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
Institut d'études politiques, Faculté des SSP, UNIL
Faculté des Sciences de la Société, UNIGE
Maison de l'histoire, UNIGE
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2023

Amphimax building, Room 415

9h30 Welcome

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

Chair: Stéphanie Ginalschi, 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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14h-15h30: PANEL 3  OIL COMPANIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES

Chair: Tiphaine Robert, UniDistance Switzerland

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
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

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)_

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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”.

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