



BOOK REVIEW

Edited by Gabriela Kutting and Kyle Herman, *Global Environmental Politics: Concepts, Theories and Case Studies*, New York: Routledge, 2018, 272 pages.

Global Environmental Politics published by Routledge Publication edited by Gabriela Kutting and Kyle Herman is the perfect treatise to progressively significant research area of environment politics. The book has comprehensively researched articles and case studies inked by noteworthy global scholars in the field. The manuscript intelligently combines an overview to the most important environmental theories in part 1, while its part 2 chronicles a succession of exhaustive case studies of the most persistent ecological issues.

As a new field of study in international relations, global environmental politics deliberates on the matters associated with environment and outcomes of interaction between the political actors and their natural environment. The global environmental politics is reckoned as an extremely dynamic field in the twenty first century; however same was not the case until before 1990s. Environment till 1990s has been focused primarily as a political, institutional and procedural matter and is still is very much dealt with a sly hand. Lately, the governments and institutions have been forced into a more active research, serious planning and action for preempting the environmental apocalypse. The public outcry to a string of unprecedented experiences of natural calamities globally have ushered an awakening demanding the generation of debate and research on each individual phenomenon. The issue is now often being tackled as a security matter in many developed states in a bid to underscore its complexity and earth shattering repercussions on environment.

The recommended second edition of the book was published in 2018, while the first edition was issued back in 2010. Since every passing year is proving

the dynamism of global environmental politics, this second edition has significantly addressed the contemporary demands by incorporating new themes and challenges in the domain. This 2018 edition has noticeably partitioned the presented themes into two parts. Book's *Part 1* solely deals with the Concepts and Theories of global environmental politics keeping intact the original framework of the book, while *part 2* approaches the theme by infinitesimal valuation of new challenges through the case studies. Each of the thirteen chapters is a miscellaneous argument on global environmental politics, each tirelessly composed by renowned modern academics and field experts. The sub-themes appear diverse but well connected, ending with an intelligent analysis concluded by Gabriela Kutting. This editing by Kutting and Herman is indeed insightful and comprehensively accounts for all the key factors that are driving global environmental politics.

The first chapter logically launches the argument with an insightful article by John Vogler, who critically peruses the ever evolving theories and pervading ambience of IR with regard to environmental dilemmas in *International Relation Theory and the Environment*.

Second chapter divulges the well researched ideas of Lucy Ford, who canvasses the role of *Transnational Actors in Global Environmental Politics*, when the nation states seem to be failing their natural obligations with regard to environment preservation and consensus building towards it.

The third chapter recollects the focus of Markus Lederer and Thomas Hickmann on *Global Political Economy and Development* issues. This chapter views the relationship between global political economy and environment and the consequential development fallouts.

In the fourth chapter, Hannah Hughes shifts the focus on environment from economic to security perspective in *Environmental Security*. Hannah presents the different perspectives supporting or condoning the linkage of environmental issues with security concerns.

Chapter 5 by Doris Fuchs and Frederick Boll contemplates *Sustainable Consumption*, which despite being a comparatively nascent concept in the field of global environmental politics seems to hold answers to its quandaries.

Timothy Ehresman and Dimitris Stevis very fittingly round off the Part 1 concerning theories and concepts in global environmental politics by using historical references to justify legal repercussions for environmental transgressions through their article *International Environment and Ecological Justice*.

Part 2 of Second Edition deals with the case and policy studies explicating concepts covered in Part 1. These case studies are as diverse as the environmental issues and range from the issue of climate change, growing China's imprint on global environment, relationship between technology and environment, energy issues, politics of conservation, to food and forest politics and repercussions for global environment.

Lastly, through Kutting's comprehensive evaluation of the themes by predicting their impact on *the future of global environmental politics*, the readers are simultaneously left to ponder the dimension by forming their own assessment on the situation of environmental issues.

Saima Yousuf
M.Phil Student, ASCE