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Webinar EUBURN

Towards a Transdisciplinary Approach to Understanding Fire-Related Risks and Disasters

Speaker : **Sébastien Nobert (School of Politics and International Studies, University of Leeds, University of Montréal)**

Too often relegated to the status of a mere supplement or tool for physical science research, the social sciences have a vital role to play in the study of fire-related risks and disasters. This presentation will explore what the social sciences can reveal in the context of fires, thereby uncovering what is known as the "social life of fires"—that is, the social and political dimensions at the heart of their emergence and management. In the global context of climate change, it is therefore crucial to better understand how the social and physical sciences can work together to offer a transdisciplinary analytical perspective on disasters and ensure that responses to these events lead to major transformations in the social and political organisations at the core of fire-related risks.

Sébastien Nobert is a transdisciplinary social scientist who initially trained as an anthropologist and then as a human geographer. He looks at the social, cultural and political dimensions of climate-related hazards and risks. Prior to returning to the University of Leeds, he was an Assistant and then Associate Professor of Human Geography at the Université de Montréal, where he still acts as an Affiliate Professor of Geography. His work lies at the intersection of the geographies of risk and hazards, the social studies of science and technology, and the social theory of the environment. He is increasingly focusing on the political substance of rhythmic production, which he incorporates into his understanding of the wider fabric of climate politics.

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Contact : euburnrisk_projectcoord@meteo.fr

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