

CALL FOR PAPERS

Inequality and the Environment Symposium for Early-career Researchers

Organized by Sciences Po's [Center for Research on Social Inequalities](#), in partnership with the [World Inequality Lab](#) at the Paris School of Economics

Rising inequality and environmental degradation are two critical challenges of our time. The social sciences have increasingly focused on their interactions over the last two decades (Martinez Alier 2003, Laurent 2012, Chancel 2020). Nevertheless, our knowledge about the interplay between socio-economic inequality, environmental degradation, and environmental policies remains limited. The literature on inequality and the environment presents various conceptual, empirical, and theoretical gaps hindering societies' ability to effectively address these issues.

Substantively, important questions remain unanswered, such as: How can governments address inequality while averting the exacerbation of climate and biodiversity crises, both domestically and internationally? Which welfare regimes could be compatible with deep decarbonization? What types of political coalitions can support these changes? What role have income and wealth inequality played in accelerating or slowing environmental degradation? How can public policies promote changes in citizens' environmental behaviour while taking social inequalities into account?

From a methodological standpoint, the basic measurement and analysis of environmental inequalities is a complex task. How can emission inequalities between individuals and social groups be systematically measured? How can the multidimensional distributional impacts of environmental regulations be tracked and explained? How to accurately measure and understand the intersection of social class, gender, racial, and spatial inequalities to better explain observed pollution and depollution patterns?

This symposium aims to present, discuss, and foster innovative approaches to social science research on environmental inequality across three broad research streams : (i) Inequalities in the impacts of environmental degradation; (ii) Inequalities in contributions to environmental damage; and (iii) Inequalities in capacities to act against pollution or to cope with environmental policies.

About the Symposium:

We invite PhD students and Post-Docs from economics, sociology, psychology, political science, geography, demography, history, environmental sciences and related fields to submit their papers and participate in the symposium. The event will take place on one day at Sciences Po (Paris). This symposium provides a platform to present groundbreaking research, engage in discussions, and collaborate with other researchers. The participation in person is highly encouraged to facilitate scientific exchanges among researchers, but online participation is possible particularly for researchers from outside Europe.

Submission Guidelines:

- Papers should explore one of the three research categories highlighted above, or any related topic that bridges environmental issues with aspects of social inequality.
- Candidates should send a one-page CV detailing their current and previous affiliations, in addition to relevant published works and/or current projects.
- Abstracts should be no longer than 300 words, outlining the significance of their study, its methodology, and key findings.
- The submission of complete working papers (or published papers) is not mandatory, but encouraged.
- The organizers can cover the travel costs for a limited number of participants. Please indicate in your submission if you apply for this contribution.

Important Dates:

- Deadline for Submission: November 1st, 2023
- Notification of Acceptance: November 15th, 2023
- Event Date: January 18th, 2024

Submission Process:

- Please submit a single PDF document with all files following this order: CV, abstract, participation in person/online and whether applying for support for travel costs, working paper if available. Send the document to envinegworkshop@gmail.com with the subject line "Submission for Inequality and the Environment Symposium"
- For queries, contact : lucas.chancel@sciencespo.fr and carlo.barone@sciencespo.fr

Organizers:

Co-Chairs: Lucas Chancel (CRIS Sciences Po and Harvard Kennedy School) and Carlo Barone (CRIS Sciences Po)

Committee: Carlo Barone, Lucas Chancel, Eloi Laurent, Allison Rovny

Join us in this endeavor to bridge the knowledge gap and foster the outstanding of social science research on inequality and the environment. We look forward to your contributions and insights!

References

Chancel, L., 2020. *Unsustainable inequalities: Social justice and the environment*. Harvard University Press.

Laurent, É., 2011. *Social-écologie* (p. 21). Paris: Flammarion

Martinez-Alier, J., 2003. *The Environmentalism of the poor: a study of ecological conflicts and valuation*. Edward Elgar Publishing