



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 Sciences Po [Institute for Environmental Transformations](#), the [World Inequality Lab](#) at the **Paris School of Economics**, the [International Inequalities Institute](#) at the **London School of Economics** and the [Institute of Economics](#) at **Sant'Anna Pisa**.

Rising inequality and environmental degradation are two critical challenges of our time. The social sciences have increasingly focused on their interactions over the last three decades (Boyce, 1994; Martinez Alier, 2003; 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, key open questions motivate this symposium. First, which welfare regimes are compatible with deep decarbonization, and through what policy instruments (Gough, 2017; Mandelli et al. 2024)? Second, what role have economic and political inequalities played in slowing energy transitions and entrenching high-carbon production and consumption patterns (Aklin and Mildenberger 2020)? Third, what political coalitions can sustain environmental transformation (Meckling et al. 2015)?

Methodologically, further questions follow: How can emission inequalities between individuals and social groups be systematically measured (Oswald et al. 2020; Chancel and Rehm, 2025)? how can the distributional impacts of environmental pollution be tracked and how can the incidence of environmental policies be assessed (Palagi et al. 2022; Douenne and Fabre 2022)? Where class, race, gender, and spatial inequalities jointly shape pollution exposure and contribution, how can these effects be properly measured (Tessum et al. 2021)?

This symposium presents and discusses original social-science approaches to environmental inequality across three streams: (i) measuring inequalities in environmental impacts, contributions and capacity to act across social groups ; (ii) understanding and identifying coalitions supporting or blocking environmental transformation; (iii) designing and evaluating public policies that respond to the challenges raised in the first and second streams.

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 original 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.

Dates:

- Deadline for Submission: 25 September, 2026
- Notification of Acceptance: 10 October, 2026
- Event Date: 7 December 2026 (Paris)

Submission Process:

- Please submit your documents in the following order: CV, abstract, indication of in-person or online participation, and whether you are applying for travel support, followed by a working paper if available. Please use the [Google Form](#) to submit your application.
- For queries, contact: info.cris@sciencespo.fr

Scientific Committee

Manisha Anantharaman (CSO, Sciences Po), Carlo Barone (CRIS, Sciences Po), Lucas Chancel (CRIS, Sciences Po and World Inequality Lab, PSE) (chair), Mateo Coronese (Sant'Anna Pisa), Cornelia Mohren (Sciences Po and PSE), Elisa Palagi (Sant'Anna Pisa) Martin Pardy (International Inequalities Institute, LSE).

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!

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