Andreas Metzner-Szigeth

Prof. Dr. phil. habil.

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MAIN WORKING & RESEARCH AREAS

- Social Studies of Science, Technology & Design
- Investigations in Media, Communication & Culture
- Environmental Sociology & Sustainability Science
- Risk-Analysis & Vulnerability-Studies
- Political Sociology & Governance Research
- Economic Sociology & Management Studies

CURRICULUM VITAE

March 15, 2016 - (ongoing)

Full Professor (*Professore ordinario di ruolo*) in Sociology of Culture and Communication / Faculty of Design and Art, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy

January 2018 - December 2024 Coordinator of the University's macro research area ENABLE – Design and Art Competences, Material Culture and Human Development

March 2019 - August 2020 Member of the University's standing committee on Research Ethics

Current external positions

February 2019 - (ongoing) Member of the Editor's Board / Comitato di Direzione - including Claudio Baraldi (Modena), José Antonio Cordón-García (Salamanca), Andreas Metzner-Szigeth (Bolzano), and Luca Toschi (Firenze) - of "SCIENTIA atque USUS". This interdisciplinary, multilingual, and international book series is published by Leo S. Olschki Publishers, a renowned publishing house in Florence, Italy, focusing on the interface of science and society

April 2013 - (ongoing, officially renewed in November 2020) Co-opted and accredited Personal Member of the Professorial Body of the Official PhD Programme on "Human, Social and Juridical Sciences in front of the Globalization: Challenges and Interdisciplinary Answers" (Programa Oficial de Doctorado en "Ciencias Humanas, Sociales y Jurídicas ante la Globalización: Retos y respuestas interdisciplinares") at the University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU), Bilbao, Spain, in conjunction with the "Red de Másteres y Doctorados en Latinoamérica" (comprising 13 universities in Latin America)

2005 - (ongoing) Regular recurring activity as Independent Expert, Evaluator and Rapporteur for R&D programs and project proposals contracted by the European Commission (REA) and various national institutions, focusing on "Science and Society" issues (since the 6th Framework Program), as well as Horizon 2020 programs in "Science Policy", "Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment", and "Public Health and Disaster Response"

May 15, 2012 - March 14, 2016

Full Professor of Sustainability Science (with interdisciplinary orientation) / University of Applied Sciences in Bochum, Germany

2012 - 2013 Co-Head of the Institute of Education, Culture and Sustainable Development (IBKN) and Principal Co-Leader of the university's joint task force that developed the B.Sc. programme "Sustainability in Business, Engineering and Construction". The interdisciplinary programme, jointly offered by six faculties, was successfully evaluated, accredited, and implemented

March 2011 - February 2012 — Visiting Full Professor of Philosophy (focal area: Epistemic Communities, Technology and Culture) / University of Katowice, Poland

October 2010 - September 2011 — Resident Fellow - and Regular Member of the international research group on Communicating Disaster / Center of Interdisciplinary Research (ZIF), University of Bielefeld, Germany

March 2009 - February 2010 — Visiting Full Professor of Philosophy (focal area: Epistemic Communities, Technology and Culture) / University of Katowice, Poland

October 2008 - March 2016 — Executive Director, Coach & Consultant / Episteme Consulting (EC), Münster, Germany
occasional independent activity as Leadership Coach, Business Consultant and Facilitator in organizational development

November - December 2007 — Research Associate (working in the field of Sustainability, Urbanism, and Human Security) / Karlsruhe Research Centre (FZK), Institute for Technology Assessment and Systems Analysis (ITAS), Karlsruhe, Germany

October 2007 - March 2013 — Assigned Professor of Philosophy (focal area: Science, Society, Risk and Knowledge) / University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU), San Sebastián, Spain
participation in two bilateral postgraduate programs in cooperation with the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (Máster en Filosofía, Ciencia y Valores) and the Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo (Máster en Filosofía en un Mundo Global)

October 2007 - March 2008 — Visiting Full Professor of Philosophy (focal area: Applied Epistemology and Theory of Knowledge) / University of Vienna, Austria

October 2004 - September 2007 — Holder of the Visiting Chair (*Catedrático*) for Studies in Science, Technology & Society (STS) / University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU), San Sebastián, Spain

January 2004 - September 2004 — Scientific Consultant / International Centre for Sustainability and Information Society (CRI) at the University of Katowice, Poland

September 2002 - April 2005 — Project Coordinator / European Research Network on Cultural Diversity and New Media (CultMedia)
Collaborative Leader in the elaboration of a consortium-based proposal for a Network of Excellence (NoE) on Cultural Diversity and New Media (CultMedia) within the 6th Framework Program of the European Community, comprising 16 affiliated University institutes across 11 European countries, connected with a R&D-Assignment of the Karlsruhe Research Center (FZK), Institute for Technology Assessment and Systems Analysis (ITAS), Karlsruhe, Germany, as provider of initial funding

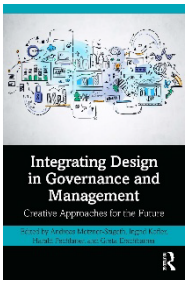
January 2002 - October 2002	Research-Assignment, R&D-Study about Sustainability and IC-Technologies / Karlsruhe Research Centre (FZK), Institute for Technology Assessment and Systems Analysis (ITAS), Karlsruhe, Germany
April 2001 - March 2016	Adjunct Professor (*Privatdozent*) of Sociology / University of Münster, Germany since October 2004 on leave because of subsequent Visiting and Full Professorships in Spain (2004-07), Austria (2007-08), Poland (2009-10 + 2011-12) and Germany (2012-16)
October 2000 - August 2001	Research Associate (BMBF-Project on Industrial Innovation Cycles and Socio-Ecological Problems) / University of Münster, Germany, Centre for Environmental Research (ZUFO)
October 2000	Habilitation in Sociology, with a project on interdisciplinary risk research and crisis communication / University of Münster, Germany
June 2000 - September 2001	Sub-Contractor (project of Sustainable Development on the Regional Level) / Institute for Ecological Economy Research (IOEW), Berlin, Germany
April 2000 - April 2005	Entrepreneur, Consultant & Coach / Institute for Management & Sustainability Issues (IMSI), Münster, Germany self-employed work as Leadership Coach and realization of Consultings and R&D projects contracted by several bodies; in particular: January 2004 - September 2004 / Scientific Consultant / International Centre for Sustainability and Information Society (CRI) at the University of Katowice, Poland; January 2002 - October 2002 / Research-Assignment, R&D-Study about Sustainability and IC-Technologies / Karlsruhe Research Centre (FZK), Institute for Technology Assessment and Systems Analysis (ITAS); June 2000 - September 2001 / Sub-Contractor (project of Sustainable Development on the Regional Level) / Institute for Ecological Economy Research (IOEW); April 2000 - July 2001 / Project Associate (Sustainable Development: Strategies and Indicators) / Karlsruhe Research Centre (FZK), Institute for Technology Assessment and Systems Analysis (ITAS)
April 1999 - March 2001	Contract Lecturer (resp. Co-Lecturer) in Sociology / University of Münster, Germany
June 1994 - April 1999	Assistant Professor (Environmental Questions in the Social Sciences, Philosophy of Technology) / Brandenburg University of Technology, Cottbus, Germany
September 1993 - February 1994	Contract Lecturer in Sociology / University of Kassel, Germany
June 1993 - May 1994	Research Assignment (project on Computer-mediated Communication and Electronic Media of Virtual Reality) / University of Kassel, Germany
January 1993 - May 1994	Scientific Associate (French-German research project Ingenieur-Technique-Risque, ITR) / University of Kassel, Germany, in cooperation with the Laboratoire d'Analyse Secondaire et des Méthodes Appliquées à la Sociologie (LASMAS), Centre National de Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), Paris, France

November 1991	PhD in Sociology (*summa cum laude*), with a cross-disciplinary thesis on general and social systems theory, ecology and society / University of Münster, Germany
March 1990 - August 1993	Contract Lecturer (resp. Scientific Assistant) in Sociology / University of Münster, Germany
April 1987 - April 1993	Freelance Communication Trainer and Contract-Teacher in Continuing Education (Rhetoric, Communication, Political Education as well as several accompanying seminars - linked with public radio programs - about Human Ecology and Anthropology Today) / Bildungsforum Münster e.V. as well as Volkshochschule Münster and Volkshochschule Dülmen/Haltern, Germany
October 1985	Intermediate Examination in Biology / University of Münster, Germany
August 1984	Intermediate Examination in Economics / University of Münster, Germany
1983 - 1991	Studies in Social Sciences, Biology and Philosophy / University of Münster, Germany
April - September 1983	Studies in Pharmacy / Free University (FU) of Berlin, Germany
December 1981 - March 1983	Civil Service (in lieu of military service) as Emergency Medical Technician / Municipality of Nottuln, Germany
June 1981	High-School Diploma / Ratsgymnasium Münster, Germany
1979 - 1980	Elected State Pupils Speaker in the framework of the State Pupils Council (Landesschüler*innenvertretung, LSV) of the State of North-Rhine Westphalia (NRW), Düsseldorf, Germany

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

BOOKS

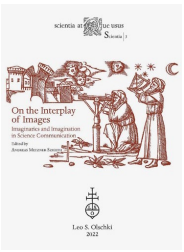
Integrating Design in Governance and Management: Creative Approaches for the Future
(co-editor, with I. Kofler, H. Pechlaner and G. Erschbamer) Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxfordshire (Routledge) 2026
LINK



Approaches in Studying the Entanglement of Ecology and Society
(author) Florence, Casa Editrice Leo S. Olschki, 2023
LINK



On the Interplay of Images, Imaginaries and Imagination in Science Communication
(editor) Florence, Casa Editrice Leo S. Olschki, 2022
LINK



Los retos de la interdisciplinariedad – Cómo transformar la sinergia de ciencia, tecnología y sociedad para la autorrealización ecológica
(author) Madrid, Plaza y Valdés Editores, 2022
LINK



Zukunftsfähige Entwicklung und generative Organisationskulturen – Wie wir Systeme anders wahrnehmen und Veränderung gestalten können
(editor) Munich, Oekom Verlag, 2018
LINK (Oekom), LINK (ProQuest Ebook Central)



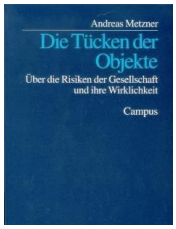
Wissenschaftskommunikation, Utopien und Technikzukünfte
(co-editor, with A. Böhn) Karlsruhe, KIT Scientific Publishers, 2018
LINK



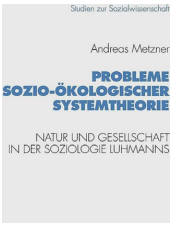
Netzbasierte Kommunikation, Identität und Gemeinschaft / Net-Based Communication, Identity and Community
(co-editor, with N. Ursua)
Berlin, Trafo Verlag, 2006
LINK



Die Tücken der Objekte. Über die Risiken der Gesellschaft und ihre Wirklichkeit
(author) Frankfurt, New York, Campus Verlag, 2002
LINK



Probleme sozio-ökologischer Systemtheorie. Natur und Gesellschaft in der Soziologie Luhmanns
(author) Opladen, Westdeutscher Verlag, 1993
LINK



SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:
JOURNAL ARTICLES

Safety Culture, Professional Practice, and Organizational Reliability: Mobilizing Social-Scientific Perspectives for Applied Research and Advisory Activities, in: Soc. Sci. 2026, 15(7), 456, pp. 1-29 LINK

Las trampas del error. Consecuencias de las construcciones defectuosas en la ciencia y la técnica, in: Revista Internacional de los Estudios Vascos (RIEV), Vol. 70, No. 1, 2025, pp. 1-24
LINK

La autorrealización eco-social del ser humano y sus medios: Reflexiones sobre la cultura y la tecnología, in: Revista Internacional de los Estudios Vascos (RIEV), Vol. 68, No. 1, 2023, pp. 1-21 LINK

Utilization Competitions over Ecological Resources – Uncovering the Social Nature of the Environmental Problem, in: Progress in Industrial Ecology – An International Journal, Vol. 8, No. 4, 2014, pp.237–256 LINK

Contradictory Approaches? — On Realism and Constructivism in the Social Sciences Research on Risk, Technology and the Environment, in: Futures – The Journal of Policy, Planning and Futures Studies, Vol. 41, No. 2, March 2009, pp. 156-170 LINK

Von Cyber-Identitäten, virtuellen Gemeinschaften und vernetzter Individualisierung – sozial-psychologische Überlegungen, in: Sic et Non – Zeitschrift für Philosophie und Kultur, No. 9, 2008 LINK

Internet & Gesellschaft: Ein Humanes Projekt?, in: Sic et Non – Zeitschrift für Philosophie und Kultur, No. 8, 2007 LINK

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:
CHAPTERS IN BOOKS

On Sustainable Futures, Generative Competences, and the Nexus of Governance, Management and Design, in: Metzner-Szigeth, Andreas; Kofler, Ingrid; Pechlaner, Harald; Erschbamer, Greta (Eds.): Integrating Design in Governance and Management: Creative Approaches for the Future, Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxfordshire (Routledge) 2026, pp. 9-30 LINK

Artificial Intelligence, Creative Destruction, and the Quest of Being Human – Introductory Comments, in: El Moussaoui, Mustapha; Kofler, Ingrid (Eds.): Transdisciplinary Perspectives on AI's Impact on Creative and Cultural Industries (Proceedings of the same-named international workshop in Schlanders-Silandro, Italy, September 27, 2024), Bolzano (Unibz) 2025, pp. 165-189 LINK

Exploring the Interplay of Images, Imaginaries and Imagination in Science Communication – Basic Considerations, in: Metzner-Szigeth, Andreas (Ed.): On the Interplay of Images, Imaginaries and Imagination in Science Communication, Florence (Casa Editrice Leo S. Olschki) 2022, chapter 3, pp. 33-47 LINK

How Prophecies Become Reality – Exploring the Interplay of Techno-Futures, Science Fiction and Utopian Thinking, in: Metzner-Szigeth, Andreas (Ed.): On the Interplay of Images, Imaginaries and Imagination in Science Communication, Florence (Casa Editrice Leo S. Olschki) 2022, chapter 28, pp. 371-405 LINK

Strategies for Eco-Social Transformation: Comparing Efficiency, Sufficiency and Consistency, in: Ambrosio, Marcelo; Vezzoli, Carlo (Eds.): Designing Sustainability for All - Proceedings of the 3rd LeNS World Distributed Conference. Milan (Edizioni POLI.design) 2019, vol. 3, pp. 649-654 LINK

Nachhaltigkeit und Zukunftsfähigkeit – ein Widerspruch?, in: Metzner-Szigeth, Andreas (Ed.): Zukunftsfähige Entwicklung und Generative Organisationskulturen – Wie wir Systeme anders wahrnehmen und Veränderung gestalten können. München: Oekom 2018, pp. 21-35 LINK

Generative Organisationskulturen und zukunftsfähige Entwicklung — Über gesellschaftliche Bedarfe und Perspektiven der Forschung, in: Metzner-Szigeth, Andreas (Ed.): Zukunftsfähige Entwicklung und Generative Organisationskulturen — Wie wir Systeme anders wahrnehmen und Veränderung gestalten können. München: Oekom 2018, pp. 102-121 LINK

Mehr als Consulting: über zukunftsweisende, "exzentrische" Interventionen, in: Metzner-Szigeth, Andreas (Ed.): Zukunftsfähige Entwicklung und Generative Organisationskulturen – Wie wir Systeme anders wahrnehmen und Veränderung gestalten können. München: Oekom 2018, pp. 164-174 LINK

Technikzukünfte in Eu und Dystopien, in: Böhn, Andreas; Metzner-Szigeth, Andreas (Eds.): Wissenschaftskommunikation, Utopien und Technikzukünfte, Karlsruhe: KIT Scientific Publishers 2018, pp. 17-52 LINK

How to Analyse Techno-medial Transformations of Culture and Society?, in: Banse Gerhard; Insausti, Xabier (Eds.): Von der Agorá zur Cyberworld — Soziale und kulturelle, digitale und nicht-digitale Dimensionen des öffentlichen Raumes. Berlin: Trafo Verlag 2018, pp. 299-314 LINK

Sicherheitskulturen und professionelles Handeln — konzeptionelle Überlegungen, in: Banse, Gerhard; Krebs, Irene (Eds.): Kulturelle Diversität und Neue Medien. Entwicklungen, Interdependenzen - Resonanzen, Berlin (Trafo) 2011, pp. 229-251 LINK

Kultur & Technik als Medien menschlicher Selbstverwirklichung — Überlegungen zur philosophischen Anthropologie und Gesellschaftstheorie, in: Banse, Gerhard; Grunwald, Armin (Eds.): Technik und Kultur — Bedingungs- und Beeinflussungsverhält-nisse, Karlsruhe (KIT Scientific Publishers) 2010, pp. 143-162 LINK

Zwischen Systemkomplexität und Akteursverantwortung, in: Kornwachs, Klaus (Ed.): Technik – System – Verantwortung, Münster (LIT Verlag) 2004, pp. 391-409 LINK

Umwelt- und Technik-Risiken als gesellschaftliches Innovationsproblem — Überlegungen im Verhältnis von Wissenschaft, Wirtschaft, Politik und Öffentlichkeit, in: Fricke, Werner (Ed.): Innovationen in Technik, Wissenschaft und Gesellschaft, Bonn (Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung) 1998, pp. 209-225 LINK

Constructions of Environmental Issues in Scientific and Public Discourse, in: Müller, Felix; Leupelt, Maren (Eds.): Eco Targets, Goal Functions and Orientors, Berlin, Heidelberg, New York (Springer Publishers) 1998, pp. 171-192 LINK

Offenheit und Geschlossenheit in der Ökologie der Gesellschaft, in: Beckenbach, Frank; Diefenbacher, Hans (Eds.): Zwischen Entropie und Selbstorganisation - Perspektiven einer ökologischen Ökonomie, Marburg (Metropolis Verlag) 1994, pp. 349-391 LINK

TEACHING (ONGOING AND RECENT) LINK

Political Ecology / Master in Eco-Social Design

Media Studies / Master in Eco-Social Design and Master in Critical Creative Practices

Sociology of Social Change / Bachelor in Design and Art (Major in Design and Major in Art)

Sociology of Space / Bachelor in Design and Art (Major in Art)

RESEARCH (ONGOING AND RECENT)

Fit for the Future with Design — How Governance and Management Can Benefit from Creative Approaches, research & conference project, jointly funded, organized and co-chaired by Free University of Bolzano/Faculty of Design and Art - Prof. Andreas Metzner-Szigeth, and Eurac Research/Center for Advanced Studies - Prof. Harald Pechlaner, March 10-11, 2023, in Bolzano
LINK

Studying, Portraying and ASSessing examples of good scientific practice in interdisciplinary work — An explorative study about collaborations of sciences and humanities with particular reference to contributions of design and arts (SPASS), start-up funded research project, 01/04/2018 - 30.04.2022, Principal Investigator
LINK

Internet of Things, Energy Awareness and Sustainability (IoT), international research conference, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, 10-11 July, 2017, Chairperson, together with Prof. Paolo Lugli (incumbent Rector of the FUB) and Prof. Wolfgang Porod (University of Notre Dame)
LINK

Künstlerische Interventionen in Unternehmenskulturen — Was können sie leisten, um mehr Zukunftsfähigkeit zu verwirklichen? (ArtOrg), Internationaler Forschungs-workshop, Freie Universität Bozen-Bolzano, 12-13 Oktober, 2017, Wissenschaftlicher Koordinator und Organizer, in Zusammenarbeit mit Prof. Stephan August Schmidt-Wulffen und Prof. Gerhard Glüher
LINK