Can we collectively address the challenges related to energy, housing, and changes in the labour market? Do we have to rely solely on solutions tailored to individual needs? The COMMON project aims to answer these questions and develop collective solutions within the energy transition. As part of the project, I will investigate cooperation models in (1) investments in new energy production technologies, (2) housing, and (3) the labour market.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine triggered an energy crisis and made challenges such as the climate crisis, ongoing demographic changes, and the accelerating transformation of the labour market even more urgent. There are three main reasons for this. Firstly, rising energy prices and public resistance to moving away from fossil fuels call ambitious climate policies into question. Secondly, an ageing society and rising living costs are hindering economic growth and reduce well-being. Thirdly, war-induced migrations and disruptions in global supply chains complicate labour market conditions. The COMMON project explores whether communal solutions within the energy transition can help address these challenges.

By examining cooperation in new energy investments, housing, and the labour market, the COMMON project aims to achieve three interconnected goals. First, to point out investment models that allow for a fair distribution of the costs and benefits of joint investments in new technologies. Second, to provide insights into how innovative housing models can meet the needs of ageing societies, promote inclusivity, and support sustainable housing. Third, to investigate preferences regarding collective bargaining and unionisation in green jobs, which should improve working conditions in these sectors.