# Session Details

**Thursday, September 16th, 09:00 - 10:30, Room 10**

**Session code:** RA10
**Session title:** Taking the Trouble? STS, IR and care for/in a common world
**Session type:** Roundtable
**Section:** S10 - Engaging STS in Planetary Politics: Staying with the Trouble

## Session info:

A multitude of new objects, technological innovations and knowledge practices are turning international relations into planetary politics. Many (critical) IR scholars are borrowing the theoretical resources of Science and Technology Studies (STS) to make sense of things as diverse as drones, Big Data, viruses or climate change models. Yet, the encounter between STS and IR is not without trouble. STS concepts, methods and sensitivities sound attuned to the study of planetary politics. Yet, they also affect and mess with IR – its commonly accepted worldviews, and its disciplinary boundaries. Our suggestion is that, following Haraway, there is value in 'staying with the trouble' – be it epistemic, ontological or methodological. From this perspective, STS is the name holder of a perceived need to approach the becoming of the world beyond too comfortable assumptions. Focusing on science and technology obliges us to think anew about how we care for/in a common planet and what are its political implications. A critical approach may thus be understood, borrowing from Butler, as a choice about how to better 'make trouble' in a situation where troubles are ultimately inescapable. With this provocation we invite roundtable participants to discuss the implications of taking the trouble of bringing STS to bear on the study of planetary politics, what trouble they take and how.

## Chair

Carola Westermeier, Germany

Rocco Bellanova, Netherlands

## Discussant

Annick T.R. Wibben, Sweden

Biography

## RT Participant

Linda Monsees, Czech Republic

Delf Rothe, Germany

Biography

Debbie Lisle, United Kingdom

Rocco Bellanova, Netherlands