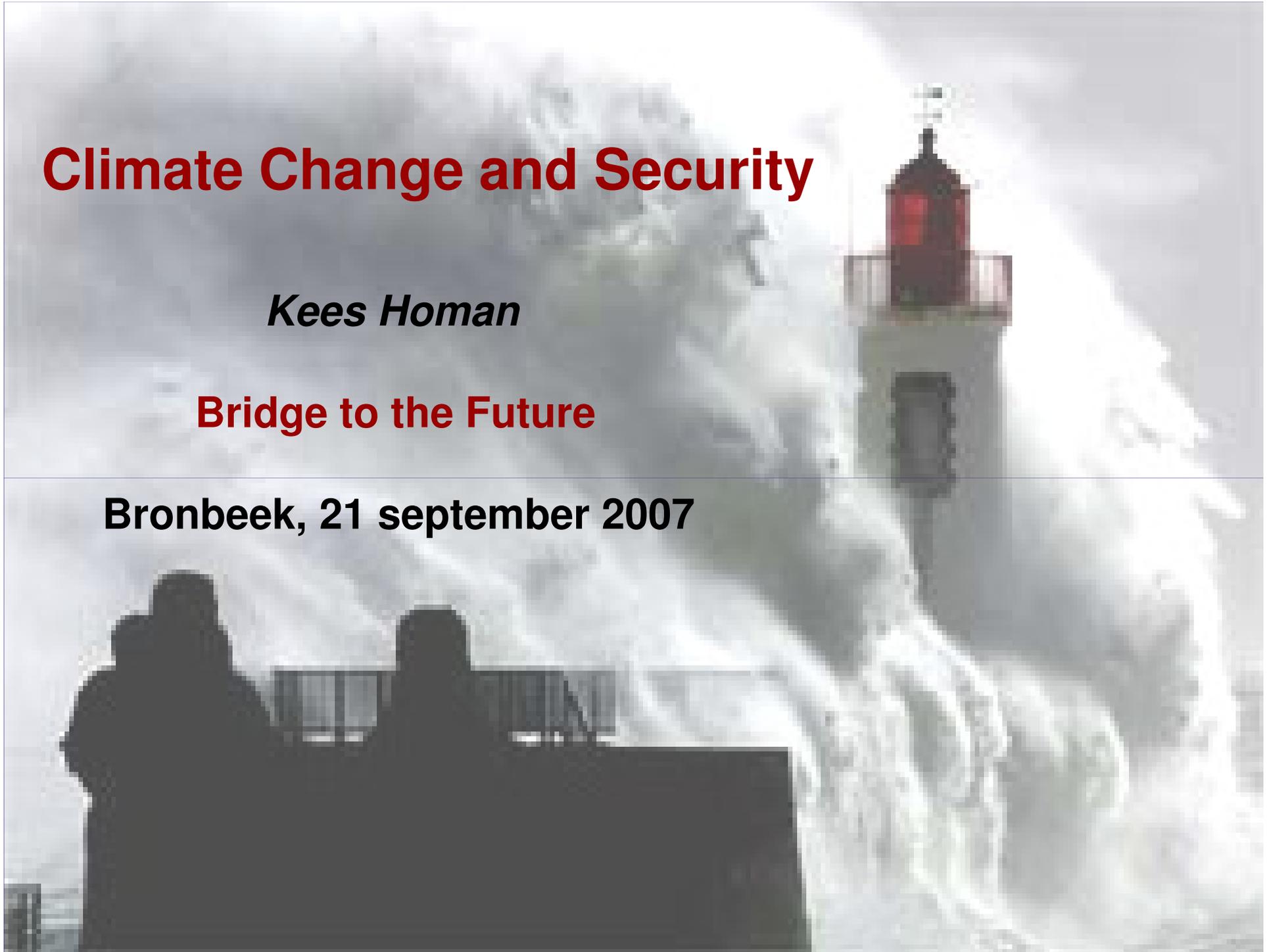


Climate Change and Security

Kees Homan

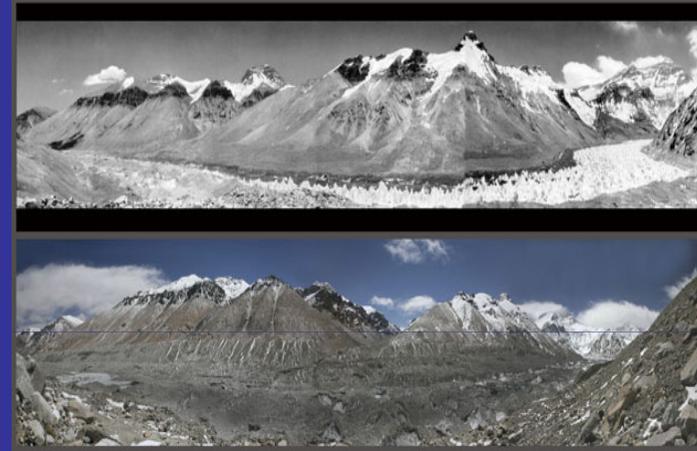
Bridge to the Future

Bronbeek, 21 september 2007



Climate Change and Security: a Topical Issue

- The DCDC Global Strategic Trends Programme 2007-2036: January 2007 (United Kingdom)
- National Security and the Threat of Climate Change: April 2007 (United States)
- Debate in the UN Security Council: April 2007
- Climate Change as a Security Risk: May 2007 (Germany)
- Strategic Survey 2007: September 2007 (United Kingdom)



A satellite-style image of Earth showing the Arctic region and surrounding continents. The word "Topics" is written in yellow in the center. A list of topics is written in black on the right side.

Topics

- Drivers of Change
- Global Warming
- Threats to International Peace and Security
- Hurricane Katrina
- The Arctic
- The Responsibility to Protect

Population and Resources: Drivers of Change

- Economic Growth
- Population Growth
- Resource Competition
- Diseases
- Changing Demographics
- Mass Displacement
- Urbanization and Human Settlement
- Climate Change



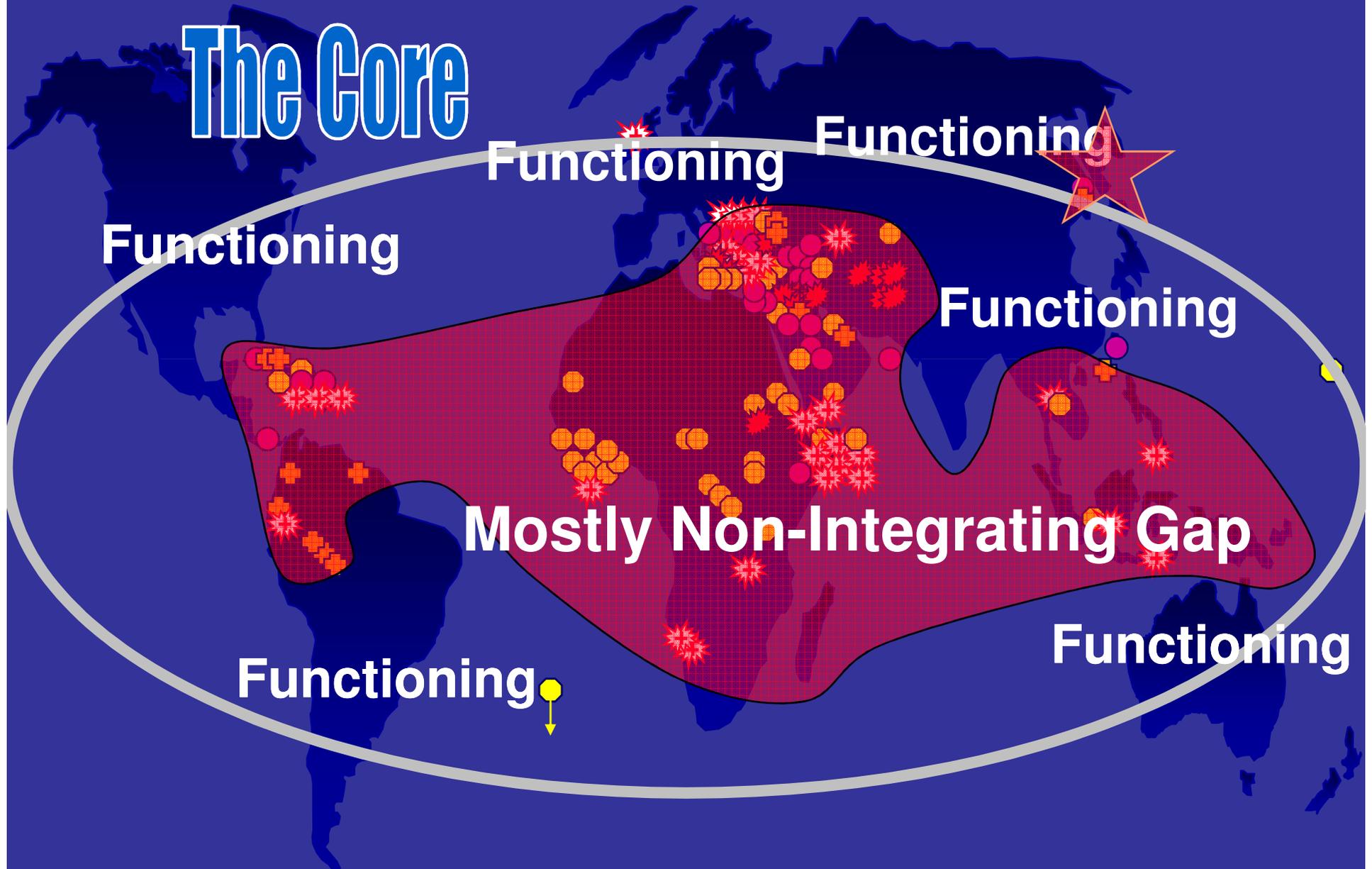
The New World Order (Robert Cooper)

1. The Pre-Modern World
2. The Modern World
3. The Postmodern World



The Arc of Instability

The Core



Functioning

Functioning

Functioning

Functioning

Mostly Non-Integrating Gap

Functioning

Functioning

Global Warming

- Melting ice
- Rising sea levels
- Changing weather patterns
- Population movement
- Health patterns
- Destruction of property
- A north-south divide

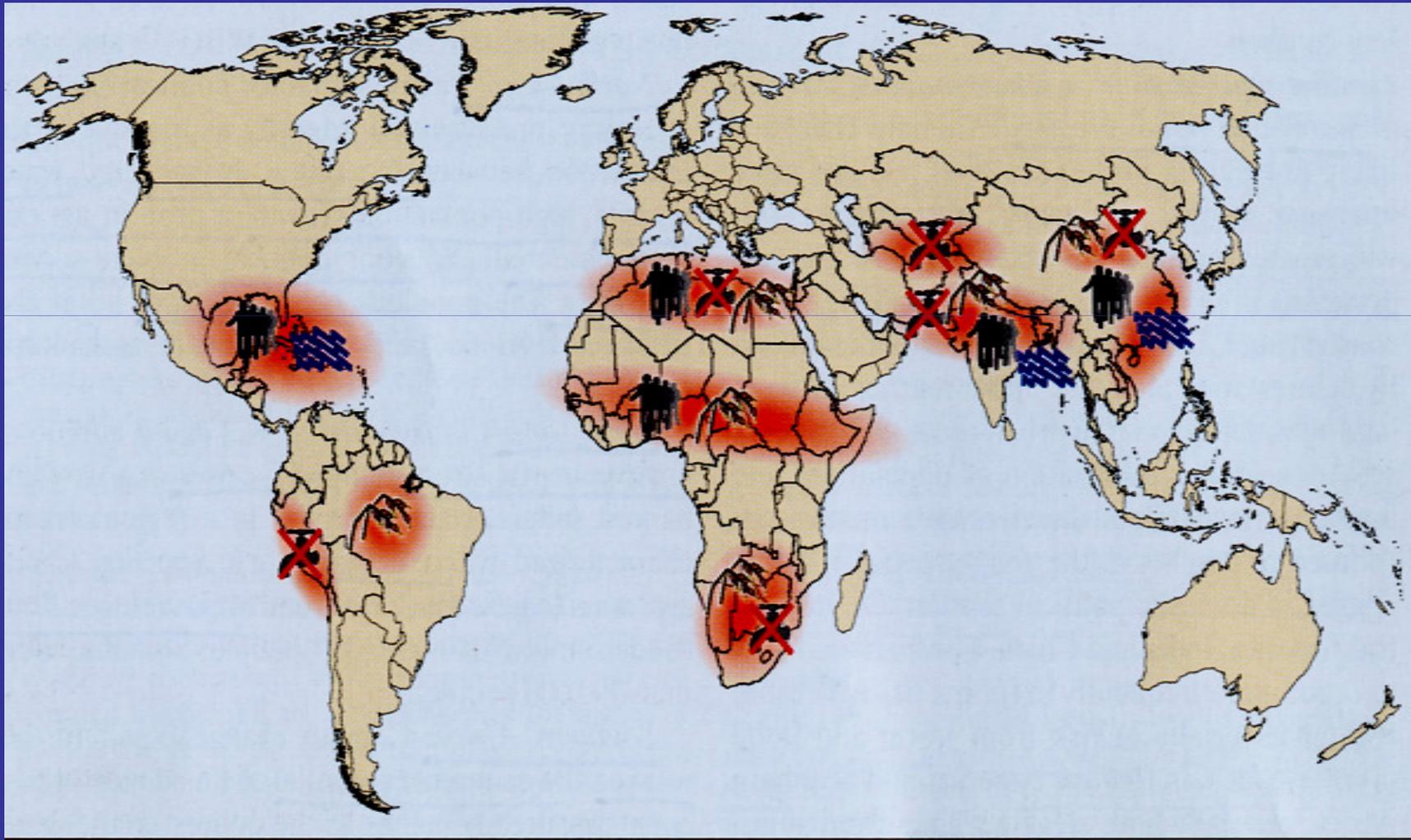


Climate-induced conflict constellations

- Degradation of *fresh water resources*
- Decline in *food production*
- Increase in *storm and flood disasters*
- Environmentally-induced *migration*



Regional hotspots



Six threats to international stability and security

- 1. Possible increase in the number of weak states as a result of climate change
- 2. Risks for the global economic development
- 3. Risks of growing international distributional conflicts between the main drivers of climate change and those most affected
- 4. The risk to human rights
- 5. Triggering and intensification of migration
- 6. Overstretching of classic security policy



1. Possible increase in the number of weak and fragile states

Weak and fragile states:

- Incapable of controlling its territory
- No longer able to uphold its internal legal order
- Violation of human rights
- No public services
- Regional and international effects



2. Risks for global economic development

- **Water scarcity: impedes development of irrigated agriculture**
- **Drought and soil degradation: results in a drop in agricultural yields**
- **Storms and floods: put industrial sites and infrastructures in coastal regions at risk**
- **Unabated climate change: results in substantially reduced rates of growth**



3. Risks of growing international distributional conflicts between the main drivers of climate change and those most affected

- Climate change mainly caused by the industrialized and newly industrializing countries (China, India, Brazil)

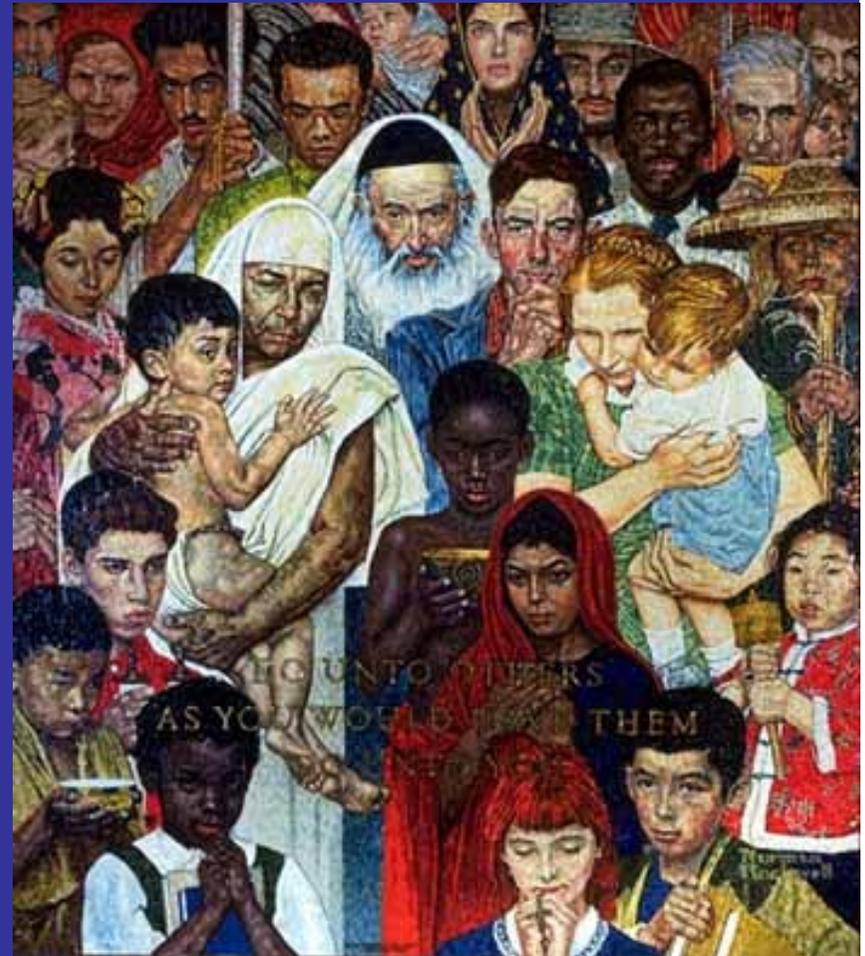
Two divides:

- Industrialized vs developing countries
- Newly industrializing vs poorer developing countries
- “Equity gap”
- The “polluter pays” principle: how to enforce?



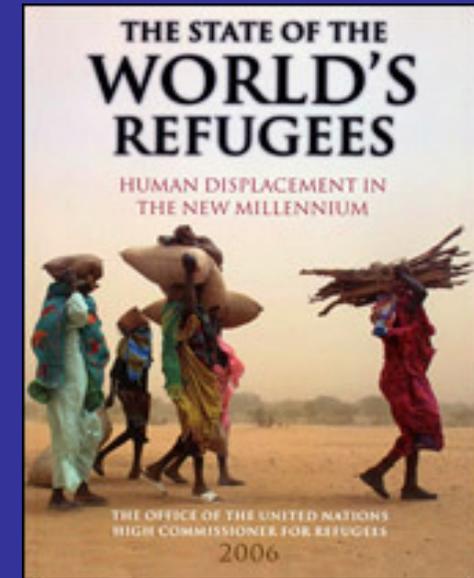
4. The risk to human rights

- Threatening livelihoods, erosion of human security: contributing to the violation of human rights
- CO2-emitting industrialized countries could increasingly be accused of knowingly cause human rights violations, or at least doing so in *de facto* terms
- International human rights discourse in the United Nations?



5. Triggering and intensification of migration

- ‘Environmental migrants’
- Drought increases and food production declines in Africa and Latin America
- Some 175m people are currently migrants
- 2050: 230m



6. Overstretching of classic security policy

- ‘Classic’ interstate-wars are unlikely (2006: 0/16)
- Complex terrain
- Humanitarian interventions
- An increase in destabilization processes and state failure
- Support from police and military capabilities (Pakistan, New Orleans, Aceh)



Hurricane Katrina

- **Houston: 150.000 evacuees**
- **Riots in high schools**
- **Crime rate spiking: 20% increase in homicides**
- **Increasing incidence of sexually transmitted diseases, anti-depressants and hospital emergency services being overstretched by refugees with no health coverage**
- **City's budget being crushed**



The Arctic

Ice-free Northwest Passage:

- Distance London-Tokyo via Panama 23.000 km, via Suez Canal 21.000, and via northern Canada 16.000 km
- Canada: internal waters (UNCLOS)
- United States: international strait
- Greenland: permafrost

Natural Resources:

- Share of Arctic in undiscovered resources: 25%



Climate change and the UN Security Council

- Chapter VII enforcement measures
- Art. 39 Threat to Peace and International Security
- Both causes and consequences of climate change
- The responsibility to protect





Questions??