

Propositions

Attached to the thesis

The Rise of Agro-Extractive Capitalism

Insights from Guatemala in the early 21st century

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1. The first decade of the 21st century witnesses a global, yet uneven, resurgence of natural resource extractivism—and the consolidation of environmental services—in capital accumulation and climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies.
2. Whether, how and the extent to which external nature is exhausted, is a necessary yet insufficient criterion to assess the “extractiveness” of a mode/form of production.
3. Many insights are gained on the directions and implications of agro-environmental change during the convergent crises conjuncture by bridging critical agrarian and environmental studies’ perspectives through a broadly cast critical agro-environmental political economy approach.
4. The agrarian question of the convergent crises conjuncture is a very useful methodological umbrella for the investigation of early 21st-century resource extractivism.
5. A “multi-dynamic politics” framework allows for the analysis of fluid and generative politics between, across and within dominant and subordinate fragmented classes in supportive, challenging and accommodative standpoints vis-à-vis resource extractivism and associated directions of agro-environmental change. *This thesis.*
6. The restructuring of agricultural relations of production behind the rise of flex crops and commodities complexes, as well as the political dynamics that constrain and enable it, underpin a distinct model of resource extractivism after the turn of the century, namely the *agro-extractive capitalist project*. *This thesis.*
7. The agro-extractive capitalist project is capitalist in nature, extractivist in character and underpinned by a new politics of racialized class domination. *This thesis.*
8. The agro-extractive capitalist project shapes and expresses a new politics of racialized class domination, namely *authoritarian corporatism*. *This thesis.*
9. Authoritarian Corporatism recasts the flex cane and palm complexes. Instead of just another accumulation project, flex cane and palm commodity production during early 21st-century convergent global crises is carefully molded into an extraordinary *response-able* phenomenon capable of feeding the world, generating green energy and cooling down the planet, while at the same time sponsoring employment and stimulating economic growth. *This thesis.*
10. The politics behind early 21st-century resource extractivism are anything but a story foretold.
11. It is fundamental for research on contemporary agrarian and environmental transformations to be problem- rather than strictly theory-driven, and principled in rigorous, yet critical and transformative scholarship.