

Discussion Questions (Politics of Climate Governance)

Week 2 discussion questions

- 1) There are supposed trade offs between incremental and transformative adaptation. What are they? As a researcher, how would you assess these trade offs? What are the observable indicators you would use for this assessment?
- 2) Autonomous adaptation refers to adaptation behavior whose success does not depend on coordinated collective behavior, which is referred to as collective adaptation. Is the distinction between these two types of adaptation useful? Why?
- 3) The Kosolv et al. article is a self contained empirical study. What is its research question? What are its conclusions? Assess the validity of the conclusions they reach given their study design and their evidence.
- 4) As a researcher, what are the ways you can extend the research agenda on rebuilding versus relocating as climate adaptation measures? What are additional questions or studies that you think are worth pursuing after having read the three articles?

Week 4 discussion questions

- 1) For the Von Stein (2020) article, be ready to identify and discuss each of the following:
 - The research question: What are the constructs or phenomena being studied?
 - Measurement: How does the paper capture what it wants to study?
 - Target population and sample: What set of observations does the study aim to draw conclusions about? What units does it end up studying?
 - Inferences and claims: What are the conclusions? Is there enough evidence to draw these conclusions?
- 2) What mechanisms have been proposed to explain the difference between democracies and autocracies when it comes to environmental policymaking? Do they make sense? Why or why not?

Week 7 discussion questions

- 1) For the Guber et al. (2021) article, be ready to identify and discuss each of the following:
 - The research question: What are the constructs or phenomena being studied?
 - Measurement: How does the paper capture what it wants to study?
 - Target population and sample: What set of observations does the study aim to draw conclusions about? What units does it end up studying?
 - Inferences and claims: What are the conclusions? Is there enough evidence to draw these conclusions?

- 2) In what ways do the findings and discussions from the reading relate to what we've discussed about climate change communication?

Week 9 discussion questions

Having watched the Just Stop Oil video, please answer the following questions on your views toward the movement and their message using the anonymous submission form. We will discuss your responses together as a class.

- 1) Have you heard about Just Stop Oil before this?
- 2) After watching this video (or if it's not your first time watching the video, think back to when you first watched it), do you support or not support the movement? (Or are you more or less likely to support the movement?)
- 3) Would you seriously consider participating in a Just Stop Oil (or similar) demonstration?
- 4) Write down some thoughts you have about the movement (e.g., goals, tactics) that motivate your answer to the previous questions.

Week 11 discussion questions

- 1) For the Axelrod (2011) article, be ready to identify and discuss each of the following:
 - o The research question: What are the constructs or phenomena being studied?
 - o Measurement: How does the paper capture what it wants to study?
 - o Target population and sample: What set of observations does the study aim to draw conclusions about? What units does it end up studying?
 - o Inferences and claims: What are the conclusions? Is there enough evidence to draw these conclusions?
- 2) For each of the four hypotheses presented in the article, identify the way Axelrod arrives at them, from the literature reviews, to the hypothesis formation, to the measurement, to the operationalization of measures.

Week 12 discussion questions

- 1) Based on the following:
 - a) The discussion in Hale (2020), especially pages 211-214;
 - b) The conclusions that Vu et al. (2020) and Leifeld and Fisher (2017) make about their respective cases; and
 - c) The Pugwash Movement we discussed in class,identify and discuss the pros and cons of transnational actors to climate governance and what the governance challenges associated with transnational actors are.