

Workshop session EurSaf 2021

Title: Approaches to food justice and their role in transformative food research

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Abstract

The concept of food justice gained traction in the last ten years out of concern for inequality of food system workers. From there, its scope broadened to encompass many different topics, including the motivations and strategies of social movements, the social and ecological effects of alternative food practices, or the impacts of unequal access to food (Glennie and Hope Alkon 2018)*. Much potential for the use of the concept of food justice is also seen in scholarship and practice linked to agroecological and food sovereignty, to principles for food system transformation, or to the integration of sustainability, justice and health issues (ibid). Furthermore, food justice is defined and applied differently in different areas of the world and in different epistemological communities.

In this workshop session, we would like to gather a group of scholars who work in different transformative food research projects and regions of the world. They engage in various thematic issues and use the concept of food justice in different ways. The objective is an exchange about different epistemological understandings of food justice and its application in different research projects. The session will start with a keynote input on the concept of food justice, its dimensions and applications. The keynote will be followed by several inputs from food research projects that apply the concept. In the second half of the session, we will discuss the following key questions together with the speakers and the audience.

* Charlotte Glennie and Alison Hope Alkon 2018 Environ. Res. Lett.13 073003

Key questions: How do you define food justice in your work? How do you approach food justice in your work? What does it mean to implement food justice in certain areas and universally while treating food as a human right and not as a commodity?

Key words: food justice, transformative food research, different epistemological understandings, critical and innovative approaches

Target group: scholars from food justice, food sustainability, food transition and transformation, and trade studies, who are interested in discussing about critical and innovative approaches.