

# Butterflies and politics - Or, how can ecologists address the biodiversity crisis?

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We all know that biodiversity continues to decline and that ecosystems are continuously degrading, but how can we address the drivers of these trends? In this talk, which explains how my career moved from "ecological" to "interdisciplinary", I will start with the basic boring stuff (habitat loss and fragmentation, connectivity in fragmented landscapes) and animal movement in such landscapes, and then move swiftly to one of the key factors dominating such lands - namely agriculture. The route to changing the way in which agriculture affects biodiversity (and vice versa) goes through understanding the challenges of sustainability and how they affect farmers and the joint futures of farming and nature in a rapidly changing world. More so, it requires asking how policies affect both. With a deep scent of politics and the impact of farm lobbies, I will take you from butterflies, to the EU's Common Agricultural Policy and back to... butterflies. Did I already mention societal transformations and economic growth? Then get ready for a talk on food security, degrowth, and how butterflies can save the world. Maybe.

