



Ca' Foscari  
University  
of Venice

**VENICE SCHOOL  
OF MANAGEMENT**

# VSM Lectures

San Giobbe Economic Campus, Venice



23rd Apr | Aula Saraceno | h. 12.30

Also online: <http://meet.google.com/dqz-srsn-hzk>

## **Labor Unions and Sustainable Work**

**Charles Szymanski** - University  
of Bialystock, Poland

The concept of sustainability is everywhere. We feel it in the direct effects of climate change and the sense that something must be done to ensure a sustainable future, i.e., one in which the environment is not destroyed beyond repair and humanity can continue to develop. There is a perceived tension, however, between protecting the environment and economic development. On one hand, there will be no jobs on a scorched, desertified Earth. On the other hand, a future where only an elite few enjoy protected biospheres and the remainder are condemned to a lifetime of unemployment is equally unsustainable. This presentation argues that labor unions (and employees acting collectively) have a unique role in both crafting and ensuring a future where both the environment is protected and the economy develops and guarantees decent and sustainable work for most people.

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