research in Energy Storage/EUI)
- **"Entangling Degrowth: Towards a New Spatial Imagination for Degrowing Cities",** Nathan Marom (Sciences Po Paris)
- **"De-coding-with Autopoietic Urban Extractivism",** Chiara Centanaro (Università degli Studi di Genova)

**10.45 - 11.00 Break**
**11.00 - 12.30 Session 9: Spatial Imagination (Tools for Action)**

- **"Degrow Mapping - Iterative Production and Understanding of the Urban",** Andi Bruck (K LAB/ Technische Universität Berlin)
- **"Degrowth as Liberation of Non-Places: Making Space for Transformative Action towards Communal Co-living",** Eeva Houtbeckers (University of Eastern Finland), Fernando Racimo (University of Copenhagen)

- **"Imagining Otherwise: Arts-based Methods as Tools for Spatialising Degrowth",** Emilie Stecher (BOKU University), Filipa Reis (University of Applied Arts of Vienna, Vienna University of Economics and Business), Lukas Dörrie (University of Münster)

- **"Arts-based Research and the Exhibition as Tools for Thought and Action in Degrowth Spatial Politics",** Sofia Rafaella Greaves, (OsloMet)

**12.30 - 13.30 Lunch on location provided by De Sering**



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## DAY 3: 23 October 2026

**13.30 - 16.00 Collective Discussion on the Conference, Other Possible Projects**

**16.00 - 17.00 Travel to de Nieuwe Meent**
Archimedesplantsoen 110, 1098 KB Amsterdam

**17.00 - 18.00 Excursion**

**18.00 - 20.00 Drinks and food at Noon**
Archimedesplantsoen 110, 1098 KB Amsterdam

## Conference Organisers

Federico Savini, University of Amsterdam
Silvio Cristiano, University of Florence
Sofia Rafaella Greaves, OsloMet
Karl Krähmer, University of Turin
Filka Sekulova, University of Barcelona
Angelos Varvarousis, Autonomous University of Barcelona
Sarah Ware, Vienna University of Economics
Jin Xue, Norwegian University of Life Sciences

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