

CAPITALISM AND THE ENVIRONMENT FROM STOCKHOLM TO COP28

New historical research on the role of
business and labor

University of Lausanne, 9-10 November 2023

Conference Organizers: Sandra Bott, Sabine Pitteloud,
Janick Marina Schaufelbuehl



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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2023

Amphimax building, Room 415

9h30 Welcome

9h45-11h15: PANEL 1 ORGANIZED BUSINESS & THE ENVIRONMENT

Chair: Stéphanie Ginalski, University of Lausanne

Organized Business & Environmental Governance in Postwar Switzerland and Germany

Sabine Pitteloud, University of Geneva

"More harm than good": The National Federation of Independent Business and the Politics of Environmental Regulation at the End of the American Century

Benjamin Waterhouse, University of North Carolina

US Business Organizations and Environmental Policies (1970s-1990s)

Janick Marina Schaufelbuehl, University of Lausanne

11h45-12h45: PANEL 2 INFRASTRUCTURES AGAINST THE ENVIRONMENT?

Chair: Nicolas Chachereau, University of Basel

Refining versus Oyster-Farming? The French State, Regional Business, the Fishermen's Union, and the Brest refinery project (1966-1974)

Renaud Bécot, Science Po Grenoble

Labor for Clean Groundwater: The Case of Silicon Valley in the 1980s

Christophe Lécuyer, Sorbonne

14h-15h30: PANEL 3 OIL COMPANIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES

Chair: Tiphaine Robert, UniDistance Switzerland

Between Pushback and Collaboration: The International Oil Industry, Environmental Regulation, and Governance (1970s-1980s)

Odinn Melsted, Maastricht University

Reversing Course on Carbon Research: Exxon and the role of the Federal Government under the Reagan Administration

Audrey Loetscher, University of Lausanne

Fighting an Ecotax: ENI, BP and Total and the European Carbon Tax (1985-1997)
Fabienne Jouty, Université de Sorbonne & Christophe Bonneuil, CNRS, EHESS

16h-17h: PANEL 4 NORTH-SOUTH RELATIONS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Chair: Corey Ross, University of Basel

Catalyst for Environmental Reform: Encounters between the World Bank and Non-governmental Organizations in the 1980s

Gloria Samosir, KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm

Environmental Discourse as a Tool to Legitimize and Contest Dams in the Brazilian Amazon (1970s-1990s)

Nathalia Capellini, University of Geneva

17h-18h15: KEYNOTE

Chair: Laurent Warlouzet, Université Paris-Sorbonne

Oilmen as international economic thinkers and the history of 20th century environmental governance

Glenda Sluga, European University Institute, Florence

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2023

Amphimax building, Room 414

9h30-11h: PANEL 5 NEOLIBERALISM, CONSULTING FIRMS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Chair: Alexandre Elsig, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL), Lausanne

Environmental Prometheus – Progress as Compromise Between Labour and Business

Kristoffer Ekberg, Lund University

The Smartest Elephants in the Room: McKinsey & Co. and the Rise of Green Capitalism

Edouard Morena, University of London Institute in Paris

Neoliberal Environmentalism(s) in the Nordic Countries since the 1970s: The Case of Finland

Tero Toivanen, University of Helsinki's Collegium for Advanced Studies

11h15-12h45: PANEL 6 LABOR, BUSINESS AND CONTESTED ZONES

Chair: Debjani Bhattacharyya, University of Zurich

International Business, Local Labour and the Making and Un-making of a Sacrifice zone
Håvard Brede Aven, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences

Agrarian Origins of a New Energy Regime: Salt, Petro-chemicalization and Histories Lost and Emergent in Ennore, India

Aditya Ramesh, University of Manchester & Bhavani Raman, University of Toronto

"Tchernobâle" Revisited

Lola Wilhelm, University of Geneva

14h15-15h45: PANEL 7 THE CLIMATE AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Chair: Antoine Acker, University of Geneva

Shaping the Market's Environment: Private Expertise and Public Goods During the Early Years of the Forward Studies Unit of the European Commission (1989-1992)

Hugo Canihac, Helmut Schmidt University

International Business and Climate Change Between Stockholm and Kyoto

Bergquist Ann-Kristin, Uppsala University, and Thomas David, University of Lausanne

The Global Automobile Industry and the Failure of UNEP in Governing Cars' Environmental Impact

Mattias Näsman, Umea University

16h-17h15 KEYNOTE

The Big Myth: How Market Fundamentalism Worked to Block Climate Action

Naomi Oreskes, Harvard University (on zoom)

To participate and for more information, please contact: CapitalismEnvironment2023@unil.ch



To get to the Amphimax building at the University of Lausanne campus, take the metro m2 from "Grancy" or "Lausanne-Gare" (heading to "Croisettes") to "Lausanne-Flon. There change to the metro m1 (heading to "Renens CFF"), get off at "UNIL-Sorge".