

# FAO'S NARRATIVES ON FOOD SECURITY: AN ANALYSIS ON THE COEXISTENCE OF CONFLICTING POLITICAL PARADIGMS

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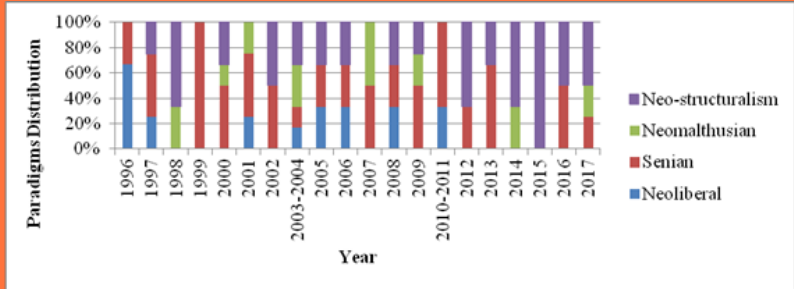
## Introduction

This research seeks to understand the changes that occurred in the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) between 1996 and 2017 from the analysis of policy narratives in the State of Food and Agriculture and State of Food Insecurity reports published in this period.

## RESULTS

The starting point is the assumption that behind the narratives in the FAO reports there are different interpretations of Food Security and proposals for solutions to problems related to agriculture and food. Through this study, it was possible to perceive the coexistence of four distinct paradigms in the narratives triggered by the reports of the Organization: Neoliberal, NeoMalthusian, New-Developmental and Senian.

Presence of different paradigms in FAO reports from 1996 to 2017.



Source: Prepared by the authors.

## PROBLEMS AND OBJECTIVES

Considering the impact that the FAO publications have on the scientific and political environment, this paper presents the following research questions: Which narratives are triggered by FAO in the debate on Food Security? What are these narratives based on? In this way, the objective is to analyze the narratives on Food Security triggered by the FAO.

## METHODS

In this exercise, this study involved the accomplishment of documentary research, with the analysis of 34 FAO reports and 19 semistructured interviews.

## CONCLUSION

This coexistence sometimes occurs in a complementary way, by in other times it occurs in a contradictory way. From 2012 on, it was possible to identify the increase in the occurrence of the New-Developmental paradigm, as well as the exclusion of the Neoliberal paradigm, a fact that may be associated with the current management of José Graziano da Silva, which began in this same period.

