

Atmosphere Ownership

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Who owns the atmosphere of the earth? No human can live without the atmosphere. Therefore one can assume that each human owns an indefeasible and equal share of the atmosphere. So I can claim ownership of a fraction of about 1 / 8 billion of the atmosphere. Now if others use my property I have the right charge them for the usage. For a worldwide, annual CO₂ emission of 38 billion t this means I can ask for a compensation of the emission of 4.75 t of CO₂ into my part of the atmosphere. Taking a commercially available offer for direct air capture of CO₂ to estimate the provided value this gives an amount of 4750 Euro. As the duty of my government is to protect my rights I can demand the money from them.

This chain of thoughts is meant as input to the discussion how to increase motivation to address the climate problem.

Sustainability

Spreading & Enhancing Motivation

Ethics

Primary author: KUHR, Thomas (LMU Munich)

Presenter: KUHR, Thomas (LMU Munich)

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