



**ZUKÜNFTEN DER GESELLSCHAFT 43. KONGRESS
DER DEUTSCHEN GESELLSCHAFT FÜR SOZIOLOGIE
JOHANNES GUTENBERG-UNIVERSITÄT JGU MAINZ
28. SEPTEMBER – 02. OKTOBER 2026**

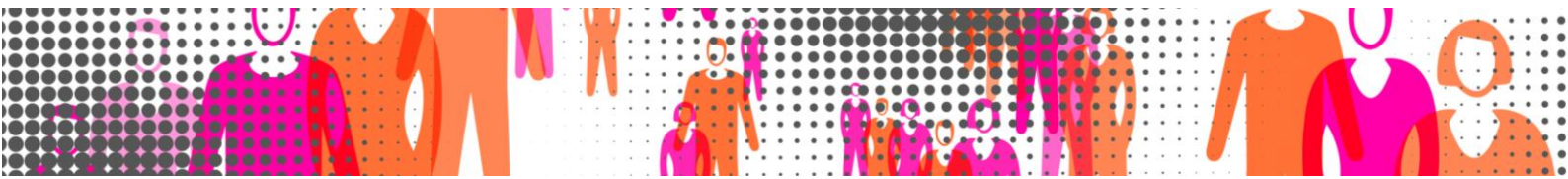
Call for Papers

Futures of Extractivism

**Sitzung der Sektion „Entwicklungssoziologie und Sozialanthropologie“ auf dem 43. Kongress der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Soziologie
„Zukünfte der Gesellschaft“
vom 28.09.-02.10.2026 an der Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz**

In recent years, the world has witnessed a sharp increase in the scale and speed of natural resource extraction, along with the multifaceted destructive social and environmental effects that mining, hydrocarbon extraction and monocultural plantations entail. While historical forms of extractivism are premised on (neo)colonial domination and principles of capital accumulation, more recent extraction-based development strategies, mostly in the Global South, have been analysed as neo-extractivism, a socio-economic constellation in which mostly progressive governments deepen extractive endeavours (Gudynas 2013, Brand 2016, Svampa 2019), albeit often still maintaining old dependency paths evident from the fact that primarily external, often Western companies benefit most from extractivism. Ongoing energy transitions and record-breaking global commodity prices in response to multiple crises, have further intensified extractivist proliferation across the globe. Most recent debates have been focusing on how strategies of decarbonization, as a political and economic reaction to the worsening ecological crisis, lead to forms of “post-fossil extractivism” (Tittor 2025) in the peripheries that contribute to new geopolitical relations characterised as “green colonialism” (Lang, Manahan, Bringel 2024). In analogy, the “unequal exchange” of immaterial goods such as indigenous knowledges, personal data or intellectual property has been analysed in recent years within post- and decolonial debates as “epistemical extractivism” (Grosfoguel 2016) or climate colonialism (Sultana 2025). Scholarship of extractivism has since its initial elaboration in collaboration with and by social and Indigenous movements in the Global South proliferated, evolving also in contexts of the Global North and, more recently, the Global East.

In sum, extractivism has become a cornerstone of capitalist development across the world (Ye et al. 2020) and, by reorganising social, economic, political, and ecological relations, has become a “multiple relation of violence” (Löw & Scheiterbauer 2025: 73). But as different forms of extractivism have been expanding around the globe, reorganizing social relations and spaces through new frontiers, global and local environmental justice movements seek to defend livelihoods and environments and make visible the ontological conflicts underlying natural resource extraction (Kröger 2021). Numerous resistance groups promote visions of post-extractivist futures and propose more sustainable and just development alternatives.





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This panel seeks to open a space for a much-needed sociological debate and reflection about possible futures of extractivism. Understanding of the extractivist presents and futures requires elaboration of heuristic devices and conceptual approaches to which sociological knowledge has much to contribute. In this panel, we would like to discuss the diverse dimensions of extractivism in the past and present and reflect on its possible futures. We invite empirically, theoretically, and conceptually grounded contributions that focus on the following issues, though not limited to them:

- Continuities and discontinuities: what historical legacies and ruptures shape extractive practices and what futures are being promoted? How do recent and evolving forms of extractivism relate to historical preceding extractivist practices? What are future territories and commodities of extractivism?
- Tendencies and paradoxes: e.g. critical questions that the green transition raises — sustainability for whom and at what cost? How, for example, do de- or recarbonization strategies reconfigure extractivist dynamics? What relational transformations and power dynamics does extractivism entail in different contexts?
- Resistances to extractivist logics: how is extractivism contested and what new forms of solidarities are emerging? What can we learn from anti-extractivist practices in the Global South and beyond and what visions for alternative futures are being imagined and articulated?
- Extractive temporalities and ontologies: how do extractivist regimes shape perceptions of time and urgency? How is extractivism related to modern/colonial human-nature relationships and what are the possibilities of post-extractivist ontologies?
- Materialities of extractivism: how are resource materialities involved in the extractivist politics? How do the physical properties and affordances of resources and infrastructures shape the political-economic strategies and resistances? And how can the material constraints and possibilities enable or limit transitions toward post-extractivist futures?

**Wir bitten um die Einreichung von Abstracts (maximal 300 Wörter Seite)
bis zum 31.03.2026**

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