

Geneva, 23rd of September 2022

Dear Prof. Meyer,

Hope this cover letter finds you well.

We are writing to submit our manuscript, « How has the Brazilian Amazon been constructed as a problem: presidential speeches and transnational politics since 1985», for a possible publication in Environmental Politics.

Our article examines 6130 speeches by Brazilian presidents since 1985 and tries to understand how the Brazilian Amazon has been constructed as a problem. We find that presidents play a multi-level game: speaking about protecting the forest when outside of the Amazon region, while focusing on economic integration and social development inside. These results speak to research on the social construction of the environment, as the Amazonian literature has so far identified Brazilian governments as proponents of single views of the Amazon.

We decided to submit to Environmental Politics because of its interdisciplinarity. As a sociologist and a political scientist, we favor an approach to quantitative research with strong interpretivists lenses. We combine hand-coding with machine learning, to make substantial interpretation of an important environmental issue. We believe our approach fits well the previously published articles in the journal.

We have uploaded our manuscript and if necessary, the dataset and coding materials can be made available. Please let us know if there is any additional information you need regarding this submission and thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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