

Small States and Climate Change

Steve L. Monroe

YSS4274

Tuvalu at COP 27



Tuvalu Foreign Minister, Simon Kofe

▶ Link

Source: Reuters

(Week 7, Sem 2)



Appendix

Tuvalu at COP 27



Funafuti, Tuvalu

▶ Link

Source: BBC

(Week 7, Sem 2)



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Appendix

Tuvalu: Background

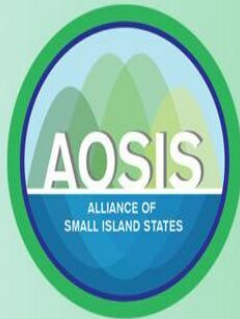
- Population: 11,000
- Territory: 26 sq km
- GDP per capita: 5,600 (Lower Middle Income)
- Main exports: fish, tourism

Why are small states (SIDS) taking a leading role in climate change debates in the international arena?

How are small states (SIDS) taking a leading role in climate change debates in the international arena?

Small States and Climate Change

- Challenges
 - ▶ Collective Action Problems
 - ▶ Missing Economies of Scale
 - ▶ Power Asymmetries and Vulnerabilities



ALLIANCE OF SMALL ISLAND STATES

Small States and Climate Change

- Tuesday: Domestic Politics
- **Today: International Politics**

Seminar Objectives: To Discuss

- Small State Coalitions
- Scaling Up: Small States in International Organizations
- Case Study: Loss and Damage at COP 27

Seminar Objectives: To Discuss

- Small State Coalitions (**Deitelhoff and Wallbott**)
- Scaling Up: Small States in International Organizations (**Betzold; Prof. Monroe**)
- Case Study: Loss and Damage at COP 27 (**Baldacchino**)

Outline of Seminar

- 1 Announcements
- 2 Reading Presentation: Small State Coalitions
- 3 Scaling Up: Small States in International Organisations
- 4 Case Study: Loss and Damages
- 5 Next Seminar: To Dos

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Prof Monroe will aim to get them back to you by Monday.

First-Half Participation

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Mid-Semester Feedback: Thank you!

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- Most Popular

Mid-Semester Feedback: Thank you!

- Most Popular
 - ▶ Drop: Nothing
 - ▶ Keep: Case studies; Group activities
 - ▶ Add: More opportunities for writing feedback

Mid-Semester Feedback: Writing Feedback

- Students can send me **one** rough draft of their research paper by Tuesday, April 23rd

Syllabus Update: (Version 4)

- Chapter 3, Long: Moved to March 4th

GA Annual Lecture: Tonight!

YALE-NUS LECTURE ON
GLOBAL AFFAIRS

SAVING LIBERALISM FROM CRISIS

Recent years have seen attacks on liberalism for failing, but defenders deny that liberalism ever lost its way. In this lecture, Professor Samuel Moyn from Yale University will reprise some of the themes of his recent book *Liberalism against Itself: Cold War Intellectuals and the Making of Our Times*, arguing that the best parts of liberalism have to be rescued from the mistakes of liberals in the last few decades. As the 2024 United States presidential election raises questions about the health and quality of its democracy, whether and how liberalism can and should survive is one of the most pivotal questions of our time.

Sponsor
Professor Samuel Moyn
Chancellor Kent Professor of Law and History,
Yale University

Host/Presenter
Assistant Professor Benjamin A Schupmann
Assistant Professor of Social Sciences
(Philosophy, Politics, and Economics),
Yale-NUS College

7 MARCH 2024, THURSDAY
7:00 PM - 8:15 PM SGT
YALE-NUS COLLEGE HALL AND LIVE ON ZOOM



YaleNUSCollege

Sponsored by the late
Professor Saw Swee Hoek

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Nicole Deitelhoff and Linda Wallbott. "Beyond soft balancing: small states and coalition-building in the ICC and climate negotiations."

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What challenges does a small state face when trying to influence international organisations (UN, IMF, World Bank)?

Challenges

- Not many diplomats, resources
- Not many sticks
- Not many carrots (at least resource-scarce small states)

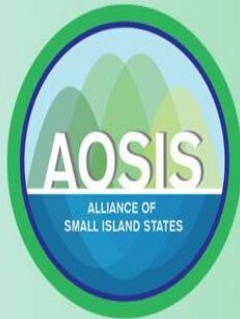
How can a small state overcome these challenges?

Solutions

- Collective Action
- Discursive Power
- Non-State Alliances

Solutions

- **Collective Action**
- Discursive Power
- Non-State Alliances



ALLIANCE OF SMALL ISLAND STATES

Collective Action Problem



How did small states
overcome collective action
problems to create AOSIS?

Solving Collective Action Problems

- Sanction free-riders
- Reward / Compensate non-free riders
- Promote information and transparency

Solutions

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Solutions

- Collective Action
- **Discursive Power**
- Non-State Alliances

What is discursive power?

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▶ Link

Source: Reuters

(Week 7, Sem 2)



Appendix

Check-In

What are examples of discursive power in Foreign Minister Kofe's COP 27 speech? (5 mins)

IR Recap: Constructivism

Process > Power

IR Recap: Constructivism

- Interests and preferences are not fixed but change with interactions
- Norms, agenda setting, socialization

Solutions

- Collective Action
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- Non-State Alliances

Solutions

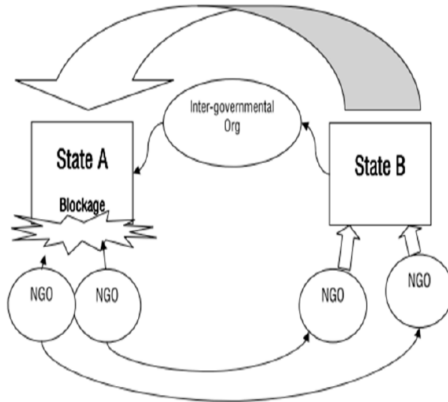
- Collective Action
- Discursive Power
- **Non-State Alliances**

How do non-state actors (NGOs, firms, civil society) help small states advance their climate change interests?



Source: Sky News

The Boomerang Effect



Source: ResearchGate

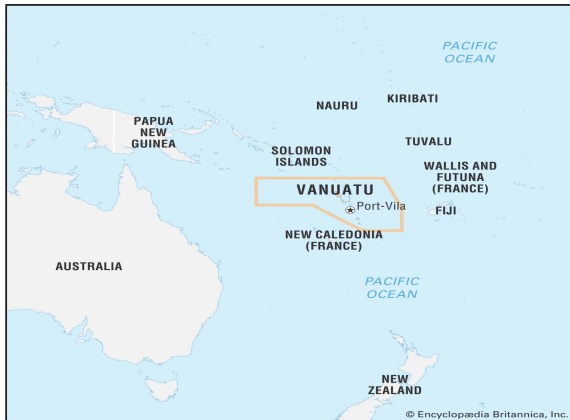
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Vanuatu Pushed for Loss and Damages in 1991



Funafuti, Tuvalu

COP 27 Agrees to Loss and Damages

Cop27 agrees historic 'loss and damage' fund for climate impact in developing countries

Deal is hailed as potential turning point that acknowledges vast inequities of climate crisis



📷 A Fridays for Future protester at the Cop27 UN Climate Summit holds a sign calling for the "loss and damage" deal. Photograph: Peter Dejong/AP

Source: The Guardian [▶ Link](#)

Read the Guardian article on Canvas. We will then debrief.

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Next Seminar (Mar. 11)

- Small States in International Relations Theory
 - ▶ Melian Dialogue (Performance!!)
 - ▶ Jesse and Dreyer. 2016. Small States in the International System: At Peace and at War. Section I. Theory (pg. 1 â 57).
 - ▶ Eyal: Lithuania vs. China.
 - ▶ To think about: Jesse and Dreyer vs. Eyal

Have a great weekend!