Difficulties in Changing Lifestyles.

Common, but Differentiated Responsibilities

Prof. Dr. Dr. Johannes Wallacher (Munich School of Philosophy)
LAUDATO SI’
ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME
POPE FRANCIS
ENCYClical LETTER

STUDIEN DER SACHVERSTÄNDIGENGRUPPE "WELTWIRTSCHAFT UND SOZIALETHIK"

Raus aus der Wachstumsgesellschaft?
Eine sozialethische Analyse und Bewertung von Postwachstumsstrategien
Wissenschaftliche Arbeitsgruppe für weltkirchliche Aufgaben der Deutschen Bischofskonferenz (Hrsg.)
Social-Ecological Transformation on Three Levels

The necessity to reform political, economical, and legal institutions on a national and an international level:

**Macroscopic Dimension**

Institutional Reforms

**Mesoscopic Dimension**

Guiding Principles for transformation

**Microscopic Dimension**

Individual-Ethics
Sufficiency

Cultural change towards another understanding of well-being, quality of life and development, which is directed towards the global common good

Social-Ecological Transformation as Guiding Principle

Social-ecological modernisation

Decoupling development and use of resources by increasing efficiency
- Technical innovation and general applications of the innovations
- Internalizing costs of using resources/nature (Pricing CO₂-emissions)

Social embedding

International coordination

Sufficiency
Responsibility of Different „Change Agents“

**Individuals:**
- Concepts of a good life which transcend consumerism ("virtue of enough" instead of "insatiable needs")
- Sustainable consumption and mobility

**Nation States/Governments:**
- Abolish various state subsidies for fossil based energy, mobility and consumption
- Promoting appropriate pricing mechanisms for CO$_2$ emissions embracing all sectors
- Investing in sustainable public transport and mobility infrastructure
- Transparent labelling of origin (including labor conditions) and quality of products
Responsibility of Different Change Agents

Business/(Transnational) Corporations:
- Pioneering in delivering sustainable goods and services (production, pricing, marketing)
- Co-responsibility for framing/regulating market conditions which promote sustainability

Faith-Based Organisations/Churches:
- Communicate their spiritual traditions and considerations of creation theology as basic stimuli for personal transformation and change of behaviour
- Engagement as advocates for socio-ecological transformation
- Credible action in their own sphere of responsibility
Responsibility of different Change Agents

Science/reframing economic theory:

- Questioning the supply-side dominance of neoclassical production theory (assumption of *insatiable* needs/desires of consumers)

- Broadening the simple neo-classical concept of human well-being:

  land, labour and capital $\rightarrow$ income $\rightarrow$ goods and services $\rightarrow$ personal well-being
Alternative Theories ("Narratives") of Personal Well-Being

Enhancing "capabilities" (Amartya Sen)

**Contexts:**
- Social Institutions
- Social and legal norms
- Other people's behavior's and characteristics
- Environmental factors and many, many more

**Non-market production**
- Market production
- Net income
- Transfers-in-kind

**Market production**
- Goods and Services
- Individual Conversion Factors

**Capability Set**
- Capabilities (i.e. opportunity set of achievable functionings)

**Choice**
- Freedom to achieve

**Achieved Functionings**

**Personal history and psychology**

**Means to achieve (capability inputs)**