

SYLLABUS OF THE COURSE HEN573
Environmental Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)

Ir. Jan Haverkamp studied biochemistry, energy policy and nuclear physics at the University of Leiden, and environmental sciences, social and environmental psychology and communication psychology at Wageningen University in the Netherlands. He worked 10 years in the development of environmental NGOs in East Germany, Czecho-Slovakia, Romania, Ukraine, Albania and Croatia before he emigrated to the Czech Republic. He is founder of the ZHABA facilitators collective. In the Czech Republic he worked for organisations like the NGO computer network Econnect, Hnutí DUHA / Friends of the Earth CZ, EPS (Environmentální právní service) and as campaigner and campaign director for Greenpeace Czech Republic. Since 2004 he is free-lance consultant and works for organisations like the World Information Service on Energy (WISE/NIRS), Greenpeace and others. Since 2007 he works as EU policy advisor on nuclear energy for Greenpeace. He is 51 years old and has a 16 year old daughter in Prague and a 19 year old son in the Netherlands.

The role of Environmental NGOs in society

Goals

1. Students understand the basic role in society of NGOs in general and environmental NGOs more specifically.
2. Students understand the main differences in roles of environmental NGOs in different societies (USA / Canada, Western Europe, Central Europe, Eastern Europe, Africa, Asia, Latin America, international / global / UN level).
3. Students understand the difference between local, national and international civil initiative.
4. Students know the situation under which environmental NGOs work in CZ and Europe
5. Students know where to place different NGOs on the line non-violent – violent, extreme – main stream.
6. Students can form and express a well-founded opinion about who they would support or oppose under which circumstances.
7. Students understand the dynamics of NGO organisation

Times

Two blocks of two days, 10:00 – 17:00 hours.

Dates: 25 and 26 November 2011, 2 and 3 December 2011

Exam: in the form of a three people essay and oral discussion in December 2011 or January 2012

Students are expected to attend all blocks, as the seminar will be highly interactive and participative and includes a lot of work and discussion during the seminar hours. The seminar blocks will not exist of lectures, but of interactive group work. The seminar will take place in English and much of the literature and materials will be in English. English knowledge therefore is necessary for this seminar. Halfway the seminar, students will investigate the history of one environmental group in small teams and present the results to the group.

The course will be concluded in the form of a short group-essay with an oral debrief on the basis of the work done during the blocks and background literature.

Friday 25 November 2011

Introduction and basis

- Introduction in the way this seminar will be run
- Expectations
- Mapping own experiences with and present position towards environmental NGOs

Stakeholders in environmental debates

- ▣ Mapping stakeholders in several key environmental debates: Climate change, GMOs, nuclear power, saving species (whales, the great apes, wolves, river-crabs (astacus)), mobility, toxic pollution (water quality, corporate responsibility, toxics in consumer products), habitat protection (protected areas, Natura 2000).
- ▣ Positioning the role of NGOs in these debates
- ▣ Making a SWOT analysis of the position of NGOs
- ▣ Recreating the map of environmental NGOs

Saturday 26 November 2011

Principles, tools, dynamics and organisation of environmental NGOs I

- ▣ Tools environmental NGOs have at their disposition
- ▣ Underlying principles of non-violence, direct and symbolic action, relation of NGOs to the law

Creating an overview of environmental NGOs

- ▣ Creating a landscape of NGOs – nature to grey, local to international – some backgrounds
- ▣ Preparation of case histories of NGOs

Friday 2 December 2011

History of the environmental movement

- ▣ Case histories of NGOs – partly prepared by students themselves
 - ▣ Nature protection movement: Dutch Society for the Protection of Nature Monuments
 - ▣ parallels and differences with ČSOP
 - ▣ International nature protection and the step to environmental problems: WWF and IUCN
 - ▣ Friends of the Earth
 - ▣ Netherlands, UK, Germany, Czech Republic, FoEI
 - ▣ Greenpeace
 - ▣ Sea Sheppard, Earth First
 - ▣ Veronica, SOS Praha
- ▣ Differences in environmental movements in Central Europe (DDR, CZ, HU, BUL, PL, ex-YU)
- ▣ Group work: further investigation into the different organisations – preparation of a SWOT analysis

Saturday 3 December 2011

Principles, tools, dynamics and organisation of environmental NGOs II

- ▣ Financing of NGO activities
- ▣ Organisation structures of NGOs
- ▣ Working with volunteers
- ▣ Environmental NGOs and gender issues

Round-up – our position towards environmental NGOs

- ▣ real life debate on the role of NGOs
- ▣ short NVDA training (Non-Violent Direct Action)
- ▣ finding our own position towards environmental NGOs
- ▣ preparation for group-essay

Exams in coordination with students