

▪ The Sceptical Environmentalist



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Bjorn Lomborg is an associate professor of statistics in the Department of Political Science at the University of Aarhus. In 1998 he published four lengthy articles about the state of our environment in the leading Danish newspaper, which resulted in a firestorm debate spanning over 400 articles in major metropolitan newspapers. The articles lead to the publication of *The Sceptical Environmentalist* in 2001, which has now been published in Danish, Swedish, Icelandic and German, coming out in Portuguese, Italian, Korean and Japanese.

Now, Lomborg is a frequent participant in the environmental discussion, with commentaries in such places as New York Times, Globe & Mail, Daily Telegraph, and the Economist. He has also appeared on TV, such places as Politically Incorrect, ABC 60 minutes, CNN, BBC, and PBS.

In November 2001, Lomborg was selected Global Leader for Tomorrow by the World Economic Forum. In February 2002, Lomborg was named director of Denmark's national Environmental Assessment Institute. In June 2002, Lomborg was named one of the "50 stars of Europe" (as one of the 9 "agenda setters" in Europe) in Business Week.

In the October 2008 issue of the American magazine Esquire, Bjorn Lomborg is named one of the 75 most influential people of the 21st century.

In *The Sceptical Environmentalist* Bjorn Lomborg challenges widely held beliefs that the global environment is progressively getting worse. Using statistical information from internationally recognised research institutes, Lomborg systematically examines a range of major environmental issues and documents that the global environment has actually improved. He supports his argument with over 2900 footnotes, allowing discerning readers to check his sources.

In 2007 he published the book "Cool It – The Skeptical Environmentalist's Guide to Global Warming", in a 2010 interview with the New Statesman, he summarised his position on climate change: "Global warming is real – it is man-made and it is an important problem. But it is not the end of the world."

Lomborg criticises the way many environmental organisations make selective and misleading use of scientific data to influence decisions about the allocation of limited resources. *The Sceptical Environmentalist* is a useful corrective to the more alarmist accounts favoured by green activists and the media.