



"ALONE AGAINST THE WORLD": BOLIVIA'S VOICING OF HETERODOX VISIONS AT THE CANCUN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

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Paper outline

- 1. Conflicting views at the Cancun conference
- 2. Corpus and methods
- 3. Results
- 4. Concluding remarks

NHH



COP16 in Cancun





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Narratives and counter-narratives





Photo: Wikipedia

Corpus – Cancun narratives by Solheim and Solón





Why Bolivia stood alone in opposing the Cancún climate agreement

We were accused of being obstructionist, obstinate and unrealistic. But we feel an enormous obligation to set aside diplomacy and tell the truth



HISTORICAL ARCHIVE

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Goddess saves the day in Cancun

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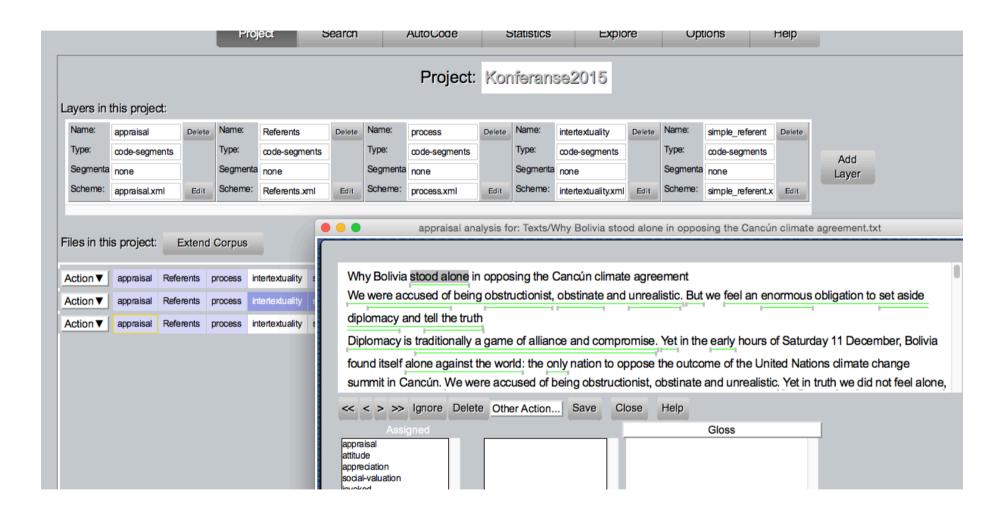
By Former Minister of the Environment and International Development

There is an expectant atmosphere in the plenary hall at the UN Climate Change Conference on Friday evening. Patricia Espinosa, President of the Conference, is greeted with a standing ovation. Her proposal for a climate compromise is finally to be discussed. But suddenly she is interrupted by shouts and hammering on the doors.





UAM CORPUS TOOL







"TO STAND ALONE"

Solón

 Bolivia may have been the only country to speak out against these failures, but several negotiators told us privately that they support us.

Solheim

• But now Bolivia stands alone. Pablo Solón reminds us that consensus is needed in the UN. It is as if one of your neighbours were to turn up at the general meeting of the housing cooperative and insist that the balconies should be painted green, even though everyone else wants them to be grey. Ms Espinosa has the patience of a goddess [...].





ADVERSATIVES - SOLON

Context	Text	
e and unrealistic.	But	we feel an
ce and compromise.	Yet	in the early
e and unrealistic.	Yet	in truth we
nded by the attacks.	Instead	, we feel an
o hours to read it.	Despite	pressure to
discuss the text,	despite	a lack of co
ght direction." We	disagree	: it is a gian
ent. These pledges	contradict	the stated g
temperature at 2C,	instead	guiding us
nst these failures,	but	several neg
to climate change,	but	with the lea
dealing with things.	But	we face an

We were accused of being obstructionist, obstinate and unrealistic. Yet in truth we did not feel alone, nor are we offended by the attacks.





Adversative verbs

 Many commentators have called the Cancún accord a "step in the right direction." We disagree: it is a giant step backward. (Solón)

 The proposed Cancun text would take us a big step forwards. (Solheim)



ADVERSATIVES - SOLHEIM



٧.	e is finally to be discussed.	But	suddenly she is interrupted b
<u> </u>	the support of all countries.	But	it is a case of take it or le
<u> </u>	ompleted as soon as possible,	but	without clarifying all the co
4	issue has not been resolved,	but	neither is it being allowed t
4	e very close to an agreement,	but	that she has to listen to the
4	ed the Copenhagen agreement.	But	now Bolivia stands alone. Pab
<u> </u>	nies should be painted green,	even though	everyone else wants them to t

[...] Cuba, Nicaragua and Saudi Arabia give the same response. This is the same group that blocked the Copenhagen agreement.

But now Bolivia stands alone. Pablo Solón reminds us that consensus is needed in the UN.