



## ***Annual meeting of the UZH-ETH Network on Interdisciplinary Climate Research***

Tuesday, 28 November, 2017, 10.15-15.00 at AFL F172/173, Affolternstr. 56, 8050 Zurich<sup>1</sup>

### ***COP—what's up? Negotiating and communicating climate change: theory and practice***

#### **Developments at COP23 and emerging research questions**

10.15-10.40 Axel Michaelowa: Updates from the Fiji COP in Bonn  
10.40-11.00 Discussion (with inputs by other COP participants)

#### **Climate change communication**

11.00-11.20 Jaimes Painter: The use of new media for climate change communication  
11.20-11.40 Heinz Bonfadelli: Climate change communication in Switzerland

11.40-12.30 Lunch

#### **Negotiating climate change**

12.30-12.50 Regina Betz: Faith-based organizations in the international climate negotiations  
12.50-13.10 Chandreyee Bagchi, Paula Castro and Katharina Michaelowa: Buying support at the international climate negotiations  
13.10-13.30 Marlene Kammerer: Cooperation beyond the COPs

#### **General exchange of information and planning of future activities**

13.30-15.00 Updates on other relevant developments internationally and nationally  
Updates on network activities (e.g. SUDAC proposal)  
Planning of future activities

---

<sup>1</sup> How to get there: see <http://www.ipz.uzh.ch/en/institut/so-finden-sie-uns.html>, 1<sup>st</sup> floor



## ***Abstracts of papers presented***

Jaimes Painter (Visiting professor UZH Institute of Mass Communication and Media Research / Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, University of Oxford):

### **The use of new media for climate change communication**

Media landscapes are changing rapidly, particularly with the growth of the internet and social media. A number of new media organisations are challenging traditional media and have gained significant audiences for their environment content. A comparison of the coverage by three of these - Huffington Post, Vice and BuzzFeed - of the COP21 summit in Paris with that of legacy media shows that while the general spectrum of themes is similar across media outlets, there are differences in the volume of the coverage and in the emphasis that is laid on different themes by some, but not all, of the new players compared to traditional media. In addition, the new players show significant variations with legacy media as to their use of photos and videos, the dominant tones of their coverage, and the voices they quote.

Heinz Bonfadelli (UZH Institute of Mass Communication and Media Research):

### **Climate change communication in Switzerland**

The contribution summarizes the topic of climate change communication in Switzerland. The development of the topic of “climate change” is described and located within the general area of environmental politics in Switzerland, based on the specifics of Switzerland as a small, federal state, and non-EU member with direct democratic political processes. Climate change communication then is analyzed based on the results of several content analyses, mostly of Swiss print media, which focus on intensity of coverage, topics, and media frames. In the last part, the perception of and attitudes towards environment and climate change are presented and compared to other countries, based on public opinion survey data.

Regina Betz (ZAHW Center for Energy and the Environment):

### **Faith-based organizations in the international climate negotiations**

This paper gives an overview on how faith based organisations have participated at international climate negotiations. On the one hand side participation lists and side-events of international climate negotiations were analysed. In addition, representatives of faith based organisations were interviewed to find out what they motivate to participate and how they try to influence the climate negotiations.



Chandreyee Bagchi, Paula Castro and Katharina Michaelowa (UZH Institute of Political Science):  
**Buying support at the international climate negotiations**

The relationship between aid and voting in UN agencies has been well documented in the aid literature. We extend this analysis to the wider field of international negotiations, outside the sphere of formal voting, where decisions are mostly taken by consensus. Is aid used strategically to influence the negotiations in this context, too? Based on a novel dataset on negotiation behavior under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change we assess whether countries obtaining aid react by expressing increased support and/or reduced opposition towards the donor. Applying linear and instrumental variable regressions on a three-dimensional panel dataset with donor-recipient dyads for the period 2002-2013 enables us to distinguish between long-term partnerships and the strategic use of aid for the purpose of the negotiations. We find that aid can indeed buy support in the climate negotiations, but that this opportunity tends to be limited to mitigation and adaptation aid, rather than general aid. We argue that this is due to both greater demand for and greater supply of these specific types of aid, whose allocation is under the direct responsibility of the specialized delegates participating in the negotiations.

Marlene Kammerer (UZH Institute of Political Science):  
**Cooperation beyond the COPs**

This paper features a dynamic network analysis to examine a question, almost as old as political science itself: Why do states cooperate? With international cooperation over climate change, this paper studies one of the most complex, yet pressing topics of today's world politics. To mitigate climate change, the international community has been negotiating for over two decades. Nevertheless, the involved parties only agreed upon a treaty involving all countries with the Paris Agreement in 2015. Hence, more than ever before climate action depends on the engagement of individual countries in terms of adopting and implementing climate protection measures on a national scale. Subsequently, this paper studies political event data on bilateral cooperation over climate change to illuminate the motives of state cooperation, combining interest-based and game-theoretic explanations. We argue that cooperation does not only occur at big conferences such as the Paris climate summit, but has to be seen as a long-term process of mutual coordination of national policies. While cooperation is more necessary when countries disagree over important ordering principles, policy objectives, and policy instruments to coordinate each other's policies, it is more likely to come about through the awareness of others cooperating, too. A relational events model is utilized to simultaneously test hypotheses on collective action mechanisms and actors' attributes. Specifically, our results show that (1) cooperation arises from discord over contested issues, (2) cooperation needs trust that is created by reciprocity, and (3) the political realities have changed since the widely considered disappointing Copenhagen climate summit of 2009 and along with them bilateral cooperation patterns among countries.