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The Social
Challenges of
Global Change

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Time: Monday 27 April, 16:00 - 17:30. Session: A230

Comparing Climate change Policy Networks (II)

Location: Bundesrat, 314

Convenor: Jeffery Broadbent, University of Minnesota, United States

Dynamic Social Network Analysis On The Formation Of International Environmental Regimes

Presenter: Yoshiki Yamagata, National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan

Authors: Yoshiki Yamagata (1), Jue Yang (1), Joseph Galaskiewicz (2)

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Research on international environmental regimes requires a systematic approach to identifying fundamental processes and forces of change. During the last few decades, new models have emerged as two-level game analysis, and the scope of methodologies has broadened to include use of choice models and statistical methods. In this study, we analyzed the formation of international environmental regimes using econometric models and newly developed Social Network Analysis (SNA) methods. Some conventional empirical researches on the ratification of International Environmental Agreement (IEA) have shown that the decisions are related to the level of domestic politics and the degree of democracy and economic development, (Murdoch et al. [2003]) however, little is known about which factors quantitatively contribute to the ratifications. This paper provides some evidence for the hypothesis that the network position of the country in international society has an impact on the decision of ratifying treaties. To test the hypothesis, first, we applied logit and hazard models based on the national social-economic data and the international two mode social network data created from the ratification matrix of country-treaty. Then, we conducted dynamic SNA using a visualization tool (SONIA) to see qualitatively the change of social networked IEA ratification decisions over the last two decades. The results show that the models with centrality data have better goodness of fit comparing to those without centrality data. And the energy consumption and develop level affect the behaviour a lot. Also the dynamic SNA gives a clear imagine of the developing of international environmental regimes.



Skeptics, deniers, and other non-believers: the Swedish Case

Presenter: Marcus Carson, Stockholm University, Sweden

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Sweden is considered to be among the countries that have progressed furthest in embracing global climate change as a serious problem, caused in significant part by human activities. Even so, the Swedish debate on climate change is not without its skeptics, deniers, and others who are disinclined to accept what has become the prevailing wisdom. While claiming that the fall of 2008 has witnessed a resurgence in Sweden of what might be summed up as climate change skepticism, there does appear to have been a clear push to gain a higher profile in the mainstream media and in alternative communications channels. Among the efforts is the founding of the “Stockholm Initiative”, which includes many of the better known Swedish skeptics. The structure of arguments presented in this group’s recent forays into public domain bears a striking resemblance to those key skeptics in the USA. This raises a series of questions that we explore in our paper. Does the network of Swedish skeptics share a common understanding of the entire complex of considerations entailed in responding to climate change: nature of the problem, policy priorities, who they trust for information, and what kinds of remedies are acceptable? Do they instead comprise a composite of different views and values that have simply coalesced around a few common points? Given the likeness of the structure found in their published arguments, what is the nature and extent of their ties to actors in the US and other countries?

Perceptions and activism: The politics of incongruent priorities in climate change response in India

Presenter: Sony Pellissery, Rural Management Institute, India

Authors: Sony Pellissery

The Absence of Society: Climate Change Politics in China

Presenter: Jun Jin, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China

Authors: Jun Jin



Climate Change Policy Development in Korea: Focused on the Analysis of Changes in Comprehensive National Climate Change Action Plans

Presenters: Sun-Jin Yun, Seoul National University and Do-Wan Ku, Environment and Society Research Institute, Seoul, Korea

Authors:

