

Research Contributions: Joan Martinez-Alier

## **Joan Martinez-Alier**

Barcelona, 1939.

**Current positions:** Professor of Economic History and Institutions at the Dpt. of Economics and Economic History, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, since 1976, and Deputy Director, Institute of Environmental Science and Technology (ICTA), UAB (since 2004). Director, Doctoral Programme in Environmental Sciences at ICTA- UAB (Ecological Economics and Environmental Management) (since 1997). Fifteen doctoral theses supervised or co-supervised since 2001.

**Past positions:** Student (1963-66) and Research Fellow, St. Antony's College, University of Oxford (1966-73). Visiting fellowships or professorships: Universidade Estadual de Campinas (S. Paulo), 1974, Freie Universität Berlin, 1980-81, St. Antony's College, Oxford, 1984-85, Stanford University and Univ. California (Davis), 1988-89, FLACSO, Ecuador (1994-95, and 2007), Yale University, 1999-2000.

**Degrees:** Lic. Economics, Universitat de Barcelona 1961, B.Litt.Oxford 1967, Doctorate in Economics, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona 1976.

### **Public/academic service**

-Founding member, 1989, member of the Board, and President (2006 and 2007), International Society for Ecological Economics.

-Member of the Scientific Committee, European Environment Agency, 2000-2008.

-Member of editorial board of *Ecological Economics*, *Environmental Values*, *Journal of Agrarian Change*, *Journal of Peasant Studies*...

### **Most Significant Career Research Contributions**

Since 1975, Joan Martinez-Alier has held the position of Professor in the Department of Economics and Economic History in the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona in Spain. Over the past 20 years he has gained recognition as Europe's foremost scholar of and spokesperson for the new field of "ecological economics." In 1987 he joined together with international colleagues from around the world as a founding member of the International Society for Ecological Economics.

Martinez-Alier has extensive international experience in a wide variety of educational institutions around the world. He was a Research Fellow at St. Antony's College, Oxford University from 1966 to 1973 and again a visiting scholar there in 1984-85. He has held visiting appointments at the Free University of Berlin (1980-81), Stanford University, the University of California, Davis (1988-89) and FLACSO-Ecuador in Quito (1994-95). In 1999-2000, Martinez-Alier was a Fellow in the Program in Agrarian Studies at Yale University in New Haven. Since 1990 Professor Martinez-Alier has served as the Editor of the journal *Ecologia Política* (Barcelona).

Martinez-Alier's research and professional focus has been in the fields of agrarian studies, ecological economics and political ecology. In Europe he was involved in a two-year international collaborative study of environmental standards known as the Environmental Valuation in Europe (EVE) project,

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funded by the European Commission. In addition to his professional research in European and industrialized areas, Martinez-Alier has been concerned with exploring the implications of ecological economics for developing countries. He has directed the European project CEECEC, Civil Society Engagement with Ecological Economics, [www.ceecec.net](http://www.ceecec.net), which resulted in the production of a Handbook ("Ecological Economics from the Ground Up"), likely to be published in 2011 by Earthscan, London.

From 1991 to 1996 he contributed to the design and production of a series of four videos dealing with the theory and practical application of the concepts of ecological economics in development strategies. These videos form a series presented by Griesinger Films and they include: An Introduction to Ecological Economics, Investing In Natural Capital, Conversation for a Sustainable Society and Costa Rica Counts the Future. He is a former president of the International Society for Ecological Economics.

His current research focuses on ecological economics and languages of valuation, political ecology, environmental history, environmental justice and the environmentalism of the poor. He has directed the doctoral programme in the Environmental Sciences at the UAB, and he is a senior member in the Ecological Economics group at ICTA UAb ([www.eco2bcn.es](http://www.eco2bcn.es)).

## Research Contributions Over the Last Six Years (2004-2010)

### Edited Books

- Rodriguez-Labajos, B., Spangenberg, J. H., Maxim, L., Martínez-Alier, J., Binimelis, R., Gallai, N., Kuldna, P., Monterroso, I., Peterson, K., & Uustal, M. (2009). *Assessing biodiversity risks with socio-economic methods: The ALARM experience*. PENSOFIT.
- Martinez-Alier, J. (Series ed.). (2008). *Ecological Economics and Human Well-Being*. Delhi: Oxford U.P.
- Martinez-Alier, J., Munda, G., & O'Neill, J. (2008). Weak comparability of values as a foundation for ecological economics. In **J. Martinez-Alier** & I. Røpke (Eds.) *Recent developments in ecological economics* (pp. 16-25). Cheltenham, Great Britain: Edward Elgar.
- Hornborg, A., McNeill, J., & Martinez-Alier, J. (Eds.). (2007). *Rethinking Environmental History: World-System History and Environmental Change*. Lanham, MD: Altamira.

### Book Chapters

- Martinez Alier, J. (2006). Energy, Economy and Poverty: the Past and Present Debate. In J. Byrne et al. (Ed.) *Transforming Power: Energy, Environment and Society in Conflict*, New Brunswick, USA: Transaction Books.

### Articles in Scholarly Refereed Journals

- Martinez-Alier, J., Pascual, U., Vivien, F., & Zaccai, E. (2010). Sustainable de-growth: Mapping the context, criticisms and future prospects of an emergent paradigm. *Ecological Economics*, 69(9), 1741-1747.
- Martinez-Alier, J., Kallis, G., Veuthey, S., Walter, M., & Temper, L. (2010). Social metabolism, ecological distribution conflicts, and valuation languages. *Ecological Economics*, 70(2), 153-158.
- Schneider, F., Kallis, G., & Martinez-Alier, J. (2010). Crisis or opportunity? Economic de-growth for social equity and ecological sustainability. Introduction to this special issue. *Journal of Cleaner Production* 18(6), 511-518.
- Walter, M., Martinez-Alier, J. (2010). How to be heard when nobody wants to listen. Community action against mining in Argentina. *Canadian Journal of Development Studies* 30 (1-2), 281-302.

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- Haberl, H., Erb, K.H., Krausmann, F., Berecz, S., Ludwiczek, N., Martinez-Alier, J., Musel, A., Schaffartzik, A. (2009). Using embodied HANPP to analyze teleconnections in the global land system: conceptual considerations. *Danish Journal of Geography* 109(2), 119-130.
- Martinez-Alier, J. (2009). Socially sustainable economic de-growth. *Development and Change* 40(6), 1099-1119.
- Kallis, G., Martinez-Alier, J., & Norgaard, R.B. (2009). Paper assets, real debts. An ecological-economic exploration of the global economic crisis. *Critical Perspectives on International Business*, 5(1-2), 14-25.
- Zografos, C., & Martinez-Alier, J. (2009). The Politics of Landscape Value: A Case Study of Windfarm Conflict from Rural Catalonia. *Environment and Planning A*, 41(7), 1726-1744.
- Martinez-Alier, J. (2009). Social Metabolism, Ecological Distribution Conflicts, and Languages of Valuation. *Capitalism, Nature, Socialism*, 20(1), 58-87.
- Spangenberg, J. H., Martinez-Alier, J., Omann, I., Monterroso, I., & Binimelis, R. (2009). The DPSIR scheme for analysing biodiversity loss and developing preservation strategies Ecological Economics. *Ecological Economics*, 69(1), 9-11.
- Gerber, J. F., Veuthey, S., & Martínez-Alier, J. (2009). Linking political ecology with ecological economics in tree plantation conflicts in Cameroon and Ecuador. *Ecological Economics*, 68(12), 2885-2889

## Forthcoming - Book Chapters and Articles

- J. Martinez-Alier, The EROI of agriculture and the Via Campesina, *J.of Peasant Studies* (forthcoming, Jan. 2011).
- Martinez-Alier, J. & Masjuan, E. (2010) 'Conscious Procreation': The International Neo-Malthusian Movement in 1900. **Submitted** to *International Journal of Social History*.
- Russi, D., González, A. C., Silva-Macher, J.C., Giljum, S., Vallejo, M.C. Martínez Alier, J. (2010) **Submitted** to *Journal of Industrial Ecology*.

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***European projects 1992-2008 (last 15 years)***

- CEECEC, Civil Society Engagement with Ecological Economics, Coordinator; SP4-217745; 2008-2010
- THEMES, Emerging Theories and Methods in Sustainability Research; MSCFCT2005 029833; 2006-2008.
- Capacity Building for enhancing local participation in water supply and sanitation interventions in poor urban areas; ASIA PRO ECO; 2006-2009
- ALARM (integrated project), Assessing Large-Scale environmental risk with tested methods; GOCE-CT2003-506675; 2004-2009
- PATH. Participatory Approaches in Science and Technology, SAS6-CT-2004-510636; 2004-2006
- SEA-TRANS, Social transitions, environmental impacts and policies for sustainable development in South East Asia, ICA4-2000-30031; 2000-2002
- Advanced Study Course Decisions Tools and Processes for Integrated Environmental Assessment; ENV4-CT98-4031-PL987021, 1999-2000
- EVE, Environmental Valuation in Europe; ENV-CT97-0558; 1999-2000
- Environmental Policy under conditions of Complexity; EEA; 302/SER/9600130/3621; 1996-1997
- Application of non-monetary procedures for economic valuation for management of sustainable development, EV5V-CT94-0084; 1992-1994
- Distributional conflicts as a constraint for national implementation and harmonization of environmental policy; EV-CT92-0139; 1992-1995

***Selected Spanish projects (last 10 years)***

- Metabolismo social: tendencias, conflictos y respuestas SEJ2006-15219; 2006-2009
- ECOMERCADOS, Research on payment systems for environmental services (water) in Latin America: Fundación BBV 2003-2006
- Integración del análisis de flujos de materia y energía en el análisis multicriterial macroeconómico; HU2000-0025; Ministerio de Ciencia y Tecnología; 2001-2003
- Evaluación económico-ambiental en un contexto internacional; PB98-0868; Dirección General de Enseñanza Superior e Investigación Científica; 1999-2002
- DIAFANIS (Evaluación integrada de alternativas socioeconómicas en el entorno del Parque Nacional de Aiguestortes y Estany de Sant Maurici); Ministerio de Medio Ambiente; 1999-2001
- Evaluación económico-ambiental: algunos estudios concretos de externalidades internacionales; PB95-0671; Dirección General de Enseñanza Superior e Investigación Científica; 1996-1999

**Other Research Contributions**

- Editor (since 1991) of Ecología Política, [www.ecologiapolitica.info](http://www.ecologiapolitica.info).
- Active in Instituto de Estudios Ecologistas del Tercer Mundo (Quito) of NGO Acción Ecológica, and in the campaign on Ecological Debt from North to South ([www.deudaecologica.org](http://www.deudaecologica.org)).
- Textbook and courses on Ecological Economics, in Spanish for UNEP and other organizations – Latin America, several editions since 1995.
- Participation in UNRISD project (Geneva), Indigenous groups, Power, and Extractive industries, 2006-08.
- Coordinator, Grup de Recerca (Catalan Government), SGR-00571 (Economic Institutions,

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(Standard of Living, Environment) 2006-09.

Major career publications:

The Environmentalism of the Poor: A Study of Ecological Conflicts and Valuation, Edward Elgar, Cheltenham, 2002; Oxford U.P. Delhi, 2005 (trans. Spanish, Portuguese, Italian).

Varieties of Environmentalism. Essays North and South (with Ramachandra Guha), Earthscan, London 1997 and Oxford U.P. Delhi, 1998 (trans. Spanish, Portuguese)

Editor: with R. Costanza and O. Segura, Getting Down to Earth. Practical application of Ecological Economics, Island Press, Washington DC. 1996.

Ecological Economics (Energy, Environment and Society), Blackwell, Oxford 1987, 1990 (trans. Italian 1991, Japanese 1991, 1998, Spanish 1991, 1992, 1997).

Haciendas, Plantations and Collective Farms. Cuba and Peru, Library of Peasant Studies, Frank Cass, London 1977.

Labourers and Landowners in Southern Spain, London, St. Antony's College Publications, Allen & Unwin, 1971.