

The Energy & Strategy Think Tank (ESTT) at WU's Institute for Strategic Management (ISM) (<https://www.wu.ac.at/en/ism/energy-strategy-think-tank/>) invites applications for a master thesis.

**Working Title:** *Intermediaries for transformative change*

**Scope, Aims, Methods, and Initial Literature:** Transformative change (also: sustainability transitions) refers to the fundamental change of socio-technical systems understood as cluster of technological artefacts, regulations and policies, user practices and markets, cultural meanings, infrastructure related to artefacts, maintenance and distribution networks, and production and supply networks (de Haan & Rotmans, 2018; Geels, 2004; Weber & Rohracher, 2012) (Bolton & Foxon, 2015; Castree & Waitt, 2017; Edmondson, Kern, & Rogge, 2019; Farla, Markard, Raven, & Coenen, 2012; Fuenfschilling & Binz, 2018; Köhler et al., 2019; Markard, Raven, & Truffer, 2012; Smith, Stirling, & Berkhout, 2005). This thesis aims to conduct a systematic literature review (Denyer & Tranfield, 2009) to clarify the role (e.g., triggers, organization design, contributions, downsides) of intermediaries in transformative changes (Kanda, Hjelm, Clausen, & Bienkowska, 2018; Kant & Kanda, 2019; Kivimaa, 2014; Küçüksayraç, Keskin, & Brezet, 2015).

**.Thesis Language:** English

**Corporate Partner:** None

**Expectations and Support:** Constant feedback and regular meetings with faculty will facilitate a high-quality thesis with impact on management practice that is completed in a timely fashion. You will be provided with a guideline that details the supervision and writing process, expected deliverables beyond the final thesis, and grading as well as a package to kick off your thesis.

**Targeted Students:** Excellent and ambitious students of all MSc and MBA programs at WU Vienna University of Economics and Business are eligible and encouraged to apply. In principle, it is possible to write the thesis together with another student.

**Interested?** Send CV and grade certificates of all your studies to [georg.reischauer@wu.ac.at](mailto:georg.reischauer@wu.ac.at)

### Initial References:

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