Our earth and its life as we know it are endangered by a changing climate. Already today it is hot in regions where it was supposed to be cool, like in the Arctic, and unusually cool in regions where this is not typical, like in many Asian countries this year. A great number of scientists are increasingly alarmed: climatologists, biologists, geoscientists, historians, anthropologists, and more. But which role does intercultural philosophy play in the analysis of this situation, and which solutions does it have to offer? Moreover, can it contribute not only on theoretical level, but be also of practical help? Lastly, what have climate change and environmental protection to do with intercultural competence? Over the last years, several philosophers have worked on these questions. A few of them we invited to this lecture series. We want to get to know the perspectives of different countries and continents, but also of different classes, ethnicities, and religions. We want to explore their view on climate protection, their cultural approaches to the problem, if they think that human civilization and life on earth can be saved, and how this should be done.

Coordination:
Dr. Ľubomír Dunaj, Assistant at the Department of Philosophy at Vienna University, "WiGiP" member
Dr. Bianca Boteva-Richter, ext. lecturer at the Department of Philosophy at Vienna University, member of the editorial board of the Journal "Polylog", board member of "WiGiP"

Lectures and dates in winter term 2021-22/ Vortragende und Termine im WS 2021-22
via zoom (please register via: bianca.boteva-richter@univie.ac.at)

► 13.01.2022, (6:30 pm CET) (lecture in Spanish with English abstract, via zoom)
Àngels Canadell Prat (University of Barcelona): LANDING

The civilization crisis we’re living is the result of the separation between humans and nature, in which the technological instrumentalisation has taken the place of collective wisdom. Only a change in our perception of our place in the cosmos’ balance and an inner transformation can cause a change in direction, a turn that allows us to land again and give way to healing processes. This entails letting go the myth of progress and creating new narratives that show limits to our desire for expansion. It also entails leaving behind the manipulation of reality to rediscover the balance between person and tool, between thinking and feeling, between action and contemplation. The non-modern cultures have maintained the human-nature balance for centuries. They consider human beings to be guardians of the Earth, not their owners. We can still learn from their wisdom and delve into our own traditions, to connect with the memory of places and with the capacity to take care of the communities that live there.

Àngels Canadell Prat is professor and researcher at the University of Barcelona. She is acting member of the networks "Filosofia della terra" (ISIS) and UNITERRA, and co-autor of "Habitar la ciudad (Ecologia)", 2010.