

# Planetary Security Initiative – Peace and Cooperation in Times of Climate Change and Global Environmental Challenges

## Selection of maps from the PS 2015 Conference Working Group Reports

This exhibition includes 6 of the maps especially commissioned for the 2015 PS conference and produced by geographer / cartographer Philippe Rekacewicz.

Like a picture which tells a thousand words, each of the maps illustrates key planetary security themes or they give an excellent overview of the interdependent issues within the wider environmental / geopolitical context for whole regions and sub-regions.

## Philippe Rekacewicz – Biography

Born in 1960, Philippe Rekacewicz is a French and American geographer, cartographer / information designer and journalist. After the completion of his study in geography at the University of Paris la Sorbonne, he worked with the international newspaper *Le Monde diplomatique* in Paris from 1988 to 2014.

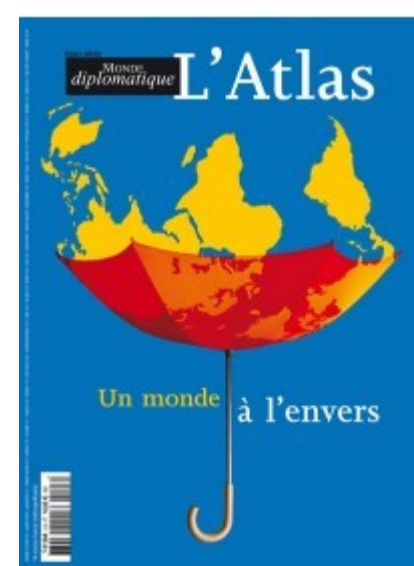


From 1996 to 2007, he headed up the cartographic unit at GRID-Arendal, the centre in Norway collaborating with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) supporting informed decision making and awareness-raising.

Since 2014, he works as a geographer cartographer for art museums, geopolitical institutes and international organisations. For example, his work was important in the studies and publications by the Environment and Security Initiative (ENVSEC) dealing with vulnerability assessments, early warning and monitoring of environment and security risks.

He is co-coordinator, with Philippe Rivière, of the website [visionscarto.net](http://visionscarto.net) and also teaches as a visiting professor in various universities in Europe (London, Dublin, Zurich, and Geneva).

In particular he follows issues such as demography, refugees and displaced persons, migration and stateless persons. More broadly, his interests include geopolitics and geostrategy, war and conflicts as well as social territories, and public and private space.



Philippe has also played a leading role in the production of the geopolitical atlases of *Le Monde diplomatique* published every three years from 2003 to 2012 (next edition to be available in 2018) with an average of 400,000 copies printed in up to 15 languages.

Philippe also works also on number of other projects which bring together cartography, art and politics, especially studying how communities, political or economic powers produce the cartographic visions of the territories on which they operate - and how they can manipulate and lie with maps.

Philippe has also been a leader in the development of mapping exercise which begin with the use of perception maps (See box).

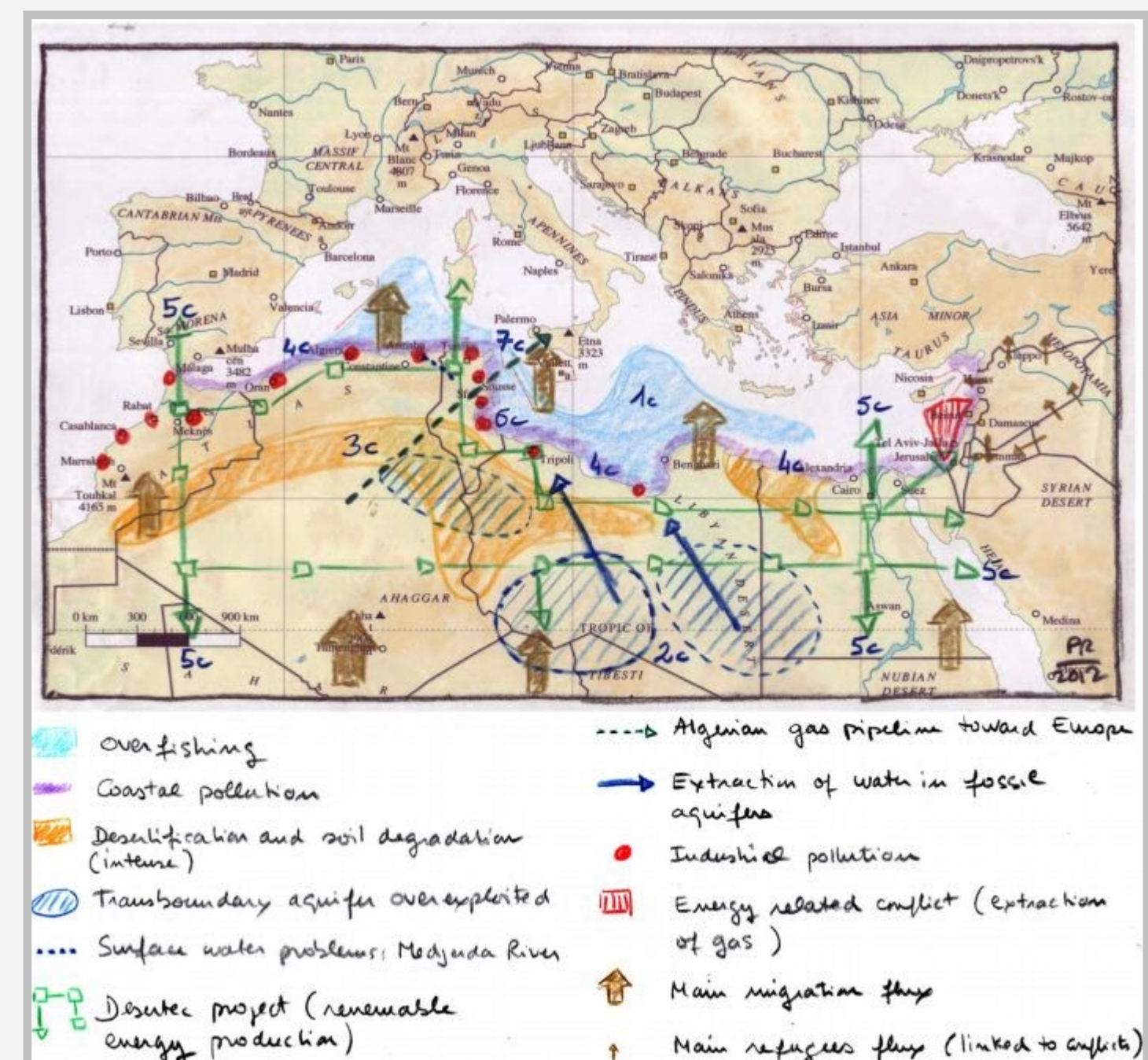
## Perception Maps

Cartographic images help us to identify more clearly the linkages between environment and security, and also help to highlight the regions where the combination of these two issues (i.e. in terms of pollution and potential conflict) shows a potentially worrying situation, needing attention and action. We are particularly interested in detecting geographical concentration of situations potentially hazardous both for human health and environment.

But to produce a map that “speaks” - showing priority problems of a region in a simple manner - requires a logical cartographic methodology. The ‘mapping exercise’ can therefore be described as a two phase process:

Phase 1 involves a consultation process with experts from national governments (ideally a combination of representatives from sectors such as the environment, natural resources, agriculture, foreign and internal affairs, health, defense and national security) plus experts from academia and civil society. Together they should try to agree on assessment results which will include national and regional priorities and ‘hot-spots’ where i) action is needed to reduce/ eliminate security risks which concern environment-related problems, or where ii) environmental co-operation can strengthen overall co-operation and dialogue between countries and communities.

Phase 2 involves a more in-depth assessment (research) of selected ‘areas of concern’, identified during Phase 1 of the process. It involves work at a larger scale and investigations ‘in the field’ with a strong involvement of both governmental and non-governmental local partners. Phase 2 focuses in particular on transboundary areas identified as areas of concern.



Example of a perception map produced during the OSCE Participatory Workshop on Environment and Security Issues in the Southern Mediterranean Region held in Amman, Jordan, 18-22 June 2012.