



The forest sector in turbulent times: towards a 're-concentration' of governance centers and capacities?.

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T5.4 Between synergies and conflicts: public and private forest governance initiatives in the
context of turbulent times – 26th IUFRO World Congress, Stockholm, June 24, 2024

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Photo: Björn Olm

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For introducing our work: two key-points

- a. Turbulent times
- b. 'Re-concentration' of governance

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a. Turbulent times (1/5)

A narrow vision



Source: <https://www.statista.com/chart/21652/countries-with-armed-clashes-reported/>



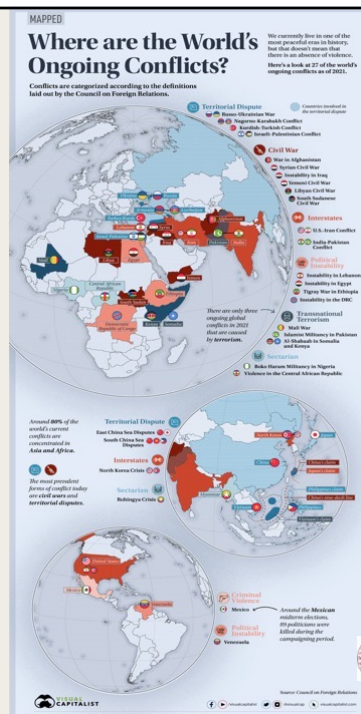
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a. Turbulent times (2/5)

A broader vision:

- Territorial disputes
- Civil wars
- Interstate conflicts
- Political instability
- Sectarian conflicts
- Criminal violence

Source: <https://www.visualcapitalist.com/mapped-where-are-the-worlds-ongoing-conflicts-today>



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a. Turbulent times (3/5)

A comprehensive vision:

- Territorial disputes
- Civil wars
- Interstate conflicts
- Political instability
- Sectarian conflicts
- Criminal violence

- + Environmental crisis (CC and biodiversity loss)
- + Human health crisis (pandemics and malnutrition)
- + Social-economic crisis (inequality and ethnic, religious, and cultural conflicts)
- + Technological disruption (digital divide, automatization, privacy and security concerns)



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a. Turbulent times (4/5)

Geopolitical, environmental, economic, societal and technological **shocks** across sectors and countries

→ **polycrisis**: “a cluster of interconnected crises in which the overall impact exceeds the sum of each part” (C.Lachman, 2024) not only at local, but also at global scale

Polycrises are the **consequences of policy errors and flaws in the design and implementation of governance systems**

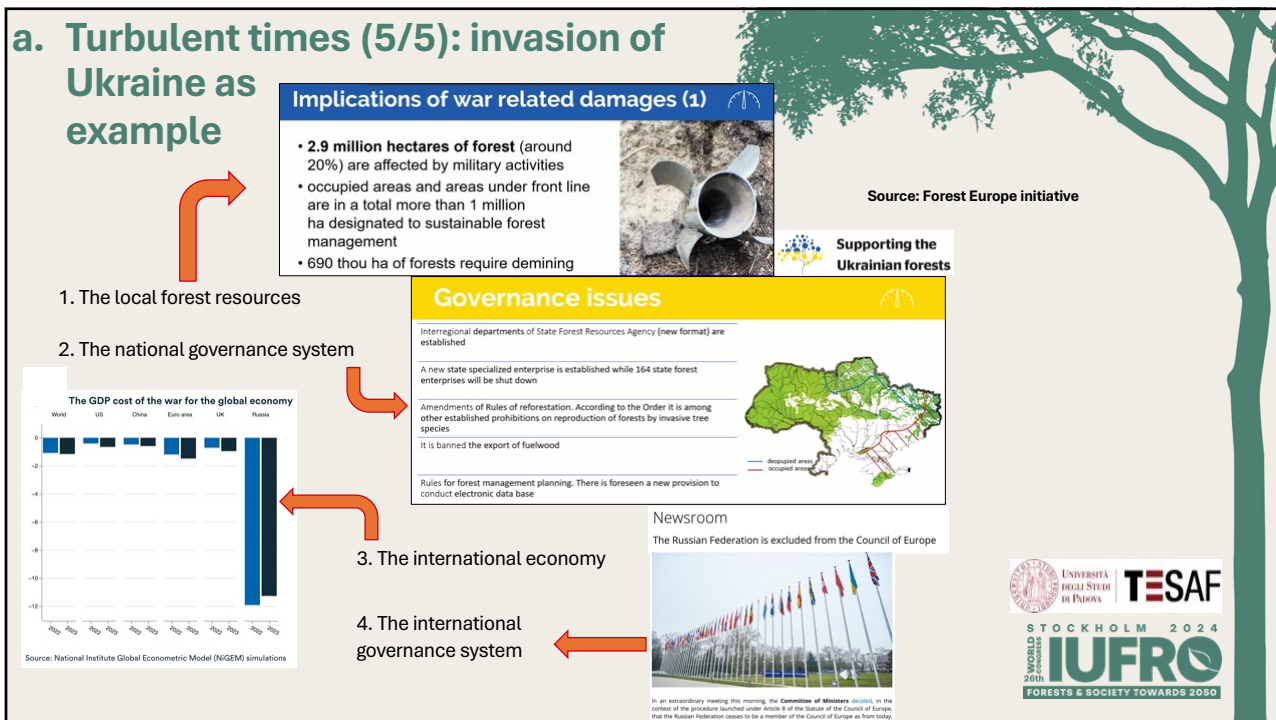


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a. Turbulent times (5/5): invasion of Ukraine as example



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b. 'Re-concentration' of governance (1/7)

Recent trends in forest sector governance:

- **Proliferation of international commitments** by governments («Targets Olympics» like in Glasgow CoP 26) that makes difficult the process of «blaming and shaming» by civil society;
- **New strong normative frameworks** and new policy tools (e.g., EU Green Deal, New York Declaration on Forests, Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, EU Deforestation Regulation, US Forest Act, ...);
- Numerous **voluntary initiatives** led by civil society are now being **supplanted by public regulatory initiatives**.

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b. 'Re-concentration' of governance (2/7)

Innovative tools by civil society



Area of policy action	Private initiatives that have covered the areas of action
Supporting SFM	CoC standards by FSC, PEFC, Naturaland, Plockhugget, ...
Sustainable finance	GABV, FEBEA and INAISE networks' activities; Basel 1 and 2
Sustainable use of wood biomass	Better Biomass, ISCC, SBP, ... (see https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/renewable-energy/bioenergy/voluntary-schemes_en)
Sustainability reporting	GRI, CDP, SASB, ISO 14001 EMS, SASCB, Carbon Trust Standard, Greenhouse Gas Protocol by the WRI and WBCSD,...
Carbon credits generation	National Schemes and private certification schemes and standards
Legal origin of farm and forest products and their CoC	GFP, Rainforest Alliance, RTRS, RSB, RSPO, SAN, SBP + already mentioned forest related organizations



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b. 'Re-concentration' of governance (3/7)

The later initiatives by the EU



Area of policy action	Private initiatives that have covered the areas of action	The regulatory initiatives by the EU
Supporting SFM	CoC standards by FSC, PEFC, Naturaland, Plockhugget, ...	Closer to Nature Guidelines, Env. Claims and label Directive
Sustainable finance	GABV, FEBEA and INAISE networks' activities; Basel 1 and 2	Sustainable finance package: ESG rating, Taxonomy
Sustainable use of wood biomass	Better Biomass, ISCC, SBP, ... (see https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/renewable-energy/bioenergy/voluntary-schemes_en)	REDII and REDIII
Sustainability reporting	GRI, CDP, SASB, ISO 14001 EMS, SASCB, Carbon Trust Standard, Greenhouse Gas Protocol by the WRI and WBCSD,...	CSRD (Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive) and NFRD (Non-Financial Reporting Directive)
Carbon credits generation	National Schemes and private certification schemes and standards	CRCF – Carbon Removal Certification Framework Regulation
Legal origin of farm and forest products and their CoC	GFP, Rainforest Alliance, RTRS, RSB, RSPO, SAN, SBP + already mentioned forest related organizations	EUTR – European Union Timber Regulation EUDR – European Union Deforestation and forest degradation Regulation



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b. 'Re-concentration' of governance (4/7)

Recent trends in forest sector governance:

- **Proliferation of international commitments** by governments («Targets Olympics» like in Glasgow CoP

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- **Ne** Lack of coordination and, in some case, **contradictory goals** with respect to the increase of forest coverage, use of forests for biomass production to support bioeconomy, biodiversity protection, and carbon sequestration
- **Num**
- **nov**
- **initiatives.**



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b. 'Re-concentration' of governance (5/7): some hints for

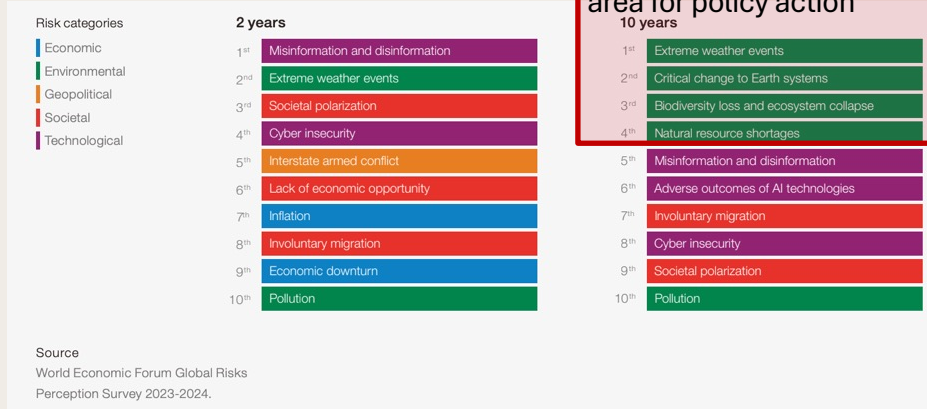
- “The first step toward change is **awareness**” (N.Branden): **understanding risks**, presenting the **outcomes of crisis** (“costs of inaction”), giving evidence to problem-solving paths
- Convergence of governance coordination: focus on the most **basic, commonly shared values**: **biodiversity protection, adaptation to CC, land restoration, green care** → forests are a unique field for such policies.



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b. 'Re-concentration' of governance (6/7)

Global risks ranked by severity over 2 and 10 years



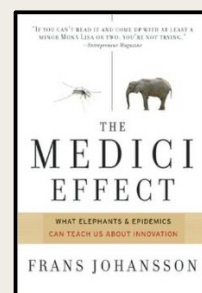
https://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_The_Global_Risks_Report_2024.pdf



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b. 'Re-concentration' of governance (7/7): some hints for

- “The first step toward change is **awareness**” (N.Branden): understanding risk, presenting the outcomes of crisis (“costs of inaction”), giving evidence to problem-solving paths
- Convergence of governance coordination: focus on the most **basic, commonly shared values**: biodiversity protection, adaptation to CC, land restoration, green care → forests are a unique field for such policies
- Support **deep multidisciplinary, reciprocally respectful actions inspired by the «Medici effect»** (Johansson, 2004): the Renaissance in Italy came from painters, sculptors, poets, philosophers, financiers, and architects put together at work and supported by the Medici family action.
- **Re-launch multilateralism**: diffuse reciprocity in safeguarding the planet’s forests.



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Food for thoughts for our roundtables!

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Organization of the session

Two aspects of the forest governance in turbulent times, and final reflections:

- 1) Politics and people** (L.Secco chair)
 5 speakers: L.Giessen, Sujeong Ju, S.A.Wyatt, A. Larson, A.Mammadova
- 2) Public-private interplay** (B.Art chair)
 4 speakers: M.Sotirov, J.Laturi, R.Goodman, S.Adhikai

Final reflections by B.Art - Reflections on forest policies in turbulent times: Hydra and Chloris worldviews

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First Roundtable: Politics and People

Synergies or conflicts between international forest-related governance initiatives?

Setting the scene

Lukas Giessen

Implications and Policy Insights of the EU Supply Chain Due Diligence for the Korean Forestry Sector

Sujeong Ju *et al.*

Synergies and conflicts in dynamic dialogues for shared forest governance between the Cree nation and the Quebec state in Eeyou Itschee, Canada.

Stephen Wyatt *et al.*

Decolonial environmental justice in forest landscape restoration

Anne Larson *et al.*

The Impact of Environmental Regulations on the Power Dynamics of Third-Party Environmental Standards: The Case of the European Environment

Aynur Mammadova *et al.*



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Second Roundtable: Public-private interplay

Transnational timber legality and deforestation policy changes in the EU, UK, USA and China, and their implications on tropical countries

Metodi Sotirov

Voluntary carbon market in land use in the sector - development, demand and measures in Finland

Jani Laturi *et al.*

The Wood Solution: Creating a high-value timber industry in the Global South

Rosa Goodman *et al.*

MoA Decade of REDD+ in Nepal: Status and Way Forward

Shankar Adhikari



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Thanks for your attention!

**Enjoy our Roundtables and the
rest of the Congress!**



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