

Holistic social science and pacification of existence (HoPE) is a book project with two interrelated tasks. The first task is to create a program for a genuinely interdisciplinary social science able to go over the disciplinary borders of the “basic” social sciences of economics, sociology and political science but also the border between the “two cultures” of arts and humanities, on the one hand, and the “hard” STEM sciences (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), on the other hand. The second task is to combine to this holistic social science (the Ho part in the acronym) an ambitious ethical-political program for “pacification of existence” (the PE part). In the tradition of critical theory, the first task was outlined by Max Horkheimer and the second one by Herbert Marcuse. To bring their dreams to this century, however, it is necessary to draw from versatile new sources such as Michael Mann’s neoweberian historical sociology in the Ho part and, in the PE part, many approaches to environmental, social and personal security such as “sustainable development”, the “capability approach” and reinterpretations of classical liberalism by John Rawls and others.

To be worked on whenever other tasks allow. To keep the potential audience and colleagues warm I will add every now and then a link to a journal article or working paper related to the project. Currently there are three of those available below: the first one describes the entire project, the second is an early intro to Part I and the third one is not exactly an intro to Part II but gives the reader a hint of its landscape.

Keynote talk on the project: [Hexagon model for interdisciplinary social research and pacification of existence](#)

Heiskala, Risto. 2018. "[For a holistic social science: the NACEVP model applied to the environment, gender and populism.](#)" *Journal of Political Power* 11:3, 322-340.

Heiskala, Risto. 2024. [Pacification of existence: Marcuse and beyond](#)