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From: Editorial Office

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Edited by Steven I. Dutch 3 volumes, 1,211 pages including index

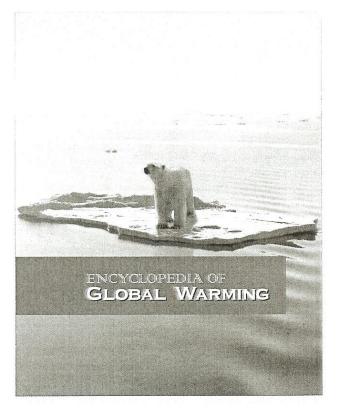
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Encyclopedia of Global Warming

Edited by Steven I. Dutch, University of Wisconsin – Green Bay

Complete, authoritative coverage of the science, policy, and social issues surrounding global warming and climate change.

The Encyclopedia of Global Warming provides comprehensive coverage of the questions of global warming and climate change, including scientific descriptions and explanations of all factors, from carbon dioxide to sunspots, that might contribute to climate change.

SCOPE AND COVERAGE

The study of climate change involves not only scientists but also politicians, policy makers, businesses, government and nongovernment agencies, and the general public. A student attempting to understand the environmental science, social issues, and controversies will encounter not just scientific terms and concepts but political organizations, geographic areas, social concepts, persons, countries, organizations, and laws as well.

The essays in the set fall into one or more of the following broad categories: animals, Arctic and Antarctic, astronomy, chemistry and geochemistry, climatic events; conferences and meetings; cryology and glaciology; diseases and health effects; economics, industries, and products; energy; environmentalism, conservation, and ecosystems; ethics, human rights, and social justice; fossil fuels; geology and geography; laws, treaties, and protocols; meteorology and atmospheric sciences; nations and peoples; oceanography, organizations and agencies;

physics and geophysics; plants and vegetation; pollution and waste; popular culture and society; science and technology; transportation; and water resources.

ORGANIZATION AND FORMAT

The essays in this set range from 400 to 2,000 words in length. Each is arranged in one of six types of essay format: "Term" essays describe a term and explain its significance for climate change; "Overview" essays provide broad overviews of a scientific, policy, or social phenomena;

"Organization" essays provide the date of establishment of an organization and discuss its significance for climate change; Biographical essays provide biographical information on a person, followed by descriptions of his or her life and climate work; "Top-Twenty Emitter" essays provide information on each of the 20 nations with the highest annual emissions of greenhouse gases; and "Law and Treaty" essays provide the date of passage or ratification of their subjects, as well as lists of all participating nations; law

At a Glance

- √ 3 Volumes; 1,248 Pages
- ✓ 545 Essays
- √ 150 Sidebars/Tables/Maps/Charts
- ✓ 200 Photographs
- ✓ Cross-References
- ✓ Biographical List of Key Figures
- ✓ Time Line
- ✓ General Bibliography
- ✓ Web Sites
- ✓ Popular Culture About Global Warming
- ✓ Glossary
- ✓ Category List
- ✓ Subject Index

essays also provide discussions of background and a summary of provisions. All essays discuss their subjects' significance for climate change.

SPECIAL FEATURES

The front matter of each volume includes an alphabetical list of contents, a categorized list of contents, a list of abbreviations and acronyms, and a unit conversion table. Six helpful appendixes, including a time line, a general bibliography, a biographical directory of key figures, and a complete subject index, can be found at the end of volume 3.

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according to strategy documents, pollsters targeted "older, less-educated men from larger households who are not typically information seekers" and "young, low-income women" in areas whose electricity was generated by coal, in an attempt to skew the poll results in favor of less regulation of coal.

ICE also purchased magazine and newspaper ads in key sections of the country, including one that ran in Minnesota reading, "If the earth is getting warmer, why is Minneapolis getting colder?" Another ad showed a ship sailing off the edge of the Earth, with an open-mouthed dragon waiting to catch it. The caption read, "Some say the earth is warming. Some also said the earth was flat." The Arizona Public Service Company declined to join ICE, declaring that the ads over-simplified a complex issue.

ICE was disbanded after only a few months, after a packet of internal memos describing the organization's public relations strategies was leaked to the *Energy Daily*, a trade publication, and follow-up stories appeared in the *Arizona Daily Sun*, the *National Journal*, and *The New York Times*. After the press stories, Balling and Michaels broke with the council. In 1999, a former board member of ICE expressed regret that the campaign had not lasted longer, writing that ICE had resulted in a "dramatic turnaround in how people viewed the issue of global warming."

Cynthia A. Bily

See also: Media; Pseudoscience and junk science; Skeptics.



Institute for Trade, Standards, and Sustainable Development

- **Categories:** Organizations and agencies; economics, industries, and products
- Date: Established 2001
- Web address: http://www.itssd.org

Mission

The Institute for Trade, Standards, and Sustainable Development (ITSSD) advocates sustainable development without absolute protection of natural resources and discounts anti-global warming measures as not scientifically or economically justified. Headquartered in Princeton, New Jersey, the ITSSD is a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating government, industry, and the public about science, technology and innovation policy, private property rights, and international trade. It is operated by its chief executive officer-president, vice president, and secretary and has a seventeenmember advisory board. The officers write white papers and articles, serve on a variety of discussion panels, administer an internship program for university students, and publish journals on economic freedom, intellectual property rights, trade barriers, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, "pathological communalism," and women's property rights.

The ITSSD's principal policy calls for positive sustainable development, which, it argues, has a general capacity to create well-being for present and future generations. This sustainable development is positive in that it eschews regulation "devoid of scientific and economic benchmarks" and "disguised trade barriers premised solely on cultural preferences" in favor of strongly protected property rights, free market (neoliberal) economics, decentralization, economic growth, and local, regional, or national (rather than supranational) institutions encouraging individual initiative. The ITSSD contends that regulations and standards must be developed "based on empirical science and economic cost-benefit analysis" under public scrutiny and free of the dominating influence of scientific fashion or sociopolitical ideology.

Significance for Climate Change

Informing its stance on climate change, ITSSD relies on the arguments of global warming critics, including (according to ITSSD) "established scientists." Most prominently cited is British businessman, politician, and inventor Christopher Monckton, who argues that global warming derives from natural cycles and is misrepresented by the scientific community. In the white paper "Europe's

Warnings on Climate Change Belie More Nuanced Concerns" (2007), ITSSD president Lawrence A. Kogan accuses leaders of sidestepping what he portrays as the ongoing scientific debate. This debate concerns the extent to which certain human activities can be shown to cause measurable global warming or merely to correlate with a barely observable rise in global temperatures that may or may not prove to be cyclical in nature. The failure of European leaders to discuss this issue in the ITSSD's eyes suggests a nuanced effort to base intergovernmental regulatory policy on popularly fanned fears about largely hypothetical, unpredictable or unknowable future natural and anthropogenic hazards that have not yet been shown to pose direct ascertainable risks to human health or the environment.

Roger Smith

See also: American Enterprise Institute; Cato Institute; Competitive Enterprise Institute; Cooler Heads Coalition; Skeptics.

Intergenerational equity

• **Category:** Ethics, human rights, and social justice

Definition

The principle of intergenerational equity is strongly embedded in the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change. Historically, it owes its recognition to the Brundtland Report, *Our Common Future* (1987), which popularized the principle of "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." The Declaration of Rio on Environment and Development (1992) adds a rights-based perspective to the principle, suggesting that "the right to development must be fulfilled so as to equitably meet development and environmental needs of present and future generations."

Significance for Climate Change

The moral concerns over intergenerational equity have strong implications for climate-change-related policy making. The concept of intergenerational equity acknowledges the obligations of present generations in protecting the opportunities of future generations as well as the rights of future generations in enjoying the same level of opportunities and stocks of assets. This concept raises questions about how the interests of current generations are weighed against those of future generations and about the costs of inaction. Economists use discounting factors to address climate change by attempting to weigh the costs and benefits of alternative policies to different generations. The Stern Review, a report released by the British government in 2006, uses a similar approach to calculate optimal policy response and to highlight the consequences of inaction for future damage.

The concept of intergenerational equity is not without problems. It is hard to know the precise magnitude and distribution of the effects of climate change because of scientific uncertainty, as well as limited current knowledge about the future aspirations of particular societies. For instance, it is not clear how evenly the impact of climate change would be distributed over successive future generations. There is potential conflict between intragenerational and intergenerational needs. If current needs have not been met, this creates a dilemma about whether there is an obligation to meet future needs. Furthermore, countries have different capacities in meeting present and future needs. There are doubts about the reliability of discount rates. Research shows that unless the discount rate is very low, the benefits of climate change mitigation policies in future centuries are almost worthless in present value terms. There is also an implicit asymmetrical power in the concept. While current generations can influence how future generations live, future generations cannot exercise such an influence on presently living people.

Sam Wong

See also: Bioethics; Brundtland Commission and Report; United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.