



生命和平大學

University for Life and Peace

Online Winter School 2021

Decision Making

How do we come to decisions, how do we enact them
in view of the urge for ecological implementation?

January 22, 23, 29 and 30, 2021



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in view of the urge for ecological implementation?

Students will receive the Academic Certificates

after the research papers are reviewed by the Academic Committee from

The Human Science Centre of University of Munich, Germany and

The University for Life and Peace Preparatory Office, Taiwan

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A Short Biography of Dharma Master Hsin Tao



Dharma Master Hsin Tao is the founder of the Ling Jiou Mountain Buddhist Society, the Museum of World Religions, and the INGO, Global Family for Love and Peace. In Myanmar, he established the LJM Maha Kusala Yama Monastery in Yangon and the Sramanera School in Naung Mon. The Sramanera School takes in and provides education to orphans and underprivileged children.

Born in Myanmar in 1948, Master Hsin Tao was left orphaned and impoverished at the age of four. Witnessing the destruction of homeland and life during wartime implanted in him a longing for peace. He was brought by the army to Taiwan when he was 13. Master Hsin Tao was ordained at the age of 25. Making a vow to attain enlightenment, he practiced austerities in deserted temples and graveyards for over ten years. During the time he attained deep insight into the meaning of equality and oneness of all beings, and realized that peace of the mind is the only way to the real peace. In 1984, he established the Ling Jiou Mountain Wusheng Monastery to propagate the dharma with an emphasis on “Compassion and Chan” as its lineage style; he also sought to advance peace with the notion of “Loving Earth, Loving Peace.”

Master Hsin Tao has long been concerned about the issue of war and peace. He believes that it is religion's responsibility and capacity to promote peace. To make possible the real peace, interreligious dialogues should be carried out to the full extent, with a view to shed light on the common ground of love and compassion and the necessity of harmonious coexistence. Subsequently, in 1991, Master Hsin Tao started preparations for constructing the Museum of World Religions as a platform for interfaith exchange and peace-building, together with his effort to spread the message of "respect for all faiths, care for all cultures, and love for all life" all over the world. It took him 10 years to gain support and raise funds from numerous believers for the Museum's opening ceremony to take place on Nov 9, 2001, attended by many religious leaders and others from around the world.

Master Hsin Tao believes that constant dialogue, listening, and cooperation foster mutual understanding, learning, and trust among different religions. For many years he has been committed to advancing interreligious dialogue internationally, as seen in his attendance to four consecutive meetings held by the Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions (CPWR) since 1999, and the Millennium World Peace Summit of Religious and Spiritual Leaders hosted by the UN in 2000. Since 2002, Master Hsin Tao has initiated an ongoing series of the Buddhist-Muslim Dialogue, in the hope to build up religious peace through the Buddhist gentle power. Until 2017, 15 Buddhist-Muslim Dialogues have been organized in different places around the world, including New York, Indonesia, Malaysia, Paris, Iran, Spain, Beijing, Taipei, the UN headquarter, Australia, India and Salt Lake City.

Through these many years, Master Hsin Tao's dedication to promoting the Dharma, Chan meditation, and interreligious peaceful dialogue, as well as his contribution to a harmonious world and the Earth's safety has brought him international recognition and encouragement. The awards he received include: "Pt. Motilal Nehru National Award for Peace, Tolerance and Harmony"(2005) from the Interfaith Harmony Foundation, India; "Outstanding Contribution to the Propagation of Buddhism Award"(2006), "Excellence in Teaching Meditation Award"(2010), and "The Highest Meditation Achievement Award"(2014) from the Myanmar Government; "Interfaith Visionary Award"(2010) from the Temple of Understanding, U.S.; "Benefactor of Buddhism Award"(2013) from the Royal Patriarch Temple, Thailand; the 2nd "World Buddhist Outstanding Leader Award" (2015) from Thai National Office of Buddhism in cooperation with the World Fellowship of Buddhist Youth.

| Foreword

Dharma Master Hsin Tao

Dear Professors and Research Fellows, may peace be with you!

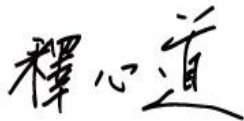
As we have all witnessed, COVID-19 pandemic has caused huge impact to all countries in the world, everyone's way of living and behaviors have been fundamentally changed. In response to this unprecedented situation, the upcoming 2021 Winter School of University for Life and Peace (ULP) is decided to go on-line for its courses during this difficult time. Under the threat of pandemic, this new way of schooling presents a challenge to us in terms of how to effectively and continuously undertaking cross-country cooperation and learning. On the other hand, it is also a turning point, we can take this opportunity to go beyond national boundary and allowing more people to participate in our courses and to better understand the mission of University for Life and Peace (ULP).

As the founder of ULP, I sincerely welcome all our faculty members and students to participate in this on-line Winter School. It is vital for us to maintain and reinforce our connection. Together we will continuously promote the spiritual and ecological education for loving the Earth.

"All of Dharmadhatu are created by our mind" as Buddha said. As such, the most significant factor of influencing environment to become either good or bad is our mindfulness. Mindfulness affects our recognition to the ecological system and the construction of ethics, which in term forms our physical living environment. The outbreak of COVID-19 is ravaging the world, at this difficult time we have truly recognized that all sentient beings including us are living in this interconnected network of life system, all things on earth are interdependently living together, mutually assisting for survival. Hence, when facing disasters, we need to contemplate our thoughts and awaken our mind, to help each other on the basis of shared life community. Furthermore, we need to convert negative energy through our right mindfulness and good deeds, thus, the disasters will then soon be terminated. It takes our compassionate will and wise decision to reach peace for mankind and safety for the earth. Therefore, we introduce spiritual ecology as the foundation for 2021 winter school on-line courses and guide you to practice how in this complicated environment to make accurate decisions on protecting the eco-system on the earth.

The founding of ULP is at the preparatory stage currently, our team are intensively discussing and planning academic system, degrees to be offered and curriculum. The core teachings of ULP emphasis spiritual ecology and interdisciplinary approach to construct programs with a new integrated dimension. Students are expected to become the driving force of the sustainability for mankind and this planet, the seeds of promoting the concepts of “Loving Earth, Loving Peace” and spreading peace around the world.

I sincerely welcome you participating in this program!



Dharma Master Hsin Tao
Founder, Ling Jiou Mountain Buddhist Society
Museum of World Religions
University for Life and Peace

| Keynote

Prof. Dr. Michael von Brück

Climate change, the loss of so many species, polluted air and water and so on... All these environmental changes and disasters are not any more conclusions drawn from experiments in laboratories on the basis of data and computations only, but they are being experienced directly by more and more people and societies.

We know, but we do not act. Why? And who is „we“ in this case? We expect politicians and leaders in the economy to act, but who are „they“, and what are their options and constraints to act? How do human beings make decisions after all? How are individual decision making and institutional conditions interrelated, and how do these conditions in politics, economy, law, education, religion, art etc. overlap or contradict each other?

To raise these and similar questions is crucial to understand the dynamics in modern industrial societies in order to find strategies for action of transformation. With regard to individual behavior we may change our life style, slow down in exaggerated consumption, save energy and eat vegetarian food as contribution to better environmental conditions. Some of us succeed in this way, some do not or less. No doubt, all this is an important contribution for a slow change, and such kind of behavioral change on the basis of a heightened awareness is necessary and helpful. Yet, the billions of dollars on the international financial markets that flow into investments with the biggest promise for quantitative growth, the strategies of companies and governments being in competition for capital and consent of the people (at least in countries where elections determine the political and sometimes economic future of decision makers) seem to be the dominant factors in the economic and political spheres. All these different institutional clusters form their own rationalities and discourses. Economic interests naturally coerce the players to make profit, political interests naturally coerce the competitors to make it in the next elections, actors in civil society make their different points and also have quite diverse vested interests, but all these groups need to come together to translate their concerns into the language of the other so that common interests and rationalities to enact them with benefit for these divers groups in our societies can be found. The fundamental question then is: How do we institutionalize platforms for this discourse, so that competitors and perhaps even enemies become partners? In all our differences we are one interdependent society, after all. So, different perspectives

must be evaluated by different interest groups coming together. On the agenda there are the following and much more questions:

How can we envisage value change and ecological transformation which is based on an analysis and on a sober design for realistic procedures and rules? How do we come to decisions which do not curb but foster creativity in all the respected areas? How do we overcome fear so as to engage in building patterns of living which are based both on holistic vision and scientific rationality?

These days more and more people are deluded by fear and anguish, apocalyptic phantasies and/or cynicism. At least so in industrialized societies in the West. Is this the case in other cultures as well? If so, what does it mean? If not, what is the reason? Do we have perhaps other cultural resources for decision making which we do not see or do not yet sufficiently take into consideration? How do we need to condition ourselves in order to live a life in dignity and in mutuality with all life on earth?

Our online Winter School is not really an appropriate substitute for a Winter School in Yangon. Our experience of the last years in offering Winter Schools there on the spot proves clearly: We do need personal exchange, debates and informal gatherings in order to develop creative ideas and networks of cooperation. However, under all present circumstances our online meetings shall strengthen our insights and commitments in a rather complex situation. For it is „we“ who are the „we“ whom we addressed above. And this „we“ needs to be strengthened, intellectually as well as emotionally. Because decision making depends not only on rationally given reasons, but also on emotion and intuition, we want to strengthen our human network in order to establish eventually a University for Life and Peace which will operate on transcultural and interdisciplinary terms, and most of all in a combination of training our mental-emotional capabilities by meditation and training our mental-rational capabilities by science in order to make the much needed contribution for the future.

Program Outlines

Topic:

Decision Making: *How do we come to decisions; how do we enact them in view of the urge for ecological implementation?*

Program Dates and Times:

EVENT TIMINGS:

Asia: Jan 22, 23, 29, 30 (Fridays & Saturdays) @ 8:00 – 10:00 P.M.

Germany: Jan 22, 23, 29, 30 (Fridays & Saturdays) @ 1:00 – 3:00 P.M.

Myanmar: Jan 22, 23, 29, 30 (Fridays & Saturdays) @ 6:30 – 8:30 P.M.

US EST: Jan 22, 23, 29, 30 (Fridays & Saturdays) @ 7:00 – 9:00 A.M.

Basic Questions:

We do know that the ecological crisis may end up as a disaster for human life on earth. We do have strategies and technological developments which might solve some major problems or minimize some of the worst consequences at least. But we hardly do act. Why? And who is “we”? Can we blame the governments only? Is human inertia a major problem? Or fear to change? What would be resources for decision making, individually and collectively? What does it mean for the institutional levels, and which kind of institutions are being challenged here? What is the difference between institutional and individual decision making? Action is urgent: How do we come to decision that will be made fast enough? What are appropriate and working motivations? What is the relationship between incentives and decision making? Which kind of incentives are useful to stimulate creativity and readiness for needed transformation?

1. Lectures

Prof. Dr. Dr. Ernst Pöppel (Psychology and Neurosciences),

Prof. Dr. Dr. Stefan Brunnhuber (Club of Rome: Finance and Sustainability)

Prof. Dr. Martin Kolmar (University of St. Gallen, Philosophy (Ethics) and Economy)

Each one would give an Impulse of 30 minutes followed by discussion among each other under my moderation; afterwards students would come in.

2. Student Groups

Furthermore, we will organize 3 student groups working on practical ecological issues (such as Water Management, Energy Management, City Planning etc.). They will meet (under the guidance of the three research moderators/facilitators) before and in between the lecture dates and prepare implementation projects under the questions and answers received from the lectures.

3. STRIDE Learning

The guiding methodological framework for the development of the group-led projects is developed by STRIDE learning and is - among other institutions - also applied at the ETH Sustainability Startup Seminar.

Dr. Anais Sägesser, co-founder of STRIDE, will introduce different methodological steps and the overall framework over the course of the winter school with succinct inputs of 15 Min. on 3 days.

4. Presentation of Research Projects

During the final day students would present the results of the three Groups and would discuss it altogether. Those who want a certificate write a paper. The student leaders for the Groups would be:

- Arusu Formuli (from our first Winter School)
- Benedikt Ewald (from our first Winter School)
- Brahmi Pugh (from our second Winter School)
- Phyo Phyo Wai (from our second Winter School)

5. Research Advisors

In addition, we would invite some Professors as observers who could come in during these days and join us online and discuss with us:

Prof. Dr. Marian Chertow, Yale University, USA

Prof. Dr. Anastasia Zabaniotou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece

Prof. Dr. Peter Edwards, Zurich, Switzerland

Prof. Dr. Cielito Habito, Manila, Philippines

➤ STRIDE Learning

3 x 15 Min each

- 1 Group *formation*. Empathy, change of perspective (listen to nature sounds – notice your sensations, feelings and interpretations – share with others – listen to the music again under the empathic resonance of the expression of the others).
- 2 Group *dynamics*. Opening up of movements, creativity training (experience different body gestures expressing and influencing the mental attitude (go into resonance with the bodily posture of others; realize that in relating to nature we are also nature in our bodies, become sensitive for your own body in relation to other bodies).
- 3 Groupe *exchanges*. Collaboration, Social innovation (experience a metaperspective in decision making processes, learn the method of non-binary decision making; 5-to-fold exercise), develop open and creative responses in finding solutions in more creative exchange with others.

All exercises will be directly related to our role in decision making processes for the ecological transformation.

➤ Technical Information

ULP - WINTER SCHOOL 2021 – Meetings Space

Time: According to the Programme

Join the Zoom-Meeting

<https://lmu-munich.zoom.us/j/92013447096?pwd=cHdYWVWt1dUo5RDFWbTBjbWZHc1I2Zz09>

Meeting-ID: 920 1344 7096

Passcode: 440789

Find your local number: <https://lmu-munich.zoom.us/j/92013447096>

Join by SIP

92013447096@zoomcrc.com

Join by H.323

162.255.37.11 (USA West)

162.255.36.11 (USA East)

213.19.144.110 (Amsterdam Niederlande)

213.244.140.110 (Deutschland)

Kenncode: 440789

Meeting-ID: 920 1344 7096

Disclaimer:

We agree and acknowledge that our images, photos and videos taken during The Online Winter School 2021 may be used in promoting the future University for Life and Peace, or within Ling Jiou Mountain Group or any future non-commercial purposes.

Program in Details

Friday, Jan 22, 2021

(German Time)

13.10	Introduction (technical and content): Prof. Dr. Michael von Brück
13.15 - 13.30	Dharma Master Hsin Tao : Opening Address
13.30 - 13.45	STRIDE learning - Dr. Anais Sägesser
13.45 - 14.15	Prof. Dr. Dr. Ernst Pöppel : Humans are born to decide: A general overview from the perspective of a neuroscientist
14.15 - 14.30	Questions and Answers: 3 Students Facilitators, (beforehand collected questions)
14.30 - 15.00	Discussion of Professors and Students with Prof. Pöppel and among each other
15:00	Meditation led by Dharma Master Hsin Tao (15 min)

Saturday, Jan 23, 2021

(German Time)

13.00 – 13.05	Introduction: Summary, open questions Prof. Dr. Michael von Brück
13.05 - 13.20	STRIDE learning - Dr. Anais Sägesser
13.20 – 13.50	Prof. Dr. Dr. Stefan Brunnhuber : Tao of Finance
13.50 - 14.20	Discussion: Students Professors, Invited observing Professors
14.20 - 14.50	Discussion on possible Projects for 3 Groups (Basis: Pre-selected Topics, Professors' Papers)
14.50 – 15.00	Set up of 3 Groups (Topics, Timings etc.): Arusu Formuli
15:00	Meditation led by Dharma Master Hsin Tao (15 min)

Friday, Jan 29, 2021

(German Time)

13.00 – 13.30	Prof. Dr. Martin Kolmar: How do Institutions shape Decisions? The case of firms
13.30 - 14.00	Discussion: Students, Professors, Invited observing Professors
14.00 - 14.15	STRIDE learning - Dr. Anais Sägesser
14.15 - 14.30	Groups present topics and outline of Projects, 5 Min each
14.30 - 15.15	Questions to groups by Students, Professors and Invited observing Professors
15.15	Meditation led by Dharma Master Hsin Tao (15 min)

Saturday, Jan 30, 2021

(German Time)

13.00 – 14.00	3 Groups present their projects (not necessarily the leader, but invited spokesperson)
14.00 – 14.40	Discussion of Projects (Michael von Brück and Alexander Benz)
14.40 – 14.50	Dharma Master Hsin Tao: Final Message
14.50 – 15.00	Farewell and further steps (Group Papers) (MvB)
15.00	Meditation led by Dharma Master Hsin Tao (15 min)

Faculty CV and Abstract



Prof. Dr. Michael von Brück

Dr. theol, is Prof. em. of Religious Studies at the University of Munich, Germany, and has been founder and Head of the Interfaculty Program of Religious Studies at the same University; He was also founding member of the Centre for Buddhist Studies in Munich (international PhD Program). He studied Theology, Indology and Comparative Linguistics at Rostock University, Indian Philosophy and Religion at Madras University. He specializes in Advaita Vedânta and Mahâyâna-Buddhism. Besides, he received a four years training in Yoga at the Krishnamacarya Yoga Mandiram in Madras and studied Zen-Buddhism in theory and practice at Tenryu-ji in Kyoto, Japan.

After a visiting professorship at Gurukul Lutheran College in Madras 1980-1985 he became Prof. of Comparative Religion at Regensburg University in 1988 and took over the chair of Religionswissenschaft at the University of Munich in 1991 and became director of this institute. He lectures widely all over the world and has been a visiting lecturer and professor at several German (Hamburg, Tübingen), American (Univ. of Hawaii, Univ. of California (Davis), Rice University, Harvard Center for the Study of World Religion etc.) and Asian Universities (Madras, Bangalore, Chiang Mai). For eight years he has served as the General Editor of the journal "Dialog der Religionen". He is member of the Human Science Centre of Munich University and has been a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Goethe Institute and a

member of the Advisory Board of Suhrkamp Verlag: Edition World Religions.

He has written twenty major books and about 300 essays in journals all over the world on theology, Buddhism, Hinduism and the encounter of World Religions (especially Buddhism and Hinduism). Some of his books are:

1. The Unity of Reality. God, God-experience and Meditation in the Hindu-Christian Dialogue, New York: Paulist Press 1991
2. Weisheit der Leere. Sûtra-Texte des indischen Mahâyâna-Buddhismus, Zürich: Benziger 1987
3. Die Welt des tibetischen Buddhismus München: Kösel 1996 (Italian translation: Il Buddhismo Tibetano, Vicenza: Neri 1998)
4. Buddhismus und Christentum. Geschichte, Konfrontation, Dialog (with Whalen Lai), München: C.H.Beck 1997 (English and French translations).
5. Wie können wir leben? Religion und Spiritualität in einer Welt ohne Maß, München: C.H.Beck 2002
6. Zen. Geschichte und Praxis, München: C.H.Beck 2004 (4th ed. 2020)
7. Bhagavad-Gîtâ, Frankfurt: Verlag der Weltreligionen (Suhrkamp/Insel) 2007
8. Einführung in den Buddhismus, Frankfurt: Verlag der Weltreligionen (Suhrkamp/Insel) 2007
9. Religion und Politik in Tibet, Frankfurt: Verlag der Weltreligionen (Suhrkamp/Insel) 2008
10. Leben in der Kraft der Rituale. Religion und Spiritualität in Indien (with Regina von Brück), München: C.H.Beck 2011
11. Grundzüge einer modernen Anthropologie (with Günter Rager), Göttingen: Vandenhoeck&Ruprecht 2012
12. Weltinnenraum. Rainer Maria Rilkes „Duineser Elegien“ in Resonanz mit dem Buddha, Freiburg: Herder 2015
13. Sehen-Verstehen-SEHEN. Meditationen zu Zen-Kalligraphien (with Hans Zender), Freiburg: Karl Alber 2018
14. Buddhismus. Die 101 wichtigsten Fragen, München: C.H.Beck 2019
15. Interkulturelles Ökologisches Manifest, Freiburg: Karl Alber 2020
16. Vom Sterben. 10 Meditationen zur Palliativ-Spirituellen Praxis, München: C.H.Beck 2020



Prof. Dr. Dr. Ernst Pöppel

Ernst Pöppel has studied psychology and biology in Germany and Austria. His research at present is focused on cognitive processing (like “time windows” as basis for higher cognition), and visual perception (with a focus on perceptual disturbances and what to learn from them). He also works on theoretical questions like the development of a taxonomy of psychological functions based on neural mechanisms, and the interdisciplinary challenge to link science and art (in particular in poetry, music and visual art) using behavioral paradigms and advanced imaging technologies. As professor for Medical Psychology at LMU Munich, Germany, he has supervised some 250 doctoral students from more than 40 countries.

He has published more than 400 scientific papers and also many books for the general public. Some 25 years ago he co-founded the Human Science Center at LMU Munich which is dedicated to interdisciplinary research. Since 2002 he is also guest professor in the School of Psychological and Cognitive Sciences at Peking University, China. Furthermore, he is Director of the Parmenides Center for Art and Science (Pullach, Germany), and Board Member of the Federation of German Scientists (Berlin) which is dedicated to environmental issues and peace keeping. He is member of the National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina (Germany), the Academia Europaea (London, UK), the European Academy of Sciences and Arts (Salzburg, Austria), and the Russian Academy of Education (Moscow, Russia). His motto is: “Scientists are Natural Ambassadors”.

Abstract

Humans are born to decide: A general overview from the perspective of a neuroscientist

Some ideas are summarized for decision makers taking into account new results and concepts from the neurosciences. The brain itself can be understood as an organ of decision making and it represents, thus, a model for academic, economic or political institutions. The overview is structured by using the numbers 1 to 10 to explain results and concepts in neuroscience and their applications for the decision maker. THUS: 1, the unity of consciousness and, consequently, the necessary unity of decisions is emphasized; there is nothing like “multitasking”. 2, the duality of brain processes and its consequence for decisions is explained, like the two hemispheres in our brain which are associated with different functions (the analytic and synthetic view), the duality of lower and higher functions (control of bodily functions and cognitive evaluation), or the duality of organizational structures (the complementarity of a hierarchy of decisions and a heterarchy of knowledge creation). 3, we distinguish three forms of knowledge, i.e. explicit, implicit and pictorial knowledge which provide a necessary basis for decisions; decisions are never only explicit. 4 rules of thinking (René Descartes), but also four potential errors in thinking (Francis Bacon) in decision making are analysed. 5 interrelated hierarchical levels in decision making can be distinguished; it starts with complexity reduction of sensory input and ends with goal directed decisions. Interestingly, all human beings can be characterized by 6 basis emotions, which represent our evolutionary heritage, namely happiness, surprise, anxiety, disgust, anger and annoyance. 7 different linguistic competences every decision maker should master, namely lexical, syntactic, semantic, phonetic and prosodic competence; in addition pragmatic and social skills are necessary. The metaphor of a cube with 8 corners is used to describe the dynamics and stability of brain processes; the complementarity of both is necessary for the decision maker as one has to be both conservative and adaptive. At least 9 problems a decision maker can run into, like to oversimplify matters, to fall into the language trap, to lack a statistical sense, to misunderstand intelligence or to stumble because of personal weakness. An “E-pyramid” with 10 elements summarizes the different aspects that represent a frame for decisions. On a basic level, we have to appreciate our EVOLUTIONARY heritage, ETHICAL principles, ENVIRONMENTAL responsibility and ECONOMIC understanding. On a second level operational principles are addressed like EASY access to information,

EFFORTLESS processing of information which are the basis for EFFICIENT action and decisions. The two upper layers refer to goals, like the personal goal of EMOTIONAL EMBEDDING within a social environment allowing EMERGENT creativity; on a strategic level the decision maker strives for a dynamic EQUILIBRIUM that provides long term stability to an organization like an academic institution, a company or a political system.



Prof. Dr. Dr. Stefan Brunnhuber

Integral Medicine | Transformative Finance
Resilient Anthropocene | Transpersonal Spirituality
Creativity Response

Trained car mechanic - Studied Medicine and Socioeconomics in tandem - PhD in Medicine - PhD in Socioeconomics - Student of Sir R. Dahrendorf - Over 12 international guest professorships - (Medicine - Finance - Sustainability) - Two boardcertified medical specializations - Multiple sub-specializations - Over 10 years as Vice-chairman of the European Institute of Medicine - Medical Director and Chief Medical Officer in Germany (Saxony) - Senator (elected in 2015) of the European Academy of Science and Arts - Member of several international working groups for European Academy, EU Commission - Political and corporate consulting (GENCAP; INATBA ao.) - Founding member of Alma Mater Europeae - Board of Trustees the World Academy of Arts and Science - Full international Member Club of Rome - Endowed Professor for Psychology & Sustainability - Special expertise and experience in the impact of Life Science on sustainability issues, especially Psychology of the Anthropocene - Behavioral Finance - Risk analysis - Psychology of interfaith dialogue - Over 300 publications and talks - several international lecture series - co-author of the Club of Rome report (Money and Sustainability 2014) - Coauthor of one of the bestselling textbooks in Germany of the last 25 years - author of 'The Art of Transformation' (2016, editions in several languages) - the Open Society - A Pledge for Freedom and Order (2019) - The TAO of Finance - The Future Wealth of Nations (in press 2020)

Abstract

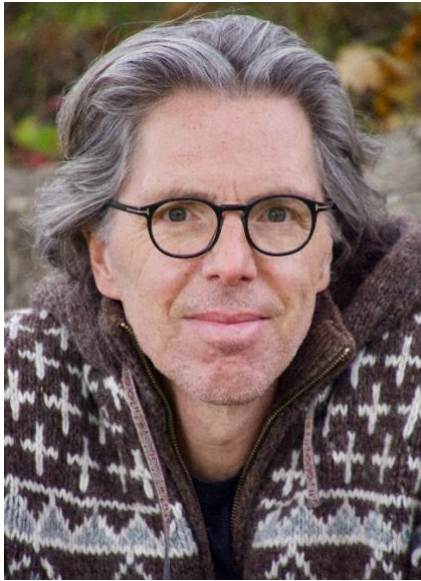
Financing the Future - Our Future Wealth of Nations

A mechanism that can change the world

Financing the future requires additional liquidity of approximately 5 Trill USD every year over the next 15-20 years globally, beyond the traditional mechanism of money redistributing along the given value chain. Crowding-in private sector financing, conventional public sector funding (taxes and fees) and philanthropic commitment will be not enough in scale and speed to accomplish this. The financial system has become, over the last 40 years more unstable (425 events), causing costs and damages of over 10% of the Gross Domestic Product per event and increasing public debt load globally. These limitations of the financial system thwart any endeavors in the technological and political field to make the world a better place, because the world community is too busy repairing, stabilizing, and refunding the system just to maintain a steady status quo or returning to business as usual.

There are three options: A modified monetary mandate of the Central Banks (CBDCs), private cryptocurrencies (f.ex.: Ripple, Skycoin, Ethereum) or complementary community currencies (f.ex.: LETS, Barter, Regiomoney) would stabilize international financial markets, increase monetary regulatory efforts, reduce negative externalities, stabilize consumer pricing, increase social pareto-optimum, generate millions of additional jobs and stabilize democracy. This can be started within 6 months, has the potential to end i.e. poverty in less than a year and would have measurable and profound impact on our life, our society and our planet in less than 2 years.

Such a mechanism is the missing link beyond governance, technology, demography and behavioral changes. We need more, much more financialization, but in a more democratic and humanized fashion to increase wealth for the additional 2/3 of the global population and to protect the planet at the same time.



Prof. Dr. Martin Kolmar

Martin Kolmar holds the chair for Applied Microeconomics and is Director at the Institute for Business Ethics at the University of St. Gallen. He studies Economics at the University of Bonn and UC Berkeley. He is holding a PhD in Economics from the University of Konstanz. Prior to his position in St. Gallen, he was Professor for Social Policy at the University of Göttingen, for Economic Theory at the University of Mainz, and visiting professor at Brown University, UC Berkeley, and San Francisco State University.

His main areas of research include the impact of globalization on national social-security systems, institutional economics, and contests and conflict theory. He has published widely in these areas and has received several awards. Over the last years he has shifted his focus on the evolutionary, psychological, neuroscientific and narrative foundations of perception, behavior, and wellbeing. Based on this, he is developing a theory of human flourishing and wellbeing that is aimed to show the deficiencies of mainstream normative economics and to provide an alternative concept of an empirically informed and philosophically grounded concept of normative economics, and more generally a normative theory of society. In order to do so, he combines western virtue ethics, epistemology, and ontology with Buddhism and Daoism.

Reference books and papers

- Are National Pension Systems Efficient if Labor is (Im-) Perfectly Mobile? *Journal of Public Economics* 2002, 83, 3, 347-374 (with Friedrich Breyer).
- A Theory of User-Fee Competition, *Journal of Public Economics*, 91, 2007, 497-509 (with Clemens Fuest).
- Group Size and Group Success in Conflicts, *Social Choice and Welfare*, 2020 (with Hendrik Rommeswinkel).
- Principles of Microeconomics, Springer International, Heidelberg, first edition 2017, second edition 2021.
- Grundlagen der Wirtschaftspolitik (Foundations of Economic Policy), Mohr Siebeck, first edition 2001, fourth edition 2014 (with Friedrich Breyer).

Abstract

If one tries to understand our current failure to cope effectively with the climate crisis and the loss of biodiversity, two complementary explanations come to mind. One is broadly psychological and focusses on the ways people perceive and behave in situations of unfolding crises. The other one is broadly institutional, organizational, or cultural and focusses on the impediments that result from the specific incentives, cultural norms, and expectations people are facing when making decisions. This lecture focusses on these latter explanations and thereby puts specific emphasis on decision making within firms. Firms can be perceived as organizations with specific cultures and incentives that powerfully shape mindsets and decisions. Their powerful role in a globalized capitalist world makes it a matter of highest importance to understand their internal mechanisms that shape their decisions.

These incentives cannot, however, be understood in isolation as they are themselves embedded in a market, industry, and regulatory context that constrain behavior. The purpose of this lecture is to better understand the specific behavioral incentives that result from this embedded institutional structure in order to identify important impediments or gridlocks for sustainable behavior. These findings shall open a discussion about if and how firms can play a constructive role in the process of making the economy sustainable.



Prof. Dr. Marian R. Chertow

Marian Chertow is a professor of industrial environmental management at the Yale School of the Environment and Director of its Center for Industrial Ecology. She is also appointed at the Yale School of Management and the National University of Singapore, School of Design and Environment. Her research and teaching focus on industrial ecology, business/environment issues, circular economy, waste management, and urban sustainability. Primary research interests are: (1) the study of industrial symbiosis involving geographically based exchanges of materials, energy, water and wastes within networks of businesses globally; (2) the potential of industrial ecology in China and other emerging market countries; (3) the “the future of work” examining the human/robot interface and other issues surrounding the future of material reuse and recycling. In 2019 Prof. Chertow received the highest recognition of the International Society for Industrial Ecology, its Society Prize, for her “outstanding contributions to the field and was also inducted into the Connecticut Women’s Hall of Fame for her environmental work.

Prior to Yale, Professor Chertow spent ten years in environmental business and state and local government including service as president of a bonding authority that built \$1 billion of waste infrastructure. She serves as an Advisor to the Center for Energy Efficiency and Sustainability at Trane Technologies, the Board of Terracycle US Inc, and the Board of the Alliance for Research in Corporate Sustainability. She holds a BA in Religion and Literature from Barnard College, Columbia University, as well as a Masters of Public and Private Management (MPPM), and a PhD in environmental studies from Yale University. Professor Chertow was President of the International Society for Industrial Ecology from 2013-2015.



Prof. Dr. Peter Edwards

Peter Edwards studied botany at Cambridge University, and obtained his Ph.D. degree for a thesis on *Nutrient cycling in a New Guinea montane forest*. Until his retirement in 2017, he was Professor of Plant Ecology, Dean of the Department of Environmental Systems Science at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich (ETH), and subsequently Director of the Singapore-ETH Centre.

He is author of around 350 refereed scientific papers and author/editor of several books covering a wide range of ecological and environmental topics. He also has a strong interest in the application of science and technology for better management. He was a founder and first Executive Secretary of the Institute for Ecology and Environmental Management, a professional organization for environmental scientists in the UK. At ETH he was coordinator and member of the executive board of the Alliance for Global Sustainability, a research partnership between several leading universities. He currently chairs the *Sustainability Research Initiative* of the Swiss Academy of Natural Sciences. Publications that reflect this interest in the application of science to solve societal problems include:

Edwards, PJ et al. 2020. Ecosystem Services in Urban Landscapes. Future Cities Laboratory. ISBN: 978-981-14-7109-4. https://ethz.ch/content/dam/ethz/special-interest/dual/fcl-dam/doc/FCL%20Benefits%20of%20Tropical%20Urban%20Vegetation%20Book_110820.pdf

Kueffer, C et al. P. 2012. Enabling effective problem-oriented research for sustainable development. *Ecology and Society* 17(4): 8. <https://www.ecologyandsociety.org/vol17/iss4/art8/>



Prof. Dr. Cielito F. Habito

Cielito Flores Habito (born April 20, 1953 in Cabuyao City, Laguna) or "**Ciel**" **Habito** is a Filipino economist, professor, and columnist. He served concurrently as the Director-General of the National Economic and Development Authority and Socio-Economic Planning Secretary during the Ramos administration.

He is one of the 1991 Ten Outstanding Young Men Awardees for Economics.

Habito studied at the Maquiling School in Los Baños for grade school, then at the Philippine Science High School for secondary education. He attended the University of the Philippines Los Baños for his tertiary education, earning a degree in Agriculture, major in Agricultural Economics and graduating Summa Cum Laude.

He then attended the University of New England in Armidale, New South Wales, Australia, where he earned a Master of Economics degree. He also obtained a Master of Arts in Economics and a Doctor of Philosophy in Economics at the Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts.



Professor Dr. Anastasia Zabaniotou

Anastasia Zabaniotou is Professor at the Chemical Engineering Department of the Faculty of Engineering, at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece. She is also teaching at the Master program on Sustainable Use of Resources and Circular Economy at Ecole Centrale Marseille, France. She holds a PhD and Master from Ecole Centrale de Paris, France. She has been working at the European Commission, at the Direction General for R&I, as an officer and she still works as an expert and evaluator. She participated in evaluation panels for various European Universities evaluation. She is chairperson of Biomass-Bioenergy at the International Renewable Energy Network and Conference (WREN/WREC) and member of the Chinese Network on Energy and Environment (BEE-RCN), member of the International Collaboration Committee at Aristotle University and board member of RMEI (Network of Mediterranean Engineering Schools) that has as mission Sustainable Development Goals and Peace in the Mediterranean region.

She is interested in interdisciplinary research and education. Her research focuses on bioresources sustainable use, waste to energy, biofuels, bioeconomy, circular economy, sustainability and resilience, gender equality, involved and coordinated many national and international R&I projects. Her work was awarded for innovation and excellence 14 times. She is author and co-author of 160 papers in international journals and over 250 conference presentations, visited more than 45 countries/Universities worldwide and invited at many international conferences as keynote speaker, organized several conferences, workshops, and events. In 2018, she was invited by the WORLD

ENERGY FORUM as Keynote speaker, at the International Inter Mongolia Energy Conference 2018, China, awarded for pioneering research on Bioenergy by the WREC (World Renewable Energy Conference, London), and also awarded by Aristotle University for her International collaboration.

She participated as a faculty member in the Winter School 2020 in Yangon, Myanmar. She believes that creative and transformative learning deserves a bigger role in education for an awareness that is interrelated with technological achievements and innovations. A long-lasting change in any social or environmental system can be brought by understanding the connection between our consciousness, thoughts and actions, and their impact on the socio-ecological systems. Thus, she is interested in teaching that brings an understanding of the relationships between awareness and actions, in establishing a value-based education through which young scientists could participate to bring sustainable solutions and desired results for peace and wellbeing of the entire world.

5 Recent publications

1. Zabaniotou, A.; Syrgiannis, C.; Gasperin, D.; de Hoyos Guevera, A.J.; Fazenda, I.; Huisingh, D. From Multidisciplinarity to Transdisciplinarity and from Local to Global Foci: Integrative Approaches to Systemic Resilience Based upon the Value of Life in the Context of Environmental and Gender Vulnerabilities with a Special Focus upon the Brazilian Amazon Biome. *Sustainability* **2020**, *12*, 8407.
2. Zabaniotou, A. A systemic approach to resilience and ecological sustainability during the COVID-19 pandemic: Human, societal, and ecological health as a system-wide emergent property in the Anthropocene. *Global Transitions*, **2020**, *2*, 116-126.
3. Zabaniotou, A. New Forms of Social Learning in Mediterranean Higher Engineering Education: Change Lab for Gender Equality Transformation, Methodology, Design Principles. *Sustainability*, **2020**, *12* (16), 6618
4. Zabaniotou A., K Stamou K., Balancing Waste and Nutrient Flows Between Urban Agglomerations and Rural Ecosystems: Biochar for Improving Crop Growth and Urban Air Quality in The Mediterranean Region. *Atmosphere*, **2020**, *11* (5), 539.
5. Zabaniotou A, Huisingh D. Food Waste Reduction and Valorisation: Sustainability Assessment and Policy Analysis| Food Waste Reduction and Valorisation: Sustainability Assessment and Policy Analysis ...*Journal of Cleaner Production*, **2020**, *207*, 788

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