



# Anthropocene Mobilities – The Politics of Movement in an Age of Change

International Workshop at the University of Hamburg, 1-2 June 2017\*

Conveners:

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Dr. Delf Rothe ([rothe@ifsh.de](mailto:rothe@ifsh.de))

Workshop Venue:

Universität Hamburg

Senatssitzungssaal

Main Building

Edmund-Siemers-Alle 1

20146 Hamburg

### Workshop abstract:

Geologists and Earth System scientists have argued that the planet has entered a new epoch: the Anthropocene. The Anthropocene names the age in which humanity took control over the planet and pushed the Earth System into a new stage of disequilibrium, with significant effects on global human - and non-human - mobility. The proposed workshop draws on this new perspective on planetary change provided by the Anthropocene debate to further the debate on environmental or climate-induced migration and its policy implications.

The Anthropocene's implications for the study of environmental migration as well as for international security have so far seldom been considered in academic literature, even though it forces us to re-evaluate and re-think our fundamental ontological and epistemological concepts (Gemenne 2015). As argued by Bruno Latour and others, the advent of the Anthropocene implies the end of “the bifurcation of nature’ or the final rejection of the separation between Nature and Humanity that has paralyzed science and politics since the dawn of modernism” (Latour 2015).

The described “bifurcation of nature” also characterizes the existing literature on environmentally or climate-induced migration. In the earlier literature on environmental migration, often accused of a naive environmental determinism, nature appeared in the form of disasters and extreme events, which tipped societies into chaos and pushed people out of their homes (Myers, 1991, 1998, 2005; Myers et al. 1995; Brown 2008; Waever, Buzan, Kelstrup, & Lemaitre, 1993). But even though the literature on environmental migration has become much more sophisticated and the environmental determinism of the old days has been replaced by sensitivity for the multi-causality of migratory decisions (Castles 2002, Morrissey 2009), the social and the natural are still artificially divided into a set of variables, just to be recombined and layered in computer models or regression analyses (Selby 2014).

The workshop seeks to fundamentally rethink the prevailing ontological categories of environmental migration research and to work towards an analytical framework which studies processes of human mobility within their specific, hybrid socio-natural contexts. It seeks to initiate a fruitful dialogue between scholars working on climate change and human mobility, on the one hand, and scholars engaging with the Anthropocene concept and its theoretical and normative implications on the other.

\*The workshop is funded by the Cluster of Excellence "Integrated Climate System Analysis and Prediction" (CliSAP) at Universität Hamburg.

# Workshop Program

**Thursday, 1 June 2017, 9:00– 10:00**  
**Introduction and Workshop Rationale**

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Christiane Fröhlich and Delf Rothe (University of Hamburg/Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy, Hamburg)

**Thursday, 1 June 2017, 10:00– 11:30**  
**Critical Perspectives on the Anthropocene**

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On the dangers of an anthropocene era:  
periodisation, epochalisation and the geological  
subject

Madeleine  
Fagan

University of  
Warwick

Care and Carelessness in the Anthropocene

Cameron  
Harrington

University of Cape  
Town

Anthroporaciality: on the geologies of white  
supremacy

Andrew  
Baldwin

Durham University

*Discussant*

*Delf Rothe*

\*\*\* Coffee Break \*\*\*

**Thursday, 1 June 2017, 12:00 – 13:30**  
**Security and Geopolitics in the Anthropocene**

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Anthropocene geopolitics: the end of liberal  
environmentalism?

Eva Lövbrand

Linköping  
University

Machinic Mobilities: The Ontopolitics of the  
Anthropocene

David Chandler

University of  
Westminster

Epistemic mobilities in the Anthropocene:  
Concepts of international justice in the discourse  
on geoengineering

Silke Beck

UFZ Leipzig

*Discussant*

*Jürgen  
Scheffran*

*University of  
Hamburg*

\*\*\* Lunch Break \*\*\*

**Thursday, 1 June 2016, 14:30 – 16:00**  
**Governing Human Mobility in the Anthropocene**

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Security and Environmental Migration in the Anthropocene	Matt McDonald	University of Queensland
Eppur si muove – Climate Migration as symptom in the Anthropocene	Giovanni Bettini	Lancaster University
Governing environmental mobilities	Ingrid Boas	Wageningen University
<i>Discussant</i>	<i>Christiane Fröhlich</i>	

\*\*\* Coffee Break \*\*\*

**Thursday, 1 June 2017, 16:30 – 18:00**  
**Indigenous Movements, Resistance and Justice in the Anthropocene**

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Indigenous Climate Justice and the Anthropocene	Kyle Whyte	Michigan State University
Indigenizing Climate Migration	Julian Reid	University of Lapland
Articulating transnational activism for post-humanist legal frameworks	Cristina Espinoza	University of Freiburg
<i>Discussant</i>	<i>Andrea Balbo</i>	<i>Humboldt fellow, University of Hamburg</i>

**Thursday, 1 June 2017, 18:15 – 19:45**  
**Public Panel: Anthropocene Mobilities**

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Panel chair: Anita Engels *Speaker of the Cluster of Excellence CliSAP*

Speakers: Andrew Baldwin, Jairus Grove, Silja Klepp, Eva Lövbrand

**Friday, 2 June 2017, 10:00 – 11:30**  
**The Mediterranean: Region of the Anthropocene?**

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Here Be Moderns!: Terraforming the Arab Gulf as Requiem for A Martian Post-Apocalypse	Jairus Grove	University of Hawaii, Manoa
Climate Change and Migration in the Middle East from an Anthropocene Perspective	Özlem Tür	Middle East Technical University, Ankara
Settler colonialism through the lens of the Anthropocene	Olaf Corry, Ruba Salih	University of Copenhagen, SOAS London
<i>Discussant</i>	<i>Ethemcan Turhan</i>	

\*\*\* **Coffee Break** \*\*\*

**Friday, 2 June 2017, 12:00 – 13:30**  
**Anthropocene Mobilities: Local Experiences**

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Rethinking mobility in the Anthropocene: Insights from the Marshall Islands	Jon Barnett	University of Melbourne
Climate Change Migration from a Pacific Island Perspective – The Anthropology of Emerging Legal Orders	Silja Klepp	University of Kiel
Can the real rebel city please stand up? An inquiry on progressive municipal responses to climate change and migration	Ethemcan Turhan	KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm
<i>Discussant</i>	<i>Matt McDonald</i>	

**\*\*\* Lunch Break \*\*\***

**Friday, 2 June 2017, 14:30 – 16:00**  
**Wrap up and conclusion**

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Thematic summaries

**Friday, 2 June 2017, 17:00**

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Cultural program: Critical Harbor Tour "Racism and Migration; Elbphilharmonie observation deck (pending tickets)

# Workshop participants

Name	Affiliation	Email
Andrea Balbo	Center for Earth System Research and Sustainability, Hamburg	balbo@imf.csis.es
Andrew Baldwin	Durham University	w.a.baldwin@durham.ac.uk
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Kyle Whyte	Michigan State University	kwhyte@msu.edu

# Directions and Addresses:

## Workshop Venue

Universität Hamburg  
Senatssitzungssaal (3<sup>rd</sup> floor)  
Main Building  
Edmund-Siemers-Alle 1  
20146 Hamburg

## Hotel Mercure

Schröderstiftstraße 3  
20146 Hamburg

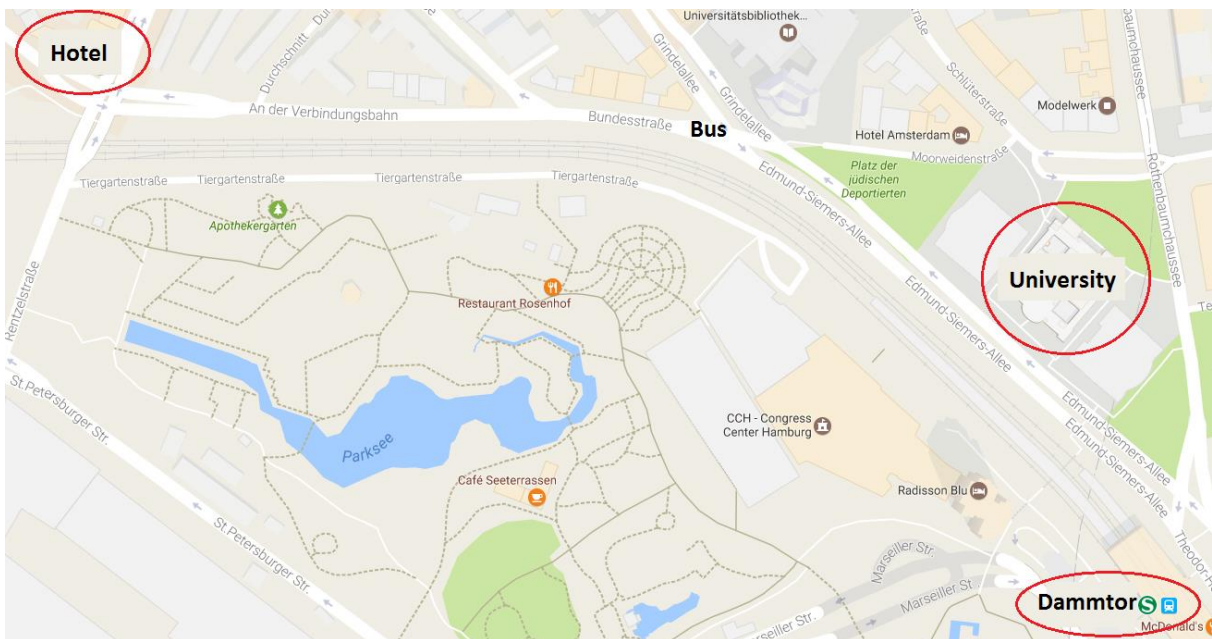


Figure 1 Location map of hotel, workshop venue, Dammtor station and bus

## **Journey from the main train station to the hotel**

### By public transportation

You need only a couple of minutes from **Hamburg Hbf (main train station)** to the train station Dammtor. The urban train (S-Bahn) S21 or S32 (direction: Elbgaustraße or Altona) leaves from platform 2 and takes only 3 minutes to Dammtor.

When you arrive at Dammtor train station, follow the signs to the bus station in front of the building. Take the bus number 5 (direction: Burgwedel or Nedderfeld) or 4 (direction: Wildacker or Eidelstedter Platz) to the bus station Universität/Staatsbibliothek, which is marked in the map above. From there, you walk about five minutes to your hotel following the Bundesstraße.

## **Journey from the airport to the hotel**

### By public transportation

The fastest way to reach your hotel from the airport is by urban train (S-Bahn) and subway (U-Bahn). From the airport, you take the S1 (direction: Ohlsdorf). In Ohlsdorf, you change to the subway U1 (direction: Farmsen). Next, you change at Kellinghusenstraße to U3 (direction: Hauptbahnhof Süd). Your destination is Schlump. From Schlump you walk a few minutes along Schröderstiftsstraße to your hotel (see Figure 2).



*Figure 2 From Schlump to your hotel*

## **Journey from the airport/ train station to the workshop venue**

### By public transportation

You need 27 minutes to get from the **airport** to Dammtor train station, where the main building of the university is located. You take the urban train (S-Bahn) S1 (direction: Wedel or Blankenese) at the airport and you change trains at Hamburg Hbf (main train station). Arriving on platform 1 from the airport, you change to platform 2 on the opposite site, where you take the S21 or S32 (direction: Elbgaustraße or Altona). From Hamburg Hbf to Dammtor it takes only 3 minutes.

When you arrive at Dammtor train station, you already see the main building of the Universität Hamburg on the other side of the street (see Figure 1). The workshop room "Senatssitzungssaal" is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the main building ESA 1 (the one with the dome).

### **Journey from the hotel to the workshop venue**

You can walk in ten minutes from you hotel to the main building of the university alongside the main street (see Figure 1).

For further information on public transportation in Hamburg, click here:

<http://www.hvv.de/en/index.php>