



Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin  
INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

*Network Working Futures and  
Horizon Europe Project Involve*

*Aspirations, Capabilities and Transformative Institutions*

February 8-9, 2024

Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin

Program

**February 8, 2024**

13:45 p.m. Welcome and Introduction

14:00 p.m.–15:45 p.m.

**Panel 1**

Chair: *René Lehewess-Litzmann, Sociological Research Institute Goettingen (SOFI)*

*Jean-Michel Bonvin and Francesco Laruffa, University of Geneva*

What are transformative institutions supposed to transform? A perspective oriented toward the enhancement of the capability to aspire

Discussant: *Melanie Walker*

*Ortrud Lessmann, German Youth Institute, Munich*

Aspirations, Agency and Public Reasoning: Some Reflections on Transformative Institutions from a Capability Perspective

Discussant: *Caroline Hart*

15:45 p.m.–16:15 p.m. Coffee Break

16:15 p.m.–18:00 p.m.

**Panel 2**

Chair: *Michel Debruyne, Over-see / Bewegung vzw*

*Evelyne Baillergeau, University of Amsterdam and Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris*

The obstructive activity of experience. A phenomenological approach to projectivity and agency in contexts of inequality

Discussant: *Liala Consoli*

*Melanie Walker, University of the Free State*

Black low-income youth making their way through higher education: understanding renegade, resilient and restricted aspirations

Discussant: *Josiane Vero*

18:00 p.m. Dinner

**February 9, 2024**

9:00 a.m.–10:45 a.m.

**Panel 3**

Chair: *Max Lovey, University of Geneva*

*Josiane Vero and Camille Stephanus, CEREQ, Marseille*

Reskilling and the capability to aspire in the French transformative context

Discussant: *Evelyne Baillergeau*

*Bénédicte Zimmermann, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris and  
Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin*

Lifelong-Learning Institutions and the Capability for Aspiring to a Better Future

Discussant: *Ortrud Lessmann*

10:45 a.m.–11:15 a.m.

Coffee Break

11:15 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

*Caroline Hart, Peak Health Coaching*

Transformative Institutions and the Capability to Aspire – Examining the capability to aspire in the National Health Service in England

Discussant: *Lavinia Bifulco*

12:00 p.m.–13:00 p.m.

Lunch

13:00 p.m.–14:45 p.m.

**Panel 4**

Chair: *Rory Hearne, Maynooth University*

*Lavinia Bifulco, Università di Milano-Bicocca*

Transformative Institutions and the Capability to Aspire in Contexts of Radical Uncertainty: The Case of Italian Health Services facing the Pandemic

Discussant: *Francesco Laruffa*

*Liala Consoli, University of Geneva*

Experiencing legal status regularization after years of undocumentedness and pursuing upward occupational mobility: A durable increase in ‘capacity to aspire’?

Discussant: *Camille Stephanus*

14:45 p.m.–15:30 p.m.

Concluding Discussion