



## Special Session Proposal

### Urban Sustainability by Responsible Innovation and the New European Bauhaus

Tamas GYULAI, Széchenyi István University of Győr, Hungary  
[gyulai.tamas@sze.hu](mailto:gyulai.tamas@sze.hu)

#### Abstract

Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) is an approach that aims to align research and innovation activities with societal values, needs, and expectations. It emphasizes the importance of engaging stakeholders throughout the research process and considering the ethical, social, and environmental implications of the research outcomes. As we move towards a more sustainable future, there is a growing recognition that research and innovation must play a critical role in achieving sustainability goals. This requires a shift from the traditional S3 (Smart Specialisation Strategy) approach, which focuses on economic growth and competitiveness, to a more holistic S4 (Sustainability) approach that considers environmental and social sustainability as key components of innovation policy. This transition involves rethinking the innovation process to ensure that it addresses sustainability challenges and creates solutions that contribute to a more sustainable future.

TERRITORIAL RESPONSIBLE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION AND SMART SPECIALIZATION (TetRRIS) was an EU funded project aiming to bring Responsible Research and Innovation in alignment with the Smart Specialisation paradigm and governance within 4 pilot experiment regions from the European Union. Tampere, Karlsruhe, Cantabria, and Szeged-Timisoara were the central focus and these are the pilot regions/territories through which the projects experiments were channeled. TetRRIS intended to marry RRI with S3 in the pilot regions with its activities centered on the project's pilot regions therefore they went through several stages: identifying

and scoping; framing and orchestration; co-design, deployment and continuation; policy messages and scientific insights.

Speakers of the Special Session will share their experience about Twin Transition, in Responsible and Sustainable Mobility, as well as Sustainability of Industry. They will present the findings of the four TetRRIS pilot region as the role of change leaders should be recognised and leveraged; RRI notions should be translated into something tangible and brought into the social concern; within Smart Specialisation, priorities and mission approach are interlinked in order to properly define goals and objectives.

The special session shall also include presentations by experts from the DECORATOR project which brings sustainability to the construction sector in the Danubian region by the New European Bauhaus which endorses a multilevel approach to transformation – from global to local. Climate change and the green transition need to be addressed globally but at the same time, it is at the local level that change is happening and makes sense for people. Delivering on the New European Bauhaus means reaching out to local areas, following a place-based approach and the New European Bauhaus claims it will explore ways to support small-scale initiatives by individuals, neighbourhoods, and local communities. This reference to the local level is backed up by the assertion that it can only happen if people from different backgrounds and areas think and work together in a participatory way’.

## References

Blok, V. (ed.) (2022) Putting Responsible Research and Innovation into Practice. Library of Ethics and Applied Philosophy, vol 40. Springer, 10.1007/978-3-031-14710-4.

Kemp, R., Loorbach, D., & Rotmans, J. (2007). Transition management as a model for managing processes of co-evolution towards sustainable development. *The International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology*, 14(1), 78-91.

Loorbach, D., & Rotmans, J. (2010). The practice of transition management: Examples and lessons from four distinct cases. *Futures*, 42(3), 237-246.

Poyraz, A.Y., Szalmáné Csete, M. (2022). Multi-level Governance of Sustainability Transition in the European Union. In: Leal Filho, W., Dinis, M.A.P., Moggi, S., Price, E., Hope, A. (eds) *SDGs in the European Region. Implementing the UN Sustainable Development Goals – Regional Perspectives*. Springer, Cham. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-91261-1\\_88-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-91261-1_88-1)

Tabarés, R., Loeber, A., Nieminen, M., Bernstein, M.J., Griessler, E., Blok, V., Cohen, J., Hönigsmayer, H., Wunderle, U. & Frankus, E. (2022). Challenges in the implementation of responsible research and innovation across Horizon 2020, *Journal of Responsible Innovation*, 9:3, 291-314, DOI: 10.1080/23299460.2022.2101211

Thapa R.K., Iakovleva, T. & Foss, L. (2019). Responsible research and innovation: a systematic review of the literature and its applications to regional studies, *European Planning Studies*, 27:12, 2470-2490, DOI: 10.1080/09654313.2019.1625871