

Center for Political Economy

Agenda: 2026 Climate Pipeline Conference

Thursday, May 14- Friday, May 15, 2026

The Forum at Columbia University (601 W 125th St, New York, NY 10027)

Organizers: Nikhar Gaikwad, Johnathan Guy, and Page Fortna

Format: Each panel will run for approximately 75–90 minutes, depending on the number of presenters. The panel discussions will proceed paper by paper. Each presenter will begin with a brief 5-minute overview highlighting the core argument of their paper and the feedback they are seeking (no slides, please). Faculty discussants will then offer short 2.5-3-minute framing remarks on their assigned papers, after which the floor will open for 15-minute discussion and Q&A before moving to the next paper. This format is designed to allow roughly 20 minutes of discussion per paper in each session.

Thursday, May 14

8:00-8:45am: *Breakfast*

8:45-9:15am: *Opening Remarks and Introductions (Nikhar Gaikwad and Johnathan Guy)*

9:15-10:45am: Panel 1 - Distributive politics and conflict

Presenters:

- Gemma Dipoppa (Columbia) | Democratic Accountability and Environmental Regulation
- Yifan (Flora) He (Georgetown) | How Collective Land Titling Protects Forests: Evidence from Bolivia
- Garrett M. Albistegui-Adler (Barnard) | Can Social Safety Nets Prevent Climate-Related Conflict? Evidence from Ethiopia
- Magdalena Larrebourg (Harvard) | Water Overallocation and Social Unrest: Evidence from Chilean Water Rights

Discussants: Kathleen Gallagher Cunningham (University of Maryland), Page Fortna (Columbia)

10:45-11:00am: *Break (coffee, snacks)*

11:00am-12:30pm: Panel 2 - Politics of adaptation

Presenters:

- Preston Johnston (MIT) | Resisting Segmentation: Climate risk and the politics of insurance
- Shiran Victoria Shen (WashU St. Louis) | Who Reaches the State? Administrative Capacity and Pipeline Inequality in Competitive Federal Grants
- Sechindra Vallury (University of Georgia) | Climate resilience is about who recovers and when, not just access
- Clemente T. Sánchez (MIT) | Swimming in the flood: ideology and individual-level climate adaptation

Discussants: Sara Constantino (Stanford)

12:30-1:30pm: *Lunch*

1:30-3:00pm: Panel 3 - Policy feedback and backlash

Presenters:

- Giulia Leila Travaglini (Columbia) | The Red–Green Policy Feedback: Republicans in the Renewable Energy Transition
- Ben Hellerstein (Indiana University) | The persistence of green bipartisanship? Working across party lines in environmental nonprofits
- Tereza Petrovicova (UC San Diego) | The Politics of Local Renewable Energy Restrictions in the United States

- Nils Kupczok (Columbia) | Opening the Box of Carrots: Mapping the Uneven Durability of U.S. Clean Energy Subsidies

Discussants: Alexander Gazmararian (U Michigan), Jeff Colgan (Brown)

3:00-3:15pm: *Break (coffee, snacks)*

3:15-4:45pm: Panel 4 - Firms and state-business relations

Presenters:

- Luca Bellodi (Stanford) | The anti-Democrat Penalty: The Political Consequences of Environmental Enforcement in the United States
- Monica Widmann (Seton Hall) | When Firms Lead States: Financial Intermediaries and the Politics of Sovereign Green Bond Issuance
- Erica Yunyi Huang (UT Austin) | Procuring Green Development: Government Policy and the Greening of Vietnamese Firms
- Soyoung Oh (Tufts) | From Industrialization to Industrial Decarbonization: Divergent Steel Decarbonization Pathways in South Korea and Germany

Discussants: Nikhar Gaikwad (Columbia), Emma Du Puy (Columbia)

6:15pm: *Dinner at [Lido Harlem](#)* (2168 Frederick Douglass Blvd, New York, NY 10026)

Friday, May 15

8:00-9:00am: *Breakfast*

9:00-10:15am: Panel 5 - State institutions and state capacity

Presenters:

- Joshua Basseches (Tulane) | "Regulated" vs. "Market-Based" Asset Revaluation: Electric Utilities and Energy Policymaking in the U.S. States
- Aleksandra Conevska (Harvard) | Elected Versus Appointed Regulators and the Energy Transition

Discussant: Navroz Dubash (Princeton)

10:15am-11:30am: Panel 6 - Donors, recipients, and geoeconomics

Presenters:

- Justin Melnick (NYU) | Shifting Gears: The Transformation of Climate Governance and the Rise of Green Industrial Policy
- Juan Dodyk (Washington University St. Louis) | International Coordination of Trade and Green Industrial Policies
- Jing Ling Tan (Harvard) | Just Phaseout: How International Climate Finance drives Indonesia's Energy Transition

Discussant: Johnathan Guy (Columbia)

11:30am-11:45am: *Break (coffee, snacks)*

11:45-1:15pm: Panel 7 - International organizations

Presenters:

- RyuGyung (Rio) Park (William & Mary) | High Stakes, High Rhetoric: Climate Securitization in the United Nations
- Zuhad Hai (NYU) | Mismeasured Cooperation: When Do Countries Under-Report Their Emissions?
- Kayla Morton (University of Washington) | Women in the UNFCCC COP: Does participation lead to representation?

- Timon Forster (Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals) | Selective responses to the climate crisis: International financial institutions, strategic ignorance, and leader speeches

Discussants: Tanisha Fazal (University of Minnesota), Kimberly Marten (Barnard College, Columbia University)

1:15-2:15pm: *Closing Lunch & Remarks*