



# Wissenschaftsskepsis und Klimakrise

Moderation: Michaela Pfadenhauer

Anna-Mari Almila & David Inglis

Universität Rom | Universität Helsinki

## Unnatural liquids: Water ontologies and wine epistemologies between magic, mysticism, and science

Science scepticism reaches far and wide today, even into the very liquids that we consume. Both ontologies and epistemologies of drinkable liquids are shot through with contestations of, and attempts to go beyond, orthodox modes of 'Western' scientific thinking and the techno-science connected with them. We show that in the domain of water, aboriginal activism segues into anthropological critique of scientific water ontology centred around the concept of H<sub>2</sub>O. Meanwhile, in the domain of grape wine, there has been much concern and controversy about moving away from techno-scientific winemaking towards alternative modalities claimed to be more attuned to natural and cosmic rhythms. Such moves have accentuated already existing tendencies towards wine being represented in mystical ways and in magical terms. In both domains, complicated struggles are playing out between science and techno-science, sceptical critiques of them, and attempts to escape modernist and colonialist forms of thought and practice, all within increasingly fraught contexts of climate change and impending disaster.

Kommentar: Anna Durnová, Universität Wien

Für hybride Teilnahme per Zoom:



Mittwoch, 29. Mai 2024, 17 Uhr  
Seminarraum 3, Institut für Soziologie

Koordination: Michaela Pfadenhauer & Miriam Aistleitner  
Institut für Soziologie, Rooseveltplatz 2, 1090 Wien

[hybrid on Zoom, Meeting-ID: 621 1226 9513](#)  
Passcode: 410817