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Energy transitions 3: Gender and energy: opportunities and challenges for equal participation in the European energy transition

Warning: there are 3 different Energy Transitions courses this semester.

Mind the schedule incompatibilities and attendance rules if you wish to take more than one.

Course plan

Compact course/Blockseminar: Fridays 10-17

	Date	Room	Content
Introduction	05.05.20 14-15h	BBB / Back-up zoom	Formalities, overview
LV1	08.05.20 12-16h (+3h autonomous)	BBB / Back-up zoom	Common session with ET2 and Prof. Lowitzsch: Common basis and introduction of respective specific topics
LV2	22.05.20 10-14h (+3h autonomous)	BBB / Back-up zoom	Common session with ET2 and Prof. Lowitzsch: Data sets, behavioural aspects, eöpir
LV3	03.07.20 10-14h (+3h autonomous)	BBB / Back-up zoom	Gender and energy
LV4	17.07.20 10-14h (+3h autonomous)	BBB / Back-up zoom	Students present articles
LV5	24.07.20 10-14h (+3h autonomous)	BBB / Back-up zoom	Conclusion and oral presentations of term paper

Seminar description

The nexus of gender and energy is a topic that is of increasing interest to the scientific and policy making communities as well civil society organizations. Until recently energy systems were commonly understood to be neutral towards users, but upon closer look a gender bias is very much present. The relevance of integrating the perspectives and needs of diverse actors in the design of future energy system is highlighted by recent EU legislation. In the next years EU member states need to transpose into national law EU energy regulation which outlines an active role for citizens (as prosumers) in future energy systems, both as individual consumers as well as organized in so-called renewable energy communities (RECs).

Energy justice is argued to be key for a successful transition to sustainable energy systems. Closely connected to energy justice demands is the persisting phenomenon of energy poverty. Advocacy groups link energy justice to community ownership and local control of energy systems. Yet research shows that low-income households and women are the (sometimes overlapping) underrepresented groups in local and community energy projects. These groups are also found to be disproportionately affected by energy poverty. This course from an interdisciplinary perspective explores how gender (in)equality relates to energy systems. Students will also be asked to reflect on the question: "What would a gender just energy system look like?"

The course covers consumer co-ownership of (energy) utilities and accessible business models for RECs as concepts that could facilitate more equal participation. Experiences of the Kelso Professorship with the H2020 project SCORE will be reported. This project facilitates consumer co-ownership of renewable energy installations especially by low-income households and women. Other renewable energy initiatives marked by an inclusive policy will also be discussed with the possibility of a visit to an REC in Berlin (tbc).

Topics to be discussed include the concept of distributive justice, unconscious bias, energy justice, energy poverty, gender mainstreaming, feminism, intersectionality, and gender (in)equality.

Literature

- Anfinssen, M., Heidenreich, S., (2017). Energy & gender-a social sciences and humanities cross-cutting theme report. (Technical report). Cambridge: SHAPE ENERGY.
- Clancy, J. S., & Feenstra, M. H. (2019). Women, Gender Equality and the Energy Transition in the EU. European Parliament - Policy Department for Citizen's Rights and Constitutional Affairs
- Crenshaw, K. (1990). Mapping the margins: Intersectionality, identity politics, and violence against women of color. *Stan. L. Rev.*, 43, 1241
- European Institute for Gender Equality, (2016). EIGE's methods and tools. Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.
- European Institute for Gender Equality, (2017). Gender and Energy. Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.
- Ferguson, L. (2013). Gender, work, and the sexual division of labor. In *The Oxford Handbook of Gender and Politics*, 337.
- Fraune, C. (2015). Gender matters: Women, renewable energy, and citizen participation in Germany. *Energy Research & Social Science*, 7, 55–65.
- IRENA. (2019). Renewable Energy: A Gender Perspective. Abu Dhabi: IRENA. <https://www.irena.org/publications/2019/Jan/Renewable-Energy-A-Gender-Perspective>
- Łapniewska, Z. (2019). Energy, equality and sustainability? European electricity cooperatives from a gender perspective. *Energy Research & Social Science*, 57, 101247. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2019.101247>
- Lowitzsch, J. (2019) Energy transition: financing consumer co-ownership in renewables. Palgrave Macmillan:
 - Jenkins K. Energy Justice, Energy Democracy, and Sustainability: Normative Approaches to the Consumer Ownership of Renewables, pp. 79-97
 - Lowitzsch J. Introduction: the challenge of achieving the energy transition, pp. 1-26
 - Lowitzsch J. The CSOP-Financing Technique: Origins, Legal Concept and Implementation, pp 163-183
- Hawkesworth, M., 2013. Sex, gender, and sexuality: From naturalized presumption to analytical categories. In *The Oxford Handbook of Gender and Politics*
- Okin, S.M., (1989). *Justice, gender, and the family* (Vol. 171). New York: Basic books.
 - Introduction: Justice and Gender. Pp. 1-24
- Sovacool, B. K., Burke, M., Baker, L., Kotikalapudi, C. K., & Wlokas, H. (2017). New frontiers and conceptual frameworks for energy justice. *Energy Policy*, 105, 677–691.
- Standal, K., Winther, T., Danielsen, K., (2018). Energy politics and gender. In *The Oxford Handbook of Energy Politics*. Oxford University Press, pp. 3–23.
- Davis, K., Evans, M. and Lorber, J. eds., (2006). *Handbook of gender and women's studies*. Sage.
 - Lorber, J. A World without Gender? pp. 469-474

Websites:

- European Commission's Gender Equality Policies: https://ec.europa.eu/info/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/gender-equality_en
- EU Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2020%3A152%3AFIN>
- European Institute for Gender Equality on Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Policy: <https://eige.europa.eu/gender-mainstreaming/policy-areas/energy>
- Gender Statistics: <https://eige.europa.eu/gender-statistics/dgs/browse/bpfa>
- European Union's Energy Strategy: https://ec.europa.eu/energy/topics/energy-strategy-and-energy-union_en

- Fact Sheets on the European Union: Renewable Energy: <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/factsheets/en/sheet/70/renewable-energy>
- European Commission on Renewable Energy: https://ec.europa.eu/energy/topics/renewable-energy_en

Formalities

Study programs

MES modules: ZB Wirtschaft, WPM 6 // IBA modules: S-Module ; Faculty of Law: Master of German and Polish Law (Module 3); SPB 5 (European Law) (without ECTS)

Performance test and credits

- 5 and 6 ECTS: regular attendance; oral presentation; term paper around 15 pages

Deadlines

Paper submission

Upload final presentation of term paper topic → 22 July 23:59

Finalised term paper by the end of the semester → SoSe 2020: 30/09/2020

Registration

By 03.05.2020 at kelso-professorship@europa-uni.de including matriculation number and the exact title of the course