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The Ecological Modernisation Reader

Environmental Reform in Theory and Practice

Edited by Arthur P.J. Mol, David A. Sonnenfeld, Gert Spaargaren

Environmental reform by governmental, intergovernmental agencies, private firms and industries and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) is a worldwide phenomenon. This definitive collection showcases an introduction to Ecological Modernisation Theory; state-of-the-art review essays by key international scholars and a selection of the key articles from a quarter-century of social science scholarship. It is aimed at students, researchers and policymakers interested in a deep understanding of contemporary environmental issues.

'This is a much needed collection which fills the gap left by theoretical and empirical work. Whatever your opinions about Ecological Modernisation this promises to be a benchmark study.'
Michael Redclift, Professor of International Environmental Policy, King's College, UK

'Ecological modernisation has become the most important theory of practical attempts to deal with environmental problems.

Whether it be efforts by the environmentally leading countries of northern Europe, or by the Obama Administration in the United States, or by Japan and China, the endeavours all consist of ecological modernization in one form or another. This informative reader brings together the most significant research on the subject over the three decades since its inception. The success or failure of ecological modernization remains nevertheless an open question, as indicated by global warming caused by human activities. Hence this perspective has its critics, particularly neo-Marxist and neo-Malthusian ones, and the book briefly responds to these as well. It is a must read for anyone interested in the broader aspects of environmental problem solving.'

- Raymond Murphy, President Environment and Society Research Committee of the International Sociological Association

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Table of Contents:

Part 1: Foundations of Ecological Modernization Theory
Part 2: Transformations in Environmental Governance and Participation
Part 3: Greening Life-Cycles and Life-Styles
Part 4: Environmental Reform in Asian and Other Emerging Economies

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