



Dr. Agata A. Konczal is an Assistant Professor at the Wageningen University, in the Forest and Nature Conservation Policy Group. Before joining Wageningen University in 2022, she was a researcher at the European Forest Institute, where she led the European Forest Governance and Society Team.

She has a background in humanities and social science and holds a PhD in social and cultural anthropology. Her specialisation lies in environmental anthropology, political ecology, environmental history and forest policy. She is currently working on establishing forest anthropology as a field of research and developing [FORAGE – Forest Anthropology Working Group on Europe and Beyond](#).

Agata's primary research interests are studies on perception, understanding and use of forests by different social groups, various interpretations of nature protection and environmental policies (e.g. within rewilding projects), and interdisciplinary research relating to forest and environmental topics. In her current research, Agata examines how forests are increasingly politicised as easy solutions for climate change, biodiversity, rural areas, and development issues. Her research delves into diverse perspectives and strategies for addressing the "forest crisis" within the wider scope of climate change and the uncertain future of forests. This includes the exploration of different framings of forest disturbance and restoration, and the role of diverse social and cultural values in forest management and environmental policies.

Originally from Poland, she is especially interested in the cultural, historical and political context of forestry, conservation and related policies, including the impact of post-socialism on the shape of forestry and forest policies.