

# Introduction

The Green Transition unfolds in different forms, involving different societal actors pursuing their interests through different discourses and conceptual solutions. For example, in the energy field, there are actors advocating for nuclear power, on the one side, and actors advocating for renewable energy, on the other; in the field of transport actors advocating for the electrification of car transport and actors supporting the development of public transport; in the field of agriculture between actors advocating sustainable food production and actors who support industrial food production, etc. An important dividing line between the actors taking part in the green transition is the public-private divide, which has gained its political and ideological meaning decades ago by neoliberal politics. In everyday debates, this divide is perceived as the market-state opposition and real social relations are pushed into the background and remain hidden from the everyday eye. The fusion of the meanings of the state, the public, and the private enables private interests to be promoted, market mechanisms strengthened and through the mechanism of public-private partnerships liberalization to arise.

To achieve just green transition for different socially positioned communities, to enable people to make decisions about the conditions of their own lives, namely to make communication and decision-making processes more democratic and not to leave important decisions in the hands of the few, the green transition debates need to be broadened and shifted from techno-managerial solutions and the established public-private partnerships to community practices that go beyond statist frameworks and private interests. Diverse practices and movements are emerging as an alternative for a just green transition, democratically oriented and committed to the collective good and environmental sustainability attempt to bring together large numbers of people and different so-

cietal groups; initiated from below new forms of solidarity, energy cooperatives, environmental trade unionism, etc., are breaking new ground. From this perspective, the green transition emerges as a question of transforming the organization of the society itself as a whole, and not just as a technological issue or a question of policy mechanisms. The participants of the summer school addressed and discussed these questions from different perspectives during the lectures, seminars, and workshops.

The International Summer School of Political Ecology 2024 addressed the challenges of just green transition with emphasis on and through consideration of the public, the private, and the commons. The summer school hosted students from all over the world, 16 students (Master's degree and PhD students and candidates) took part in the accredited program of the summer school and presented their research work at the panel discussions during the student seminars and at the poster fair. In the following proceedings are published scientific papers written by PhD students and candidates.

The following proceedings consist of 9 texts structured in four thematic sections. In the first part Albanese (Chapter 1) investigates the climate movements' critical perspective on the capitalistic system and global climate governance, recognizing the democratic deficit and the need to move from the technological and market-oriented tools in the solutions for the ecological crisis, Volpi (Chapter 2) identifies the public-private dichotomy as a significant feature of sovereignty in times of climate change, by taking on the historical background to the issue of sovereignty, its contemporary erosion, and the public-private divide, he argues that sovereignty should be reframed as a critical tool against the deep political-economic roots of our ineffective climate governance model and shows the importance of the public-private divide in understanding our current climate responses.

In the second part, King (Chapter 3) attempts to develop a framework for approaching the socio-ecological conflicts and relations in rural Ireland that transcends methodological nationalism, by examining how Ireland's socio-ecological relations are

situated within the global capitalist and neo-colonial system of dependency and exploitation, Vining (Chapter 4) through a multi-scalar approach analyses the case study of Romanian workers in Irish horticulture, how the agri-food system creates the conditions for exploitation and discusses food sovereignty as a form of resistance and innovative alternative based on compassion.

In the third part, Bülbül (Chapter 5) reveals the relevancy of the energy justice scholarship through different approaches and draws connections between environment, climate, and energy justice scholarships within the context of principles, Yousuf (Chapter 6) explores how the worsening energy crises in the South Asian coastal city of Karachi, Pakistan, affect subsistence fishers and their communities and analyzes how militarization, bureaucracy, and imbalances of power stand in the way of ensuring just transitions for South Asian fisherfolk in a time of energy scarcity, Žnidarič (Chapter 7) questions 'what green energy is at all' and presents the negative consequences of the construction of a hydroelectric power plant on the middle Sava.

In the last part Regazzi (Chapter 8) critically analyzes the European Union's policies for a green transition with a focus on housing and energy and the failure of the techno-managerial approach to offer concrete solutions to these problems, examines new forms of living as social innovations that redefine the public-private relationships, and their potential for an eco-social transformation, Janßen et al (Chapter 9) study the perceptions of citizens across Europe on sufficiency policies in the housing sector, focusing on whether the perceptions of the citizens vary with different linguistic framings of the policy objectives and explore the role of personal affectedness by the policy measures.

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