

**Call for participation | preliminary
programme**

Conceptualising Transformative Knowledge Regions

Workshop 26th / 27th of October 2023

**Organised by the Regional Studies Association
Network on Transformative Knowledge Regions**

Venue:

Institute for Work and Technology / Hier ist nicht da
Bochumer Straße 138
45886 Gelsenkirchen (GER)

Please register by contacting Verena Martini
martini@iat.eu via mail until 31st of August.

The TRAKR network aims at exploring the shift from knowledge-intensive to “transformative-knowledge regions” to renew the understanding of knowledge as an asset in regional development in light of ongoing sustainability transitions. The network was kicked-off this year at the Regional Studies annual conference. It strives to further conceptualise sustainability transitions and innovation directionality challenges from an explicit knowledge perspective. More information on the network can be found here:

<https://www.regionalstudies.org/network/transformative-knowledge-regions/>

This workshop is the 2nd TRAKR event and will address the following questions:

- In which ways does transformative knowledge creation connect to space? How do transformative knowledge actors connect within and across space and places?
- How should we understand a transformative knowledge ecosystem? Which configurations of regional knowledge ecosystems, including their variety of actors, learning communities and multi-scalar connections, seems especially suited for realizing transitions?
- Do the knowledge ecosystems in regions with high performance in sustainability transitions have distinct transformative capacities compared to regions with lesser sustainability performance, for instance regarding involvement of citizens, households and neighbourhoods?
- Are the institutional thickness and complexity of urban areas compared to peripheral and rural areas an advantage or a weakness in terms of transformative knowledge creation and ecosystems?
- What would be a typology of varying territorial transformative knowledge ecosystems?

We invite scholars and researchers including early career researchers and doctoral students to attend and actively participate in this workshop. It will involve keynotes by leading scholars, opportunities for participants to present and discuss their ideas, interactive sessions, site visits and a social programme. Please note that spaces are limited and travel costs cannot be reimbursed.

Thursday 26th of October 2023

08:45 – 09:00 Registration

09:00 – 09:30 Welcome & Introduction

09:30 – 10:15 Keynote: Oliver Ibert, Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space

10:15 – 11:00 Pechakucha

Coffee break

11:15 – 12:30 Interactive session

Lunch & bus tour to excursion site

13:30 - 16:00 Site visit Thyssen Krupp Steel

17:15 – 18:00 Keynote: Kerstin Meyer, Institute for Work and Technology, Westphalian University of Applied Sciences

Drinks reception & table tennis tournament (optional)

19:30 Dinner

Friday 27th of October 2023

09:00 – 09:45 Keynote: Lars Coenen, Mohn Centre for Innovation and Regional Development, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences

09:45 – 11:15 Interactive session

Coffee break

11:15 – 12:15 Interactive session

12:15 – 12:30 Wrap-up

Snack & Farewell

Walk through Gelsenkirchen Ückendorf (optional)