

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

### **Fostering action with narratives: Communicating about climate change and energy transition in politics, business, media and society**

**31 March 2023  
Rīga Stradiņš University**

Numerous studies have found that narratives, which accompany scientific consensus, technological innovations and climate and energy policies, are important triggers for mobilising (or not) the public support for climate-friendly action and green energy transition. At the same time, climate and energy narratives are constantly challenged and contested. Which narratives are the most persuasive regarding climate change and energy transition? What makes them persuasive? Who are the most powerful narrators? What are the horizontal and vertical dynamics between different narratives? What similarities and differences can be observed in climate and energy narratives across the world?

These questions will guide the debate of the conference “Fostering action with narratives: Communicating about climate change and energy transition in politics, business, media and society”, organised by the Faculty of European Studies of Rīga Stradiņš University within the framework of the 3rd International Interdisciplinary Conference PLACES on 31 March 2023. The conference is a biennial international event inviting representatives of social sciences to reflect upon global challenges for political, economic, social, legal and communication environments in times of global volatility.

**You are cordially invited to submit an abstract discussing the narratives on climate change and energy transition.** Both theoretical and empirical studies are welcomed focusing on a wide geography and a spectrum of topics including but not limited to:

- Formation, projection and reception phases of narratives;
- Factors determining the persuasive power of narratives;
- The role of narrators in the spread of narratives;
- Contestation and emergence of alternative narratives;
- Specific geopolitical, historical, economic, social and cultural contexts and their impact on narratives.

It is anticipated that the conference will produce a number of suggestions for further awareness and engagement of society in climate and energy-saving activities via the narratives. The conference contributions will also set the future research agenda about the narratives and their role in addressing the challenges of climate change and energy transition.

**The deadline for abstract submission is 20 January 2023.** All abstracts must be submitted electronically via the website of PLACES: <https://rw2023.rsu.lv/abstract-submission>, choosing the topic “Climate narratives”. Authors can submit their papers to be presented as a poster-, or



oral presentation. Submitted abstracts will be peer reviewed by the scientific committee of the conference. Notification regarding abstract acceptance, presentation type and scheduling will be sent by 1 March 2023.

The conference is free of charge and will take place at the premises of Rīga Stradiņš University, Riga, Latvia, and online. Accepted abstracts will be published in the conference abstracts' e-book.

The conference is organised within the framework of the project No. lzp-2020/1-0047 "From indifference to making difference in climate policy: improving the interaction between political narrative and societal perceptions in Latvia" (CLINAP), supported by the Latvian Council of Science. Assessing a wide spectrum of narratives regarding climate change at political, media, business and societal levels, CLINAP aims to map the discursive environment, into which Latvia's climate and energy policies develop, and to develop recommendations for an enabling strategic narrative on climate change.

More information on the conference: <https://rw2023.rsu.lv/conferences/places>

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