

# Lehrstuhlvertretung

Prof. Dr. Ingolfur Blühdorn

1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025



The [Institute for Social Change and Sustainability \(IGN\)](#) is looking for a temporary professorial replacement. The IGN is part of the Department of Socioeconomics at WU Vienna. It explores issues of sustainability (political, social, ecological) from a social science perspective, most notably political sociology, social movement studies and political/social theory.



Our research places great emphasis on the democracy/sustainability nexus, on the reconfiguration of the eco-emancipatory project(s) under conditions of late modernity, and the organisation, stabilisation and legitimisation of the politics of sustained unsustainability.

[IGN Profile](#) Recent research projects undertaken at the IGN have given rise to publications such as:

- Polarized Democracy: How the Climate Crisis reshapes Social Movement Landscapes, Social Cleavages and Representative Democracy (Special Issue following the 2023 IGN conference; in preparation)
- Beyond the Eco-emancipatory Project: Socio-ecological Crisis and the Metamorphosis of Western Modernity (Special Issue following the 2023 IGN conference; in preparation)
- [Unhaltbarkeit. Auf dem Weg in eine andere Moderne](#), Suhrkamp 2024
- Revisiting the Promises of Eco-Political Experimentation: Achievements, Appropriations, Limits (Special Issue of *Sustainability: Science, Practice and Policy*, 2023)
- [The Dialectic of Emancipation – Transgressing Boundaries and the Boundaries of Transgression](#) (Special Issue of *European Journal of Social Theory*, 2022)
- [Prefiguration – Co-optation – Simulation: Movements and Activism beyond Post-politics](#) (Special Issue of *Social Movement Studies*, 2021)
- [Democratization beyond the Post-Democratic Turn. Political Participation between Empowerment and Abuse](#) (Special Issue of *Democratization*, 2020)
- [Nachhaltige Nicht-Nachhaltigkeit. Warum die ökologische Transformation der Gesellschaft nicht stattfindet](#), Transcript 2020
- [Beyond the environmental state? The political prospects of a sustainability transformation](#) (Special Issue of *Environmental Politics*, 2019).

The vacant position is open to social scientists (political/environmental sociologists, social/political theorists) who pursue an ambitious and innovative research agenda fitting tightly with the current agenda of the IGN. Key tasks include:

- Providing academic leadership in line with the Chair's established agenda
- Contributing to the administration and management of the IGN
- Providing high-quality teaching/supervision at BA, MA and PhD levels (up to 8 hpw) in the fields of social structures/structural change of modern societies and the politics of sustainability
- Contributing to ongoing and/or emerging research and publication projects of the IGN.

We welcome applications from candidates with the following qualifications:

- *Venia legendi* (or equivalent) in a relevant social science discipline and extensive teaching experience
- Rich publication profile in internationally recognised academic outlets
- Ongoing research projects which directly link into the IGN research agenda, most notably the transformation of democracy and eco-governance under conditions of late – also digital – modernity
- Near native German and English language competence (written and spoken)
- Interest in academic collaboration reaching beyond this fixed term appointment.

Salary in accordance to qualification and experience, broadly equivalent to the professorial scale (14 times per year). For further details on the position, the selection process and any related issues, please contact: [ingolfur.bluehdorn@wu.ac.at](mailto:ingolfur.bluehdorn@wu.ac.at). Applications by February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024, to: [ign@wu.ac.at](mailto:ign@wu.ac.at).