

Bruno Latour
Nikolaj Schultz

**On the Emergence
of an Ecological Class**
A Memo

Translated by Julie Rose

CONTENTS

[Cover](#)

[Title Page](#)

[Copyright](#)

[The Authors](#)

[Memorandum](#)

[I: Class struggles and classification struggles](#)

[II: A prodigious extension of materialism](#)

[III: The great turnaround](#)

[IV: A class that's legitimate again](#)

[V: A misalignment of affects](#)

[VI: A different sense of history in a different cosmos](#)

[VII: The ecological class is potentially in the majority](#)

[VIII: The indispensable and too often abandoned battle of ideas](#)

[IX: Winning power, but what kind?](#)

[X: Filling the emptiness of the public space from below](#)

[Postface Will ecology ever be politics as usual?](#)

[End User License Agreement](#)

On the Emergence of an Ecological Class - a Memo

Subject: How to promote the emergence of an ecological class that's self-aware and proud

By: Bruno Latour and Nikolaj Schultz

Date: January 2022

To: Members of ecological parties and their present and future electors

Translated by: Julie Rose

Originally published in French as *Mémo sur la nouvelle classe écologique. Comment faire émerger une classe écologique consciente et fière d'elle-même.*
© Editions La Découverte, Paris, 2022

This English edition © Polity Press, 2022

Polity Press
65 Bridge Street
Cambridge CB2 1UR, UK

Polity Press
111 River Street
Hoboken, NJ 07030, USA

All rights reserved. Except for the quotation of short passages for the purpose of criticism and review, no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publisher.

ISBN-13: 978-1-5095-5507-9

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Control Number: 2022939600

The publisher has used its best endeavours to ensure that the URLs for external websites referred to in this book are correct and active at the time of going to press. However, the publisher has no responsibility for the websites and can make no guarantee that a site will remain live or that the content is or will remain appropriate.

Every effort has been made to trace all copyright holders, but if any have been overlooked the publisher will be pleased to include any necessary credits in any subsequent reprint or edition.

For further information on Polity, visit our website: politybooks.com

The Authors

Bruno Latour has been working for over fifteen years on issues of political philosophy relating to what he calls the New Climate Regime. Nikolaj Schultz is finishing a thesis in sociology at the University of Copenhagen on what he terms the geosocial classes. Neither has any official position in any of the existing ecological movements, but both are aware of the need to provide political expressions of ecology with a broader base than the one mobilised till now. This is what authorises these two authors to draw up here a provisional list of points that it's important we reflect on together to amplify the multipronged action of activists and numerous political leaders. It's written in the style of a memo, so you won't find nuances or notes.

Memorandum

- A. A note you jot down to make it easier to remember something; through metonymy, a notebook or exercise book in which you note what you want to recall.
- B. A note on an important topic written by an embassy or consular diplomat setting out, for the government they're posted to, the point of view of their own government on a given issue.