

CV

July 2025

Name and titles

Maria Ojala

Full Professor of socio-ecological resilience, University of Oulu (from August 1, 2024 – December 31, 2026 80%, leave of absence 20%, thereafter 100%)

Associate Professor (Docent) of psychology, Örebro University (20% from August 1, 2024 to December 31, 2026)

Affiliation

Primary affiliation:

Frontiers of Arctic and Global Resilience (FRONT)

Faculty of Education and Psychology

University of Oulu

Oulu, Finland

e-mail: maria.ojala@oulu.fi

Secondary affiliation:

School of Law, Psychology, and Social Work (psychology)

Örebro University

Örebro, Sweden

e-mail: maria.ojala@oru.se

Research groups and networks

Frontiers of Arctic and Global Resilience (FRONT), University of Oulu, Finland

Center for Environmental and Sustainability Social Science (CESSS), Örebro University

COST Action network: Climate Change impact on mental health in Europe (CliMent)

Center for Lifespan Development Research (LEADER)

CSSN scholar: The Climate Social Science Network. Brown University, USA

Academic degree

1999 Master of Social Science, Psychology, Lund University, Sweden (including courses in political science, sociology, economics, business economics, statistics, informatics).

Doctoral degree

2007 PhD in Psychology, Örebro University, Sweden. *Hope and worry: Exploring young people's values, emotions, and behavior regarding global environmental problems.*

Post doc

2009 Feb - 2011 Aug Position as Postdoc, Örebro University (70%, research, 30% teaching)

Docent

2016 April Associate Professor (docent) in psychology, Örebro University.
After an evaluation of two external reviewers.

Current employment/s

2024 Aug - Full Professor in socio-ecological resilience, University of Oulu
(leave of absence 2024-2026 20%)

2016 Nov - Senior lecturer/Associate Professor in psychology (permanent
position), Örebro University (leave of absence 2024-2026 80%)

Other employments (after doctoral exam)

2015 Senior lecturer in psychology, Linnaeus University (permanent
position, first leave of absence during the fall of 2015, thereafter,
declined due to acceptance of another position)

2011 Sep- 2016 Oct Position as Assistant Professor (Forskarassistenttjänst), Uppsala
University, Department of Education (80% research, 20%
teaching)

2007 Aug –Oct, Dec Researcher, Örebro University

2008 Jan – 2008 Feb Researcher, VTI, Linköping

2008 April - 2009 Feb Researcher, Örebro University

Visiting scholar

Stanford Center on Adolescence, Stanford University, USA November 2007

University of Nottingham, Department of Education, England, April 2018

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA, Combined program in psychology and education,
November 2018

The Royal Swedish Academy of Science, Stockholm, Sweden, The Anthropocene Lab.
October 2024.

The Institute for Future Studies, Stockholm, May 2025.

Leadership experience

2024 Nov – 2025 May

Member of management group of GEGS (Global Education and Gender Studies), Faculty of
Education and Psychology, University of Oulu, Finland

2024 Oct –

Member of the Management Committee of the COST Action (representing Sweden) Climate
Change impact on mental health in Europe (ClimMent). Funded by the European cooperation in
Science & Technology

2020 Aug – 2024 July

Research director for the Center for Environmental and Sustainability Social Science
(CESSS) at Örebro University (together with Ass Prof Karin Gustafsson and to June 2023 Ass
Prof Erik Hysing).

2012-2014 Coordinator of seminar series about Values, Education, and Learning, Department of Education, Uppsala University. Including guest visits and lectures by, for example, Hans Joas, Professor in sociology, Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies (FRIAS), Germany and Janet Swim, Professor in Psychology, Penn State University, USA.

2008 April -- Principal investigator for nine externally financed research projects

2009 Aug -- Main responsibility and course development – courses in social psychology, qualitative methodology, climate change education, psychology and sustainable development. Also responsible for one of three subparts of the PhD-course “Research communication” (HT2021 and VT 2023), commissioned by the Swedish research council VR.

Administrative assignments

Faculty board committee for research and doctoral education, member. Örebro University Spring 2023—Spring 2024

Awards and rankings

Ranked among the world’s top 2% scientist, Stanford/Elsevier Ranking 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020

Chosen by the Vice Chancellor at Örebro university (March 2021), after a nomination process, as one of two individual Kove-fellows 2021-2022 (Kove=Coordinated research support for higher scientific goals)

Top reviewer award for 2021 for reviews in the Journal Child and Adolescent Mental Health

2022 Editor's Choice, Journal of Environmental Psychology for the article Ogunbode et als Climate anxiety, wellbeing and pro-environmental action

Ranked as number 38, in the category psychology and education, in the journal Fokus ranking of Swedish researchers (based on a citation analysis), Fall 2019

Nominated and selected as one of Sweden’s 100 “coolest” researchers in relation to “The scientific festival in Gothenburg” (<http://vetenskapsfestivalen.se/filmer/>). In an interview for children. 2018.

Brief overview of teaching experience (excluding supervision of theses)

Teaching at basic and advanced level

Örebro University (2004-2011, 2016--2024): Lectures, seminars, workshops, problem-based learning, course responsibility and examination in social psychology, positive psychology, qualitative methods, personality psychology, critical investigation methodology for social workers, scientific perspectives in psychology, developmental psychology, environmental psychology at the program for teacher education, psychology and sustainability (developed the course from the ground).

Uppsala University, Department of Education (2012-2016): Lectures, seminars, workshops, course responsibility and examination. Child- and youth studies, climate-change education, developmental psychology, quantitative methods, and qualitative methods at the teacher education program.

Karolinska Institute, Sweden (2013--2022): Yearly lecture about climate change and psychology

Åbo Akademi, Finland (2022--2025): Yearly lecture about Climate-change psychology

University of Oulu, Finland (Fall 2024 --). Lectures on courses in: Human Development and Learning; Psychology of Wellbeing and Health; Intercultural Education, Social Justice and Sustainability. Supervision of doctoral and master's students.

Teaching at postgraduate level

University of Oulu

Planning and coordination of PhD-course about multidisciplinary perspectives on resilience. Lectures, seminar and examination (Ht 2024-VT 2025)

Örebro University:

Responsible for one of three subparts of the PhD-course “Research communication”, lectures, seminar, and examination (developed the course from the ground) (2021, 2023)

Examiner of higher seminar course for doctoral students in psychology (2021)

Lecture and seminar about research communication in an overarching doctoral student course at Örebro university (Prof Magnus Boström responsible for the course), HT 2020

Lecture for doctoral students in media and communication about emotions and cognition (2004)

Uppsala University:

Responsible and examiner for the doctoral course “Emotions and coping” (2013)

Lecture for doctoral students in human geography about “Klimatfrågans psykologiska dimensioner – implikationer för undervisning” (2013)

Lectures in higher education pedagogy (for other university lecturers)

Örebro University: Lecture and seminar about emotions and education for sustainable development in higher education (2020, 2021)

Supervisor of BA and MA theses

In total 30 theses in psychology, education, and sustainable development at Uppsala University and Örebro University (to spring 2024), including a master's thesis at the university of Berkley, 2021

Externally and internally financed research projects/grants as principal investigator, main applicant

2023 (2023-2026)

Continuing financing for strategic research environment: “CESSS”. In total **560 000 SEK**. PI: Maria Ojala, Erik Hysing and Karin Gustafsson (after external reviews)

2021 (2022-2026)

“What role does climate change worry play in young people’s life and learning processes? A longitudinal study about protective and transformational factors and implications for climate change education.” Grant from the Swedish Research Council **VR**. Main applicant: Maria Ojala. **5 954 500 SEK**.

2021 (2022-2025)

”To trust or not to trust? Youth’s attitudes, emotions, and trust in climate change science” Grant from the Swedish Research Council **Forté**. Main applicant: Maria Ojala. **3 945 021 SEK**. Co-applicant Karin Gustafsson

2020 (2021-2023)

Financing for strategic research environment: “CESSS”. In total **3 000 000 SEK**. PI: Maria Ojala, Erik Hysing och Karin Gustafsson (in competition with over 20 research environments and after external reviews)

2018 (2019-2021)

Preconditions for communication about healthy and sustainable food with youth. As PI. Postdoc project financed by Örebro University. Collaborators: Postdoc, Malin Anniko.

2017 (2018-2022)

Prefiguring sustainable futures through food activism: How young people deal with border tensions between the sustainable and unsustainable in everyday life. Grant from the Swedish Research Council **Formas**. Main applicant: Maria Ojala. **2 999 899 SEK**.

2017

How do climate change scientists cope with their work? Grant from The Swedish Research Council **VR**, for a research visit to Örebro University in Nov-Dec 2017 for doctoral student Jeffrey Swofford, Arizona State University, **55 380 SEK**

2012 (2013-2014)

Grant for seminar series: Values, Education and learning. Grant from **Forum för ämnesdidaktiska studier**, Uppsala University. Main applicant: Maria Ojala: Co-applicants: Prof. Carl Reinhold Bråkenhielm, Dr Ulrika Svalfors. **116 800 SEK**

2010 (2011-2016)

Young people’s communication with parents, friends, and teachers about global environmental problems: Emotions, coping, and self-efficacy. Four years position as Assistant Professor financed by the Swedish Research Council. **Formas**. **3 916 000 SEK**. PI: Maria Ojala

2009 (2009-2010)

Children’s attitudes and emotions concerning global environmental problems. **Swedish Energy Agency**. **360 500 SEK**. PI: Maria Ojala

2007 (2008-2012)

Learning about global environmental problems: Emotional aspects, emotion regulation, and a sense of purpose among children, adolescents, and young adults. The National Council for Environmental Research **Formas**. **1 293 300 SEK**. PI: Maria Ojala

2007 (2008-2010) Coping with ambivalence: Young adults' attitudes and behavior regarding energy saving in the household. **Gothenburg Energy Research Foundation. 916 981 SEK.** PI: Maria Ojala.

Research projects (as participant) (after doctoral exam)

2025 (2025-2030) "Youth perceptions of climate change and pro-environmental behaviors: The role of attachment theory and parent-child discussions". **SSHRC Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. PI: Professor Jean-Francois Bureau.** Co-applicant as international collaborator Maria Ojala. 360 000 Canadian dollars.

2024 (2024-2028)

European network: COST-action: Climate change and mental health. **PI: Francesco Sampaio,** Portugal. Swedish representative in the management committee: Maria Ojala

2024 (2024-2027)

Climate Mental Health Research Initiative: Urgently Accelerating Climate Mental Health Research & Equity through Global Networks. **New Frontiers in Research Fund. 2023 International Joint Initiative for Research in Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Around 30,6 million SEK. PI Professor Sherilee Harper,** University of Alberta, School of Public Health, Canada. **Co-applicant: Maria Ojala**

2024 (2024-2025)

Sea stories of Hope. **Nordic Working Group for Oceans and Coastal Areas (NHK), Nordic Council of Ministers.** Around **870 000 SEK.** PI Tuula Sarvas Skarstein, Associate professor in Science Education, University of Stavanger. **Co-applicant: Maria Ojala**

2019 (2019-2021)

Investigating associations between Media Exposure, Climate Anxiety and Mental Health (MECAMH). As participant. Together with researchers in Norway, Germany, and England. **Principal Investigator: Dr Charles A. Ogunbode,** University of Nottingham.

2017 (2018-2022)

Sedvänjor att undervisa om kontroversiella hållbarhetsfrågor och elevernas lärande. Financed by the Swedish Research Council, **VR.** PI: Professor Leif Östman, Uppsala University (from August 2018, one month in total).

2015 (2016-2018)

Mobility, informal learning and citizenship in mobile preschools. Financed by The Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences (**RJ**) and Swedish Research Council, **VR.** 2016. PIs: Associate professor Danielle van der Burgt and Associate Professor Katarina Gustafson, Uppsala University (two months in total).

2013 (2013-2014)

How people experienced a large-scale control of mosquitoes in their community. Financed by **The County Administrative Board** in Gävleborg, 2013-2014 (two months in total for me). PI: Professor Rolf Lidskog, Örebro University.

2010 (2011-2014)

Preconditions of environmental moral learning within education for sustainable development: A multidisciplinary study of young Swedes attitudes, commitments and actions. Swedish Research Council, **VR**. PI: Associate Professor Lena Molin, Uppsala University (not employed but collaboration with my own projects)

2008 (2009-2010)

Political Socialization and Human Agency: The Development of Civic Engagement from Adolescence to Young Adulthood. **Riksbankens Jubileumsfond**. 2009. PIs: Professors Erik Amnå, Håkan Stattin, Margaret Kerr, Mats Ekström, Örebro University (I was not employed in this project, but collaboration with my own projects)

2006 (2007-2008)

Processionary Moth Governance. When, why and how should society intervene in natural biological systems? The National Council for Environmental Research, **Formas**. PIs: Prof. Rolf Lidskog, Örebro University, and Prof. Stig Larsson, SLU, Uppsala. (four months in total)

Research projects (before doctoral exam)

2005

En djupstudie av ovilliga och villiga medborgare och plaståtervinning. Grant from **Plastkretsen Research Foundation**. **620 000 SEK**. PI: Prof. Birgitta Höjjer, Örebro University.

Travel grants and smaller research grants

In total **255 100 SEK** from for instance Lars Hierta Memorial Foundation, Formas, and Naturvårdsverket

Assignment as reviewer - journals and books

Reviewer of 86 articles for: Journal of Environmental Psychology (16); Environmental Education Research (15), International Journal of Environmental and Science Education (8), Climatic Change (4), Global Environmental Change (3), Environment and Behavior (2), Futures (2), Child and Adolescent Mental Health (2), Environmental Communication (2), Frontiers in Psychology, Environmental psychology (2), Journal of Environmental Education (2), Journal of Cleaner Production (1), Communications: The European Journal of Communication Research (1), European Psychologist (1), Mobilization (1), Public Understanding of Science (1), Journal of Applied Social Psychology (1); Journal of Youth Studies (2), Weather, Climate and Society (1), European Environment (1), Utbildning och Demokrati (2), WIREs Climate Change (1); Children, Youth, Environment (1), Risk Analysis (1), Natural Hazards (1), European Journal of Social Psychology (1), Geoforum (1), Society & Natural Resources (1), Political Psychology (1) The Lancet Planetary Health (1) International Journal of Behavioral Development (1), Journal of Adolescence (1), Area (1), Journal of Anxiety Disorder (1), Heilyon (1), International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction (1), American Psychologist (1)

Books: Reviewer De Gruyter

Assignment as reviewer – conferences

Reviewer of paper proposals for the 9th biennial conference on Environmental Psychology, Eindhoven, the Netherlands, 2011 and for the 10th biennial conference on Environmental Psychology, Magdeburg, Germany, 2013.

Reviewer of paper proposals for ECER2020 (European Conference on Educational Research), Glasgow (the conference was thereafter cancelled due to Covid-19).

Reviewer of paper proposals for ECP 2022. European Congress of Psychology, Slovenia, July 2022.

Reviewer of paper proposals for AIS2025, University of Oulu, Oulu, Finland, June 2025.

Assignment as reviewer - research councils

Swiss National Science Foundation, Reviewer of research application

The Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO), Reviewer of research application

REWIRE Programme at University of Vienna, Austria, Post-doc application

Independent Social Research Foundation, England, Reviewer of research application

Israeli Science Foundation (ISF), Reviewer of two research applications

The European Commission, in collaboration with the NORFACE network, Reviewer research applications

Leibniz Collaborative Excellence, Leibniz Association, Germany. Reviewer of research application

Part of Editorial Board:

Editorial Board

Journal of Environmental Psychology (Sep 2025-)

Editorial board (review)

International Journal of Environmental and Science Education (2013-2016)

Frontiers in Psychology, Environmental psychology (2016-2021)

Member of advisory group and scientific committees

Member of scientific advisory board for the SUSTEMO project. Finance by the Research Foundation Flanders. The project is led by Katrien van Poeck, Ghent University, Belgium. 2024-2027

Member of scientific advisory board for the project: Children's Green Transition Citizenship. Financed by Danmarks Frie Forskningsfond. The project is led by Professor Hanne Warming, Roskilde University, Denmark. 2023-

Member of scientific advisory board for the project: "Klimatkänslor och affektiva dilemman: En psykologisk och filosofisk studie av deras normativa principer och av allmänhetens

uppfattningar” Financed by Formas 2023-2026. The project is led by Kirsti Jylhä, PhD in psychology, and Julia Mosquera, PhD in philosophy, at the Institute of Future Studies.

Member of COP2 (Care of People x Planet), European Regional Hub. From Fall 2022-

Expert advisor for Mind, a Swedish civic society organization aimed at supporting people with mental health problems. 2022.

Expert advisor for the project “Use your influence – Från köphets till slutet kret”. Grant from Allmänna Arvsfonden to the organization Fair Action. 4 689 801 kr. 2022-2023

Member of scientific advisory board for the project: CCC-CATAPULT project (Challenging the Climate Crisis: Empowering Children’s Agency to Tackle Policy Underpinned by Learning for Transformation). PI: Prof. Lindsey McEwen, Bristol University, UK. Financed by JPI Climate (Joint Programming Initiative "Connecting Climate Knowledge for Europe). 2021-2023

Co-arranger of an internal research conference about sustainability research at Örebro University, November 2021. Arranged by ORU-PSF

Advisory board for UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development (MGIEP). Providing help in launching a course in climate-change education. Fall, 2020

Member of scientific advisory board for the project: Climate-savvy? A project that captures student's commitment for sustainable lifestyles. PI: Dr Erik Sterner, Gothenburg University, Gothenburg. Financed by Formas. 2020-2021

Member of scientific committee for the international conference: "Anticipation and Anticipatory Systems: Humans Meet Artificial Intelligence", Örebro University, 10-13 June, 2019

Member of the working group/advisory group of the course “Actors And Strategies For Change” at CEMUS a student driven educational center with the explicit ambition to contribute to a more just and sustainable world, Uppsala University, SLU - Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Fall 2014 and Fall 2015.

Supervisor of postgraduate students and postdoctoral research fellows

Main supervisor of doctoral student, Sonja Palmo, psychology, University of Oulu, September 2024-

Main supervisor of doctoral student, Amanda Rikner Martinsson, psychology, Örebro University, September 2022-

Supervisor of Anna Pettersson, Social and economic geography, Uppsala University, 2012-2014 September (lic exam in June 2014). *De som Inte kan Simma Kommer nog att dö!*” *En Studie om Barns Tankar och Känslor Rörande Klimatförändringarna*. Uppsala: Uppsala Universitet, Forskarskolan i Geografi.

Co-supervisor of Salla Veijonaho, doctoral student in developmental psychology, Department of Education, Helsinki University, Finland, Fall 2021-Expected PhD-exam late Fall 2025

Part of doctoral committee/ co-supervisor, Tamara Hoffmann, doctoral student in psychology, Catholic University of Chile, Chile. Spring 2024—

Member of doctoral committee, Valpuri Ketola, doctoral student in theology, University of Helsinki, Finland, Fall 2025--

Part of doctoral committee/ co-supervisor, Jeffrey A. Swofford, School of Sustainability, Arizona State University, USA, 2016- (interrupted studies in 2019)

Supporting supervisor for doctoral student during visit at Örebro University, April – June 2019. Moritz Gubler, University for Teacher Education Bern and the University of Bern, Switzerland

PI of postdoctoral project Malin Anniko, PhD in psychology, Örebro University. 2019-2021

Supporting supervisor for postdoctoral researcher during visit at Örebro University, November – December 2021. Marlis Wullenkord, PhD in psychology, University of Greifswald, Germany

Supporting supervisor for doctoral student during visit at Örebro University, September to November 2022, Teresa Pereira University of Minoh, Braga, Portugal

Faculty opponent of doctoral theses

Opponent (first) and examination board of Hanna Pauliina Røkenes' doctoral thesis in environmental education. Oslo University, Oslo, Norway. August 2025

Opponent and examination board of Sian Duncan's doctoral thesis in psychology. Department of Psychology, University of Bath, UK, January 2025

Opponent (first) and examination board of Michalina Marczak's doctoral thesis in environmental psychology. NTNU: Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim, Norway. April 2024

Faculty opponent of Sara Ekholm's doctoral thesis in environmental sociology, Mid University, Sweden, June 9, 2023.

Faculty opponent of Mattias Holmgren's doctoral thesis in environmental psychology, Gävle Högskola, April 2020."A negative footprint illusion in environmental impact estimates"

Part of examination jury/board (one of four opponents) for Hayley Pearce doctoral dissertation in communication science, Ghent University, Belgium. February 14, 2022 (internal defence), and March 11, 2022 (external defence).

Part of examination boards for doctoral theses

Part of examination jury/board for Sanna Ahvenharju's doctoral dissertation in Future Studies, at University of Turku, Finland. External defence. June 10, 2022

Part of examination jury/board for Hayley Pearce doctoral dissertation in communication science, Ghent University, Belgium. February 14, 2022 (internal defence), external defence March 11, 2022

Part of examination board for Sara Thunberg's doctoral thesis in social work, Örebro University, June 2020. "Victimization, Positioning, and Support: Young Victims' Experiences of Crime"

Part of examination board for Sara Edlund's doctoral thesis in psychology, Örebro University, November 2017. "Calm down: strategies for emotion regulation in clinical practice"

Reviewer of theses at a postgraduate level

External reviewer of Sanna Ahvenharju's doctoral dissertation in Future Studies, at University of Turku, Finland. Final check before the defence of thesis. Spring 2022.

External reviewer of Kerstin Weimer's doctoral thesis in psychology (50%), Mid Sweden University, Sweden. Fall 2017.

External reviewer of Kirsti Jylhä's doctoral thesis in psychology (50%), Uppsala University, Sweden. 2015.

External reviewer of Teresa Berglund's licentiat thesis in education, (90%), Karlstad University, Sweden. Spring 2014

Internal reviewer of Tomas Torbjörnsson's doctoral thesis in education (90%). Uppsala University, Sweden. 2014.

Final reviewer of MA thesis in sustainability science, Uppsala University, 2015

Reviewer of (sakkunnig) candidates to academic positions

Reviewer of candidates to a senior lecturer position in psychology. Högskolan i Kristianstad, Sweden, 2019-2020 (the position was withdrawn in a late stage)

Reviewer of candidates to a senior lecturer position in psychology. Högskolan i Kristianstad, Sweden, 2022 (June 15-Sep 15) and 2023

Presentations at external scientific seminars (invited)

Hope and worry: Young people's values, emotions, and behavior regarding global environmental problems. The Center on Adolescence Colloquium Series, Stanford University, USA. November 2007

Ungas tankar, känslor och beteende angående globala miljöproblem. Seminar series at the Department of Psychology, Lund University. March 2010.

Young people and global climate change: Emotions, coping, and emotion socialization processes. Workshop Barndom i tid och rum. Uppsala University. September 2013.

Learning to regulate climate change related emotions: Implications for environmental efficacy and pro-environmental actions. TRUST. Uppsala transdisciplinary seminar in sustainable

development. Uppsala University. November 2013.

Young people and global climate change: Emotions, coping, and everyday engagement. Seminar series at the Department of Social and Economic Geography, Uppsala University. September 28, 2015

Unga och klimatfrågan: Om vikten att inkludera emotionella aspekter i utbildning för en hållbar framtid. Högre seminarium i Ämnesdidaktik och Utbildningsvetenskap med inriktning mot praktiska kunskapstraditioner. CESAM, Stockholm University. 16 March 2016.

Känslor, värden och utbildning för en hållbar framtid: Att främja en kritisk känslokompetens i klimatundervisning. Seminarium vid det didaktiska forskarnätverket: Hållbar samhällsutveckling. Örebro Universitet. December 3, 2019

How do young people cope with climate change? Implications for communication and education about sustainability challenges. **Centrum för hav och samhälle, University of Gothenburg**, February 21, 2020

Seminar at School of Education and Environment, Man and Biosphere Health Research Group, Kristianstad University, 28 April, 2020 (**cancelled due to Covid-19**)

“Climate change psychology – facing difficult emotions in relation to complex sustainability problems.” Lecture for students and seminar for teachers, **Campus Gotland, Uppsala University, Sweden**, September 9, 2020

”Att främja en kritisk känslokompetens i utbildning för hållbar utveckling”
Seminar at SLU (Swedish Agricultural University), Uppsala, October 1, 2020.

“Hope in the face of climate change: Wishful thinking or an existential must?”. Seminar at **Institutet för Framtidsstudier (Institute for Future Studies), Stockholm**, March 30, 2022

“Climate-change worry: Wellbeing and engagement” Seminar at the **Behaviour and Evolution Research Group (Berg) University of Stirling, Stirling, Scotland**; March 29, 2023

“Young people and climate change; Communication, emotions, and coping.” Seminar. **SLU, Uppsala, Climate Change Communication Research Group**, May 17, 2023.

Workshop about emotions and education. “Affective Pedagogies in a Warming World” June 13-14, 2023, Gothenburg University, Sweden. Invited by Professor Keri Facer.

Workshop about “The empirics of hope”. Organized by the Anthropocene Laboratory at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences in Stockholm, Sweden. November 6-8, 2023. Invited by Prof Henrik Österblom and Prof Carl Folke

Comments on Professor Arjen Wals’ presentation, “Transformative learning on a dying planet – is there (any) hope?”, University of Oulu, Finland, April 10, 2024 (commentator)

Climate change worry among adolescents: Associations with climate-change engagement, mental wellbeing, and possible resilience factors. Presentation at the Science seminar series at

the **Department of Natural Sciences (including environmental psychology), Gävle Högskola**, May 22, 2024

Invited seminar at **Stockholm Resilience Center**, How2Be: eco-anxiety seminar, October 18, 2024. “Eco-anxiety and climate-change worry: Using “critical emotional awareness” to promote wellbeing, civic engagement, and hope?”

Invited seminar at **Forum ESD, PHBern, Bern, Switzerland**, October 24, 2024. Title of the presentation: “Promoting hope in education for a sustainable future”

November 25, 2024. “Hope and resilience in a time of climate and sustainability crisis”.
Brown Bag Seminar, University of Oulu.

Invited to the **2024 SCU Faculty of Education Dean’s Keynote Series** on Disrupting and transforming education and research that inspires and changes lives for a sustainable future, **Southern Cross University, Australia**. December 12, 2024. Title of presentation: “Climate-change hope through facing anxiety and ambivalence: Implications for education for a sustainable future”

March 5, 2025. Presentation **Danish Institute for Advanced Studies, Syddansk Universitet, Odense, Denmark**. “In defense of hope in an age of climate upheaval: Theoretical and empirical considerations”

May 23, 2025: Presentation at a lunch seminar at the **Faculty of Medicine, University of Oulu, Finland**. “Young people and climate change: Identifying resilience factors for subjective wellbeing and climate engagement”

May 27, 2025. Presentation at lunch seminar at **WomHer, Uppsala University’s Center for Women’s Health, Uppsala University, Sweden**. “Young people and climate-change worry: Relations to mental wellbeing and climate engagement”

November 20, 2025. Online seminar series on Emotions, Activism, and Social Change, **UNAM (National Autonomous University of Mexico), Mexico City, Mexico**. “Climate concern and hope: learning from psychology”

Invited keynote presentations international and national conferences

Invited keynote speaker at Portuguese National Congress of Psychiatry 2026, Convento de São Francisco, Coimbra, Portugal, November 25-28. My presentation: “Navigating Climate Anxiety: Hope, Agency, and the Emotional Lives of Young People”

Invited keynote speaker at EMESER’s (Emotions in Environmental and Sustainability Education Research), WERA, first online Symposium. April 10, 2025. “Critical emotional awareness: On the importance of combining psychological emotion theories and critical approaches when taking account of emotions in ESE”

Invited keynote speaker at the Slovenian Psychology Association’s conference. November 18, 2023.

My presentation: Climate-change hope among young people: Relations to mental wellbeing and climate-change engagement (online prerecorded presentation due to illness)

Keynote at the workshop: Advancing Strong Sustainability in the Nordic Social Science and Humanities” (StrongSSH). Örebro University, Sweden. October 4, 2023.

My presentation: Climate-change worry and eco-anxiety: How can we cope to promote wellbeing, civic engagement, and hope?

Invited speaker at keynote symposium at the online conference Society for Environmental, Population, and Conservation Psychology (Division 34 of the American Psychological Association). October 19-20, 2023

Invited keynote speaker at the conference "Living with Climate Change", University of Bergen, Bergen, Norway, 8th-9th May 2023.

My presentation: Young people’s coping in the face of climate change: On the importance of meaning-focused coping, dialectical thinking, and defiant hope

Invited keynote speaker at the Swedish Network in Environmental Psychology’s yearly conference, Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden, 10-11 November, 2022.

My presentation: Hope and climate-change engagement from a psychological perspective

Invited closing keynote speaker at The 5th edition of the Polish Scientific Networks Conference (PSN 2022). Climate Change: Science and Society. Wroclaw, Poland, 28-30 September 2022.

My presentation: Hope in the face of climate change: Wishful thinking or a precondition for sustainability transformation?

Invited keynote speaker at the ECP 2022. The 17th European Congress of Psychology. 5-8 July, Ljubljana, Slovenia.

My presentation: How do young people cope with climate change and how do they deal with sustainability conflicts? Implications for wellbeing and climate engagement

Invited keynote speaker at the 2021EADP summer tour. An online conference arranged by the European Association for Developmental Psychology. September 3, 2021 (online due to Covid-19).

My presentation: Young people and climate change: Implications for developmental psychology and youth research

Invited keynote speaker: EwS 2020: The 2nd international Education With Sustainability Conference, Mid Sweden University, Sweden, August 13, 2020 (online due to Covid-19).

My presentation: Promoting critical emotional awareness in education for sustainable development

Invited keynote speaker: The 10th conference of INCHES (International Conference on Children's Health and the Environment), 22-24 April 2020, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. **Cancelled due to Covid-19.**

Invited keynote speaker: The Rovaniemi Arctic Spirit Conference. Climate change and the future generations. 12-13 November 2019, University of Lapland, Rovaniemi, Finland
My presentation: Hope and worry: Young people's engagement concerning climate change

Invited keynote speaker: 13 th Congress of European Forest pedagogy network, TOGETHER – How to involve children and teenagers in decision making, planning and learning, 2 – 5 October, 2018 Pudasjärvi, Finland, October 4.

My presentation: 'Emotional aspects in forest-related education for sustainable development: Young people's emotions, coping strategies and engagement.'

Invited plenary speaker at the mini conference: SIG COSER (Challenges of Sustainability in Educational Research). Oslo University, Oslo, Norway, March 20, 2018

My presentation: Hope and worry in education for a sustainable future: On the importance of critical emotional awareness.

Invited presentations and panel discussions at international conferences

Invited presentation: "Engaging Youth in Sustainable Actions: Insights from How Youth Thinks, Feels, and Acts on Climate Change" as an invited speaker at the Symposium on Bridging Environment, Health, and Sustainable Solutions, held as part of the Global Virtual Exchange Summit 2025 at Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong (online presentation). July 8, 2025.

Invited to take part of a panel discussion about: "Interdisciplinary sustainability and resilience research in the age of Anthropocene" at the 47th Association for Interdisciplinary Studies Conference, University of Oulu and Oulu University of Applied Sciences, Finland, June 4, 2025.

Invited to take part of a panel discussion about: "Climate change and cognitive science" at the Swe Cog 2024 conference Stockholm University, Sweden, October 10-11, 2024

Invited to take part of the panel discussion about: "What can various generations learn from each other in matters regarding a climate-friendly lifestyle?" at the conference "Living with Climate Change", University of Bergen, Bergen, Norway, 8th-9th May 2023.

Panel discussion at the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development. May 18, 2021. Organizers: UNESCO and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research of Germany. Online/virtual conference. Together with Professor Heila Lotz-Sisitka, Stanley T Asah, and Anantha Duraiappah, director UNESCO

Invited speaker at the conference "Hope and Well-Being: During Times of Stress, COVID-19, and Beyond". Institute for Hope Research at the Peres Academic Center, Rehovot, Israel, February, 23, 2021 (online due to Covid-19).

My presentation: Hope and global climate change

Invited speaker at: Danish Psychological Association's Conference 2020. Copenhagen, Denmark, September, 19, 2020 (online due to Covid-19).

My presentation: How do young people cope with climate change?

Panel discussion: The Rovaniemi Arctic Spirit Conference. Climate change and the future generations. 12-13 November 2019, University of Lapland, Rovaniemi, Finland

With the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change of Finland, Krista Mikkonen and active Arctic Youth representatives. Panel was moderated by researcher Gosia Smieszek.

Part of invited symposium: Young people and climate change. Together with Prof. Katariina Salmela-Aro (chair), and Prof. Daniel Hanss at EARA 2020, 2-5 September, 2020, Porto, Portugal (online conference due to Covid-19, Sep 3).

My presentation: Ambivalence about climate friendly food choices and coping among late adolescents

Part of invited symposium: 'Supporting Children and Youth Across the Globe in Addressing the Climate Crisis' Together with Prof. Ann Sanson (chair), Prof. Constance Flanagan, and Dr Padilla, at the ISSBD 2020, 21-25 June, Rhodes, Greece (cancelled due to Covid-19).

My presentation: Food as a form of climate activism: How young people deal with border tensions between the sustainable and unsustainable in everyday life

Part of invited symposium: 'Climate change and young people: Implications for human development.' Together with Prof. Ann Sanson (chair), Prof. Susan Clayton, and Dr Susie Burke, at the ISSBD 2018, 15-19 July, Gold Coast, Australia.

My presentation: 'Being young in a time of climate change: Coping strategies, communication patterns, engagement, and subjective wellbeing.'

Part of research panel discussing the topic "The existential issues of children and youth when facing contemporary challenges" at the international conference "Existential questions in research and education". Together with Gunnar, J. Gunnarsson, Robert Jackson, and Eva Alerby. Sigtuna, Sweden, October 27-29, 2016.

Bibliometrics

Scopus H-factor 20, Google scholar H-factor 32, 7614 citations.

According to a bibliometric report created as part of the KOVE-program (which I was selected to in the spring of 2021 by the Vice Chancellor) two of my articles are among the 1% highest cited in my research field, and over half are among the 10% most cited.

Other scientific merits

Coordinator of a seminar series: "Values, Education and Learning". Department of Education, Uppsala University. Sponsored by Forum för ämnesdidaktiska studier, Uppsala University. 2013-2014

Coordinator of a seminar in environmental psychology, MTM Research Centre, Örebro University. Fall 2003.

Chair for the session "Mediators of environmental conservation" at the 8th Biennial Conference on Environmental Psychology, Zürich, Switzerland, September 6-9, 2009.

Chair for the symposium "Young people and climate change engagement" (together with Cecilia Bergstad, Gothenburg University), IAPS 2016, Lund, Sweden, June 28- July 1, 2016.

Chair for the session Climate change education at ATEE2018, Gävle, Sweden, August, 2018.

Media attention

Over 120 articles focusing on my research (interviews) published in newspapers and magazines (see <https://www.linkedin.com/feed/> for more specific content of some recent articles)

Some examples:

June 2025 American Psychology Association's magazine Monitor of Psychology [Helping youth move from climate anxiety to climate action](#)

May 2025: [Climate Anxiety in 2025 | Understanding the Crisis & How to Cope](#)

DagensPS December 20, 2024 <https://www.dagensps.se/varlden/klimat/barnen-tappar-hoppet-om-klimatet/>

Forskning.se <https://www.forskning.se/2024/12/13/klimatoro-kbt/>

Noema Magazine October 16, 2024, <https://www.noemamag.com/its-time-to-give-up-hope-for-a-better-climate-get-heroic/>

Newsday, June 26, 2024

The Scientific Observer, Issue 35 (May 2024)

Ämnesläraren, April 12, 2024

Newsweek October 9, 2023

Kalw Aug 23, 2023 <https://www.kalw.org/podcast/tbh-made-by-about-and-for-teenagers/2023-08-23/conquering-climate-apocalypse-fatigue>

Ground report Aug 23, 2023 <https://groundreport.in/climate-change-is-making-you-anxious-experts-way-to-cope-with-it/>

EducationWeek, June 26, 2023 <https://www.edweek.org/teaching-learning/opinion-how-to-teach-students-about-climate-change-without-giving-them-eco-anxiety/2023/06>

Stern May 31, 2023

Harvard Medicine Magazine, May 2023

Weekendavisen, Denmark, Feb 4, 2023

Večer (Slovenian newspaper), Sept, 2022, <https://moj.vecer.com/slovenija/skrbi-otrok-povezane-s-podnebnimi-spremembami-jemljimo-resno-10295834>

Die Zeit (online), May 9, 2022, <https://www.zeit.de/2022/19/klimawandel-kinder-belastung-psychologie-familie>

InSight+, Swiss blog, April 4, 2022. <https://insightplus.mja.com.au/2022/12/no-mental-health-without-planetary-health/>

The Good Man Project, March 2022 <https://goodmenproject.com/featured-content/three-ways-to-help-children-channel-climate-change-anxiety-into-positive-action/>

Natursidan: January, 21, 2022 <https://www.natursidan.se/nyheter/mote-mellan-elever-och-forskare-ska-minska-klimatoro/>

Ecoavant.com Dec 10, 2021 https://www.ecoavant.com/salud/ecoansiedad-afecta-cambio-climatico-nuestra-salud-mental_7477_102.html

El Tiempo, Colombia. Dec 7, 2021. <https://www.eltiempo.com/vida/medio-ambiente/ecoansiedad-asi-afecta-el-cambio-climatico-a-nuestra-salud-mental-637405>

Spanish News in English Dec 4, 2021: <https://spainsnews.com/this-is-how-climate-change-affects-our-mental-health/>
Wired Dec 2, 2021, <https://www.wired.com/story/climate-change-anxiety-tips-maria-ojala/>
CIPER Chile October 10, 2021 <https://www.ciperchile.cl/2021/10/18/la-ecoansiedad-no-es-el-problema/>
JSTORE Daily Oct 2021
Västerbottens Kuriren 211001 (mentioning)
Knowable Magazine 2021-09-29
New York Times 2021-04-16
Dansk Psykolog Forenings Magasin P, Nr 6, 2021
Forum för Bioekonomi (VT 2021)
Extrakt Jan 14, 2021
Extrakt, Sept 24, (mentioning), dec (int) 2020
Skolportalen nr 4 2020
Allas, nr 10, 2020, feb 27
<https://nordkalottradet.org/>
bbc.com, January 10, 2020
Syre, December 2, 2019
Lapinkanska, Finland, Nov 19, 2019. <https://www.lapinkansa.fi>
Psychology Today (blog) (mentioning), Nov 4, 2019
New York Times, Oct 9, 2019
Article by TT, Sep 28, published in many Swedish newspapers like SvD, Sydsvenska Dagbladet, UNT, Eskilstuna-Kuriren, Folkbladet, NSD
LaRegion (Switzerland) Sep 20, 2019.
<https://www.laregione.ch/ticino7/ticino7/1392779/ecoansia-soffrire-con-il-pianeta>
Los Angeles Times Sep 19, 2019
Expressen 27 July 2019
Live Science 2 July 2019
Chef Nr 06/07 2019 (mentioning)
Nerikes Allehanda May 23, 2019
Expressen, debatt (mentioning), May 21, 2019
UNT May 12, 2019
Nya Wermlands-Tidningen May 7, 2019
Modern Psykologi, nr 4, 2019
SVT nyheter (www.svt.se), April 26, 2019
www.heavy.com, April 22, 2019
SvD ledare (mentioning), March 16
Hufvudsstadsbladet (Finland), March 11
Vasa Bladet (Finland), March 10
Gota Media (Kristianstadsbladet, Ystads Allehanda, Smålandsposten, Borås Tidning), March 9, 2019
Trouw, The Netherlands (March 1, 2019)
Svenska Dagbladet (SvD) (Feb 2019)
Dagens Nyheter (DN) (Feb 2019)
Pedagogiska magasinet (Feb 2019)
Scienceline (USA) (Jan 2019)
Boulder Daily Camera (Dec 2018)
Fokus (November 2018)
Psychology Today

New Scientist
Dagens Nyheter
DN Global
Svenska Dagbladet
Modern Psykologi
Göteborgsposten
The Ecologist
Lärarnas tidning
Sydsvenskan

18 interviews and mentioning in radio and television

Some examples:

NPR, USA, (October 24, 2019)
Studio Ett från Almedalen, P1, SR (July 3, 2019)
Eftermiddag i P4 Örebro, Sveriges Radio (SR) (March 21, 2019)
P1-morgon, Sveriges Radio (SR) (Feb 15, 2019)
Sisuradio, Sveriges Radio (SR) (Dec 8, 2018)
SVT, Lokala Nyheter Örebro (Nov 9, 2018)
Klotet, SR P1 (Sep 19, 2018)
Tvärsnytt, SVT (Nov 28, 2017)
Lärlabbet, Utbildningsradion (UR)
WLRN, Miami South Florida (radio)
P1-morgon, Sveriges radio (SR) P1
Skolministeriet Sveriges radio (SR) P1
Eftersnack Sveriges television (SVT)
Kossornas Planet Sveriges radio (SR) P4

Altmetric

Many of my published articles have high scores regarding Altmetrics, that is, how much they are noticed and mentioned in for example traditional media, social media, policy reports, Wikipedia and so on. For example, eight of my scientific articles are in the top 5% of all research outputs scored by Altmetric. Most of those that are scored in this system (not all are) are among the top 25% of all research outputs scored by Altmetric.

Invited popular scientific presentations/ public speaking

March 31, 2025. Young people and climate change: Identifying resilience factors that promote critical hope, engagement, and mental wellbeing. Presentation at the IES Lope de Vega high school in Madrid, Spain.

March 13, 2025. "Psychology and climate change". Talk to European high-school teachers at the GrACE – Green Europe: Active Citizenship and the Environment webinar.

March 10, 2025. Presentation and discussion about young people and climate change. At an expert meeting about child empowerment arranged by OECD, Luxemburg (online).

Nov 12, 2024. Panel discussion arranged by University of Oulu about the movie "After us, the flood!"

Nov 8, 2024. Commentator at the seminar with Professor C. Michael Hall: “Publishing in Interdisciplinary Journals on Sustainability and Resilience”, University of Oulu, Finland

October 10, 2024. “Cultivating Hope and Resilience in the Face of Climate Change: Future Visions, Pathways, and Agency Work”. Webinar arranged by The Climate Literacy and Energy Awareness Network (CLEAN) at University of Colorado Boulder and Carleton College, USA, October 10, 2024

June 21-22, 2024: Panel discussion about eco-anxiety at the “the Progressive Governance Summit” in Berlin. From Anxiety to Action: Empowering the Youth in the Fight Against the Climate Crisis and for Democracy” With Dominika Lasota, Greta Waltenberg, Joschka Knuth, Maria Ojala. Co-designed with Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung

February 7, 2024 “Hope and other climate-change emotions: How good are they in motivating an active and sustainable citizenship?” Online talk for Researchers’ desk.

November 28, 2023: Talk at a conference for teachers and school leaders arranged by Skolverket. Stockholm (and the same talk online in December 2023)

October 24, 2023. ”Klimatoro i klassrummet: Hur kan vi främja framtidstro, engagemang och psykiskt välbefinnande” Gävle municipality and The Global School. Online talk for teachers.

September 26, 2023 “Eco-anxiety and climate-change worry in the classroom: On the importance of critical emotional awareness. Online talk for a webinar about eco-anxiety arranged by the EU working group on learning for sustainability, the European Commission.

Jan 26, 2023 ”Att främja en kritisk känslokompetens i utbildning för hållbar utveckling” Seminar at Naturvetenskapligt och Samhällsvetenskapligt didaktiskt nätverk, Örebro Universitet.

Fall 2022 Invited by Grants office at Örebro University, as a representative for successful researcher regarding external financing, to talk about research applications to younger researchers

September 15 2022. “Klimathopp genom praktisk handling och en kritisk känslokompetens” Workshop and presentation for teachers (preschool to senior high school) at workshop arranged by Högskolan i Halmstad och Globala Skolan, Halmstad, Sweden

June 22, 2022 Part of panel discussion about emotions and climate change “Eco-anxiety and eco-emotions: an evening with leading scholars”, Helsinki, Finland. Together with Prof Susan Clayton, Dr Elin Kelsey, and Assoc Prof Panu Pihkala. Moderated by Dr Kirsti Jylhä

April 28, 2022 Trotsigt hopp! Ungas klimatengagemang i en tid av hopplöshet. Hållbarhetsveckan, Högskolan Väst

March 4 2022 "Klimat, makt och motstånd bland unga" Framtidsfredag Uppsala Stift, Svenska Kykan, Uppsala, Sweden

September 2021 Panel discussion, Svenska Bokmässan, Forskartorget, Gothenburg, Sweden, 24 September

September 2021 "Ungas känslor inför klimathotet och implikationer för utbildning för hållbar utveckling". Seminarium om miljökänslor, Helsinki, Finland. September 29, 2021

August 2021 "Climate change as an existential challenge: Including emotional aspects in education for a sustainable future". Summer school for teachers arranged by Mondo. Viljandi, Estonia. August 19, 2021

March 17, 2021 "Klimat, makt och motstånd bland unga" Framtidsakademin, CEMUS, Folkuniversitetet och Uppsala stadsbibliotek

Feb 2021: Existentiell samtalsfestival, Örebro. February 18-19, 2021 (cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic)

Sept 2020. Ungas klimatoro – hoppfullt eller hopplöst? Fenomenalen Science Center, Visby, Gotland, September 8, 2020

Feb 2020: Klimatpsykologi. Klimatstudenterna, Örebro Universitet, Örebro. February 25, 2020

Feb 2020: Klimatoro som drivkraft till handling eller handlingsförlamning? Klimatfrågan ur ett beteendevetenskapligt perspektiv. Ljud och Bildskolan . Kreativa Gymnasiet, Linköping, February 4, 2020 (popular scientific presentation for high-school students)

Jan 2020: Climate change psychology: Dealing with climate anxiety. Embassy of the Netherlands in Sweden, Stockholm, January 29, 2020

Nov 2019: Hälsosamt klimat? Paneldiskussion Mänskliga rättighetsdagarna, Linköping (Nov 15) (cancelled due to a flue)

Sep 2019: Plenary session: Panel discussion: Climate Emergency: What must we do? How to invest accordingly? At Summit of Minds, Chamonix, France, September 19-21, 2019

Deltagande i följande seminarier/panel Almedalsveckan 2019:

"Hopp eller förtvivlan – hur hanterar vi världens undergång?" Studieförbundet Bilda. 19-07-03

"Psykologi och klimatfrågan". Psykologförbundet. 190702

"Hur rustar vi våra lärare och elever att hantera hållbar utveckling?" SWEDSD, Uppsala Universitet. 190704

April 2019: Klimatoro som drivkraft till handling eller handlingsförlamning? Klimatfrågan ur ett beteendevetenskapligt perspektiv. Klimatkommunernas årsmötesdag, Örebro

March 2019: Keynote speaker at LEarning About Forests (LEAF) annual meeting, Limerick, Ireland, March 27th – 29th

November 2018: *Young people and climate change communication: on the importance of taking account of emotions and coping strategies*. Presentation at the Museum of Natural History, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, USA, Nov 5

October 2018. Panel discussion with Gustav Fridolin, Minister for Education and spokesperson for the Green Party (Miljöpartiet) in Sweden, about young people and climate change. In Örebro on October 30, 2018. Café Grön

July 2018: *Young people and global climate change: Coping strategies, engagement and well-being*. Australian Psychological Society, Melbourne, Australia, July 24.

May 2018: *Hållbar utveckling och psykologi*. Föredrag på Karolinska Institutet (KI), Stockholm, May 15.

February 2018: *Att vara ung i en tid av klimatförändringar – copingstrategier, subjektivt välmående och engagemang*. Psykologi för hållbar utveckling. Psykologförbundet, Stockholm, February 19.

October 2017: Presentation and panel discussion at "Hållbarhetsdagen om hållbara framtidsdrömmar" vid Högskolan Väst, Trollhättan. *Klimatoro och framtidshopp*

June 2017: Presentation at forest seminar at the Nordic Council of Ministers meeting in Ålesund, Norway. *Ungas attityder till miljöfrågor: Behöver skogsbruket bry sig?*

May 2017 – Öppen föreläsning vid Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm. *Hållbar utveckling och psykologi*

May 2017 – Del av forskarpanel i samband med Johan Rockströms presentation vid seminarieriet "Tankar om framtiden" vid Örebro Universitet

February 2017 – Workshop om "consumption, time and values" på Världskulturmuseet, Göteborg.

October 2016 – Tredje Rummet, Victoriateatern, Malmö. *Från handlingsförklaring till hopp och handlingskompetens. Hur hanterar unga klimatfrågan i vardagslivet?*

February 2016 - Stockholms FN-förening. Stockholm, 24 februari. *Attityder, känslor och handling: Hopp för ett hållbart engagemang*

November 2015 - Inledande föredrag i arbetsstationen "Det börjar i skolan" i konferensen "Nationell verkstad för hållbara livsstilar", Stockholm. Arrangör: Naturvårdsverket. *Om vikten av transformativt lärande*

March 2015 – eTwinning seminar, Nature, Stockholm. Arrangörer: Högskolerådet. Keynote: *Hope and climate change: The importance of including emotional dimensions in education for a sustainable future*.

October 2014 – Utbildning för hållbar utveckling på vetenskaplig grund, Göteborg. Arrangör: Globala Skolan. *Från ångest till handlingskompetens*.

February 2014 – Ekoteologiska dagarna, Rättvik. Arrangör: Svenska Kyrkan. *Ungas klimatoro – en drivkraft till förändring?*

September 2013 - Workshop Barndom i tid och rum. Uppsala Universitet. *Young people and global climate change: Emotions, coping, and emotion socialization processes.*

March 2012 - Energiutblick 2012, Göteborg. Arrangör: Energimyndigheten. *Vuxna bara snackar – ungas känslor inför klimatet*

February 2012 - Energisamling för framtiden. Konferens- och nätverksträff om lärande för hållbar utveckling, Borlänge. *Barn och ungas tankar och känslor om klimatet*

October 2011 - Seminarserie vid Energimyndigheten, Eskilstuna. *Unga, klimathotet och energiförbrukningen i samhället*

May 2011 - Seminarserie om klimatproblematiken vid Riksdagens utredningstjänst. *Beteendevetenskapliga perspektiv på klimatfrågan*

November 2010 - Deltagare i forskarpanel för att diskutera filmen ”Home” vid offentlig visning vid Örebro Universitet

December 2009 - Framtidens Klimatkonvent i Västmanland. Arrangör: Förbundet Agenda 21 i Västmanland, Mälardalens högskola. *Unga och klimatproblematiken – framtidshopp i en värld av globala hot*

September 2009 - Energianvändning i vardagen, Möte arrangerat av Göteborg Energi AB. Göteborg. *Unga vuxnas energisparande i hemmet – positiva och negativa strategier för att hantera konflikter i vardagslivet*

September 2009 - Öppen seminarserie vid Forskarskolan Offentlig verksamhet i utveckling, Kupolen, Rådhuset i Örebro. *Unga och klimatproblematiken – framtidshopp i en värld av globala hot*

April 2009 - Lärande för hållbar utveckling, Orsa. *Klimatoro och framtidshopp.*

November 2008 - Den offentliga föreläsningsserien, Örebro Universitet. *Klimatoro och framtidshopp – Om miljöfrågans existentiella och moraliska dimensioner*

October 2008- Kunskapstorget, VR och Skolforum, Stockholmsmässan. *Klimathot och framtidshopp*

March 2008 - Mötesplats Ungdom 2008, Göteborg. *Hopp och oro - ungdomars engagemang inför den globala miljöproblematiken*

December 2007 - Internationella frivilligdagen, Göteborg. Arrangörer: GFC och Göteborgs stad. *Den hoppfulla oron? Unga människors miljöengagemang*

June 2007 - Rättviks förrum till Tällberg Forum: ”Förvaltarskapstanken i praktiken”, Rättvik. Arrangör: Svenska kyrkan. *Den hoppfulla oron? Unga människors engagemang inför globala miljöproblem*

September 2005 - Popular scientific presentation about environmental research in social science. Department of Science, Örebro University (with Prof. Rolf Lidskog).

Collaboration with other sectors in society

Gothenburg Energy: In the research project "Att hantera det ambivalenta: Unga vuxnas attityder och beteendegällande energieffektivisering i hemmet" I have collaborated with Göteborgs Energi. I held presentations that they arranged and had a reference group consisting of different professions from this company, the university, but also from real estate companies.

The Swedish Energy Agency: In the research project "Barns känslor och tankar om miljöproblemen och energiförbrukningen i samhället" I have collaborated with the Swedish Energy Agency, among other things, around a popular science writing and by holding talks for employees at the authority.

The County Administrative Board Gävleborg: In the research project on mosquito control and the public (together with Prof Rolf Lidskog) I have collaborated with the County Administrative Board in Gävleborg. Here, the survey was conducted, mainly data collection, in close collaboration with a county administrative officer.

Stiftelsen Håll Sverige Rent have been in touch with me to develop a didactic guidance related to education about energy issues but also to sustainable development at large. It is aimed at teachers in elementary school (ranks 4-9). My research is presented in this guide.

The organization "*Stormvarning*" has interviewed me on his blog in the fall of 2014. There I am interviewed by the artist Christopher Sander. The purpose of the organization is to raise awareness of climate issues through interaction between science and culture.

<http://stormvarning.org/intervjuer/varldens-undergang-med-mera-ett-samtal-om-oro-och-klimat/>

UR (educational radio, part of Swedish radio) has produced an educational guide for children on the climate issue where my research is presented "The Climate monster".

I have been interviewed to the *Library service's* series "Talk to the children about ..." In this case about climate and environment in "Talk to the children about No. 2 2015."

Museum of World Culture (Sweden) in a workshop about consumption, values and time in order to prepare for an exhibition on climate change + research presentation in a video to that exhibition. 2017-2019. Also online at Human Nature School:

<http://humannatureskola.se/tema/vad-tal-var-jord/>

Sveriges Hembygdsförbund. Collaboration on an inspiration paper in their magazine in a special issue about sustainable development. The target group is hometown associations who want to collaborate with the school. Is intended to be used in study circles. 2018.

Centrum för naturvägledning intervju nyhetsbrev, 2018, May

Panel discussion with Gustav Fridolin, Minister for Education and spoke person for the Green Party, Sweden, about young people and climate change. Örebro Oct 30, 2018. Café Grön

Invited article to the quarterly journal of the *Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (RSA)* January 4, 2019

DN Debatt Klimatforskare stödjer klimatstrejken (March 15, 2019)

<https://www.dn.se/debatt/vi-klimatforskare-stodjer-greta-och-skolungdomarna/>

Världsnaturfonden, WWF-Sweden, interview "Ungas röst i samhället". Spring 2019

Haltia Naturskola, Finland: 10+1 verktyg för att hantera miljöoro med barn och unga. Input från min forskning till lista över råd till föräldrar. Spring 2019

<https://www.haltia.com/se/naturskola/tio-verktyg-f%C3%B6r-att-hantera-milj%C3%B6%C3%A5ngest/>

Örebro läns museum. Participation in a project/exhibition aimed at high schools. Fall 2019.

Collaboration with Think the Unthinkable, UK, England, Fall 2019

Spilloteket, educational material for children, reviewer of material, Spring 2020

<https://www.spilloteket.se/intro-foereningar>

Climate Museum UK has covered my research in an exhibition about coping with climate change. <https://climatemuseumuk.org/2020/02/09/climate-coping-strategies/>. Fall 2020.

UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development (MGIEP). Providing help in creating and launching an online course about climate change. Fall, 2020 <https://www.framerspace.com/course/climate-change>

Film about my research to “Den globala skolan, UHU-program”, a central education program for continuing education for teachers, Fall 2020.

Invited by the vice chancellor at Örebro University, Johan Schnürer, to present my research at a meeting with the Minister for Education (higher education) Anna Ekström. Feb 23, 2022.

Collaboration with US based Child and Family Blog. Feb 2022

<https://childandfamilyblog.com/children-climate-change-anxiety-positive-action/>

Collaboration with Sarah Newman from Climate Mental Health Network about a possible future outreach tool regarding my research about coping with climate change. Climate Mental Health Network is a US based nonprofit organization with the aim to create tools and resources needed to feel supported + emotionally resilient in the face of the climate crisis that addresses the mental health consequences of climate change through education, community engagement and by harnessing the power of media and technology.

Debate article: Climate science, not climate silence! June 2025.

Social media

I have a blog for my research in Sweden and Finland that is in progress

<https://prefiguringsustainablefutures.wordpress.com/>

I am active at Bluesky

<https://bsky.app/profile/iaojala.bsky.social>

I am active at Research Gate

<https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Maria-Ojala>

I have a LinkedIn account where I mostly share research related news

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/maria-ojala-9606a4143/>

Publications

International peer-reviewed original articles and chapters

1. Veijonaho, S., Hietajärvi, L., **Ojala, M.**, & Salmela-Aro, K. (2025). From Distress to Action? – A Three-Wave Longitudinal Study of Climate Change Distress, Pro-Environmental Behavior, and Coping Strategies among Finnish Adolescents. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*. Accepted
2. Rizeq, J., & **Ojala, M.** (2025). Climate worry and hope have different associations with wellbeing and climate friendly behaviors across young people from Sweden and Qatar. *Ecopsychology*, 17(1), 68-78, <https://doi.org/10.1089/eco.2024.0002>
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Ojala, M., Wullenkord, M., Kallio Strand, K., & Erksell, G. (2025). Difficult climate emotions among late adolescents: What role does social trust play in the associations with general mental wellbeing and climate-friendly behavior? ICEP2025, June 16-18, Vilnius, Lithuania, Oral presentation, Symposium, Chair Dr Fanny Lalot

Ojala, M., & Kallio Strand, K. (2024). Young people's trust in technological solutions to the climate-change problem: Relationships to climate-change engagement and the mediating role of efficacy beliefs. IAPS2024, Barcelona, Spain. Accepted for oral presentation. CANCELLED.

Ojala, M. (2023). Youth's trust in technological solutions to the climate-change problem: Associations with hope and climate-change engagement. ICEP 2023, Aarhus, Denmark, June 20-23, Accepted for symposium presentation. Chair: Marlis Wullenkord. Accepted but CANCELLED

Rizeq, J., Ojala, M., Anttila, H. (2023). Climate-change worry and associations with subjective wellbeing and climate-friendly engagement among adolescents. ICPS 2023, Brussel, Belgium, March 8-10. Oral symposium presentation. Chair: Alexandre Heeren.

Ojala, M. (2022). Prefiguring sustainable futures? Young people's strategies to deal with conflicts about climate-friendly food choices and implications for transformative climate change education. WEEC 2022, Prague, Czech Republic. March 2022. Accepted for oral presentation. Cancelled due to illness.

Gustafsson, K., Hysing, E., & **Ojala, M.** (2021). The Social Sciences and Social Transformation for a Sustainable Future. 15th Conference of the European Sociological Association 2021, ESA 2021, September 2021, Barcelona, Spain

Ojala, M., & Anniko, M. (2020). Ambivalence about climate friendly food choices and coping among emerging adults. Part of invited symposium: "Climate change and young people" Chair: Prof. Katariina Salmela-Aro at EARA 2020, Porto, Portugal, September 2-5, 2020 (online conference due to Covid-19)

Ojala, M. (2020). Eating as a form of climate activism: How young people deal with border tensions between the sustainable and unsustainable in everyday life. Part of invited symposium: 'XXX' chair Prof. Ann Sanson, at the ISSBD 2020, Rhodes, Greece, June, 2020 (conference cancelled due to Covid-19). Together with: Prof Constance Flanagan and Dr. XXX

Ojala, M. & Salmela-Aro, K. (2020). Young People, Climate Change, and Pro-environmental Behavior. Chairs of symposium at SRA 2020, San Diego, USA, March, 2020 (conference cancelled due to Covid-19)

Ojala, M. (2020). Climate Change Worry Among Swedish Early Adolescents: Relations to Climate-Efficacy and Subjective Well-Being. Part of symposium: Young People, Climate Change, and Pro-environmental Behavior. Chairs: Ojala, M., & Salmela-Aro, K. at SRA 2020, San Diego, USA, March, 2020 (conference cancelled due to Covid-19)

Ojala, M. (2018). Teachers' views on emotions in climate change education: Exploring meta-emotion philosophies, promoting critical emotional awareness. ATEE2018, Gävle, Sweden, 21 August

Ojala, M. (2018). Being young in a time of climate change: Coping strategies, communication patterns, engagement, and subjective wellbeing. Part of invited symposium: 'Climate change and young people: Implications for human development' chair Prof. Ann Sanson, at the ISSBD 2018, 15-19 July, Gold Coast, Australia. Together with Susan Clayton and Susie Burke.

Ojala, M. (2017). Ethico-moral dimensions and emotions in climate change education: Exploring senior high-school teachers' meta-emotion philosophies. Konferensbidrag vid International EthiCo Conference: What may be learnt in ethics? Present and future conceptions of ethical competence, Gothenburg, Sweden, December 11-13, 2017. *Accepted for oral presentation.*

Ojala, M. (2016). *Critical emotional awareness as a key competence in education for a sustainable future.* Competence 2016, Wageningen, The Netherlands, 19-21 October. Part of symposium Sustainability competence: meanings, possibilities and constraints (Chair: Prof Arjen Wals, Wageningen University).

Ojala, M. (2016). *Teachers' meta-emotion philosophies and climate change education*. European Conference on Educational Research, 23-26 August, Dublin, Ireland. *Accepted as oral presentation*.

Ojala, M. (2016). *Young people's distancing strategies concerning climate change: Relations to engagement, communication patterns, gender, and worry*. I 24th IAPS Conference, Lund University, Lund, Sweden, June 28- July 1. Part of symposium: Young people and climate change engagement (Chairs: Maria Ojala, Uppsala University & Cecilia Bergstad, University of Gothenburg).

Ojala, M., & Bergstad, C. (2016). *Symposium: Young people and climate change engagement*. I 24th IAPS Conference, Lund University, Lund, Sweden, June 28-July 1.

Ojala, M. (2015). Student perceptions of teachers' emotion communication style and future orientation: Associations with hope about climate change. European Conference on Educational Research, 7-10 September, Budapest, Hungary. Oral presentation.

Ojala, M. (2015). Anticipation related emotions of hope and worry concerning global climate change: Promoting emotional awareness in education for a sustainable future. Anticipation 2015, Trento, Italy, 5-7 November. Oral presentation.

Ojala, M., & Bengtsson, H. (2015). Young people's coping strategies concerning climate change: Relations to communication patterns with parents and friends and pro-environmental behavior. The 11th Biennial Conference on Environmental Psychology, Groningen, The Netherlands, August 24-27. Oral presentation.

Ojala, M., & Lidskog, R. (2015). Explaining public risk perception of mosquitoes: The role of social norms, place identity, environmental values and concerns. The 24th SRA-Europe 2015 conference, Science, policy, and society: Bridging the gap between risk and science, Maastricht, The Netherlands, 15-17 June. Oral presentation

Ojala, M., & Lidskog, R. (2014). Mosquitoes as a threat to humans and the community: The role of place identity, social norms, worry and ecocentric values in public risk perception. The 23rd IAPS conference, Timisoara, Rumania, June, 2014. Oral pres.

Ojala, M. (2014). Socializing emotions in the classroom: High school students' perceptions of teacher induced emotion norms in education for sustainable development. NERA 42nd Congress, Lillehammer, Norway, March 5-7, Oral pres.

Ojala, M. (2013). Coping with climate change related emotions among adolescents: Associations with communication patterns and environmental engagement. Transformation in a Changing Climate Conference, 19-21 June, Oslo, Norway. Oral pres.

Ojala, M. (2012). Emotional awareness: On the importance of including emotional aspects in education for sustainable development (ESD). The conference: Transboundary learning beyond disciplines. Sustainable development (SD) opening up research dialogues. Umeå, Sweden, 9-11th October. Paper pres.

Ojala, M. (2012) The importance of emotions and emotion regulation strategies in the process of learning about global climate change. European Conference on Educational Research, Cádiz, Spain, September, 18-21. Oral pres.

Ojala, M. (2011). Regulating worry, promoting hope: How children, adolescents, and young adults cope psychologically with climate change. The 9th Biennial Conference on Environmental Psychology, Eindhoven, The Netherlands, September, 26-28. Oral pres.

Ojala, M. (2010). Hope and climate change: Sources of hope and pro-environmental behavior among two groups of young people. The 21st IAPS conference, Leipzig, Germany, 27 June - 2 July 2010. Oral pres.

Ojala, M. (2010). Imagining a positive global future: Does hope predict private sphere engagement concerning climate change among young people? The 5th European Conference on Positive Psychology, 23-26 June, Copenhagen, Denmark. Oral pres.

Ojala, M. (2010). How do children cope with global climate change? Coping strategies, engagement, and well-being. The Second International Conference on Coping with Stress, 5-7 October, Umeå, Sweden. Oral pres.

Ojala, M. (2009). Ambivalent attitudes about household energy conservation: Negative and positive strategies for handling ambivalence. 8th Biennial Conference on Environmental Psychology, Zürich, Switzerland, September 6-9, 2009. Oral pres.

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