

Gastvortrag

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Global trade networks and environmental inequalities – reflections on recent research

I will discuss three of my recent publications that collectively tell a story regarding the ways global trade networks are related to, or even intertwined with, the environmental inequalities between countries. Environmental inequalities refer to forms of pollution or environmental degradation that are unevenly distributed, and that typically map onto other forms of inequality, e.g. wealth or health disparities. These papers come out of 7 project I was involved in with Economic Geographers at the University of Maryland, in which we took a structural, systematic approach to understanding the global economy. My contribution was that of network analysis, and in this talk, I will highlight the ways in which network analysis can bring a structural perspective to the inequalities I discuss.

Christina Prell's research focuses on the intersection of social networks and the environment. On a more local or regional scale, her work considers the role of social networks in shaping and/or diffusing views, values, and/or cultural beliefs about the environment. On a global scale, she considers how the structure of global trade networks drive and/or co-evolve with a number of environmental inequalities, chief among these being between-country differences in pollution, as embodied in trade. She has published articles in such venues as Social Networks, Global Environmental Change, PloS ONE, Social Forces and Journal of Mathematical Sociology, and she has published two books on social networks and network analysis; the first is a sole-authored book entitled, Social Network Analysis: History, theory, and methodology (Sage), and the second is a co-edited book with Orjan Bodin, entitled Social Networks and Natural Resource Management (Cambridge University Press). On an undergraduate level, Christina has taught courses on research methods and the social perspectives pertaining to the environment and/or coupled human-natural systems; on the graduate level, she has taught courses on social network analysis, research methods, and coupled systems.

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15.00 c.t.

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