

Global Warming in The Global Village: Humanity's War Against Nature

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World War III has already begun and it is not the nuclear 'armageddon' that we feared, but rather it is our war that we humans are waging against Nature as we pollute the atmosphere with CO₂ and other greenhouse gases triggering global warming and threatening our very existence.

Gerry Fialka (2024) has called for peace and the end of wars making using his astute 18 year reading of Finnegans Wake in his brilliant article "Can Art Stop War." I am calling for an end of the war we greedy humans are waging against NATURE attacking its atmosphere with our ever-increasing emissions of CO₂ and other greenhouse gases.

Naturally when we think of war, we think of one group of humans fighting against another group of humans, often one nation against another. But there is another kind of war going on in which both sides will lose and that is the war that we humans are waging against nature in our greed to enrich ourselves beyond what is sustainable. The war goes by the name of global warming. It is a war we are destined to lose if we do not take drastic steps to end this madness of ours. Nature will not lose the war but it will suffer some significant losses. We are destroying the earth's capacity to sustain us. I have called for a ceasefire, a permanent ceasefire, in this war with my colleagues in the Pugwash Movement in a document called the Dagomys Declaration (<https://pugwash.org/1988/09/03/dagomys-declaration-of-the-pugwash-council/>, accessed March 23, 2024), the first draft of which I wrote during the Pugwash meeting in Dagomys Russia way back in 1988 when Russia still went by the name of the Soviet Union? Although of late, since 1974 I have been working as a media ecologist my previous academic focus was on elementary particle and nuclear physics with my last physics paper published in 1982. With my background in physics and my involvement with Canadian politics I was welcomed in the Pugwash movement. You might say I was a double agent.

Our war against nature, against planet Earth's capacity to sustain us is different than the wars in nature that are waged between a predator and its prey. When the predator kills too many of its prey the population of the prey declines which means there is less food for the predator and so the predator's population declines as well and results in its killing less of its prey and therefore the population of the prey bounces back and increases allowing the predator's population to increase which in turn decreases the prey population and, so on and so forth, the population of the predators and their prey see-saws back and forth and there is always a happy ending to this war in that the war has no ultimate victor and no ultimate loser.

Our war with nature through global warming will have no winners but only losers. We humans will lose and nature will lose. But our loss as humans could be total with the planet not being able to sustain human life while nature's loss will not be total but only partial as many species along with us will be lost. Many species particularly the simpler ones will survive or evolve into species that can live in an atmosphere with the levels of CO₂ that we humans created before our demise.

I have addressed the problem of global warming in an article published in 2022 in Volume 2 Number 3 of this journal New Exploration entitled "The Evolution of the Anthropocene and Climate Change: A Media Ecology Approach and a Call to Action," which can be accessed at

<https://jps.library.utoronto.ca/index.php/nexj/article/view/39034/29746>. I urge you to read it if you have not already done so.

Reference

Fialka, Gerry. 2024. "Can Art Stop War." *New Explorations* Vol 4 No 2.