

Intergovernmental organizations and climate security

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Niklas Bremberg, Ph.D.

Research Fellow

Swedish Institute of International Affairs

niklas.bremberg@ui.se



The view from academia

Dellmuth, L.M., Gustafsson, M.T.,
Bremberg, N. & Mobjörk, M. (2017)
“Intergovernmental organizations and
climate security: advancing the research
agenda” *WIREs: Climate Change* (doi:
10.1002/wcc.496)



Climate Security

Security Notions

State Security

Human Security

Policy Areas

Security

Diplomacy

Peace & Conflict

Development

DRR

Refugees

IGOs

NATO

UNSC

CIS

EU

Arctic Council

UNFCCC

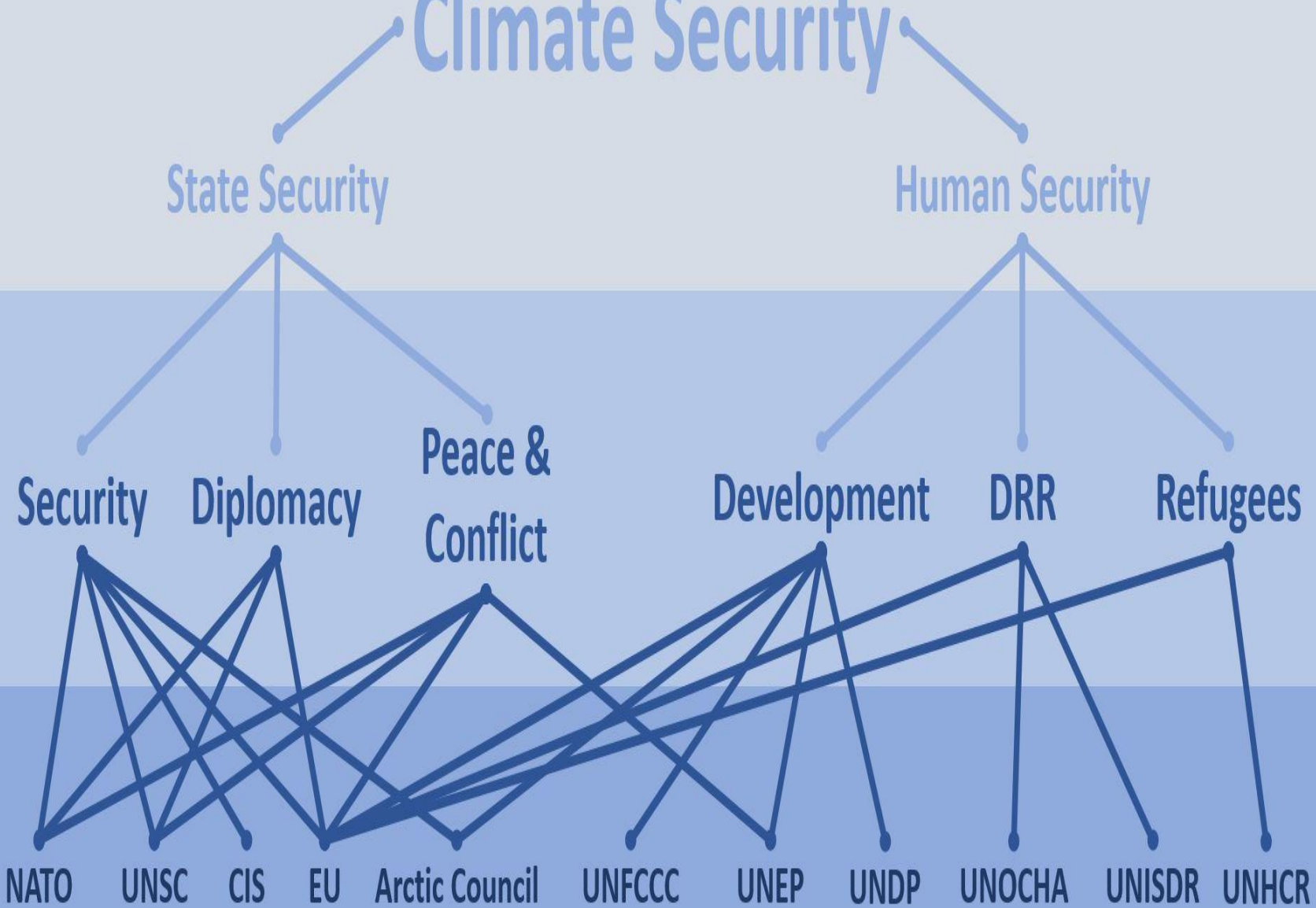
UNEP

UNDP

UNOCHA

UNISDR

UNHCR



Two main categories of IGO response to climate security

- Discourse: framing the adverse effects of climate change as “threat multiplier” and justifying action
- Governance: building capacities to assess climate security risks and enhance coordination within and among IGO:s



Problems and pitfalls

- No coherent discourse on climate security:
 - IGO:s tend to adopt framing of CS that fit their agendas
 - IGO:s might have a problem moving beyond framing
- Integrated governance lacking:
 - IGO:s work within their mandates
 - IGO:s in the field of human security are less effected by “sovereignty concerns”



Implications for policy-making

- States will continue to be important players but the transboundary nature of climate security calls for effective IGO:s
- Creative thinking on institutional arrangements to bridge silos within and across IGO:s
- Better assessments on IGO effectiveness (prevention, foresight, adaptation, etc).



Moving forward

The challenge is to find ways to link knowledge about local vulnerabilities, capacities and institutions with global governance responses and opportunities for cooperation across IGO:s



Many thanks!

