P01 / Greening state governance: a policy process perspective

Topic : POLICY PROCESS THEORIES

Chair : Zsolt Boda (ELTE Centre for Social Sciences)

Second Chair : Charlotte Halpern (Sciences Po Paris - Centre d'Etudes Européennes (CEE))

GENERAL OBJECTIVES, RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND SCIENTIFIC RELEVANCE

Green state governance has raised increased attention in the context of the environmental crisis (Ba?ckstrand and Kronsell 2015, Duit et al. 2016, Eckersley 2004 and 2020). However, the “green(ing the) state” literature applies more a polity- than a policy-centred approach. As for the policy studies, there is an imbalance: while the content of sustainable (energy-, transportation, agricultural etc.) policies has been extensively studied, the procedural and institutional aspects of the policy process enabling the formulation of those policy measures has received much less attention. Much has also been written on the “super wickedness” of such problems (Levin et al., 2009 ; Head 2019) as well as on the specific role of within-state “climate change makers” and to innovations in governance (Jordan et al. 2018), emphasizing the role of “new” discourses, actors, and policy tools (Hajer 1995; Jordan et al. 2003). However, less attention has been given to the policy process itself, in terms of governing resources, the preparedness of the central administration, the choice and selection of public policy instruments etc. Yet taking stock from the literature on public policy processes and acknowledging its political nature whether at policy formulation or at policy implementation stages (Zittoun et al., 2021), the process by which green state governance is made material through policy analytics, budgetary planning, enforcement procedures, is expected to come up against several barriers and to give rise to conflicts, both within and beyond the state apparatus. In addition, questioning whether the classic state apparatus is fit for meeting a challenge of unprecedented scale and delivering on large-scale, transformative changes, also led some authors to questioning the relevance of public policy research concepts and tools (Hausknost, 2020; Berglund et al., 2022). Moreover, others have highlighted potential contradictions with existing state-market-society relations, whether in democratic societies (Fischer 2019), in the context of democratic backsliding (Gomide et al. 2022), and in capitalist societies (Meadowcroft 2005; Hausknost 2023).

Taking stock from this burgeoning literature and acknowledging the need for more systematic and comparative work, this panel first proposes to identify 1) the challenges in the governance process that may hinder the formulation and implementation of green policies, 2) the possible institutional and/or organizational solutions to meet those challenges. Second, specific attention will be given to the governing of such processes, whether at policy formulation or policy implementation stages, by either giving specific attention to governing resources and capacities, or to the choice and selection of specific public policy tools.

CALL FOR PAPERS

This panel calls for papers examining the various ways in which green state governance enfolds across different political and institutional contexts. It purposefully focuses on within-public policy process dynamics, rather than a polity perspective or an issue-specific policy area. In doing so, it first seeks to contribute to a better understanding of the challenges that may hinder the formulation and implementation of green policies, whether in terms of governing resources (i.e. Hood 1983, nodality, authority, treasury, organization), climate delaying discourses (Lamb et al. 2020), the recruitment and the career of civil servants, etc. Second, it proposes to explore what possible institutional and/or organizational solutions have been introduced to meet those challenges, that is in their ability to overcome such barriers and strengthen the state’s preparedness to address the environmental crisis. Third, specific attention will be given to the governing of such processes, whether at policy formulation or policy implementation stages, by either giving specific attention to governing resources and capacities, or to the choice and selection of specific tools. Fourth, it proposes to examine the governing of such processes, whether at policy formulation or policy implementation stages, by focusing on governing resources and capacities, the choice and selection of specific public policy tools.

Papers addressing one or several of the following issues, whether conceptually or methodologically, are welcome:

- The challenges in the governance process that may hinder the formulation and implementation of green

policies;

- The possible institutional and/or organizational solutions to meet those challenges;

- The governing of transformative processes of change, whether at policy formulation or policy implementation stages

- The role of international (e.g., IPCC, OECD, etc.) and regional organizations (e.g., ASEAN, EU, etc.) in shaping policy agenda and developments through goals setting, as well as through the diffusion of specific public policy tools;

- Papers drawing on comparative public policy and governance analysis, to account for main differences and similarities across and within different regions.

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Session 1

Thursday, July 3rd 10:15 to 12:15 (A1)

Greening state governance: a policy process perspective

Zsolt Boda (ELTE Centre for Social Sciences)

Charlotte Halpern (Sciences Po Paris - Centre d'Etudes Européennes (CEE))

Greening the state through the “behavioral state”? Some reflections on policy design, target motivations, and unintended consequences.

Stefania Profeti (Università di Bologna)

Federico Toth (Università di Bologna)

Edoardo Carminucci (Università di Bologna)

(Virtual) THE POLITICS OF CLIMATE POLICY INSTRUMENTS: INVESTIGATING POLICYMAKERS’ BELIEF SYSTEMS IN EU CLIMATE POLICY-MAKING

Anne Gerstenberg (Universität Hamburg)

(Virtual) Is exclusion a prerequisite of (environmental) state performance? The legitimation conundrum of low-carbon transitions

Daniel Hausknost (Vienna University of Economics and Business)

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Session 2

Thursday, July 3rd 16:00 to 18:00 (A1)

The consumer, an ambiguous actor in European environmental policies.

Charlotte Halpern (Sciences Po Paris - Centre d'Etudes Européennes (CEE))

Bureaucratic autonomy and policy capacity: variances of flood-risk management in subnational governments in Brazil

Fernanda Lima-Silva (Universidade de São Paulo)

Catarina Segatto (Universidade de São Paulo)

What if public policy research could save the planet ? From ENA to INSP, the challenges of training senior civil to green governance

Céline Husson-Rochcongar (INSP - Institut National du Service Public)

Sebastien Kott (INSP - Institut National du Service Public)

The Role of Issue Ownership in Green Budgeting Practices: A South Korean Government Case Study.

Minjung Kim (Sungkyunkwan University, Republic of Korea)

Rosa Minhyo Cho (Sungkyunkwan University)

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Session 3

Friday, July 4th 08:00 to 10:00 (A1)

The Dominance of Hydraulic Megaprojects Over Green Initiatives: Insights from Mexico City's Deep Drainage System and Texcoco Project

Jose Alberto Nochebuena (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México)

The use of green bonds in Belgium: greening the state through a financial instrument

Loris GATHY (Université de Liège)

Green Bonds or Green Chains? Assessing Financial Subordination in the Green Finance Transition

Max Nagel (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)

From ICMS-E to Ecological IBS: Environmental Fiscal Transfers and Green Governance in Brazil

Biancca Castro (Universidade Federal Rural do Rio de Janeiro)

Maira Spanholi (Universidade do Estado de Mato Grosso)

Marcello Oliveira (UFRRJ)

Environmental policymaking in Bangladesh: where state capacity takes a backseat

Nabil Haque (Transparency International Bangladesh)

Leveraging Boundary Objects for Participatory Governance in India's Environmental Policy Process

Bincy George (Jindal School of Government and Public Policy)