

Summer School Syllabus





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Focus

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide us with a shared vision of "what" we want for the future. However, "how" will we reach this vision? How can we improve global sustainability governance to deliver the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs? How can we be better prepared for future challenges? How should we go beyond the 2030 Agenda and what future reforms are necessary?

These are questions we aim to reflect upon during the Utrecht Summer School on "The Future of Sustainability Governance". The Summer School will take place on 26-30 August in Utrecht, the Netherlands. In the first three days, the Summer School will offer a combination of lectures, workshops and practical experience. On August 29 and 30, participants will take part in the international research conference GLOBALGOALS2024—*The Future of the SDGs*,

Format

The Utrecht Summer School, organized by the GLOBALGOALS Project based at Utrecht University, brings together a team of scholars dedicated to research, teaching and action in sustainability governance. It offers academic lectures, practical research skills and experiences with SDG implementation, building expertise on the state of play of the current sustainable development discussions.

It provides an environment conducive to knowledge sharing on challenging issues in global sustainability governance. In addition to being a learning space, it is an opportunity for network building in the context of the GLOBALGOALS2024 conference. Further, it enables participants to advance in their academic skills, including writing, presenting, reviewing, and publishing.

The following formats will be used during the Summer School:

1. Lectures & Dialogue

There are four Lecture & Dialogues with sustainability governance scholars. The focus of the sessions is on interaction and ample time for discussion will be provided.

2. World Café & Lightning Talks

There will be one World Café and various Lightning Talks during the Summer School. The World Café methodology uses an informal setting for participants to explore an issue by discussing it in small groups, during multiple rounds. The focus is on enabling an open conversation between the participants and senior scholars.

3. Writeshops

The writeshops focus on participants' own work. The aim of the writeshops is to take initial ideas forward into concrete projects and publications. We work in small groups of people whose work addresses similar themes, combining short exercises with intensive writing and peer review sessions. At the end of the Summer School, participants will have an improved piece of written work to take home.

4. Futures Thinking

Summer School participants will jointly prepare research contributions and provide recommendations for the future of sustainability governance, during "futures thinking" sessions. A representative will present these recommendations at GLOB-ALGOALS2024—The Future of the SDGs,

How to prepare

Writeshops

You are expected to share a short text (500-1500 words) you would like to work on with us. We will create groups of three and you will be asked to provide some feedback to one of your fellow participants.

Futures Thinking

Please bring an image (postcard size-A6) that represents your vision of the future of sustainability governance. This can be a printout, drawing, magazine cutout, etc. You should be prepared to explain why you brought this image and how it relates to your desired vision of sustainability governance.

Lectures & Dialogues

We would like the lectures to be very interactive, and therefore ask you to prepare 1 to 2 questions for every speaker. We have asked all lecturers to suggest one or two articles that they think capture their talk. You can find the reference for these recommended readings under their respective session. Download the PDFs: <u>https://drive.google.com/drive/fold-ers/1_j7q8E9WXXc8pOGFJbeKR75FBLKmyw-B?usp=sharing</u>

Organizing team

Dr. Guilherme de Queiroz Stein, Utrecht University, The Netherlands

Dr. Mara Wendebourg, Utrecht University, The Netherlands

Dr. Fronika de Wit, Utrecht University, The Netherlands

Dr. Yi hyun Kang, Lund University, Sweden

Michele Joie Prawiromaruto, Utrecht University, The Netherlands

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

	26-Aug	27-Aug	28-Aug
09:00 - 09:30	Registration	Welcome and coffee	Welcome and coffee
09:30 - 10:45	Introduction to the Summer School	Lecture & dialogue 3 (Dr. Marjanneke Vijge)	Lecture & dialogue 4 (Dr. Mara Wendebourg and Dr. Yi hyun Kang)
10:45 - 11:00	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break
11:00 - 12:00	Lecture & dialogue 1 (Prof. Frank Biermann)	Writeshop – Part B	Lightning Talks on the future of sustainability with senior scholars (Prof. Pamela Chasek, Prof. Dan Banik
12:00 - 13:00	Lecture & dialogue 2 – (Dr. Joost Vervoort)		& Margarita Gómez)
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
14:00 - 14:45		World Café on academic skills with senior scholars (Dr. Carole-Anne Senit, Dr. Thomas Hickmann & Dr. Rak Kim) Walk & Talk with senior scholars (Urios)	Lightning Talk on Youth Participation (Bine Liem)
14:45 – 15:30	- Writeshop – Part A		Futures Thinking – Part B (Dr. Fronika de Wit)
15:45 - 16:00	Coffee break	We gather at the Summer School venue for	Coffee break
16:00 - 17:00	Futures Thinking – Part A (Dr. Fronika de Wit)	coffee, closing and networking	Preparation of Statement for Final Plenary GLOBALGOALS2024
17:00 - 17:30	Closing and evaluation		Closing and evaluation

Introduction

Time: 9:30 - 10:45

Utrecht Summer School: Who, What, Why and How?

Mara Wendebourg, Postdoctoral Researcher, Utrecht University

Fronika de Wit, Postdoctoral Researcher, Utrecht University

This session introduces the Summer School goal and objectives. You will have time to get to know the other participants and discuss your expectations and learning objectives for the Summer School

Lecture & Dialogue 1

Time: 11:00-12:00

The Future of Sustainability Governance

Frank Biermann, Full Professor, Utrecht University

This session provides an introduction to the Summer School's general topic of the Future of Sustainability Governance and discusses the Earth System Governance network and the GLOBALGOALS project

Short speaker biography

Frank Biermann is the co-chair of the GLOBALGOALS2024 conference. He is a Professor of Global Sustainability Governance at Utrecht University, The Netherlands, where he directs the GLOBALGOALS Project, a &2.5 million research programme on the Sustainable Development Goals, funded by a European Research Council Advanced Grant. Previously, he was the founding chair of the Earth System Governance Project, a global research network. Biermann has authored or edited 20 books and published over 200 articles and book chapters on global governance and sustainability. He edits the Earth System Governance journal and two book series with MIT Press and Cambridge University Press. Biermann has

received numerous awards, including the 2021 Distinguished Scholar Award in Environmental Studies of the International Studies Association.

Recommended reading:

- Biermann, F., Hickmann, T., Sénit, CA. *et al.* (2022) Scientific evidence on the political impact of the Sustainable Development Goals. *Nat Sustain* **5**, 795–800. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41893-022-00909-5
- Biermann, F. (2020). The future of 'environmental' policy in the Anthropocene: time for a paradigm shift. *Environmental Politics*, 30(1–2), 61–80. https://doi.org/10.1080/09644016.2020.1846958
- Biermann, F. et al. (2023) Four governance reforms to strengthen the SDGs. *Science* 381,1159-1160. <u>https://doi.org/10.1126/science.adj5434</u>

Lecture & Dialogue 2

Time: 12:00-13:00

Imagination and Scientific Writing for Sustainability

Joost Vervoort, Associate Professor, Utrecht University

What is the role of imagination in sustainability governance? How can using imagination help us in academic writing to enhance greater social impact? This lecture will look into the possibilities of applying the technique of imagination to improve your writing skills.

Short speaker biography

Joost Vervoort is Associate Professor of Transformative Imagination in the Environmental Governance Group at the Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development; an Honorary Research Associate at the Environmental Change Institute, University of Oxford; and a Visiting Fellow at the Research Institute for Humanity and Nature in Kyoto, Japan. Joost's research focuses on how different imaginations of the future connect to action in the present. Seeking to break through the limits of current ways of working with the future, Joost is currently focusing on two connected research interests: 1. Using games and creative practices to help create more imaginative societies for better futures; and 2. The politics of foresight.

Recommended reading:

 Vervoort, J. M., et al. (2024). 9 Dimensions for evaluating how art and creative practice stimulate societal transformations. *Ecology and Society* 29(1):29. <u>https://doi.org/10.5751/</u> <u>ES-14739-290129</u>

Writeshop – Part A

Time: 14:00-15:45

Mara Wendebourg, Postdoctoral Researcher, Utrecht University Fronika de Wit, Postdoctoral Researcher, Utrecht University Yi hyun Kang, Postdoctoral Researcher, Lund University

The focus of this first writeshop is on improving your academic writing. It starts with a discussion in your assigned smaller groups, where you will provide feedback to the short text of the person you were assigned to. After this, you will have ample time to write and improve your work with the comments received. This session ends with a plenary discussion on tips and tricks to improve your academic writing.

Futures thinking workshop - Part A

Time: 16:00-17:00

Envisioning Sustainability Governance post-2030

Fronika de Wit, Postdoctoral Researcher, Utrecht University

This Futures Thinking workshop is focused on visioning, a foresight method that attempts to create feasible and desirable future scenarios in which current problems are solved. Visioning answers the question WHAT... What is my/our desired future for sustainability governance? What does it look like? You are expected to bring an image (postcard size) of their desired future. The session starts with a group discussion on the images. The output of the session is a collectively created vision board with images and keywords, representing the group's desired future for sustainability governance.

Short speaker biography

Fronika de Wit is a postdoctoral researcher at the Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development at Utrecht University, The Netherlands, conducting research on (global) sustainability governance and the future of the SDGs. She has vast experience working on the

science-policy-society interface in various countries, which have provided her with a transdisciplinary and intercultural perspective on sustainability governance. Amongst others, she worked at the Portuguese Centre of Government, coordinating Science for Policy projects and working with participatory futures thinking. She holds a PhD in climate change and sustainable development policies from the University of Lisbon, Portugal. In 2023, she was awarded the Oran R. Young Prize, which rewards cutting-edge research on earth system governance by early-career scholars.

Lecture & Dialogue 3

Time: 9:30-10:45

Barriers and Opportunities for Transdisciplinarity of Sustainability Governance and Research

Marjanneke Vijge, Associate Professor, Utrecht University

How can transdisciplinarity improve sustainability governance and research? What should be taken into account? This lecture and dialogue provide best practices and lessons learned for transdisciplinary collaborations in governing sustainability challenges.

Short speaker biography

Marjanneke J. Vijge is Associate Professor at the Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development, Utrecht University. Her work focuses on multilevel governance of trade-offs between sustainability goals and social justice in Africa, Asia and Europe. She has expertise in policy coherence around the Sustainable Development Goals and climate goals, among others in the fields of climate and food security. At Utrecht University, Marjanneke is Academic Director of CHARM-EU and Programme Leader of the joint European Master's programme 'Global Challenges for Sustainability' that she helped develop. CHARM-EU is a European Universities Initiative funded by the European Commission. CHARM-EU serves as a testbed for innovations in challenge-based and transdisciplinary education and research around sustainability.

Recommended reading:

- Vijge, M. J., Metcalfe, R., Wallbott, L., & Oberlack, C. (2019). Transforming institutional quality in resource curse contexts: The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative in Myanmar. *Resources Policy*, *61*, 200–209. <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/j.resourpol.2019.02.006</u>
- Vijge, M. J. (2018). The (Dis)empowering Effects of Transparency Beyond Information Disclosure: The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative in Myanmar. *Global Environmental Politics*, *18*(1), 13–32. <u>https://doi.org/10.1162/GLEP_a_00442</u>

Writeshop - Part B

Time: 11:00-13:00

Mara Wendebourg, Postdoctoral Researcher, Utrecht University Fronika de Wit, Postdoctoral Researcher, Utrecht University Yi hyun Kang, Postdoctoral Researcher, Lund University

Part B of the writeshops is on setting writing and publication intentions. In smaller groups you will discuss publication strategies and share your experiences. Afterwards, you will further work on your texts to apply the lessons learned from the discussions.

World Café – Academic skills

Time: 14:00 - 15:30

Carole-Anne Sénit, Assistant Professor, Utrecht University Thomas Hickman, Associate Professor, Lund University Rakhyun Kim, Associate Professor, Utrecht University

During this World Café, senior scholars share their general advice on academic skills in the field of global sustainability governance and things they wish they had known earlier in their career. The World Café starts with short introductions by the speakers, followed by three rounds of interactive discussions on: 1. Academic writing and publishing; 2. Project design and funding and 3. Communication and Engagement. Group moderators will write down up to three take-aways from every round.

Short speaker biographies

Carole-Anne Sénit is Assistant Professor of Inclusive Sustainability Governance with the Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development at Utrecht University, The Netherlands. She is a political scientist by training, with a career spanning both research on and practice in the civil society sector. Her research explores the integration of the Global South within global change science, global civil society, and global institutions. She is a senior research fellow of the Earth System Governance Project, co-convenor of the Project's taskforce on the Sustainable Development Goals and managing editor of the Earth System Governance journal.

Thomas Hickmann is an Associate Professor at the Department of Political Science of Lund University in Sweden. His research is concerned with the question of how societies can adequately deal with global common goods and which institutions need to be in place to overcome problems such as biodiversity loss, climate change and land degradation. Hickmann has published in prestigious academic journals including Ambio, International Studies Review and Nature Sustainability. His most recent co-edited book published with Cambridge University Press brought together 61 experts from all over the world to assess the political impact of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Rakhyun (Rak) Kim is Associate Professor of Earth System Governance at the Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development at Utrecht University in the Netherlands. He directs a five-year research project on 'problem shifting' between international environmental treaties, supported by a Starting Grant from the European Research Council. He is an interdisciplinary social scientist at the intersection of global environmental governance and international environmental law and works on theories of Earth system-oriented, postglobal, planetary law and governance. Analytically, his research interests include exploring the complexity and dynamics of institutional architectures, with a focus on international regimes, agreements, and organizations as key building blocks. He has authored more than 80 publications in journals and books.

Recommended reading:

- Sénit, C. A. (2020). Leaving no one behind? The influence of civil society participation on the Sustainable Development Goals. *Environment and Planning C: Politics and Space*, 38(4), 693-712. https://doi.org/10.1177/2399654419884330
- Sénit, C.-A., et al. (2022). Inclusiveness. In C.-A. Sénit, F. Biermann, & T. Hickmann (Eds.), *The Political Impact of the Sustainable Development Goals: Transforming Governance Through Global Goals?* (pp. 116-139). Cambridge University Press. <u>https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009082945.006</u>
- Kim, R.E. (2022). Taming Gaia 2.0: Earth System Law in the Ruptured Anthropocene. *The Anthropocene Review*, 9: 411-424. <u>https://doi.org/10.1177/20530196211026721</u>
- Hickmann, T. et al. (2024). "Scoping article: research frontiers on the governance of the Sustainable Development Goals." *Global Sustainability* 7: e7. https://doi.org/10.1017/sus.2024.4
- Bexell, M., Hickmann, T. and A. Schapper. (2023). "Strengthening the Sustainable Development Goals through integration with human rights." *International Environmental Agreements: Politics, Law and Economics* 23.2: 133-139. <u>https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10784-023-09605-x</u>

Walk & Talk Sustainability governance

Time: 15:30-16:30

Urios, the Utrecht study association for International and European law, will take you on a tour through Utrecht, in which we will explore the city's rich history and vibrant culture. During the walk and sightseeing, you can continue your conversation with the senior seniors or with your fellow participants.

Lecture & Dialogue 4

Time: 9:30-10:45

Participation in global sustainability governance

Mara Wendebourg, Postdoctoral Researcher, Utrecht University

Yi hyun Kang, Postdoctoral Researcher, Lund University

Who participates in global sustainability governance and how? This lecture and dialogue will critically examine the way Major Groups and Other Stakeholders were involved in the development and implementation of Agenda 2030. In this lecture and dialogue, we will look back at the creation of the Major Groups and Other Stakeholders, review how they contribute to sustainability governance, and discuss their challenges with a case study on youth participation.

Short speaker biographies

Mara Wendebourg is a postdoctoral researcher at the Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development at Utrecht University. For her PhD at King's College London, Mara examined the role of scientific advisory bodies in law-making through the study of norm diffusion. During her doctoral research, Mara also volunteered at the Advisory Committee on the Protection of the Sea, following meetings of the Marine Environmental Protection Committee of the International Maritime Organization. Prior to that, Mara was a trainee at the European Commission and interned at the International Seabed Authority. She holds an LLM in Public International Law from Utrecht University and an MSc in Marine Systems and Policies at the University of Edinburgh.

Yi hyun Kang is a postdoctoral researcher at the Department of Political Science at Lund University, Sweden. Her research explores the governance, network and discursive aspects of climate, biodiversity and sustainable development politics at the global level, with a special focus on the role of civil society and technology. Previously, she was a postdoctoral researcher at UCLouvain Saint-Louis Bruxelles, carrying out a project on youth participation in global environmental politics. She received her PhD from the Technical University of Munich with her dissertation on climate change adaptation policies of South Korea and Germany.

Recommended reading:

• Orsini, A. & Kang, Y. H. (2023). European Leadership and European Youth in the Climate Change Regime Complex. *Politics and Governance*, *11*(2), 84–96. https://doi.org/10.17645/pag.v11i2.6500

Lightning Talks on sustainability governance

Time: 11:00-13:00

Pamela Chasek, Manhattan College, United States of America

Dan Banik, University of Oslo, Norway

Margarita Gómez, Southern Voice

Senior scholars in the field of sustainability governance provide 10-minute lightning talks with up to three changes that are needed for improved sustainability governance. After the lightning talks, you will discuss the barriers and opportunities of the presented key-propositions with the senior scholars.

Short speaker biographies

Pamela Chasek is a Professor of Political Science at Manhattan College, United States, and the co-founder and executive editor of the Earth Negotiations Bulletin, a reporting service on UN environment and development negotiations. She has written about and followed UN environment and sustainable development negotiations for over 32 years. Chasek is the author and editor of numerous articles and books, including Transforming Multilateral Diplomacy: The Inside Story of the Sustainable Development Goals, Earth Negotiations, and Global Environmental Politics. She has served as a consultant to the UNCCD, the UN Environment Management Group, UNEP, UNDP, UN Forum on Forests, and the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

Dan Banik is Professor of Political Science, Director of the Oslo SDG Initiative at the Centre for Development and the Environment, and Affiliate Professor at Faculty of Medicine, University of Oslo, Norway. He is also Academic Director of the Democracy Hub at Circle U. European University Alliance and Extraordinary Professor at the University of Pretoria. His books include Political Transition, Poverty, and Inclusive Development in Malawi: The Democratic Dividend; Poverty and Elusive Development; and Starvation and India's Democracy. Banik was a Visiting Professor at China Agricultural University (2012-2017). He is the host of the In Pursuit of Development podcast with listeners in 160 countries.

Margarita Gómez is the Executive Director of Southern Voice, a network of 70 thinktanks from Africa, Latin America and Caribbean, and Asia. Previously, Gómez founded and led two policy-impact innovation centres, the People in Government Lab at the Blavatnik School of Government at Oxford University, United Kingdom, and the Behavioural Unit at

CIDE in Mexico. She was also an advisor to Mexico's Public Security and Defence Ministers. Gómez has more than 15 years of experience working with governments, international organizations and world-class universities, delivering context and policy-relevant research. Her research focuses on financial and gender inclusion, integrity and ethics in governments, public security, and public sector transformation. She is a Visiting Fellow at the Blavatnik School of Government at Oxford, a Senior Research Fellow at the Public Management and Innovation Lab, and a Behavioural Advisor at the Asian Development Bank.

Recommended reading:

Pamela Chasek:

• Chasek, P. S., & Wagner, L. M. (2016). Breaking the mold: A new type of multilateral sustainable development negotiation. *International Environmental Agreements: Politics, Law and Economics*, *16* (3), 397–413. <u>https://doi.org/10.1007/s10784-016-9320-2</u>

Dan Banik:

• Banik, D (2022). Democracy and Sustainable Development. *Anthropocene Science*, 1(2), 233-245. <u>https://doi.org/10.1007/s44177-022-00019-z</u>

Margarita Gómez:

- Coy, P. (2024, April 15). To Fight Climate Change, We Need New 'Political Technologies'. *The New York Times*. https://www.nytimes.com/2024/04/15/opinion/climate-change-longproblems.html
- Gómez, M., Abubakar, Z., Mamoun, T., Costa, J., Lopes, L., Taylor, P. Waisbich, L., Rahman, M. & Onyekwena, C. (2024). Shifting norms, multiplying actors, and empowering voices from the Global South: the G20's role in shaping the emerging landscape of international development cooperation. TF 6.4 New Norms and Metrics for International Development Cooperation and Confronting Global Challenges. T20 Brazil2024.
- Mazzucato, M. (2024, August 5). Collective Intelligence and the Common Good. *Project Syndicate*. https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/collective-intelligence-calls-for-sharing-rewards-from-innovation-for-the-common-good-by-mariana-mazzucato-2024-08

Time: 14:00-14:45

Youth Participation in Global Sustainability Governance

Bine Liem, UN Youth Representative, the Netherlands

Bine Liem is one of the eight Dutch UN Youth Representatives. In this volunteer position for a term of two years, she works on the topic of Biodiversity and Food at the Dutch National Youth Council (NJR). During this session she will tell her story and share her experience. There will be ample time to discuss the do's and don't of youth participation in (global) sustainability governance.

Futures thinking workshop - Part B

Time: 14:45-15:45

Fronika de Wit, Postdoctoral Researcher, Utrecht University

During this session, you will go back to the collaboratively created vision for improved sustainability on day 1. In smaller groups, you will use a technique called backcasting, which makes you look back from the desired vision, identifying and assessing changes and actions for that future to come true. Backcasting answers the question HOW... How can I achieve my/our envisioned future?

Summer School Statement

Time: 16:00-17:00

Mara Wendebourg, Postdoctoral Researcher, Utrecht University

Fronika de Wit, Postdoctoral Researcher, Utrecht University

You will prepare a short statement with key-actions for the future of sustainability governance. You will elect a group's representative that will present the statement during the GLOBALGOALS2024 final plenary session on 30 August.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Summer School Venue



The Summer School will take place at the Faculty of Law, Economics and Governance of Utrecht University in its main building at Janskerkhof 3, in the historic city centre of Utrecht. The closest bus stop is 'Janskerkhof', which is serviced by several bus lines.

Utrecht

Utrecht is a very lively student-city. We have compiled a list of nice cafes, restaurants and places to visit during your stay.

Link to list of places in Utrecht: <u>https://drive.google.com/file/d/18wxl4BH-YUys-Jcsezv8vahhk8t9WzRO/view?usp=sharing</u>

Transportation

Bicycle

If you cannot walk from your hotel to the conference venue, the easiest, most common and eco-friendly way of getting around in Utrecht is by bike. You can rent a bike for €8.- per day at Willemstraatbike (Willemstraat 22) or for €18.- per day at Black Bikes (Vredenburg 29). See also: <u>Bike rental in Utrecht</u>.

Public Transport

For visitors to the Netherlands, OVpay is the best way to check in and out when travelling by public transport. One only needs a debit or credit card to easily travel throughout the country by train, tram, bus or metro. OVpay offers a direct connection between your ride and your bank account. It works just like cashless payments in the supermarket, with the difference that you also have to check out to calculate the fare. With the OVpay app you can monitor whether you have checked in during the trip and you can check your travel history. If you are visiting the conference, this

is the cheapest and most practical solution because you do not need a separate card and are not tied to an OV-chipkaart (€7,50). It is not possible to buy tickets using cash on the buses, you can only buy a ticket using a debit card or a credit card. A single run ticket is €3,10. Alternatively, single tickets can be bought with cash and any card at Utrecht Central Station, at the automatic vending machines or at the 'OV Service and Tickets' desk.

Travel to Utrecht

We encourage participants to travel to Utrecht by train. Utrecht Central Station serves as a key railway junction in the Netherlands, offering frequent high-speed train connections to numerous European capitals, with some routes passing through Amsterdam Central Station.

For those traveling from further afield, Schiphol Airport in Amsterdam is the closest international airport. Direct train services are available from Schiphol Airport to Utrecht Central Station,

Sustainability

Both the GLOBALGOALS2024 conference and its Summer School are fully vegetarian and plastic-free. We encourage all participants to bring their own coffee cup and water bottle.