

Project Group (Number and Name): Group 31 – Re:thinking the future of work

## Comment

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Comment:

In the context of this year's opening week's topic "Turning Points", it was a quick decision for our project group to decide on the subject "Re:thinking the future of work". It is not only an issue that will affect all of us at one point or another but a concerning process that, to our minds, has already begun, not just because of the various challenges we are and have been facing and struggling to overcome in the past years. But times of change can also be seen as possibilities of opportunity for building something entirely new, possibilities of shaping the future of work how we want and taking action in creating a workspace that functions with all of our desires and needs. When we were asked to paint our ideal future workplace, ideas came rushing in, but it almost seemed like there were too many to create a tangible image of what that might look like. Nevertheless, we will try to present to you the basic concept of our suggestions for a more sustainable and balanced work life.

When confronted with the issue, we worked out a few key points to focus on for our vision. The most obvious difficulty at hand is the pressing concern of inequality in the workplace. Whether it is through the ongoing digitalization or inequity concerning one's gender, there are many issues present that make the workplace a space of unease. Quite frequently, employees might also face the struggle of being unable to separate work and private life, especially with the implementation of home-office, the borders of these areas of life have seemingly become blurry. This might provoke employees to experience severe mental and physical health problems. A fulfilling work life, although one might imagine differently, is not the objective for all. For some, securing a stable income for housing and food might just be all there is that they want from their occupation. It is easy to imagine a sort of utopian system when in reality most of the basic necessities are not even met for most of the working population. Creating a stable base, setting standards for equal pay, fair treatment and ethical working hours is the needed basis for starting to construct more abstract ideas and labour systems.

We must go beyond the borders of our everyday work life- and place to plant the seed of change. Altering the way, we currently work means structurally changing not only what affects us directly in our everyday lives but also the laws surrounding it, economic and ecological factors for short-term and long-term success.

Considering all our findings an omnipresent problem emerges - balance. Do we try to equalize the triple bottom line (environmental, social, economic), or is a controlled imbalance, in favour of sustainability, what we and our planet actually need?