Why conflicts over land?

Land is central to social power and belonging, human (re-)production, political control, environmental systems and cultural representation. Its uses, distribution and representation are changing over time. These changes are contested and can, but do not necessarily, lead to conflict.



What is GLOCON?

GLOCON is a junior research group with postdoctoral and doctoral researchers, student assistants and a project coordinator. Based at the Otto Suhr Institute of Political Science and the Institute of Latin American Studies of the Freie Universität Berlin, GLOCON combines disciplinary knowledge (political science) with area studies (Latin American and African studies).



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Global Change - Local Conflicts?

Conflicts over land in Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa in times of global transformation





GLOCON

is a junior research group studying the relations between global transformation, land use change and social conflict in two world regions: Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa.

GLOCON's aim

is to trace and understand the relations between land use change and social conflicts and to formulate empirically founded statements about how these relations are shaped.

GLOCON's focus

is conflicts over land related to transformation processes such as the valorisation of land, land-related resources, minerals and metals.

GLOCON's research questions

How are processes of land use change and social conflicts interrelated? What mediating factors shape these relations and produce specific conflict dynamics? What are the starting-points for political intervention aiming at a constructive transformation of land conflicts?

Methodology

GLOCON's methodology is based on a case study approach and a comparative design. Comparing different cases (land conflicts) in Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa we examine differences and commonalities within and between countries and world regions.

Framework for analysis: Global change – la<u>nd use change – social conflicts</u>

Case studies in Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa Understanding and comparing relations between land use change and social conflict within and across countries and world regions

Case studies Latin America

Conflicts over land and mining in Colombia Conflicts over land and labour in Brazil Conflicts over land and mining in Guatemala



Case studies sub-Saharan Africa

Conflicts over land and mining in Senegal Conflicts over mining in Burkina Faso Conflicts over land in Ghana

Synthesise and theorise relations between global change, land use change and social conflict

Identify opportunities and limitations for conflict transformation