

## SOCIAL COHESION IN TIMES OF CHANGING CLIMATES

Definition project as part of the Grand Challenges of the Berlin University Alliance

### Why this project?

Climate change is a phenomenon that can have effects in many different directions, including social cohesion. On the one hand, societies are physically under pressure due to the combination of changing environmental conditions and on the other hand, socially due to climate change discourses and distribution conflicts. At the same time, social cohesion is a key resource for addressing climate change issues.

### Method

The definition project aims to develop a full proposal along six thematic fields for case studies and a theoretical-conceptual metaproject. These are to be researched in the proposed main project from an inter- and transdisciplinary perspective as part of postdoctoral positions. A virtual transdisciplinary workshop will be organised for this purpose.

### Innovation

In order to frame and generalise the empirical results, a more wide-ranging, epistemologically tested concept of social cohesion is required, which is to be developed in the main project on the basis of the following questions:

*How do we have to think about social cohesion in order to sustainably deal with global climate change across cultures and generations?*

*Is there a general basis for the apparently fundamentally important social cohesion that transcends differences in norms and values?*



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**Duration:** 12/2019 – 05/2020

**Region:** Germany, Europe, globally

**Coordination:** Disaster Research Unit (DRU), Berlin

#### Partners:

- Freie Universität Berlin: Institute of Meteorology, Department of Law, Institute for Media and Communication Studies
- Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin: Albrecht Daniel Thaer-Institute of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences, Institute of Finance
- Charité: Institute of Medical Sociology and Rehabilitation Science

#### Associated Partners:

- Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies
- WZB Berlin Social Science Center
- Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research
- Environmental Change Institute, University of Oxford
- Deutscher Landkreistag
- Bundesanstalt Technisches Hilfswerk (THW)
- Deutscher Wetterdienst
- Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Berlin
- EPC-Projektgesellschaft für Klima. Nachhaltigkeit. Kommunikation. mbH
- WTS MixedMedia
- Zukunftsforum Öffentliche Sicherheit e. V.
- Silbernetz e.V.
- Fachstelle für pflegende Angehörige, Diakonisches Werk Berlin Stadtmitte e.V.

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