

# Review of: "From Necro-Politics to Necro-Ecology: framing the current climate environmental politics in the Americas"

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## **From Necro-Politics to Necro-Ecology: framing the current climate environmental politics in the Americas** **REPORT**

This article explores a crucial topic in an original way: the disruptive impacts of current environmental "policy" (or lack of policy) in the American Continent, where, as the authors point out, "damages to the human and natural-ecosystems of the continent are becoming permanent and irreversible."

The article evokes growing scientific warnings about "tipping points", regime shift, cascading effects and broader vulnerability. Both acting and not-acting are, of course, biopolitical as well as necropolitical.

In general, I would be inclined to concentrate less on discourse or narrative and more on empirical support/backing. That is, some good empirical backing about the current crisis could and should be included. For instance, the crucial notion of "planetary boundaries" could be useful, particularly in conjunction with the most recent work on "just and safe planetary boundaries" (2023). It's important to remind the reader that "the Trump administration has rolled back more than 80 environmental rules and regulations and revoked many others" (Harvard and Columbia Law Schools)

I find the article innovative in offering a new interpretive framework and, potentially, a new lens through which one could help analyse the current catastrophic scenario brought about by doomsday capitalism - as intrinsically linked to the global expansion of the US mass consumerist economic model.

I wonder whether instead of the term policy the authors really mean rather a lack of policy and especially lack of regulation? Neoliberal globalisation and the all-pervasiveness of US capitalism have led to the weakening of state control over the market forces that are destroying the environment within a host of countries throughout the world (not only in the Americas). But nationalism has appeared not as a tool to organise resistance to these destructive trends, but, quite the contrary, as a major obstacle in reaching international agreements

The paper introduces a neologism in the field, necro-ecology, which might possibly be used later by other scholars. But this depends on how well the concept is identifiable in a usable way. These are limitations, which could be easily overcome. Of course, we know about Michael Foucault, but that doesn't mean that everybody understand Foucauldian terms, theories and concepts.

I'm a little wary about using the term necro-ecology: Whether or not it is meant to be a new coining, I wonder whether it's not rather too obviously a mere repetition of necro-politics. )(It seems to be unnecessary and doesn't add much to the appeal

in the title). My suggestion for the title: "From Necro-Politics to global catastrophe: framing the current climate environmental politics in the Americas

(Instead of From Necro-Politics to Necro-Ecology: framing the current climate environmental politics in the Americas). It's also unclear when saying "deep negative escalation of already existing climate necro-politics towards a condition of necro-ecology"!

Also, while capitalism is the main motor, according to a new approach capitalism is largely dependent on nationalism (see Hadžidedićs book 2022). It could thus be useful to link these interlocking crises to the problem of expanding nationalism and, at a broader level, of corporate interference in national governments.

Following Prasenjit Duara (2021), nationalism remains the main epistemological engine associated with capitalism.

More than critical geography or philosophy, I think this essay can claim to belong to environmental studies and political ecology.

All in all, this is a useful essay which needs some strengthening and a reduction in the amount of jargon used, as well as a few important additions in the references.