

NETZWERK

Plurale Ökonomik

Pluralist Economics Network

Annual Report

2020

Foreword	2
The Network in numbers	5
Partner organisations	6
Large projects	7
Exploring Economics	7
Summer Academy	11
Certificate project	15
Other projects	19
Conference „Der nächste Crash als Chance“	19
Economists for Future DE	22
PlurAlumni	27
Spring conference 2020	28
Fall conference and general assembly 2020	29
Quick news from the Network	31
Working group politics	31
Reading circles	32
Awareness - Team	32
Position for Internal networking	33
Position for External networking	35
Public relations team	37
Local groups	42
Pluralist Economics Bamberg	43
Pluralist Economics Working Group Bayreuth	44
Kriwis FU Berlin	46
PluEcoTU Berlin	47
Pluralist Economics Dresden	49
impuls. Pluralist Economics Erfurt	51
Pluralist Economics Freiburg	52
Pluralist Economics Working Group Hamburg	54
Pluralist Economics Jena	55
Rethinking Economics Kiel	57
Working Group Pluralist Economics - oikos Cologne	58
MÖVE Lüneburg	60
Pluralist Economics Mannheim	63
Rethinking Economics Munich	64
Pluralist Economics Erlangen-Nuremberg	65
Global Campus Hohenheim	66
Rethinking Economics Tübingen	68
Society for Pluralist Economics Vienna	69

Foreword

Dear reader,

We look back on an exciting year 2020. The Covid-19-Pandemic has made the need for Pluralist Economics even more clear. The manifold problems of our time require the most diverse approaches to solutions, which are only possible with the help of Pluralist Economics in teaching and in public discourse.

Although we have been used to working together online for years, the Covid-19-Pandemic has presented new challenges to the members of the Pluralist Economics Network spread all over Germany. Many local groups had to get used to the new situation at first. But despite all these difficulties, the past year was a very successful one, thanks to many volunteers and staff members, and has brought us much closer to establishing a pluralist-economics discourse and educational programme.

In January we met in Leipzig for a weekend to discuss the development of our organizational structure. The new year continued promisingly with the conference "Der nächste Crash als Chance" (The next crash as an opportunity) in Berlin. Here we spent an exciting weekend with about 200 participants, many interesting lectures and discussions, as well as relaxed conversations in the evening. Unfortunately, the following spring conference had to take place online.

However, the changeover to online teaching also had advantages for us. With our certificate project, we were able to compile different courses in the field of pluralist Economics in one curriculum. This made it very easy for students from all over Germany to take part in pluralist courses at other universities and have them credited. This was a completely new opportunity for students to organise their semester plans in a more pluralistic way. In addition, the plans for a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) took shape and we are looking forward to the MOOC with Prof. Bofinger that will be launched in 2021.

Our other successful large-scale project, the e-learning platform Exploring Economics, also contributes to a more pluralistic educational offer. We are very pleased to have received project funding for the next two years. In addition to new translations, an extensive e-library has been added to the platform. With the help of the core team, the Teaching Fellows project and many volunteers, the collection of learning materials continues to grow. The great work is rewarded by steadily growing user numbers.

This summer, the fourth Summer Academy for Pluralist Economics was organised entirely digitally in cooperation with the Evangelische Akademie Thüringen (Protestant Academy Thuringia). This format allowed for a great internationality of the 120 participants and experts from 40 countries, who filled 12 exciting workshops and 5 inspiring evening events with life. The Summer Academy was also part of the Global Pluralist Economics Training, a five-month train-the-trainer programme with 15 young academics from the Global South.

The ever-growing Economists for Future group launched their call for a teaching reform and a second debate series in the Makronom magazine. At our online general meeting in autumn, a place for exchange between former Network activists was created with the newly created "Pluralumni" project. Furthermore, we filled our column in the Frankfurter Rundschau with content every six weeks.

Another important event this year was the publication of our paper "Impulses for a Pluralist economic teaching" which summarizes the main goals of the Network's effort.

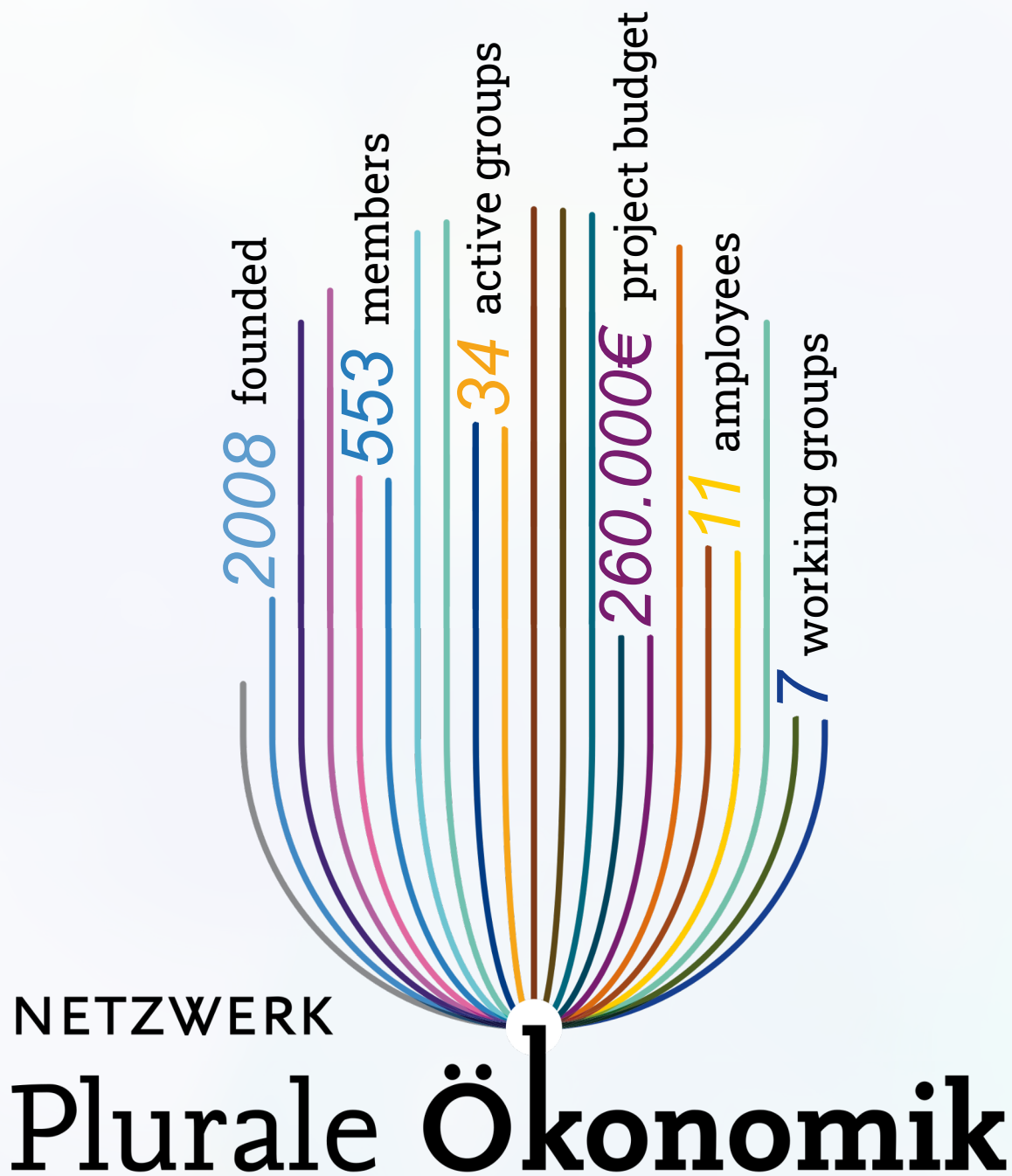
More than 35 local groups build the backbone of our association with many volunteers from all over the German-speaking countries. In 2020, different local groups organised lecture series, discussion events, reading circles and other events online, and spoke with professors in order to contribute to sustainable economic teaching. We are very grateful for the countless students who, even in difficult times like these, take the time to actively change teaching and the academic and public discourse.

After this successful year despite the adverse circumstances, we are now looking forward to the coming year and are excited about the new opportunities and challenges it will bring for all of us. With the promise of project funding and a steady adaptation and professionalisation of our structures, we are well equipped to tackle new tasks and achieve new goals. We look forward to continuing our successful journey towards a more pluralistic economic science together with our partners, supporters and committed members.

Best regards,

The Board of Directors

The Network in numbers



Partner organisations

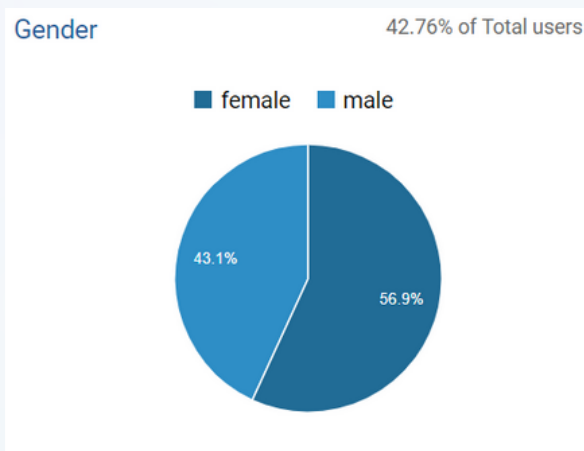
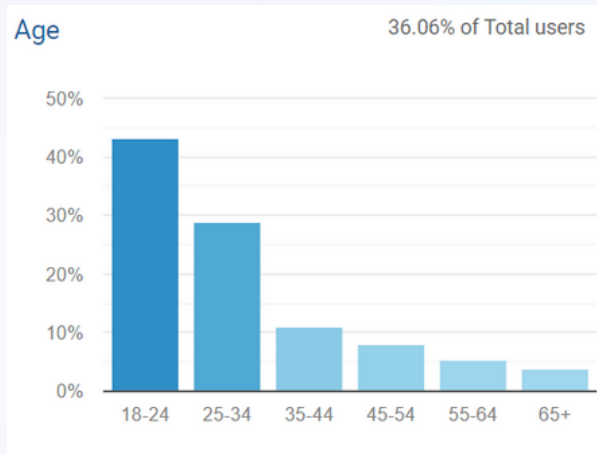


Large projects

Exploring Economics

Exploring Economics is a freely accessible e-learning platform for economics (www.exploring-economics.org), available in English, German, Spanish and French. In 2020, it reached an average of about 20,700 people from a total of 219 countries per month. Most visitors came from the USA (17.7%), Germany (12.1%), Mexico (11.0%), India (5.7%) and the UK (5.0%).

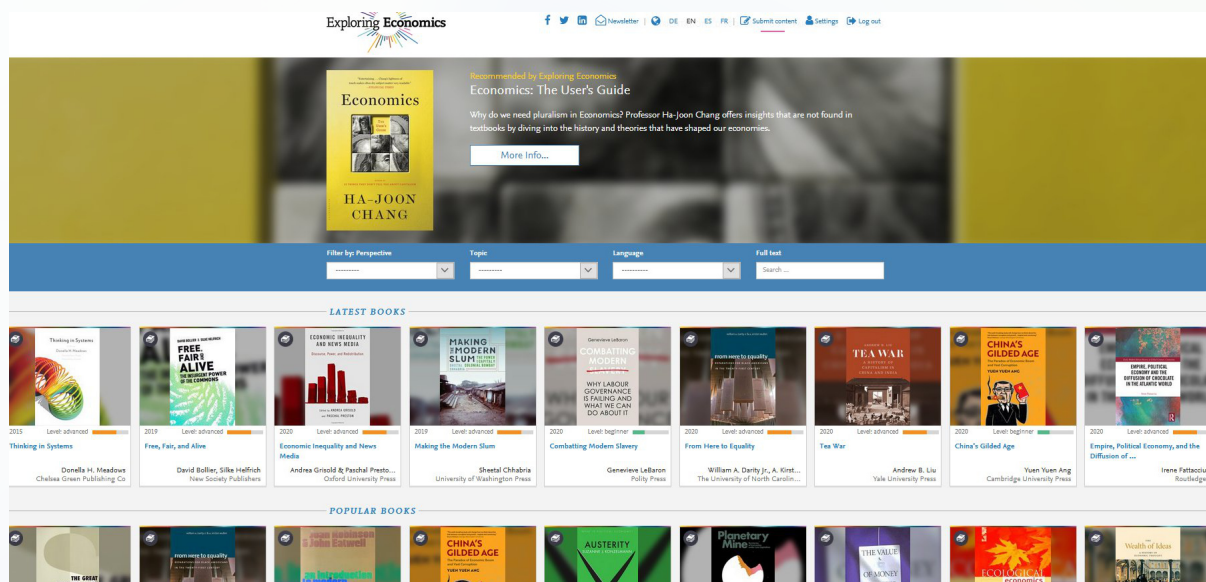
1. United States	44,971 (17.66%)	14. Spain	3,818 (1.50%)
2. Germany	30,710 (12.06%)	15. Australia	3,498 (1.37%)
3. Mexico	27,898 (10.96%)	16. Nigeria	3,246 (1.27%)
4. India	14,556 (5.72%)	17. Netherlands	2,905 (1.14%)
5. United Kingdom	12,753 (5.01%)	18. South Africa	2,619 (1.03%)
6. Colombia	11,097 (4.36%)	19. Turkey	2,609 (1.02%)
7. France	8,668 (3.40%)	20. Switzerland	2,511 (0.99%)
8. Argentina	6,356 (2.50%)	21. Belgium	2,426 (0.95%)
9. Philippines	5,616 (2.21%)	22. Pakistan	2,215 (0.87%)
10. Canada	5,220 (2.05%)	23. Chile	2,198 (0.86%)
11. Ecuador	4,796 (1.88%)	24. China	2,081 (0.82%)
12. Austria	4,634 (1.82%)	25. Malaysia	1,595 (0.63%)
13. Peru	3,950 (1.55%)		



Origin, age and gender of users

E-Library

We officially launched our e-library in December 2020. Since then, we have added about 400 books on different topics.



The e-library of Exploring Economics offers an overview of classics and new publications on Plural Economics

Writing workshops

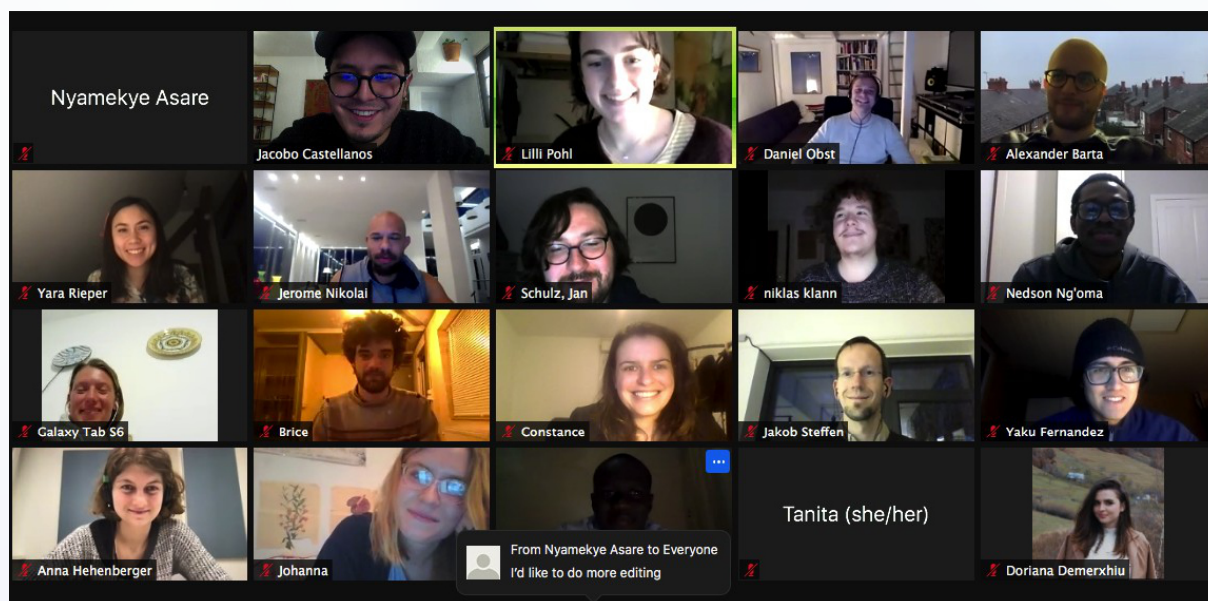
In 2020, we offered various participatory programmes for students, although some had to be changed to an online format due to the Covid-19-Pandemic:

In March 2020, a week-long [writing workshop on ecological economics](#) took place at the Technische Universität (TU) Berlin (Technical university of Berlin). The seminar was awarded the TU Berlin's "Prize for Exemplary Teaching 2020" for the innovative teaching format. Students of economics and student teachers explored the field of Ecological Economics and developed dossiers on selected topics in interdisciplinary working groups.

For the second time, the Nigerian Rethinking Economics group "The Uploaders" organised a [writing workshop](#) on "Nigeria's Readiness for and the Effect of the Fourth Industrial Revolution". Due to the Covid-19-Pandemic, they had to move the event to a digital format and the final presentation of the essays was held in a video conference.

The three winning essays were published on the Exploring Economics website and address economic impact and potential disruption, as well as the role of women in the fourth industrial revolution. Over 100 students from 42 universities in Nigeria submitted papers.

| Exploring Economics Editor Experience



Participants of the third Exploring Economics Experience discuss upcoming tasks

In November 2019, we launched a new participatory programme for our online editorial team, the [Exploring Economics Experience](#). This programme consists of a 3-month commitment to the Exploring Economics project as an editor. The participants screen, review and produce material for Exploring Economics and are guided and supported through weekly email tutorials and regular Zoom conferences. Special online lectures and a certificate at the end of the fellowship increase motivation to stay in the programme until the end of the three months. The second iteration of the Exploring Economics Experience took place from May to July 2020 with about 30 participants from five different continents. We managed to create a good working atmosphere and uploaded about 50 new pieces of content. In working groups we created two new sliders on the topics [Covid-19](#) as well as [Racism and Economics](#) in our Discover section. The third implementation of the Experience took place from November 2020 to February 2021. This time we benefited from having coordinators from

Belgium and Mexico in the team, who supervised both groups, sifting through content in French and Spanish for our site and filling it with exciting contributions. Also this time we had more than 30 participants from more than 15 countries, the gender quota was very balanced with 54% FLINTA* users.



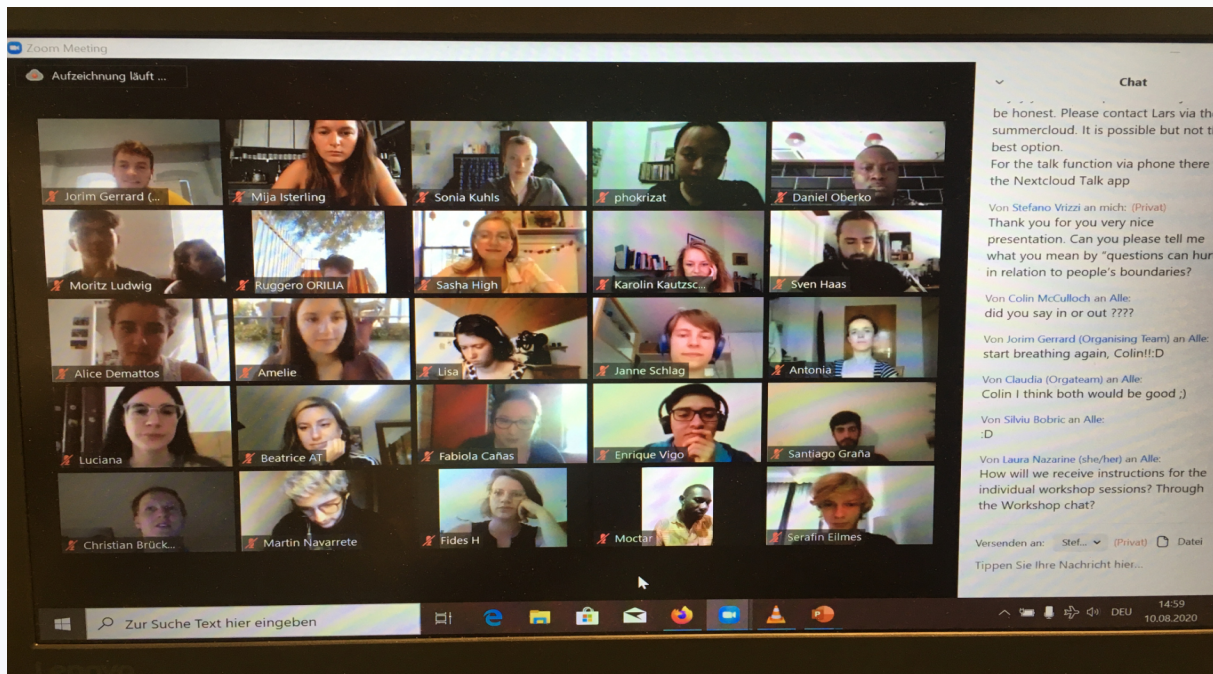
In a Wordcloud, the Exploring Economics Experience team collects expectations for the upcoming work

| Project development

In 2020, the Exploring Economics e-learning platform received a huge boost: With hundreds of new learning materials, new collaborative partners and our international participatory programmes, the reach of our platform has continued to grow. By the end of 2020, a total of 1000 videos, texts, podcasts and other learning materials had been collected in the Discover section, 400 books and 80 courses in the Study section, and 10 introductory articles and 13 infographics in the Orientation section in four different languages (English, French, German and Spanish). Through writing workshops, the Global Pluralist Training, the Summer Academy and the Exploring Economics Experience, more than 300 students and young academics were reached in 2020 and brought closer to plural and innovative approaches in economics. We were thus able to strengthen our cooperation with international partners, including the Latin American Rethinking Economics network De America Soy, the Polish Edward Lipinski Foundation and the French organisation PEPS-Économie, which has employed a dedicated position to support the French-language version of Exploring Economics since 2020.

Summer Academy

10.-16. August 2020



140 young people from 40 countries participated in the online Summer Academy for Plural Economics

The economic sciences are on the verge of change. For long enough one school of thought, the so-called neoclassical paradigm, has dominated economics. Its views and models are omnipresent in teaching, research and policy advice, while other approaches were given no space. This reveals a deep crisis in economic thinking and teaching. No satisfactory answers to the inherent crisis of the economic system such as ecological or social challenges, can currently be given to young economists in training at universities.

To fill this gap and to open up the view for approaches outside the mainstream, more than 140 students and lecturers from 40 countries came together online to learn and debate for a week. In twelve seminar groups, they dealt intensively with different economic paradigms: alternative schools of theory, scientific theory or post-growth approaches.

Even more than in previous years, new ideas and perspectives were discussed openly, controversially and interdisciplinarily in an atmosphere of global learning. In addition, texts, presentations and podcasts were created in the seminar groups to present and capture the central results.



The Summer Academy organising team during the live broadcast of an online panel discussion

In the evenings, international experts and university lecturers spoke on topics such as Development Economics, sustainability or Business ethics in lectures and virtual panel discussions. These online events were also attended by external guests and thus extended the reach of the Summer Academy.

Speakers included Azza Karam (Religions for Peace International, New York City), Ulrich Brand (University of Vienna), Adam Tooze (Columbia University, New York City) and Fred Muhumuza (Makerere University, Uganda).

| Voices of the participants:

„I adore it! Your work is so valuable, and I really appreciate the multiperspectiveness.“

“It was very challenging online, except for that it was great and I will be looking forward to join next year!”

“Had it been offline, I would not have been able to travel all the way to Europe. Being online has made it possible for me for which I am very grateful :)”

The feedback from the participants was very good, even though the online event cannot replace the face-to-face meeting: 88% nevertheless rated the Summer Academy positively. Detailed reporting on the course of the Summer Academy can be found on the blog of the [Evangelische Akademie Thüringen](#) (Evangelica Academy Thuringia).



Jorim Gerrard [l.] and Luca Kokol [r.] moderating a live public lecture

| Highlights

- About 120 dedicated participants (students, alumni and professionals) and 28 lecturers from 40 countries
- 12 parallel workshops in seminar groups (15 units of 90 minutes each) which resulted in a mutual final presentation:
 - ▶ Critical Development Economics/Decolonizing Economics
 - ▶ Critical Institutional Economics
 - ▶ Ecological Economics, Degrowth and the Green New Deal
 - ▶ Economic Geography
 - ▶ Economics and Religion
 - ▶ Feminist Economics
 - ▶ Inequality Economics
 - ▶ Marxist Political Economy
 - ▶ Modern Monetary Theory
 - ▶ Post-Keynesian Economics
 - ▶ Sustainable Finance
 - ▶ Capitalism, Socialism, Social Market Economy and Current Transformative Policy Proposals
- Three public evening lectures and two panel discussions
- Five-month train-the-trainer programme with 15 young academics from the Global South

| Documentation

The results of the seminar groups' work and the video recordings of the evening lectures are available on the Summer Academy's [website](#). Here you will find many more food for thought and reading lists on the various topics. Preparations for the next Summer Academy (30 July - 6 August 2021) are already taking place.

Certificate project

The aim of the certificate project is to establish a pluralist certificate in the long term that can be credited to a regular degree programme. The idea is based on the Bologna Process, which allows Students to complete up to 50% of their studies outside their own university.

The certificate project was marked by many "changes and chances" in 2020 - team changes, structural change, new ideas and opportunities. While many aspects of the work have shifted away from the local groups and towards the core team, new formats such as the Pluralist Curriculum were developed and the crediting of the Summer Academy was realised. In the second half of the year, we started planning a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC), which is to be made creditable at various universities next year in collaboration with local groups. In the future, we hope to create a whole pool of creditable online and offline events with new partners, which will then lead to a certificate in Pluralist Economics.

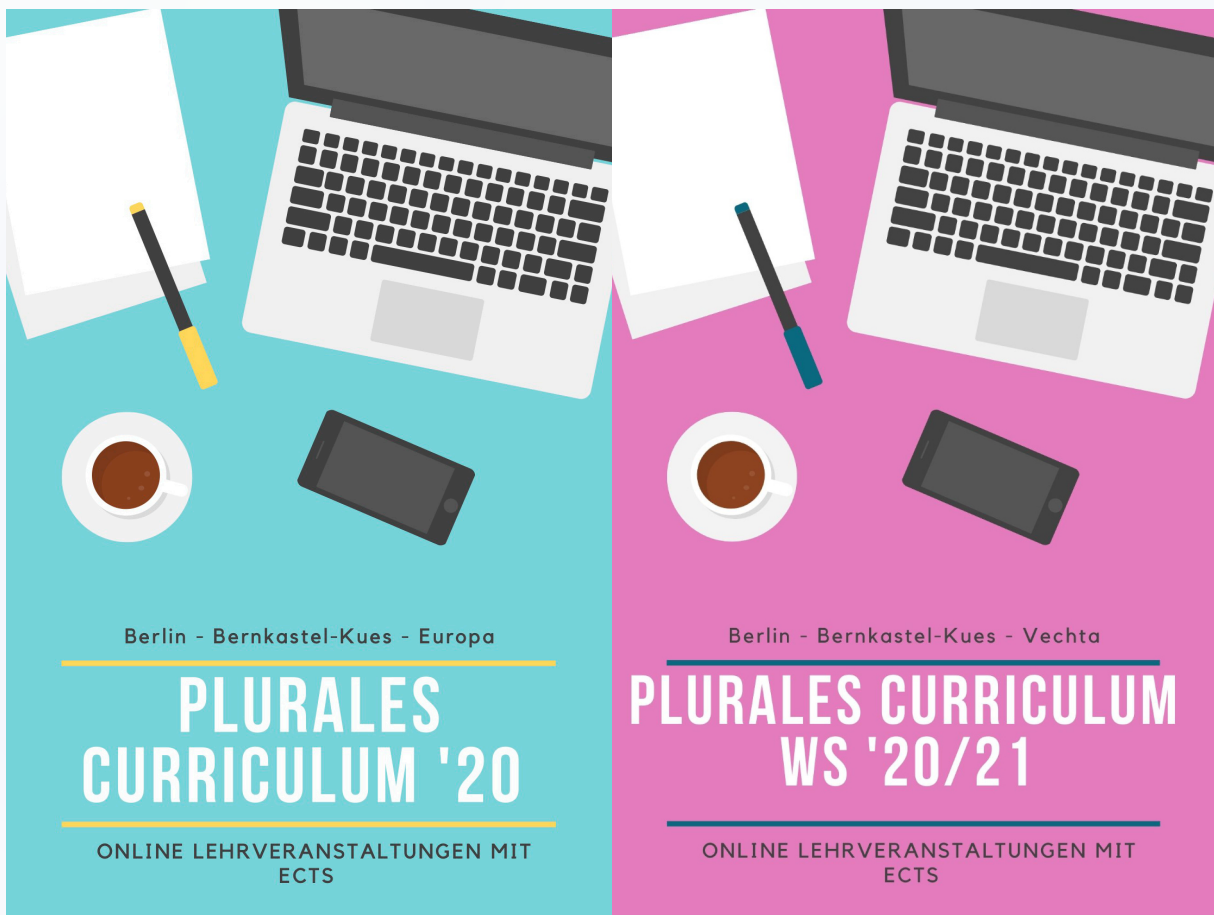


The ZP team in Berlin, the first meeting in persona of Janina, Julian, Anita (from left)

In December 2019 and January 2020, the first two supra-regional and creditable seminars organised by the certificate project took place in Lüneburg and Bernkastel-Kues. Dedicated to the topics of transformativity in economics and agent-based modelling, 12 students gathered at each of the two locations. The lecturers Florian Rommel and Dr. Claudius Gräbner used particularly interactive and reflective formats, which meant that the courses not only delivered credit points but also, above all, great insights.

January and February were then marked by a strategic repositioning, the aim of which was to achieve an even greater broad impact in terms of accreditation.

On the first of April, the team started the second project year with new staff members. The structure of a project management position (in personal union with the fundraising position) with 20 hours per week and two student assistants with 10 hours per week each remained the same. Janina Urban took over the project management from Anna Reisch and Anita Lehner replaced Laura Porak with the project assistant position. Right in the middle of the first lockdown, the new team started with new ideas and great enthusiasm. At the end of the year, Julian Winter left the team after completing his Bachelor's degree.



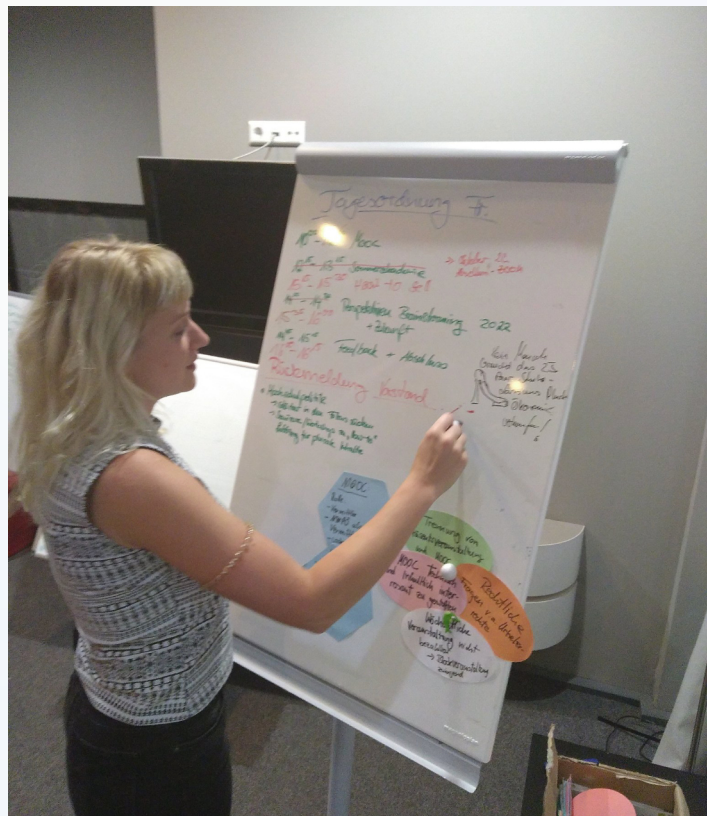
Poster Pluralist Curriculum SoSe 2020 // Pluralist Curriculum WS 2020/21

The Covid-19-Pandemic proved to be not only a challenge but also an opportunity. Planned events, such as the block seminar in Bochum, had to be put on hold, and we had to react to the transformation of the Summer Academy into an online event. However, online teaching formats suddenly became

established. Whereas these had previously been treated rather neglectfully by the universities and were seen as purely additional work, they have since been recognised as a regular course. This development gave rise to the idea of the Pluralist Curriculum.

With the digital semester 2020, many universities not only began to move their teaching into the virtual space, they also opened it up to guest students. True to the motto "If my own university doesn't offer plural courses, I'll just listen to them somewhere else", we designed the Pluralist Curriculum. In the Pluralist Curriculum, we were able to present 2-3 lectures and seminars in each of the summer semesters 2020 and 2020/2021, accessible to anyone with an internet connection. Optionally, students could take an exam, which meant that these courses could be integrated into the regular study programme.

Another goal of the certificate project was to make the Summer Academy creditable. This had already been achieved in individual cases, but should now be enabled on a larger scale. In order to achieve accreditation, an exam is often necessary, so we were able to convince several lecturers to take an exam. In addition, we offered 10 central examination places, which were supervised by our team members. In order to make the crediting as easy as possible, guidelines and documents were created in advance to support the students, and each workshop of the Summer Academy also received a module description. The offer was well received and about 10% of the participants



Janina draw the motto of th meeting: Nobody needs the 25. pair of shoes, let's sell Pluralist Economics.

successfully passed an exam. They received a certificate for this, which they can use to apply for ECTS at their universities.

After the Summer Academy, there was only a short break. Already at the end of August, our team met in Berlin for an extensive strategy and planning meeting. The focus was particularly on preparing the MOOC, which is to be recorded in the summer semester of 2021 and published in autumn 2021. As a lecturer, Prof. e.m. Peter Bofinger from the University of Würzburg, a top-class scientist and former member of the German Council of Economic Experts.

In the future, the MOOC will contribute to a pool of pluralist events with other online and offline formats, which should ultimately form the basis for the establishment of a pluralist certificate. However, the project still needs financial resources in the future and also we hope to find increasing support in politics and society. The permanent and institutional change of economics curricula needs a lot of perseverance, but in the last two years we have contributed to the consolidation of this process with the certificate project.

Other projects

Conference „Der nächste Crash als Chance“ ("The next crash as an opportunity")

On 7 February 2020, the conference "Der nächste Crash als Chance" ("The next crash as an opportunity"), organised by the Pluralist Economics Network, successfully took place in Berlin. Around 200 representatives from academia, politics and NGOs provided a wide range of expertise, and thanks to numerous helping hands, the event ran smoothly. With this conference we created a very diverse pluralist-economic forum in which different perspectives entered into a constructive exchange of ideas.



Lino Zeddies, initiator and co-organiser of the conference, welcomes the participants

Theme of the conference

Just a few weeks after the conference, the WHO declared the spreading of the Covid-19 disease as a global pandemic, whose consequences are now considered as the biggest economic crisis since the end of the Second World War. The

conference was thus organised under a strikingly up-to-date title. The main focus of the conference was on potential crises in the banking and financial system. The aim was to examine the great variety of forward-looking policy options like monetary and financial market reforms, monetary and fiscal policy, as well as topics such as the Euro and the role of banks, in order to ideally be able to prevent a next crash or to use it as an opportunity to restructure towards a sustainable, fair and stable monetary and financial system. Although the importance of financial markets for society as a whole can hardly be underestimated, many NGOs are often unaware of the need for action.

| Program

The programme was both forward-looking and considered learnings of the past. The panels at the beginning and the end of the conference discussed crisis scenarios and future-oriented political potential for action, including a "time travel" to the year 2048. As well, the structural causes of previous financial crises were discussed.



"Scenarios and goals for a sustainable financial system" are discussed on the opening podium

At the heart of the conference were eight forums of ideas for policy reforms, in which various organisations presented reform approaches for a sustainable restructuring of the financial system. For example, the Institut für Makroökonomik und Konjunkturforschung (IMK) (Macroeconomic Policy Institute) of the Hans Böckler Foundation discussed "Economic Policy 2.0" with

proposals for a "Green New Deal instead of a scrappage bonus scheme" - more topical than ever in times of recession due to the Covid-19-Pandemic. The Institut für ökologische Wirtschaftsforschung (IÖW) (Institute for Ecological Economy Research) also took up the topic of a sustainable economic stimulus policy that would enable urgently needed investments in sustainable infrastructure with regard to the climate crisis. Other topics included the future role of private currencies such as regional currencies and Bitcoin, as well as visions for the future role of banks.

| Networking

The strength of our conference was the diversity of the actors represented. Fruitful discussions between representatives from politics, science and civil society demonstrated the potential to discover perspectives beyond one's own nose. While other economic conferences often remain within the same school of thought or deepen conflicts between different schools of theory, we succeeded in creating a constructive exchange between theory and practice in the various forums, where the perspectives often complemented each other well.

This was reflected in the very positive feedback from participants such as Jakob von Weizsäcker from the Federal Ministry of Finance and Emmanuel Mönch from the Bundesbank, who encouraged us to take up such a format again. The Network for Pluralist Economics thus presented itself as a constructive discussion partner with innovative ideas for exchange and networking for a sustainable and problem-oriented economics and was able to win cooperation partners for future events.

| Documentation and outlook

A more detailed insight into the exciting discussions and central findings of the conference can be found in the comprehensive documentation on the conference's [website](#). Press commentaries and videos of the keynotes can be found there, too. In the workshop series "Zukunftsrat" ("Future Council") of the Money Summit of the GLS Bank, the topics were taken up again in cooperation with the Network, and the Konzeptwerk Neue Ökonomie

(Laboratory for new economic ideas) also continued the discussion on sustainable money systems at the [congress](#) "Zukunft für alle" ("Future for All").



The conference team

| Economists for Future DE

The international [Economists4Future](#) formed in 2019 from the ranks of the Pluralist Economics Network. In 2020, this initiative was continued and expanded: Thus, a separate E4F group for the German-speaking region was formed in the summer. Both groups are united not only by their anchoring in the Pluralist Economics landscape, but first and foremost by their commitment to a transformation of the economy and economic science in the face of multiple contemporary crises - above all the climate crisis. The following report refers exclusively to the activities of the German-speaking group.

Under the label of Economists for Future, student (local) groups were initially present at numerous For Future events. Speeches and other forms of participation made clear that the social sciences and economics cannot escape the existential social-ecological questions. With the onset of the Covid-19-Pandemic in early 2020, these forms of activity subsided for well-known reasons. In the course of the crisis, however, an initiative of young academics emerged from the Network which, within the framework of

Economists for Future, has set itself the goal of combining the student-organization of Pluralist Economics with scientific-transformative and civil society formats.

| Public call: [#Econ4Future instead of business as usual](#)

Just as the international Economists4Future formed around a joint [call](#) for reform in economics in 2019, a call in the German-speaking countries marked the beginning of the founding of a new E4F group.

Under the title "[#Econ4Future instead of business as usual](#)" and with the impression of the Covid19 pandemic, the overdue change in economic higher education was called for and concrete potential for reform was pointed out. In the meantime, the call had been signed by almost 50 organisations and associations from Germany, Austria and Switzerland, including the Society for Socio-Economic Education and Science, the Federal Conference of Economic Sciences and Humanities Germany, the Association of German Scientists and numerous 4 Future partner organisations. The publication took place in July 2020, just in time for lecturers to use their summer break to adjust their course offerings.

The call was accompanied by efforts in public relations and gave occasion to launch a Twitter account (see below). In order to underline the reason for and necessity of the teaching reform, relevant research results of the past 10 years were bundled in a [factsheet](#). In addition, platforms and materials for the design of a pluralist and sustainable economic higher education were brought [together](#).

Although one could certainly not expect the call to trigger a far-reaching change in the economic education landscape, substantial progress has been reached:

- Mutual awareness of institutions and associations advocating a transformative turn in economic education
- A summary of arguments and possibilities for a renewed economic education

- Launch of the German-speaking E4Fs with a new website, Twitter profile and network in Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

| Public Debate

There are numerous ways to bring forward a sustainable economy. As Economists for Future, we focus on establishing pluralist, democratic and science-based discourses that explore the scope for such an economy and encourage its realisation. An important part of our work is therefore the establishment of a critical public sphere that develops a new language for a sustainable economy at the interface of science, economy and society.

| Contribution in "Ökonomenstimme" (Economist's Voice): Warum die Klimakrise die moderne Ökonomik herausfordert

Why a few lecture slides in the courses of Environmental Economics can not do justice to the climate crisis and why sustainability must be integrated into core economic thinking instead, was the topic of an [extensively discussed article](#) we contributed to the online magazine "Ökonomenstimme" (Economists Voice). Published in May 2020, the article was read over 2700 times in less than a year.

| Debate series 2.0 at the Makronom

After our series of debates in the online-magazine Makronom 2019 was met with positive resonance, we started a second series in autumn 2020. Authors such as Ulrike Knobloch, Dennis J. Snower, Marc Frick/Vera Huwe and Kora Kristof/Steffen Lange discussed pressing questions such as: How can digital infrastructure be linked to sustainable transformation? What can we learn from the experience of a global pandemic for sustainable economic activity? And what role could laziness and unproductivity play for the economy of the 21st century? All previous contributions can be read [here](#).

| Debate article in the BDVB members' magazine "aktuell"

Current economic education does not enable us to deal with the climate crisis and the related social and ecological challenges. David J. Petersen and Henri Schneider explained the concern of Economists4Future and invited to debate on urgently needed reforms of economic education. The article for the member's magazine of the Bundesverband Deutscher Volks- und Betriebswirte (German Association of Economists and Business Economists) can be read [here](#) on page 39.

| Public Relations

In 2020, the work of Economists4Future has enjoyed a steady growth in public attention. In particular, the call for teaching reforms generated several reports from national newspapers. These included articles in the taz, the Frankfurter Rundschau and the Neues Deutschland. In a radio feature by SWR in the status quo of teaching economics at universities, E4F member Lukas Bäuerle contributed perspectives and viewpoints from the perspective of Economists4Future. An overview of the press echo and the press contact can be found [here](#).

| Twitter

In 2020, a newly initiated [Twitter account](#) became the most important amplifier of the German-speaking E4Fs. It had been set up in July and already had well over 1000 followers by the end of 2020. The fact that the number of followers has already exceeded 2000 followers in early 2021 underlines the fact that the E4Fs are reflecting the Zeitgeist and are making valuable contributions to a growing public discourse on the transformation of the economy and society. Follow us, to stay up to date with our activities!

Institutionalisation

In addition to the numerous individual projects, the long-term consolidation of the German-speaking chapter of Economists for Future was an important and labour-intensive field of activity. In addition to the establishment of technical infrastructure, working, communication and decision-making structures, an institutional [self-image](#) of the German-speaking E4F group was developed, in which the position, task, activities and working culture were laid down. Among other things, an organisational structure was adopted (see graphic).



The organisational structure of the German-language Economists 4 Future

All this took place with the continuous integration of new members of the growing E4F- network. The core team now has 15 members and the support team almost 150. In order to be able to deal with the dynamic processes on the one hand and the growing resonance on the other in the middle- to long term, the core team decided at the end of the year to institutionalise the German-speaking chapter of E4F by founding an association. This process should be completed in the summer of 2021 and, in addition to a legal and democratic constitution of the E4Fs, also opens up perspectives for institutional independence and the acquisition of funds.

| PlurAlumni

Alumni of the Pluralist Economics Network who are no longer enrolled as students, decided in 2020 to found their own group for their activities. The PlurAlumni platform was officially launched at the general assembly of the Network in November 2020. Their aim of this project is to strengthen the contact among alumni on the one hand and to ensure a transfer of knowledge between the different Network generations on the other. The person in charge for the external networking in the Pluralist Economics Network will maintain the connection between active members and alumni and ensure a fluid exchange of information. All interested pluralist economists of an older age will soon be able to register for the PlurAlumni platform on the Network's [homepage](#) in order to remain connected to the Network according to their own preferences.



Participants of the scientific workshop "From Niche to Norm" in Bielefeld

After the kick-off meeting of the alumni group in autumn 2019, a larger group of alumni met as planned in October 2020 in Bielefeld. At this workshop weekend, entitled "[From Niche to Norm](#)", around 20 young economists from German-speaking countries met to exchange ideas on content-related issues and to network strategically. The workshop offered a platform to reflect on the participants' latest research contributions as well as the role of economics and economists in our society. The research contributions covered a broad methodological as well as thematic spectrum and included agent-based

models, ergodicity economics, sustainable growth issues and the role of trade unions. Depending on the pandemic situation, another meeting is planned for 2021. In addition, a monthly plural research colloquium began at the end of the year, in which alumni present and discuss their research.

| Spring conference 2020

Due to the Covid-19-Pandemic, the Network's spring conference was held online for the first time this year from 22-23 May 2020. The programme, however, was not diminished: in four virtual rooms, members and interested parties were invited to get to know the Network with its working groups such as press and public relations and the Team responsible for the Impulse Paper, as well as to gain insights into the projects Exploring Economics and the Certificate Project.

At the same time, the Covid-19-Pandemic was the backdrop for exciting content-related impulses: On Friday, the initiative "Neues Wirtschaftswunder" ("New Economic Miracle") presented its work, which is to bring forward an understanding of the Covid-19-Pandemic as an opportunity for a transformative economic and social approach. The Saturday evening was framed by a discussion on possible futures after the Covid-19-Pandemic, in which two different approaches - on the one hand the perspective of gender relations and power, and on the other hand Modern Monetary Theory - were discussed.

Other topics were dealt with in the different panels of the conference: For example, various transformation strategies of Pluralist Economics and the positioning of the network were discussed in a workshop. A historical outline of the controversial concept of neoliberalism was the starting point for an exciting discussion on mainstream economic doctrine, and Hannes Böhm opened up new perspectives on the climate crisis for participants in a workshop on the connection between extreme weather events and the creditworthiness of countries in the global South.

The spring break also offered space to reflect on the working methods within the Network: In a workshop on FLINT* empowerment, space was created to exchange experiences on Network commitment, and in a workshop of the

working group on politics, the upcoming political work was discussed with the completed Impulse Paper. Some practical projects from the ranks of Network members were also presented, e.g. the fairtrade T-shirt cooperative "Prints of the People" and the podcast "In der Wirtschaft" ("In the economy"/"In the pub").

Even though the physical meeting, which is always a special experience for the decentralised working Network, was missed by many participants, the digital format of the Spring Conference was a success and provided many new impulses for the coming months.

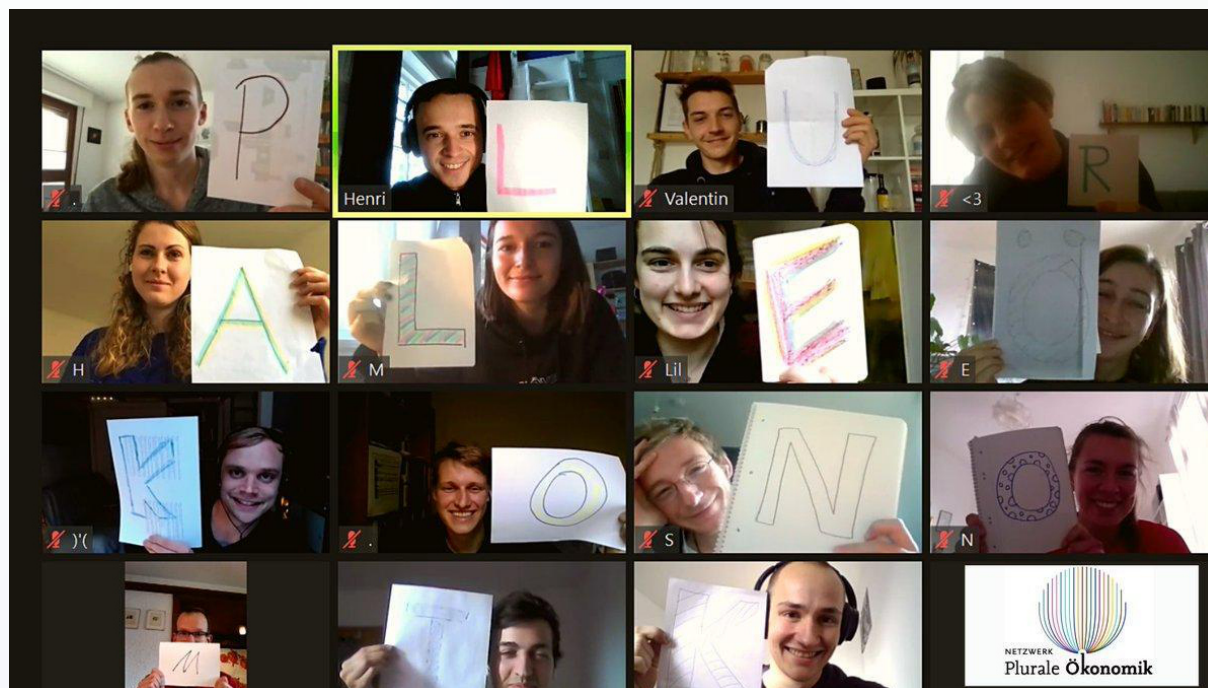
Fall conference and general assembly 2020

This year's autumn conference and general assembly continued to be dominated by the Covid-19-Pandemic. Despite the physical distance, we experienced three days full of exciting discussions, interesting lectures and various formats of joint exchange. In several workshop slots, we dealt with topics such as unconditional basic income, agent-based modelling and the debate on structural racism and its implications for mainstream economics.

Above all, the general assembly offered space to discuss fundamental questions of our work, such as how to support the work of volunteers well and how to expand our internationalisation even more in cooperation with our partner organizations Rethinking Economics and oikos International. The general meeting on Saturday then offered all participants the opportunity to hear about the work of the board, the financial administration and the people with paid positions and to ask questions. We thanked the old board and celebrated the election of six new board members. The general assembly was framed by a thematic block in the morning and more formats for networking and to get to know each other in the evening.

The Fall Conference's programme on Sunday was about taking a step back and to reflect on our activities and the direction of our work. What is working great right now? Are there repeating challenges and how can we address them? How do we manage to balance professionalised, paid work with volunteering? These

questions and perceptions expressed by the participants provided a good basis for continuing the discussion to ensure that the work in the Network is above all enriching for everyone.



Even after many hours spent online, everyone is in a good mood

Quick news from the Network

| Working group politics

In May 2020, we, the Pluralist Economic Network, published our "Impulses for Pluralist Economic Teaching" which contain a catalogue of demands with numerous proposals for improvements for a constructive modernisation of economic teaching. This compendium bundles the Network's criticism of today's economics and enriches it with concrete and progressive proposals for improvement. Until now, such a compendium was missing. A detailed version (40 pages) and a short version (4 pages) of the "Impulse für eine zukunftsfähige Ökonomik" (Impulses for a sustainable/future-oriented economics) can now be found on our [website](#), soon to be complemented with an English translation.

As early as the second half of 2019, we were thinking about how we could use this paper to bring our demands into the political arena. We believe that politics should set new incentives for Pluralist Economics in the name of academic freedom. For example, the allocation of public funds could be expanded to include quality criteria for academic diversity. A positive example here is the establishment of a plural professorship as of March 2021 in Flensburg, which was suggested on the initiative of some members of the Schleswig-Holstein state parliament.

In several internal strategy meetings, we discussed the best ways to present our proposals, which were collected in the impulse paper, to political representatives at the university, state and federal level. In the course of this endeavour, we met with politicians from different parties and political levels. In addition, some members of parliament made a brief enquiry to their parliaments about the status quo of economics. The results were discussed in our meetings and helpful for our learning process in terms of our persuasive power.

| Reading circles

In times of the pandemic, digital reading circles proved to be a welcome format to engage in pluralist-economic issues together. Network members organised three regular reading circles in 2020:

A reading circle on the classics of modern economics dealt with the newly published major work by Thomas Piketty ("Capital and Ideology") and then continued the reading circle with an even higher number of participants and the book "How does value come into the world" by Mariana Mazzucato.

The reading group "Climate Economics" dealt with the question of what neoclassicism has to say about the climate crisis and a detailed examination of critics of different schools of thought.

In the course of the renewed Black Lives Matter protests from summer 2020, the sensitivity for the connections between structural racism and economic theory was also strengthened. In a reading circle, approaches of stratification economics and postcolonial theory, among others, were read and discussed. At the Network's Fall Conference, there was also a workshop on the question "How racist is economics?"

| Awareness - Team

In 2020, our work focused on online events and digital communication channels due to the Covid-19-Pandemic. We were present with several people during both the retreat and the general assembly.

Five of us met regularly to discuss requests from the Network and to prepare and follow up on events. Our attention was further directed to developing strategies for dealing with cases of sexualised violence.

In order to have clear guidelines for mutual interaction in the future, we are working on adding corresponding paragraphs to both the rules of procedure and the statutes of the Network. The awareness team provides a mediation for conflict cases, which is offered by a member with professional training.

| Position for Internal networking

The position of Internal networking covers the areas of coordination and communication within the whole Network, especially between the Network and the associated local groups. The position of the Internal Networking has a key function in keeping the exchange and connections within the Network going. She acts as a contact person for the local groups and works continuously to strengthen the cooperation within the whole Network. In the case of Network or local group meetings, the person responsible for internal networking also assists with implementation, organisation and documentation; this includes as well the Spring and Fall Conferences. In addition, there are other activities such as looking after the association's members and managing the internal communication platforms.

| Local groups

Particularly noteworthy in the work with the local groups of the position for internal networking in 2020 are the two successfully conducted local group surveys. These surveys covered the activities, the relationship to the Network, the need for support of the local groups as well as the current mood within the local groups. Based on these results, the internal Network was able to make adjustments within the communication channels, update and create new overviews for better networking between the local groups, and develop new formats such as the workshop format "Netz-werkstatt" (Network-workshop). In addition, local groups, projects and internal networking produced the bi-monthly internal newsletter, which helps to identify synergy and networking opportunities across local groups and projects. Despite the pandemic, new groups were founded in Kiel, Berlin and Erfurt, which were introduced to the Network and supported by the position for internal networking.

| Job change

After a dedicated year in the Network, Ramona Schmidt handed over her role as internal networker in August to Mija Isterling, a local group member of MÖVE from Lüneburg.

| Summer meeting

A small Network summer meeting was able to take place at Lohra Castle in the Thuringian Harz Mountains during the phase of relaxed contact restrictions. After many months during which the participants were only in contact via video conferences, this meeting was a welcomed change. Between informal get-togethers and long walks, the development of the Network was reflected upon and upcoming challenges were discussed. A discussion group on right-wing tendencies in Economics led to the formation of the reading group on Black Lives Matter and Economics after the summer meeting. As no meetings on a larger scale can be planned for 2021, we hope for a repetition of this meeting on a smaller scale.



*Summer meeting in a small group at
Lohra Castle*

| Structure group

Following a weekend dedicated to reflect on the organizational structure of the Network held at the beginning of the year, a new working group was founded in the Network, which dealt with the development of a new communication concept. The values of the Network, the different groups of people and the needs were identified. Feedback was sought at the general assembly during the Fall Conference, so that the final document can be presented in 2021. Currently, new developed formats such as the cooperation and exchange meeting are in the test phase, and are already showing positive synergy effects.

| Netz-Werkstatt (Net-workshop)

In order to meet the interest of the local groups for more input and Networking, the internal networking has created the format of the "Netz-Werkstatt ("net-workshop"). This is a workshop that takes place about once a month with a topic that is considered relevant for the local groups. These topics were asked for in the local group survey of the winter semester. The first Network workshop on the topic "All About Social Media" received good feedback. As a result, the person in charge for the internal networking developed a social media guide in cooperation with the public relations working group which is now available to all local groups. Further offers on topics such as graphic design, university politics in cooperation with the certificate project, state politics in cooperation with the working group politics or non-violent communication in cooperation with the Awareness AG are being planned.

| Position for External networking

Due to the pandemic, fewer concrete requests were made to the Pluralist Economics Network regarding events, for example to arrange speakers, than in 2019. This meant that more time was available for the following projects:

| New collaborations

New collaborations with other organisations were established in 2020. At the beginning of the year, the newly founded think tank Dezernat Zukunft contacted us. We now regularly exchange information about our events and projects.

In addition, BUND approached us to conduct a joint writing workshop (exact format not yet clarified). We also had conversations with the NGO Goliathwatch, with whom we exchanged information about our activities.

| Internationalisation

Even though the Covid-19-Pandemic made external networking more difficult overall, we were able to use the time to strengthen our relations with our international umbrella organisation Rethinking Economics International. First, there were several joint calls in which we exchanged information about our work and considered how we could make greater use of synergy effects for projects (for example, the Exploring Economics Summer Academy). We also exchanged our experiences in fundraising.

Apart from the contact between the staff of the two organisations, the Rethinking Economics Festival 2020 provided the opportunity for exchange between students from all over the world. Various workshops from 22 to 26 July offered the opportunity to discuss plural economic issues and strategies.

| Joint webinar

Probably the biggest external networking project in 2020 was the organisation and facilitation of the webinar "Students in Conversation with Kate Raworth". This project was inspired by an offer from the Partners for A New Economy Foundation, which funds, among other other things, the Exploring Economics project. We were invited to organise an event together with representatives of the student organisations Rethinking Economics International and oikos International. Leslie Harroun, the director of the foundation, had noticed that many of the foundation's contacts were hardly aware of our concerns and their relevance. So the aim of the event was to draw attention to the importance of

pluralist-economic teaching. Therefore, four economics students from around the world began by sharing their own motivations for being involved in our movement. British economist Kate Raworth responded to this and a panel discussion took place. I was involved in the planning of this event from the beginning. This included the conception of the format, the supervision of speakers, selection of guests, preparation and implementation of the moderation.

| Open letter

The global pandemic and the resulting economic consequences prompted Rethinking Economics International to launch several projects on economic teaching. One project is the writing of an Open Letter. For this, several discussions and workshops with students from all over the world took place, in which I participated since the beginning. We collected many points of content together. The writing process will start in 2021, so we hope to publish the letter in the first half of the year.

| Public relations team

In 2020, again a whole team took care of the Network's public relations work. Our tasks include the support of local groups in their public relations work for their own projects. We also take care of the Network's social media channels, represent the Network in the public debate and provide regular information about our activities and current developments in Pluralist Economics in a newsletter and on our website.

| The Network in the media

The causes and effects of the Covid-19-Pandemic strengthen the need for diverse perspectives for sustainable economics. The need to reform economic teaching in the face of the pandemic was a recurring theme in the column regularly written by Network members in the Frankfurter Rundschau. The columns were for example about the effects of the constant striving for efficiency in the health sector or the neglect of the principle of care in classical economics.

The Network was also represented in a wide range of media: Network members wrote about inequality in the context of the Covid-19-Pandemic in the business magazine Makroskop, discussed Modern Money Theory in an interview with Perspective Daily and Zeit Online reported on the social relevance of the reform proposals of plural economics. Since this year we have a second column, "Jenseits von Angebot und Nachfrage" (Beyond Supply and Demand), which is printed regularly in the philosophical economics magazine Agora 42.

On 29 October, Network member Anna Reisch participated in the panel "Back from Orthodoxy? On German Economists", which was organised by the Forum For A New Economy. The panel addressed the question of how ordoliberal the economist scene in Germany is and what approaches are needed to develop new economic models. She stated: "We need a Copernican revolution of economic thinking, acting and discussing".



Anna Reisch discussing new paradigms in economics with other economists

Public relations

A highlight of the year for the Press and Public Relations working group was the conference "Der nächste Crash als Chance" ("The next crash as an opportunity") in February, which we accompanied and documented through press work, social media channels and our own articles.

A few months later in April, already under the sign of the next "crisis", the Network together with other international youth organisations published a "Youth Call for Solidarity" to the European finance ministers to emphasise the importance of European solidarity for the young generation. In interviews with the youth magazines of Spiegel, Süddeutsche Zeitung and Deutschlandfunk, Network members promoted this cause.

Another highlight of the year was the publication of the "Impulses for Pluralist Economic teaching" in May. After two years of work, we have completed a catalogue of demands with concrete improvements to economic teaching, addressed to political representatives at university, state and federal level. The impulse paper also gives interested students an overview of the current debate.



The publication of the impulse paper met with a positive response on Twitter

| Job change

In order to dedicate herself to her Master's degree, Henrika Meyer handed over the coordination of the public relations team in April 2020 to Tabea Seeßelberg, who is studying her Bachelor's degree in Jena and an active member of the Jena local group.

| Social media work

Especially in times of the pandemic, social media channels are more important than ever in order to be present in the public discourse and to win new members. Therefore we organised a workshop with the format of the newly established "Netz-Werkstatt" ("Net-workshop") together with the position of the Internal networking to support local groups and projects in terms of social media work and created a guide with suggestions for further work. On Facebook and Twitter, we inform our by now 8,000 followers daily about current developments in the field of Pluralist Economics and the activities of the Network.

| YouTube channel

In order to make pluralist-economic content available to a broader audience free of charge, we publish recordings of lecture series, discussion events or conferences on our YouTube channel. Last year, we were able to achieve around 93,000 views, which corresponds to an increase of 27%, and gained 800 new subscribers. Furthermore, we have greatly expanded our reach. 28 new videos were uploaded last year, mostly consisting of lectures or webinars. Videos of lecture series from Berlin and Bayreuth were added. The webinar series "Corona Krise - Was tut die VWL?" ("Corona-crisis - how does Economics respond?") produced by the AK Plurale Ökonomik Hamburg, as well as several forums and panel discussions of the conference "Der nächste Crash als Chance" ("The next crash as an opportunity") are now available to all interested parties.

| Outlook: Redesign of the website

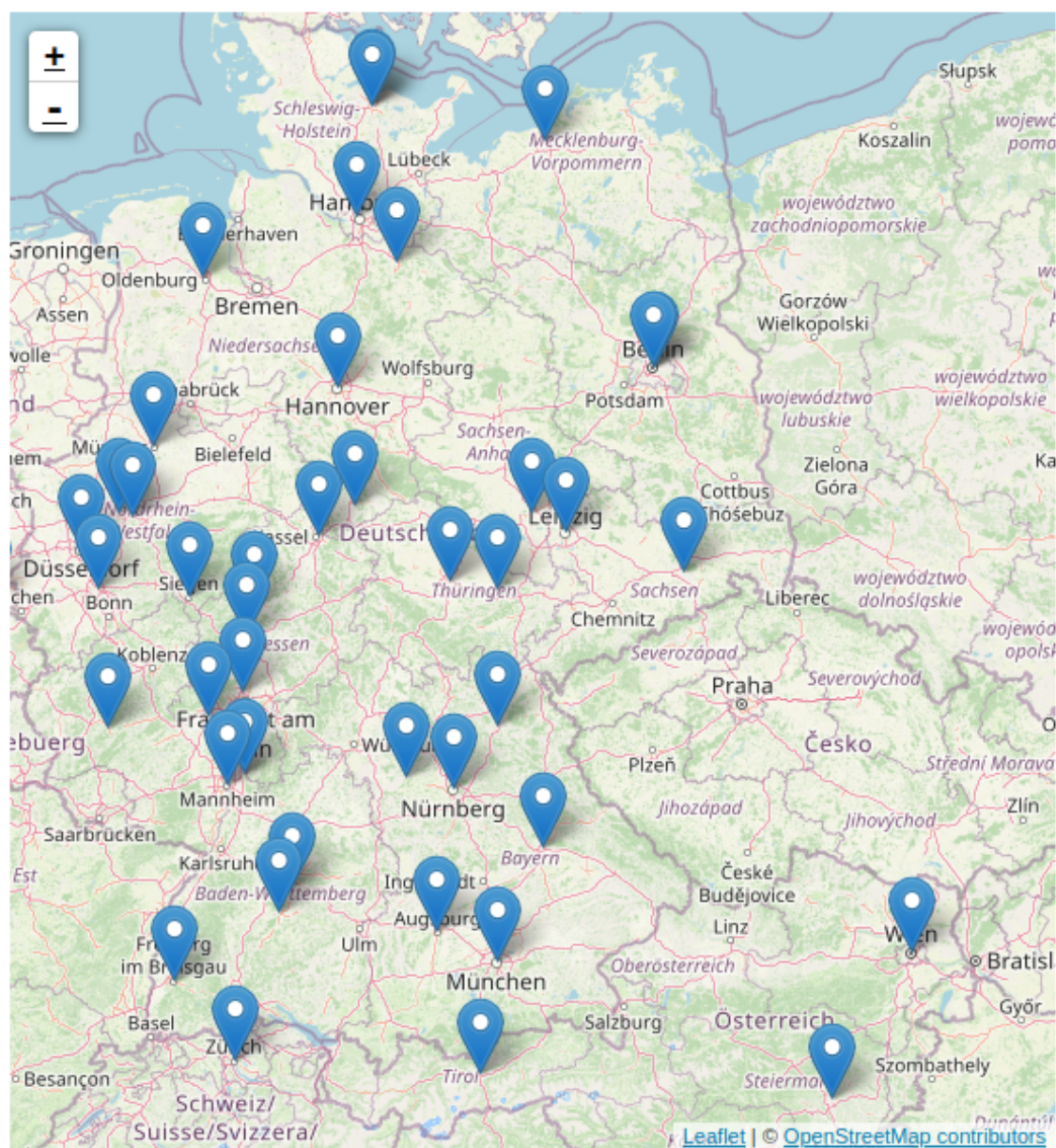
Which channels and messages can we use to better reach different target groups with our ideas and strengthen the cause of pluralist economics in the public debate? We dedicated ourselves to this question at a workshop on target group-specific communication in public relations and fundraising. These results will be the starting point for our next big project:

Our task for the next few months is to redesign the Network's website. For better visibility and publicity, we want to redesign it into a holistic presentation platform according to the needs of students, teachers and other external stakeholders.

Local groups

The many local groups, some of them have existed for almost 20 years, are an integral part of the Network. Here some of them introduces themselves and their work in 2020.

Assoziierte Gruppen des Netzwerks



The associated groups of the Network

Plurale Ökonomik Bamberg (Pluralist Economics Bamberg)

| Founding year 2015

2020 was a very good year for the local group in Bamberg - despite the Covid-19-Pandemic. All events in the summer semester 2021 and winter semester 20/21 took place online. Beyond our core group, many interested people joined, so we were very satisfied with the number of participants.

We had good experiences with themed semesters this year. We particularly like that we were able to explore the depth as well as the breadth of a subject area. This format makes it possible to get familiar with different perspectives; connections can be made directly between event topics and discussions come to life.

Our thematic semesters were filled with several sessions at intervals of about a month each. The following format of our meetings has proved to be successful: one person at a time prepares an input presentation and presents it to the group. The content of the presentation can be a summary of a paper, book or lecture. In a second step, we discuss the content and everything that comes to our minds .

In the summer semester, we chose "Inequality" as our semester topic. We started with a session on Blair Fix's "Evolutionary Theory of Resource Distribution". Afterwards, we studied the excellent lecture series "Inequality 101" by the Institute for New Economic Thinking, Branko Milanović and Arjun Jayadev. Afterwards, we took on Thomas Piketty's new work "Capital and Ideology".

The winter semester was dominated by the topic of Complexity Economics. We started with a local version of the session "Agent-Based Models and Networks", which Jan Schulz and Daniel Mayerhoffer also led at the Network for Pluralist Economics Fall conference. We then looked at the topic of "Financialisation"

and its macroeconomic effects. Finally, we delved into the matter of the "Economic Complexity Index".

The Bamberg Economics programme (European Economic Studies) is interdisciplinary and European-oriented. European topics are therefore of particular interest to us. For this reason, a cooperation event with the Young European Federalists Bamberg took place in both semesters. In the first semester, we discussed the EU's economic policy in response to the pandemic, and in the second semester we dealt with the EU's sustainability strategy, especially in relation to economic issues.

To strengthen our local presence, our local group supported the alternative first-semester orientation days. This enabled us to maintain and create contacts for potential cooperation, and provided opportunities to raise interest in Pluralist Economics among young students.

Arbeitskreis Plurale Ökonomik Bayreuth (Pluralist Economics Working Group Bayreuth)

| Founding year 2012

In 2020, our local group contributed significantly to diversity in teaching at our university. We organised more events than ever before. A total of three block seminars, one lecture series, two reading groups and one lecture on various topics took place.

Events in the summer semester 2020:

- Lecture series on the topic of "Financial Crises"
- Block seminar on "Economic Perspectives on the Climate Crisis"
- Block seminar on "Feminist Economics"

- Block seminar on "Economic Growth and the Environment" in cooperation with the Institut für Ökologische Wirtschaftsforschung (IÖW) (Institute for Ecological Economic Research)
- Reading circle on the book "The Economy" (published by Core Econ)
- Lecture on "Market and Morality - Designing better Markets" with Carl David Mildenberger

In addition, a debate on the critical examination of the topic of "development" took place at our university this year. As part of a study project, in which one of our members was involved, a critical accompanying paper as well as a seminar plan for the textbook "Ökonomik der Entwicklung" (Economics of Development), published at the University of Bayreuth, was produced. The work was eventually published on [Exploring Economics](#) and the university newspaper "[Falter](#)" reported on it. This also gave us as a Pluralist Economics group the opportunity to engage with postcolonial and racism-critical perspectives on "development".

As usual, we have concentrated on organising new events in the winter semester and cut back on other activities. Therefore, at the moment we mainly see each other in the context of organisational meetings. In addition, a weekly reading circle takes place, in which we turn to introductory articles from Exploring Economics and give newer members an easy start.

Unfortunately, our university's funding for events like ours has been drastically cut. Nevertheless, we are planning (even without major funding opportunities) to offer the following courses:

Planned events for the summer semester 2021

- Block seminar on "Feminist Economics"
- Panel discussion on the topic of "Feminist Economics"
- Lecture on the topic "Green Capitalism?"
- Seminar on the Philosophy of Science of Economic Models

Furthermore, we want to create a "Certificate Programme in Plural Economics" in Bayreuth. At the moment, we are in discussion with various responsible people at our university.

Kriwis FU Berlin

Founding year ~ 2002

It is hard to imagine today, but at the beginning of 2020 we were still able to fill the lecture halls of our department during the course of an action week. Under the question "Where are the female economists?", we addressed the lack of diversity in economics in lectures and discussions. A photo exhibition of selected influential female economists covered up the gallery of almost exclusively male honorary doctorates in our department for the week. We were also able to conclude our successful lecture series for the 2019/20 winter semester and yet were caught cold by the Covid-19-Pandemic when planning our subsequent module on "Financial Crises and Monetary Systems".

We soon realized that although the teaching of economics continues almost seamlessly during the Covid-19-Pandemic, especially discussion and exchange suffer from the digitalisation of courses. In times when university teaching is replaced by YouTube playlists and fellow students disappear behind zoom tiles, it was important for us to offer plenty of space for discussion and exchange in our lecture series. In addition, in our new webinar series "Corona crisis: What is

Corona Krise: Was tut die VWL?

Webinarreihe mit Forschenden des Fachbereichs Wiwiss der
Freie Universität Berlin



Lecture flyer of a webinar series on the Covid-19-Pandemic

economics doing?", we brought researchers from the department into contact with students on a weekly basis and were thus able to ensure at least a minimum of critical exchange in the department. We were also active in terms of higher education policy and were able to raise critical points about teaching during the accreditation of the Economics degree programmes and initiate sustainable changes, which are already partly reflected in the courses offered in the summer semester 2021. For example, more seminars are now being offered that break up the usual frontal teaching.

In both the summer and winter semesters, we were able to take advantage of the opportunities offered by digital teaching and opened up our lecture series and meetings to interested parties outside of Berlin. The Network's certificate project also contributed to the fact that our lecture series "Paradigms and Controversies of Economic Theories" and "Financial Crises and Monetary Systems" were each attended by 210 people from over 30 cities. We used the further digital semester in winter to catch up on the discussions missing in the digitalised modules in weekly meetings and also attended and reflected on various webinars together. Moreover, we completely redesigned our [website](#). Furthermore, we have increasingly dealt with the history of our university group and in the course of this established contact with alumni from previous generations. Among other things, we found out that the KriWis Berlin has been around much longer than we thought. Our university group has been stimulating discussions in the department since 2002.

Despite all the hurdles posed by the Covid-19-Pandemic, about two dozen KriWis look forward to 2021 with cautious hope.

| PluEcoTU Berlin

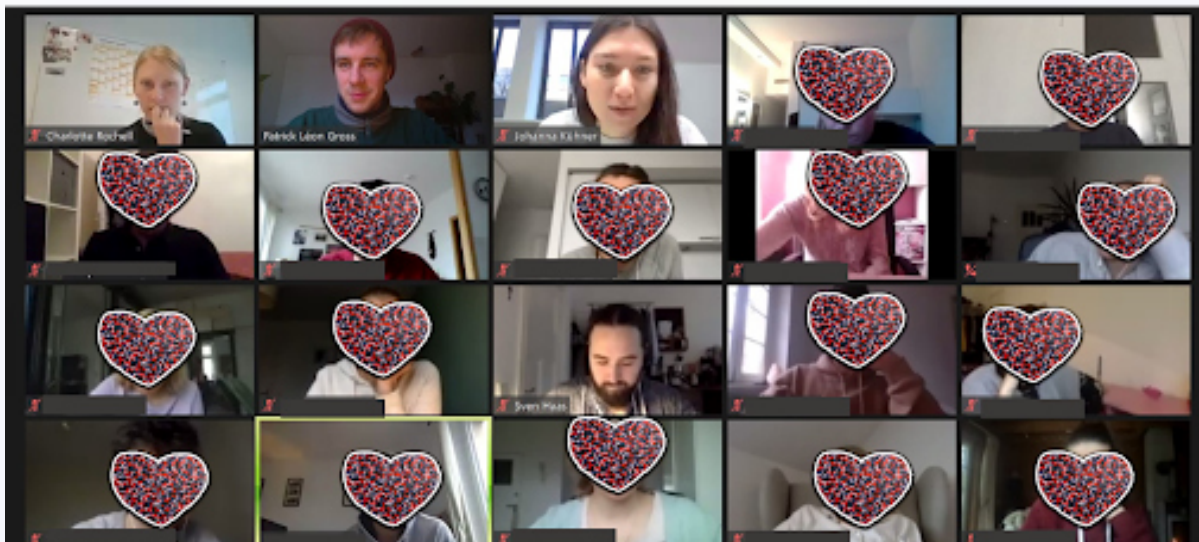
| Founding year 2020

We are founded! After a one-sided and unsatisfactory Economics course, we quickly agreed: We also have to stand up for plural-economic perspectives at the TU Berlin! In May 2020, we therefore wrote an open letter to our chair and collected around 30 signatures within the course "Innovation Management, Entrepreneurship and Sustainability".

The letter turned into a constructive dialogue between students and the chair. Together we started a pilot project to look at innovation economics from different perspectives and to think about pluralist perspectives.

The aim was to integrate pluralist aspects into the existing course. In a working group, we developed a teaching concept and designed the exercise of a compulsory course with 80 students as an initiative. The new exercise concept is to remain part of the course and will be carried out again in the same or a similar form in the coming semesters.

In the exercise, we taught the basic features of Pluralist Economics and gave the students tools which enable them to contextualise the further contents of the lecture. In addition to our own content, we received video messages from Lars Hochmann and Thomas Gegenhuber.



The exercise on Pluralist Economics was always well attended

At the end of the semester, we presented our initiative in two project workshops to attract new members. In our Slack space we are around 20 interested people and look forward to the next semester with new faces and ideas.

Plurale Ökonomik Dresden (Pluralist Economics Dresden)

Founding year 2018

The year 2020 began for us with fresh impulses from a lecture on "Pluralist Economics for a Pluralist Society", which Florian Rommel from the University of Bayreuth had given at our university in December 2019. As a newly formed team and freshly elected board, we were now encouraged that our commitment to pluralist teaching in economics is important and right. During the course of the winter semester, we broadened our horizons with lectures on feminist economics as well as on doughnut economics. The winter semester then came to a nice end in the form of an informal gathering at Bottom's Up, a student bar that we appreciate.

At the same time, we started planning the lecture series during the summer semester with the title: "Diversity - Responsibility - Economics", which took place spontaneously in digital form via the platform Jitsi after the outbreak of the Covid-19-Pandemic. We put together an exciting programme and were able to attract competent speakers. Lectures were given on the following topics:

- Post-growth economics and ecological economics
- Complexity economics
- Institutional economics
- Neoclassics
- Marxist economics
- Feminist economics

The lecture series evoked a considerable response, with the corresponding Telegram group having over 140 members, of whom usually more than 30 always attended the lecture events. In the following discussions, some students participated actively and it became clear that students of economics and international relations and occasionally students of other disciplines took part.

Originally, it was planned that the lecture series should be complemented with the possibility to collect ECTS, but unfortunately this was prevented by complications with the responsible chair.

However, since the beginning of the new winter semester, we have been in the process of planning the next lecture series on the topic of growth, this time with the possibility to collect 1 Credit point for participation. During the new semester, we have continued the educational programme within our group with lectures on economic postcolonialism, on the common good economy as well as on post-growth and degrowth. In addition, we organised a lecture on the sociology of money, which Eva-Maria Hubert gave in digital form at the TU Dresden in January 2021.



The Dresden local group at the digital plenary

impuls. Plurale Ökonomik Erfurt (impuls. Pluralist Economics Erfurt)

The year 2020 hit us pretty hard with the Covid-19-Pandemic. Originally, we wanted to organise an event with Maja Göpel in the summer, but unfortunately it did not take place.

Then, in autumn 2020, for the new winter semester, we have renewed our strength and have been able to welcome many new members in our group. With this additional support, we set to work on designing an appealing website. We also built up a social media presence and exchanged ideas with the local group in Jena. Since autumn, weekly meetings have been taking place again, both organisationally and in terms of content. We discuss different schools of economic thought and organise events for the upcoming semester. In 2020, we dealt with neoclassicism, the Austrian School, post-Keynesianism and MMT.

In 2021, we want to continue this approach and organise various events to offer other students the opportunity to get to know new perspectives.

First, we are planning a studium fundamentale for the winter semester of 2021. This is a seminar organised by ourselves with two supervisors on pluralist perspectives on economics and various other economic topics.

Secondly, we want to organise a series of events, starting with an introductory event on the topic of Pluralist Economics. Other topics for our events are post-growth, inequality with regard to the Pandemic and debt during the Covid-19-Pandemic. For the second event, we were able to invite Prof. Achim Kemmerling from the Willy Brandt School and Prof. Barbara Fritz. Mr Kemmerling will talk about the international inequality of the pandemic and the consequences for development and international cooperation. Mrs Fritz will complement this contribution with an input on inequalities of the so-called Global Financial Safety Net.

We are looking forward to 2021 with excitement and hope that we can reach even more students with our topics and events in the semesters to come.

Plurale Ökonomik Freiburg (Pluralist Economics Freiburg)

Founding year 2019

2020 was a special year for our young working group. New faces, new formats, new challenges.

The Freiburg local group was founded in September 2019 and the projects that started in 2020 were therefore new territory for us.

The organisation of many events carried us through the year. The planned lecture series for the summer semester 2020 in cooperation with the sustainability office of the University of Freiburg was shrunk to one event due to the circumstances. However, we gained first experiences with digital formats. Zoom meetings, sometimes lasting late into the night, made it possible to organise an exciting lecture on the acute topic of transformation and questions of its implementation. The positive feedback encouraged us to continue in the winter semester of 2020/2021. With three events this time, we opened up different perspectives on business and sustainability with diverse speakers from theory and practice under the title "Is this business or can it go away?". We designed our content along this theme and discussed sustainability economics, finance and feminist economics, among other topics.

In addition to internal exchange, we were able to establish helpful contacts and new connections to various people and groups through regular meetings with local initiatives in and outside the university. An important local project in Freiburg was the Climate Action Alliance, in which actors jointly developed demands for shaping the future of the city, and handed them over at the end of 2020. We participated in the working group on the economy.

Parallel to the lecture series in the winter semester, we have initiated other projects. Firstly, an explanatory video to present the idea of Pluralist Economics brief and crispy, which can then be used as teaching or information material. And secondly, through exploratory talks with the Freiburg economics faculty,

the idea has grown to participate in the introductory course of economics and to sensitise students to the diversity of economics right from the start.

At the end of the summer, many former group members left us. It was therefore very convenient for us to be part of the orientation week "Ersti-Akademie zukunftsfähig" for first-year students. In our workshop on Pluralist Economics, we were able to inspire a few motivated people. Thus, at the beginning of 2021, a new picture of the group emerges, which starts into an exciting year 2021.



The organising team of the lecture series "Ist das Wirtschaft oder kann das weg?" ("Is this economics or can it go?")

Arbeitskreis Plurale Ökonomik Hamburg (Pluralist Economics Working Group Hamburg)

| Founding year 2012

Even though, like all local groups, we had to react to the Covid-19-Pandemic-related changes at fairly short notice, we met weekly as usual in 2020. In our virtual reading circles, we read and discussed together various texts on the topic of "Socialist Calculation Debate - Revisited" in the summer semester and "After the Euro Crisis: Deficits & Transformation" in the winter semester. Apart from a few physical meetings in the summer on the campus meadow, we have mainly planned further activities in our fortnightly online plenums and maintained contacts with other organisations, such as the Hamburg Common-Good Economy working group.

We held our series of events on how economics deals with the climate crisis virtually. In exciting lectures by Moritz Drupp, Janina Urban, Elena Hofferberth and Franziska Müller, we examined various (economic) perspectives on the climate crisis and discussed the necessity of a multi-paradigmatic approach.

In addition, we were busy for a long time in 2020 with the planning and implementation of a pluralist seminar in the elective area of the Masters "Work, Economy, Society - Economic and Sociological Studies" at the University of Hamburg. Together with Florian Lampe, a research assistant of Prof. Arne Heise, we had the opportunity to design and conduct a seminar and to take exams. We first looked at different schools of thought. Then the students analysed a specific problem from the topic area of "money and power" through the lense of one theory. The seminar was well attended and is expected to be completed by 20 students. Throughout the semester, the event was characterised by many lively discussions and exciting impulses from the individual groups. The seminar will conclude at the end of the winter semester 2020/21 with presentations by the individual groups on their planned written papers and essays, which already feature a wide variety of topics. Despite the

high level of effort, we had a lot of fun overall designing and holding the seminar and hope that we will also get the opportunity to help shape the curriculum at the University of Hamburg in the future!



The AK Pluralist Economics Hamburg

Plurale Ökonomik Jena (Pluralist Economics Jena)

| Founding year 2017

Our plural year 2020 began with a substantive exchange with Dr. Markus Pasche, a lecturer at our university who, among other things, holds the introductory lecture in economics. We invited him to one of our last meetings in presence for a substantive exchange on the topic of rationality, utility theory and behavioural economics. We discussed the one-sided idea of man represented by the "homo economicus" as well as alternative concepts of rationality and got to know a variety of arguments.

Despite the Covid-19-Pandemic, we then continued our meetings in digital form. We discussed the book "Repairing the Market Economy" by Andreas Siemoneit and Oliver Richters. Otherwise, our focus this year was on politics.

In 2019, in the run-up to the state elections in Thuringia, we asked all the major parties in the state parliament about their stance on various topics of pluralism in economics, from economic policy to university and research policy. We wanted to find out where economic concepts fall short from their perspective and whether they would support the establishment of a professorship for pluralist economics at a Thuringian university. We have analysed the results in two detailed blog articles on our [homepage](#).

We took up this work in 2020. After it became known in the spring of 2020 that state elections in Thuringia were to be expected soon again, we set ourselves the goal of exploring what possibilities there are to establish a pluralist professorship in Thuringia with the help of state politics and to promote a pluralist-economic orientation. We are inspired by the example of Schleswig-Holstein, where such a professorship was established on the initiative of members of the state parliament.

We contacted all the major democratic parties again to explain our concerns in a networking meeting and to hear their different perspectives on our suggestions. At the end of 2020, we met with members of the parliamentary groups of the Left Party (die LINKE) and the Green Party (Bündnis90/Die Grünen) via Zoom. The impulse paper published earlier this year by the Network in particular proved to be a valuable resource for explaining the goals of pluralist economics. We received positive feedback from both meetings and now hope to exchange ideas with the parties SPD, FDP and CDU as well. At the same time, we are establishing contact with representatives of the university and will meet with Prof. Klaus Dörre (Sociology) and Prof. Uwe Cantner (Economics) in spring 2021.

| Rethinking Economics Kiel

| Founding year 2020

In November 2020, we founded our university group "Rethinking Economics Kiel".

At our first meeting for interested people there were over 30 students, now we are about 24 active members. In the board of Rethinking Economics Kiel, we focus on making sure that the internal organisation runs as smoothly as possible and that new members feel comfortable. For this purpose, we set up our platform on Slack and a Google calendar with all important dates for our group in the winter semester 20/21. We also want to facilitate communication to the Network via Slack, as we announce all important dates there. Besides some smaller projects, we are focusing on these four projects:

→ **Organisation of a pluralist lecture series in the summer semester 2021:**

The organisation is in preparation, so that from the end of April to the end of June we will welcome a speaker every week to hold a talk on pluralist topics such as feminist economics, distributive justice or commons. ECTS credit will unfortunately only be available next semester, but we are working on it and have already met with the Centre for Key Qualifications at our university.

→ **A poetry slam in the summer semester 2021 with the university group "Students for Future Kiel" at the "Kiel kann mehr Festival"**

→ **Reading circle on the book "Doughnut Economics" by Kate Raworth:**

The reading circle has been active since the beginning of January with about 10 participants. We discuss a chapter every fortnight and one member prepares a short summary. Our discussions so far have been very multi-layered and encouraging, as we find new, pluralist associations and links to the otherwise pre-loaded neoclassical topics in economics.

→ **Advocacy for Curriculum Change (at the Christian-Albrechts-Universität and in state politics) with the long-term goal of a pluralistic professorship at the CAU.**

At the end of February, we met with an EU and a state parliament member of the party Bündnis90/ Die Grünen for an open political exchange. We found a great deal of overlapping ideas in terms of content, which we would like to build on. With a view to the next state elections in Schleswig-Holstein (2022), we will exchange ideas with all democratic parties in the state parliament in order to hopefully place our demands, such as the funding of a chair for Pluralist Economics at CAU, in the next coalition agreement.

In addition, we would like to pluralise teaching locally and, above all, give students of economics more opportunities to enrich their education and involvement in economics outside of neoclassicism. To this end, we network with other student initiatives and teachers at the CAU and the Institut für Weltwirtschaft (IfW) (Institute for the World Economy).

AK Plurale Ökonomik - oikos Köln (Working Group Pluralist Economics - oikos Cologne)

| **Founding year 2012**

Even Covid-19 could not stop us from rethinking economics in 2020. Therefore, we again organised some exciting lectures, reading circles and excursions. Our local group is a working group of the student initiative oikos, with whom we share similar topics and demands.

In January, we started with a presentation and discussion of Ulrike Herrmann's book "Deutschland, ein Wirtschaftsmärchen" (Germany, an Economic Fairytale). The main goal was to dispel myths about reconstruction, the social market economy and the export surplus. The lecture series on socio-economic

transformation entitled "Change - what's stopping us?" also had special significance last year.

The first lecture was entitled "Post-growth economy - back to the Stone Age?". Change researcher Dr. Andrea Vetter explained that the concept of Degrowth is not primarily about a radical reduction in living standards, but about a realignment of the goals that an economy sets for itself. The second presentation was given by the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the topic was "Transition to renewable energy by 2050?". IRENA is an international organisation that provides expertise on technology, resources, finance and cooperation to help and advise countries in achieving their climate goals. The third and last lecture of the series dealt with digitalisation and sustainability. Tilman Santarius, Professor of Socio-Ecological Transformation and Sustainable Digitalisation at TU Berlin, presented how tension between the processes of digitisation and social sustainability arises. On the one hand, the fluctuating power supply through renewable energies needs new digital approaches, but on the other hand, digitalisation often leads to monopolistic structures.

Another event in the summer semester was a workshop on the common-good economy. In cooperation with the regional group Cologne-Bonn, an introduction was given to the vision and the common good balance sheet. The latter measures corporate success by its contribution to the common good and is already published by various companies. The interdisciplinary background of the participants was also enriching.



As far as the Covid-19-Pandemic allowed, the Cologne local group met in the open air

At the beginning of the winter semester, it was fortunately still possible to meet physically and we went on a hiking trip in the Cologne area to see each other again after the semester break and to exchange ideas. In addition, the reading circle on post-Keynesian theory took place. The main topic was the book "Post-Keynesian Economics - New Foundations" by Marc Lavoie. Students were thrilled anew by the approach and the basic assumptions of this theory.

In general, it is positive to mention that despite the lockdown and the predominantly online work, new members have joined every semester! Another new feature last semester was the reading circle on the topic of "Decolonising Economics". The book by Busani Mpofu and Sabelo J. Ndlovu-Gatsheni "Rethinking and Unthinking Development-Perspectives on Inequality and Poverty in South Africa and Zimbabwe" was discussed. One section was discussed at each of the five meetings and the topic was generally very well received. The reading group was organised by a student of economics and a student of anthropology. This resulted in a broad approach, which is so often lacking in economics. One of the most discussed points was to what extent Western development models can be applied to different African countries at all. Since the first part of the book was read in the winter semester, we plan to continue the reading circle in the coming summer semester.

| MÖVE Lüneburg

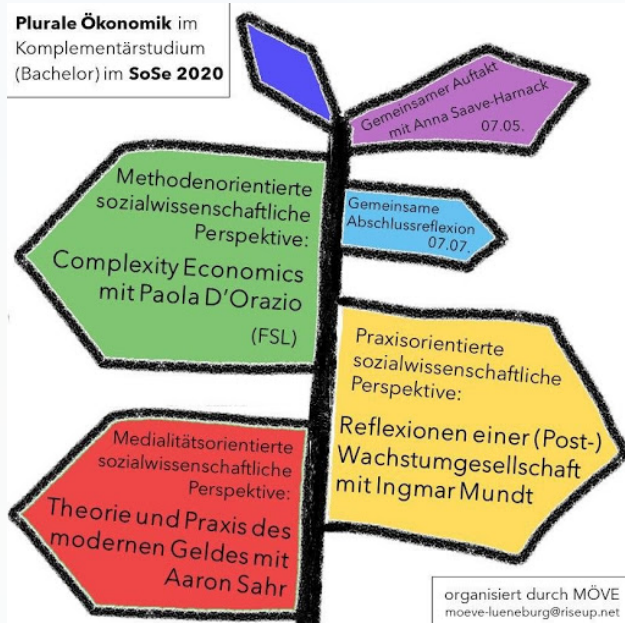
| Founding year 2016

The Covid-19-Pandemic also took us by surprise in spring 2020 and made for a very special start to the semester. Nevertheless, we quickly found a common way of dealing with the situation and met regularly via ZOOM. It also gave us the opportunity to invite "old" MÖVEs again, for example Kristin Langen with an input on the "[History of GDP - The Magic of a Number](#)" on 26 May 2020.

The great feedback on the Doughnut Reading Circle from the winter semester 2019/20 has motivated us to start the new semester with two more reading circles. We have tried to provide variety both in topics and with different

formats. Since both reading circles took place online, people outside of Lüneburg were also able to participate and get involved. On the one hand, we read the book "[Marktwirtschaft Reparieren](#)" (repairing the market economy) by Oliver Richters and Andreas Siemoneit and organised a final discussion with the co-author Oliver Richters. On the other hand, the second reading circle dealt with some economic schools of thought on the basis of various papers.

Another focus in the summer semester was on the new courses of the complementary studies in connection with our [profile of Pluralist Economics](#) at Leuphana University Lüneburg. We planned to bring the course participants more into touch and exchange with each other through joint opening and closing events. In May, for example, Anne Saave Harnack presented her book "Perspectives of a pluralist economy - the care levy" and answered many interesting questions.



*The complementary study organised by
MÖVE covered many topics*

Over the summer, we spent a lot of time working on public relations and outreach and started the winter semester with a newly designed logo and a fresh social media presence ([see Instagram: moeve-lueneburg](#)) as well as the production of MÖVE merchandise.

After successful orientation days through the online "Market of Opportunities" organised by the umbrella organisation of student initiatives at our university as well as an orientation event held both in presence and online with games, we have now started the new semester with some new group members.

Furthermore, we continued with the development of the profile of Pluralist Economics in the multidisciplinary compulsory complementary studies at Leuphana University. Here, students could already choose from the following



In between, the MÖVEs could also meet in presence

modules in the winter semester: "Reflections on a (Post-)Growth Society", "History of Economic Theories", "Introduction to Plural Feminist Economics" and "Ecological Economics".

In addition, we met every fortnight for a virtuale "MÖVE-Schnack" where we discussed various topics. Topics were, for example, the reflection on the film *Oeconomia*, which we had previously been able to watch together in the cinema, as well as big questions and visions for a sustainable economic model or also on the taxation of multinational corporations.

Otherwise, the planning for a lecture series to kick off the Pluralist profile in the summer semester of 2021 was already underway.

Plurale Ökonomik Mannheim (Pluralist Economics Mannheim)

| Founding year 2014

Because the University of Mannheim follows international semester times, Plural Economics Mannheim started the year 2020 in February with the beginning of the summer semester. Under the semester topic "Master of the Universe - Do Economists Create Your Reality?", the initiative met once a week. The format of the previous year's meetings was largely retained and a keynote speech was followed by discussion on various subtopics. This did not change after the transition to online meetings, although it was not always easy to motivate members to attend never-ending virtual meetings. Nevertheless, our local group was able to come up with some exciting events and projects.



Advertising for new members: In a sticker campaign, the Mannheim local group embellish their university

Still in spring, Prof. Jochen Streb, holder of the Chair of Economic History, was won over for the discussion-format "colourful sofa" during one of our regular meetings. In addition to the weekly meetings, the members worked out feedback on the lectures "Fundamentals of Economics" and "Markets and the

Environment" in working groups, which they brought to the attention of the respective professors in the summer and which the latter later incorporated into the revision of their lectures. With the start of the wintersemester, there was a panel discussion with Prof. Niko Paech and Dr. Michael Jakob, who spoke about the compatibility of economic growth with averting the climate crisis. In another panel discussion, Prof. Svenja Flechtner and Prof. Martin Peitz addressed the question of why there is a need for greater pluralism in economics. Meanwhile, the weekly meetings during the wintersemester took place on the topic of "Economists For Future vs. Business As Usual". Participation in the meetings increased, thanks to the reactivation of the local group's social media channels. For the new year, the organisation of further online events is now planned and lectures will again be reviewed.

| Rethinking Economics Munich

| Founding year 2018

At our last physical meeting before the first lockdown, we visited an organic bakery with ice cream manufacture (Kälte-Rudi) in Gauting near Munich, which operates according to the principles of the Common-Good Economy.

During the first lockdown, we continued our interdisciplinary reading circle online, this semester on the topic "Causal Inference in Econometrics: Directed Acyclic Graphs (DAGs)". Guest lectures by Svenja Flechtner, Paul Hünermund, Joachim Winter, Naftali Weinberger and Julian Schüssler helped us digest the long list of sometimes very technical topics. First, we read the "Book of Why" (Pearl/Mackenzie 2018) and worked out the basics of Graphical Causal Models (Pearl 2009; Cunningham 2020). We then discussed methodological pluralism in economics, the relationship of DAGs to the Potential



The Munich Local Group as guests at Kälte-Rudi

Outcome Framework (Imbens 2020), the history of ideas of Causal Inference in economics, Causal Mediation Analysis (Weinberger 2019), various new and old Identification Strategies in DAG notation (Steiner et al. 2013; Bellemare/Bloem 2020; Huntington-Klein 2020), Data Fusion and Transportability (Bareinboim/Hünermund 2020). We also looked at a recent empirical controversy about a study of police violence in the United States that could be resolved by using DAGs (Knox et al. 2020). In the last session, all participants presented their own research projects with DAGs.

During the semester break, we met in August in a pop-up beer garden on the otherwise empty Theresienwiese, where we collected initial topic suggestions for next semester. In a subsequent Zoom meeting, we decided to tackle the topic "What is Money?" in the winter semester. With this accessible topic, we hope to attract young people interested in economic Pluralism as well. Topics discussed include: The money view (Perry Mehrling), the neutrality of money in neoclassics, Covid-19 and financial markets, central bank policy, cryptocurrencies, and Modern Monetary Theory. We were grateful for guest lectures and discussions by Anne Löscher, Mathis Richtmann and Max Cramer.

Plurale Ökonomik Erlangen-Nürnberg (Pluralist Economics Erlangen-Nuremberg)

| Founding year 2019

In 2020, we focused on professional development within the group and university networking. We organized our meetings mainly via Zoom, in summer in Covid-19-compliant meetings in the park.

We networked with lecturers and professors within the university and sought discussions. This resulted in exciting and enriching meetings as a group with new input. The meetings were fruitful for us as well as for the lecturers. Unfortunately, we also noticed that pluralist teaching is still in its infancy at our

university. Of course, we will try to push this further in the future. Moreover, we plan to connect more intensively with other student groups and possibly organise events together.

The primary aim of networking within the university was to increase the visibility of our group within university life, as well as to plan a seminar on the "History of Economic Thought". In the process, we noticed how difficult it is to be heard as a student group - but we want to keep trying!

We have also expanded our social media presence and are trying to focus on online presence in times of the pandemic. We use our Facebook page as a resource platform for interested people in Nuremberg and the surrounding area.

In 2020, we also organised reading circles within our group on crisis phenomena of capitalism, monetary policy, feminist economics, and Modern Money Theory and the criticism of it, and had many exciting discussions.

| Global Campus Hohenheim

| Founding year 2012

After our excursion to the European Youth Event of the European Parliament had to be postponed indefinitely, GlobalCampus, like many other student groups, fell into a Covid-19-induced deep sleep over the summer. Not affected by this phenomenon, however, was the Sustainability Working Group of the University of Hohenheim, the "umbrella group" of all green groups at our university, which finally also reawakened GlobalCampus. Together with other universities in Baden-Württemberg, the Sustainability Working Group had pushed the idea of welcoming first-year students at these universities in the 2020/21 winter semester with a week-long [programme](#) on the topic of sustainability. In July, GlobalCampus was finally asked if we wanted to offer a workshop on Pluralist Economics as part of this so-called "Ersti-Akademie".

We took this opportunity to introduce Pluralist Economics to a large group of sustainability-minded first-year students. Thanks to a strict hygiene

concept, we were able to offer one of the few face-to-face events at the university campus in October.

About 30 participants were able to interactively experience what Pluralist Economics is all about at six stations outdoors. These featured a taboo game with economic terms worthy of discussion, a quiz on the different views of the idea of man, the engine of the economy and the role of the state and society, as well as discussions on the importance of pluralism in general. There were also practical examples of alternative economic activity, cartoons and songs on the topic.



Taboo Game at the Erstiakademie

We were able to present our long-standing Fairomat project - snack vending machines with fair trade snacks - in the university libraries in a campus tour as part of this orientation week. Until the libraries reopened for regular business, however, the Fairomats remained empty for the time being.

With some new members that we were able to win at these events, among others, we started the winter semester with online meetings. We began with a book presentation by Oliver Richters, with whom we spent an evening discussing his book "Repairing the Market Economy". We then had an event on sustainable banking where we presented alternative banks and investment opportunities and their role in the transformation of the economy. We had prepared the content ourselves according to the motto "from students for students". With 80 participants, the online event was very well attended.

Rethinking Economics Tübingen

Founding year 2011

The year 2020 started with a big (or maybe even the biggest?) event in Tübingen: Yanis Varoufakis gave the final lecture of our lecture series "An Introduction to Pluralism in Economics" in the winter semester. Over 1000 listeners followed the lecture live, via livestream in neighbouring lecture halls or on the internet. The video on Youtube has over 280,000 views. For the local group, this event was not only a major organisational project, but also a signal to the Department of Economics at the University of Tübingen. In addition to the "usual" scepticism and aversion, some teachers probably also thought that the local group no longer existed. None of the professors showed up for Professor Varoufakis' lecture.

In the summer semester, we organised a digital lecture series on ecological economics and climate change. The lecture series was very well received and had over a hundred consistent listeners. It was special that we were able to award ECTS for participation in the lecture series to students despite the unfamiliar new format (online).



Digital Team Meeting

Within our group, the year 2020 was marked by major "generation changes" and digital organisation efforts. It took a lot of energy to recruit new members and activists for the local group. In addition, we are still working on a "Report on Pluralism", a report on the status quo of Pluralist Economics at the University of Tübingen, which we would like to print and distribute widely at the university. To this end, we conducted a quantitative survey among students and qualitative interviews among lecturers. We hope to publish the report soon.

Gesellschaft für Plurale Ökonomik Wien (Society for Pluralist Economics Vienna)

| **Founding year 2014**

Due to the Covid-19-Pandemic, the Society for Plural Economics Vienna had to postpone major events and move our activities to the internet. Nevertheless, we can look back on a successful year in which we were able to actively contribute to more heterodoxy in economics.

In the winter semester, we held a self-organised course on "Crisis Economics" together with the Economics Centre of the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration. We dealt with economic crises and economic crisis theory of critical political economy, feminist economics, Post-Keynesianism, environmental economics and the perspective of Karl Polanyi. We are particularly pleased that at the beginning of the summer semester, for the first time, we were able to contribute to the course "Introduction to Economics" at the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration, which almost all Bachelor's students have to attend, with a unit on "Looking beyond the horizon - economics outside the mainstream".

We recently organised a two-part series of events on endogenous monetary theory and modern monetary theory. On the one hand, the aim was to provide our group with training on a cutting-edge topic on which we unfortunately (until now) had far too little knowledge. On the other hand, we also used the discussion events to exchange with like-minded organisations - in addition to our local group from Vienna, there were also people from Attac, Roter Börsenkrach (grassroots group of Economics students at the University of Vienna) and Pluralist Economics Graz.

How will we continue? In the summer semester of 2021, we will again be involved in organising the self-organised course at the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration, this time on the topic of "educational economisation". And soon we will start a reading group on Thomas Biebricher's new book "The Political Theory of Neoliberalism". In addition, we would like to organise a writing workshop together with the BEIGEWUM and the Economic Policy Academy as soon as the Covid-19-Pandemic allows. Furthermore, as every year, we will organise the "Young Economists Conference" next autumn in cooperation with the Vienna Chamber of Labour. In the meantime, we will stay connected through bi-weekly meetings, at least online, where we will not only plan further lectures and events, but also discuss the content.