

Political Science 222: Problems of the Global Community
Dr. Kille - Spring 2006

Natural Resources class preparation

(For April 4 and April 6; *Note date change from syllabus):

April 4: *Natural Resources*- Read Davenport & Scapple chapter and be sure to have initial country research in place for the Global Problems Summit

1. What are natural resources? As part of this definition, what are the different categories of resources? What are the implications of these different categories for likelihood of cooperation versus conflict between countries over resources? How do the cases Davenport and Scapple employ illustrate these categories?
2. What level of sovereignty should states have over resources? Does your answer to this question vary by the type of resources?
3. What are the resource concerns for the country you are representing at the Global Problems Summit on Resources? Have these issues been handled through cooperation or conflict?
4. In considering the place of resources on the global agenda, should they be considered “high politics” or “low politics”? (see Davenport and Scapple p. 297)
5. Davenport and Scapple’s conclusion emphasizes the “need for sustainability,” which we will talk about further in relation to the April 11 reading on sustainable development. What other solutions to the natural resources problem might you suggest?

April 6: *Resource Wars* - Klare reading

1. We will be holding an “in-class book review” of Klare based on your reading of his introduction, conclusion, and supporting case chapters on oil, water, minerals and timber. Thus, come prepared to discuss Klare’s core argument, how he supports this argument, and your critical analysis of how well carries this out in the book.
2. In addition, are there issues that have arisen from the reading or discussion on resources that you believe could form the basis of negotiations for the Global Problems Summit on Resources?