Thursday, March 27, 2014. 4:00 PM - 5:45 PM
TD14: Workshop Panel – Sustainable Transition and
Roundtable: Sustainable Peace - Policy Initiatives of
Governments and International Organizations

© Hans Günter Brauch,
Chairman, Peace Re-search and European Security Studies (AFES-PRESS)
Editor, Hexagon Series on Human, Environmental Security and Peace
Editor, SpringerBriefs in Environment, Security, Development & Peace

Introduction
Abstract

- Due to unsatisfactory treaty implementation and policies to achieve an international agreement to succeed the Kyoto Protocol, a world with an average temperature increase of 4°C by 2100 becomes more likely and its impacts on security. The discourse on ‘sustainability transition’ refers to strategies, policies and measures for avoiding societal consequences of climate change. ‘Sustainability transition’ may become a ‘threat minimizer’ to sustainable development through adaptation, economic development, governance, capacity building, mitigation, and conflict prevention. Research on ‘sustainability transition’ combines complex systems analysis with a socio-technological and governance perspective. This ISA workshop addressed the impacts of a postponement of decisions on global environmental action for international peace and security. The process of ‘transition’ points to multiple long-term evolutionary and revolutionary transformative changes. In the ISA workshop in San Francisco social scientists from the Americas and Europe addressed the linkages among scientific discourses and policy debates on a) international environment research on questions of global environmental and climate change, b) on questions of a sustainable peace, and c) on the long term transformative change towards sustainable development to develop new research questions and areas for a multidisciplinary oriented, policy relevant international social science and peace research.

- Keywords: Climate Change; Ecology; Environment; Governance; Human Security; Peace; Sustainability; Sustainable Development; Security; Technology (New/Modern/Innovation)
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   Sustainability Transition & Sustainable Peace
5. Structure of the Roundtable: five speakers are authors of the book;
1. Participants

Chair: **Hans Guenter Brauch** *(AFES-PRESS)*

Chair: **Ursula Oswald Spring** *(Nat. Univ. of Mexico)*

- Participant: **Hans Guenter Brauch** *(AFES-PRESS)*
- Participant: **Simon Dalby** *(Balsillie School of International Affairs)*
- Participant: **Ursula Oswald Spring** *(National University of Mexico)*
- Participant: **Carolyn M. Stephenson** *(University of Hawaii Manoa)*
- Participant: **Eduardo Viola** *(University of Brasilia)*
2. Introduction: Addressing the linkages among two themes

- Assessment of the status quo:
  - Paralysis of international environment & climate change diplomacy
  - Performance gap:

- Consequences of the status quo:
  - Discourse 1: climate change and security consequences
  - Discourse 2: sustainable development & sustainable (sustainability) transition

- Sustainable transition: a policy process in environmental but also technology and governance studies
- Sustainable peace: goal of peace studies
2.1. The Sustainability Transition and Sustainability Project (STSP)

- After a comprehensive project: *Reconceptualization of Security* (2004-2011) that resulted in 270 peer reviewed chapters that were published as vol. 3, 4, 5
  - *Hexagon Book Series on Human, Environmental Security and Peace* (HESP)
  - A Chinese edition will be published in 2014

- The *Sustainability Transition and Sustainable Peace Project* (STSP) was launched in Mexico (2012)
  - This new international research & dialogue project on *Sustainability Transition and Sustainable Peace Project* (STSP) addresses key scientific and political challenges of the 21st century
2.2. Hexagon Series: Volumes III-V

Global Environmental and Human Security Handbook for the Anthropocene (GEHSHA)

2.3 Failure of international efforts

- The relative failure of international efforts to address, face and cope effectively with the impacts of global environmental change and global climate change that have resulted in a ‘climate paradox’ that major industrialized and democratic countries were unable or unwilling to comply with their global legally binding and declaratory commitments they adopted during the first Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992 in the aftermath of the end of the Cold War:
  - United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
  - United Nations Convention on Biodiversity (UNCBD)
  - Rio-Declaration on Environment and Development
  - Agenda 21
2.4. Impact of this relative failure

This failure is reflected in

- inability of the international community represented by the world of states to agree on legally binding follow-up regime to the Kyoto Protocol by end if 2012;
- in the relative failure of the Conference of Parties (COP) to the UNFCCC at
  - COP 15 in Copenhagen, Denmark (2009);
  - COP 16 in Cancun, Mexico (2010);
  - COP 17 in Durban, South Africa (2011);
  - COP 18 in Doha, UAE (2012)
  - COP 19 in Warsaw, Poland (2013)
- in the failure of most G8 countries to initiate measures to implement their announced goal (2007-2011) to reduce their GHG emissions by 80% by 2050 that decided on 18-19 May 2012 at their summit in the USA not to repeat in their Camp David Declaration previous commitments;
- in the failure of the G20 meeting in Los Cabos (Mexico) on 18-19 June 2012 to adopt any legally binding agreement on financing climate change activities in developing countries in their G20 Leaders Declaration
- in the failure of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in Rio de Janeiro on 20-22 June 2012 to adopt any new and legally binding decisions at besides the declaratory statement: Outcome of the Conference: The future we want.
- Efforts to downgrade the CO2 reduction and Renewable Energy Goals of the EU
2.5. Two Different Responses

• This skeptical diagnosis refers to two different approaches on international security and environmental policy:
  – a *business-as usual policy* that the market, economic initiatives and military power will be able to cope with its consequences;
  – a *willingness to move towards a sustainability transition* that requires multiple efforts to move towards a long-term transition towards sustainability.

• This is also reflected in different policy debates (see the *Report of the UN Secretary General on Climate change and its possible security implications. Report of the Secretary-General. A/64/350* of 11 September 2009 (New York: UN) and the scientific discourses that are so far not conceptually linked:
  – on the *securitization of the impacts of global environmental and climate change* due to this international inability and a lack of political will to act in a proactive manner by postponing policy decisions to the successors and to the next generations of citizens who will have to pay the price;
  – on the need to initiate strategies, policies and measures aiming at a *sustainability transition during the 21st century.*
2.6. Two Debates: Climate Change & Security vs. Sustainability Transition
2.7. Two Complementary Debates

- The *first debate* has been primarily policy driven and has gradually evolved in the framework of international, national and human security.
  - *Scientific discourse* ([Scheffran/Brzoska/Brauch/Link/Schilling, 2012](#)) has been pursued from different policy and scientific perspectives and with different scientific methods.
- The *second debate* has also partly been policy driven, e.g. by debate on green economy that has been launched by UNEP, OECD and by different DGs of the European Commission.
  - The *scientific discourse* on sustainability transition has evolved initially in Europe since the conferences in Amsterdam (2009); Lund (2011) and Copenhagen (2012) and it takes place within the *Sustainability Transitions Research Network* (STRN) and is documented in the new journal on *Environmental Innovation and Sustainability Transition* (EIST) and the *Routledge Book Series in Sustainability Transitions* (since 2010).
2.8. First Debate & Discourse: Climate Change and Security

- Policy Debate on
  - International security: EU, UN
  - National security: USA, UK
  - Human security: UN, IPCC
- Scientific discourse.
  - Hamburg workshop 11/2009 (Scheffran et al.)
2.9. Second Debate: SD (goal) Sustainability Transition (process)

- Parallel discourse on ‘sustainability transition’ addresses both the causes and impacts of GEC and GCC by facing & coping with both and avoiding the projected societal consequences of dangerous or catastrophic climate change and of possible tipping points in the climate system.

- From this perspective the goal of ‘sustainable development’ and the perspective on ‘sustainability transition’ refer to a much wider research agenda than the relatively narrow focus on environmental and technological innovations that is a primary focus of many researchers in the STRN.

- The process of ‘transition’ refers to multiple long-term evolutionary and revolutionary transformative changes that point to five different historical times, with different transformative results.

- These must be distinguished since they have different transformative results. We may address them in 4 hypotheses:
2.10. Four Hypotheses

• We are in the midst of a global transition in earth history from the ‘Holocene’, to the ‘Anthropocene’ that began with human interventions into the earth system and that has resulted in a rapid increase in GHG emissions in the atmosphere.

• The impacts of the grand transformations of the first and second industrial revolution have resulted in a complex global environmental change and in anthropogenically-induced climate change, besides as well as the increasing destruction of the biodiversity. natural climatic variations. This has resulted in an exponentially growing accumulation of GHG in the atmosphere this has also affected almost all environmental services.

• The societal impacts of four physical effects of ‘anthropogenic global climate change’ and of biodiversity loss may result in major international, national, and human security dangers.

• Since 2005 an alternative discourse on ‘sustainability transi-tions’ or on ‘transitions to sustainable and resilient development’ has begun to evolve. It addresses new directions in the ‘study of long-term transformative change’ that also needs to focus on resilient societies.
2.11. Goal of Sustainability & Past 25 Years of Policy and Scientific Debates on Sustainable Development

Political Concept of Sustainable Development (SD)

• Since the Brundtland Commission (1987) report, SD has become a key concept that has since guided both policy and scientific debates. It defined sustainable development as a form of development that

• “meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”.

• SD comprises two other concepts of “‘needs’, “in particular the essential needs of the world’s poor, to which overriding priority should be given; & the idea of limitations imposed by the state of technology & social organization on the environment’s ability to meet present & future needs”.

• For Brundtland Commission, “SD is a process of change in which the exploitation of resources, the direction of investments, the orientation of technological development, and institutional change are all in harmony and enhance both current and future potential to meet human needs and aspirations”.

2.12. Emergence of Scientific & Policy Debates on ‘Sustainability Transition’

- Scientific discourse in natural sciences on earth systems analysis (ESA) or earth systems science (ESS), ‘sustainability science’ (SuS) involving natural and social sciences, and on ST, primarily in the social sciences.
- **Policy debate** has addressed proposals for a global green deal and green growth, that are increasingly been being addressed by inter- and supranational organizations, such as the UN, UNEP, OECD, and the EU.
- Since 2009, Sustainability Transitions Research Network (STRN) focused on “persistent sustainability problems in energy, transport, water and food” from perspective of “various scientific communities” on ways in which society could combine economic & social development with reduction of its pressure on the environment. A shared idea among these scholars is that due to the specific characteristics of the sustainability problems (ambiguous, complex) incremental change in prevailing systems will not suffice. There is a need for transformative change at the systems level, including major changes in production, consumption that were conceptualized as ‘sustainability transitions

**STRN conferences:**
- 2009: Amsterdam
- 2011: Lund
- 2012: Copenhagen
- 2013: Zürich
- 2014: Utrecht

**Routlege Series, vol. 1: J. Grin et al.: „seeks to understand transitions dynamics, and how and to what extent they may be influenced.”**
2.13. Goals of the New Project

- This new project tries to link this emerging debate with the experience of international relations and environment, security, development and peace (ESDP) studies by addressing possible impacts of both alternative policy trends for international peace and security.

- All three technical revolutions:
  - the first agricultural revolution (10,000 to 6,000 years ago),
  - the second industrial revolution (1750-1890/1914), and the
  - third revolution of communication, transportation and information (CTI) technologies (since 1890 or 1920) (‘second industrial revolution’) have resulted in a higher and more violent level of warfare and have thus impacted negatively on international peace and security.

This experience raises several new key research questions:

- Will the suggested fourth sustainability revolution (sustainability transition) lead to new multiple potentially violent conflicts within and among countries?
- May the suggested sustainability transition in the energy sector reduce the potential of resource-related violent conflicts and wars?
- From a scientific and conceptual perspective, which strategies, policies and measures may be needed to combine the proposed process of a long-term transition of the scientific institutions and their new knowledge, of societies and the business community and economic sectors as well as new forms of governance with the goal of a sustainable peace?
2.14. Scientific Dimension of Sustainability Transition

- Development of new scientific & technological knowledge is crucial for initiating processes for multiple transitions towards sustainability.

- 1999: US National Academy of Science (NAS): in a report: Our Common Journey: A Transition Toward Sustainability noted that “many human needs will not be met, life-support systems will be dangerously degraded, and the number of hungry and poor will increase”.

- The NAS also argued that “a successful transition toward sustainability is possible over the next two generations” but that this would require “significant advances in basic knowledge, in the social capacity and technological capabilities to utilize it, and in the political will to turn this knowledge to action” (NRC 1999: 160).
2.15. Emerging Scientific ST Discourse

- 2001: Amsterdam conference on Earth Systems Science (ESSP)
- 2004: Clark/Crutzen/Schellnhuber provided conceptual context for the Dahlem Workshop on “Earth Systems Science and Sustainability” (2003), where they pointed to “the need for harnessing science and technology in support of efforts to achieve the goal of environmentally sustainable human development in the Anthropocene”
- 2005: KSI started to work on Sustainability transition (John Grin, co-chair)
- 2009: Amsterdam Conference on Sustainability Transition resulted in Sustainability Transition Research Network (STRN)
- 2010: Routledge Series on Sustainability Transitions was launched
- 2011: Elsevier: Environmental Innovation and Sustainability Transition
- 2011: Oswald Spring/Brauch: Fourth Sustainability Revolution (FSR)
- 2011: Brauch/Dalby/Oswald Spring: A Political Geoecology for the Anthropocene
- 2001: WBGU. Report: A Social Contract for Sustainability (Dropbox) – We are currently witnessing the emergence of a new scientific paradigm that is driven by unprecedented planetary-scale challenges, operationalized by transdisciplinary centennium-scale agendas, and delivered by multiple-scale co-production based on a new contract between science and society.
2.16. Addressing Obstacles to ST: Overcoming Old Mindsets & World Views

- **Oswald Spring and Brauch** (argued in Anthropocene humankind is confronted with **two opposite visions**:
  - **Business-as-usual in a Hobbesian** world where economic and strategic interests and behaviour prevail, leading to a major crisis for humankind in inter-state relations that will destroy the Earth as the habitat for humans and ecosystems and put the survival of the vulnerable at risk (see the ‘market first’ and ‘security first’ scenarios of UNEP 2007).
  - The **need for a transformation of global cultural, environmental, economic** (productive and consumptive patterns), and **political** (with regard to human and interstate) **relations** (‘sustainability first’ scenario of UNEP 2007).
2.17. Alternative Visions & Strategies

• Both visions refer to totally different strategies for coping with Global Environmental Change (GEC):
  – In the first vision of business-as-usual, Cornucopian perspectives predominate that suggest primarily market mechanisms, technical fixes, and the defence of economic, strategic and national interests by adaptation strategies that are in the interests of OECD countries.
  – In the alternative vision of a comprehensive transformation, a sustainable perspective has to be implemented and developed into effective new strategies and policies with different goals and using different means, based on global equity and social justice.
2.18. Consequences of Both Visions

- The consequences of both opposing scientific visions and the competing policy perspectives are:
  - **The vision of business-as-usual** with minimal reactive adaptation and mitigation strategies will most likely increase the probability of a ‘dangerous climate change’ or catastrophic GEC with both linear and chaotic changes in the climate system and their sociopolitical consequences. This represents a high-risk approach.
  - To avoid these consequences the **alternative vision and sustainability perspective** requires a change in culture (thinking on the human-nature interface), world views (thinking on systems of rule, e.g. democracy vs. autocracy, and on domestic priorities and policies, as well as on interstate relations in the world), mindsets (strategic perspectives of policymakers), and **new forms of national and global governance**.
2.19. Alternative Vision

• This alternative vision refers to the need for a “new paradigm for global sustainability” and for a “transition to [a] much more sustainable global society” aimed at peace, freedom, material well-being, and environmental health.

• Changes in technology and management systems alone will not be sufficient, but “significant changes in governance, institutions and value systems” are needed, resulting in a fourth major transformation following “the stone age, early civilization and the modern era”.

• These alternative strategies should be “more integrated, more long-term in outlook, more attuned to the natural dynamics of the Earth System and more visionary”.

• These many changes suggested by natural scientists require a ‘Fourth Sustainability Revolution’ or a comprehensive and manifold process of sustainability transition.
2.20. Three Obstacles

Results of Business as Usual: The Climate Paradox
• I argue that Canada, USA, Japan and rapidly industrializing threshold countries (G-20), who account for more than eighty per cent of GHG emissions, have faced a climate paradox due to their inability or lack of political will to implement their legal commitments or policy declarations. However, the different performance of the climate laggards and the of new climate change leaders show that it is not the ‘system of rule’) but rather the different political cultures in Europe and in North America that have influenced different policy performance.

Neo-Malthusian Dead End: Securitization to Militarization
• Hobbesian pessimists, concerned about the national security implications of global environmental and climate change that are being interpreted by the dominant realist policy mindset, have used this argument to adjust their force structure and military means to be able to cope with these major challenges. From this, primarily US-focused, national security perspective on climate change, the securitization of the impacts of climate change as a force multiplier may result in militarization.

The Cornucopian Dead End of Geo-engineering
• From the opposite ‘Cornucopian’ perspective, the solution to the challenges posed by global environmental and climate change may be technical fixes that have been offered by those who call for macro-scale projects of geo-engineering.
2.21 Towards a Sustainable Transition with Sustainable Peace

- The prevailing policy mindset that favoured policy solutions based on ‘business as usual” resulted in a climate paradox and in a comprehensive paralysis of global multilateral environmental governance, at Copenhagen (2009), Cancun (2010), Durban (2012), and in Rio de Janeiro (2012).

- The narrow neo-Malthusian national security perspective on the security implications of climate change may result in militarization, while the Cornucopian perspective believes that market mechanisms & technical fixes could cope with the impacts of anthropogenic climate change.
2.22. Five Pillars of Peace

Fig. 1.1 Five pillars of peace ecology and their four linkage concepts of negative, positive, cultural and engendered peace. Source The Authors
2.23. Goal: Sustainable Peace

- **Sustainable peace** refers to manifold links among peace, security and the environment, where humankind and environment as two key parts of global Earth face the consequences of destruction, extraction and pollution.

- The Sustainable peace concept includes also processes of recovering from environmental destruction, reducing the human footprint in nature through a less carbon-intensive - and in the long-term possibly carbon-free and dematerialized production processes that future generations may still be able to decide on their own resources and development strategies.
3. Goal of the Workshops and Winter School: Evolving Scientific Debate

– Workshop in Yautepec: September 2012 (3 days): with podcasts
– IPRA’s Ecology & Peace Commission
– ISA Workshop in San Francisco 2013
– Winter School at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok (9-13 Dec.): Oswald Spring-Brauch talks are at:
  
First Sustainability Transition and Sustainable Peace Workshop of UNAM/CRIM and AFES-PRESS

Towards a Fourth Sustainability Revolution and Sustainable Peace:
Visions and Strategies for Long Term Transformative Change to Sustainable Development in the 21st Century

10-13 September 2012, in Morelos, Mexico

3.2 Major Research Questions and Goals also of relevance for this workshop

- Which conceptual linkages exist between the discussion on sustainable development (ecology) and a sustainable peace (peace research)?
- Which possible consequences of non-action and of a postponement of decisions can be foreseen in the area of global environmental change (water, soil, climate change, biodiversity) on the area of international peace and security – from the perspective of states and international organizations as well as of human security?
- May policies of ecological non-action and of the postponement of decisions that increases the intensity of anthropogenic climate-induced natural hazards and disasters that may become for billions of people an issue of survival become a serious threat to international peace and security during the 21st century?
- May anticipative learning and a forward looking public and global discourse on the necessary long term transformative change contribute to a sustainable development and counter new threats for international peace and security in a preventive manner?
3.3. IPRA: Ecology & Peace Commission: Nov. 2012 in Japan
3.4. April 2013 in San Francisco: ISA Workshop & Panel

2 April 2013: Workshop:
- Brauch, Hans Günter,
- Dalby, Simon
- Grin, John
- Happaerts, Sander,
- Jackson Ewing
- Kern, Florian
- Oswald Spring, Ursula,
- Scheffran, Jürgen,
- Stephenson, Carolyn,
- Viola, Eduardo

5 April 2013: ISA Panel
Sustainability Transition: Theories, Approaches & Perspectives from Europe and Latin America

1) John Grin: Sustainability transitions in transnational society: a governance perspective
2) Sander Happaerts/Hans Bruyninckxy: Scale in the debate on sustainability transitions. Taking international developments into account
3) Ursula Oswald Spring: Sustainability Transition: Case of a River Basin in Mexico
4) Eduardo Viola: Sustainability in Divided Brazil: Who Is The More Powerful Between Conservatives and Reformist?
5) Jürgen Scheffran: The Diffusion of Innovations for the Sustainability Transition

Discussant: Simon Dalby
3.5. Winter School in Bangkok (9-13 December 2013)

"Winter school" opens up for application!

Transformative Social Sciences for Sustainability and Social Justice
December 9-13, 2013, At the Social Research Institute, Chulalongkorn University

What is Winter School?
Winter school is a short-term non-credit academic program with lectures, presentations, workshops, panels, and a lot of discussions. It aims to familiarize participants with current concepts and debates in social sciences.

Structure of Winter School
This Winter School will be on the theme of “Transformative Social Sciences for Sustainability and Social Justice.” It will cover 5 days—December 9-13, 2013. The school consists of morning lectures or presentations with discussions by specialists on the daily theme; and afternoon session consists of participants’ presentations, followed by further discussions.

The Winter School will accept the maximum number of 30 participants. Junior lecturers and researchers and post-graduate students are encouraged to apply. Participants are expected to have full-time attendance and only those who are fully engaged in active discussions will receive Winter School certificate at the end of the program.

Speakers:
Prof. Dr. Ursula Oswald Spring, Adj. Prof. Dr. Hans G. Brauch, Prof. Surichai Wun’ Gaeo, Prof. Dr. Supang Chantavanich, Dr. Mingsarn Santikarn Kaosa-ard, Prof. Dr. Pasuk Phoengpaichit, Prof. Dr. Anan Kanjanapan, Prof. Dr. Uthai Dulyakasem, Dr. Komatra Chuengsatiansup, and many more distinguished speakers.

Application Procedure
Applicants are requested to send the abstract of their research to saya21@yahoo.com by November 25, 2013.

More information can be found at www.cusri.chula.ac.th 02 218 7392  Fax. 02 215 5523 E-mail: saya21@yahoo.com
4. Scientific Output:

– IPRA EPC book:
  • Expanding Peace Ecology (published) ESDP No. 12

– Brauch-Oswald Spring-Grin-Scheffran: Handbook on Sustainability Transition & Sustainable Peace
  • See more at: <http://afes-press-books.de/html/hexagon.htm>
  • Goal: Audience and Themes
  • Structure of the book: 52 chapters
  • Text book for graduate seminars globally

– Publication on Thai winter school is planned:
  • ESDP 28: Oswald/Arunotai/Middleton/Brauch (2015)
  • ESDP Subs.: Sustainable Development & Sustainability Transition
4.1. Peer-reviewed Publication Project: Sustainability Transition and Peace

Vol. 10, Hexagon Book Series: Peer-reviewed

4.3. Structure of the Book

53 chapters: 67 authors from 20 countries & 5 continents

I: Introduction: Moving towards Sustainability Transition
II: Aiming at Sustainable Peace based on Sustainable Development
III: Challenges of the 21st Century: The Negative Nexus of Environmental Destruction, Development and Violent Conflict
IV: Towards a Positive Nexus of Sustainable Development and Peace
V: Theories and Models of Sustainability Transition and Practice
VI: National and Regional Debates on Sustainability Transition
VII: Transition towards a Sustainable Economy, Society and Urbanization
VIII: Sustainability Transition in the Water, Soil, Food and Health Sectors
IX: Sustainability Transition in the Energy and Transportation Sectors

Chapters are arriving & peer review process has started
5. Structure of the Roundtable:
5 Speakers are Authors of Prospective Book

- Presentation of the participants (3 min.each)
- Round 1: Why is linking both themes scientifically relevant and innovative and promising (15 minutes)
- Round 2: Are there specific disciplinary perspectives
  - Geography
  - Political science, international relations
  - Anthology & Ecology
- Round 3: Are there regional specific debates on those linkages in
  - North America (Carolyn, Simon)
  - Latin America (Ursula, Eduardo)
  - Europe (Hans Günter)
  - South East Asia (Ursula, Thai Winter School)
- Round 4: Why is a multidisciplinary agenda-setting, bridge-building necessary in
5.1. Time Schedule: 105 minutes

- Introduction (15 minutes)
- Self-presentations (15 minutes)
- 4 discussion round (4 x 15 min.)
- Discussion from floor (15 min.)
Thank you for your attention!

This text is soon for download at:

Send your comments to:
Brauch@afes-press.de