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Poststructuralist discourse on climate justice in the Russian North

This study uses the case of the 2016 anthrax outbreak on the Yamal peninsula in north-western Siberia to discuss whether and how the incident could challenge the dominant discourse in Russia that neglects the problem of climate change – a potential cause of the outbreak. The study draws on a small sample of media materials that linked the incident to climate change on the national and regional levels. The analysis follows the premises of poststructuralist discourse theory and the concepts of dislocation and discursive logics to unpack the intricate relationships between the issues of economic development and environmental change in a region that is at once central to Russia's fossil fuel economy and most vulnerable to the effects of climate change. The results point to the obstacles and opportunities for climate justice discourse in this context.

Viktor Pál

Environmental protection in authoritarian systems

This article discusses the complex relationships between the natural environment and authoritarian governments via the study's main case: the growing environmental problems of Cold War Hungary and the reaction to those issues by the country's government. This study aims to shed light on some of the most important factors of the environmental challenges faced in one of the largest industrial areas of that country, the Borsod Basin. Here, the extraction of natural resources caused a complex environmental crisis that required substantial efforts from various state agencies. This article presents the Hungarian case in a broader context to study how and why authoritarian and democratic governments such as the Guatemalan and Chilean juntas and West Germany have used technology and propaganda to promote the conservation of natural resources. In conclusion, this article aims to explain how and why various approaches under various political and economic circumstances to mend the environment eventually failed.