

ResilienceTalks: Timely Issues on Resilience and Sustainability

In 2023, University of Oulu started a dynamic discussion series to bring together researchers and experts in the fields of resilience and sustainability studies and development. The aims are to provide a platform for thought-provoking discussions on topics that are academically rigorous and societally relevant. ResilienceTalks series is organized by the *Frontiers of Arctic and Global Resilience* (FRONT) research programme.¹

FRONT recognizes that the concept of Resilience is a trendy but highly debated idea that requires critical and systemic level transdisciplinary research and efficient research communication. For this purpose, FRONT ResilienceTalks invites scholars and speakers to engage colleagues, students and wider society in conversations and collaborations with the aim to inspire proficient and critical research towards more resilient and sustainable future. The ResilienceTalks series offers a variety of transdisciplinary topics including Arctic Research Frontiers, Emerging Resilience Research, PLATINEA-Platform for Innovation of Existing Antibiotics.

ResilienceTalks contribute to FRONT programme overall aims which are to advance the existing frontiers of knowledge on the changes needed to build resilience and to find solutions to the wicked problems of sustainability. With a strong focus on responsibility and sustainability, FRONT takes a systemic approach to advancing our understanding of resilience in the context of global changes such as climate change. FRONT brings together international, national and University of Oulu-based scholars from different disciplines and encourages effective public communication of science.

In 2024, Prof. Arjen Wals (University of Wageningen, Netherlands) invited talk titled “*Sustain(ability) – what abilities are needed to sustain, disrupt and transform? Rethinking education and research in times of collapse*” focused on university education. What to disrupt, what to sustain and how to find new ways of thinking and doing are existential urgent questions in the increasingly complex world and moreover, for understanding of the interconnectedness within social-ecological resilience. He emphasized the importance of a whole-university approach to resilience as a research-education-societal impact living laboratory and universities’ potential of promoting critical relational way of thinking and doing. More information: ResilienceTalks, <https://www.oulu.fi/en/research/biodiverse->

[arctic-and-global-resilience/frontiers-arctic-and-global-resilience-front/resilience-academy-oulu-rao](https://www.oulu.fi/en/research/biodiverse-arctic-and-global-resilience/frontiers-arctic-and-global-resilience-front/resilience-academy-oulu-rao) and Exploring resilience (blogs) <https://www.oulu.fi/en/blogs/exploring-resilience>

References

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Arjen Wals during his lecture, source: © Anniina Keiskander