

2nd JPI Climate Scoping Forum Symposium 9/10 December 2020

## *Providing Knowledge for a climate neutral and resilient Europe*

### Session B - Scoping new Horizons – Quest for New Social Science

In light of the transformations taking place globally due to COVID-19, interlinkages between climate change, the SDGs and human wellbeing in general become more and more evident. Business as usual has been interrupted due to unexpected circumstances, and this opens a window of opportunity to investigate options of how societal transformation should take place. Transformation will take place; the question is if we are able to steer this transformation in a climate friendly direction, taking conscious decisions and supporting governments globally in their efforts to tackle climate change.

The JPI Climate Action Group on “Enabling Societal Transformation” has achieved three milestones over the last couple of years: (1) The JPI Climate [White Paper](#) on Enabling Societal Transformation” (2) the development of the [SOLSTICE Call](#) and (3) the recent submission of the COST Action SHiFT (Social Sciences and Humanities for Transformation and Climate Resilience).

These major activities are now accomplished, and currently we are facing not only climate change, but also the impacts of COVID-19, which challenge the established societal models in new ways and shed light on structural pitfalls. A “Green Recovery” is the official strategy, but what does this really mean for the societal dynamics in the context of climate change?

JPI Climate invites you to go on a quest to discuss these challenges and their consequences on the mission of social sciences in climate change research. The upcoming European Framework Program Horizon Europe is underway, and we want to see how we can create potential synergies and contribute to more knowledge on societal dynamics in the current situation.

In order to look forward, we will undertake a retrospective analysis: The White Paper and some of the projects selected for funding under the recent SOLSTICE Call will serve as a basis for discussion.

**From a 2020 perspective, what has changed? What aspects do we need to address differently? What emerging topics will be relevant in the future?**

*Chair:* Elisabeth Worliczek, Co-Lead JPI Climate Action Group “Enabling Societal Transformation”

*Opening:*

**Sebastian Helgenberger**, Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies, Vice-Chair of the SOLSTICE Scientific Expert Committee

*Participating SOLSTICE projects:*

**Lindsey McEwen**, University of the West of England, Bristol, project *CCC-CATAPULT* (Challenging the Climate Crisis: Children’s Agency to Tackle Policy Underpinned by Learning for Transformation)

**Gudrun Lettmayer**, JOANNEUM RESEARCH, project *CLEAN cultures* (An approach for innovative Climate Learning, Evaluation and Action in Neighbourhoods)