



Save the dates:

23 October

PhD-Defence Laura Antonia Kirsch

23-24-25 October

The 4th MORSE Conference

25 October

Consultation session: Albert Faber from the Scientific Council for Climate Policy

25 October

PhD Colloquium with David Wood

13-15 November

Circular Economy Masterclass

17 April

Dr. Federico Esposito's open lecture on climate change, shocks and resilience

22 May

Dr. Prof. Leandro Prados de la Escosura's open lecture on economic freedom and inequality and subjective well-being

27 January

MORSE Research day and Thesis Award Ceremony

MORSE Blogs

MORSE continues with its blog series! **Between September and December 2024**, MORSE will publish blog entries every Monday.

Read the [last blog](#) about a recent study presented at the [ERSA Congress](#) about how female-focused investment networks are reshaping the entrepreneurial landscape, authored by [Carla M. Do Rosário Costa](#) and [Sergio Paramo Ortiz](#).

The next blog will be published on 7 October by **Janek Kretschmer**.

Follow MORSE on [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#) to not miss out on any new blog posts!

Let us know at morse-sbe@maastrichtuniversity.nl if you want to publish a blog.

MORSE travel expenses fund

To support MORSE researchers in reaching out to colleagues and stakeholders, it is important that especially our early career researchers have sufficient resources to travel. Of course, we encourage you to consider the environment and travel by train whenever possible.

If you are affiliated with MORSE and present your MORSE-themes related work in a conference or event on our MORSE template, you can request financial support from MORSE of up to 50% of your travel budget with a maximum of €500 for travel within Europe and €1000 euro for travel beyond Europe.

You can apply for MORSE support by sending a half-page motivated and signed request to morse-sbe@maastrichtuniversity.nl, at least 2 weeks before your departure, detailing your topic, the event you want to attend and a simple budget. Find more information, a slide deck template, and exact requirements visiting the [MORSE Travel Expenses Fund](#).

News and Events

News:

Creating awareness, networks and pathways around sustainable coffee consumption

The ECOffee Consumers project, funded by the Erasmus+ program, aims to promote sustainable coffee consumption across and beyond Europe, through research, capacity building, and the development and dissemination of innovative tools.

Read [here](#) to get to know about the latest **project updates of spring/summer 2024**

Annual Greening Finance Prize

Oxford University Announces Winners

On **Wednesday 2 October**, the University of Oxford announced the winners of the *'Insight Investment – University of Oxford Prize for Greening Finance'*, the preeminent prize for this important area of research and practice.

The **2024 winner for the Outstanding Research** category is MORSE member and strategic advisor **Rob Bauer**, Professor of Finance at Maastricht University, Chair of Institutional Investors and holder of the Elverding Chair on Sustainable Business, Culture and Corporate Regulation. Read more [here](#) and on [SBE News section](#).

MORSE contributing to students excursions

MORSE is going to contribute to two student excursions.

The first will take place **on 9 October 2024**, when 80 students will visit The European Central Bank (ECB) in Frankfurt for an ECB board meeting simulation with Prof. Olaf Sleijpen.

The second one is scheduled for **18 October 2024**, when some 45 students from Economics of Transition and Resilience course will visit the European Commission in Brussels for the **Third Student Conference on the Economics of Transition and Resilience**, presenting their solutions to the many transition challenges the European Union is facing. To read more on how this event works, read the [conference report](#) from last year second conference.

Expanding MILL

Until now, the MILL team has developed activities based at the School of Business and Economics, where it originated (see more details about our three pilots [here](#)).

In our next development phase, we intend to expand the range of activities and publics of the MILL to all UM faculties. We are aware that similar initiatives are already taking place; we would like to bring together and harness these efforts to create a network of immersive learning pioneers. Members/ambassadors could learn from each other and collectively consolidate the MILL initiative. This platform would share project management, and could assist educators across disciplines and levels, with gamification, design or marketing tasks to be hired by the group.

In order to make this initiative financially viable and sustainable, we will apply to the [COMENIUS Leadership grant](#) (funded by the NRO).

The MILL team is currently composed of Mark Sanders (academic director), Therese Grohnert, Kimon Ivanov, Carolina Cicati and Tania Treibich, and benefits from the support of MORSE.

Past Events:

MORSE Theme Leaders Meeting

On Monday **9 September 2024**, MORSE hosted the annual theme leaders meeting to discuss about the future of MORSE spearhead that is entering its last year. After an initial sum-up about MORSE activities carried out in the last academic year (September 2023-September 2024) and updates regarding the SBE-board decision for MORSE future, we continued with theme leaders' proposals for 2024/2025 activities and how MORSE can support their execution.

- **FUSIO-n** can continue as a digital infrastructure for setting up collaborations for any future initiative of SBE departments. It opened up to local entrepreneurs at Maastricht through QESKE (funded by UCM) and updated the local stakeholders map, it integrated local photography (funded by UCM) and integrated generative AI suggestions for users (funded by DAD);
- Foreseen workshop or seminar on **transitions strategies**, to present findings from the [SYSCHEMIQ project](#) about plastics recycling and discussing on implicit and explicit transition strategies for energy, circular economy and urban transformations;
- Working on publishing a **special issue** of an interdisciplinary journal on sustainability, to include part (or most) of the papers from the MORSE conference.

Looking back at the 19th ISGEP conference on Trade and Productivity Upgrading in Advanced and Emerging Economies

On **27-28 June 2024**, the MILE department hosted the 19th annual meeting of the International Study Group on Exports and Productivity (**ISGEP**), which MILE jointly organized with the Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek. Read more [here](#).

MORSE PhD Workshop

On 18 and 19 June 2024, MORSE hosted the 4th annual MORSE PhD Workshop.

All PhDs candidates were invited to present the work related to the themes of the MORSE spearhead initiative, at any stage of development, and they received helpful and interesting feedback from peers and supervisors.

MORSE members, whether or not they were supervising any of the PhD candidates presenting, were invited too, to attend and act as discussants for the presentations.

Read more in the event report [here](#). We will keep you posted about next PhD workshop on June 2025.

Visions of Inequality: From the French Revolution to the End of the Cold War

Branko Milanovic's book presentation and Masterclass

On 24 May 2024 MORSE facilitated and hosted at SBE premises Milanovic's book presentation: *Visions of Inequality: From the French Revolution to the End of the Cold War*. On the same day, B. Milanovic also held a Masterclass where four invited students, from a wide range of academic advancement spanning from 1st year master students to 3rd year PhD candidates, had the opportunity to present their inequality related work to Branko Milanovic, and a wider audience.

Read more about this guest lecture [here](#).

Future Events:

MORSE Conference 2024

MORSE Spearhead will host the 4th annual conference on 23-25 October 2024

Programme and registration link can be found [here](#). Deadline to register is 13.10.24

This year the location of the MORSE Conference will be UCM and will see diverse activities, among which:

- **23 October** - The event opens with **David Wood's** keynote on [Responsible Investment and Countervailing Power](#). D,Wood is senior researcher at Social Innovation and Change Initiative (Harvard Kennedy School).
- **24 October** - After a full day which includes Director of Sustainable Finance Lab **Rens van Tilburg's** keynote on **Finance out of Control** and the MILE seminar exceptionally chaired by **Eric J. Bartelsman**, participants will enjoy a private visit at [Marres, House for Contemporary Culture](#), that organised a special workshop centred on sound. Read more at [MORSE 2024 social event](#).
- **25 October** - MORSE Conference hosts a consultation session with **Albert Faber** from the Scientific Council for Climate Policy, concerning [The economics of strategic choices in climate adaptation](#).
- **25 October** - MILE PhD candidates host an **open workshop** on the extensions in Integrated Assessment Modelling being developed in the **DIAMOND project**. The session is open to any labour, finance, or behavioural economist. **P. Morley, E. O'Connell and S. Serebriakova** will provide an introduction and context for the extensions they are developing on those themes.
- **25 October** - Prof David Wood and Prof Jaap Bos hold a PhD Colloquium for a small group of selected PhDs or Postdocs. To have more information and know how to apply, please refer to [MORSE Conference PhD Colloquium](#).

Circular Economy Masterclass

13-15 November Maastricht

Want to immerse in the topic of Circular Economy? You can sign up for a 3-day live Circular Economy Masterclass, **13-15 November 2024** in Maastricht.

The course will be taught amongst others by Nancy Bocken and Yvonne van der Meer, both professors in the field of Sustainability & Circular Economy at Maastricht University. The course offered through [UMIO | Maastricht University](#) will cover several topics.

Read more about this opportunity on [LinkedIn](#) and on [UMIO Circular Economy Masterclass webpage](#).

MORSE Research Day and Thesis Award Ceremony

Save the date! Monday 27 January 2025 at 13:00 – 17:00, TS53 Aula

MORSE will host the annual Research Day, followed by the Thesis Award Ceremony. The MORSE initiative will award a prize for student master's and bachelor's theses. Are you interested in how to enter the competition, which are the eligibility criteria, which prizes will be awarded and how the jury is selected? Please refer to the [MORSE Thesis Award event page](#).

The competition is open, deadline for submission is 22 December. More updates will be published on MORSE [News&Events page](#).

Guest Lectures

Save the date! On 17 April and 22 May 2025 MORSE will host two open lectures

- **Dr. Federico Esposito open lecture on climate change, shocks and resilience**
On **17 April 2025** the Tufts University Assistant Professor of Economics Federico Esposito, will deliver an open lecture about climate change, shocks and resilience at SBE premises, thanks to MORSE support.
Dr Esposito works in topics related to uncertainty, shocks and resilience, he received his Ph.D. in Economics from Yale University in 2016 and his research is primarily in international economics, with a focus on trade theory. His work studies the implications of demand uncertainty for trade patterns and aggregate welfare, and the interaction between international trade and labor markets.

- **Dr. Prof. Leandro Prados de la Escosura open lecture on economic freedom, inequality, and subjective well-being**

On **22 May 2025** the Universidad Carlos III (Madrid) Emeritus Professor of Economic History Leandro Prados de la Escosura will deliver an open lecture about economic freedom, inequality and subjective well-being at SBE premises, thanks to MORSE support.

Dr. Prof. Leandro Prados de la Escosura has authored several books, including **“Human Development and the Path to Freedom”**, employing a capabilities approach to show that health, access to knowledge, standards of living, and civil and political freedom can substitute for GDP per head, as more accurate measures of well-being.

We will keep you posted on exact time and location of the guest lectures, updates will be published on MORSE [News&Events page](#)

PhD-Defenses

23.10.24 at 10:00 - Laura Antonia Kirsch

Supervisors: Prof. dr. Wim Gijssels, Dr. Boris Lokshin, Prof. dr. Ann Vanstraelen

On **Wednesday 23 October 2024 at 10:00** Laura Antonia Kirsch will defend her dissertation entitled *“CEO Responsible Leadership: Exploration, Measurement and Impact”* in public to obtain the degree of Doctor at Maastricht University.

The defense ceremony will be in English and takes place at the Aula of Maastricht University, Minderbroedersberg 4-6 in Maastricht, The Netherlands.

You are cordially invited to attend the ceremony and the reception afterwards. Thus, save this date in your calendar! More information and further details will follow soon, as well as a link to register for attendance.

In the meantime, read more at the [event page](#) and, for questions, feel free to reach out to the **paranymphs**: Iver Wiertz (i.wiertz@maastrichtuniversity.nl) and Sonja Zaar (s.zaar@maastrichtuniversity.nl)

Projects

The MILL Project webpage

The Maastricht Immersive Learning Lab (MILL) Project now has a fully updated webpage. Keep checking [The MILL webpage](#) to be always updated.

Research:

Highlighted Publications

- Calcaterra, M., Aleluia Reis, L., Fragkos, P., Briera, T., de Boer, H. S., Egli, F., Emmerling, J., Iyer, G., Mittal, S., Polzin, F. H. J., Sanders, M. W. J. L., Schmidt, T. S., Serebriakova, A., Steffen, B., van de Ven, D. J., van Vuuren, D. P., Waidelich, P., & Tavoni, M. (2024). Reducing the cost of capital to finance the energy transition in developing countries. *Nature Energy*, 1–11. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41560-024-01606-7>
- Tomai, M., Ramani, S. V., & Papachristos, G. (2024). How Can We Design Policy Better? Frameworks and Approaches for Sustainability Transitions. *Sustainability*, 16(2), 690. <https://www.mdpi.com/2636098>
- Feeney, M., Ormiston, J., Gijssels, W. et al. Framing Collective Moral Responsibility for Climate Change: A Longitudinal Frame Analysis of Energy Company Climate Reporting. *J Bus Ethics* (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10551-024-05801-0> . **[Read more here](#)**
- Bocken, N. M. (2024). Circular Business Model Innovation: New Avenues and Game Changers. In *Business Model Innovation: Game Changers and Contemporary Issues* (pp. 193-225). Cham: Springer International Publishing. <https://rdcu.be/dVQfz>
- Das, A., & Bocken, N. (2024). Regenerative business strategies: A database and typology to inspire business experimentation towards sustainability. *Sustainable Production and Consumption*, 49, 529-544. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.spc.2024.06.024>
- Niessen, L., Bocken, N. M., & Dijk, M. (2024). The Road to Flourishing—Can we drive strongly sustainable business intention through a game-based tool?. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 143567. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2024.143567>
- Sakao, T., Bocken, N., Nasr, N., & Umeda, Y. (2024). Implementing circular economy activities in manufacturing for environmental sustainability. *CIRP Annals*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cirp.2024.06.002>
- Van Opstal, W., Borms, L., Brusselaers, J., Bocken, N., Pals, E., & Dams, Y. (2024). Towards sustainable growth paths for work integration social enterprises in the circular economy. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 470, 143296. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2024.143296>

Grants and PhD-proposals

No new Grants and Proposals have been submitted

New Vacancies and Hires

Marvin Memmen (MILE) – 16.10.2024

As of 16 October 2024 **Marvin Memmen** will start working on Labour Economics, Inequality and Structural Change themes at MILE Department.

The aim of this PhD project is to better understand the topic of social stratification (i.e. the poor, the vulnerable, the middle class, and the upper class) and its links to structural change and the Kuznets-waves hypothesis (Milanovic, 2016).

The research project is guided by several (primarily empirical) aspects, such as (i) developing a multidimensional framework for the empirical identification of key social strata; (ii) providing further theoretical development on the idea of Kuznets waves and empirically testing it; and (iii) investigating the connection of structural change and social stratification via the Kuznets waves hypothesis.

The PhD candidate's supervisory team will be composed of Prof. dr. Mark Sanders, Dr. Michalis Moatsos and Dr. Karsten Mau.

This is (inevitably) only a short list of the events, publications and projects MORSE-members are involved in. If you can use our support in developing your proposals or would like your project to be announced and shared in the next April 2025 New Endeavours, don't hesitate to send an email to morse-sbe@maastrichtuniversity.nl.