

Pereira, A. (2023). Migratory justice and global inequalities: the new juridico-political category of climate refugees. In *Proceedings of the IMISCOE annual conference 2023* (Proceedings of the IMISCOE Annual Conference 2023).

In this study, I will examine IOM's recurrent stance on how more measures are needed to protect climate migrants and climate refugees around the world and its relationships with both new research lines on climate migrants being created and developed by migration research institutes around the globe (from New Zealand to Germany and Canada) and the debate around the need for the recognition of a new juridico-political category (or a specific juridical protection status): the so-called "climate refugees". The concept of climate refugees corresponds to a new juridico-political category, or to a specific protection status, which is still not internationally recognized nor harmonized. This discussion has been deepened over the last few years, in the face of: a large number of natural disasters and other ecological and environmental catastrophes, as well as more visible, mediatized and increased migratory movements associated with them (Berchin et al., 2017; Carević and Novokmet, 2021; Hiraide, 2022). This is a qualitative and interpretative research, based on extensive literature review on this topic, content, legal, document and critical analysis. I argue that integral human development (IHD, 1967-2018) and its correlative concept of integral ecology (Francis, 2015; Hodges et al., 2018) can provide a useful framework to rethink and expand, in a more comprehensive and humanist manner, the concept of "climate refugees". Additionally, several authors point out that a leading role could (and should) be taken by the European Union in determining the international recognition of the new juridico-political category of "climate refugees". Pondering the contributions by Wilcox (2021), Brock (2019), Rockström et al. (2009), Steffen et al. (2015), De Tavernier & Ndubueze (2020) and the glossary MECLEP (2014), I conclude by proposing my own personal definition for the new juridico-political category of "climate refugee".