

## Transformation as a Process of Politics and Governance

### PhD 03a: Politics

*“Textile-Transition” as Political Challenge (Working Title)*

#### *Research question*

Which policy approaches address a „textile-transition“? Which positions have producers, retailers, consumers and civil society actors? How could new and innovative approaches look like?

#### *Background / State of Research*

Energy transition, agricultural transition, mobility transition – in key areas of sustainability policy transition-oriented policy approaches have been – more or less successfully – developed and introduced. A „textile transition policy“, however, does not exist. This is surprising, given the relevance of the textile business for sustainable development. With regard to production, retail, consumption and its inter- and transnational interdependencies the textile business poses a significant challenge for sustainable development. Given the plurality of involved actors and the complexity of interrelated problems, the spectrum of heterogeneous perceptions, evaluations and strategies for action are significant. For the identification and development of policy options for a „textile transition“ a systematic understanding of conflictual and cooperative relationships between the (sub)political actors is necessary.

#### *Approach and Research Design*

Based on a literature analysis on the textile business (production and consumption) as well as on relevant literature of transition policies in other policy fields, an appropriate theoretical framework (e.g. regulatory, conflict and cooperation theories) needs to be developed. By employing quantitative (consumer survey) and qualitative (actor interviews and document analysis) methods, the state of the art and the development potential of a „textile transition“ shall be empirically analysed.

#### *Expected Results*

Based on the conceptual and empirical insights it is expected, that a contribution regarding an improved understanding of transformative policy-making between conflict and cooperation can be realized. Moreover options for shaping a “textile transition“ shall be developed and provided to political and subpolitical actors.

#### *Supervisors*

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