CLIMATE SECURITY: TOWARD A CRITICAL CONCEPTUALIZATION

What is security in an age of ecological devastation? How do our understandings of security need to change along with the escalating effects of rapid climate change for the planet we live on? Our workshop investigates a bundle of emerging questions on the materialities, temporalities and scales of climate security as a new paradigm of research.

Climate change has long been linked to questions of (in)security. Yet, current investigations have largely stayed within clearly demarcated empirical research fields and (sub-)disciplinary boundaries. On the one hand, empirical research has focused on the question of whether climate change would trigger conflict or other forms of political violence – often with a focus on potential climate hotspots in the global South. Given the context-specific character and narrow focus of such studies, they have little to say about how these conflicts interact with broader dynamics and practices of security. On the other hand, authors have traced how climate change has been discursively turned into a security threat and discussed the political implications of this securitization trend. These works represent important first steps towards what could be called a critical theory of climate security. However, discourse-centric works struggle to grasp the changing logics and materialities of security in times of dramatic planetary change.

To better conceptualize the implications of climate change for the (in)securities of our time and our future, we seek to bring more diverse research perspectives into conversation with each other. With this workshop we want to contribute to a better understanding of how matters of climate security are problematized, negotiated, and interwoven on different scales ranging from the very local to the planetary. How do effects of global warming, and related problems of deforestation, resource extractivism, or biodiversity loss, become (security) “matters of concern” (Latour), e.g. in parliaments and institutions, on the streets, or in wars?

ORGANIZERS (CLICCS)

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VENUE
Aby Warburgs Bibliothek
im Warburg-Haus
Heilwigstraße 116
20249 Hamburg
Workshop Schedule

Wednesday, September 28

15:00–15:30 Arrival & Welcome Coffee

15:30–16:30 Introduction and Workshop Rationale
Christine Hentschel, Delf Rothe and Ursula Schröder

COFFEE BREAK

17:00–18:00 Troubling Climate Security I: Racism and the Limits of Critique
Jason Cons (Austin):
The Unbearable Whiteness of Climate Security
David Chandler (Westminster):
Climate Security: Refusing the Lure of Critique
Christine Hentschel (Discussant; Hamburg)

18:00–19:00 Troubling Climate Security II: Science and Epistemic Violence
Shannon O’Lear (Lawrence, KS):
The Slow Violence of Climate Security
Cecilia M. Oliveira (Potsdam):
Militarization of science in the Amazon rainforest: new planetary hotspots of climate security
Ursula Schröder (Discussant; Hamburg)

20:00 Invited Workshop Dinner
Restaurant La Monella
Hallerplatz 12
20146 Hamburg

Thursday, September 29

09:30–11:00 New Directions in Climate Security Research I
Olaf Corry and Duncan McLaren (Leeds/Lancaster):
New Directions in Climate Security
Matt McDonald (Brisbane):
Climate Change, Security and Legitimacy
Johanna Malm (Stockholm):
Interrogating climate insecurity and women’s participation in peace processes
Jürgen Scheffran (Discussant; Hamburg)

11:30–13:00 New Directions in Climate Security Research II
Patrick Flamm (Frankfurt):
Ecological security at the poles: for planet, people, and penguins alike?
Sofia Kabbej (Brisbane):
Climate security coloniality: France in Mali
Judith Hardt and Adrien Estève (Berlin/Paris):
Climate Security at the Extremes: Comparing French and Indian Approaches in the United Nations Security Council
Jan Wilkens (Discussant; Hamburg)

LUNCH BREAK

14:00–15:00 New Spaces of Climate Insecurity I: Cities
Guilnaz Anjum, Arabella Fraser et al. (Oslo/Milton Keynes):
The 24 Hour Risk City: Rethinking Urban Climate Security from Nairobi, Karachi and Colombo
Patrick Bond and Mary Galvin (Johannesburg):
Conflicting climate security narratives in Durban, South Africa
Franziska Müller (Discussant; Hamburg)

15:00–16:00 New Spaces of Climate Insecurity II: More-than-Human Spaces
Pooja Nayak (Philadelphia, PA):
Securing ‘Lively’ Work: A Multispecies Political Economy of a Science Field-Station
Indrawan Probaharyaka (Berlin):
Mapping Invisible Harms: Climate as Distributed and Translocal Object
Eray Çaylı (Discussant; London)

COFFEE BREAK

16:30–18:00 Future Imperfect: Dystopias and Utopias of Climate Security
Garnet Kindervater (Fordham):
Trembling: Paradoxes of Climate Urgency
Christie Nicason (Lund):
Envisioning utopias: A phenomenological study of feminist ethics of care for climate transformation
Neel Ahuja (College Park, MD):
Race, migration, and the speculative politics of climate adaptation
Delf Rothe (Discussant; Hamburg)

18:15–19:45 Public Book Panel: Authors Meet Critics
Roundtable with Simon Dalby (Waterloo), Jan Selby (Sheffield), Antje Wiener (Hamburg), Shannon O’Lear (Lawrence) and Ursula Schröder (Hamburg)

20:30 Optional Dinner (non-funded)
Restaurant Peacetanbul
Kampnagel Hamburg
Jarrestraße 20, 22303 Hamburg

Friday, September 30

09:30–11:00 Climate Insecurities, Affect and Excess
Gitte du Plessis (Tampere):
Dirt, Excess, and War: A Bataillan reading of climate change
Andrew Telford (Amsterdam):
Climate Security and ideology: a tentative exploration of conceptual relationships
Suhail Mir (Srinagar, Kashmir):
Socio-ecological psychosis and climate change risks in border spaces of Kashmir
Frank Adloff (Discussant; Hamburg)

11:30–12:30 Struggles for Future: Climate Security from Below
Julianne Liebenguth (Elon):
Climate Security from the Perspective of Struggle
Charlotte Huch (Hamburg):
Climate insecurity in the everyday and ‘from below’
Angela Oels (Discussant; Hamburg)

LUNCH BREAK

13:30–14:30 Infrastructuring Climate Security
Alejandro Esguerra (Bielefeld):
Infrastructures as Security Threats
Silvia Danielak (Cambridge, MA):
The ‘Legacy’ of the Electricity Grid
Benno Fladvad (Discussant; Hamburg)

14:30–15:00 Wrap-up and Conclusion
Christine Hentschel, Delf Rothe and Ursula Schröder