

# 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



Section d'histoire contemporaine, Faculté des Lettres, UNIL

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UNIVERSITÉ  
DE GENÈVE

FACULTÉ DES SCIENCES  
DE LA SOCIÉTÉ

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# THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2023

Amphimax building, Room 415

9h30 Welcome

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## 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**

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## 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**

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## 14h30-15h30: 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**

*Fighting an Ecotax: ENI, BP and Total and the European Carbon Tax (1985-1997)*

**Fabienne Jouty, Université de Sorbonne & Christophe Bonneuil, CNRS, EHESS**

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**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**

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**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**

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**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**

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**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**

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**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**

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**16h-17h15 KEYNOTE**

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

**Naomi Oreskes, Harvard University**

**On zoom:**

<https://unil.zoom.us/j/2929447336>

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For more information: [CapitalismEnvironment2023@unil.ch](mailto: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".