



Community Energy for a just European energy transition

Communautés énergétiques pour une transition énergétique Européenne juste

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Energy communities for collective self-consumption: frameworks, practices and tools

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How regulations are shaping energy communities

European transition towards a low-carbon economy

Clean energy for all Europeans package:

*“clean energy transition must be **fair and socially acceptable to all**”*

*“a **fair and just transition** can ensure that these **benefits are shared by all citizens and all regions** of Europe and that no one is left behind”*

→ Links to the idea of *Energy Justice*

Community energy and energy justice

“community energy is situated as both an expression of and an arena for the enactment of energy justice (Forman, 2017)”

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→ energy justice: about **connecting all** individuals **globally** with safe and sustainable energy that they can afford, balancing between the costs and benefits of the energy system and the distribution thereof.

How does energy justice relate to the notion of community energy initiatives in Europe, and what are the theoretical and empirical implications of this relationship?

Method: systematic literature review

"community energy"
OR "energy
community" AND
"energy justice" OR
"just transition" OR
"energy democracy"
OR "justice" OR
"energy equity" OR
"energy poverty"

Energy justice



Distributional justice

Procedural justice

Justice as recognition

Distributional justice through community energy

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- The basis on which they ought to be distributed

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Issue of **scale** – if community energy creates distributional justice depends on applied scalar lens

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- Fairness and transparency of decisions
 - Distribution of power in decision making forums
 - Participation in decision making
- Related with the creation of social acceptance
- Energy justice as **global** concept, but procedural justice aspects are easily and mainly manifested **locally**

Justice as recognition through community energy

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Justice as recognition is about identification of the individuals that are affected by energy injustices. It calls to include the differences in perspectives with regards to energy within different social, cultural, ethnic, and gender groups.

Example: recognizing that the elderly rely on higher room temperatures when setting fuel poverty standards.

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- There is not much attention for justice as recognition in community energy literature.
- Energy justice: reminder to keep an eye on the inclusion of different perspectives from different social groups in the community energy sector.

Provisional conclusions

- Theoretical implications:
 - Feasibility of *global* energy justice when looking at procedural justice
- Empirical implications:
 - Justice as recognition important reminder for inclusivity in the community energy sector
 - Distributive justice: potential for energy communities to contribute to this seems to stop at their border.



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Issue for debate

Can community energy increase distributional justice
beyond the community borders?