

Limits to the Anthropocene

Format of the Symposium

The symposium is designed in six panels. These panels are planned for two hours each, starting with a keynote presentation (30 min), followed by two focussed talks (20 min each) and an interactive discussion about the key areas of interventions, consequences, limits, and challenges of the anthropocene.

Abstracts

Interested in giving a talk? Please submit an abstract (max. 400 words) with panel number by April 30, 2011 to anthropocene@zmaw.de.

Where and When?

The symposium is organized by the University of Hamburg's KlimaCampus and will take place on September 22-24, 2011.

KlimaCampus

ZMAW building
Bundesstraße 53
20146 Hamburg
E-Mail: anthropocene@zmaw.de

There is no conference fee.

For more information visit:
www.klimacampus.de/anthropocene.html

Keynote Speakers

Paul J. Crutzen, Nobel laureate, Professor em., Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California, USA

Peter Hennicke, former President of the Wuppertal-Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy, Germany

Armin Reller, Chair of Resource Strategy, University of Augsburg, Germany

Shenggen Fan, Director of the International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington, D.C., USA

Christine von Weizsäcker, President of Ecoropa – European Network on Ecological Reflection, Germany (invited)

Jochen Zschau, Head of the Section 'Earthquake Risk and Early Warning', Helmholtz Centre Potsdam, Germany

Hartmut Grassl, former Director of the Max-Planck-Institute for Meteorology, Hamburg, Germany

Organizers

Corinna Luethje, Cluster of Excellence 'Integrated Climate System Analysis and Prediction' (CliSAP), University of Hamburg

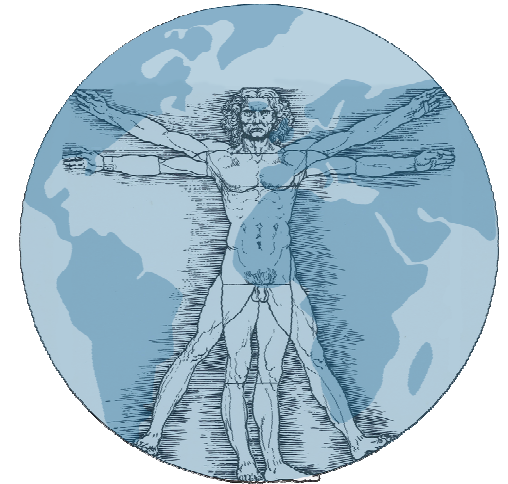
Mike S. Schaefer, Head of the Research Group 'Media Constructions of Climate Change', KlimaCampus, University of Hamburg

Juergen Scheffran, Head of the Research Group 'Climate Change and Security', KlimaCampus, University of Hamburg

[www.klimacampus.de/
anthropocene.html](http://www.klimacampus.de/anthropocene.html)

LIMITS TO THE ANTHROPOCENE

What are the boundaries of human intervention into nature?



**International Symposium
September 22-24, 2011
KlimaCampus
University of Hamburg**

It is time...

... for an interdisciplinary debate about the boundaries of human intervention into nature.

Programme

22/09/2011, Thursday

- 18:00 **Public Lecture**, keynote by Nobel laureate Paul Crutzen
20:00 **Get Together**

23/09/2011, Friday

- 09:00 **Welcome and Introduction**, Corinna Luethje, Mike S. Schaefer, Juergen Scheffran
09:15 **Panel 1: Energy Generation and Consumption**, keynote by Peter Henicke
11:30 **Panel 2: Mineral Resources - Exploration, Exploitation and Use**, keynote by Armin Reller
13:30 Lunch Break
15:00 **Panel 3: Land and Water Use**, keynote by Shenggen Fan
17:15 **Panel 4: Ecosystems and Biodiversity**, keynote by Christine von Weizsäcker

24/09/2011, Saturday

- 09:00 **Panel 5: Geohazards and Natural Disasters**, keynote by Jochen Zschau
11:15 **Panel 6: Climate Change and Climate Engineering**, keynote by Hartmut Grassl
13:15 Lunch Break
14:45 **Concluding Panel Discussion: 'The Anthropocene, Its Limits and the Way forward'**
16:45 End of Symposium

What are the limits to the anthropocene? The term 'anthropocene', coined by Paul Crutzen, describes the current geological epoch, beginning with the latter part of the 18th century. From this date on the global effects of human activities have become clearly noticeable.

Our Earth is a dynamic and complex system and humans have become a decisive force in it. Dramatically changed land surfaces, species loss and anthropogenic climate change are only a few examples of this development.

In our symposium we will deal with the question about the basic relation between humans and nature as well as its boundaries.

The participants will discuss

- the characteristics and effects of human interventions into nature
- their desired and their undesirable consequences and risks
- their perception by society
- their natural, technical, social and moral boundaries and
- resulting challenges for science and society

We bring together experts from natural and social sciences as well as economists, environmental activists, and speakers with experience in politics.

