

Jared J. Finnegan, PhD

Department of Political Science & School of Public Policy
University College London
The Rubin Building
29/31 Tavistock Square
London WC1H 9QU

Email: j.finnegan@ucl.ac.uk
[Personal Website](#)
[Google Scholar](#)
Twitter: [@jjfinnegan](#)

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2021- Lecturer (Assistant Professor) in Public Policy
Department of Political Science & School of Public Policy, UCL
- 2020- Visiting Fellow
Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, LSE
- 2020-21 S.V. Ciriacy-Wantrup Postdoctoral Fellow
Department of Environmental Science, Policy, and Management, UC Berkeley
- 2019-20 Postdoctoral Fellow
Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance, Princeton University

EDUCATION

- 2019 PhD Political Science, Department of Government, LSE

Dissertation: "Low Carbon for the Long Term: Essays on the Comparative Political Economy of Climate Change Policy" (Available [here](#))

Winner of 2020 Virginia Walsh Award for best dissertation in science, technology, and environmental politics, American Political Science Association

Abstract: Why do some democracies do more than others to address long-term problems like climate change? This dissertation 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, structuring the ability of governments to adopt low-carbon policies that translate short-term costs into long-term benefits. By explaining variation in climate policy strength, the dissertation highlights the *political* impediments to decarbonization.

Supervisors: David Soskice, Kai Spiekermann and Joachim Wehner

Research interests: Climate change and environmental policy and politics, long-term policymaking, comparative political economy, comparative public policy, comparative capitalism, state-business relationship, institutions, electoral competition

- 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 BA (Honors) Latin American and Latino Studies and Sociology, University of California, Santa Cruz

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2011-14 Research Analyst, World Resources Institute, Washington, DC

PUBLICATIONS

“Institutions, Climate Change, and the Foundations of Long-term Policymaking.” *Comparative Political Studies* (2022). (Available [here](#))

“The Influence of Climate Change Advisory Bodies on Political Debates: Evidence from the UK Committee on Climate Change” [with Alina Averchenkova and Sam Fankhauser] *Climate Policy* (2021). (Available [here](#))

“Varieties of De-carbonization? Comparative Political Economy and Climate Change”. *Socio-Economic Review* (2020). (Available [here](#))

“The Impact of Strategic Climate Legislation: Evidence from Expert Interviews of the UK Climate Change Act” [with Alina Averchenkova and Sam Fankhauser]. *Climate Policy* (2020). (Available [here](#))

WORKING PAPERS

“Changing Prices in a Changing Climate: Electoral Competitiveness and Fossil Fuel Taxation” GRI Working Paper No. 307 (2018). (Available [here](#)) (Under review)

“The Institutional Sources of Economic Transformation: Energy Policy from the Oil Crises to Climate Change” [with Phillip Lipsky, Jonas Meckling, and Florence Metz] (Available [here](#)) (Under review)

“Corporate Governance, Time Horizons, and Climate Policy Preferences” [with Jonas Meckling]

“Energy Politics over the Long Run: Gasoline Taxes in US States since 1919”

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“Income Inequality and the Politics of Fossil Fuel Taxation: The Case of Transportation in Sweden and the USA” [with Julius Andersson]

PEER-REVIEWED 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

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

“10 Years of the UK Climate Change Act.” Policy Report. Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment and the Centre for Climate Change Economics and Policy, London (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 (2016) [with Kelly Levin and Neelam Singh]. (Available [here](#))

“Accounting framework for the post-2020 period.” Nordic Council of Ministers, Copenhagen (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. World Resources Institute, Washington, DC (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. World Resources Institute, Washington, DC (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. World Resources Institute, Washington, DC (2014) [with Kelly Levin, David Rich and Yamide Dagnet]. (Available [here](#))

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

“Assessing Non-Annex I Pledges: Building a Case for Clarification.” Working Paper. World Resources Institute, Washington, DC (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

Lawless, Jill. “UK’s Johnson gives G-20 stark warning on climate change.” *Associated Press*. October 29, 2021. (Available [here](#)).

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](#))

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2020 Virginia Walsh Award for best dissertation in the field of science, technology, and environmental politics, Science, Technology & Environmental Politics (STEP) Section of the American Political Science Association (APSA)
- 2016 LSE Partnership PhD Mobility Bursary for study at UC Berkeley
- 2014 PhD Scholarship, Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, LSE
- 2010 Andrea Mannu Prize for best MSc dissertation, Department of Philosophy, Logic, and Scientific Method, LSE

GRANTS

- 2020- Berkeley Institute for Young Americans, Grant, "Corporate Governance and Climate Policy Preferences" (\$17,000)
- 2018-21 International Balzan Prize Foundation, Grant from Robert O. Keohane's Balzan Prize "The comparative politics of decarbonization after the 1970s oil price shocks" (\$70,000)

INVITED TALKS

- 2021 Stockholm Institute for Transition Economics, Stockholm School of Economics Comparative Politics Workshop, Department of Political Science, UCLA
- 2020 Research Seminar Series, Grantham Research Institute, LSE
IR Faculty Colloquium, Department of Politics, Princeton University

TEACHING

- 2021- Climate Change: Politics and Policy (POLS0054), UCL
Theories and Actors of the Policy Process (PUBL0040), UCL
- 2021 Guest lecture: Resource Management (ESPM 102C), UC Berkeley
- 2015-18 Capitalism, Democracy and Equality: The Political Economy of the Advanced Nations (IR102), LSE
- 2015-16 The Politics of Economic Policy (GV227), LSE

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

- 2021 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA)
Environmental Politics and Governance (EPG) Seminar Series
Climate Futures Workshop
Society of the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE) Annual Meeting
- 2020 Workshop on the Comparative Politics of Climate Change, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University
Council for European Studies (CES) Annual Meeting
Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA)
Grantham Research Institute Workshop, LSE
- 2019 Understanding the Political Economy of Deep Decarbonization, Princeton University
LSE Workshop in Comparative Politics
Workshop on the Comparative Politics of Climate Change, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University
- 2018 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA)
Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)
Fourth Annual Conference on Environmental Politics and Governance (EPG)
Political Studies Association Annual International Conference (PSA)
Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE) Annual Meeting
Workshop on the Comparative Politics of Climate Change, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University

- 2017 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)
 European Consortium for Political Research General Conference (ECPR)
 Grantham Research Institute Governance Lunch Seminar, LSE
 LSE Political Science and Political Economy Lunch Seminar
 LSE Political Economy and Public Policy Workshop
 Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics Annual Meeting (SASE)
- 2016 Annual Graduate Conference in Political Science, International Relations and Public Policy,
 Hebrew University
 ECPR Summer School on Environmental Politics and Policy
 LSE Political Economy and Public Policy Workshop, London

SERVICE

- Deputy Director of MSc Public Policy programme, UCL (2021)
- Dissertation Award Committee, STEP Section, APSA (2021)
- Organizer of APSA panel “Climate Change Politics: The View from Junior Scholars” (2021)
- Co-organizer of APSA panel “The Comparative Politics of Climate Change” (2020)
- Co-organizer of “Comparative Political Economy and the Environment mini-conference”, SASE Annual Meeting (2018)
- Research student seminar organizer, Comparative Politics / Comparative Political Economy (CP/CPE) Seminar Series, LSE (2016-18)
- University and College Union (UCU) GTA representative for Guest Teacher and GTA Partnership Working Group, LSE (2016)
- Referee: *Journal of Politics*, *Environmental Politics*, *European Political Science Review*, *Climate Policy*, *Global Environmental Politics*

LANGUAGES

English (native), Spanish (intermediate)

REFERENCES

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

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

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

Professor Jonas Meckling
 Department of Environmental Science, Policy,
 and Management
 University of California, Berkeley
 Berkeley, CA 94720
meckling@berkeley.edu

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