

# Seminar 8

## Week 9- Lecture 8

### Climate Change

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- “Security is the language of political priority and of the state.” What does this mean for climate change policy?
- Who should be in charge?
- The limits of security discourse around climate change...

## WHY BOTHER?

- Chris Methmann & Delf Rothe ‘*Politics for the day after tomorrow*’ and Delf Rothe ‘*State, Security & Governance*’:
  - Trend to securitise climate change related issues BUT this has not resulted in ‘exceptional’ political action yet
  - Climate change presented in the language of security, indeed in existential terms, but measures tend to be ‘piecemeal’ and ‘technocratic’
  - There has not been the kind of concerted global co-ordination and action required – see fact that world continues to warm...
  - Gap between what the science tells us and political commitment
    - Nationalist (us and them) security mentality is not useful in understanding climate change – all countries are interconnected
    - As such, security framings can lead to unhelpful solutions in failing to recognise the shared nature of the challenge (Hughes 2018)
- **What then are the alternatives to security thinking in climate change policy?**
  - Can climate change become a “national” issue to precipitate state action? Is this not as issue of realist survival?
  - In contrast, collective securitisation may have worked in the EU: “ EU has become a more unified, collective actor over time, that it has engaged in recursive interaction with multiple (internal and external) audiences to drive the securitisation of climate change, and that a new securitised status quo had been achieved by the mid-to-late 2000s. This new status quo positions climate change as central to the EU’s security agenda.” (Dupont 2019)
  - Why this change? Good policy or something else?  
<https://www.planetarysecurityinitiative.org/news/irreversible-security-threats-global-climate-change>

- Climate change in the non-West:

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/sep/04/pakistan-floods-reparations-climate-disaster>

- Is there a case for reparations?
- Is this the same case as famines in the non-west? In what ways is it similar or different?

- Climate change and migration?

<https://odi.org/en/publications/multimedia/infographics-climate-change-migration-and-displacement/>