

Webinar

ERC-funded research on the Amazon

with participation of ERC awardees
and a team member

19 September 16:00 CEST

 8:00  9:00    11:00

Registration: bit.ly/ERCAmazon



European Research Council
Established by the European Commission



Horizon Europe

the EC programme for research and innovation (2021-2027)



Horizon Europe (HE) total budget: € 95,5 billion

ERC total budget of € 16 billion

ERC basics




European Research Council
Established by the European Commission

INDIVIDUAL RESEARCHERS
FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD
**LONG TERM
GRANTS**
TO HIGH-RISK/HIGH-GAIN PIONEERING PROJECTS
IN ANY FIELD OF FRONTIER RESEARCH

 Life Sciences

 Physical Sciences and Engineering

 Social Sciences and Humanities

ERC grant schemes



Starting Grants

starters (2-7 years after PhD) up to € 1.5 Mio
for 5 years



Consolidator Grants

Consolidators (7-12 years after PhD) up to € 2 Mio
for 5 years



Advanced Grants

track-record of significant research achievements in the
last 10 years up to € 2.5 Mio
for 5 years



Synergy Grants

2 – 4 Principal Investigators up to € 10.0 Mio for 6
years
1 PI can be based outside EU/Associated
Countries



Proof-of-Concept

bridging gap between research - earliest stage of marketable innovation
lump sum €150,000 for ERC grant holders

ERC-funded research on the Amazon

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16:00 Introduction

Charlotte Grawitz & Viktoria Bodnarova, *Regional Coordinators*
EURAXESS LAC

16:05 ERC ECO Project

Patricia Vieira, *Principal Investigator*
Coimbra University, Portugal

16:20 ERC LASTJOURNEY Project

José Iriarte, *Principal Investigator*
University of Exeter, UK

16:35 ERC LORAX Project

Lucas de Oliveira Paes, *team member from LAC*
Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, Norway

16:45 Q&A

Registration: bit.ly/ERCAmazon



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ERC calls 2024

	Starting Grant	Consolidator Grant	Advanced Grant	Synergy Grant	Proof of Concept Grant
Call opens	11/07/2023	12/09/2023	29/05/2024	12/07/2023	16/11/2023
Deadline to submit applications	24/10/2023	12/12/2023	29/08/2024	08/11/2023	14/03/2024
					17/09/2024
Budget	€601m	€584m	€578m	€400m	€30m

Webinar: ERC Grant Competitions 2024

[Recording available](#)



erc ERC Grant Competitions 2024 Webinar
WEBINAR | Q&A

ERC Grant Competitions 2024

20 September 2023
12.15

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The Lorax Project: Understanding Ecosystemic Politics (The case of the Amazon rainforest)

Principal Investigator: Dr. Elana Wilson Rowe

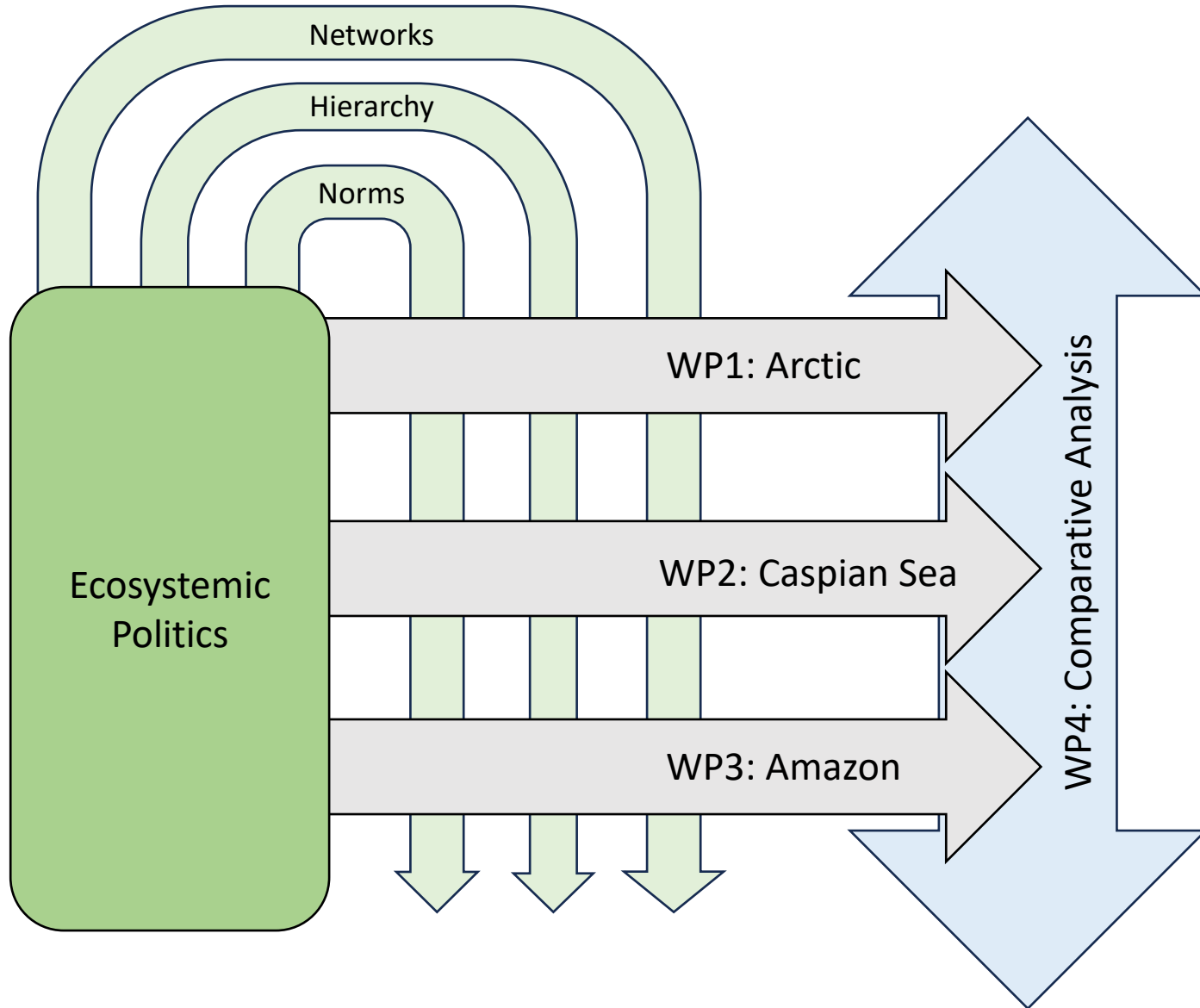
Presenter: Dr. Lucas de Oliveira Paes

The Lorax Puzzle

*“I am the Lorax. I speak for the trees. I speak for the trees for the trees have no tongues.” —
Dr. Seuss, The Lorax*

- What happens when political actors claim authority to govern an ecosystem?
- Do regional politics around national border-crossing ecosystems share important commonalities with one another and differ in significant ways from global politics?
- What drives and what are the broader consequences of **ecosystemic politics**?

The Lorax Project



The Lorax Team

Principal Investigator: Dr. Elana Wilson Rowe

WP1:

- Dr. Elana Wilson Rowe

WP2:

- Dr. Elana Wilson Rowe
- Dr. Paul Beaumont
- Dr. Kristin Fjæsted

WP3:

- Dr. Lucas de Oliveira Paes

WP4:

- Dr. Elana Wilson Rowe
- Dr. Cristiana Maglia



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Political Geography

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/polgeo



Ecosystemic politics: Analyzing the consequences of speaking for adjacent nature on the global stage

Elana Wilson Rowe

Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, P.O. 7024 St. Olavs Plass, 0130, Oslo, Norway

ARTICLE INFO


Keywords:

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Arctic
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Diplomacy
Networks
Governance
Norms
Hierarchy

ABSTRACT

This article introduces a conceptual framework for analysing and comparing the broader or unintended effects of cooperation anchored in border-crossing ecosystems. The importance of addressing this lacuna in our scholarship on such sub-global cooperation is underscored by research in political geography that has demonstrated how the creation of scale is an important expression of power relations and how interaction with the materiality of different kinds of spaces necessitates distinct political technologies (and thus may have distinct effects). The article introduces three key analytical angles central to policy field studies in international sociology and demonstrates their utility through a case of the Arctic/Arctic Council. These analytical angles – networks (what are the relationships shaping the field?), hierarchies (who leads and how does leadership work?), and norms for political behavior – capture key consequences and dynamics of ecosystemic politics in a concise fashion that lends itself to cross-case comparison. The Arctic case focuses on the changing network positions and roles of non-Arctic actors over time, as an initial exploration of the broader ordering effects of such forms of cooperation. The findings suggest that most non-Arctic actors have experienced a decline in their centrality in Arctic cooperation, even as the Arctic has received intensified global interest and the number of participants in Arctic Council work has increased. Further comparative work along these lines would leave us better equipped to assess whether states speaking for their own immediate environs is better – and if so, in which ways – than seeking common solutions to global challenges.



Space, nature and hierarchy: the ecosystemic politics of the Caspian Sea

Paul Beaumont  and Elana Wilson Rowe

Abstract

The Anthropocene has given rise to growing efforts to govern the world's ecosystems. There is a hitch, however, ecosystems do not respect sovereign borders; hundreds traverse more three states and thus require complex international cooperation. This article critically examines the political and social consequences of the growing but understudied trend towards transboundary ecosystem cooperation. Matchmaking the new hierarchy scholarship in International Relations (IR) and political geography, the article theorises how ecosystem discourse embodies a latent spatially exclusive logic that can bind together and bound from outside unusual bedfellows in otherwise politically awkward spaces. We contend that such 'ecosystemic politics' can generate spatialised 'broad hierarchies' that cut across both Westphalian renderings of space and the latent post-colonial and/or material inequalities that have hitherto been the focus of most of the new hierarchies scholarship. We illustrate our argument by conducting a multilevel longitudinal analysis of how Caspian Sea environmental cooperation has produced a broad hierarchy demarking and sharpening the boundaries of the region, become symbolic of Caspian in-group competence and neighbourliness, and used as a rationale for future Caspian-shaped cooperation. We reason that if ecosystemic politics can generate new renderings of space amid an otherwise heavily contested space as the Caspian, further research is warranted to explore systemic hierarchical consequences elsewhere.

Ecosystems and Ordering: Exploring the Extent and Diversity of Ecosystem Governance

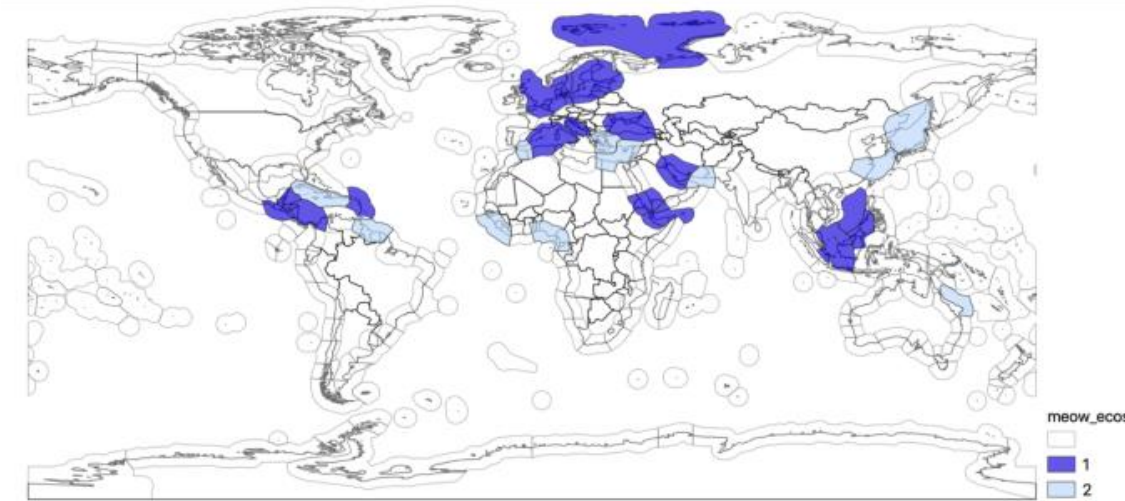
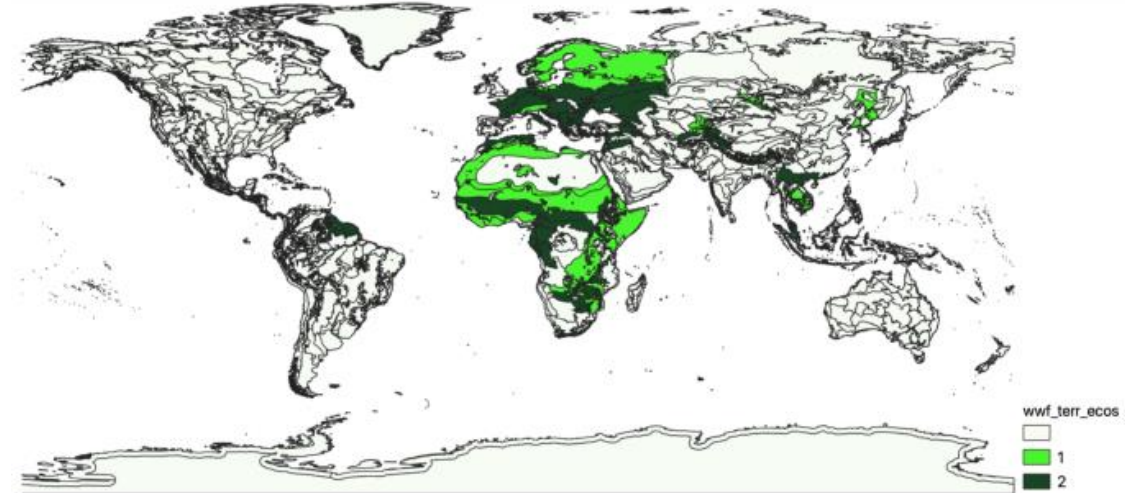
CRISTIANA MAGLIA  AND ELANA WILSON ROWE 
 Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI), Oslo, Norway

This article argues that, to grasp how global ordering will be impacted by planetary-level changes, we need to systematically attend to the question of the extent to which and how ecosystems are being governed. Our inquiry builds upon—but extends beyond—the environmental governance measures that have garnered the most scholarly attention so far. The dataset departs from the current literature on regional environmental governance by taking ecosystems themselves as the unit of analysis and then exploring whether and how they are governed, rather than taking a starting point in environmental institutions and treaties. The ecosystems researched—large-scale marine, freshwater, and terrestrial ecosystems—have been previously identified by a globe-spanning, natural science inquiry. Our findings highlight the uneven extent of ecosystem governance—both the general geographic extent and certain “types” of ecosystems seemingly lending themselves more easily to ecosystem-based cooperation. Furthermore, our data highlight that there is a wider range of governance practices anchored in ecosystems than the typical focus on environmental institutions reveals. Of particular significance is the tendency by political actors to establish multi-issue governance anchored in the ecosystems themselves and covering several different policy fields. We argue that, in light of scholarship on ecosystem-anchored cooperation and given the substantive set of cases of such cooperation identified in the dataset, these forms of ecosystem-anchored cooperation may have particularly significant ordering effects. They merit attention in the international relations scholarship that seeks to account for the diversity of global ordering practices.

CRISTIANA MAGLIA AND ELANA WILSON ROWE

Table 1. Coding scheme for cooperation initiative classification around ecosystems and examples of political bodies falling into each category¹⁰

		<i>Geographical scope</i>	
		<i>Specific to ecosystem</i>	<i>Broader than an ecosystem</i>
Focus	Issue/resource specific	Type 1.1 (Central Africa Forests Commission—COMIFAC)	Type 2.1 (European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization—EPPO)
	Multifunctional	Type 1.2 (Mekong River Commission—MRC, Arctic Council, Amazon Treaty Cooperation Organization—ACTO)	Type 2.2 (Caribbean Community—CARICOM)



Ecosystemic Politics and the ACTO

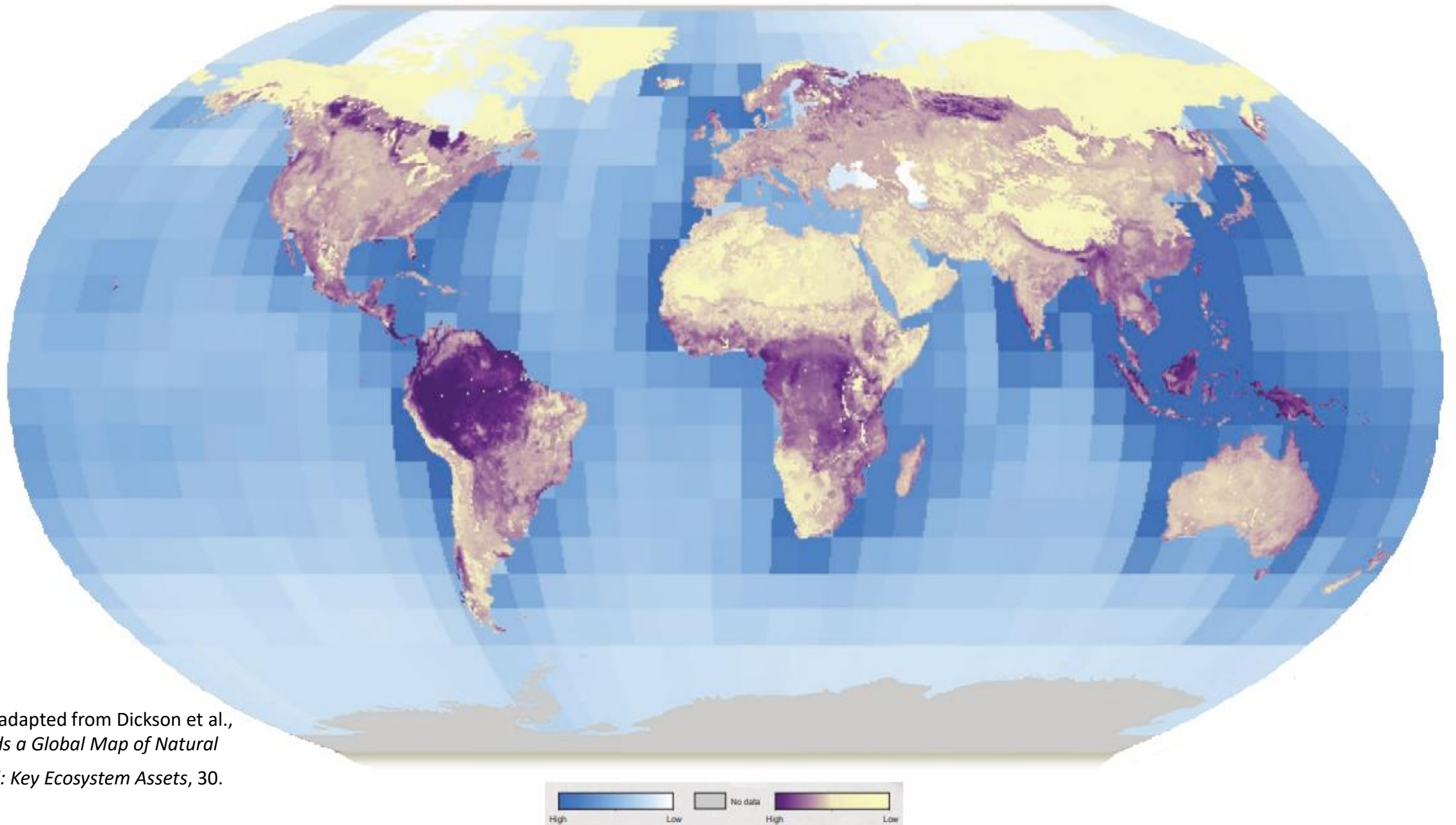


Figure adapted from Dickson et al.,
*Towards a Global Map of Natural
Capital: Key Ecosystem Assets*, 30.

Ecosystemic Politics and the ACTO



Figure adapted from Dickson et al.,
*Towards a Global Map of Natural
Capital: Key Ecosystem Assets*, 30.

Ecosystemic Politics and the ACTO



Figure adapted from Dickson et al., *Towards a Global Map of Natural Capital: Key Ecosystem Assets*, 30.



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Networked territoriality: A processual–relational view on the making (and makings) of regions in world politics

Lucas de Oliveira Paes* 

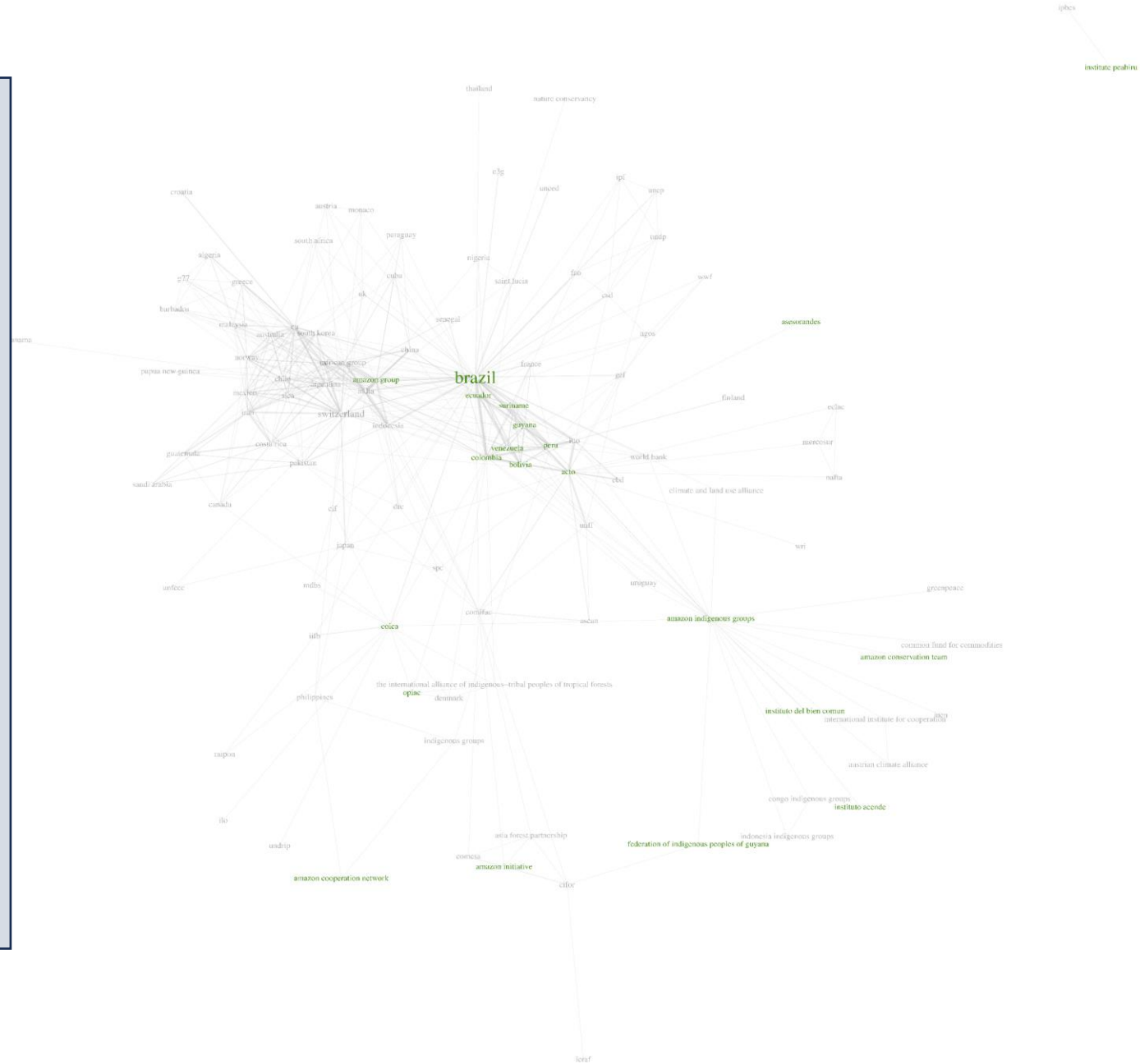
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Abstract

This article proposes a processual–relational perspective on region-making and its effects in world politics. It revisits the concepts of regionalism and regionalisation to unearth the relational mechanisms underlying these archetypical pathways of regional emergence. Regionalism refers to the bounding of regions – the definition of its inside and outside, and of which actors fall on either side. Regionalisation denotes the binding of regions, the amalgamations of relations around a shared territoriality. I argue that regions affect world politics in their making through the boundaries raised and relations produced in the process. I then mobilise network theory and analysis to propose a framework for studying the making and makings of regions. Regions’ binding and bounding are rooted in brokerage dynamics that sustain clusters of relations denser inside a regional boundary, rather than outside, and allow some actors to control interactions across that boundary. I illustrate this framework with a case study on the emergence of the Amazon as a region in world politics. I analyse interaction networks in UN-level environmental negotiations involving the ecosystem. The analysis shows how the making of the Amazon has been tied to preserving the position of Amazonian states as the main brokers, speaking for and acting on behalf of the region.

Keywords: Regions; Regionalism; Network Theory; Network Analysis; Amazon rainforest; Environmental Politics








The Amazon rainforest and the global–regional politics of ecosystem governance

Lucas de Oliveira Paes [Author Notes](#)

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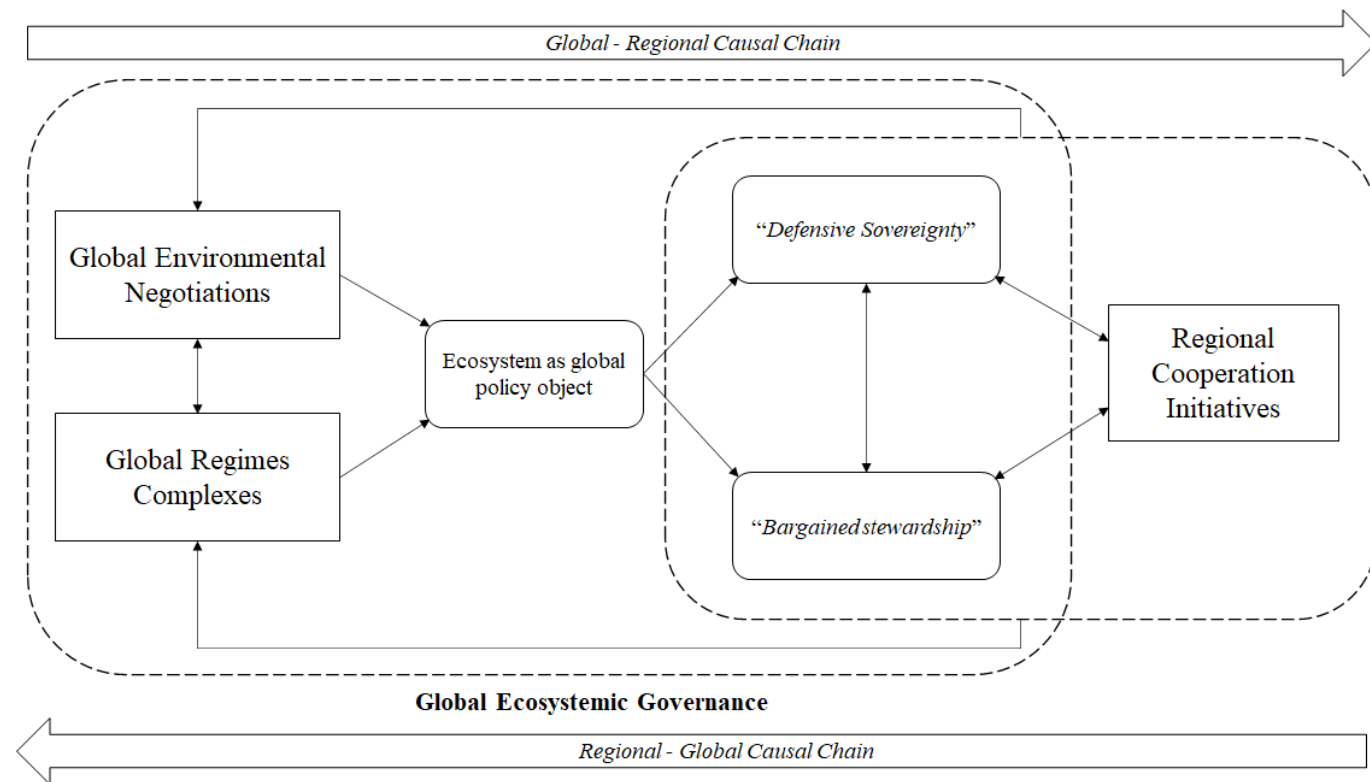
<https://doi.org/10.1093/ia/iiaac229>

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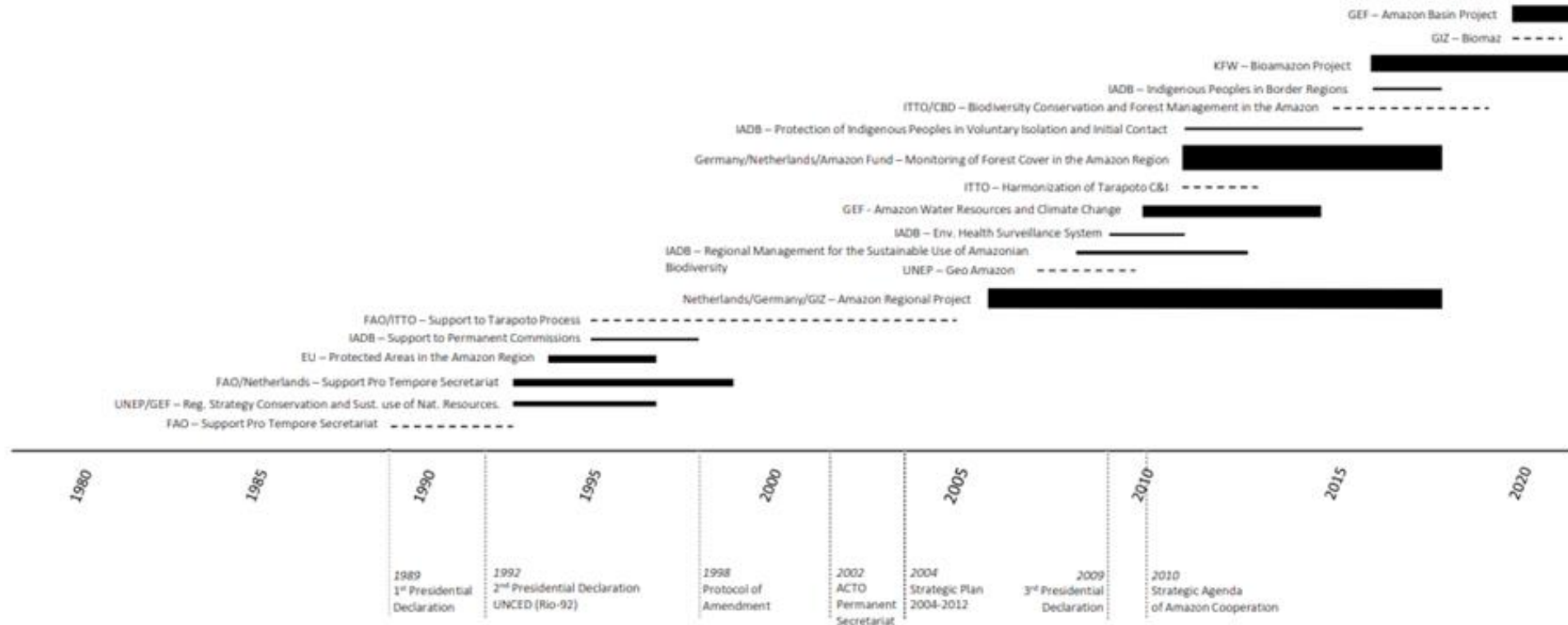
Abstract

This article examines the global–regional politics of ecosystem governance through the case of the Amazon rainforest. Despite the burgeoning literature on global and regional environmental politics, the interplay of these dynamics in ecosystem governance has still received limited attention. I here propose that the politics of ecosystem governance are rooted in a dispute over the realization of alternative ecosystem services. When global actors become invested in promoting ecosystem preservation to secure the realization services with diffuse benefits, it can affect cooperation at the regional level. Ecosystem-adjacent states can perceive external interest as a threat, building regional cooperation as a tool to defend sovereignty, but also as an opportunity, using it to bargain the terms of their stewardship. I use this framework to trace the evolution of regional cooperation in the Amazon, demonstrating how it was developed in response to this ecosystem's growing global salience. Through defensive sovereignty and bargained stewardship, regional cooperation helped Amazon states to cap international commitment and limit external influence in the region but also allowed for building some form of coordinated ecosystem protection. The research sheds new light on both the potential and the limitations of global–regional engagements for the preservation of the Amazon and other analogous cross-border ecosystems.



Global Politics in the Regional Amazon Governance

- Bargained Stewardship and the evolution of the ACT



Discussion and Implications

- The limitations of regional environmental governance
- Carrots and Sticks in Bargained Stewardship
- The relevance of domestic coalition building
- The relevance of producing incentives for preserving ecosystem-preserving services and curbing incentives for preserving ecosystem-depleting services
- Transnational coalitions of local actors



Thank you!

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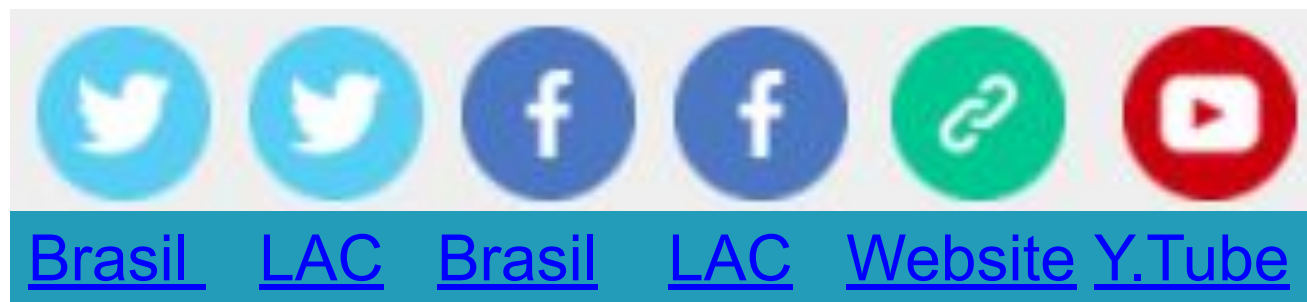
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