

WTI Brown Bag Seminar



Title

Inside and outside the climate negotiations: Contrasting networks of conference diplomacy reporting and media perception

Speaker

Paula Castro

When

Tuesday
22 October, 2019
12.30-13.30

Where

Anna Nussbaum Auditorium
World Trade Institute
Hallerstrasse 6, 3012 Bern

Abstract

The negotiations around the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) are the main forum in which global agreements on climate change are debated. However, due to the slow pace of this multilateral process, and to growing recognition of the complexity of the challenge, climate change has begun to be addressed across multiple channels outside the negotiations. In addition, the press plays a key role in reporting on climate-related political events and thus portraying them to the broader public, possibly also influencing the political process itself. So far, there is scant research into the similarities, differences and interrelationships between the UNFCCC negotiations and how climate diplomacy is portrayed by the media. This study takes a first systematical step in this direction, relying on two novel datasets. The first one records agreements and disagreements between country dyads at the UNFCCC negotiations, hand-coded from summaries of the negotiations published between 1995 and 2013 in the Earth Negotiations Bulletin. The second one is based on automated text coding of press releases, and contains information on cooperative and conflictive climate-related diplomatic interactions between country dyads between 1995 and 2015. We use a combination of descriptive statistics and dynamic social network analysis to investigate the data.

Biography of the speaker

Paula Castro is a postdoctoral researcher at the Department of Political Science of the University of Zurich. She works on international climate policy and politics since 2007, with focus on the role of institutions and bargaining strategies in the international climate negotiations, and on the use of market mechanisms for climate change mitigation. She holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Zurich (Switzerland), a MSc in Environment and Development from the University of Reading (UK), and a BSc in Environmental Engineering from the National Agrarian University La Molina (Peru).