

# Colonization

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**Colonization**, (or **Colonisation** in British English), occurs whenever any one or more species populate an area. The term, which is derived from the Latin *colere*, "to inhabit, cultivate, frequent, practice, tend, guard, respect,"<sup>[1]</sup> originally related to humans. However, 19th century biogeographers dominated the term to describe the activities of birds, bacteria, or plant species.<sup>[1]</sup> Human colonization is a narrower category than the related concept of colonialism, because whereas colonization refers to the establishment of settler colonies, trading posts, and plantations, colonialism deals with this and the ruling of new territories' existing peoples.

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## Modern Colonization

In some cases, expatriate communities do set up permanently in target countries, which is a 'truer' colonization, though in many cases (especially when not gathered into a community) expatriates do not necessarily seek to 'expand their native civilization', but rather to integrate into the population of the new civilization.

Many nations also have large numbers of guest workers who are brought in to do seasonal work such as harvesting or to do low-paid manual labor. Guest workers or contractors have a lower status than workers with visas, because guest workers can be removed at any time for any reason. Many human colonists came to colonies as slaves, so the legal power to leave or remain may not be the issue so much as the actual presence of the people in the new country.

## Other ways of using the term

The theory of **Science policy colonization** (Weingart and Mouton, 2004) argues that science policy is increasingly being dominated by scientific experts from developed, industrialized democracies. Scientists from poorer, emerging or developing democracies may mainly be given the role of collecting raw data. Experts from developed, industrialized democracies may have biases unchallenged that run counter to the best interests of emerging democracies such as South Africa (Weingart and Mouton (2004)). There are also concerns (UNESCO 1999) that the accountability mechanisms imposed on knowledge experts are inadequate.

The term *cocacolonization* is used to describe cases where a country's indigenous culture is eroded by a corporate mass-culture, usually from a powerful, industrialized country such as the United States (see cultural imperialism). This is more metaphorical usage as people need not move to the colonized country; only cultural signals, symbols, forms of entertainment, and values

need to move to the colonized country.

## See also

- Colonialism

## References

- <sup>^</sup> <sup>a</sup> <sup>b</sup> Marcy Rockman, James Steele (2003). *The Colonization of Unfamiliar Landscapes*. Routledge. ISBN 0415256062.

## Further reading

- Ankerl Guy: *Coexisting Contemporary Civilizations: Arabo-Muslim, Bharati, Chinese, and Western*. INUPress, Geneva, 2000. ISBN 2-88155-004-5

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