



Latin American Report Journal

Call for Papers

Special Issue on “The Amazonia on Fire: The Politics of Deforestation in the Global South”

Editor of the Special Issue

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Overview

The wildfire deforestation tsunami that engulfed much of Amazonia covering Brazil and Bolivia spiked to international security threat level that highlighted an important dimension of the global climate crisis confronting natural ecosystems in much of Africa and Asia as well as in South America. As if the Amazonia forest fires were not enough to rivet international attention, they were followed up in quick order by comparable wildfire forest devastation in Indonesia and Malaysia amid reports of a similar threat level throughout Africa’s central rainforest belt. Indeed, the magnitude of the Amazonia devastation in Brazil and Bolivia did succeed in concentrating global media attention to an unprecedented level. In the process, this spotlight generated a significant degree of international political fallout and backlash not registered in the past although the wildfire deforestation crisis is an annual phenomenon of assault on natural ecosystems throughout the global South.

Here, much of the international political fallout was born by the ultra-right government of Brazil headed by President Jair Bolsonaro. Although Bolsonaro’s former left nationalist counterpart in Bolivia, Evo Morales shared equally in the transnational devastation blame wrought by the out-of-control fires. However, in Brazil’s case, the devastation exposed Bolsonaro’s pronounced anti-environmental, pro-commercial agricultural expansion agenda targeting Brazilian Amazonia along with racist hostility toward Amerindian indigenous communities who have an existential stake in rain forest retention and biodiversity preservation. Moreover, these stakes extend internationally to climate change activists and environmental conservationists supportive of Amazonia’s indigenous communities and biodiversity in combating rising carbon levels and their environmentally

threatening consequences. These international stakes also take in western governments, especially in the European Union (EU), committed as they are to combatting global warming under the Paris Climate Accord, thereby raising important North-South/West vs. non-West geopolitical implications as well as domestic political contradictions among constituencies opposed to rampant capitalist expansion into eroding natural habitats in the name of 'progress' much touted by Brazilian President Bolsonaro.

Within this context, as Bolsonaro defensively reacted under international pressure amid outrage over Amazonian devastation, the issue of national sovereignty in exercising sovereign control over a country's natural resources offset by a government's expected sense of regional and global governance responsibility in how national policies and practices impact beyond a country's borders emerged as salient political and geopolitical issues. Bolsonaro levelled accusation against the EU of harboring a recolonizing agenda for criticizing Brazil's approach to Amazonian deforestation irrespective of how globally impactful the decimation of Brazil's rainforest may pose internationally in affecting climate change, a threat Bolsonaro and his supporters discount. Are such South invocations of 'colonialism' credible under such circumstances amid exhortations of 'national sovereignty' over resources constituting a major component of the Global Commons impacting international security as this relates to the world's climate crisis? Indeed, in an interconnected world rapidly approaching 10 billion by mid-century can/should claims of 'sovereignty' continue to be taken seriously?

The Latin America Report invites scholarly articles for publication in a special issue on the subject "The Amazonia on Fire: The Politics of Deforestation in the Global South". The Journal is a double-blind peer-reviewed interdisciplinary journal that is dedicated to critical and alternative analysis and sharing of information on developments in Latin America, the Caribbean and other regions of the global South. This special issue will be published in October 2020.

Although authors are free to choose any topic that is related to this broad theme, the journal welcomes inputs and conversations that transcend disciplines and ecologies of knowledge. For guidance purposes, submissions addressing the following issues are particularly encouraged:

- Interrogating the South American domestic political and transnational geopolitical implications of Amazonia's deforestation crisis centered around the 2019 forest fires in Brazil and Bolivia and their resonance internationally in regard to global warming threat perceptions.
- Comparative perspectives regarding left-Bolivian and right-Brazilian political economies of deforestation in terms of their implications for developmental trajectories in search of 'progress' in the global South, including their impact on socio-economic class dynamics.
- The Brazilian and Bolivian deforestation experiences of 2019 in broader international perspective with special reference to similar practices in Southeast Asia centering on Indonesia's annual fires clearing rain forest regions for palm oil plantation development.
- The heightened levels of ecological threat perceptions confronting biodiversity in the global South in South America, Southeast Asia and in the Central African rainforest belt.

- The credibility or lack thereof of global South protestations of ‘colonialism’ in response to western reactions to ecocide as reflected in the Brazilian and Bolivian wildfire deforestation crises of 2019.
- Prospects for regional cooperation in South America and in ASEAN by containing the environmental threats of deforestation posed by annual forest fire clearing of land for commercial agricultural purposes.
- To what extent can/are indigenous and civil society push-backs against deforestation in the global South making headway (or not) in counteracting governmental and private vested interest exploiting natural resources threatening environmental devastation?

Submission Guidelines

Style Guidelines and Referencing

- Articles should not exceed 6000 words from the first word in the title to the last word in the list of references. Abstracts of not more than 250 words. Abstracts should not contain any footnotes or citations; and provide 4–6 keywords for indexing (only proper nouns should be capitalised). Separate keywords/phrases with a comma, e.g. semantics, codeswitching, discourse, southern regions of Africa, indexicality.
- Articles must be submitted by registering and submitting on the LAR website: <http://upjournals.co.za/index.php/LAR/user/register>. Further information may be found in the User Guide: <https://docs.pkp.sfu.ca/learning-ojs/en/authoring#registering-with-the-journal>.
- Manuscripts must be presented with normal margins; 12pt Times Roman; 1.5 line spacing.
- Proofing language set to UK English.
- Authors should include their affiliation or ORCID below their name, after the title of the article.
- Do not use the ampersand (&) anywhere in the text or citations; use “and” instead.
- In text, emphasise words by using italics only sparingly. Italicisation should otherwise be reserved for titles and words from a language other than that of the text.
- Italicised words/phrases in another language are glossed by an equivalent word/phrase in the language of the text placed in parentheses, e.g. indoda (a man). Words well known in South African English are set as roman, for example, “lobola,” “ubuntu,” “indaba.”
- Words/terms that need to be singled out as being “borrowed” from another author/source may be placed in double inverted commas.
- Titles of standalone publications must be in headline style (significant words are capitalised) and in italics when typed in the text. Titles of articles are placed between “double inverted commas.” Also see citation guidelines for examples.
- Acknowledgements appear at the end of the article, should be brief, and recognise sources of financial and logistical support and permission to reproduce materials from other sources. Save a copy of documentation granting such permission. Adherence to copyright rules remains each author’s sole responsibility.

Citation Guidelines: Chicago Author-Date

- Books: (Ward and Burns 2007, 52); Ward, Geoffrey C., and Ken Burns. 2007. *The War: An Intimate History, 1941–1945*. New York: Knopf.
- Chapters: (Kelly 2010, 77); Kelly, John D. 2010. "Seeing Red: Mao Fetishism, Pax Americana, and the Moral Economy of War." In *Anthropology and Global Counterinsurgency*, edited by John D. Kelly, Beatrice Jauregui, Sean T. Mitchell, and Jeremy Walton, 67–83. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Journals: (Morasse, Guderly and Dodson 2008 402); Morasse, Sébastien, Helga Guderley, and Julian J. Dodson. 2008. "Paternal Reproductive Strategy Influences Metabolic Capacities and Muscle Development of Atlantic Salmon (*Salmo salar* L.) Embryos." *Physiological and Biochemical Zoology* 81 (4): 402–13.
- Electronic sources: (Macdonald 2017); Macdonald, Fiona. 2017. "The Extraordinary Life of the 1920s Lady Gaga." *BBC Culture*, September 20. Accessed October 6, 2017. <http://www.bbc.com/culture/story/20170920-the-extraordinary-life-of-the-19th-century-lady-gaga>.
- Legislation: (South Africa 1978); South Africa. 1978. *Nursing Act 50 of 1978*. Pretoria: Government Printer.
- Thesis/dissertation: (Choi 2008); Choi, Mihwa. 2008. "Contesting *Imaginaires* in Death Rituals during the Northern Song Dynasty." PhD diss., University of Chicago.
- Papers/conferences: (Adelman 2009); Adelman, Rachel. 2009. "'Such Stuff as Dreams are Made On': God's Footstool in the Aramaic Targumim and Midrashic Tradition." Paper presented at the annual meeting for the Society of Biblical Literature, New Orleans, Louisiana, November 21–24.
- Compound sources: (Smit, as quoted in Tovey and Rosti 2012, 200); Smit, R. 2012. "Where to Now?" In *Climate Change in the Next Decade*, edited by S. Y. Tovey and T. Rosti, 200–234. Pretoria: Van Schaik.
- Four or more authors, list all of the authors in the reference list; in the text, list only the first author, followed by et al. ("and others")

Deadlines

Abstract: 15 March 2020

Full article: 15 June 2020

Questions and Enquiries

All questions and enquiries can be directed to Ms. Arina Muresan, Researcher at the Institute for Global Dialogue and Assistant on the Latin America Report (arina@igd.org.za).

Further details about the Journal can be found

at: <https://upjournals.co.za/index.php/LAR/about/submissions>