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## Energy Landscapes of the Future

### Abstract

In the light of threatening climate change, renewable energy resources have gained more impact over the last decades. This, however, is changing the ways we deal with nature on the ethical and aesthetic level. The lecture, after delivering a throwback to the 1970s to 1990s, analyses how renewable resources and the issue of sustainability are dealt within three different modes: calculating, showing and saying. How do they shape energy landscapes of the future, and how can we envision them? Are plants still the method of choice and if yes, what do we understand as “plant”? In addition, central concepts from the philosophy and history of technology such as “path dependence” are discussed. The geographical and political focus will be the European Union; the technological focus will be global.

### CV

Nicole Christine Karafyllis is a philosopher and biologist and working as Full Professor of Philosophy at Technische Universität Braunschweig since 2010. 2008-2010, she was Full Professor of Philosophy at the United Arab Emirates University in Al Ain (Abu Dhabi). Karafyllis studied biology and philosophy in Erlangen-Nuremberg (Dipl.-Biol. 1994, Germany), Stirling (UK), Cairo (Egypt) and Tübingen (Dr. 1999). Her Post-Doc time she spent at the universities in Frankfurt am Main and Stuttgart (habilitation 2006). Her PhD-thesis on technology assessment and environmental ethics of renewable resources at the *Interfaculty Center for Ethics in the Sciences and Humanities* was published as book in 2000 and awarded with the Franzke Price for Technology and Responsibility at the TU Berlin (2001). Her areas of expertise are philosophy of nature and technology, anthropology and phenomenology, theory of the life sciences and “Lebensphilosophie”, bioethics, philosophy of plants, history of science and technology, theory of biofacts and living collections (biobanks), and the history of philosophy.

Karafyllis published more than 80 articles and 15 books. In English are available the edited volumes: *Philosophies of Technology. Francis Bacon and his Contemporaries*. 2vols., edited with Gisela Engel, Romano Nanni, Claus Zittel, Leiden/Boston: Brill 2008; *Sexualized Brains. Modeling Emotional Intelligence from a Cultural Perspective* (edited with Gotlind Ulshöfer) and Karafyllis, N. C./Overmann, J./Schneider, U. J./Mackert, Christoph (eds.): *The contaminated library. Microbes in book culture*. Leipzig 2023 (*Schriften aus der Universitätsbibliothek Leipzig*, Vol. 52) (open access). <https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:bsz:15-qucosa2-869219>  
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