

Lukas Meyer

Climate Change and Justice. Intergenerational and International Dimensions.

I will introduce the students to some of the problems of extending our notions of social justice to both international and intergenerational relations.

In the main presentation I discuss a fair way of allocating the mitigation and adaptation costs associated with climate change, in particular in the light of the benefits and damages brought forth by past emissions. It presupposes a prioritarian theory of distributive justice and generally proceeds by abstracting from the background inequality existing in the real world. It first discusses mitigation and concludes that the 'South' should get higher per capita emission rights than the 'North' because it has less benefits associated with past emissions to start with. It then discusses who should come up for adaptation costs and argues that it is difficult to frame the duty of the 'North' to those who are highly vulnerable as a duty of compensation but that it should primarily be seen as a duty grounded in concerns of distributive justice