

Abstract for 10 November 2021

Green Internationalists: Nordic Environmental Cooperation, 1967-1988

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When the world leaders gather in Glasgow and negotiate climate policies at COP26 in November 2021, the Nordic countries will once again join forces and promote Nordic solutions to climate change, developed through decades of Nordic cooperation on environmental and climate policies. While this Nordic cooperation is taken for granted by scholars, politicians, and public alike, the history of Nordic environmental cooperation and its ulterior motives are not only less well known, but also hitherto little scrutinised. Focusing on the Nordic Council and the Nordic Council of Ministers, this talk will explore why the environment was made into a central policy issue of institutionalised Nordic cooperation, and how it developed throughout the decades. Approaching Nordic environmental cooperation from a genuine Nordic perspective not only allows to explore its dynamics and character in its international entanglement, but also to shed light on how environmental policies shaped Nordic cooperation in general.