

Biannual report 2015-2017 to the *European Sociological Association* (ESA), RN 12, “Environment and Society”

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At ESA’s biannual Conference in Athens in August 2017 the Research network “Environment and Society” (RN12) had 26 sessions with four to five papers including two joint sessions. A wide disciplinary participation to our sessions RN12 supports the openness of our network to new participants also from outside sociology. In between the conferences there is a good communication and exchange through our mailing list with currently about 750 addresses. The list is excellently maintained by Çigdem Adem. Moreover, our newly launched website is developing into an important platform for sharing calls for papers with members and beyond: <https://www.europeansociology.org/research-networks/rn12-environment-society>

From September 12-14, 2016 we held our Midterm conference together with the Energy and Society Group. The title was “Transforming Energy for Society. The conference was held at the “Kubus” of Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ in Leipzig, Germany. The conference included 26 thematic panels of oral presentations (each one with 4 to 5 papers) and two keynote speeches, one by Debra Davidson (University of Alberta, Canada) on “Can we adapt? An evolutionary lens on future energy-society relations” and the other one by Patrick Devine-Wright (University of Exeter, UK) on “Community Energy: Rescaling energy systems for the low carbon transition. We also held plenary sessions and a poster session as well as discussion-centered workshops. Further info can be found at: <http://www.ufz.de/energyandsociety/index.php?en=33508>.

Our next RN 12 midterm meeting will be held at the University of Exeter, UK from 3 – 5 September 2018. Info can be found on the conference website:

<http://geography.exeter.ac.uk/energyandsociety>

At the business meeting in Athens our treasurer Henning Best (University of Kaiserslautern, Germany) presented the expenses. We are doing well. The network's account balance in August 2017 was: + 2.735,42 €.

At the business meeting in Athens our long term board member Giorgio Osti asked to step back from the board. In turn Natalia Magnani (University of Trento, Italy) and Sophie Némoz (University Franche-Comté, Besançon, France) have been elected as new board members. The current board thus consists of:

Matthias Gross, chair/coordinator

Audrone Telesiene (vice-chair)

Çigdem Adem (e-mail list)

Henning Best (treasurer)

Balínt Bálazs

Peter Oosterveer

Mikael Klintman

Natalia Magnani

Mercedes Martínez

Sophie Némoz

Luísa Schmidt

Aleksandra Wagner

It is planned that at the next ESA Conference in Manchester in 2019 a new chair/coordinator of RN12 is going to be elected.