

IfGR - Flash News - July 2024



Dear Viennese Geographers,

We wish everyone a wonderful, lecture-free period and a refreshing rest before the next semester begins.

Thank you for all your contributions that make Flash-News so interesting and lively!

See you after the summerbreak!

If you have any announcements, please send them to:

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1. New Staff and Guests

- **Annemarie Lechte** (Department of Geography and Regional Research) joined the working group Economic Geography (Michaela Tripl) as a praedocctoral researcher for the [RITMEP project](#) in June 2024. She studied Sustainable Economics (B.Sc.) at the University of Oldenburg and the University of Graz, and Sustainable Development (M.Sc.) at the University of Graz and the University of Basel. She wrote her master's thesis on the just energy transition in Indonesia and afterwards undertook a Blue Book Traineeship at the Joint Research Centre in Sevilla (Spain).
- **Emil Götz** (Department of Geography and Regional Research) joined the working group Economic Geography (Michaela Tripl) in June 2024 as research assistant for the new project RITMEP (Regional industrial transitions under multiscalar exnovation pressures) funded by the Austrian Climate Research Programme (2024-2027).
- **Kirill** is a new PhD student in the Engage working group as well as in NoeSlide and Geocology working groups. His research focuses on measuring greenhouse gases (CO₂, CH₄, and N₂O) at one of three the NoeSlide Observatory --

Hofermühle. He is investigating the impact of slow-moving landslides on the grassland soils' ability to emit the aforementioned greenhouse gases. Currently, he is in the data collection phase and works with the substantial support of the NoeSlide working group and is preparing a literature review publication on this interdisciplinary topic.

- **Lucas Barning** joined the RG Spatial Research and Planning as a postdoctoral researcher in July. Lucas recently completed his PhD at the TU Vienna, Institute of Spatial Planning, with a study on the sociotechnical aspects of smart grid experiments in India. His research primarily aims at the governance and planning of just energy transitions with a focus on materiality and practices. Lucas has previously also worked in the H2020 project '[SHARED Green Deal](#)' and is currently co-leading the RSA Research Network on '[Eco-Social Policy and PRACTICE for Innovation and Transformation](#)' (ESPPRIT).

2. Congratulations

Claudia Buchstreiner, then a member of the geoecology team and Master's student, won the National Parks Austria research prize with her Master's thesis. Congratulations!

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Krzysztof Janowitz won the 2024 Carolyn Merry Mentoring Award from the University Consortium for Geographic Information Science (UCGIS) for his mentorship of PhD students and postdocs in Spatial Data Science and GeoAI; most of them are now recognized professors in GeoAI or have jobs at Google, Amazon, IBM, etc. Congratulations!

3. Publication

- Cocuccioni, S., Romagnoli, F., Pittore, M., Armas, I., Danila, D. T., Osaci, G., ... & Atun, F. (2023, November). The Use of Impact Chains to Describe Complex Cause-Effect Relationships Within a Systemic Multi-sectoral and Multi-hazard Risk Assessment. In International Conference on Energy and Environmental Science (pp. 433-447). Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland.
- **Heintel, M.**, and Wanner, A. (2024): Framing Regional Development: A reflection on the use of language in regional development – examples from Austria. Central European Journal of Geography and Sustainable Development (CEJGSD), 6(1), 71-83. <https://doi.org/10.47246/CEJGSD.2024.6.1.4>
- Hürlimann, M., **Marr, P.**, **Glade, T.**, Komendantova, N., de Zeeuw-van Dalssen, E., Armas, I., ... & Cocuccioni, S. (2023, November). Systemic Multi-sectoral and Multi-hazard Risk Assessment in Current and Future Scenarios. The PARATUS-Project. In International Conference on Energy and Environmental Science (pp. 425-432). Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland.
- Kuzemko, C., Blondeel, M., Bradshaw, M., Bridge, G., **Faigen, E.**, & Fletcher, L. (2024). Rethinking Energy Geopolitics: Towards a Geopolitical Economy of Global Energy Transformation. *Geopolitics*, 1-35. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14650045.2024.2351075>.

- **Levin-Keitel, M.**, O'Hara, S. & Passman, D. (2024): For whom the wheels roll: examining the mobility of care in Washington, DC, USA. *Frontiers in Sustainable Cities* 6. <https://doi.org/10.3389/frsc.2024.13799588>.
- **Liu, Z., Janowicz, K.**, Currier, K., and Shi, M. (2024): Measuring Geographic Diversity of Foundation Models with a Natural Language-based Geo-guessing Experiment on GPT-4, *AGILE GIScience Ser.*, 5, 38, <https://doi.org/10.5194/agile-giss-5-38-2024>, 2024.
- Stauch, G., Schulte, P., Schwanen, C., Kümmerle, E.A., Dörwald, L., Esch, A., Lehmkuhl, F., **Walk, J.** (2024). 115 years of sediment deposition in a reservoir in Central Europe: Effects of the industrial history and environmental protection on heavy metals and microplastic. *Earth Surface Processes and Landforms*. <http://doi.org/10.1002/esp.5914>
- **Wenzel, T., Marr, P., Glade, T.**, Höfler, F., Preißler, A., Adams, M., ... & Atun, F. (2023, November). Local Natural Hazards, Cascading to Cross-Regional Risks and Impacts Along the Main Transit Route from North and South in the Austrian Alps. In *International Conference on Energy and Environmental Science* (pp. 359-369). Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland.

4. New Projects

Eco-Social Policy and PRactice for Innovation and Transformation (ESPPRIT)

The Regional Studies Association (RSA) Research Network on Eco-Social Policy and PRactice for Innovation and Transformation (ESPPRIT), 2024-2027, has kicked off with a first online workshop on May 28th. The network is co-lead by **Lucas Barning** and colleagues from University of Oxford, Vienna University of Economics and Business and TU Wien.

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5. Project Updates

Cultural Heritage in Motion: Indigenous Knowledge and Mobile Livelihoods in Changing Climates (CuHeMo)

The research group Population Geography and Demography seeks a University Assistant PraeDoc for the CuHeMo Project, focusing on indigenous environmental knowledge and climate change adaptation in Ethiopia. For more details and to apply, visit the link below. Please share this call with potential candidates. Contact person is Simon Bunchuay-Peth (simon.bunchuay-peth@univie.ac.at).

[POSITION](#)

For his master's thesis, **Benedikt Müller** has recently undertaken extensive terrestrial laser scanning (TLS) and photogrammetry surveys at the Hofermühle landslide observatory in Lower Austria, managed by the ENGAGE research group. His study aims to improve surface change monitoring in densely vegetated landslides by integrating panoramic TLS with terrestrial photogrammetry, utilizing an imaging network adapted from forestry techniques. The high-resolution data collected allows for the generation of

detailed digital terrain models, which are crucial for the spatiotemporal analysis of the landslide.

6. Viennes Geographers in the World...

During 4-7 June 2024, the 27th AGILE conference took place in Glasgow, UK, with a theme of "Geographic Information Science for a Sustainable Future". In the 'GeoAI and knowledge representation session' of the conference, **Zilong Liu** presented his short paper, Measuring Geographic Diversity of Foundation Models with a Natural Language-based Geo-guessing Experiment on GPT-4.

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Simon Bunchuay-Peth participated in the SRI 2024 Congress in Helsinki, presenting the new research project, CuHeMo (Cultural Heritage in Motion), during a thematic panel on Climate & Cultural Heritage (CCH). The discussion, organized and moderated by Belmont Forum, explored the integration of local and Indigenous knowledge into climate change adaptation. Key topics included community involvement, inclusive governance models, and the value of traditional knowledge in scientific research. This event marked the official kick-off of CuHeMo, and the other projects funded under the scheme.

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What is the role of Spatial planning in transitions studies? **Meike Levin-Keitel** and Johannes Suitner (TU Vienna) organized a panel discussion at the 15th International Sustainability Transitions Conference in Oslo, Norway, from 16th-19th June 2024. With Lars Coenen and Astrid Krisch they discussed various intriguing perspectives at the interface of planning and transitions especially regarding spatiality, land, and nature.

Lukas Behrend has been awarded a DAAD Research Fellowship at the School of Community and Regional Planning at the University of British Columbia, Canada, and also accepted by the UBC as a Visiting International Research Scholar (VIRS).

7. News

Kerstin Krellenberg (Urban Studies Working Group) was reappointed to the City of Vienna's Advisory Board for Urban Planning, Urban Design and World Heritage as an expert in urban ecology and climate change adaptation for the 2024-2027 term of office.

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Zilong Liu, a second-year PhD student at the Spatial Data Science and Geocommunication working group, attended International Semantic Web Research Summer School, held in Bertinoro from June 9-15. This topic of this year's summer school is knowledge graphs and generative AI. During the poster session, Zilong presented his work "A Glimpse into Geographic Diversity of Generative AI with Scale-based Evaluation

Danielle Carbon has recently published a paper titled "Linking Water Stress and Measures of Crisis Management - A Systematic Review of Emergency Drinking Water Management in Germany." The study examines how climate change impacts water reservoirs and the critical role of emergency practices like drinking water provision and

firefighting. Analyzing 79 documents from water supply companies and crisis management authorities, Carbon reveals a lack of long-term strategies and sustainable implementation in current emergency measures. This research underscores the need for integrating emergency water management into broader, sustainable practices to protect regional water resources and communities during crises.

The International Population Conference 2025 has a call for abstracts with the deadline on the 15th September 2024. It is organized by the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) and considered the biggest conference in demography field in the world. One of the key themes of the conference is migration with several other sub-themes which might be interested for people in human geography field.

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8. Updates from the Institute

For quick and helpful assistance, the best way to reach the IT desk is through our service desk. You can access it here: [Geo-IT Service Desk](#)

[SERVICEDESK](#)

Starting in the winter semester, twill have the opportunity to organize active breaks with movement units at the institute. These exercise sessions will take place directly at the institute during working hours and will be held twice a week for 15 minutes each starting in November. The exact days on which exercise sessions will take place will be announced in the falsh-news in good time before the start.

9. Events

21st IMISCOE Annuale Conference

Migration as a social construction: A Reflexive Turn

When: 2-5. July 2024

Where: Lisbon and Online

[TO THE EVENT](#)

Podiumsdiskussion:

Die SDGs im urbanen Raum:

Lokale Perspektiven für eine beschleunigte umsetzung und Post-2030

Nachhaltigkeitsagenda

When: Monday, 8. July 2024

Where: Nordbahnsaal, die HausWirtschaft, Bruno-Marek-Allee 5, 1020 Wien

[TO THE EVENT](#)

Panel-Diskussion

"Die resiliente Region: Einblicke und Herausforderungen"

When: Monday, 8. July 2024

Where: Landeck, Tirol

[TO THE EVENT](#)

ECMN 24

Environmental Changes and Migration Bridging Disciplines for a New Research Agenda

When: 9-12. July 2024

Where: Liège, Belgium

[TO THE EVENT](#)

Online-Infoabend:

Kooperative Stadt- und Regionalentwicklung

When: Monday, 15. July 2024, 18:00h.

Where: Online

[TO THE EVENT](#)

Specialist Meeting

Sociotechnical Foundations of GeoAI and spatial Data Science

When: 25-28. Oktober 2024

Where: Springer Schössl, Vienna

[TO THE EVENT](#)

10. Past Events

On 28 and 29 May 2024, 25 students from the Institute of Geography and Regional Research conducted surveys on the quality of life in the municipality of Grünau im Almtal under the direction of **Prof. Dr. Heintel**. After a Q&A session with Mayor Klaus Kramesberger and visits to the Konrad Lorenz Research Center, the students gained comprehensive insights into the factors that influence the quality of life in the Alps. Further surveys will take place in mid-June and mid-July 2024 in Kaumberg in Triestingtal and St. Andrä in Lungau.

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In June, the **StV** represented the students in various committees and organized a geo-picnic in cooperation with EGEA. They also started planning first semester events for the winter semester, such as the organization of the first-year seminar. The annual Geo-Olympics were held at the end of the semester. They are also planning to provide digital support for students via email during the semester break.

Impressum

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