

Jared J. Finnegan

Department of Government
and Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment
London School of Economics and Political Science
Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE
United Kingdom

Email: j.finnegan@lse.ac.uk
Twitter: [@jjfinnegan](https://twitter.com/jjfinnegan)
[Personal Website](#)
[Google Scholar](#)

EDUCATION

2019 (Expected) Ph.D. Political Science, Department of Government, LSE

Thesis title: “Low carbon for the long term: The comparative political economy of climate policy investment”

Abstract: Why do some countries do much to address long-term problems like climate change while others do little? This thesis offers a novel theoretical account of the political drivers of long-term climate policy investments across high-income democracies. It argues that political institutions and electoral incentives are key and systematically structure the ability of governments to adopt low-carbon policies that translate short-term costs into long-term benefits. It fills a large gap in the comparative political economy literature, which has paid little attention to the looming problem of climate change.

Supervisors: David Soskice, Kai Spiekermann and Joachim Wehner

Research interests: Climate change policy, long-term policy, comparative political economy of high-income democracies, comparative capitalism, institutions, electoral competition, state-business relationship

Jan-April 2017 Visiting Doctoral Student, Department of Political Science, University of California, Berkeley
Advisor: David Vogel

2015 MRes (Distinction) Political Science, LSE

2010 MSc (Distinction) Philosophy and Public Policy, LSE

2007 B.A. (Honors) Latin American and Latino Studies and Sociology, University of California, Santa Cruz

EMPLOYMENT

2015- Research Assistant, Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, LSE

2011-2014 Research Analyst, World Resources Institute, Washington, DC, USA

In both roles, I undertook original climate change policy research commissioned by governments and foundations, published numerous policy reports, had regular contact with policymakers, prepared funding applications and engaged in public outreach and communications.

WORKING PAPERS

“Changing Prices in a Changing Climate: Electoral Competitiveness and Fossil Fuel Taxation”, Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment Working Paper No. 307. [Under review] (Available [here](#))

“Varieties of Decarbonization? Comparative Political Economy and Climate Change” [Under review]

“Climate Change, Consensus and the Institutional Foundations of Long-term Policymaking”

WORK IN PROGRESS

“Political Drivers of Energy Taxation over the Long Term: Gasoline Taxes in US States since 1919”

BOOK CHAPTERS

“Climate-Resilient Cities” in *The Economics of Climate-Resilient Development*, Fankhauser, Sam, and Thomas K.J. McDermott (eds.). Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar, 2016 [with Helia Costa and Graham Floater]. (Available [here](#))

POLICY PAPERS AND REPORTS (SELECTED)

“The Role of Independent Bodies in Climate Governance: The UK Committee on Climate Change.” Policy Report. London, UK: Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment and the Centre for Climate Change Economics and Policy, 2018 [with Alina Averchenkova and Sam Fankhauser]. (Available [here](#))

“10 Years of the UK Climate Change Act.” Policy Report. London, UK: Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment and the Centre for Climate Change Economics and Policy, 2018 [with Alina Averchenkova and Sam Fankhauser]. (Available [here](#))

“MRV 101: Understanding Measurement, Reporting, and Verification of Climate Change Mitigation.” Working Paper. World Resources Institute, Washington, DC, 2014 [with Kelly Levin and Neelam Singh]. (Available [here](#))

“Accounting framework for the post-2020 period.” Nordic Council of Ministers, Copenhagen, Denmark, 2015 [with Kelly Levin, David Rich, Pedro Martins Barata, Yamide Dagnet and Kati Kulovesi]. (Available [here](#))

Greenhouse Gas Protocol Mitigation Goal Standard: An accounting and reporting standard for national and subnational greenhouse gas reduction goals. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute, 2014 [with Kelly Levin, David Rich and Pankaj Bhatia]. (Available [here](#))

Greenhouse Gas Protocol Policy and Action Standard: An accounting and reporting standard for estimating the greenhouse gas effects of policies and actions. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute, 2014 [with David Rich, Pankaj Bhatia, Kelly Levin and Apurba Mitra]. (Available [here](#))

“Capacity needs for greenhouse gas measurement and performance tracking: A Report on scoping activities in six countries.” Working Paper. World Resources Institute, Washington, DC, 2014 [with Thomas Damassa, Kate DeAngelis, and Kelly Levin]. (Available [here](#))

“Ex-ante clarification, transparency, and understanding of intended nationally determined mitigation contributions.” Working Paper. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute, 2014 [with Kelly Levin, David Rich and Yamide Dagnet]. (Available [here](#))

“Designing national commitments to drive measurable emissions reductions after 2020.” Working Paper. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute, 2013 [with Kelly Levin]. (Available [here](#))

“Assessing Non-Annex I Pledges: Building a Case for Clarification.” Working Paper. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute, 2011 [with Kelly Levin]. (Available [here](#))

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

“Why the UK Government has frozen fuel duty – again.” Commentary. Grantham Research Institute on Climate and the Environment, LSE, 2018. (Available [here](#))

“From adaptation to climate-resilient development: What are the implications for policymakers?” LSE Department of Government Blog, 2016. (Available [here](#))

“Submission from the World Resources Institute (WRI) to the UNFCCC on comparability and common accounting rules for emission reduction targets of developed country Parties.” UNFCCC. Bonn, Germany, 2013 [with Kelly Levin]. (Available [here](#))

“Released for Review: New Standards for Tracking GHG Emissions from Policies and Goals.” World Resources Institute Blog, 2012 [with David Rich]. (Available [here](#))

MEDIA MENTIONS

Gabbatiss, Josh. “Climate Change Act must set 'net zero' emissions target by 2020, experts say.” *The Independent*, March 30, 2018. (Available [here](#))

Holder, Mary and James Murray. “Government hails Climate Change Act progress, as study calls for 'net zero' emissions goal.” *Business Green*, March 30, 2018. (Available [here](#))

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

2018 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Boston (APSA)
Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago (MPSA)
Fourth Annual Conference on Environmental Politics and Governance, Stockholm (EPG)
Political Studies Association Annual International Conference, Cardiff (PSA)
Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics Annual Meeting, Kyoto (SASE)
Workshop on the Comparative Politics of Climate Change [organized by Prof. Robert Keohane], Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University

2017 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago (MPSA)
European Consortium for Political Research General Conference, Oslo (ECPR)
Grantham Research Institute Empirical Lunch Seminar, London
Grantham Research Institute Governance Lunch Seminar, London
LSE Political Science and Political Economy Lunch Seminar, London
LSE Political Economy and Public Policy Workshop, London
Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics Annual Meeting, Lyon (SASE)

2016 Annual Graduate Conference in Political Science, International Relations and Public Policy in Memory of Yitzhak Rabin, Hebrew University, Jerusalem
ECPR Summer School on Environmental Politics and Policy, Lille
LSE Political Economy and Public Policy Workshop, London

TEACHING

- *The Politics of Economic Policy* (GV227), LSE, 2015-16

Second year undergraduate course. Examines political explanations for changes in macroeconomic, financial and regulatory policy in the high-income democracies since the early 1980s. Particular attention is paid to the role of ideas, interests and institutions.

I taught one one-hour class per week for around 10 students for the full academic year. I developed my own teaching materials. In my evaluations I received a score of 1.3, which is higher than the average for the Department of Government (1 is “very good”; 5 is “very poor”).

- *Capitalism, Democracy and Equality: The Political Economy of the Advanced Nations* (IR102), LSE Summer School 2015-18

Introductory undergraduate course. Introduces students to the complex and conflictual relationship between capitalism and democracy across the advanced economies. Particular attention is paid to the ways in which politics shapes cross-national variation in income inequality.

I taught two 1.5 hour classes per day for three weeks during Summer School. I had around 20 students per class. I developed my own teaching materials. I consistently received evaluation scores higher than the average for the Government Department and the School as a whole (available upon request).

- Teaching interests:
 - Climate change, environment and energy policy (especially in comparative perspective)
 - Comparative political economy of high-income democracies (especially welfare states, inequality, varieties of capitalism, institutions and electoral politics)
 - Public policy and public administration (especially in comparative perspective)

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2016 LSE Partnership Ph.D. Mobility Bursary for study at UC Berkeley (£2,500)
 2014 Ph.D. Scholarship, Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, LSE (approx. £130,000)
 2010 Andrea Mannu Prize for best MSc dissertation, Department of Philosophy, Logic, and Scientific Method, LSE

SERVICE

- Research student seminar organizer, Comparative Politics / Comparative Political Economy (CP/CPE) Seminar Series, LSE, 2016-18
- Co-organizer of “Comparative Political Economy and the Environment mini-conference” with Matthew Allen and Geoffrey Wood, SASE Annual Meeting, 2018
- University and College Union (UCU) GTA representative for Guest Teacher and GTA Partnership Working Group, LSE, 2016
- Referee: *Climate Policy*

LANGUAGES

English (native), Spanish (working proficiency)

REFERENCES

Professor David Soskice
 Department of Government, LSE
 Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE
d.w.soskice@lse.ac.uk

Professor Robert O. Keohane
 Woodrow Wilson School of Public and
 International Affairs, Princeton University
 Princeton, NJ 08544
rkeohane@princeton.edu

Dr. Joachim Wehner
 Associate Professor
 Department of Government, LSE
 Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE
j.h.wehner@lse.ac.uk

Dr. Kai Spiekermann
 Associate Professor
 Department of Government, LSE
 Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE
k.spiekermann@lse.ac.uk