We are the Limits: resistance to lignite mining as a ground for emerging climate justice movement in the Czech Republic

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Abstract

As the European Union currently fosters its climate ambitions, the coal industry is facing a decline. For the Czech Republic with 4th highest CO2 emissions per capita in the EU and its coal regions, it poses a great challenge for economic and socio-metabolic transformation. The case of resistance to lignite mining in Northern Bohemia shows the importance of civic grassroots resistance on shaping climate and energy politics and socio-ecological metabolism. Resistance shapes also the imaginaries of the post-carbon future in the coal heartland through the repertoire of deployed actions, public mobilisation and articulated discourses. The recent emergence of the climate justice movement in the exact location connects resistance against the mining to the global problem of climate change and broadens the conception of justice in the socio-environmental conflict.

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