

# Knowledge Harvesting Booklet



Welcome to the Vienna degrowth conference! In the light of the current COVID-19 outbreak, it was decided to hold the conference in a digital format. While we are very glad that the conference can take place in such difficult times, an online conference does hold the disadvantage of lacking personal social interaction. To make up for this, we from the Harvesting Team created a bunch of activities to help you reflect and exchange ideas with other participants. In this sense, we cordially invite you to participate in the Knowledge Harvesting process at the degrowth conference. This booklet will provide you with an overview of these Harvesting Activities. It also includes a Personal Harvesting Diary to guide your reflections as well as some space to take notes.

## What is Knowledge Harvesting?

Harvesting is a conscious act of crystallising relevant information, ideas, topics and processes of the workshops, panels and sessions at the degrowth conference. It is done in a way that stimulates cognitive and emotional reflection as well as individual and collective learning. Furthermore, the harvesting process aims to elicit key insights and results thus making them visible.

## How to contact us?

During the conference, you can always contact us (the Knowledge Harvesting Team) via our Discord account: [harvesting#1994](#)

## Harvesting Activities

### Harvesting Channel

Reflecting by yourself is important. But exchanging ideas with others can be super fun, too! This is why we cordially invite you to share your thoughts from the Personal Harvesting Diary (see below) with the other conference participants. Keep an eye open for the Harvesting Discord Channel in the “Community” section. Every day at 11:30 and at 15:00 we will post two questions from the Harvesting Booklet and some related tasks there. You have all day to share your answers and engage in the interactive exercises before we post the new questions. Make sure to indicate which question you are answering before posting! As always, if you have questions or if you want to join one of the interactive exercises, get in touch with us at [harvesting#1994](#).

### Panel Harvesting

While listening to panel discussions is super exciting, having the opportunity to share one’s opinion and thoughts during the discussion makes it even more interesting! For this reason,

you will have the possibility to participate in short polls during the following four panels, where the moderator will invite you to vote:

- **The Need for Degrowth** (Friday, 10:00-11:30)
- **Advancing a Degrowth Agenda in the Corona Crisis** (Saturday, 10:00-11:30)
- **Strategies for Global Solidarity** (Sunday, 18:45-20:15)
- **Today – Tomorrow: Reflections on the Conference** (Monday, 18:45-20:15)

The results will provide a snapshot of opinions and views of all participants. You will be able to see the results of the polls right after you voted during the panel as well as in the 'Home Channel' on Discord.

### **Standard Sessions**

With this conference, we would love to be everywhere at once! But unfortunately, even for us that is impossible. That is why in terms of sessions, we have focused our attention on the 15 so-called Standard Sessions. These feature 3-4 paper presentations and a brief Q&A. Afterwards, it is time to get creative! Towards the end of the session, the moderator will post a link in the chat. Click on the link and put on your creativity hat, because the harvesting of these sessions consists of you spilling your thoughts onto a big poster together with the other session participants! Once everyone is done writing and drawing, we will download this poster and share it in the 'Home Channel' on Discord. This way you can look back at what conclusions you and the others drew from the presentations. It is also a great summary for sessions you weren't able to attend yourself – handy!

### **Graphic Recording**

The five main panels will be graphicly recorded and documented. Watch out for the outcome and have a look in the Discord 'Home Channel'!

### **Personal Harvesting Diary**

During an online conference it can be very easy to lose track! That's why we created this Personal Harvesting Diary for you. This section includes Harvesting Questions for each day aiming to foster and guide your individual reflection at the conference. There is also some space to take notes or even make a little drawing [use the text box and edit function to do so in the PDF]. May your personal conference harvest be bountiful. And remember, we highly encourage you to share your insights on the Knowledge Harvesting Channel on Discord!

Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup> – **Wanted: strategies for degrowth**

Harvesting questions:

- For what reasons do we need strategies? How can strategies support the degrowth movement?
- Who are the political subjects of degrowth strategies?
- Imagine a world of degrowth. Zoom in to a place on Earth which is near to your heart. What has changed with degrowth? Describe the people you meet. What stories do they recount? What was it that surprised them most with the advent of degrowth?
- Who among the people you know personally is opposed to degrowth? Why?

**Your personal notes:**



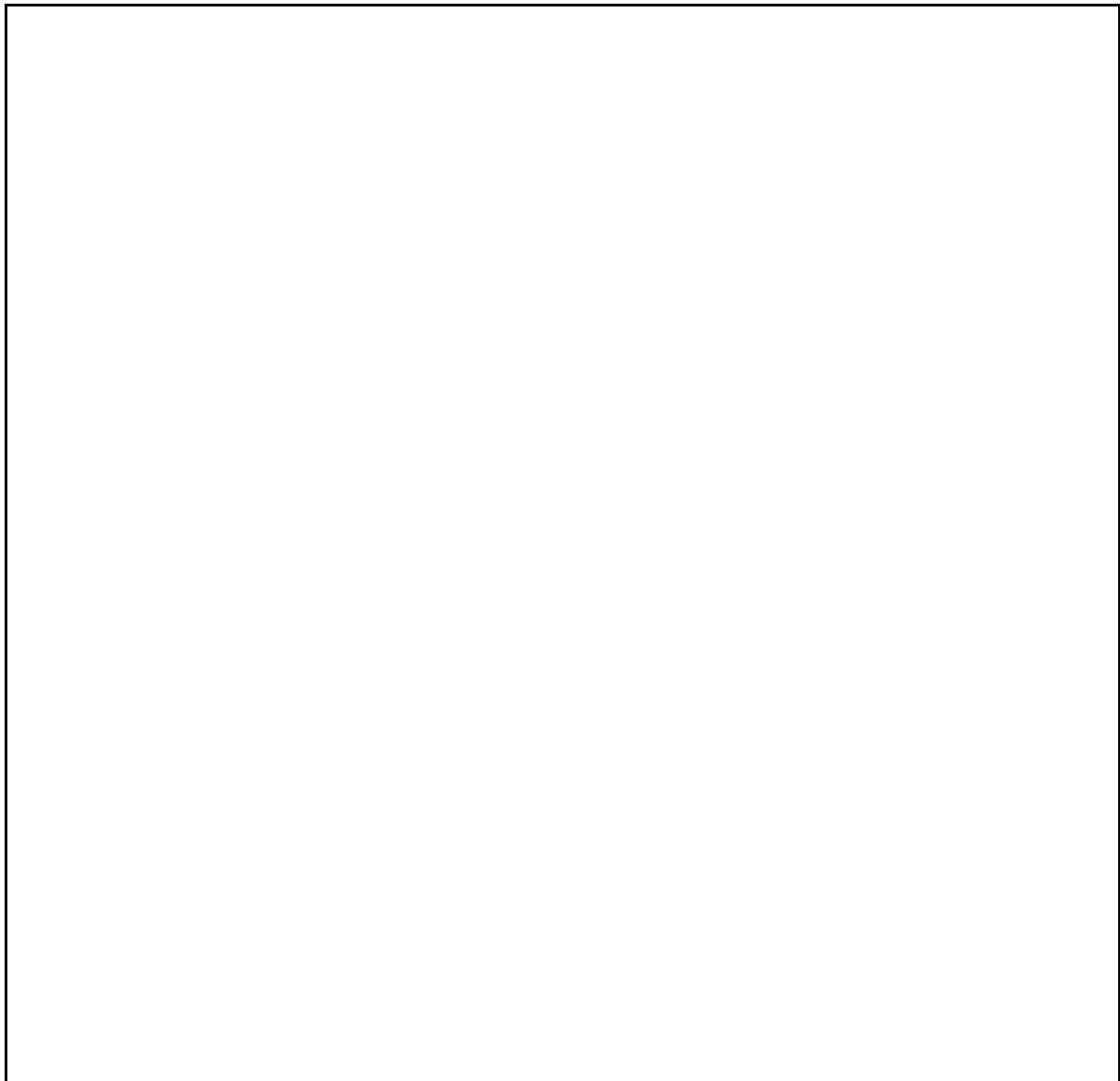


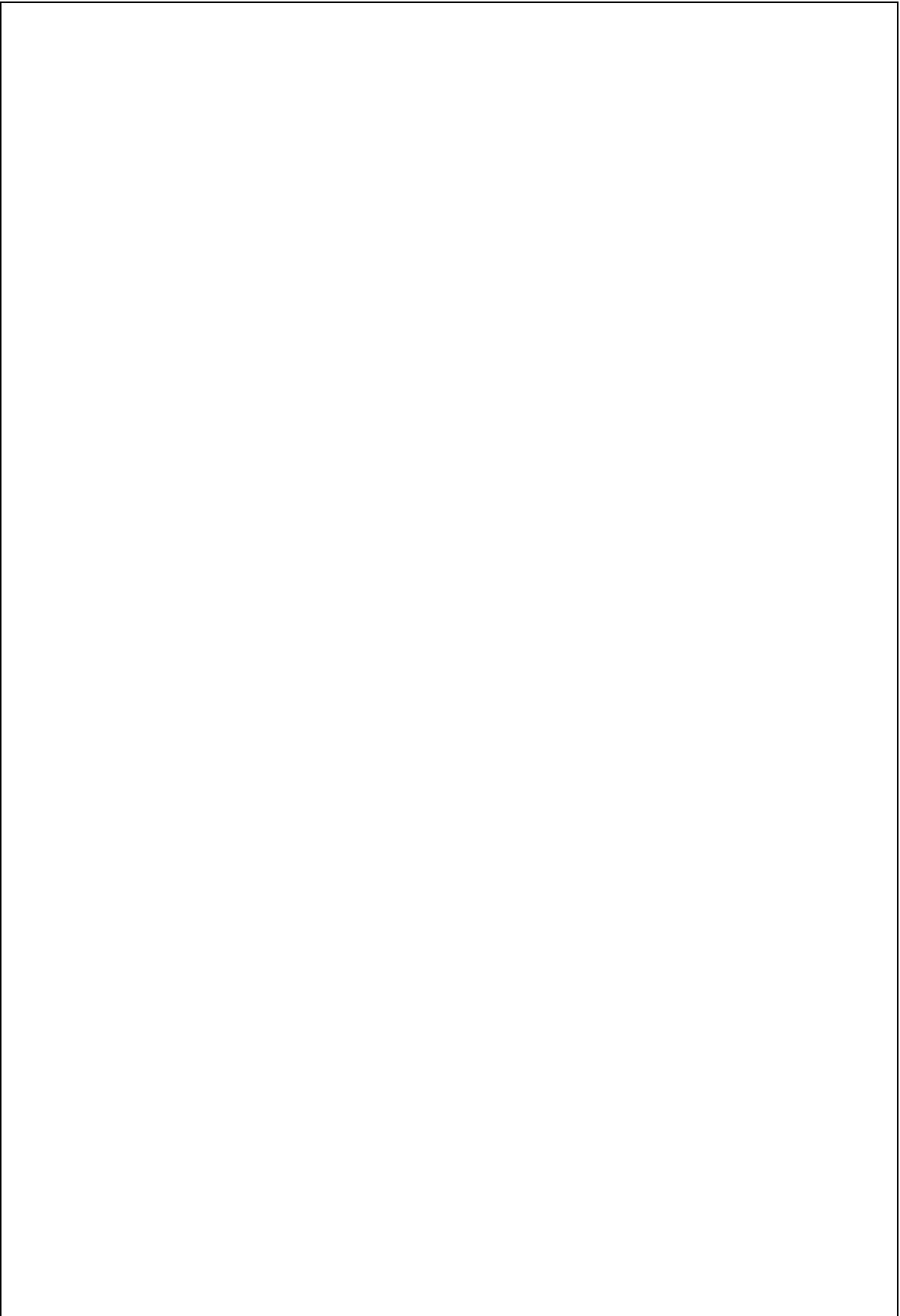
Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup> – **Understanding transformations and the role of strategy**

Harvesting questions:

- What do you think have been the obstacles to transformation until now? What will be the future obstacles?
- What implications does the COVID-19 crisis have for the degrowth movement? Does it have any?
- Try to imagine all the positive implications the COVID-19 crisis might have. What do you see?
- What do you regard as the pre-conditions / the requirements for a transformation to happen? Who are the actors involved?

**Your personal notes:**



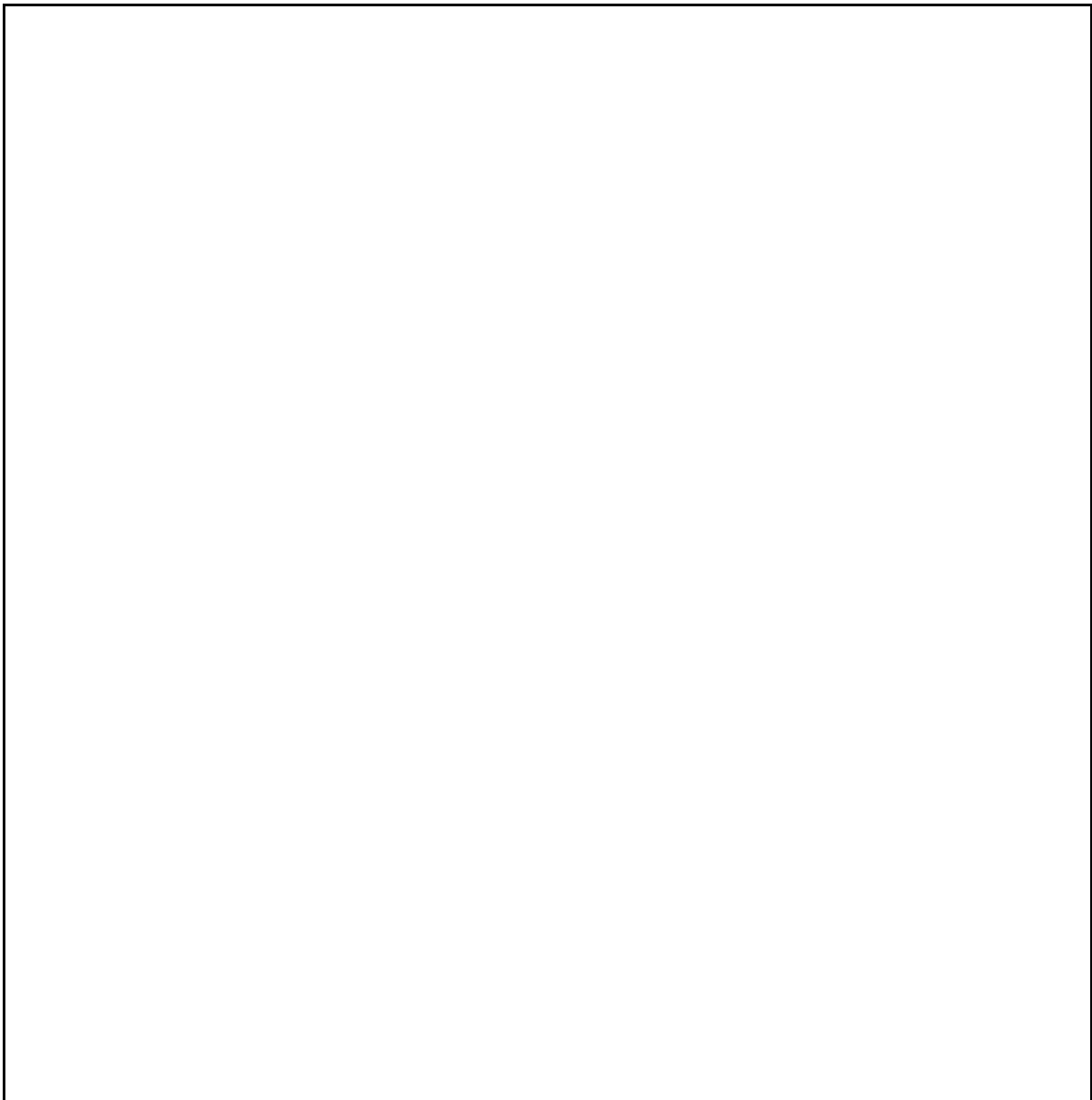


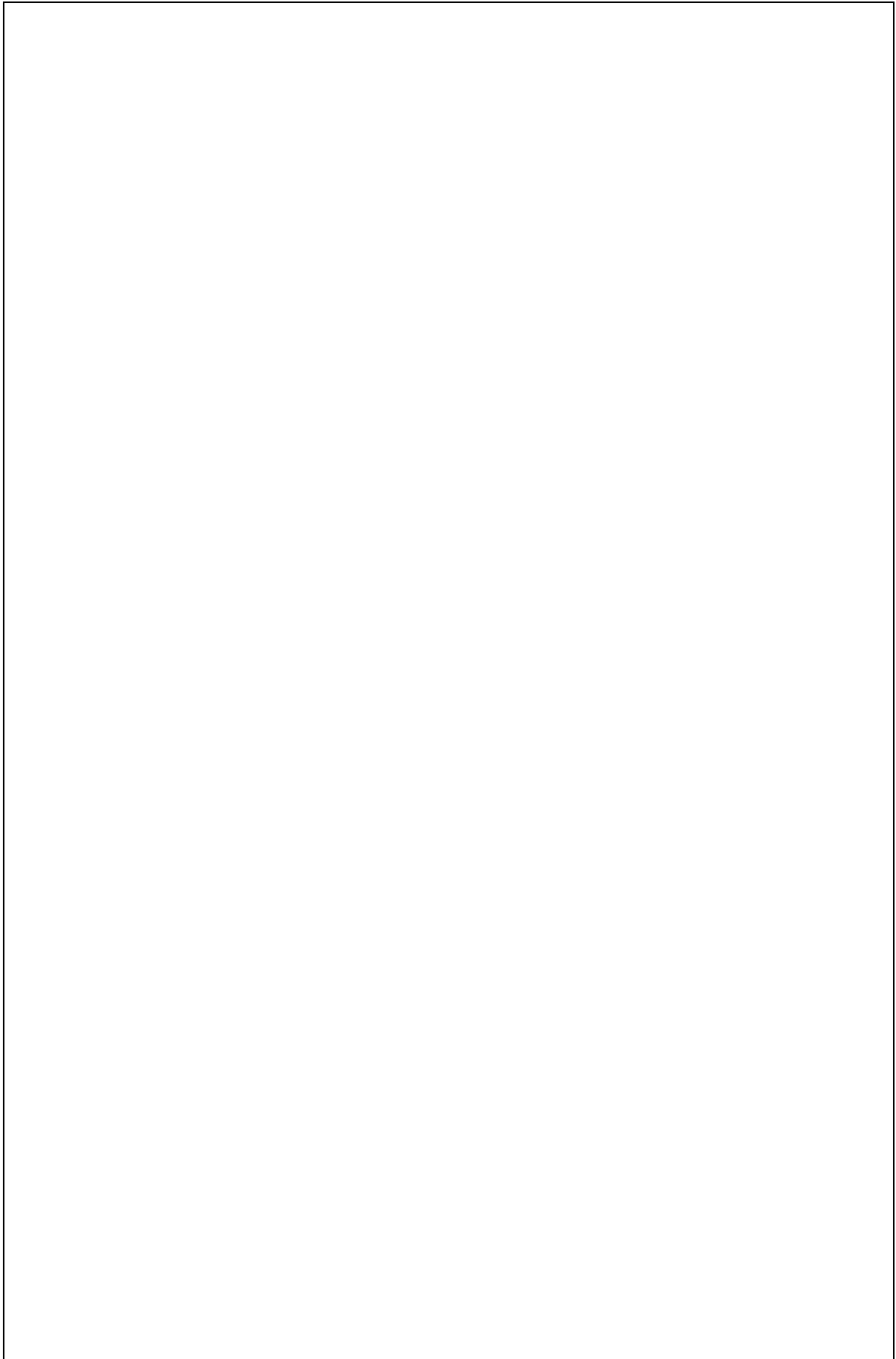
Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup> – **Shaping collaborative strategies**

Harvesting questions:

- What strategy for degrowth that you learned about today is the most promising? Is partial degrowth success (i.e. only in certain areas of the economy/ society) possible?
- Which alliances will help strategies for degrowth to be successful? Which actors and barriers must be approached?
- What is your personal strategy for degrowth?
- How can we foster global solidarity?

**Your personal notes:**







## Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup> – **Shaping collaborative strategies & looking forward**

Harvesting questions:

- Please look back at the past four days. What are some of your personal learnings?
- If in 40 years future generations will ask you: 'What have you done to support a good life and future?' – What answers would you like to give?
- When looking at the degrowth movement as you see it right now: which strategies should be reinforced; to which would you assign less weight? Which new strategies could be picked up?
- When looking at the multiple crises of the current economic growth paradigm: Which of these can best be utilised for advancing degrowth?

**Your personal notes:**

