Which alliances are possible?

Which are not?

*The answers are never obvious.*
Alliances that “should work” often don't ...

... and alliances that “shouldn't work” sometimes do.

For example ...
We are committed to protecting the conditions for life.

Totally! Us too!

PEOPLES' MOVEMENTS

BIG GREEN NGOS
PEOPLES' MOVEMENTS

BIG GREEN NGOS
Thailand 1995 – 2015
Assembly of the Poor
PEOPLES' MOVEMENTS

ANTI-EXTRACTIVIST INDIGENOUS MOVEMENTS

LABOUR MOVEMENTS
TODA MINA CONTAMINA
EL AGUA VALE MÁS QUE EL ORO
COMMONS INTELLECTUALS vs. Garrett Hardin
But in broader movement terms ... alliance among the commons intellectuals is problematic.
Commoning is a species of "scarce" "natural" "resource" "management"

... i.e., efficient commodity production by commoners adapting to globalization.
Commons are \textit{not} scarce \textit{not} natural \textit{not} resources \textit{not} to be “managed”

... i.e., (Caffentzis) locations of anticapitalist resistance connected with the refusal of capitalist labour.
To understand better what alliances of unconditional trust, commitment and mutual exploration are possible, we need to know …

*What history our potential allies come from.*

*What history we *ourselves* come from.*
Sample question for today:

To what extent can the degrowth movement ally itself with anticapitalist, anticolonialist movements in the global South centred on the defence of commons or territorios against the green economy?
So:

*What history do Southern anticapitalist commons movements come from?*

*What history does the degrowth movement come from?*
THE ONLY SUSTAINABLE GROWTH IS DEGROWTH
Historically rooted

Degrowth as a result of a particular evolution of thought:

- Jaques Ellul, *The Technological Society* (1964)
- Denis Meadows, *Limits to Growth*, (1972)
- Cornelius Castoriadis, *The Imaginary Institution of Society* (1975)

And not only ->
Directed Fiat's efforts to establish Latin American subsidiaries and globalize and post-Fordize its manufacturing operations (which was valuable in dealing with autonomist labour militancy in Turin). As an executive at a multinational based in a less-powerful nation, Peccei valued prospective international governance institutions for stabilizing a global economy in the face of crises of population, pollution and resource competition and delivering raw materials to their most efficient world industrial users whatever the growing claims of Southern nations might be.
Rode to the rescue with his computer models of a global ecological-economic system when Peccei's Club of Rome's project was foundering …

… and which were in part an outgrowth of the battleship fire control servomechanisms Forrester had pioneered during the Second World War,

And who was Jay Forrester?

… with the help of computers for which Forrester had earlier invented RAM …

… models which were based on the systems dynamics models developed at MIT's Sloan School of Management …
Colonial-nurtured “ecosystems” thinking

Biological units as control-communication systems involving multiple feedback loops


Cybernetic couplings including computerized flight simulators, interactive computing

Climate modelling

WWII and post-WWII systems analysis, cybernetics, game theory, nuclear weapons, computers and artificial intelligence

Mid-20th century late colonial and post-colonial development of “the economy” as system

Economic modelling

Nature as “systems”
Nature as “systems”

Nature as resource

Nature as conservation
I. e., particular kinds of capitalist political organization ...
Is this not in general the kind of political organization that anticapitalist, anticolonialist commons movements in the South base their lives and movements on opposing?

If this is the case, and if degrowth claims this genealogy as its own, what relations of trust and commitment can result between the movements?