

# Expert Workshop on Sustainable Welfare

*Pufendorf Institute, Lund University  
Lund, 7-8 May 2015*

This expert workshop addresses the question of what it requires to make welfare societies ecologically sustainable. The purpose of the workshop is to bring together research on welfare and sustainability, which has hitherto been carried out in isolation with little contact and cross-fertilization between the two streams. While current welfare literature gravitates around the crisis of the national welfare state and corresponding readjustments, ecological concerns voiced as early as the 1970s have been largely ignored. Meanwhile, the world is searching for pathways towards a sustainable welfare society, and there is yet 'no credible, socially just, ecologically sustainable scenario of continually growing incomes for a world of nine billion people' (Jackson 2009). Emerging research in ecological economics, social policy, and philosophy has started to conceptualize welfare, prosperity and happiness in alternative ways. There is thus a momentous, and largely unexplored, opportunity for merging welfare research with research on sustainability. The project Sustainable Welfare at the Pufendorf Institute, Lund University, brings together a multi-disciplinary group of researchers from five faculties to study these issues.

- In this workshop acclaimed international scholars are invited to address the following questions:
- How can human well-being, social welfare and ecological sustainability concerns be reconciled?
- What are the most important practical steps in order to move towards sustainable welfare societies?
- How does the research agenda need to develop to respond to the challenges of sustainable welfare?

Register on the Pufendorf [website www.pi.lu.se](http://www.pi.lu.se)

Please indicate if you will be attending one (and which one) or both days.

Deadline for registration is April 23.

Welcome!



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## **PROGRAMME**

### ***Thursday, May 7***

Moderator: Håkan Johansson (School of Social Work, Lund University)

12.00-13.00 Lunch and registration

13.00-13.30 Welcome and introduction

*Max Koch* (School of Social Work, Lund University)

13.30-14.00 'The concept of sustainable welfare'

*Eric Brandstedt* (Department of Philosophy, Lund University)

14.00-14.45 'Rethinking the politics of prosperity: presupposition and critique'

*Kate Soper* (Institute for the Study of European Transformations,  
London Metropolitan University)

14.45-15.15 Coffee break

15.15-16.00 'Climate change and sustainable wellbeing:  
An argument for the centrality of human needs'

*Ian Gough* (London School of Economics)

16.00-16.45 'Avoiding collapse – How should economic systems be changed?'

*Inge Röpke* (Center for Design Innovation and Sustainable Transitions,  
Aalborg University)

17.00-17.30 Wrap-up of Day 1

*Eric Clark* (Department of Human Geography, Lund University)



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19.00 Dinner for invited guests

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### ***Friday, May 8***

Moderator: *Maria Emmelin* (Department of Social Medicine and Global Health, Lund University)

8.30-9.00 Morning coffee

9.00-9.15 Welcome and introduction

*Maria Emmelin* (Department of Social Medicine and Global Health, Lund University)

9.15-9.45 'Diversifying degrowth and sustainable welfare'

*Hubert Buch-Hansen* (Department of Business and Politics, Copenhagen Business School)

9.45-10.30 'Low carbon lifestyles by 2050'

*Jörgen Larsson* (Energy and Environment, Chalmers University of Technology)

10.30-11.00 Coffee break

11.00-11.45 'Housing quality, environmental sustainability and social justice'

*Petter Næss* (Norwegian University of Life Sciences)

11.45-12.30 'Climate change as a challenge for European welfare states'

*Mi Ah Schoyen & Bjørn Hvinden*, (Health and Welfare Studies, Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Science)

12.30-13.00 Wrap-up

*Oksana Mont* (International Institute for Industrial Environmental Economics, Lund University)

13.00-14.00 Lunch



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