

ECOPOLITICS PODCAST: Additional Pedagogical Resources (Episode 5)

[Episode 5: Global Ecopolitics After COVID-19: Social Movements and International ENGOS](#)

Overview: In this episode, we speak with Dr. Jennifer Allan of Cardiff University to get a better sense of how NGOs are shaping the climate movement, and the potential opportunities that arise for a green recovery post-COVID.

Key Takeaways

- “The Kyoto Protocol doesn’t have the word ‘people’ or ‘communities’ or ‘women’ or anything with limbs other than maybe a tree.” (Dr. Jennifer Allan 00:00-00:32)
- The process of global policy-making is not equally accessible to all state or ENGO actors due to the amount of resources required to participate in international negotiations.
- The issue of climate change has moved beyond environmental protection and regulation towards larger social, economic, political, and cultural issues related to the climate crisis. Policies call for the adaptation of local communities directed by national states along with cooperation between global actors.
- Advocates and activists who are successful in contributing to global environmental negotiations are often specific in their details, offering a clear understanding how the issue and solutions are shaped by intersectionality (including gender, race, and economic status).

Discussion Questions

1. Does the global environmental movement (including civil society groups, organizations, and individual activists alike) have a certain ‘eco-worldview’?
2. How do you think civil society actors can best use digital activism to create change?
3. What do you think Dr. Allan means when she says that addressing climate change requires individual actions supported through “smart, structural change”?
4. What do you see as the benefits and obstacles of some of the tools and tactics discussed by Dr. Allan that advocates and activists use to influence climate change policy? Is it better to effect change “within the system” or from outside of it?

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Learn more about our Guest

Dr. Jennifer Allan

- <https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/people/view/1422735-allan-jennifer>

Select articles, books and videos

- **Allan, Jennifer**, Charles Donovan, Paul Ekins, Ajay Gambhir, Cameron Hepburn, David Raey, Nick Robins, Emily Shuckburgh, and Dimitri Zenghelis. 2020 *A Net-Zero Emissions Economic Recovery from COVID-19*. Project Report. [Online]. COP26 Universities Network. Available at: <http://www.imperial.ac.uk/grantham/publications/a-net-zero-emissions-economic-recovery-from-covid-19.php>
- **Allan, Jennifer**. 2018. "Seeking Entry: Discursive Hooks and NGOs in Global Climate Politics." *Global Policy* 9(4), pp. 560-569.

Explore resources mentioned in this episode

- **Allan, Jennifer**. 2021. *The New Climate Activism: NGO Authority and Participation in Global Climate Governance*. University of Toronto Press.
- Climate Action Now <https://climateactionnetwork.ca/>
- Climate Justice Now <https://www.climate-justice-now.org/>
- Earth Negotiations Bulletin <https://enb.iisd.org/>
- International Institute for Sustainable Development <https://www.iisd.org/>
- Sabherwal, Anandita, Matthew T Ballew, Sander Linden, Abel Gustafson, Matthew H Goldberg, Edward W Maibach, John E Kotcher, Janet K Swim, Seth A Rosenthal, and Anthony Leiserowitz. "The Greta Thunberg Effect: Familiarity with Greta Thunberg Predicts Intentions to Engage in Climate Activism in the United States." *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*. 51, no. 4 (2021): 321–333.
- Nature Editorial. "The Price of Fast Fashion." *Nature Climate Change*. 8, no. 1 (2018): 1–1.
- Listen to Dr. Paehlke's discussion on the 'Green New Deal' - [Episode 1.5: Environmental Political History in Canada | The Ecopolitics Podcast](#)
- Listen to Sherilyn McGregor's discussion on the 'Green New Deal' [Episode 1.9: Ecofeminism and Queer Ecology | The Ecopolitics Podcast](#)
- Read more about the Warsaw Negotiations (COP 19) <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/conferences/past-conferences/warsaw-climate-change-conference-november-2013/cop-19>

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Learn more about Climate Summits, Movements, and Global Governance

- Death, Carl. 2011. "Summit Theatre: Exemplary Governmentality and Environmental Diplomacy in Johannesburg and Copenhagen." *Environmental Politics* 20 (1): 1–19. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09644016.2011.538161>.
- Dimitrov, Radoslav S. "The Paris Agreement on Climate Change: Behind Closed Doors." *Global Environmental Politics* 16, no. 3 (2016): 1–11.
- Dietz, Matthias, and Heiko Garrelts. *Routledge Handbook of the Climate Change Movement* Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, 2014.
- Roberts, J. Timmons, and Bradley C. Parks. 2009. "Ecologically Unequal Exchange, Ecological Debt, and Climate Justice: The History and Implications of Three Related Ideas for a New Social Movement." *International Journal of Comparative Sociology*. 50 (3–4): 385–409. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0020715209105147>.

Learn more about the relationship between COVID-19 and Climate Change

- Helm, Dieter. "The Environmental Impacts of the Coronavirus." *Environmental & Resource Economics* 76, no. 1 (2020): 1–38.
- Huws, Ursula. "Repeating the Whirlwind: Digitalization, Restructuring, and Mobilization in the Covid Crisis." *Socialist Register*. Vol. 57 (2020): 1-12.
- Katz-Rosene, Ryan. 2020. "The Pandemic, the Economy, and Climate Change: Three Takeaways So Far." *CIPS Blog* (blog). April 8, 2020. [https://www.cips-cepi.ca/2020/04/08/the-pandemic-the-economy-and-climate-change-t
hree-takeaways-so-far/](https://www.cips-cepi.ca/2020/04/08/the-pandemic-the-economy-and-climate-change-three-takeaways-so-far/)
- van der Ven, Hamish, and Yixian Sun. "Varieties of Crises: Comparing the Politics of COVID-19 and Climate Change." *Global Environmental Politics* 21, no. 1 (2021): 13–22.