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Advancing Justice, Peace and Inclusiveness in Times of AI

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„ADVANCING JUSTICE, PEACE AND INCLUSIVENESS IN TIMES OF AI", PANEL LINE UP ON TUESDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER 2025

Panel 1 - Research Hub Security and Conflict Transformation

Theoretical approaches to Security and Conflict Transformation

Chair: Petr Jurek, University of West Bohemia in Pilsen

Paper 1: From Negative to Positive Peace: The role of Democratic Peace Theory in shaping Europe's future (Fatima Mahmutović)

This paper examines the relationship between Democratic peace theory and the evolving landscape of peace in Europe, with a focus on how the promotion of democratic governance has contributed to the continents transition from negative peace (the mere absence of conflict) to positive peace (a more just and harmonious society). According to Democratic peace theory, democracies are less likely to engage in war with one another, which aligns with the broader goals of positive peace-where democratic principles foster stability, justice, and cooperation. As Richmond explains, "together with free trade, it ensures that states do not go to war with one another, following the sole "law" of international relations that democratic states do not fight each other (but instead cooperate and trade), leading to a relatively peaceful, though perhaps imperfect, regional and international order, this argument has often been cited as an explanation for the stability of Europe after World War II, in contrast to its earlier history" (2014:19).

This paper will also research the European Unions;s role in promoting democracy, particularly in the Western Balkans, and assess the current state of democracy across Europe in light of rising populism and authoritarianism. Additionally, it will examine whether the authoritarian backsliding seen in countries such as Hungary, Italy, and Poland challenges the assumption that democracy serves as the foundation for lasting peace in Europe.

The relevance of this research is underscored by the fact that Europe is currently at a critical juncture, with populist and nationalist movements threatening the democratic fabric that has supported European peace for decades.

In the context of growing global uncertainty, the stability of European democracies is crucial not only for regional peace but also for the broader global order. Through this analysis, the paper seeks to highlight both the successes and challenges of achieving sustainable positive peace in a rapidly changing political environment.

Paper 2: War and hegemony: the global arms race in systemic transformation (Carmelo Buscema)

Historically, war has played a fundamental role in the phases of hegemonic transition and systemic transformation. The study carried out by Giovanni Arrighi (1995, 1999, 2008) –consisting of a very rich and articulated work of space-time comparison developed over the course of the last half millennium– has shown how each new hegemonic accumulation cycle has taken its cue from periods of

prolonged and extended confict, lasting about thirty years and having an increasingly global scope. It is, in fact, from the conficts themselves that the new conventions, intentions, technological stand-ards, social and international blocs that will characterize the phase of material and peaceful expan-sion brought about by the efective exercise of the new hegemony, arise and consolidate. (Contrary to what the most famous statement by General von Clausewitz claims, therefore, it is rather politics that is the continuation of war by other means). Even the current phase of global chaos –which tends, more and more, to degenerate into episodes of rupture and collapse of the structures of bal-ance and government on which the system of the Western hegemonic super-cycle has been based– seems, with all evidence, to be following the same dynamics of recrudescence described above. Within this framework, the essay we propose here intends to focus analytically on three main as-pects of the renewed process of intensifcation and expansion of the arms race and intensifcation of systemic confict, carrying out a reasoned account of the following three issues. First, it is a question of studying the phenomenon of increased global military spending animated by the main world pow-ers and their mutual relations, taking care to carefully weigh, with respect to each case, what are the diferent motivating structural and circumstantial factors (population, economic development, hege-monic parable, strategic framework and rivalries and alliances). Secondly, it is necessary to highlight the determined function of the current theatres of war as laboratories for the experimentation, com-parison and optimization of the efectiveness and relative quality of old and new armaments and their organized use in a tactical or strategic way by the main powers involved. This is, in fact, a relevant dynamic both in view of the preparation of the next crucial moments of conflict that will be decisive with respect to the outcome of the hegemonic competition; and with respect to the process of def-ning the paradigmatic structures of the technological challenge –the development of which system-atically follows the criterion of "dual use"– that will set the foundations and the terms of progress of the next regime of systemic accumulation on the global level. Finally, it is a question of bringing out how the current contexts of more exasperated geopolitical confict play a further function which, alt-hough it unfolds on an apparently secondary and merely moral level, seems to have an ontological character: the shape, the use and the continuous re-elaboration of the instruments of political prop-aganda and of the so-called economic sanctions by the declining post-hegemonic power, turn out to be, in fact, increasingly crucial means of the growing dynamic of "weaponization" of common sense and of ever greater areas of material and immaterial social life at least of the Western countries, which serve as a fulcrum and a lever to give impetus and strength to the very concrete processes cur-rently underway of restructuring the productive regimes and the international markets according to the new criteria of the war system.

Paper 3: Institutional management of ethnic conflict in Northern Ireland (Jaime Villaverde Rivero)

The purpose of this paper is to present an approach to the Northern Irish ethnic conflict from an in-stitutional perspective. Specifically, it will start from the theoretical model of consociationalism pro-posed by Arend Lijphart to analyze the performance of the constitutional architecture established in the Good Friday Agreements of 1998, which put an end to almost three decades of violent conflict in the region. This theory, which is almost irremediably submerged between the empirical and the nor-mative, proposes that the most effective and democratic solution to deal with situations of intense

ethnic fragmentation is to establish a model of power sharing among the different segments that make up society. The model has received numerous criticisms, including the absence of a clear theory explaining the incentives for elites to cooperate or the exacerbation of conflict that the institutionalization of ethnic difference can provoke. All of these issues are highly susceptible to evaluation in the light of the Northern Irish case. The relevance of the theoretical discussion on the management of societies with deep ethnic divisions has hardly lost its relevance since Lijphart developed his theory in the second half of the last century. Although the emergence of postmodern values seemed to anticipate the progressive decline of the preeminence of ethnic identification, it has proved resilient to these changes, and there are many contemporary examples of societies structurally traversed by this problem. Nevertheless, the evolution of our societies has produced changes, such as secularization, worthy of being incorporated into theoretical models approaching this issue. In this respect, Northern Ireland is particularly relevant, given the significant changes it has undergone as a society, the main one being its exit from the European Union since 1998. Likewise, the theoretical model does not only allow us to approach strictly ethnic problems but also provides clues for any composite society. In this respect, it is particularly relevant in the context of the European Union, which, at the strategic crossroads at which it finds itself as a result of the new security challenges, will have to articulate mechanisms for institutional action in line with its fragmented nature.

Paper 4: Ecological justice and the rights of future generations: rethinking conflict reparations through socio-ecological co-viability (Alice Brites-Osorio)

The rights of future generations have often been conceptualized from an anthropocentric perspective, where the transmission of a healthy environment is seen as an intergenerational legacy among humans. However, the relational ontologies of Indigenous peoples in Colombia offer an alternative vision of time and the continuity of socio-ecological relationships, advancing a legal conception that extends beyond the human realm. As part of Colombia's transitional justice process, the Jurisdicción Especial para la Paz (JEP) has recognized the territories of ethnic communities as legal subjects and, consequently, as victims of armed conflict. This landmark decision extends rights traditionally reserved for human victims to non-human entities, including the right to justice, reparation, truth, and non-repetition guarantees. By acknowledging these rights, the JEP expands the scope of transitional justice and introduces a reparative framework that integrates the living world within a socio-ecological coviability paradigm. This paper will analyze how Colombian transitional justice redefines the rights of future generations by incorporating endogenous legal conceptions of the ethnic territory and time. Moving beyond a strictly anthropocentric framework, these legal advances enables a restorative ecological justice, grounded in the continuity of relationships between humans and non-humans.

Panel 2 - Research Hub Climate Science and Just Transition

Governing Climate Change in a Dynamic Political Environment

Chair: Jiří Preis, University of West Bohemia in Pilsen

Paper 1: Modernity and the institution gap: How to govern sustainability? (Jörn Ahrens)

The contemporary crises of modernity, above all environmental and security issues, have led to an enormous boom of transnational institutions and infrastructures for crisis governance. For a close examination of these efforts and resulting problems, this paper will focus on issues of climate change governance, based on research conducted in Botswana and South Africa. Since the 2015 Paris Agreement significant instruments for transnational climate change governance have been implemented. National governments are requested to produce National Development Plans and Climate Change Strategies in which they outline their sustainability policy agendas. Every five years they need to report to the UNFCCC on the progress they have made. Annually COPs are organized on which national governments, transnational bodies, and NGOs negotiate the situation. Despite such institutional efforts, the 2015 defined Sustainable Development Goals are, according to the UN, far from being accomplished, often delayed. In the Southern African region large percentages of the people are climate change illiterate; in many countries 50% and more of the population still have not heard about climate change at all, although the region is extremely vulnerable to drought, extreme weather events, and food insecurity. Our research confirms a significant gap between government representational politics on institutional meta-level and a missing communication to and collaboration with local communities. This strand is stressed by the tendency to understand climate change governance according to a paradigm of development that derives from a classic understanding of modernity and its timely regimes. Such regime of modernization neglects the needs of local communities and marginalized actors and opens a significant gap between the successfully represented institutions on the one hand and the vulnerably affected communities on the other.

Paper 2: The Africa They Want (and Why We Should Want It Too): a critical view on the pan-African document (Jiří Preis, Jan Záhořík & Šárka Packanová)

2023 marked the 10th anniversary of Agenda 2063. This comprehensive document, introduced in 2013 and published in 2015, describes the African Union (AU) Commission's vision of what Africa as a continent should look like in 50 years: "a prosperous, peaceful continent, shaped by its own citizens, and a dynamic force on the international stage." The document's slogan is "The Africa we want," it is generally and essentially a document about Africans and for Africans.

In this article, the authors aim to present Agenda 2063 as a whole and to what extent the individual visions and aspirations are being fulfilled a decade after its publication. Based on analytical documents, social media engagement and interviews with key experts on the African Union, the authors of this paper examine the successes and failures of the first 10-year implementation plan and how much this strategy, designed as Pan-African, truly resonates in the developmental policies in regions.

Because Africa's future potential not only in terms of demographical dividend and raw materials but also as an enormous market and a pool of human resources and talents, the authors of this paper also discuss the question, why the slogan "The Africa We Want" (targeted to Africans) should also be motivation for Europeans to contribute to achieving the Agenda's aspiration and listen to African voices how this contribution should be conducted.

Paper 3: Climate Migrations between Climate Justice and Global Wall (Gilda Catalano)

If the Global Warming is an historical responsibility of richest countries, its effects can be traced in those countries that have less contributed to greenhouse gases' emissions. Nevertheless, the link between the Climate Migrations and the Climate Justice is not longstanding in public discourses: in effect, the international regulatory actions towards the climate migrants' recognition still appear weak. I wonder whether this divide expresses an objective obstacle to overcome some legislative barriers, or whether it also hides a geo-political anxiety about the future redistribution of the world population towards territories where climate change effects could be more easily mitigated.

These two questions shape the paper's context, whose common thread consists of analyzing two conflicting aspects: a. the controversial recognition of the concept of Climate Justice (Ethical and Historical Question) in the international agenda; b. the political worries for future territorial redistribution of the world population, outlined by the borders' tightening (Geo-Political Question).

This abstract tries to understand how to unify these two opposite questions in social sciences: on one hand, the concept of Climate Justice recalls the Historical Responsibility among the diverse countries in development processes and, on the other one, the Concept of Global Wall looks back to closed frontiers for migrations, especially if due to environmental and climate pushing drivers. Within these opposing trends, the paper has two challenges for the social sciences.

Its first aim consists of translating the connection between environmental crisis and climate change in a different way from the prevailing one. If read as faces of a same coin, the climate change could represent not only an index measuring the earth's temperature, but also a historical concept indicating the very slow deterioration of many ecosystems. If caught in a such way, a large part of the rapid-onset events becomes a symptomatic result of a long historical process.

Its second purpose is to highlight the ambivalent risk in a wider focus on the diverse resiliencies by territories (for example, the varied adaptive capability of fragile areas), rather than on the historical causes of population movements. In social sciences, a stronger focus on the habitats' loss in many regions could probably represent a conceptual pivot for the international political attitudes in order to responsibly respond to Climate Justice's demands.

Paper 4: The Impact of Colonial Legacy and Modern Water Management Dynamics on Recession Agriculture in the Senegal River Valley: A Nexus and AI Approach for a Just Transition (Ornella Tchanque)

Recession agriculture in the Senegal River Valley, long rooted in ancestral practices that adapt to natural flood and recession cycles, has been profoundly transformed by colonial policies and modern hydraulic infrastructures. The gradual marginalization of this practice resulted from the construction of dams and irrigation systems, altering access to water resources and promoting an intensive agriculture model highly dependent on energy for pumping and irrigation. This shift has led to major environmental challenges, including soil salinization and declining fertility, threatening food security and local livelihoods.

In this context, the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus approach provides a relevant analytical framework to understand the interdependencies between water management, energy needs, and agricultural sustainability. Moreover, recent advances in artificial intelligence (AI) and remote sensing offer new opportunities for a just transition towards more sustainable resource management. AI can be leveraged to improve flood forecasting and optimize water allocation, thereby mitigating the negative impacts of hydraulic infrastructures on the environment and local communities.

However, these technologies also pose ethical and environmental challenges, particularly due to their energy footprint and the risk of marginalizing traditional knowledge. This study offers a critical reflection on how digital tools and innovative approaches can be integrated into water management policies to balance modernization with the preservation of traditional agricultural systems. Integrated planning, combining local knowledge with technological innovations, is essential to ensure a just and resilient transition in the face of climate change challenges and emerging socio-environmental conflicts in the region.

Paper 5: Transnational Real Estate Development and Sustainability Challenges in Mauritius (Bérangère Collet)

A Small Island State in the Indian Ocean, Mauritius has undergone multiple phases of economic development since gaining independence in 1968, including the sugar industry, manufacturing, tourism, and its emergence as an international financial hub. The most recent phase is centered on real estate. Since 2005, investment programs targeting foreign buyers have proliferated, now constituting the primary source of foreign direct investment (FDI) for the island. These developments operate at the intersection of tourism and finance, offering tax incentives and residency permits in exchange for property investments in villas or high-end apartments. They primarily attract European buyers—mostly from France—as well as South African investors. However, in the context of global change, rising sea levels, and increasingly frequent extreme weather events (such as droughts, floods, and cyclones), the sustainability of this development model is being critically reassessed. Over the past two decades, a surge in construction permits has led to rapid urbanization and land artificialization, exacerbating flood risks. Coastal erosion projections for 2100 indicate that certain real estate developments may ultimately be submerged. This model also raises pressing concerns about the equitable distribution of resources. During periods of drought, as is currently the case, gated communities maintain filled swimming pools while some villages experience daily water shortages. Additional challenges include energy supply, the loss of agricultural and—at a time when Mauritius remains far from achieving food self-sufficiency—and waste management. For many years, opposition to these real estate projects remained limited. However, environmental NGOs have recently begun to mobilize civil society and engage in political advocacy. In some instances, they have successfully challenged projects that threaten fragile ecosystems, securing legal victories against developments encroaching on wetlands. This research thus examines the sustainability of development strategies in small island states, the social conflicts emerging from policy decisions, issues of spatial and environmental justice, and the preservation of a particularly fragile natural heritage.

Paper 6: Islamic Approaches to Climate Change Mitigation: Faith-Based Solutions for a Sustainable Future (Ömer Faruk Altun & Selin Nur Altun)

Religions determine the worldview and moral attitudes of their adherents and the way they approach nature. Climate change is a major problem facing people globally. Effective resources are needed for coordinated efforts to combat the realities of climate change.

The increasing focus on culture, values and worldviews in climate change research has shifted attention to religion. Scientists must therefore identify the role of religion and the basic needs for understanding it in order to fully utilise the cultural dynamics of climate change.

So far, however, little is known about Islam and climate change. This review describes climate change and anti-climate change initiatives and projects in Muslim societies.

MATERIAL and METHODS

"Web of Science, Scopus, Islamic Science Citation Index" arama motorları kullanılmıştır.Keywords such as Islamic Environmentalism, Climate Change, Eco-Islam, kullanılmıştır. The retrieved articles were analyzed for relevance and thematic categorization.

FINDING

In Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia and Nigeria, spiritual and religious leaders have gathered and organised certain campaigns to combat and raise awareness about the climate crisis. Projects such as tree planting campaigns, international government agreements, green economy strategies, carbon neutral city projects realise these campaigns. For awareness and struggles, sermons were organised after Friday prayers and various organisations were organised for environmental awareness.

CONCLUSION and RECOMMENDATIONS

Scholars have emphasised the transformative potential of religions to facilitate the transition to more environmentally sustainable societies and to address climate change. There is a high concentration of Muslim people in regions affected by global warming. There is a need to build a multidisciplinary climate crisis defence through Islamic religious teachings in order to build responsibility and awareness against climate change in these regions.

A small number of Muslim environmentalists are involved in public campaigns for greater awareness of climate change, seeking to reduce carbon emissions through sociotechnological transition efforts, and spreading Islam's pro-environmental views. However, it is still unclear to what extent these activities generate broader changes in the day-to-day activities of Muslim communities and organisations. While empirical studies have specifically addressed Indonesia and the UK, there is still a paucity of information on Muslim climate activism in other world regions. Efforts should be stepped up for more activities and analyses in this area.

Paper 7: The Devotee, The Disoriented, and The Delusional: Representations of Citizen-Consumers in the Discourse of Meat Lobbies (Estela M. Díaz, Amparo Merino & Antonio Nuñez)

As social, legislative, and commercial pressures on animal farming have increased, meat lobbies have developed discursive strategies to reinforce the legitimacy of meat consumption. This study examines how these actors construct representations of the citizen-consumer in their public discourse, creating a symbolic framework that normalizes animal exploitation and reinforces their hegemony in the food system. Through a critical analysis of materials produced by seven meat interprofessional organizations in Spain, we identify three key archetypal profiles, each linked to a specific form of symbolic violence (Bourdieu, 1991). The *Devotee* reproduces the industry's discourse by accumulating symbolic capital, positioning meat as a culturally valuable product. The *Disoriented* consumer is shaped by paternalistic messaging that portrays the industry as the sole legitimate source of knowledge. The *Delusional* consumer, who challenges the social consensus surrounding meat as an essential product, is delegitimized through exclusion and ridicule, neutralizing any ethical critique. Our findings demonstrate how language not only structures the debate on meat consumption, but also dictates who can participate and from what positions. This research contributes to unveiling the power dynamics of meat lobbies and opens up space to imagine a food system grounded in justice and respect for animals as sentient beings, free from exploitation. It is also relevant to the conference theme of just transitions, as it highlights how these discursive mechanisms shape the food system and hinder the advancement of justice, peace, and inclusiveness, particularly in an era where technological advancements could promote more transparent, equitable, and ethical dialogues about food and its impact on animals, society, and the environment.

Paper 8: Educating Political Leaders for a Sustainable Future: A Case Study (Ehlimana Spahić)

Besides the introduction and concluding remarks with recommendations this article has four parts. A historical overview of development challenges is presented in the first part of the article, with specific emphasis on global initiatives aiming to address these challenges. Development challenges have a long history, and therefore, they were integrated into the educational programs of the Faculty of Political Sciences for a long period, almost since this educational institution was established. The next part of the article addresses a long history of educating generations of students on developmental challenges at this Faculty. The third part of the article contains an analysis of four current study programs of the Department of Political Science from the perspective of the presence of Sustainable Development Goals in lessons of 90 courses. This research is a continuation of previous research that has included analysis of bachelor's degree programs at all Faculty departments. For this purpose, an adequate methodology was developed and applied within the framework of this research. The analysis results are presented in fourth part of the article indicating that all Sustainable Development Goals are represented to a greater or lesser extent in four study programs. These findings suggest that future leaders acquire sustainable knowledge, skills, and competencies. The analysis also pointed to possibilities for program improvement, and these observations are contained in the concluding remarks with recommendations.

Panel 3 - Research Hub Migration and Human Rights

Navigating Human Rights and Legal Frameworks in Migration

Paper 1: Governing Migration through Rights: Human Right-ization and the Social Order(ing) (Samir Forić)

This paper examines the relationship of human rights to migration through a socio-legal lens, focusing on 'human right-ization' approach as a particular case of social ordering. When based on human rights approach, migration governance seems to reproduce an instrumental outlook on law that: a) treats all individuals attomistically as subjects as holders of individual rights and b) implies effective normative superiority or monopoly of state governance over those subjects. Still, this approach reduces complex and politically charged realities of migrants into legally manageable categories (refugees, asylum seekers, economic migrants and undocumented migrants) and it overlooks the reality of value-normative pluralism or normative orders that emerge in the space between migrants and the state. In this way, human right-ization approach operates as a form of normative regulation that both reflects and reproduces underlying social hierarchies or stabilizes social order without challenging the sovereign logic of exclusion. It can be described as instrumentalist approach where human rights do not only operate as protective mechanisms but as technologies of governance that regulate access, recognition and belonging within increasingly diverse societies – to important extent attributed to migration. In this approach, human rights often function a as hegemonic legal culture that favors liberal-individualist norms while it overlooks alternative frameworks of justice and solidarity as differentiated normative orders. Post-humanist and post-migrant perspectives highlight this particular aspect in their critique toward 'human right-ization'. Still, human rights do remain essential, and sometimes only available avenues for legal mobilization and contestation – but are still avenues in which procedural aspects overshadow political aspects of social realities involving migrants, narrowing the space for political articulation of their claims for cultural recognition and social integration that could be disruptive to the existing social order. The paper argues that the migration governance, based on 'human right-ization' and the instrumental outlook on law, serves as both a mode of inclusion and a technique of control, facilitating selective integration while sustaining existing structures of inequality and sovereignty. The paper explores alternative outlooks on law, such as law as a medium (Habermas), legal autpoiesis (Luhmann) and reflexive law (Teubner) to re-imagine human rights outside of scope of mere migration governance and part of wider renegotiation of social order from within or, simply, as a case of social ordering.

Paper 2: Impact of the Best Interests Principle on the Protection of Migrant Children in the 21st Century (Jaroslav Větrovský)

According to UNICEF statistics (published in 2020), more than 35 million of children are in a situation of migration and their number is increasing. Children are also very often the first victims of restrictive migration policies adopted by States in relation to asylum, family reunification or border management. Moreover, there is a wide gap between the actual situation of migrant children and the number of legal instruments adopted to protect them. The question is therefore: how can human rights

norms affect the situation of migrant children? What is their potential and what is their actual impact? The aim of my paper is to focus on what is arguably the most fundamental norm of children's rights protection, namely the principle of the best interests of the child. Drawing on cases decided by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child over the last decade, I will seek to determine the extent to which the principle can and does operate as an autonomous right, capable of enhancing the level of protection of migrant children. Since 2014 the Committee has decided on the merits of around 40 communications submitted by or on behalf of children in a migrant situation. In almost all of them, the Committee found a violation of the CRC because the best interests of the child had not been duly taken into account. According to the Committee, the principle is not a mere rule of interpretation, but a right which, by definition, imposes obligations on States. This raises a number of questions, such as: What are the obligations of States under the principle? Are they merely procedural, or do they also have substantive implications? What value does the best interests principle add to the protection of migrant children already secured by other rights contained in the CRC or other international treaties? These and related issues will be the subject of in-depth analysis.

Paper 3: Doing Human Rights: How the Categories "Human" and "Migrant" are made (Ir-)Relevant in Everyday Life (Dariuš Zifonun)

The proposed lecture addresses the intersection of human rights and migrations. Research has often argued that an expansion of human rights discourse has taken place in the legal field. The scope, forms, and consequences of this process, referred to as humanrightization, are debated. It also remains open whether humanrightization can be observed in other societal spheres. The contribution addresses this question with a focus on everyday social life. It asks whether actors in their everyday interactions refer to human rights norms to resolve conflicts and to articulate images of themselves as well as their interests. The lecture argues that everyday interaction is an arena in which practices of un/doing migrant and un/doing human rights are intertwined in multiple ways. It draws on an ethnographic study conducted in Mannheim, Germany, where we study social encounters in sports, schools, interreligious groups, and retail. The lecture uses the example of an incident in a supermarket to show how the situation is ethnicized, how the idea of human dignity is interactively activated, and how an everyday understanding of human rights is used to regulate the conflict. Human rights are thus not made relevant as legal norms through which migrants articulate their rights vis-à-vis the state. Instead, human rights function as a moral mechanism that secure the integrity of the individual in public exchange. The lecture thereby makes a sociological contribution to the interdisciplinary understanding of the complex interplay between human rights and migration. It also exemplifies how research on human rights and migration can be productively integrated into teaching. By discussing abstract theoretical concepts (interactionism, ethnomethodology, doing difference, human rights, ethnicity etc.) with concrete empirical data (encounters in everyday social situations), a critical discussion of the foundations of scientific knowledge acquisition becomes possible, and students are empowered to better understand their social world.

Paper 4: Migration and human rights in the context of contemporary Tunisia and Libya (Karolína Hanzlová)

Migration governance in North Africa remains a highly contentious issue, particularly in Tunisia and Libya, where migrants face severe human rights violations. Both countries, characterized by political instability and undemocratic governance structures, struggle with ensuring fundamental rights even for their own citizens, making the situation for migrants particularly precarious. This paper will explore the current migration landscape in Tunisia and Libya, examining how state policies intersect with human rights frameworks and the role of the European Union (EU) in shaping migration dynamics in the region. Migrants, particularly those from Sub-Saharan Africa, face significant risks when attempting to cross borders and transit through these countries. Libya, a key transit point for migrants seeking passage to Europe, is notorious for detention centers where reports of abuse, forced labor, and human trafficking persist. Tunisia, while relatively more stable, has seen a rise in xenophobic rhetoric and policies that further marginalize migrant populations. Rather than addressing these human rights concerns, both states have benefited from external financial support, particularly from the EU, which seeks to curb irregular migration at its external borders. This paper critically examines the EU's approach, which prioritizes border security and externalization of migration controls over human rights protections. The instrumentalization of migrants—as both a scapegoat for domestic political agendas and a justification for securing foreign aid—demonstrates the urgent need for a more holistic approach. Rather than simply funding regimes that are criticized for their undemocratic practices, international actors must consider alternative strategies that prioritize migrant rights, regional stability, and sustainable development. By analyzing policy documents, media narratives, and human rights reports, this study highlights the paradoxes in contemporary migration governance and calls for a re-evaluation of international responses to migration in North Africa. Addressing migration issues in Tunisia and Libya requires a shift from short-term containment strategies to long-term solutions that uphold human dignity and human rights.

Paper 5: Migration and Asylum Policy in the EU – Human Rights in motion (Monika Forejtová)

The theoretical and practical link between the protection of human rights and migration is based on the belief that every individual has the right to a life of dignity, security and equal treatment. The theoretical basis for this link is enshrined in international documents such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights or the Refugee Convention (1951). These documents defne fundamental human rights that should be guaranteed to all people, regardless of their origin or legal status. In theoretical terms, the protection of migrants' human rights is based on the principle of non-discrimination and the universality of rights. Migrants often fnd themselves in a vulnerable position due to lack of language, limited access to information or cultural diferences. Therefore, human rights theory stresses the need to maintain equality of opportunity and ensure fair treatment of migrants. From an international law perspective, migration touches on a number of areas, from migrants' labour and social rights to their right to asylum or protection from violence and persecution. In practical terms, integrating human rights protection into migration policies and practices is a key challenge. States are obliged to implement and protect human rights, but at the same time they must address the

complex issues of border control and public security. International organisations and NGOs, such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and Amnesty International, have advocated to keep the protection of migrants' human rights at the forefront of the policy agenda. They provide humanitarian aid, legal services and integration assistance. One of the most important practical contributions is seen as building mechanisms that ensure efective enforcement: for example, the possibility of appealing against asylum refusals, access to free legal aid, or recognition of subsidiary protection for people who do not fall within the traditional defnition of refugee. Efective enforcement of human rights in the migration context also requires long-term and coordinated cooperation between states, which focuses not only on protecting those feeing persecution or war, but also on preventing forced migration by promoting development and stability in countries of origin.

Panel 4 - Research Hub Inclusive Health and Well-Being

Digital Technologies for Advancing Inclusive Health

Chair: Lorena Pochini, University of Calabria

Paper 1: Digital Transformation in Healthcare Services: Trends, Challenges, and Future Directions (Kenan Ateşgöz, Çağla Okyar, Ebru Gozüyeşil, Şule Gokyıldız Sürücü & Damla Kısrık)

The healthcare sector constitutes a critical area demanding continuous development and adaptation across all societies and nations. Among the vital components of this sector, healthcare services have emerged prominently, especially in the context of contemporary global health crises, demographic shifts towards an aging population, and an increased prevalence of chronic illnesses. These factors collectively amplify the burden placed upon healthcare institutions, often overwhelming their capacities in terms of infrastructure, personnel, and resource allocation. Consequently, healthcare organizations face significant challenges in sustaining effective, timely, and quality service delivery, necessitating innovative and sustainable solutions. In addressing these challenges, Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) have increasingly become instrumental. The capability of ICT to facilitate real-time and geographically independent information access has positioned it as a key driver of transformation within the healthcare sector. Recent advancements, particularly in internet-based technologies and Web 2.0 applications, have given rise to concepts such as e-Health and Health 2.0. These paradigms incorporate functionalities including remote patient monitoring, electronic data collection and retrieval, telemedicine, and interactive communication platforms that foster enhanced engagement among patients, healthcare providers, and caregivers. This digital transition not only improves operational efficiency and healthcare quality but also fundamentally reshapes service delivery and patient experiences. Such technology-driven initiatives are pivotal for addressing contemporary healthcare challenges, thereby directly influencing societal health outcomes and long-term sustainability. Therefore, the future of societies may significantly depend on effectively leveraging digital innovations within healthcare systems. The present study aims to examine and elucidate the impacts of digital technologies on healthcare services through a comprehensive literature review and content analysis. It seeks to identify prevailing trends, evaluate existing practices, and explore the broader

implications of digital healthcare innovations on the global healthcare landscape, providing insight into future research opportunities and practical applications.

Paper 2: Artificial Intelligence-Based Home Rehabilitation for Post-Stroke Patients: Usability, Expectations, Fears and Needs Analysis in the AISN Framework (Poeiti Abi Saab)

<u>Background</u> : As part of an European project, the Artificial Intelligence Stroke Neurorehabilitation (AISN) is developing an AI-based extended reality platform designed to support motor and cognitive rehabilitation for post-stroke patients at home. Through Focus Groups (FG), this study evaluated two key aspects as a first step toward integrating this technology into home rehabilitation pathways : first, the usability of the technology and second, the expectations, fears, and needs of its potential users including patients, caregivers, and clinicians.

<u>Methods</u> : The study involved eight post-stroke patients (age 61.6 ± 13.5), six caregivers, and thirteen clinicians. Participants engaged in a two-phase FG: (1) hands-on discovery and use of a VR-based application for mobile devices (Rehabilitation Gaming System), and (2) discussions on user experience, AI's role in rehabilitation, and care pathway integration. Usability was assessed using the System Usability Scale (SUS), with scores ≥60 indicating acceptable usability. Qualitative analysis by coding and thematic categorization was performed on FG audio recordings to understand expectations, fears, and needs.

<u>Results</u> : Whereas caregivers and clinicians indicated good usability (mean scores: 74.8 ± 12.1 and 75.4 ± 11.1, respectively), patients reported marginally acceptable usability (mean score: 63.4 ± 15.8), likely due to varying familiarity with digital health technologies. Qualitative analyses showed high expectations regarding a suitable environment and equipment. Fears relate to isolation and a lack of support. Essential needs are access to care, psychosocial support, and maintaining the clinician-patient relationship. The AI-based extended reality platform is seen as a complementary tool to improve engagement and motivation, but not as a substitute for human contact.

<u>Discussion</u> : The usability results highlight the potential of AI-VR-based applications for mobile devices as a scalable and effective tool for post-stroke rehabilitation. The higher satisfaction scores from caregivers and clinicians underscore its ease of adoption within professional care contexts, whereas the lower patient scores suggest a need for enhanced user onboarding. The qualitative results highlight the importance of a balanced approach that combines technological support with human interactions for the integration of the AI-based extended reality platform into patient care pathways. Human support is essential for the successful adoption of the technology. These findings align with AISN's goal to enable accessible, adaptive rehabilitation solutions leveraging AI and extended reality.

Paper 3: From science to practice: Exploring the knowledge co-creation and translation process in digital climate health technologies (Razieh Rezabeigisani & Sören Becker)

Digital technologies, such as dashboards, platforms, applications, and telemedicine, as well as recent advancements in AI and machine learning, offer a significant potential for addressing the increasing

health impacts of climate change. These tools play a crucial role in supporting public health programs, improving epidemiologic surveillance, and enabling efficient case identification and behavior change in climate-resilient communities. These technologies acquire and process various forms of knowledge from multiple sources, including individuals, local and indigenous people, and scientific sources related to climate, health, or data science. They integrate and transform various data sets into practical and functional forms of knowledge products. However, the successful functionality of digital tools is significantly dependent on the types of knowledge they incorporate and the methods that they use to translate this knowledge into understandable formats and visualize them in a way that is accessible and comprehensible to different end-users, including patients, citizens, and policymakers. This article examines the processes of knowledge co-creation and translation in selected cases from Europe and beyond, with a particular focus on how different forms of scientific, academic, and local knowledge are generated and integrated into digital climate health technologies. We employ a mixed-methods approach, including surveys and semi-structured interviews with key stakeholders, to distinguish the challenges faced in integrating various knowledge forms. Furthermore, we explore methods used by these projects to ensure that digital tools are user-friendly and easily accessible to diverse populations. Moreover, a particular emphasis is on the role of local knowledge in shaping the relevance and impact of these technologies. In conclusion, this analysis provides insights into how digital climate health tools can efficiently integrate knowledge to enhance climate resilience and improve public health outcomes.

Paper 4: Brain-Computer Interface System for Neurorehabilitation (Roman Mouček)

Brain-controlled robot-assisted neurorehabilitation represents a promising and innovative direction in healthcare, potentially enhancing and partially automating motor rehabilitation by engaging both the motor apparatus and the brain structures responsible for movement. However, the development of real-world brain-computer interface (BCI) neurorehabilitation systems faces a range of technical, social, and ethical challenges. These include system accessibility, user acceptance and safety, accurate recognition of motor imagery (MI) patterns, and ensuring overall system effectiveness and efficiency.

Artificial intelligence (AI) is increasingly used in BCI systems to decode neural representations of movement from the brain's electrical activity, opening new possibilities in neuroscience, rehabilitation, sports training, and other BCI-related fields. In this presentation, we will explore identifying brain activity patterns associated with two BCI paradigms: a conventional paradigm based on fundamental brain rhythms and a more complex one focused on motor imagery and execution.

We will introduce a BCI system developed in our neuroinformatics laboratory, detailing the acquisition technologies used to record neural signals, experimental protocols for neurorehabilitation, communication interfaces between the BCI system and therapeutic robots, the lifecycle of experimental data, and virtual reality integrations. The role of machine learning and deep learning methods will be highlighted, ranging from traditional algorithms like LDA and SVM to advanced architectures such as convolutional neural networks (CNNs) and transformers.

Finally, we will present and discuss the current outcomes achieved with this BCI-based neurorehabilitation system, including its strengths, limitations, and the broader potential of these innovations to improve motor rehabilitation strategies.

Panel 5 - Research Hub Security and Conflict Transformation

Legal and historical approaches to Security and Conflict Transformation

Chair: Mario López Areu, Comillas Pontifical University

Paper 1: The legislation-peace nexus (Franz Jedlicka)

My paper has a relevance for the conference sub-topic „From negative to positive Peace: Where is Europe heading?". I'd like to explain why the EU has a very good foundation for sustainable peace from a peace psychology perspective, that must be remembered and fostered.   I am a sociologist examining the psycho-social root causes of wars since about two years, and there is a psychological peace factor in the countries of the European Union, that is widely overseen: Nearly all countries of the EU have a legislation that bans all forms of violence: they have a legal ban on child corporal punishment, on gender based violence (domestic violence against women), they have abolished capital punishment, torture, judicial corporal punishment and their legislation includes the protection of LGBTIQ+ persons from violence. Why is this a peace factor? I have examined the legislation of countries worldwide regarding the above mentioned forms of violence in my „Culture of Violence Scale" (which relates to Johan Galtung's concept of cultural violence) and have found a linkage between a „consistent legislation of nonviolence" and a high level of peacefulness of these countries in the Global Peace Index. I call this linkage the „Legislation-Peace Nexus": https://www.researchgate.net/publication/388613970_The_Legislation-Peace_Nexus_Theory   Basically the result of my research is also: Countries might never become sustainably peaceful when they still allow violence against women and violence against children (…). This is e.g. the case in Russia, where domestic violence laws regarding women and children have been loosened only a few years before its attack on the Ukraine: I called it the „psychological prologue" of the Russian attack in an article in the Austrian Newspaper „Die Presse" (in German, but can be translated automatically): https://www.diepresse.com/19325319/wo-die-friedensbewegung-genauer-hinschauen-sollte . But this psychological peace foundation is at risk, if political actors and civil society activists do not recognize the relevance of violence factors within European societies. Maybe I will also mention other psycho-social threats to the peacefulness within Europe, like violence in the media and authoritarianism.   From a SDG perspective I basically explain why the SDG 16.2. (protection of children from violence) and SDG 5.2. (protection of women from violence) have a relevance for the peacefulness of nations: this perspective also helps to emphasize the linkages and the importance to act.

Paper 2: Fact and fiction in contemporary historical novels on German South West Africa (Carmen Letz)

South West Africa, today Namibia, underwent a drastic change with the German colonisation from 1884 to 1915. The area, originally populated by nomadic peoples, was subject to German

colonial rule as a "protectorate". The systematic land reclamation was carried out with indescribable brutality and sealed the end of the indigenous people's way of life. The reign of terror reached its tragic climax in 1904 with the execution of Lothar von Trotha's extermination order against the native populations Herero and Nama, which was officially recognised as genocide by the Federal Republic of Germany in 2021. However, this has not resolved the conflicts in German-Namibian relations. The descendants of the genocide victims are demanding a sincere joint reappraisal of the past (including reparations payments, restitution of land, crops and cultural assets). Reconciling these positions is proving to be particularly complex in view of the current geopolitical upheavals. A peaceful solution to the disagreements also requires knowledge of their entire historiographical and socio-political dimension.

Historical novels and films play an important role in conveying historical events (Aust, Der historische Roman, 1994; Timm, Von Anfang und Ende, 2015). This is the case when the authors stick to verifiable facts and statements. However, the confusing abundance of information and fakes, especially on the internet, also lead to weaknesses and even false claims. Based on a comparative analysis of the authors' research work, on which their stories are based, the contribution of literature to the reappraisal of German colonial history will be demonstrated and the extent to which literary works and films can serve as a means of communication in academic, educational, media and political discourses will be examined.

Methodologically relevant in this context are the theories of the "historical novel located at the „hiatus between literary fiction and fact" (Geppert, Der "andere" historische Roman, 1976) and engaged literature (Krauß, Die Praxis der littérature engagée im Werk Jean-Paul Sartre, 1970), as well as postcolonial theories (e.g. Bhaba's concept of hybridity). The discussion of these questions requires a comprehensive evaluation of the epitexts on the novels (reviews, interviews, own transcripts of conversations with the authors).

Paper 3: Ethical Governance of Artificial Intelligence (Zeynep Ozarslan)

The advancements in computer technology and storage capaci5es, and increase in the genera5on of digital data have led to the development of ar5ficial intelligence (AI) systems, models, and tools. AI technologies impact various sectors, socie5es, and nearly every aspect of life, due to their transforma5ve and disrup5ve features, two divergent approaches have emerged. One contends that AI technologies contribute to economic growth, scien5fic developments, environmental protec5on, and societal advancements, enhancing sectors such as security, transporta5on, healthcare, agriculture, educa5on, media, and cultural enterprises. On the other hand, the second approach argues that AI technologies cons5tute treats to fundamental rights and democracy, causing, psychological, social, economic, and environmental harm, which concludes with job loss, harm from malicious actors, dissemina5on of discrimina5on and prejudice, and aggrava5on of inequality, and threats to democracy.

In response to the social and ethical concerns about AI technologies, various en55es – including governments, interna5onal bodies, civil society organiza5ons, professional associa5ons, and leading

technology corpora5ons – have established guidelines, frameworks, recommenda5ons, acts, and standards on AI ethics to enhance global awareness. Despite these efforts, applica5on of AI ethical principles into prac5ce s5ll remains challenging, regarding using diverse and unbiased training data, addressing societal biases, and promo5ng algorithmic fairness.

Employing a cri5cal interdisciplinary qualita5ve field research framework, this study explores AI prac55oners' percep5ons of the key concepts in AI ethics – including "transparency, jus5ce and fairness, non-maleficence, responsibility, privacy, beneficence, freedom and autonomy, trust, dignity, and sustainability" through semi-structured interviews with 30-40 AI prac55oners represen5ng diverse demographics and professional focuses, working in the UK. Addi5onally, it aims to provide insights for global discourse on AI ethics, security, and governance and to present conceptual and theore5cal discussions in AI ethics and to elaborate on the needs, challenges, and poten5al solu5ons related to the applica5on of AI ethical principles. Furthermore, the study intends to present poten5al nega5ve consequences and risks of unethical uses of AI systems.

The findings highlight the need for further research to bridge the theory-prac5ce gap in applying ethical principles into prac5ce. This requires employing real-world scenarios, fostering public digital literacy, providing diverse ethics educa5on, and crea5ng separate ethics bodies to audit AI ethics and ac5ve engagement among AI prac55oners, academia, and civil society. Consequently, the research reveals how rigorous ethical governance of AI systems is cri5cal for ensuring democra5c socie5es.

Paper 4: Propaganda in times of conflict: Russian information warfare between 2014-2024 (Taha Kalayci)

Invasion of Crimea in 2014 started a new phase in Russian foreign policy. In 2022, Russia started a full-scale invasion to Ukraine, and this worsened relations with the European Union and NATO. The ten-year period starting in 2014 was the time of Russia's active use of its armed forces as a foreign policy tool. However, Russia's lack of military capacity to engage with NATO in a full-scale war leads it to resort to asymmetric solutions such as propaganda and disinformation in foreign policy (Pynnöniemi 2019). Russia's propaganda policy has been described in such terms as hybrid warfare, asymmetric warfare, psychological warfare, Foreign Information Manipulation & Interference (FIMI). The Russian government considers information warfare to be one of the main elements of modern armed conflict (Hellman & Wagnsson 2017, 156). Together with mainstream media outlets (Sputnik, RT), online platforms such as X (Twitter), Facebook, VK and odnoklassniki take significant place for Russian information operations. In this context, Russia provides an important case study opportunity for the study of conflict-era international propaganda-making.

International Propaganda is a broad and multifaceted field of research. An effective propaganda is made by creating a propaganda environment that serves propagandist's interests. Alexander Fisher argues that international propaganda influences the opinions of the target audience even if the target audience knows who the propagandist is. According to Fisher, propaganda may damage the image of the propagandist's enemy even if it does not improve the image of the propagandist (Fisher

2020,289). In this sense, Russia conducts covert information operations to manipulate the international image of NATO and EU member states (Minkina 2020 313-314). These operations are conducted by state-owned media and hybrid propaganda instruments as troll farms and bots. Russian information warfare aims to disrupt social resilience by disseminating provocative contents and information manipulation.

Russian government builds its international narrative by using three main themes. First main theme that Russian international propaganda uses is the emphasis of anti-Russia sentiment. Russian government mostly blame Western world as an enemy against the existence of Russian Statehood. Likewise, Russian narrative claims that Western media outlets have a hypocritical stance against Russia and its people. Secondly, Russian media focuses on Russian defence technology and military capacity to give the impression that Russia is powerful enough to rival NATO. Lastly, Russian international propaganda depicts Western society as a socially corrupted. Russian government often emphasizes moral decay of Western countries and portrays itself as the protector of traditional Russian values. The traditional Russian family, anti-LGBTQ+ sentiment, and Orthodox Christianity are key aspects in this narrative.

Panel 6 - Research Hub Climate Science and Just Transition

Impact of Climate Change on Local Communities: Constraints and Opportunities

Chair: Gilda Catalano, University of Calabria

Paper 1: Energy Justice, AI, and the Securitization of Socioeconomic Wellbeing in the Energy Transition (Janina Jasper)

As energy transitions accelerate globally, demand-side flexibility - enabled by smart grids, AI-driven energy management, and dynamic pricing - is increasingly promoted as a means to integrate renewables and stabilize electricity systems. Yet these policies are not neutral: they may generate new inequalities and insecurities, raising urgent questions about energy justice, human rights, and the securitization of socioeconomic wellbeing (Sovacool et al., 2016; Jenkins et al., 2016).

This study develops a critical theoretical analysis of the intersection between energy governance, AI, and social equity through a comparative focus on Europe and Japan. It applies three analytical lenses: (a) energy justice, examining distributional and procedural inequalities in participation and risk, framed in relation to the human right to adequate energy access; (b) AI governance, addressing issues of transparency, algorithmic decision-making, and fairness in energy pricing and demand management; and (c) securitization, exploring how energy access and affordability are increasingly framed as existential issues tied to social stability, migration, and geopolitical relations.

While flexibility mechanisms are often framed as consumer empowerment tools, early insights suggest they disproportionately favor affluent households with access to smart technologies, leaving marginalized communities more vulnerable to price volatility, forced demand reduction, and energy poverty.

Moreover, the growing role of AI in pricing and infrastructure planning raises ethical concerns about transparency, bias, and the reproduction of inequality.

This study contributes to debates within the EUPeace hub on Climate Science and Just Transition. In an era of rising energy crises, economic polarization, and energy exclusion, governing just energy transitions is not only a matter of sustainability but also a condition for peace, social cohesion, and human dignity.

This research received EU funding as part of the Marie Curie fellowship.

Paper 2: Climate warming in Europe and how AI supports weather and climate predictions for adaptation (Gholamreza Nikravesh, Alfonso Senatore & Giuseppe Mendicino)

According to global reports released by organizations like the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), there is an increasing concern about climate and weather-related hazards leading to conflicts due to the scarcity of the resources. This situation underscores the importance of climate studies on both local and global scales, particularly in trend analyses, climate change assessments, and short- and long-term climate predictions. This contribution processes an analysis of climate regime trends based on three temperature-based variables, i.e., the maximum of daily maximum temperatures (TXx), the mean of daily mean temperatures (Tmean), and the minimum of daily minimum temperatures (TNn) at the annual scale from 1955 to 2024 using ERA5-Land datasets across the pan European EURO-CORDEX domain. The results imply that the homogeneous and widespread trends of these indices are significantly increasing over almost the entire study area. Notably, Tmean trends are significant at the 5% confidence level in the whole domain, while increasing trends of TXx are highest in central Europe, from northern Germany to northern France.

Concerning implementing appropriate countermeasures to alleviate the effects of water-related disasters, timely forecasting of climate variables is essential. Although predictions using process-based weather modeling systems are increasingly efficient, Artificial Intelligence draws much appeal and encourages a transition towards a data-driven approach, moving away from traditional knowledge-based models and relying instead on machine learning methods to improve forecast accuracy. Among the numerous examples increasingly available in the scientific literature and operational services, we describe a seasonal forecast model predicting future precipitation employing methods like Gaussian process regression (GPR), support vector machines (SVM), and feed-forward neural networks (FFNN). The models' performance is evaluated for 2021-2023 in southern Italy, and the findings highlight that machine learning models can effectively address seasonal forecast issues.

Paper 3: Adaptation of Czech cities to climate change: a case study of the city of Pilsen (Jan Kopp, Jiří Preis & David Vogt)

The cities are considered to be vulnerable systems due to ongoing climate changes. The aim of the paper is to present the goals, barriers and tools of urban adaptation to climate change in Czechia on the example of the city of Pilsen.

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An important consequence is the change in the annual distribution of precipitation along with an increase in air temperatures in Czechia. As a result, increased temperatures lead to increased evapotranspiration in the urban landscape. Although total precipitation is not changing, precipitation is distributed into fewer events with higher intensity. For this reason, an important prerequisite for sustainable urban development is a responsible and adequate societal reaction to climate change linked with changes in the approach to rainwater management in the urban environment. Depending on the macroclimate position as well as land cover structure of the urbanized landscape, quite obvious consequence of climate changes is an occurence of urban heat islands (UHI) too.

We provide commentary on the problems, limits and obstacles of current practice in the Czech cities, but we also primarily present a comprehensive overview of tools to promote climate adaptation. The overview categorizes these tools as follows: (1) normative, (2) conceptual, (3) coordinating and organizational, (4) economic, and (5) voluntary and ethical.

Problems and approaches of urban adaptation to climate change are presented on the example of the city of Pilsen. The Pilsen city has a population size of 170.000 inhabitants and a dominant position in the settlement system of the western part of Czechia. We can show the schematically outlined development of water care in the city of Pilsen in the context of climate adaptation. Currently, the city of Pilsen is in the phase, when in the planning and first implementations it supports the circulation of water in the urban landscape as a prerequisite for adaptation to climate change.

Paper 4: Reconciling Environmental Preservation and Social Justice in Access to Land Ownership (Morgane Brissaud)

In France, between 2011 and 2021, human activities led to the consumption of 24,000 hectares of natural, agricultural, and forested land each year. One of the main causes of this land artificialization is households' preference for single-family homes on large plots, which remains the most affordable housing option for first-time buyers and low-income households (Charmes, 2019).

In response to this issue, the government recognized the need to preserve soil with the Climate and Resilience Law of August 22, 2021, which includes its flagship objective "Zero Net Land Take". This policy requires halving the consumption of land by 2030 compared to the previous decade, with the goal of achieving neutrality by 2050. Consequently, this reduction must be reflected in the number of buildable plots.

So, how can we balance the environmental imperative of soil preservation while ensuring equal access to land resources?

In relation to the EUPeace Research Hub on Climate Science and Just Transition, this presentation is based on an ongoing geography PhD thesis conducted in partnership with the University of Limoges and a Council of Architecture, Urban Planning, and Environment (CAUE). It aims to introduce both the framework and the goal of this research: the creation of a land observation tool in the Haute-Vienne department.

This tool should be designed as a decision-making resource for local authorities, helping them develop land strategies that limit urban sprawl while still accommodating new households. The online platform will also facilitate the visualization of available land for households wishing to settle in the region.

However, there are certain risks, particularly in terms of increasing social inequalities. Providing elected officials with keys to develop a land strategy could lead to the instrumentalization of this platform for promoting the area or targeting specific populations, especially wealthier individuals or those driven by strong environmental values.

Whether or not equipped with AI, observatories are increasingly being designed as participatory tools that enhance access to information, but this does not necessarily mean they facilitate access to land resources. Furthermore, the development of this collaborative approach is not neutral and invites reflection on the position of the doctoral employee leading the project, as well as on the broader role of the university in climate adaptation and the associated social issues.

So, could this system of stakeholders ultimately exacerbate the risk of creating power dynamics around environmental issues?

Paper 5: Production of affects and dispossession, the case of an ecological community in western France (Arthur Béranger)

This contribution proposes an interpretation of the issues surrounding "ecological communities" (a group of individuals investing in a rural area in order to implement ecological practices and new ways of living) in terms of affects and dispossession. This research is based on an analysis carried out in a community in western France, combining ethnographic research during monthly meetings and weekly video conferences, with numerous individual and group interviews with the residents of this neo-rural initiative. The community regroups only white individuals, with most of them having a management position in IT, giving them a relatively high economic and cultural capital, and allowing them to work remotely. From then on, the aim of this contribution is to critically examine the complexity surrounding this community, between the impact of the digital jobs, the production of an imaginary struggle and the generation of local inequalities and dispossession.

Thus, although not subversive in its direct approach, the community is nonetheless a producer of ideas and influence on its own scale, as part of a wider political process, and is seen as a kind of prefigurative laboratory. This is reflected in the "political" approach that such a project implies, and the creation of imaginaries as a power to fight and influence the social world, that we can analyze in terms of production of affects.

Considering however that, in its macroscopic approach, the collective is only marginally proposing an alternative project to the dominant socio-economic system, due to the lack of involvement in more global and intersectional struggle projects, it will also be relevant to propose an analysis of the local dynamics embodied in these communities, which are themselves generators of inequalities through the process of dispossession created by this type of initiative, to the detriment of the inhabitants who initially settled there.

Paper 6: Power relations and dynamics of environmental conflicts over water and forests in a context of climate change (central-western France) (Pierre Texier)

Water and wood are essential resources for a wide variety of uses, such as food, agriculture or energy. However, the strong human pressures exerted on these resources are damaging their good quantitative and qualitative condition, all the more so in a context of climate change.

This issue of pressure and sharing of natural resources between different users is at the heart of my research, which focuses on the study of two environmental conflicts in western and central France. One is caused by a project to build large water reserves for agricultural irrigation, and the other by the practice of 'clear-cutting' in industrial forests. These two conflicts are intrinsically linked to industrial and productivist agricultural and forestry management methods. My paper will analyse the various facets of these conflicts, in particular the argumentative strategies of the stakeholders and the way in which they justify their positions.

Critics of these projects point in particular to the ecological impacts: use of pesticides, soil degradation, impacts on watercourses, accentuated in a context of climate change. This is a very important issue in the development of framing strategies in contemporary environmental conflicts. On the one hand, project promoters stress the need for these development projects, justifying them as solutions for adapting to climate change. On the other, associations, NGOs and local residents stress that they are, on the contrary, 'ill-adapted' or even 'greenwashing'. These projects are seen as solutions based on the status quo, and therefore as obstacles to the ecological transition.

Another strong criticism of these projects is that they could reinforce inequalities within the agricultural and forestry sectors, with the risk of resources being monopolised by the most politically and economically powerful stakeholders. This raises questions about the dialectic between justice and environmental injustice, which is very important to understanding these conflicts. So, the contribution will identify the mechanisms and problems of mediation approaches between farmers, foresters, local residents and public authorities. It will show how power relations are exercised in the arenas that regulate the sharing of resources.

Finally, this contribution will also analyse the alternatives to these industrial methods of natural resource management that are gradually being developed. The aim is to rethink agricultural and forestry practices, placing greater emphasis on agroecology and agroforestry.

Paper 7: Impact of climate change on the vulnerability of river-protection levees under cascading earthquake-flood event (Paolo Zimmaro & Giacomo Franco)

River-protection levees are important infrastructure systems for ensuring safety against floods. However, such distributed infrastructures are usually not engineered. As a result, they are highly vulnerable to flood events and earthquakes. While earthquake hazard is agnostic with respect to climate change, the intensity and recurrence of flooding events are highly impacted by climate change. As a result, cascading earthquake-flood loadings will likely happen more often in the future. Such combination is usually not accounted for when analyzing levees' vulnerability. In this study, we investigate levees' vulnerability to cascading earthquake-flood events, accounting for the effect of climate

change. Such analysis relies upon a multi-hazard framework applicable to any distributed infrastructure system. This method is based on level crossing statistics. As such, it is both computationally efficient and robust. We first analyze the vulnerability of as-constructed levees to hazard-consistent earthquake scenarios. After the earthquake occurs, the vulnerability of the levee system degrades. Such degradation is accounted for in a quantitative manner consistent with the expected earthquake-induced level of damage. We then apply various high-water events at different likelihood levels and define a final vulnerability level that accounts for both events in series. We anticipate that outcomes from this study can have a positive impact in the prediction of damage to flood-protection levees subjected to cascading earthquake-flood loadings.

Panel 7 - Research Hub Migration and Human Rights

Cultural Dynamics, Discourses and Politics of Migration

Paper 1: Beyond Borders: The Rhetoric of Fear and the Perspectives of International and Foreign Students in Southern Italy (Tomaino Stefania)

In the context of immigration, emergency narratives and discourses of exclusion (McLuhan, 1964; Cohen, 1972; Dal Zotto, 2014; Nicolosi, 2016) generate a climate of "moral panic" (McCombs & Shaw, 1972; Roy, 2016), influencing the perception of borders and defining the "other" through negative images: dangerous individuals, destitute people or subjects worthy of pity but incapable of integration (Dal Lago, 2004). In the contemporary era, therefore, political communication increasingly uses fear as a propaganda tool (Browner, 2009; Fuchs, 2018). The representation of immigration, frequently distorted by an emergency rather than a structural narrative, fuels strategies to contain flows, such as border closures and repatriations. In recent years, paradoxically, Italy, like the rest of the world, has given increasing importance to policies for recruiting international students in higher education (Baas, 2019), while maintaining restrictive migration policies and creating a hierarchy. In fact, crossing borders for economic reasons, such as work, tourism or study, is encouraged and made less difficult (Ambrosini, 2016). This qualitative study therefore aims to explore how Italian political and media communication, manipulating fear through polarizing narratives on immigration, impacts the experience of international students in Italy, a group often perceived, in the literature, as a privileged elite compared to other migrants (Weinar & Koppenfels, 2019). The hypothesis is that fear propaganda generates discrimination and isolation, despite recruitment policies. Through testimonies of international students and foreign students in Southern Italy, collected over the past two years, and a review of the literature, we can analyze how they experience discrimination and hate speech in everyday life.

Paper 2: The logic of migratory crisification: a conceptual proposal to analyze contemporary discourses and practices (Cecilia Estrada Villaseñor)

This paper presents the concept of migratory crisification as an analytical tool to understand how certain dynamics of human mobility are systematically constructed as social, political and media crises. In contrast to the uncritical use of the term "migration crisis", we argue that crisification is a discursive, institutional and affective process that transforms migration into an exceptional threat,

legitimizing extraordinary and restrictive political responses. The frequent confusion between migration and refuge/asylum contributes decisively to this process, especially in contexts where the violence or threat to life does not stem from internationally recognized institutionalized conflicts. Based on a critical review of specialized literature on securitization, moral panic and media construction of threats, three central mechanisms of crisification are identified: the alarmist narrative, the institutionalization of exceptionality and the mobilization of collective emotions such as fear or selective solidarity. The proposal contributes to denaturalize the automatic association between migration and crisis, offering new perspectives to critically investigate how these discourses are produced and their social, ethical and political implications. Finally, a future agenda for empirical research that comparatively explores this phenomenon in specific border contexts is proposed.

Paper 3: The role of visual and textual narratives in shaping migration discourses … not only (Lenka Kovaříková)

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?"

It seems that the History of Art has nothing to do with the problematic of Migration, Borders, and Human Rights in Contemporary Context. Quite the opposite, this issue in the contemporary context must be reflected by the lessons learned from the past. As an art historian I deal with the topics of the transformation of visual language during the groundbreaking pivotal periods of the human history. I´m searching for the causes and I try to reveal the cultural and non-cultural connections which stands behind.

How will be examined in my speach, the theme of the transformation and the change of the visual order is in many ways closely connected to the migration, climate change, epidemic crises and is caracterized by the collapse of the "old world", in which new cultural narratives are implemented. The example par ecellence rappresents so-called „Fall of the Roman Empire". Seen from today's perspective, this turning point in the human history reflected also by the art historians can be evaluated not only as a tragic end and demise of the antique civilization, but this complex phenomenon can be interpreted in its transitional phase also as the birth of a new historical era.

The discipline of History of Art offers the diverse possibilities for the contextual reflections of the theoretical and practical intersections of human and migration. We can analise how all social aspects are changing the form and appearance (image) of the concrete works of art.

The topic of my dissertation thesis was focused on the change of the artistic form and I analized the pivotal period (late Gothic / early Renaissnace) and the application of new Renaissance morphology at the Tovačov castle (Moravia), where appeared in the lands of the Kingdom of Bohemia for the first time. My research also explored the causes and stimuli that led to the transformation of the visual code in a European context. The theme of religious migration emerged as a key theme during the research. Religious migration, which represented a serious social problem in the mid-15th century, thus generates new visual narratives and paradigms that will be reused and repeated also in the future.

Paper 4: Experiencing Affective Responses to Images of Migration: A Survey Analysis (Simona Adinolfi & Greta Olson)

This talk illustrates the outcome of a survey conducted with seventy students who took part in a course on Images of Migration. It reflects on their viewing of an image of migration of their choice, selected from a series of US and German magazine covers, social media memes, and journalistic photos. The responses to the survey were analyzed by keeping in mind the typology of images of migration by Olson and Wessels (2020) and Borchert and Schlüsselburg (2024). The survey is examined by focusing on 1) the choice of the image to analyze and 2) the description of the affective responses of the viewers.

Firstly, we observe how the preferred choice of image tends towards images accompanied by a framing (e.g. memes, and magazine covers with titles). In particular, we reflect on how memes were the preferred choice of image and suggest that there is a connection between framing and use of digital technology in everyday life and the impact that an image is most likely to have on the viewer. Secondly, we move on to the analysis of the responses. Drawing on affect theory and cognitive narratology, we reflect on the experienced affects elicited by the image viewing and argue that there is a connection between the viewing of a specific situation depicted in the image and the affective response to it. For instance, where viewers see a group of refugees crammed on a small boat in the middle of the sea, they tend to feel anxiety, fear and experience pressure. Thus, the analysis of the responses suggests that that there is a difference in experienced affects between the victimizing images (whereby the viewer experiences sadness, fear) and the images that point to a violation of Human Rights (anger).

Paper 5: Reimagining Displacement: Digital Storytelling and Collaborative Media in Migration Studies (İlke Şanlıer, Kıvanç Türkgeldi & Aslı Ilgıt)

In an era where migration is increasingly criminalized and borders serve as sites of exclusion and surveillance, creative methodologies offer a means to amplify migrant voices and disrupt dominant narratives. This paper examines the potential of digital storytelling as a reflexive and collaborative method in migration studies, drawing on insights from the "Suppliants of Syria" project. Inspired by Aeschylus' The Suppliants, this project reimagines ancient narratives of displacement through the lived experiences of Syrian refugee women in Turkey, using participatory methods and digital media to foster intercultural dialogue and transhistorical solidarity. Through participatory media practices, Suppliants of Syria provides a platform for migrants to craft their own narratives, challenging mainstream representations that often frame them as passive subjects of crisis. The project integrates interactive storytelling, audiovisual media, and digital performance to explore questions of identity, belonging, and exile. By engaging migrants as co-creators rather than research subjects, it emphasizes agency, self-representation, and epistemic justice in migration studies. This paper reflects on the methodological and ethical challenges of employing digital storytelling in migration research. It interrogates how digital infrastructures shape the visibility and vulnerability of migrants, the role of platform affordances in transnational storytelling, and the ways in which digital multilingualism fosters or inhibits social cohesion. Additionally, it considers the reflexive dimensions of the researcher's

role, questioning how knowledge production can be co-created rather than extracted. By situating Suppliants of Syria within broader discussions of digital counter-publics, diasporic activism, and participatory media, this paper highlights the transformative potential of creative methodologies in migration research. It argues that by integrating artistic and digital practices, researchers can move beyond borders—both literal and epistemological—to cultivate ethical, inclusive, and agentic forms of storytelling in migration studies.

Panel 8 - Research Hub Inclusive Health and Well-Being

Interdisciplinary Approaches to Women´s health

Chair: Ehlimana Spahić, University of Sarajevo

Paper 1: Development of Midwife Awareness Training Module on the Effects of Climate Change on Maternal-Fetal Health: A Preliminary Study (Damla Kısrık & Burcu Avcıbay Vurgeç)

Purpose: The aim of this study was to develop a training program for midwives on the effects of climate change on maternal fetal health.

Method: This research, which will be conducted in a design-based quasi-experimental randomized controlled research design, will be conducted with midwives with at least undergraduate degree in Adana province. In the first stage of the research, training needs analysis will be determined. In line with the needs analysis, in this phase of the research, in-depth interviews were conducted with 10 midwives through a semi-structured form to determine their training needs on climate change. In the next part of the study, the Demographic Characteristic Form and Climate Change Information Form prepared by the researchers in line with the literature will be used to determine the needs analysis more comprehensively. In the second stage of the research, a training program will be developed to address the identified training needs. In the last stage of the study, this training will be given to the volunteer participants and the effectiveness of this training program will be evaluated.

Results: In the first stage of the research, qualitative and quantitative data will be collected to determine the training needs analysis. A needs analysis will be conducted using the data obtained. A training program including the identified needs will be created. Pre-test post-test training effectiveness will be evaluated. The quantitative data collection process of the first phase of the study has been completed and quantitative data analysis is ongoing. The participants defined climate change as seasonal weather changes, global warming, increase in temperatures and disruption of the balance in nature. They reported that climate change causes health problems in humans. Participants stated that climate change leads to negative pregnancy and newborn outcomes. Participants reported that we can protect pregnant women and newborns from the effects of climate change by organizing, providing a clean and safe environment, raising public awareness about sustainability, and preventing pregnant women from being exposed to bad climatic conditions. They reported that they wanted to give counseling to pregnant women about sustainable lifestyle and the effects of climate change. It was stated by the participants that midwives have education,

awareness-raising and counseling roles on climate change. They stated that they wanted to receive training on climate change and its effects on health, its effects on women's and pregnant women's health, measures to be taken to reduce health effects, and sustainability.

Paper 2: Breastfeeding: a sustainable world and a natural solution to combat climate change (Burcu Avcıbay Vurgeç & Pelin Yüksekdağ)

The aim of this study is to examine the relationship between breastfeeding, sustainable development goals and climate change. Breastfeeding is the most natural way of feeding newborns. For thousands of years, breast milk has been the only source of nutrition for newborns. Breastfeeding provides psychological benefits for both the baby and the mother. The World Health Organization recommends the gradual introduction of other foods after 6 months. There is a clear relationship between sustainable development goals and climate change. The 2030 Sustainable Development Goals published by the United Nations consist of 17 key targets. Of these, targets 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 are primarily related to breastfeeding, while Sustainable Development Goal 12 is assessed in terms of environmental health. It supports the sustainable reduction of waste and water consumption to secure future lives. Sustainable Development Goal 13 is climate action and is the main goal to which the study will be linked. There is an existing relationship between climate change and breastfeeding. Breastfeeding is a readily available natural source of nutrients for babies. It has none of the negative impacts on the environment that substitutes such as formula have. This is because formula requires the production, processing and transportation of ingredients such as cow's milk powder, soy or rice powder, vegetable oils, sugars and additives. The workflows involved in the production, use and recycling of these artificial foods contribute to increased greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global warming and climate change. In the production of formula foods, milk and dairy products produced on farms need to be transported over long distances. This transfer process continues until it is available to individuals. Therefore, the fossil fuels used in all these transfer processes until they reach the end user contribute to carbon emissions that contribute to an increase in greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. The containers, bottles and plastic containers used from the production of formula formulas to their use are sources of polluting waste. They also play a major role in water consumption. This has negative impacts on climate change. Breastfeeding is a prime example of clean, environmentally friendly actions to protect and improve planetary health.

Paper 3: The Role of Digital Twin Technology in Advancing Women's Health and Well-Being (Vít Nováček)

Pelvic floor dysfunctions (PFDs), including incontinence and pelvic organ prolapse, affect about 40% of women worldwide. Their multifactorial pathophysiology involves genetic predisposition, connective tissue abnormalities, obesity, aging, vaginal delivery, and other risk factors. These conditions significantly impact quality of life, limiting social and personal activities while affecting mental well-being. Their treatment imposes a substantial economic burden, with estimated costs of €10B in Europe. Prevention and early intervention remain challenging due to complex biomechanical and physiological factors.

Our research leverages computational modeling and simulation to improve understanding of pelvic floor mechanics during daily activities and vaginal delivery, aiming to reduce PFD risks through predictive tools and personalized healthcare solutions. Integrating digital twin technology into pelvic floor health enables enhanced diagnostics, optimized treatments, and preventative strategies. Accurate pelvic floor models facilitate detailed analysis of tissue deformation and stress distribution during daily activities and labor, providing critical insights into PFD risk factors.

Beyond diagnostics, our advancements support the development of training tools for obstetricians and midwives, improving medical education and patient care. This research contributes to staying healthy in a rapidly changing society by employing digital solutions to enhance maternal health and long-term well-being. By addressing the disease burden of PFDs, which often lead to chronic conditions and costly interventions, we support prevention-focused strategies. Additionally, AI-assisted diagnostic and predictive tools promote equitable access to high-quality healthcare, ensuring early risk detection and intervention for diverse populations.

By integrating AI, medical imaging, and computational biomechanics, this work fosters innovative and scalable solutions for pelvic floor health management. With the potential to transform women's health and maternal healthcare, our research empowers clinicians with better diagnostic and predictive tools, ultimately improving the quality of life for women worldwide.

Panel 9 - Research Hub Security and Conflict Transformation

Quantitative approaches to Security and Conflict Transformations

Chair: Jaime Villaverde, Comillas Pontifical University

Paper 1: Income, subject wellbeing and violence in Afghanistan: evidence from a nationwide survey (Mohammad Haroon Asadi)

This study investigates the relationship between household income and subjective well-being (SWB) in Afghanistan, emphasizing how fear of insecurity and experiences of violence moderate this association. Drawing on a comprehensive nationwide survey conducted by the Asia Foundation from 2016 to 2021 across 34 provinces, we analyze data from over 54,000 respondents using fixed effects ordered logit regressions. Our findings reveal a positive link between income and SWB, but this relationship weakens significantly in the presence of insecurity and violence, particularly for higher-income individuals. These results highlight the complex interplay of economic resources and security threats in shaping well-being in a conflict-affected context. The study underscores the need for policies that address both economic and security challenges to enhance Afghan lives, contributing new insights to the literature on SWB in unstable environments.

Paper 2: Unveiling securitisation: perspectives on MENA-European vs. Ukrainian refugee crises in Czechia (Zdenek Rod & Miroslav Plundrich)

EUPeace

European University for Peace,
Justice, and Inclusive Societies

This comparative analysis scrutinises the distinctive features of the 2015 MENA and 2022 Ukrainian refugee crises in the Czech Republic, revealing notable differences in threat perceptions and stakeholder engagement while answering who was finally portrayed as the victim and by whom. Hence, the MENA crisis prompted EU-level action and migration system reform, and the Czech government was the leading securitisation actor; meanwhile, the Ukrainian crisis differs. Cultural and religious dimensions influenced negative perceptions of Muslim migrants, contrasting with the positive reception of Ukrainian refugees rooted in cultural affinities with the West rejection of Russian aggression. Despite that, during the Ukrainian case, the shift in threat perceptions from sovereignty to socio-economic concerns marked the latter. Our study shows that this was not done by the Czech government but by the opposition party groups. With a potential new MENA crisis on the horizon, opposition and government persist in securitising migration. The 2025 parliamentary election is expected to spotlight migration, necessitating further exploration of evolving securitisation in Czechia.

Paper 3: AI and local democracy: strengthening inclusivity, transparency and interaction in times of crisis and transformation (Denys Tkachov)

This paper explores the idea that artificial intelligence (AI) — when thoughtfully applied and supported by clear legal and ethical frameworks — can help make local democracy more inclusive, more transparent and more interactive. In a time of geopolitical instability, social polarization and violent hegemonic transition, AI offers unique tools that can reinforce democratic resilience, particularly at the local level.

The central hypothesis of this research is that AI has the potential not only to improve the efficiency of public administration but to safeguard democratic practices in contexts of crisis and transition. By offering new channels for citizen engagement and enhancing transparency, AI can help mitigate the effects of institutional distrust and fragmentation. It can also serve as a counterbalance to destabilizing forces such as misinformation, manipulation and lack of civic participation.

The research focuses on both Europe and Ukraine, examining how AI-driven tools can strengthen local governance by widening participation, particularly for groups traditionally excluded from decision-making processes — such as people with disabilities, non-native speakers and those in remote or underserved areas. Tools like automated translation, personalized information delivery and AI-supported participatory platforms can lower these barriers and contribute to more robust and inclusive governance.

At the same time, AI systems that analyse and visualize public data, track policy implementation or generate accessible reports can enhance transparency in decision-making. This capacity to offer real-time, understandable information is particularly valuable during periods of crisis, where rapid and clear communication is essential for maintaining public trust.

This paper is especially relevant to Panel 1 of the EUPeace 2025 Conference, as it addresses how AI can strengthen democratic governance against hybrid threats, social fragmentation and institutional decay. By proposing a framework that balances technological innovation with democratic safeguards,

the research contributes to a broader understanding of how AI can be leveraged to protect and enhance peace, security and inclusivity during turbulent times.

Panel 10 - Research Hub Climate Science and Just Transition

Education for Better Climate Change Governance

Paper 1: Different fields – same 'justice' – similar 'transitions'?: Establishing a dialogue be-tween environmental, energy and climate justice (Sören Becker)

Justice is a term that sparks both positive aspiration and conceptual confusion. Used by social movements and political actors in various contexts, the concept of justice carries different meanings, and it surely evokes different calls for action. Regardless this background, many conjunctions regarding the term 'justice' have evolved in both academic and policy debates. This contribution reviews and contextualises major research literature on four of these, namely the notions of 'environmental', 'energy' and 'climate justice' as well as the term 'just transition'. Seeking connections and differences, the paper showcases the emergence of each of these terms in an introductory manner and compares the dimensions of justice and policy demands set centre-stage. It will be shown that these notions are built around similar blocks such as calls for an even distribution of costs and benefits among affected people, fair chances of participation and recognition of the rights of inland minorities, people at distant places and future generations. Applied to case-studies from the German energy sector and climate movement, it will be shown that justice conceived like this serves as a heuristic to both analyse actor strategies and to identify emerging conflicts. This way, it will be argued, justice transforms from a contested, political call to an analytical tool.

Paper 2: The role of universities in a just transition. evidences from a case-study: The university of Calabria (Italy) (Francesco Saverio Oliverio, Annamaria Vitale, Gilda Catalano)

Universities can contribute to the solutions of increasing environmental and socio-economic crises, by integrating the concept of sustainable development in research, organization, and in educating future decision makers. Specifically, by integrating a "just sustainability" into their organizations, universities could lead green praxis and eco-innovative laboratories in the ecological domain. Nevertheless, despite their crucial role, universities often fall behind in implementing sustainable strategies and in promoting an ecological perspective.

This paper moves from the idea that universities could use their knowledges by initiating, evaluating, and accelerating a just sustainability's process.

Its aim is at analyzing the current state of implementing sustainability strategies by universities - specifically at the University of Calabria (Italy) - as well as the relative success of these implementation efforts. The main observation field consists of examining the academic laboratories of diverse disciplines – STEM, Human and Social ones –, mainly focusing on their results in research and education to improve a more just ecological change.

Its outcomes are based on field-works of a formative school with young scholars - still in progress - about the issues concerning with a "just transition", led by the University of Calabria. The examined

school explores how local academic laboratories can promote a just change in relation to four crucial dimensions for a more ecological future: energy, water, food, and waste. The main expected results mark the capability to put together diverse multidisciplinary insights, and with the role of academic structures and laboratories in concretizing sustainable practices within the social contexts.

Paper 3: Simulating Climate Governance in the Classroom: A Mock COP Summit for Engineering Students (María del Mar Cledera-Castro, Katia Hueso-Kortekaas, Carlos Morales-Polo, Inés Redondo)

This proposal presents an experiential learning activity embedded in the undergraduate course Environmental Engineering at Universidad Pontificia Comillas, which simulates a United Nations Conference of the Parties (COP) climate summit to engage engineering students in the complexities of global climate governance.

The Mini Climate Summit (COP-ICAI) involves over 180 students from dual engineering programs (GITI, GITI+ADE, and SAPIENS), who assume roles within key stakeholder groups, governments, companies, indigenous communities, and environmental NGOs. Structured across three sessions, students conduct research, formulate policy positions, negotiate alliances, and engage in plenary debates on the global phasing-out of coal as an energy source.

The activity fosters teamwork, negotiation, communication, and systems thinking-core competences for advancing environmental justice and inclusive decision-making. Drawing on official sources like the Paris Agreement, students critically examine geopolitical tensions, equity considerations, and energy transitions. The simulation concludes with a negotiated agreement and a collective reflection on learning outcomes. Through role-playing and structured cooperation, students experience positive interdependence, build empathy across diverse worldviews, and develop a nuanced understanding of multilateral climate policy. The project offers a replicable model for integrating peace, sustainability, and digitalpedagogy into technical education, empowering future engineers to become informed and engaged global citizens.

Paper 4: Systematic Review of Artificial Intelligence Applications in Education: Toward Achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 4) (Firdevs Gundogan Önderöz, Prof. Dr. Edith Braun & Erum Afzal)

This study presents a systematic review of research focusing on Artificial Intelligence-Based Teaching (AIBT) practices within the scope of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). The study aims to comprehensively identify the existing scientific evidence regarding the effects of AI-based instructional methods on learning outcomes, skills, and competencies related to sustainable development. The review covers articles published between 2020 and 2025 in the Scopus and Web of Science databases. The keywords "artificial intelligence" "Artificial intelligence-based teaching" and "education for sustainable development" were used during the search.

The review analyzes in detail how AI technologies are used pedagogically, which types of AI tools are preferred, and at which educational levels they are implemented. In addition, student demographics,

methodological features, and thematic focus areas are examined to identify current trends, gaps, and future research opportunities in the literature.

The research idea was developed during a visit and is now starting. Initial results are expected by the time of the conference and will be discussed.

This study aims to reveal effective practices related to the integration of AI technologies into sustainability education and to guide educators, policymakers, and curriculum developers.

Paper 5: Virtues as an educational pathway for nurturing multispecies justice (Amparo Merino & Estela Diaz)

The complexity of the current socioecological crisis calls for a view of education based on a transformative and emancipatory approach that focuses on learners as moral and political subjects. In particular, a focus should be placed on enhancing a type of subjectification based on compassion. That type of education invites learning communities to explore questions about who we are, how we relate to nonhuman animals, and how we should act accordingly. Our central contention is that virtue ethics is an appropriate moral grounding for such a quest. Specifically, we aim to provide arguments that Aristotelian virtue-based multispecies education might provide a fruitful moral foundation by which to nurture the type of cognitive, emotional, and conative responses required to tackle the complexities of human-animal relationships. Those arguments revolve around four facets of Aristotelian virtues, namely, they provide direction for action towards a eudaimonic life, they are evolving and situated, they are relational, and they can be taught and learned. We argue that virtue-based multispecies education can offer a critical counterbalance to an increasingly AI-driven world, by nurturing moral discernment, relational awareness, and inclusive compassion that resist reductive or instrumental rationalities often embedded in AI applications. We also illustrate how different pedagogies may serve the development of virtues in the classroom and reflect on the challenges posed by bringing about virtues in the learning community.

Paper 6: Rethinking Climate Change Communication: Challenges, Successes, and Strategic Approaches (Kenan Ateşgöz, Çağla Okyar)

Climate change represents an existential challenge that, despite its global significance and profound implications for humanity, remains inadequately understood and insufficiently prioritized by societies and individuals alike. Given the complexity and intangible nature of climate threats, fostering a deeper and clearer comprehension of the climate crisis among the public is essential to ensure the acceptance, adoption, and active support of climate policies. Consequently, developing effective communication strategies, methods, and tools to heighten awareness and engage stakeholders on climate issues has become a critical requirement. Nonetheless, significant challenges continue to impede effective climate change communication. Scientific complexities coupled with dense statistical information often result in difficulties for audiences attempting to fully grasp the gravity of the situation, thereby hindering the desired behavioral changes. Furthermore, variations in geographic contexts and differing regional priorities exacerbate inconsistent perceptions of climate messages. Paradoxically, frequent repetition intended to emphasize urgency may inadvertently trivialize the issue in

the public consciousness. Additionally, climate change comprises a vast array of interconnected themes—ranging from energy and transportation to food security and extreme weather events—making coherent and unified messaging challenging, and thus diluting public perception of the issue's critical nature. Moreover, societal perceptions placing exclusive responsibility for addressing climate change on governments and corporations contribute to individuals overlooking their own roles and responsibilities. This situation is further complicated by the delayed manifestation of climate impacts, undermining proactive engagement. The lack of sufficiently trained media professionals capable of accurately communicating complex climate issues further limits public engagement and awareness. This study aims to critically examine the barriers and opportunities inherent in climate change communication through a systematic literature review and content analysis approach. By identifying and analyzing successful communication practices, the research intends to develop actionable recommendations and strategic approaches for effectively conveying climate change messages to diverse audiences.

Paper 7: Representation of climate change in Turkish media: Turkey´s first climate bill (Sevda Ünal)

Climate change is one of the most important and challenging issues facing humanity in the 21st century. The 21st century can be defined as an era characterised by the risks that humanity faces as a result of its endless desires and ambitions. Referring to Ulrich Beck, we are faced with a "risk society" created by human beings. The risks of climate change also characterise today's risk society. A sustainable future for all living beings in the ecosystem can only be built by being aware of these risks and taking measures against them.

The origins of climate change research extend back to the 1930s. The steam engineer Guy Callendar examined data from 147 worldwide meteorological stations in 1938 and determined that global temperatures increased by 0.3 degrees in the last 50 years and linked this rise to industrial carbon dioxide emissions (https://www.discover.ukri.org/a-brief-history-of-climate-change-discoveries/index.html). Roger Revelle and Hans Suess from the USA discovered atmospheric carbon dioxide buildup from industrial production in 1957 which preceded the 1958 TV programme on human climate impact and led to Charles Keeling's 1958 carbon dioxide measurements at Hawaii and the initial computer simulation of global climate change in 1967. In 1985, scientists' discovery of the hole in the ozone layer accelerated the study of the effects of climate change. As a result, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change was established in 1988 by the UN Environment Programme and the World Meteorological Organisation. The United Nations Climate Change Conference, the first of which was held in 1995, is also an important step in the fight against the climate crisis. The adoption of the Kyoto Protocol in 1997 and the Paris Agreement in 2015 can be seen as important milestones in the fight against climate change.

Tackling climate change can only be achieved with the support of a well-informed public. The media, both traditional and digital, have an important role to play in keeping the public properly informed. Digital newspaper platforms and social media sites along with online news outlets and opinion leaders serve as essential tools for educating the public and promoting awareness through today's primarily online information access methods. The media does not prioritize climate change issues in

their agenda. Climate change-related events such as natural disasters, drought, famine, migration, climate change legislation and national or international meetings ensure that climate change is on the agenda. Turkey's first climate bill has also brought climate change discussions to the fore in the media. In this context, this study aims to show how the issue of climate change is framed in the Turkish media, based on the debates that have increased with Turkey's first Climate Bill. In this context, the study analyses news items published on the digital platform between 20 February 2025 and 31 March 2025 with the keyword 'Climate Bill' using the 'News' tab of the Google search engine. 20 February 2025, when the research sample of news items was initiated, is the date when Turkey's first climate bill was submitted to the Grand National Assembly of Turkey. Turkish online news websites (newspapers, news agencies and other online news websites) will be included in the sample. The study seeks to answer the following questions:

In the news about climate change in the Turkish media through the keyword 'Climate Bill':

1. Which frames are prominent (environmental crisis, economic conflicts of interest, political cooperation, etc.)?
2. How do these frames illustrate the different forms and scope of potential climate action?
3. Which actors' discourses (scientists, politicians, activists, civil servants) are highlighted?
4. How are environmental activists and civil society represented?

It is expected that the study will help to identify which frames and which actors' discourses on climate change are prominent in the media, how climate change news is discussed in the media depending on the context (Climate Bill) and how legal regulations affect the representation of climate change in the media.

Panel 11 - Research Hub Migration and Human Rights

Technological Transformations in Migration Studies and Narratives

Paper 1: A Double-Edged Sword: AI as an Instrument of Bullying or a Means of Prevention (Sedat Uçar)

In recent decades, the pervasive use of social media has brought the issue of cyberbullying to the forefront. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated this problem, as children confined to their homes increasingly turned to social media, leading to a surge in cyberbullying incidents. The rapid proliferation of AI tools has further intensified this issue, with AI being used both unconsciously for entertainment and consciously for malicious purposes. Examples include deepfake videos, manipulated images, and AI-generated content that harasses or humiliates individuals under the guise of humor.

This paper explores the dual role of AI in cyberbullying and its prevention, with a particular focus on vulnerable groups such as migrants. On one hand, AI has enabled new forms of bullying, such as creating realistic but fake media that can damage reputations and cause emotional distress. Migrants, often already facing social and cultural challenges, can be particularly susceptible to such targeted harassment. On the other hand, AI also offers promising solutions for combating cyberbullying. These include real-time detection of bullying behaviors through advanced software, restricting access to

harmful platforms in educational settings, and providing emotional support through AI-driven counseling services.

This descriptive study aims to identify the most commonly used AI-supported bullying tools and highlight the AI applications developed to counteract them. By examining these dual aspects, the paper seeks to uncover the general characteristics of AI's role in both perpetuating and preventing bullying. The findings will contribute to a deeper understanding of how AI can be harnessed to promote peace and well-being in school environments, particularly for migrant communities, aligning with the broader goals of justice, peace, and inclusiveness in an AI-driven world.

Paper 2: Artificial Intelligence (AI), Migration and Education – AIME: Socio-technological research perspectives (Anna Elia & Lucia Groe)

The proposed research line falls within a field of study characterized by the intersection between Artificial Intelligence (AI), Migration and Education, here called AIME. We authors believe that it is a rich field in potential for the development of innovative solutions capable of allowing migrants to fully express their subjectivity, both in the transit phases of their migratory experience and in the phases of settlement in the territories allowing them to avail themselves of the right to education and becoming the protagonists of the paths of social inclusion.

The analysis will adopt a theoretical framework that uses the critical approach of Critical Border Studies (Parker and Vaughn-Williams 2016; Mezzadra and Neilson 2013; Casas-Cortes et al. 2015), which conceives the border as a relational construction shaped by discourses, practices, norms as well as material and immaterial configurations defined by a plurality of actors; of the social construction of technology (Bijker et al. 1990; Wustenhagen et al. 2007) and the Anthropocene society (Moore 2015,2017). Starting from this approach, the contribution will examine two specific phases of human mobility: the transit phase and the reception phase, which we have called the "xenìa process", wanting to emphasize the purely kind and respectful aspect towards the foreigner versus forms of rejection and intolerance.

In the transit phase, attention will fall on the type of migration (in transit; regular or irregular), on movements and choice of routes, while in the reception phase, the focus will fall on the right to education of migrant's children included in educational paths in light of the norms and rules provided by migration policies; on the processes of exclusion and inclusion, on the social and cultural challenges that the guarantee of the right to education imposes.

The purpose of the work is to provide data and information to support the creation of an app capable of acting in the AIME as a success factor in school integration and access to the education system for the purposes of regularization with particular reference to the Italian case.

The analysis uses the following research questions:

☐   How can AI customize the educational process to meet the specific needs of migrant's children from different cultural and linguistic backgrounds?

□   How can AI facilitate second reception paths allowing the completion of the so-called socio-economic integration paths?

□   How can AI facilitate learning paths for adults for the purposes of the Integration agreement?

Paper 3: Artificial Intelligence, Migration, and the Right to Education in the Legal Order of the European Union (Claudio Di Maio)

The integration of artificial intelligence, migration management, and the protection of fundamental rights opens up new avenues of reflection for European Union law, particularly in ensuring the effectiveness of migrants' right to education and, more specifically, that of foreign minors during the reception phase. The use of algorithmic technologies in decision-making processes concerning the legal status of foreign nationals and administrative procedures relating to migrants promises, on the one hand, greater efficiency and personalisation of educational services, but, on the other hand, necessitates a robust legal framework to prevent systemic discrimination, implicit biases, and procedural opacity (Penasa, 2023).

AI applications are already present in national protection systems – from automatic transcription of testimonies to risk profiling and predictive assessments of credibility – and raise significant questions of legitimacy, especially concerning the principles of transparency, human oversight, and the effective protection of rights (Memon et al., 2024). The case-law of the Court of Justice of the European Union has repeatedly affirmed that any automation in procedures affecting fundamental rights must be counterbalanced by an adequate individual assessment, respectful of the principle of proportionality (Court of Justice, C-817/19, Ligue des droits humains).

European regulation is moving towards a risk-based normative approach, as highlighted by Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 on Artificial Intelligence, which classifies AI systems also in relation to their potential impact on fundamental rights, including access to education, non-discrimination, and the protection of minors. The use of predictive technologies in educational settings must therefore be scrutinised through parameters such as algorithmic fairness, institutional accountability, and ex ante protection of vulnerable individuals (Falce, 2023).

Added to this are the critical issues arising from the increasing technical delegation to third parties – such as European agencies or private developers – in the definition of automated decision-making criteria, which risk introducing a form of algorithmic discretion that is difficult to challenge (Musco Eklund, 2024). In this context, the right to education, recognised under Article 14 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU, must also be guaranteed in its digital access modalities, ensuring the intelligibility of decisions and the possibility of effectively contesting them.

The use of AI in the European migration-education context cannot, therefore, be separated from a legal framework that safeguards human dignity, social inclusion, and substantive equality, transforming technology into a tool of empowerment rather than exclusion.

This analysis is guided by the following research questions:

1. To what extent is the use of AI in administrative procedures affecting the right to education of foreign minors compatible with the principles of legality, transparency, and due process enshrined in EU law?

2. What legal instruments are necessary to ensure that predictive technologies used in educational pathways comply with the principle of non-discrimination and promote inclusion?

3. How can effective democratic oversight be ensured over algorithmic decisions adopted within the EU's migration and education policies?

Paper 4: Border policies of Eastern EU states: Interactions, Implementation & EU Integration (Maraike Vandergrift)

The enlargement of the European Union has led to a significant shift in its external borders, bringing new challenges in the area of border policy. Few policy areas are as contentious within the EU as border policy. Particularly since 2015 and the so-called refugee crisis, the EU and its member states seem unable to agree on uniform standards, given the numerous threats and confrontations at the EU's external borders. The handling of borders is caught between the EU, which wants to harmonise them, its member states, which want to preserve their sovereignty, and civil society, which criticises border security at the national and EU level.

This research project analyses the border policies of eastern EU member states and their implementation of EU standards around tension between national preferences. Because of the increasing autocratisation in the neighbouring states and the visible heterogeneity in dealing with migraton, especially since 2015/16, the project aims to analyse the causes of these divergences. The work sheds light on the different implementations of EU border management standards by the Eastern Member States and analyses national preferences and political debates on the basis of institutional documents and expert interviews. By analysing member states' (non-)compliance with EU standards and examining regional resilience strategies, the research reveals direct reactions to simultaneous crises. In addition, the project looks at the impact of border policies on state institutions such as border management agencies, public opinion and national decision-making processes, focussing on case studies from Poland and Bulgaria. These analyses reflect national strategies for coping with polycrises and institutional adaptability.

This work thus addresses central questions of the Research Hub 'Migration, Borders, and Human Rights in Contemporary Contexts': It analyses the complexity of border policy in the EU, the effects on migration movements and border regions and implicitly raises questions about human rights in the context of different border regimes. Analysing the scope for national action in the implementation of EU standards contributes to a better understanding of the governance of migration and borders in Europe.

Panel 12 - Research Hub Inclusive Health and Well-Being

Cross-Sector Approaches to Inclusive Health and Wellbeing

Chair: Michael Knipper, Justus Liebig University Giessen

Paper 1: Inclusive nature: How nature-based education provides a healthy anchor for all in a rapidly changing society (Katia Hueso-Kortekaas)

In the context of fast paced societal and environmental changes, early years education and care have a key role in providing children with tools and skills to adapt to them and thrive. One of the strategies that has been proven to work is exposure and connection to nature. Allowing children to have significant experiences in nature generates emotional, social and cognitive responses that prove to be useful later in life. Nature (pre-)schools have been growing exponentially in the last few decades, as a response to an urban centric and hyper technological society that threatens to disconnect us from our own humanness. Nature-based education offers children opportunities to learn in and from nature, while providing multiple short and long-term benefits for their development and health, as well as for enhancing attitudes and behaviors towards environmental care in later life stages. In addition, children with early experiences in nature develop leadership skills and a sensitivity towards justice and fairness that percolate into other sectors of society. These are essential assets for the environmental challenges our society is facing today and is likely to face in the future. This is especially beneficial for children from vulnerable backgrounds (children with disabilities, refugee children, other minorities), who in turn have less opportunities to spend time in nature for several reasons. Experiences in nature not only improve their wellbeing and health but also empower them and reduce their perceived vulnerability. In the long run, these effects contribute to the construction of a fair, livable and inclusive society in a healthy environment. The experience of the author founding the first nature preschool in Spain in 2011 and the initiative Inclusive nature aimed at children with disabilities in 2014, helps illustrate these points.

Paper 2: Mental and Physical Wellbeing Experiences of Immigrant Students in Health Sciences: A Phenomenological Study (Çağla Okyar, Damla Kısrık, Ebru Gözüyeşil, Şule Gökyıldız Sürücü, Burcu Avcıbay Vurgeç & İlke Şanlıer)

Introduction

War, climate crisis, forced displacement, and globalization have made international migration a significant global phenomenon. Students who migrate for education constitute a critical part of this mobility. Immigrant students in health sciences, in particular, possess the potential to contribute to both their home and host countries' healthcare systems. However, their migration experiences may impact their mental and physical well-being (1).

This study aims to examine, through a phenomenological lens, the adaptation processes of immigrant students in health sciences at Çukurova University, Türkiye, focusing on the challenges of migration and their effects on biopsychosocial well-being. It also explores the role of social support sys-

tems and future expectations in shaping their well-being. The research seeks to contribute to the literature on international migration and student mobility, particularly in the context of inclusive health policies for immigrant students in health education.

Method

This qualitative study employs a phenomenological approach to analyze the experiences of immigrant students in-depth. Participants will be selected via purposive sampling from immigrant students enrolled in health sciences programs at Çukurova University. Data will be collected through semi-structured interviews and analyzed using thematic analysis (2). Ethical approval for the study will be sought in April 2024, after which data collection will commence.

Expected Findings

The study is expected to reveal the challenges immigrant students face in academic and social adaptation, the impact of these challenges on their mental and physical health, and the role of social support systems and future aspirations in their well-being. The findings may inform inclusive policies and support programs tailored to immigrant students in health education.

Conclusion and Contribution

This study addresses a gap in understanding the experiences of immigrant students in health sciences. Its findings will contribute to the literature on international student mobility and migration while guiding universities and policymakers in developing targeted support strategies.

Paper 3: Preventing Falls in Older Adults: A Six-Month AI-Based Prediction Approach (Amadou M. Djiogomaye)

Falls significantly contribute to frailty and functional decline in elderly individuals, potentially trapping them in a cycle of dependence and leading to a severe, long-term reduction in both physical and social activity even to a loss of social inclusion. The risk of falling (ROF) is linked to three key dimensions: physical/organic, socio-environmental, and thymic/cognitive. Therefore, fall prevention using a predictive artificial intelligence (AI) model can help protect older individuals from multiple comorbidities. The reliability of predictive studies depends on the quality and consistency of data collection. Unlike hospitals, where data is gathered only when patients seek care, home-based data collection requires practitioners to schedule visits at fixed intervals. Our study followed 1,648 community-dwelling older adults (≥60 years) between September 2017 and September 2023. Participants were assessed at home by UPSAV (Unité de Prévention, de Suivi et d'Analyse du Vieillissement), a unit dedicated to aging prevention, monitoring, and analysis at Limoges University Hospital. Data collection included cardiovascular risk factors, fall occurrences, socio-environmental characteristics, and a comprehensive geriatric assessment summary score. To ensure coherence, our predictive model accounts for temporality by predicting falls every six months. Out of thirty input features, nine were identified as the most relevant fall predictors using a multinomial logistic regression: Age, Gender, Hypertension, Housing, Social activity, Malnutrition, Pathological geriatric depression scale (GDS),

Instrumental activities of daily living (IADL), and Fall in the past year. These features were used to develop several predictive models, including Logistic Regression, Support Vector Machine (SVM), Random Forest, and eXtreme Gradient Boosting (XGBoost). Among these, the SVM model performed best, achieving an area under the curve (AUC) of 74 on the test data. Like most AI models, ours can be continuously refined with additional data over time. In this case, improving the model also provides an opportunity to collect data from patients' homes while offering personalized fall prevention advice. Additionally, necessary adjustments to home environments can be made between practitioner visits to enhance safety. We will present our results at the conference.

Paper 4: Transfer of Knowledge and Technology in the Function of Strengthening the Healthcare System of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Ehlimana Spahić &Mirza Pojskić)

The paper, in addition to the introduction and concluding remarks, consists of three parts. In the first part, the authors reflect on the country's general socioeconomic and political situation, elaborating on a complex political system that governs healthcare. Based on this comprehensive insight into the state of the healthcare system, the authors analyze the strengths and weaknesses in the next part, with special attention to the challenge of brain drain in the field of medicine. In the third part, the authors show, based on case studies, how brain drain can be converted into a transfer of knowledge and technology to strengthen Bosnia and Herzegovina's healthcare system. Without diminishing the importance of other similar initiatives, our focus is on the BHÄG e.V. Association and the analysis of their activities aimed at investment in equipment and the targeted training of doctors in the public sector. The focus is on cooperation projects between Bosnian doctors and doctors working in Germany, between clinics and institutes, and the promotion of exchange programmes for young doctors and medical students. The general idea is to ensure that the transfer of knowledge and technology improves working conditions and the quality of healthcare services while reducing brain drain in this area. In the concluding remarks, the authors recommend how this process can be improved.

Paper 5: The case of care: from fiction to action (Valeria De Luca,Marie-Hélène Cuin,Valentin Moulin & Cécile McLaughlin)

In this presentation, we offer an immersive approach to encourage transdisciplinarity based on the notion of care as "caring and giving care".

Following Joan C. Tronto, care can be seen as "a generic activity that includes everything we do to maintain, perpetuate and repair our 'world,' so that we can live in it as well as possible. This world includes our bodies, ourselves, and our environment, all of which we seek to interweave into a complex web of life support" (2009, p. 143). Conceived in this way, care is a transdisciplinary device and object that is operational in the arts, in the humanities, social sciences and health sciences.

As a result, care and the challenges it poses to the practices and experiences of care and well-being lend themselves to being activated by methodologies that give more importance to collective intelligence.

In a systemic and complex approach such as that found in the living world, collective intelligence gives an operating transfer to human collectives. This transfer is ensured by co-design tools that turn

the heterogeneity of actors and disciplines into an asset for the development of creative and innovative thinking.

With this in mind, the immersive workshop will be structured as follows.

First, we will present the care "object", seeking to build transdisciplinary bridges to stimulate dialogue between the participants.

Next, we will experiment with tools that enable fictional but plausible scenarios to emerge, in order to conjure up both scientific and intercultural imaginaries of care.

Finally, following the example of therapeutic writing workshops, this ideational and narrative material could form a corpus of open analysis mapping these imaginaries with a view to putting them into action in future collective projects.

Panel 13 - Research Hub Migration and Human Right

Resonances of Displacement: Bodies, Objects, and Critical Thought in Migration

Paper 1: The Impact of International Migration on Rural Areas: The Case of the 'Montagne Limousine' (France) (Louis Tissot)

This paper explores how international migration shapes rural areas, using the example of the "Montagne Limousine", a rural region in central France that has experienced different forms of migration for over a century. Significant migrations include Turkish workers arriving in the 1970s for jobs in the forest industry, British migrants since the 1980s attracted by affordable housing and landscapes amenities, and the arrival of asylum seekers since 2015. Migrants influence the social and cultural fabric of rural areas by participating in local associations, engaging in various economic activities, and introducing new cultural practices. Their presence actively reshapes local identities and social interactions. Moreover, each migrant's experience is shaped by personal social representations, imaginaries, and emotional responses, which are influenced by their individual life paths and legal status. These representations have an impact on their "integration" in the region. In addition, the presence of these international migrants in the region and the diversity of their profiles necessarily mean that local and national public authorities face many challenges in migration governance. This research, based on ongoing PhD work, examines the diversity of foreign populations in rural areas while engaging with the concept of rural cosmopolitanism (Woods, 2018). This concept refers to "both the hybridization and translation of diverse cultural influences to create new rural identities and a communal sentiment of tolerance, openness and conviviality that embraces diversity" (Woods, 2022, p. 316). This paper insists on the importance of emotional and narrative dimensions in understanding migration in rural areas. Each migrant's individual experience shapes how they relate to and experience rural spaces. The concept of 'sentiment' (but not only) is directly linked to the emotional and narrative dimensions of migration in the sense that each migrant has his or her own experience and therefore experiences the territory differently.

Paper 2: Who migrates for the migrant? Tamara Cubas's polyphony of voices and gestures (Valeria De Luca)

In a nod to the opening line of Yannick Haenel's novel Jan Karski, Qui témoigne pour le témoin (Who bears witness for the witness?), which itself is inspired by Paul Celan's famous adage Niemand zeugt für den Zeugen, we might ask who —and what— migrates (and bears witness) for the migrant.

We want to explore the multiple trajectories of Uruguayan artist Tamara Cubas (1972-); both her artistic career and her productions have proved to be migrations in their own right, whose living, creative material is made up of the experiences of migrant women.

Trained in Uruguay and Europe, Cubas has produced several projects combining contemporary dance, installation, interviews, writing, workshops, etc., to give voice to the experience of migration and the condition of migrant women.

One example is Sea of Silence, presented at the most recent Festival d'Avignon (2024) and part of a larger project of the same name. Sea of Silence, as a multimodal, multimedia aesthetic device (De Luca 2025, in press), is intended as a dispersed but embodied constellation in which enunciative postures and fictional games oscillate between the first-person assumption of feminine migration and fictional projection through artifacts and objects created by women from Barcelona to Gent, Chicago to Cadiz, and from Syria, Mexico, Morocco, El Salvador, etc., all of whom are involved in the project.

Thus, in this communication, we would like to examine from a semioaesthetic point of view how these Atlantic crossings belonging to regimes of life that seem to oppose each other are entangled. In this way, Tamara Cubas's artistic production will enable us to better understand the semio-cultural processes - assiological, translational, mediatic, performative - leading to the pertinentization of the migrant woman as a subject endowed with a voice of her own (Laugier 2007) in a space that is itself by definition shifting, such as that of cultures (Lotman 2004).

Paper 3: People, Things, And Emotions on the Move: Academics from Ukraine and Materiality of Displacement (Nadiya Kiss)

Russia's war against Ukraine caused displacement, which historians and politicians compared with World War II. As mentioned in the Free to Think 2024 – Report of the Scholars at Risk Academic Freedom Monitoring Project, 1 in 5 Ukrainian universities is damaged or destroyed, 71 universities and 153 vocational education institutions have been incapacitated according to the Forbes Ukraine. Therefore, for many scholars, the war disables their ability to concentrate on research and continue their work in Ukraine, so they fled the country. The applied methodology includes such disciplines as the sociology of things, forced migration studies, and depiction of intellectuals in exile. People, things, and emotions should be analysed in their interaction during displacement, rather than isolated objects. This chapter focuses on the materiality of intellectuals, whose possessions and necessities are often their tools for knowledge production. My research material is based on 20+ in-depth interviews with displaced scholars from Ukraine and visual storytelling elements. In this presentation, I concentrate on the first stages of the move, namely departure from the home country and arrival in

the host country, the motivations, and circumstances of this process. After transcribing the interviews, I contacted research participants, asking them to provide photos to illustrate their answers regarding questions: What did you take with you? Did you take some work-related objects? Therefore, I used the technique of object-based conversation. For my research, photographs have a double meaning. First, as objects that displaced academics took with them, secondly as visual representations and narratives, and as means of co-creation of meaning among the interviewee and research participants. Migrant objects play the role of "bridges between the home now and the home in the past" (Mastoureh, and Ní Laoire 2024: 72) and could be categorized as objects of memory, objects of instrumentality, objects of identity (Ibid). Furthermore, they carry "emotions, stories, and meanings that will later be translated differently in the new context where they arrive after their journey" (Claramonte 2024: 40-41). In my presentation, I am not aiming to classify the objects but rather consider them as keys for opening migrant stories (Höpfner 2022). Furthermore, as research material demonstrates, borders between people, things, and emotions in the process of forced migration are often blurred.

Paper 4: Spaces of Exception: Human Rights Violations in Migration Detention Centers (Hana Núr Doubová)

This paper tries to examine human rights violations within migration detention facilities across the European Union. This work is conceptualizing these spaces as "zones of exception" where legal protections are frequently suspended. Based on fieldwork conducted across multiple European border states, the paper documents widespread violations including arbitrary detention, inadequate healthcare, family separation, and denial of the process rights of the persons in detention.

This analysis is based on international human rights law and will try to demonstrate how detention practices violate specific provisions of many international documents, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention Against Torture, and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Particularly concerning is the systematic violation of absolute rights, which includes the prohibition against inhuman treatment, particularly with the emphasis on the restrictions of detainees in many rights, including limited access to legal counsel, translation services, and effective remedies.

This paper will try to point out that detention centers physically demonstrate the tension between state sovereignty and universal human rights obligations. Furthermore, the findings indicate that these rights violations produce enduring psychological trauma that complicates integration processes for the migrants and overall, for the whole society.

Methodologically, the research contains legal analysis as well as psychological analysis of the impact of the detention in the individual. This approach contributes to the study on the "human right-ization" of migration by showing the significant gap between states' commitments and their practices. The paper is concluded by proposing alternative governance models and different approaches that should fulfill legitimate border management functions while ensuring adherence to human rights standards and preserving human dignity.

Paper 5: When quantum criticism meets migration: the case of Thomas Paine (Lyne Hervey-Passée)

As a PhD candidate who has passed preliminary examinations, the aim of my research-creation dissertation is to highlight the impact counter-hegemonic discourse and visual writing in Thomas Paine's texts has generated from 18th century Great Britain, America and France to nowadays. More specifically, research-creation is defined as a set of practices borrowing from both the scientific and artistic fields (Paquin, 2020). The construction of my thesis is based on a transdisciplinary approach in which the data from my theoretical research informs my creative process in order to produce a medium that is different from that commonly expected in the academic world. In research-creation, the most obvious example is Nick Sousanis' thesis, published by Harvard University Press in 2015 in the form of a graphic novel entitled Unflattening. As to me, I introduce parts of my manuscript Thomas and I as well as my documentary script Thomas Paine's Lives inside my theoretical essay to emphasize the rhizomatic link between text and image.

My research method is still that of literary analysis of texts using literary theories, however I also use observation and experimentation - which are the hallmarks of scientific research - to achieve a result that is both theoretical and artistic since it is the aim, I yearn for in my research and creative work. To that end, I analyze the literarity of the texts of the 18th-century transatlantic, transclass thinker and writer Thomas Paine from the perspective of quantum criticism (Bayard 2022). What would the world be like if Paine's texts had been more studied and valued over time?

In this call for papers my aim is to demonstrate how an 18th-century migrant has shaped the destiny of a whole country and not the least -the United States of America- by implementing, like a new software, into the psyche and minds of the North American Insurgents that they could emancipate themselves from an Empire that kept them infantilized to use Paine's metaphor in his revolutionary writings.