

Breaking Climate Borders

'Climate borderscapes' and the limits of state-centric approaches to climate migration



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GUEST LECTURE

How will climate change intersect with human migration?

As this question gains traction, it gestures towards fundamental issues of sovereignty, planetary habitability, and justice, while inviting a rethinking of (im)mobility under accelerating climate change. Yet dominant responses project present-day migration frameworks into the future, entrenching unequal geographies of mobility and displacement, with the climate migrant/refugee as the harbinger of the next “migration crises.”

Developing the notion of climate borderscapes, this intervention exposes the limits of state-centric approaches, and calls for visions beyond crisis-driven narratives, towards alternative articulations of habitability, climate justice, and solidarity.

Giovanni Bettini is Senior Lecturer at Lancaster University (UK), and Associate Director of the Centre for Mobilities Research (CeMoRe).

In his research he investigates how environmental change – in its planetary but uneven character, and entangled with contemporary ‘crises’ and historical legacies – generates new spaces, modes of governance, inequalities, and forms of resistance.

He has published extensively on the links between climate change and human mobility.

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