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From Sustainable Development to Sustainable Peace

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Hexagon Series, vol. III; First volume of the Security Handbook

H.G. Brauch, J. Grin, C. Mesjasz, P. Dunay, N. Chadha Behera, B. Chourou, U. Oswald Spring, P.H. Liotta, P. Kameri-Mbote (Eds.):
Globalization and Environmental Challenges: Reconceptualizing Security in the 21st Century
(Berlin–New York: Springer-Verl.,2008).

see at: <http://www.afes-press-books.de/html/hexagon_03.htm>.

Globalization and Environmental Challenges pose new security dangers and concerns. In this reference book on global security thinking, 92 authors from five continents and many disciplines, from science and practice, assess the global reconceptualization of security triggered by the end of the Cold War, globalization and manifold impacts of global environmental change in the early 21st century. In 10 parts, 75 chapters address the theoretical, philosophical, ethical and religious and spatial context of security; discuss the relation-ship between security, peace, development and environment; review the reconceptua lization of security in philosophy, international law, economics and political science and for the political, military, economic, social and environmental security dimension and the adaptation of the institutional security concepts of the UN, EU and NATO; analyze the reconceptualiza-tion of regional security and alternative security futures and draw conclusions for future research and action.

What do we mean with "Security"?

- Security (Lat.: 'securus', 'securitas', 'se cura'
- philosophical and psychological state of mind
- subjective feeling of freedom from sorrow.
- Political concept of 'Pax Romana': stability in era of Augustus.
- Western thinking 'security' synonymous: 'certitudo'; certainty
- Since Augustus, and Middle Ages, 'securitas' was linked with 'pax' & 'libertas' that was associated with 'quietness'.
- 19th century, state is key security institution governed by law.
- 20th century, security associated with preventing internal & external dangers; police & courts (*internal: justice & home affairs*) & political, economic, military measures (*external: security/defense*).
- a general 'societal idea of value', a universally normative concept, different meanings in affirmative manner.
- political value, related to individual or societal value systems

Objective, Subjective, Intersubjective Security

- **Wolfers (1962)** **pointed to two sides of the security concept: "Security, in an** *objective* **sense, measures the absence of threats to acquired values, in a** *subjective* **sense, the absence of fear that such values will be attacked".**

- **From a constructivist approach in international relations 'security' is the outcome of a process of social & political interaction where social values & norms, collective identities & cultural traditions are essential. Security:** *intersubjective* **or "what actors make of it".**

- **Copenhagen school: security as a "speech act", "where a securitizing actor designates a threat to a specified reference object and declares an existential threat implying a right to use extraordinary means to fend it off".**

- **Such a process of "securitization" is successful when the construction of an "existential threat" by a policy maker is socially accepted and where "survival"' against existential threats is crucial**

What is Sustainable Peace?

- It is a **generally accepted value,** a type of desideratum linked to **harmony, tranquility, cooperation, alliance, well-being, and agreement**.

- It started with **'preventive diplomacy'** from Dag Hammarskjold, later adopted by Boutros Boutros-Ghali, and today used in different governmental discourses and practices: tries in a **preventive way** to avoid escalation and spreading of conflicts through political solutions.

- The Orient contributed **nonviolent practices** with other humans and nature: **ahimsa** signifies not to do harm to any living organism.

- China's Taoism proposed a **harmony among sky, earth, and humans** generating cosmic energy which is the way to intelligence and fruitful life (Kongfuzi).

- In Mesoamerica indigenous societies, living in difficult environmental conditions, have developed **equilibrium, deep respect and unity with nature** and a profound knowledge on environment management

- Dark history of gender discrimination, intra-familial violence, feminicides, rape, trafficking and aggression have created **higher vulnerability of women**. UN Security Council Resolution 1325 that reinforced the ongoing gender mainstreaming in the UN bodies, highlighted the crucial role of women in development.
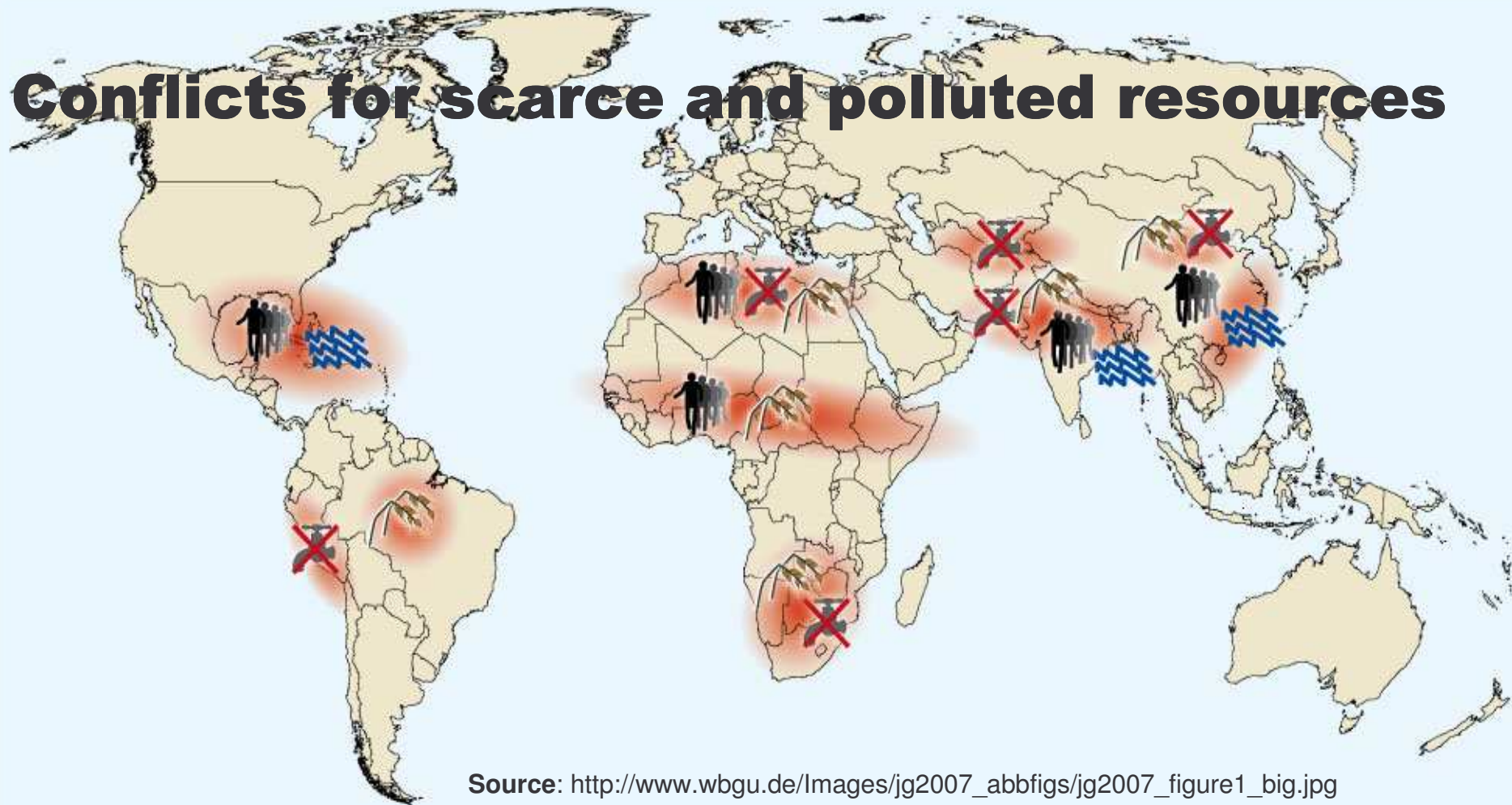
Ecofeminism

- Ecofeminism promoted sustainable subsistence in hand of women for food and wealth of their families, communities and the planet

- non-violent management of nature and society

- peaceful and nonviolent conflict resolving society

- confronted with globalization and rape capitalism, organized crime and depletion of nature, ecofeminism allied to other social movements for an inclusive peace behaviour in daily life (Reardon 1996; Boulding 2000; Oswald 1990; Campos 1995).

Regional peace, development, governance

- medium and long-term problems related to security and co-operation in the region;
- improvement of regional capacity and mechanisms to prevent, manage and resolve crises through political and not military means;
- creation of development & democratic institutions with representative governments and protection of human rights, social rights and fundamental freedoms;
- sustainable growth and poverty alleviation with direct involvement of women.

Conflicts for scarce and polluted resources

Source: http://www.wbgu.de/Images/jg2007_abbfigs/jg2007_figure1_big.jpg

Conflict constellations in selected hotspots

Climate-induced degradation of freshwater resources

Climate-induced decline in food production

Hotspot

Climate-induced increase in storm and flood disasters

Environmentally-induced migration

Critics to sustainable peace

- underlies a **hierarchical** present world order, where international institutions and **patriarchal** organizations are maintaining the status quo of the present exclusive globalization process.
- no **structural changes** are proposed
- **conflicts** are required to offer the superpower and its allies' **cheap raw materials** for consumerism and wasteful fossil energy use.
- ideologically false realities: **cheating system** of free-market and global trade: world elite get richer using legal and transnational organized crime to amplify their accumulation of capital and power
- South: sustainable peace implies **critics of the existing model** of exclusivity and violence.
- new elements to create a sustainable model of society with **less environmental destruction**, **resource efficiency** and **shared** use of science and technology (against TRIPS and GATS)
- promotes **reduction of global environmental change, poverty alleviation and self-reliance**: a new paradigm of security: Human, Gender and Environmental Security: **HUGE**

HUGE: Human, Gender and Environmental Security

HUGE

- Oswald (2001) suggest a **widened concept** of Human, Gender and Environmental Security (HUGE) that combines a ample gender concept of vulnerable groups with a **human-centered** focus on environmental security and peace challenges.

- HUGE concept analyzes the **patriarchal**, violent and exclusive structures within the family and society questioning the existing process of **social representation-building** and **traditional role** assignation between genders consolidating women's discrimination and powerlessness.

- Reorients 'human security' to **greater equity** and **development** through social organization, specific governmental policies (quotas), private ethical investments and legal reinforcements by stimulating sociopolitical participation of women, young, unemployed, indigenous, elders and other minorities.

- At international level HUGE improves **free and equal access** to world and regional markets without trade distortions. It stimulates further **world solidarity** to support the poorest countries with financial aid, technological support and debt relief.
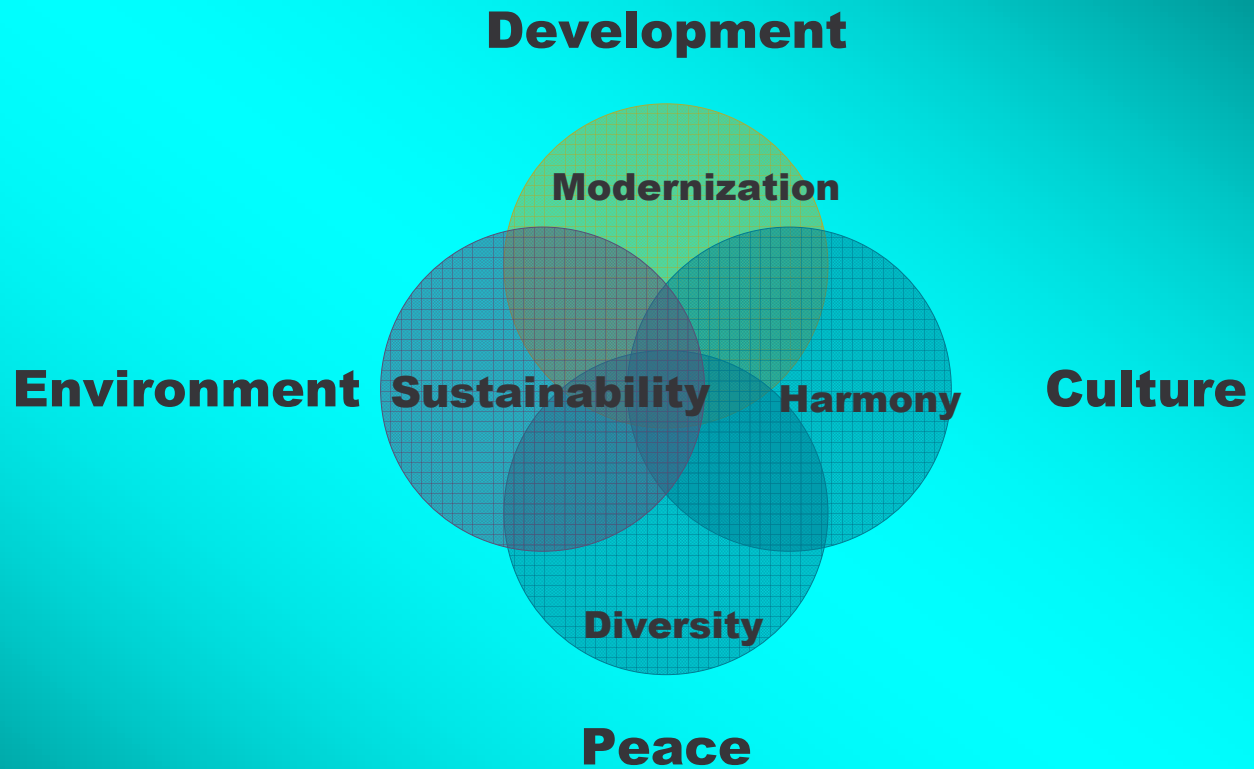
Human, Gender and Environmental Security (HUGE)

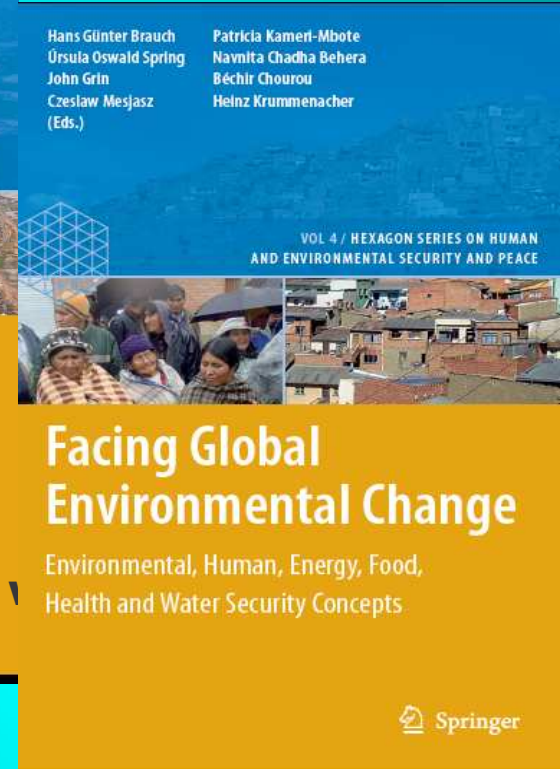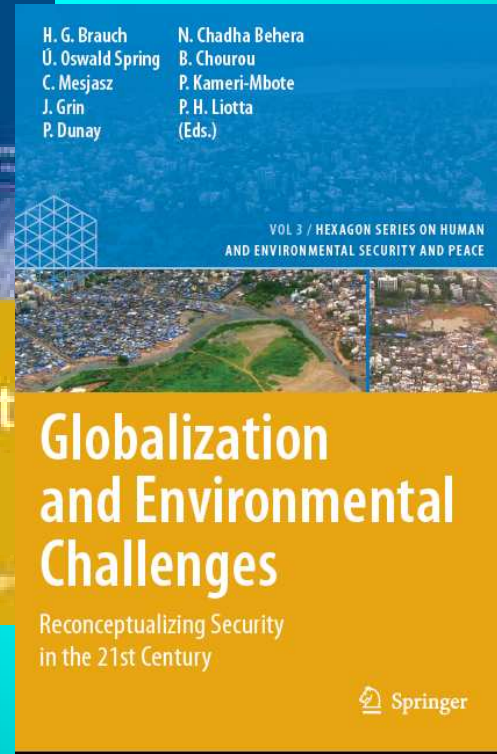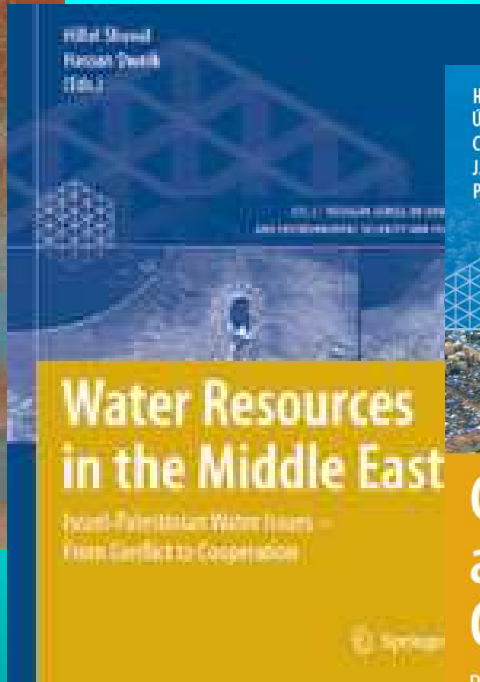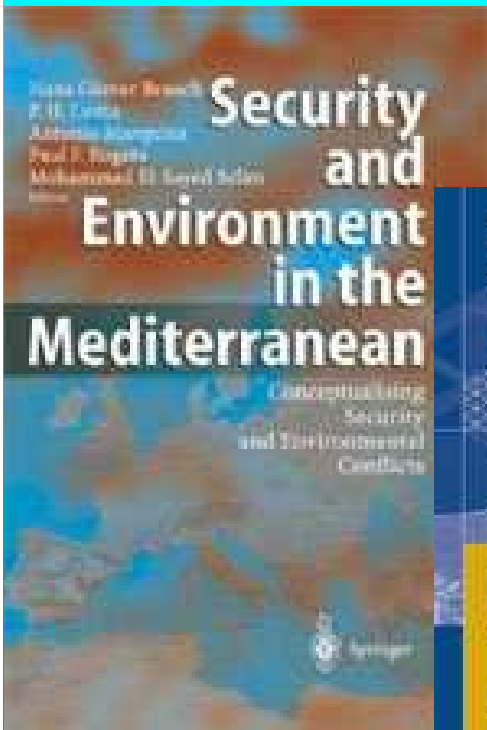| Level of expansion	Determination Which security?	Mode of expansion Reference object Security of whom?	Value at risk Security of what?	Source(s) of threat Security from whom or what?
Without expansion	National security (political, military dimension)	The State	Sovereignty, territorial integrity	Other States, terrorism, sub-state actors, guerrilla
Increased	Societal security	Nations, social groups	National Unity, national identity	(States), Nations, Migrants, Alien cultures
Radical	**Human security**	**Individuals (Humankind)**	**Survival, quality of life, cultural integrity**	**The State, globalization, nature, GEC, poverty, fundamentalism**
Ultra-radical	**Environmental Security**	**Ecosystem, urban and agricultural system**	**Sustainability**	**Nature Humankind**
Trans-radical	**Gender security**	**Gender relations, indigenous, minorities**	**Equity, identity, social relations**	**Patriarchy, totalitarian institutions (élites, governments, religions, culture), intolerance**

- HUGE includes a **healthy environment**, integral management of natural resources, prevention and remediation practices to reduce vulnerability and to stimulate resilience-building through bottom-up organization combined with top-down policies and institution-building.

- **Nonviolent conflict resolution** is central for personal and social identity in a world where processes of unification and diversification are occurring quicker than ever.

- HUGE includes consolidation of **participatory democracy and governance**, promoting conflict prevention, nonviolent conflict resolution and peace-building: a **'huge' solidarity** process of sustainable, inclusive, just and equal development.

Sustainable Peace with HUGE

Development

Modernization

Environment Sustainability Harmony **Culture**

Diversity

Peace

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Hexagon Series, vol. IV; Second volume of the Security Handbook

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Hans Günter Brauch, Úrsula Oswald Spring, John Grin, Czeslaw Mesjasz, Patricia Kameri-Mbote, Navnita Chadha Behera, Béchir Chourou, Heinz Krummenacher (Eds.): *Facing Global Environmental Change: Environmental, Human, Energy, Food, Health and Water Security Concepts* (Berlin – Heidelberg – New York: Springer-Verlag, 2008)

In the second volume of this policy-focused, global and multidisciplinary security handbook on *Facing Global Environmental Change* addresses new security threats of the 21st century posed by climate change, desertification, water stress, population growth and urbanization. These security dangers and concerns lead to migration, crises and conflicts. They are on the agenda of the UN, OECD, OSCE, NATO and EU. In 100 chapters, 132 authors from 49 countries analyze the global debate on environmental, human and gender, energy, food, livelihood, health and water security concepts and policy problems. In 10 parts they discuss the context and the securitization of global environmental change and of extreme natural and societal outcomes. They suggest a new research programme to move from knowledge to action, from reactive to proactive policies and to explore the opportunities of environmental cooperation for a new peace policy.

Thank you for your attention

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