

## **Globalizations and the Transformation of Environmental Activism: Turkey since the 1980s**

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### *Abstract*

Social scientists have developed two main accounts of how globalization processes have impacted environmental activism and politics. Environmental activism is thought to be associated with instances of local resistance to economic globalization, and also with a diffusion of environmentalist ideas, practices, and regulations from global core to periphery. This paper presents a third, alternative account. I argue that by eroding states' sovereignty and supporting ethnic and religious minority groups within and across nations, globalization processes have fused environmental politics with ethnic and religious identity politics worldwide. The environmentalist discourses and activities of secular nationalists, Islamist intellectuals, and Alevis (a large religious minority) in Turkey since the 1980s illustrate the limited applicability of center-periphery models of globalization, and the complexity of the impacts of globalizing processes on environmental activism and politics.