



The Transformation Potential of Inter-institutional Arrangements and the Norm of Sustainability in the Global Regime Complex for Food

ABOUT TANNRE

The research project “The Transformation Potential of Inter-institutional Arrangements and the Norm of Sustainability in the Global Regime Complex for Food” (TANNRE) analyzes the normative foundations of the global regime complex for food. It focuses on the conditions and regulatory mechanisms for managing fundamental norm conflicts between the norm of sustainability and its sub-norms food security, nutrition security, food safety and food sovereignty. The project is conducted at the Institute of Political Science, Justus Liebig University Giessen, led by the Principal Investigators Prof. Dr. Helmut Breitmeier and Dr. Sandra Schwindenhammer together with three research assistants.

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ABOUT THE PROJECT

Aims

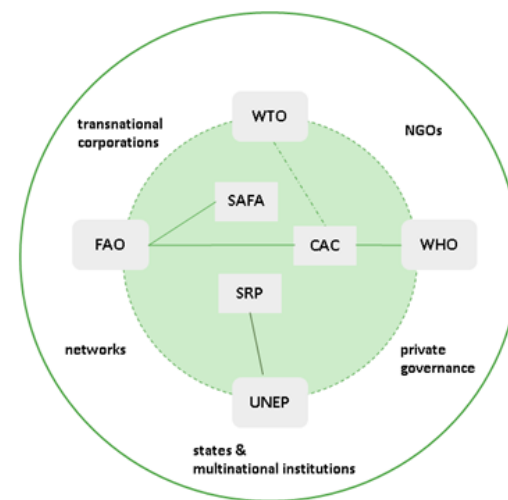
TANNRE asks how inter-institutional arrangements manage norm conflicts and, thus, influence the development and content-related design of the norm of sustainability.

In 2015, the UN adopted 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a part of the new 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The issue of food connects all of the SDGs. Goal 2 aims for the end of hunger, the achievement of food security and sustainable agriculture. However, goal attainment is hampered by fundamental norm conflicts, for instance between sustainability and food security. The research project proposes a theoretical concept to analyze norm contestation and management in the global regime complex for food. It connects critical IR norm theory with regime complex studies to systematically assess norm conflicts within regime complexes. The theoretical concept differentiates norm contestation at the macro-level of core institutions of the regime complex (FAO, UNEP, WHO, WTO) and the micro-level of inter-institutional arrangements (e.g., the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the Sustainable Rice Platform, and the Sustainability Assessment of Food and Agriculture Systems).

Methods

The project applies a qualitative case study design based on the analysis of documents from central international institutions in the global regime complex for food and the three selected inter-institutional arrangements. The project also conducts a series of

expert interviews based on a structured and semi-standardized questionnaire adapted to a pre-established guideline. The interviews are carried out with representatives of international institutions and inter-institutional arrangements, stakeholders of the public and private sectors as well as agents of the civil society. Finally, the systematic and comparative data analysis is conducted through a qualitative content analysis applying the qualitative data analysis.



Core Institutions: FAO, UNEP, WHO, WTO

Inter-Institutional Arrangements: Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC), Sustainability Assessment of Food and Agriculture Systems (SAFA), Sustainable Rice Platform (SR)

TEAM

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PUBLICATIONS

Manderbach, Jacob/Breitmeier, Helmut/Checa, Andrés/Schwindenhammer, Sandra/Tanzer, Magdalena 2018: Contested Sustainability? The Norm of Sustainability in the Global Regime Complex for Food, DVPW Congress 2018, 25.-28.9.2018, Goethe University Frankfurt, Frankfurt a. M., *Paper approved*.

Schwindenhammer, Sandra 2018: The New Regionalism in Global Organic Agricultural Governance through Standards: Results from a Cross-Regional Comparison, in: Global Environmental Politics, 18: 3, *forthcoming*.

Tanzer, Magdalena/Breitmeier, Helmut/Checa, Andrés/Manderbach, Jacob/Schwindenhammer, Sandra 2018: Global Food Governance in the Era of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Assessing Norm Contestation and Conflict Management, ECPR General Conference, 22.–25.08.2018, Universität Hamburg, Hamburg, *Paper approved*.

Schwindenhammer, Sandra 2017: Global Organic Agriculture Policy-Making through Standards as an Organizational Field. When Institutional Dynamics Meet Entrepreneurs, in: Journal of European Public Policy, 24: 11, 1678-1697.

Schwindenhammer, Sandra/Breitmeier, Helmut/Kirf, Barbara 2017: Die Norm der Nachhaltigkeit im globalen Regimekomplex für Ernährung – Anerkannt und doch umstritten, in: Zeitschrift für Außen- und Sicherheitspolitik, 10: 3, 353-371.

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