



KA220 ERASMUS PROJECT

AesThiCO

**SECOND SEMINAR IN CIRCULAR ECONOMY OF DESIGN AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS THROUGH THE PRISM OF SOCIAL
SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES**

15 March 2023

11-16 EET

Mode: Hybrid

On site: The Conference hall of Library and Information Center; Technical University of Sofia

Online: <https://meet.google.com/utq-oavv-ivu>

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- **Project Result 2 (PR2)** is one of the designated research outcomes of the Erasmus K220 Aesthico project, which is currently under development at ECT Lab +, one of the research institutes of the EUT + alliance. A transdisciplinary and collaborative structure, ECT Lab + investigates the nature and function of technology from a European perspective.
- **PR2 proposes that an Aesthetics of Care (AoC)** is necessary to inculcate the principles of circular economy and contributory economy in technological education. AoC is understood as a praxis that offers new ways of understanding and addressing the familiar wicked problems of climate crisis as they impact on all aspects of everyday life.
- **PR2 will concretise the understanding of an AoC**, as it relates to technological education, in transdisciplinary scenarios that can be transferred into higher-education curricula.
- **This is the first of a series of transdisciplinary public seminars** that aim to expand understanding of the circular and contributory economies from a range of disciplinary perspectives, including engineering, design, philosophy, sociology, economics and critical making, among others.

| TIME | SPEAKER |
|--------------|---|
| 11.00-11.30 | <i>Santiago Perez</i> (UTT) |
| 11.30- 12.00 | <i>Dominik Duber</i> -"Beyond participation - the gap between acceptance and acceptability on the way to a sustainable future" |
| 12.00-12.30 | <i>Tatiana Hubenova</i> -"Social well-being and the social cohesion policy in the context of Bulgaria's integration to the EU" |
| 12.30-13.00 | <i>Jessica Clement</i> - "Conceptualizing Justice in Circular Economy Transitions" |
| 13.00-13.30 | <i>Rení Pantcheva</i> - 'ReTray: Smart system for separate collection of cigarette butts' |
| 13.30-14.00 | <i>Samantha Curle</i> - Higher education medium of instruction and career prospects: an exploration of current and graduate Chinese students' perceptions |
| 14.00-14.30 | <i>Marinos Koutsomichalis</i> – "Aesthetics of Care" |
| 14.30-? | Discussion |



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"**Santiago** is a Colombian researcher, based in France working on Political Industrial Ecology. Since the beginning of his professional life he has focused on interdisciplinary subjects of research. Santiago has a BA in Anthropology, a BSc in Environmental Engineering and a MSc in Sustainable Urban Management. He has presented his research and thoughts in conferences in 5 continents (not yet Africa and Antarctica). Today he is the president of the non-profit research association AScUS (Actionable Science for Urban Sustainability), also he is a member of the International Sustainable Development Research Society and the International Society for Industrial Ecology. Santiago is currently working on 3 Erasmus+ projects on subjects regarding ethics, aesthetics, ecology, sustainability and LowTech.

He also likes to think he brings some of that Colombian magical realism with him wherever he goes."

"Social well-being and the social cohesion policy in the context of Bulgaria's integration to the EU"



Tatiana Hubenova is a professor at the Economic Research Institute at the Bulgarian Academy of Science.



“Beyond participation - the gap between acceptance and acceptability on the way to a sustainable future”

Dominik Düber is a Professor of Sustainable Transformation (with an emphasis on the public sector) at Darmstadt University of Applied Sciences since January 2023. Before starting in Darmstadt, he has been working in the public administration at different local governments in Germany. Most recently, he was the department head for environment and climate at the city of Rüsselsheim. During his time as a postdoctoral researcher, Dominik conducted various projects on the German and international energy transition, focussing on issues of energy justice and acceptability of transition projects.



Higher education medium of instruction and career prospects: an exploration of current and graduate Chinese students' perceptions

Samantha Curle (DPhil, FRSA, FHEA)

Department of Education, University of Bath, Bath, United Kingdom

Dr. Samantha Curle (DPhil, FHEA, FRSA) is a Reader in Education (Applied Linguistics), Director of the MRes programme in Advanced Quantitative Research Methods (University of Bath), and Associate Member of the English Medium Instruction Oxford Research Group (University of Oxford). Her main research interest lies in factors affecting academic achievement in English Medium Instruction (EMI) in higher education. She has published three edited books on EMI. Her EMI-related research has been published in journals such as *Language Teaching*, *Applied Linguistics Review*, *Studies in Higher Education*, *Journal of Engineering Education*, *Journal for the Psychology of Language Learning*, *Journal of English for Academic Purposes*, *Language Teaching Research*, and *International Journal of Bilingual Education and Bilingualism*.

- Email: samanthamcurle@gmail.com
- ORCID ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3790-8656>
- Webpage: <https://researchportal.bath.ac.uk/en/persons/samantha-curle>
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/samanthacurle/>
- ResearchGate: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Samantha_Curle



“Conceptualizing Justice in Circular Economy Transitions”

Jessica Clement is a senior research associate at the Smart City Institute at HEC Liège Management School (Belgium). Her research is centered on strategies and policies for sustainable and smart territorial transitions, with a particular focus on the ‘justness’ of these transitions. Currently, she is participating in the [BOLSTER](#) consortium, which is a 3-year project studying the just transition processes in Europe funded by Horizon Europe. Jessica previously held a postdoctoral position at École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL - Switzerland), where she worked on natural resource management, governance of extractive industries, and the green economy. Prior to this, she earned a PhD in economics in 2018 from the University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne (France).



‘ReTray: Smart system for separate collection of cigarette butts’

Reni Pantcheva is a doctoral student in the Department of Industrial Economics and Management at the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski. She has a Bachelor’s degree in Economics and a Master’s degree in Energy Markets and Services. She is currently writing a dissertation on the Development of Circular Economy in the European Union with primary focus on indicators used to track progress on the transition towards circularity.

At the beginning of 2023 Reni Pantcheva created ‘Krugonomika: The Circular Economy Page’ with the goal to educate about circular economy and promote the concept, raise environmental awareness and share creative circular business ideas. Another initiative of Reni Pantcheva is the website ‘Pishmyan: In the footsteps of Bulgarians from Eastern Thrace’, a platform sharing personal stories of Thracian Bulgarian refugees who were forced to abandon their homes in 1913 after the Second Balkan War.



”Aesthetics of Care”

- **Marinos Koutsomichalis** is an artist, scholar, and creative technologist. He is broadly interested in the materiality of self-generative systems, (post-)digital objecthood, sound, image, data, electronic circuitry, perception, selfhood, landscapes/environments, and the media/ technologies we rely upon to mediate, probe, interact, or otherwise engage with the former. He has exhibited or performed his work extensively and internationally and has held research or teaching positions in Greece, Italy, Norway, and the U.K. He is a Assistant Professor in Creative Multimedia at the Cyprus University of Technology (Limassol, CY) where he co-directs the Media Arts and Design Research Lab