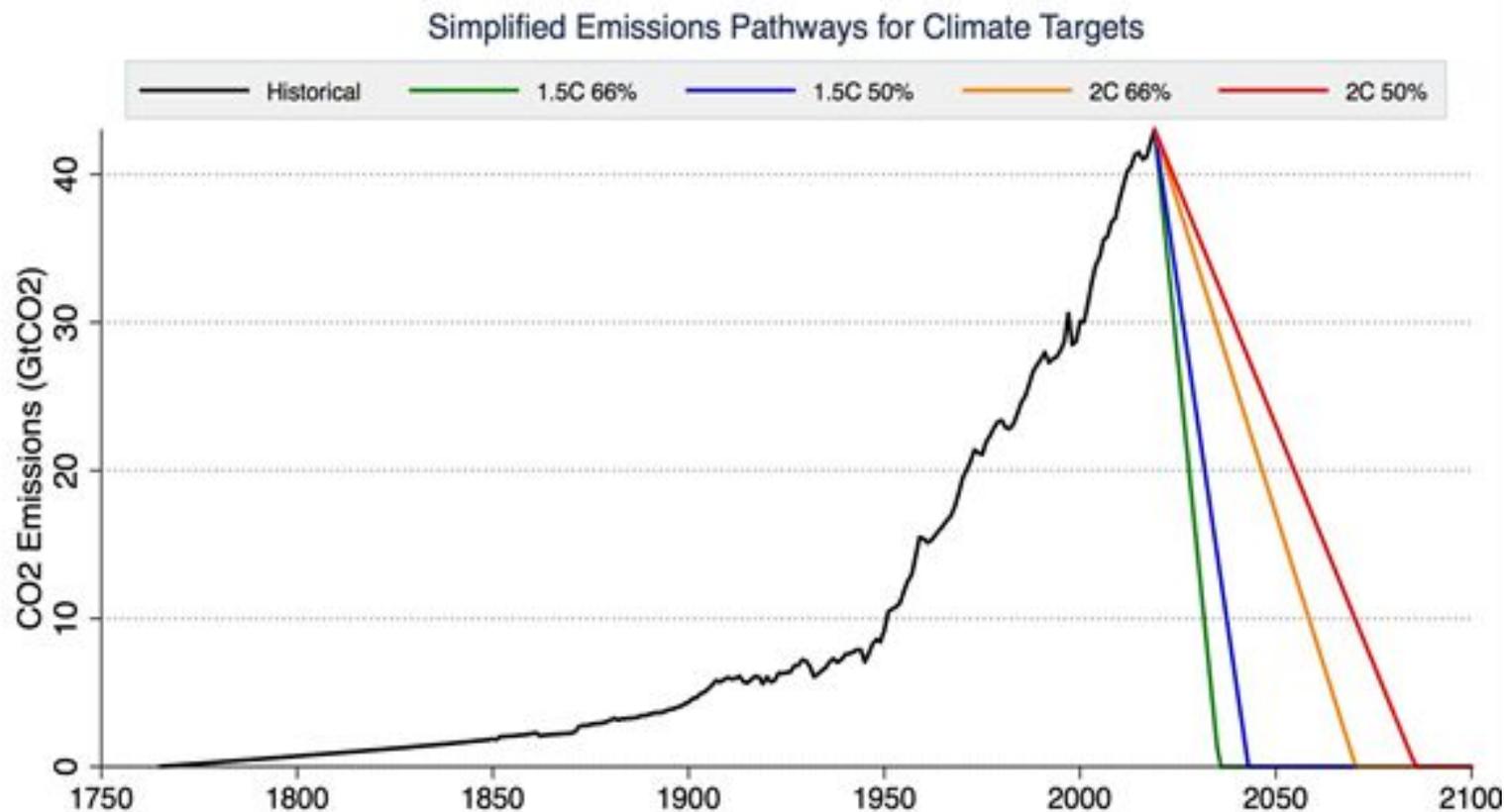


# Political Ecology, Degrowth, and the Green New Deal

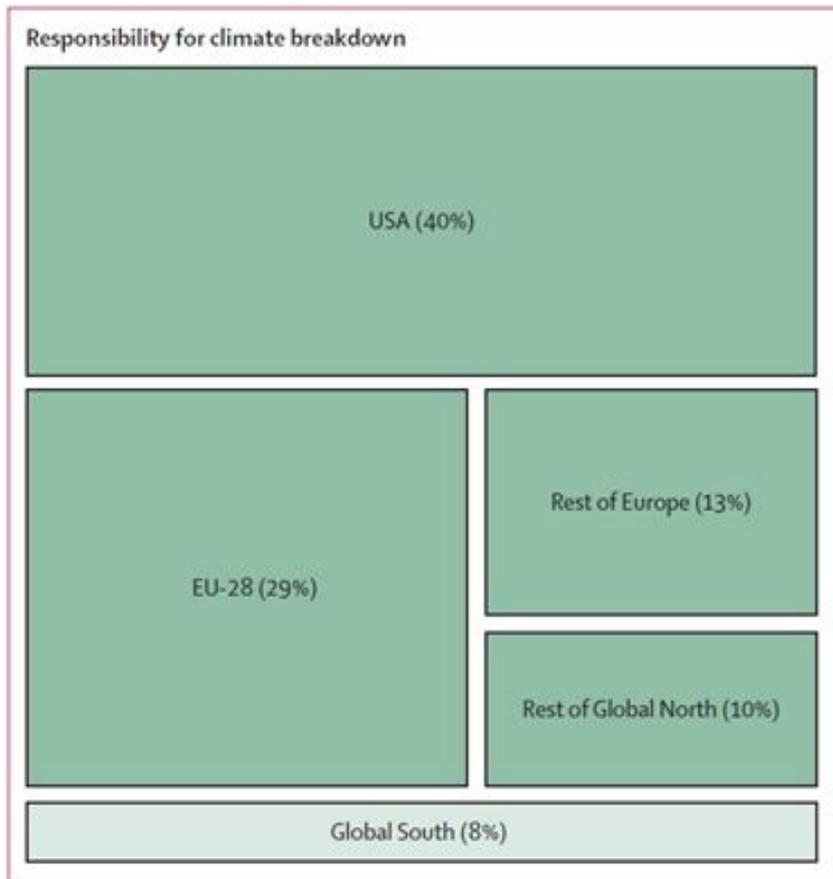
Project title: Equitable Downscaling to Address the Climate Crisis with a  
focus on Europe

Andrea Bacilieri, Fabian Dablander, Rayssa Ferrari,  
Sophie Reisinger, Federico Sibaja, Mara Strenger

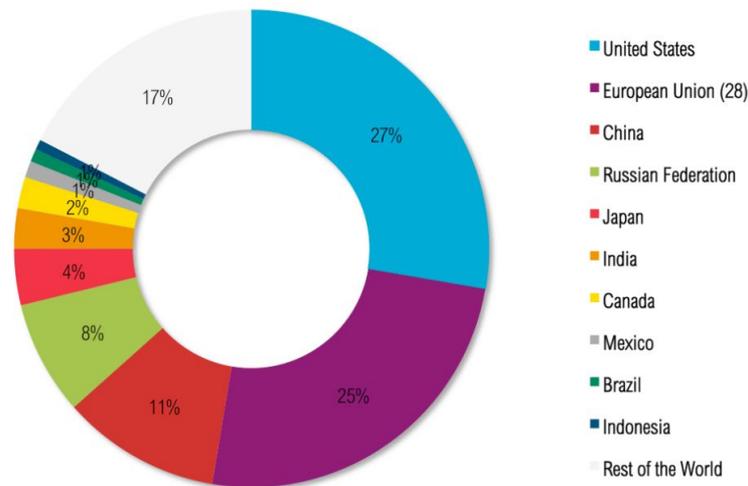
# Staying below global temperature targets



# Unequal Distribution of Historical Emissions Responsibility



Cumulative CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions 1850–2011 (% of World Total)



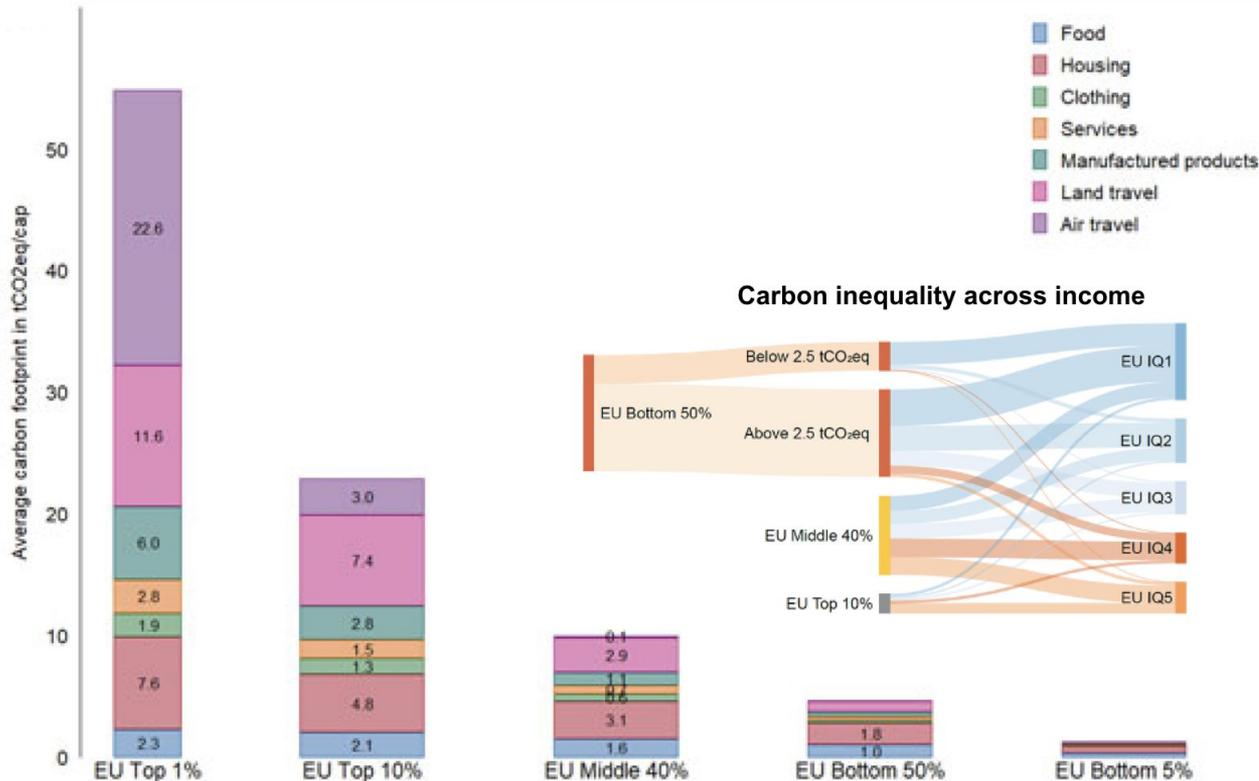
<http://bit.ly/11SMpjA>

 WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE

Sources: Hickel, 2020; World Resources Institute, 2014

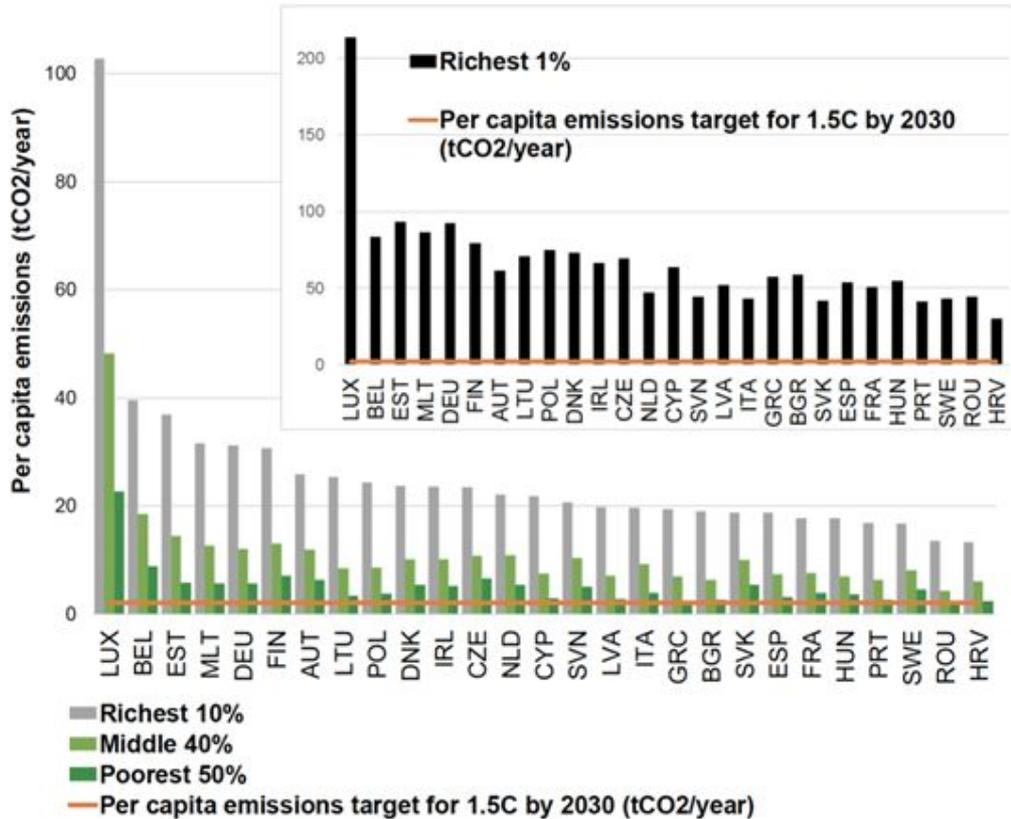
# Intersectional Inequality within Europe

## Carbon inequality across EU households



# Emissions Inequality across EU Member States

## Carbon inequality across EU member states



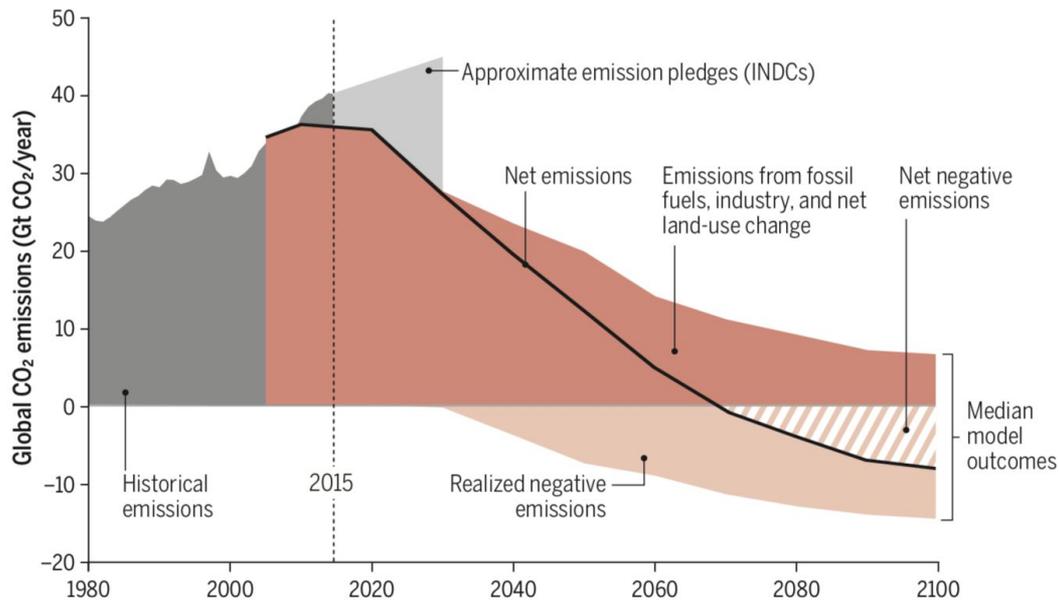
Oxfam's global per capita carbon emissions target to stay below 1.5°C until 2030:

**2.1 tCO<sub>2</sub> per year**

# The Trouble with Negative Emissions Technology

## No quick fixes

Modelers generally report net carbon emissions, unintentionally hiding the scale of negative emissions. Separating out the positive CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion, industry, and land-use change reveals the scale of negative CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the model scenarios (16). INDCs, Intended Nationally Determined Contributions.



***“Negative-emission technologies are not an insurance policy, but rather an unjust and high-stakes gamble.”***

- Anderson & Peters (2016)

Land used exclusively for removal\* could compete with food production



LAND FOR  
CARBON  
REMOVAL

1.62bn ha



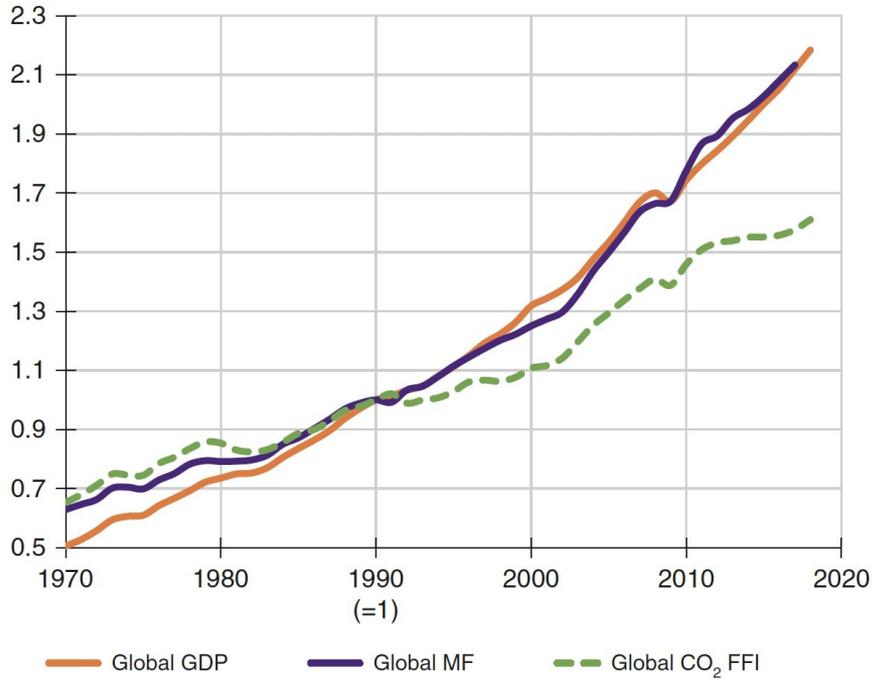
CROPLAND  
WORLDWIDE

1.5bn ha

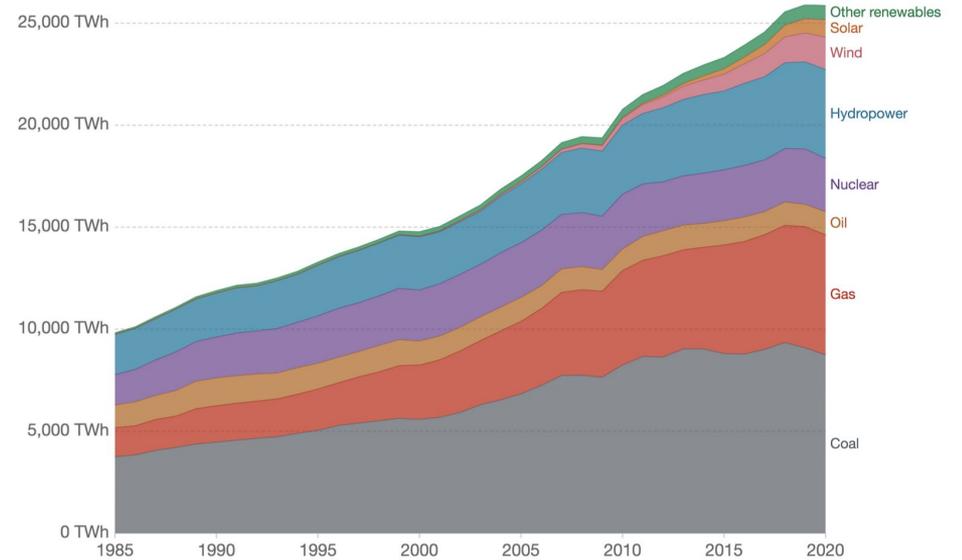
\*Afforestation, reforestation and BECCS



# The Trouble with 'Green' Growth



Electricity production by source, World



Source: Our World in Data based on BP Statistical Review of World Energy & Ember (2021)  
Note: 'Other renewables' includes biomass and waste, geothermal, wave and tidal.

OurWorldInData.org/energy • CC BY

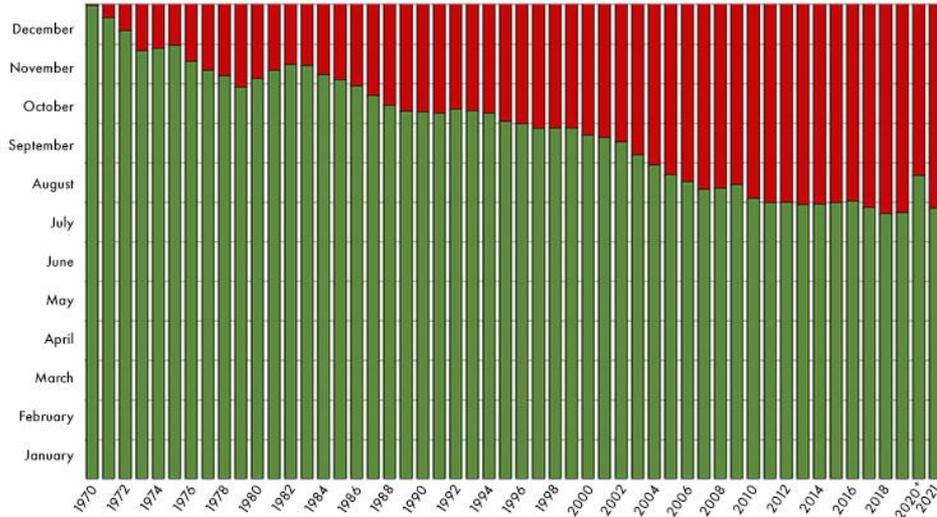


1 Earth

# Earth Overshoot Day 1970 - 2021



1.7 Earths



Source: National Footprint and Biocapacity Accounts 2021 Edition  
data.footprintnetwork.org

\*The calculation of Earth Overshoot Day 2020 reflects the initial drop in resource use in the first half of the year due to pandemic-induced lockdowns. All other years assume a constant rate of resource use throughout the year.



# Equitable Downscaling Required

Comment | Published: 04 August 2021

## Urgent need for post-growth climate mitigation scenarios

Jason Hickel , Paul Brockway, Giorgos Kallis, Lorenz Keyßer, Manfred Lenzen, Aljoša Slameršak, Julia Steinberger & Diana Ürge-Vorsatz

*Nature Energy* (2021) | [Cite this article](#)

108 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)



Global Environmental Change

Volume 65, November 2020, 102168



## Providing decent living with minimum energy: A global scenario

Joel Millward-Hopkins <sup>a</sup>  , Julia K. Steinberger <sup>a, b</sup>, Narasimha D. Rao <sup>c</sup>



Global Environmental Change

Available online 29 June 2021, 102287

In Press, Corrected Proof 



LETTER • OPEN ACCESS

## The energy and carbon inequality corridor for a 1.5 °C compatible and just Europe

Ingram S Jaccard<sup>1</sup> , Peter-Paul Pichler<sup>4,1</sup> , Johannes Többen<sup>1,3</sup>  and Helga Weisz<sup>1,2</sup> 

Published 15 June 2021 • © 2021 The Author(s). Published by IOP Publishing Ltd

[Environmental Research Letters](#), Volume 16, Number 6

Citation Ingram S Jaccard et al 2021 *Environ. Res. Lett.* 16 064082

## Socio-economic conditions for satisfying human needs at low energy use: An international analysis of social provisioning

Jefim Vogel <sup>a</sup>  , Julia K. Steinberger <sup>b, a</sup>, Daniel W. O'Neill <sup>a</sup>, William F. Lamb <sup>c, a</sup>, Jaya Krishnakumar <sup>d</sup>



# Policy Recommendations

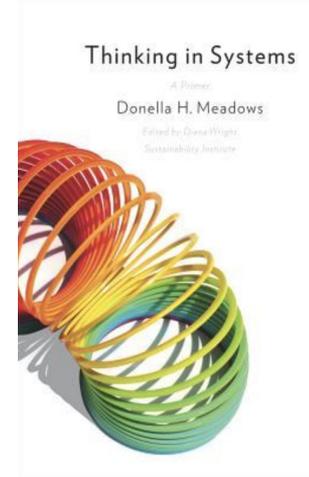
## Paradigm/Goals

- Abolish GDP as an indicator
- Decommodify money
- Social enterprises

## Rules/Self-organization

- Maximum basic income / wealth limits
- Green taxation
- Job guarantee
- Work-time reduction

“Private sufficiency, public luxury”



# Policy Recommendations

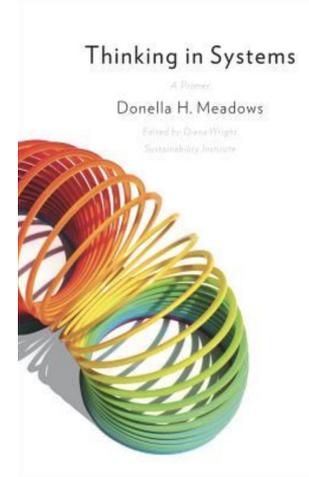
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Blueprint

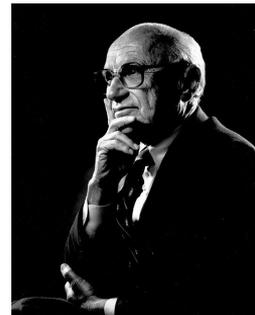
The Green New Deal for Europe  
For Europe's  
Just Transition

Edition II

Dec 2019

GN  
DE

“Only a crisis — actual or perceived — produces real change. When that crisis occurs, the actions that are taken depend on the ideas that are lying around. That, I believe, is our basic function: to develop alternatives to existing policies, to keep them alive and available until the politically impossible becomes politically inevitable.”



# Discussion Points

- (1) Do you think it is fair for Europe to take a steeper cut in emissions out of international equity considerations?
  - (a) After all, it is the current generation that will have to change the most, even though past generations caused the emissions.
  
- (2) The decent living scenario consists of 15m<sup>2</sup> floor space/cap, 1 laptop/household, 4kg new clothing per year, 5000-15000 pkm/cap/year, ...
  - (a) What do you make of this scenario?
  - (b) How much would your lifestyle change if you transition to this? What aspects in particular?
  - (c) Where do you see the most resistant coming from against this scenario?
  
- (3) How does what you learned in your workshop relate to what we discussed?

# Sources

Gore, T., & Alestig, M. (2020). Confronting carbon inequality in the European Union. Oxfam Media Briefing.

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Hickel, J. (2020). Quantifying national responsibility for climate breakdown: an equality-based attribution approach for carbon dioxide emissions in excess of the planetary boundary, *The Lancet Planetary Health*, 4(9), e399-e404.

Ivanova, D., & Wood, R. (2020). The unequal distribution of household carbon footprints in Europe and its link to sustainability. *Global Sustainability*, 3.

World Resources Institute (2014). 6 Graphs Explain the World's Top 10 Emitters. Retrieved from: <https://www.wri.org/insights/6-graphs-explain-worlds-top-10-emitters>