

Special Issue

Migration and Conflict in a Global Warming Era: A Political Understanding of Climate Change

Message from the Guest Editors

In recent years, we have learnt more about the far-reaching political effects of anthropogenic climate change, such as climate induced human mobility or climate-related conflicts. Securitization discourses and anti-migration policies are gaining strength, while empirical findings have shown that environmental migration entails mostly South–South movements, internal displacement, and trapped populations. Conflicts linked to climate change are mostly non-violent, and climate change effects are inseparable from socio-political and economic dynamics. This Special Issue aims to draw attention to underrepresented research perspectives and to second order effects of the political dimensions of climate change. Second order effects can be observed in climate change politics and international cooperation that are increasingly exploring the possibilities of climate change as a new tool of governance (Klepp and Chavez-Rodriguez 2018). The political implications of growing funds invested in climate change policies, adaptation or mitigation interventions are often neither recognised nor transparent. This can lead to shifting power relations and it can weaken the most vulnerable.

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