

*„The dynamics of normative orders“*

**3<sup>rd</sup> Graduate Conference of the Cluster of Excellence „The formation of normative orders“**

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Panel: Causes and consequences of norm(ative) dynamics in global environmental governance

Chairs: Linda Wallbott and Inken Reimer

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Call for Papers

Global environmental politics is in normative terms based on the foundations that were laid at the United Nation's Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. The so-called Rio-Principles highlight the 'principle of common but differentiated responsibility' between developing and industrialized countries as well as the 'polluter pays principle'. These principles were supposed to shape, across various issue areas, the direction of global environmental politics and sustainable development. Regular Conferences of the Parties and the Earth Summit of 2002 led to a further development of the environmental governance agenda.

On this basis, global environmental governance, as we know it today, is on the one hand characterized by highly fragmented institutional settings, a variety of actor constellations (public/private), a mixture of binding and voluntary agreements and an enlarged policy agenda, compared to the early 1990s. On the other hand, there is increased awareness that increased synergies between institutions and issue areas is needed to deal with environmental problems, which are all too often substantially interdependent, in other words: to improve effective implementation. These tasks challenge policy makers at various levels, carrying on vivid discourses in the political, academic and societal realm of what is to constitute an 'appropriate' governance architecture. These discourses, over again, also scrutinize the basic principles, rationales, goals and, importantly, normative foundations of fairness and equity within global environmental governance. Current examples are the negotiations on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS), REDD+ and Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES).

Against this background of implicit and explicit norm(ative) dynamics which materialize in (negotiation) texts, policies and policy instruments, the panel addresses the following questions:

- How have fairness and equity concepts in global environmental governance evolved over

time? How do they relate to issue areas outside environmental politics?

- How do different notions of fairness and equity affect interlinkages between different issue areas and ‘fragments’ of global environmental governance?
- What are the causes for normative dynamics in global environmental governance?
- What are the conditions for normative change?
- How do actors inside and outside the negotiation process influence the agenda of global environmental governance and the modification of its normative foundations?
- What are the implications of (1) fragmentation and (2) norm(ative) dynamics for international processes (i.e. also Rio+20 and the reform of International Environmental Governance in a United Nations context) and national as well as subnational environmental policy processes?

The panel aims to bring together perspectives on norm(ative) dynamics from the disciplines of political science, international relations and legal studies. We especially invite papers, which take an empirical standpoint to analyze the dynamics of norm(ative) development inside and outside the UN process as well as in an integrative (interdisciplinary) perspective/approach. Policy domains that are scrutinized might range from climate change, biological diversity, genetically resources, desertification, water, fisheries, to land use and forests, wetlands, ozone layer depletion, hazardous wastes, and chemicals.

Abstracts should not exceed 300 words in length and be sent to [linda.wallbott@normativeorders.net](mailto:linda.wallbott@normativeorders.net) and [Inken.reimer@fu-berlin.de](mailto:Inken.reimer@fu-berlin.de). The deadline for submissions is **August 21<sup>st</sup>**, 2011.