

Geographisches Kolloquium Sommersemester 2023



Ort: Hörsaal H8 (GEO II)

Dienstag, 09. Mai 2023, 16.00 – 18.00 Uhr

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Just food transitions. Navigating tensions between environmental and social justice concerns in community food initiatives

Despite long-standing calls for integrated social and ecological transformations of our agri-food systems to make them just, equitable, ecologically sustainable, and economically viable, it seems, in practice, Community Food Initiatives frequently focus on either the environmental aspect – often in cooperation with producers, supporting direct marketing initiatives, etc. – or the social justice aspect, often with a focus on food insecure (urban) consumers that cannot afford or otherwise lack access to good, that is, fresh, nutritious, delicious food. Based on an analysis of the literature and own empirical research in German and Canadian cities, this talk will show the prevalence of single-issue approaches, contextualise these findings through a conceptual literature review, and then present and discuss two possible ways to overcome them: first, the Canadian concept of Community Food Centres (CFCs), and second, food policy councils as a tool to envision and enact integrative food policies on a municipal level. While not shying away from critique and pointing out shortcomings and difficulties, these two examples are presented as actually existing attempts to overcome divisions and points of inspiration.