



# Highlights from across the PolyCIVIS network



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At PolyCIVIS, the value of our work lies in the ideas we share and the connections we forge.

Over the past few months, our network of 21 partner universities has been actively engaged in numerous activities, **fostering a dynamic environment where the academic and professional worlds converge.**

## **PolyCIVIS at the “National Day for the Promotion of Research” in Tunisia**

Recently, the [University of Sfax](#), an African partner of the PolyCIVIS Alliance, made a valuable contribution to the "**National Day for the Promotion of Research**" that was held in Tunisia, on the 15th May. This event brought together all national universities and research centers. The University of Sfax's exhibition stand showcased a variety of research projects, emphasizing the importance of research valorization.

Professor Ines Ellouze, the co-leader of PolyCIVIS' Communication and Dissemination Work Package from the University of Sfax, played a pivotal role in promoting PolyCIVIS at this event. Professor Ellouze highlighted the project's goals of researching the polycrisis and addressing their interconnected consequences. Also, in her discussion with the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research in Tunisia, Mr. Moncef Boukthir, Professor Ellouze addressed the significance of developing alliances, at both national and international levels, to valorize research outcomes.

## **Last month, Professor Malte Brosig participated at the “Polycrisis in the Anthropocene Conference” led by the Cascade Institute.**

On May 27-28, 2024, a groundbreaking conference on "Polycrisis in the Anthropocene" was held, organized by the Cascade Institute, taking place at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK). This event brought together leading international experts to delve into the interconnected crises facing our world today. Prof. Malte Brosig, expert in international relations and co-leader of PolyCIVIS's Policy work package, was among the distinguished participants of this important event.

***"Rather than assuming that all crises are equal, a more nuanced understanding of when and how transmission occurs is needed" - Prof. Malte Brosig, University of the Witwatersrand***

Prof. Brosig delivered a thought-provoking presentation entitled ***"The Polycrisis and Crisis Contagion: How Do Crises Spread?"*** providing insights into the mechanisms of crisis transmission, and exploring ***'those filters which shape the character of crisis spillover'***, building on various theories such as neofunctionalism, rational choice theory, assemblage theory, complexity thinking, epidemiological and evolutionary approaches. He highlighted that the quality and impact of crisis spillover are shaped by specific numerous conditions, which require a multi-disciplinary approach in order to determine how and when crises influence one another. Crises do not easily spread but often remain sector bound. Conference findings are going to be published in a special issue at the journal Global Sustainability.