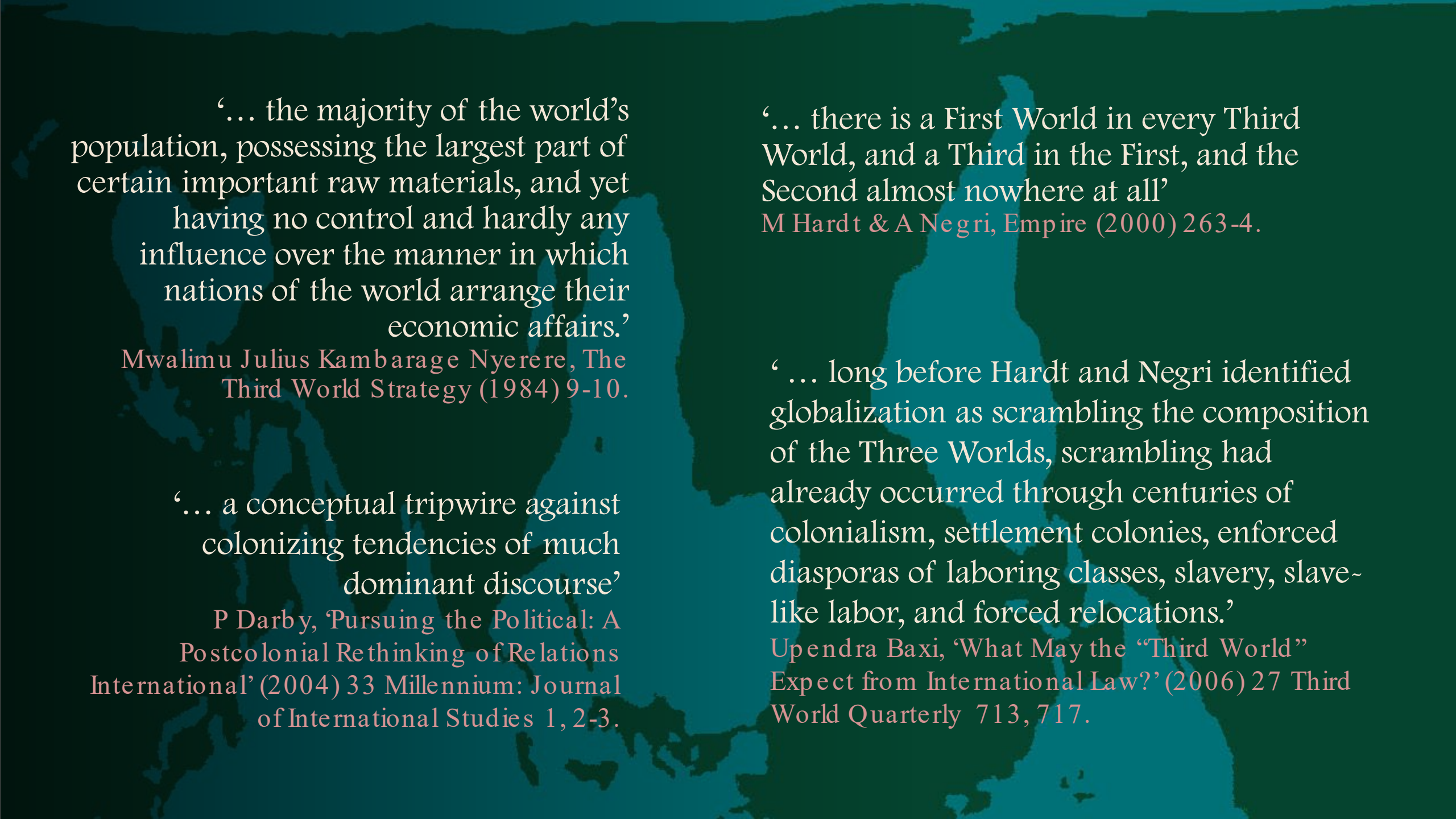


# Environmental Justice and the Global South

Transnational Solidarity for Sustainability

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‘... the majority of the world’s population, possessing the largest part of certain important raw materials, and yet having no control and hardly any influence over the manner in which nations of the world arrange their economic affairs.’

Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere, *The Third World Strategy* (1984) 9-10.

‘... a conceptual tripwire against colonizing tendencies of much dominant discourse’

P Darby, ‘Pursuing the Political: A Postcolonial Rethinking of Relations International’ (2004) 33 *Millennium: Journal of International Studies* 1, 2-3.

‘... there is a First World in every Third World, and a Third in the First, and the Second almost nowhere at all’

M Hardt & A Negri, *Empire* (2000) 263-4.

‘ ... long before Hardt and Negri identified globalization as scrambling the composition of the Three Worlds, scrambling had already occurred through centuries of colonialism, settlement colonies, enforced diasporas of laboring classes, slavery, slave-like labor, and forced relocations.’


Upendra Baxi, ‘What May the “Third World” Expect from International Law?’ (2006) 27 *Third World Quarterly* 713, 717.

‘ ... gathered together ... to build a national and international movement of all peoples of color to fight the destruction and taking of our lands and communities ... to respect and celebrate each of our cultures, languages and beliefs about the natural world and our roles in healing ourselves ... and, to secure our political, economic and cultural liberation that has been denied for over 500 years of colonization and oppression, resulting in the poisoning of our communities and land and the genocide of our peoples ... ’

~ Principles of Environmental Justice (1991)

## 4 Pillars of Environmental Injustice

1. Distributive injustice: Disproportionate exposure to environmental hazards and access to environmental services.
2. Procedural injustice: Exclusion from environmental decision-making.
3. Corrective injustice: Unequal enforcement of laws and redress for harm done.
4. Social injustice: Intertwining of environmental harm with deeper structural ills such as poverty and racism.

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- Last time there was this much CO<sub>2</sub> in our atmosphere was 3.5 million years ago
  - Onset of the sixth mass extinction of species for the first time in 66 million years
  - Biggest disruption to earth's nitrogen cycle in 2.5 billion years

Sebastião Salgado, *Bats on Tamarind Trees*,  
Berenty Reserve, Madagascar (2010)

## ECOSYSTEM HEALTH

*Stockholm Resilience Center*  
*9 Planetary Boundaries*  
*(Steffen et al, 2015)*



Sebastião Salgado, *Gold Mine of Sera Pelada, Brazil* (1986)

- UK (pop 66 mil) emits as much CO<sub>2</sub> as Nigeria, Pakistan, Morocco & Peru (pop 475 mil)
- California (pop 39 mil) emits more than 880 million people in the fifty poorest countries
- Texas & New Jersey (pop 37 mil) emit as much CO<sub>2</sub> as 1 billion people in Sub-Saharan Africa

**RICHEST 20% CONSUME 80% OF ALL NATURAL RESOURCES  
AND PRODUCE 90% OF ALL WASTE**

*World Resources Institute 2020  
Choose Energy 2020  
2019 UNDP Human Development Report*



Sebastião Salgado, *Kalema Camp, west of Tigray, Ethiopia* (1985)

Poorest 80% are on frontlines of environmental harm due to:

- vulnerable geographic locations
- lack of resources and regulatory capacity to protect themselves
- ongoing extraction of their natural resources and labor to fuel an unequal global economy
- systemic transfer of pollution from the rich to the poor

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