

Objects and Projects of Climate Politics: International Studies and the Politicization of a Climate Governance Object?

Wednesday, 18 June 2025 16:45 (1h 30m)

How might governance practices and projects objectify climate/politics?

This panel will provide a space for reflection on and discussion of: existing and emergent debates on climate as a 'governance object' within International Studies; objects and projects of climate politics in a wider sense; and potential new directions within scholarship on these topics and themes.

Drawing on their research into, variously, international-institutional politics of climate change, relationships between expert/knowledge, power and action in climate politics, and interactions between science, policy and society (including detailed studies of governance frameworks and assessment processes and networks of expertise related to climate change negotiations, the IPCC, social movements, and geo/climate engineering proposals) contributors to the roundtable will be invited to engage with, consider, and reflect on key themes and issues including:

- concepts, objects, and considerations of climate politics in a wider context of 'objectual international relations' (cf. Esguerra/Global Studies Quarterly special issue, 2024)
- types of malleability and forms of politicization and contestation in relation to climate governance objects, projects, and objectives
- roles and relative significance of academic, activist, and scientific knowledge and expertise in constituting and contesting objects of climate governance and their projected futures
- political projects and policy debates related to current contexts and issues such as mitigation, climate finance, opposition to extractivism, and proposals for/emergent technologies of climate engineering and intervention.

The roundtable will also provide scope for discussion (including audience/Q&A engagement) of a range of different conceptual, theoretical, and methodological approaches as employed and explored by the works of the contributors.

Track Classification: Environment and Climate Politics Working Group