

# Ted Hsuan Yun Chen

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Academic Positions	<i>George Mason University</i>	
	Assistant Professor, Department of Environmental Science and Policy	2022–
	<i>Previous Institutions</i>	
	Visiting Researcher, Helsinki Institute of Sustainability Science, University of Helsinki	2023
	Postdoctoral Researcher, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Helsinki	2019–22
Education	Postdoctoral Researcher, Department of Computer Science, Aalto University	2019–22
	Ph.D. Political Science, Pennsylvania State University	2019
	M.A. Asia Pacific Policy Studies, University of British Columbia	2012
	B.A. Sociology, McGill University	2009

## Publications

### I. Peer Reviewed

16. Ali Salloum\*, **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Mikko Kivelä. 2025. [“Anatomy of Elite and Mass Polarization in Social Networks.”](#) *Network Science* 13: e18.
15. **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Christopher J. Fariss, Hwayong Shin\*, Xu Xu. 2024. [“Disaster Experience Mitigates the Partisan Divide on Climate Change: Evidence from Texas.”](#) *Global Environmental Change* 89: 102918.
14. Anniina Kotkaniemi\*, Tuomas Ylä-Anttila, **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**. 2024. [“Policy Influence and Influencers Online and Off.”](#) *Policy Studies Journal* 52(2): 349–367.
13. Hasti Narimanzadeh\*, Arash Badie-Modiri\*, Iuliia Smirnova\*, **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**. 2023. [“Crowdsourcing Subjective Annotations using Pairwise Comparisons Reduces Bias and Error Compared to the Majority-vote Method.”](#) *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction* 7, CSCW2: 334.
12. Christian S. Schmid, **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Bruce A. Desmarais. 2022. [“Generative Dynamics of Supreme Court Citations: Analysis with a New Statistical Network Model.”](#) *Political Analysis* 30(4): 515–534.
11. Yan Xia\*, **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Mikko Kivelä. 2022. [“Limits of Multilayer Diffusion Network Inference in Social Media Research.”](#) *Proceedings of the International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media*, 16(1), 1145–1156.
10. Ali Salloum\*, **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Mikko Kivelä. 2022. [“Separating Polarization from Noise: Comparison and Normalization of Structural Polarization Measures.”](#) *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction* 6, CSCW1: 115.
9. **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Boyoon Lee. 2022. [“Income-based Inequality in Post-disaster Migration is Lower in High Resilience Areas: Evidence from U.S. Internal Migration.”](#) *Environmental Research Letters* 17: 034043.
8. **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Ali Salloum\*, Antti Gronow, Tuomas Ylä-Anttila, Mikko Kivelä. 2021. [“Polarization of Climate Politics Results from Partisan Sorting: Evidence from Finnish Twittersphere.”](#) *Global Environmental Change* 71: 102348.
7. **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Chung-li Wu. 2021. [“The Elephant in the Voting Booth?: Assessing the Effect of the 2005 Taiwanese Electoral Reform in Reducing Vote-Buying and Local Factional Politics.”](#) *Asian Survey* 61(4): 641–662.
6. Yan Xia\*, **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Mikko Kivelä. 2021. [“Spread of Tweets in Climate Discussions: A Case Study of the 2019 Nobel Peace Prize Announcement.”](#) *Nordic Journal of Media Studies* 3: 96–117.
5. **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**. 2021. [“Statistical Inference for Multilayer Networks in Political Science.”](#) *Political Science Research and Methods* 9(2): 380–397.

4. Mitchell Goist, **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Christopher Boylan. 2019. “Reconstructing and Analyzing the Transnational Human Trafficking Network.” *Proceedings of the 2019 IEEE/ACM International Conference on Advances in Social Networks Analysis and Mining*.
3. **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Paul McLachlan, Christopher J. Fariss. 2017. “Social Activity Hubs: Estimating User Specific Contextual Factors From Social Media Data.” *Proceedings of the 2017 International Conference of The Computational Social Science Society of the Americas*.
2. **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Tzu-Ping Liu, Chung-li Wu. 2014. “Policy-Balancing and Ticket-Splitting: Problems with “Preference for Checks and Balances” in Taiwanese Electoral Studies.” *Japanese Journal of Political Science* 15(2): 317-337.
1. Justine Chen, **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Ilan Vertinsky, Lilia Yumagulova, Chansoo Park. 2013. “Public-Private Partnerships for the Development of Disaster Resilient Communities.” *Journal of Contingencies and Crisis Management* 21(3): 130-143.

## II. Non-Peer Reviewed (Technical Reports & Book Chapters)

2. Yan Xia\*, Antti Gronow, Anna Kukkonen, **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Mikko Kivelä. 2021. *Botit ja informaatiovaikutaminen Twitterissä vuoden 2021 kuntavaaleissa - ELEBOT-2021-hanke*. [Bots and information manipulation on Twitter in the 2021 municipal elections.] Aalto University.
1. **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Chung-li Wu. 2016. “Cross-Strait Relations as an ‘Easy Issue’: China’s Impact on Evidence Provision in Negative Political Campaigning in Taiwan.” In *Taiwan and the ‘China Impact’: Challenges and Opportunities*, ed. Gunter Schubert, Oxon, UK: Routledge.

## Grants & Fellowships

### I. External

3. 2025–27. **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Bruce Desmarais (PIs). Standard Grant: *Collaborative Research: Belief Systems Governing Climate adaptation Behaviors: Inference, Analysis, and Intervention*. SES: Science of Science: Discovery, Communication and Impact, National Science Foundation (US). \$445,990 (\$297,513 to Chen).
2. 2024–26. Sammie Powers (PI), Hung-Ling (Stella) Liu, **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Ellen Drogin Rodgers, Elizabeth Covelli Metcalf, Nate Trautvein (Co-PIs). *Social Network Analysis of the Environmental Justice and Climate Justice Community Active in Climate Adaptation and Conservation*. National Climate Adaptation Science Center, United States Geological Survey. \$300,000.
1. 2024–26. **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen** (PI), Dianna Belman\* (Collaborator). Seed Grant: *Organized Misinformation about Renewable Energy and Biodiversity Conservation in the U.S. Agriculture Sector*. Climate Social Science Network, Brown University. \$24,943.

### II. Internal

3. 2022–24. **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**. HELSUS Postdoctoral Researcher Funding: *Modeling Belief Systems Surrounding Fairness in Climate Migration Using Network Science*. Helsinki Institute of Sustainability Science, University of Helsinki. Principal Investigator. €120,000 (declined 75%).
2. 2021. **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen** (PI), Hande Celikkanat, Tuomas Ylä-Anttila (Co-PIs). HSSH Catalyst Grant: *Crowd-sourced Labelling for Climate Tweets*. Helsinki Institute for Social Sciences and Humanities, University of Helsinki. €10,000.
1. 2019. **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**. RGSO Dissertation Support: *Multilayer Networks in Political Science: Development and Applications of Novel Methods to International Cooperation and Conflict*. College of the Liberal Arts, Pennsylvania State University. \$5,000.

## In Progress

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### I. Working Papers

Sonja Savolainen\*, Ville P. Saarinen\*, **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**. “Social Media Affordances Sustain Social Movements through Repression: Evidence from Climate Activism.” *Under review*

Hasti Narimanzadeh\*, Arash Badie-Modiri\*, Iuliia Smirnova\*, **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**. “Incivility and Contentiousness Spillover in Public Engagement with Public Health and Climate Science.” *Under review*

**Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Jeffery Shih-Chieh Wang\*, Ore Koren. “Legal Institutions and Human Trafficking in a Shifting Climate.” *Under review*

Letizia Iannucci\*, Ali Faqeeh, Ali Salloum\*, **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Mikko Kivelä. “Multiway Alignment for Political Attitudes.” *Under review*

Esa Palosaari, **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Arttu Malkamäki, Mikko Kivelä. “My Views Do Not Reflect Those of My Employer: Differences in Behavior of Organizations’ Official and Personal Accounts on Social Media.” *Under review*

Arttu Malkamäki, **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Antti Gronow, Mikko Kivelä, Juho Vesa, Tuomas Ylä-Anttila. “Political Alliances across Relational Contexts: A Complex Coalition Approach.” *Under review*

Aasa Karimo\*, **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Antti Gronow, Ana Delicado, Tze-Luen Lin, Petr Ocelik, Keiichi Satoh, Luísa Schmidt, Paul M. Wagner, Sun-Jin Yun, Tuomas Ylä-Anttila. “Echo Chambers of Climate Advocates and Obstructionists: Information Exchange among Policy Actors in Ten Countries.” *Under review*

Ville P. Saarinen\*, **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Mikko Kivelä. “Leveraging Preferential Attachment for Dense Subgraph Detection in Social Networks.” *Under review*

**Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**, Christopher J. Fariss, Xu Xu. “Climate Disasters Mobilize the Rich and Suppress the Poor: Voter Turnout Post-Harvey.”

Boyoong Lee, Guilherme N. Fasolin\*, **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**. “Natural Hazards Threat and Early Marriage for Women and Girls: Case Study of Latin America.”

**Ted Hsuan Yun Chen**<sup>†</sup>, Arttu Malkamäki<sup>†</sup>, Ali Faqeeh, Esa Palosaari, Anniina Kotkaniemi, Laura Funke, Cáit Gleeson, James Goodman, Antti Gronow, Marlene Kammerer, Myanna Lahsen, Alexandre Marques, Petr Ocelik, Shivangi Seth, Mark Stoddart, Pradip Swarnakar, Matthew Trull, Paul Wagner, Yixi Yang, Mikko Kivelä, Tuomas Ylä-Anttila. “Climate Policy Elites’ Twitter Interactions across Nine Countries.”

### II. Other Selected In Progress

“Measuring Individual-level Belief System Networks.” (With D. Belman\*)

“Climate Activism in Polarized Networked Communities: A Social Network Experiment.” (With M. Kivelä, V.P. Saarinen\*, T. Ylä-Anttila)

“The Effect of Locally Targeted Celebrity Climate Activism: Evidence from Greta Thunberg’s Visit to Canada.” (With S. Savolainen\*)

“Climate Emotions and Participation in High Risk Activism.” (With V.P. Saarinen\*, S. Savolainen\*)

“Intramovement Acceptance of Unexpected Tactic Change: Evidence from Climate Activism.” (With V.P. Saarinen\*, S. Savolainen\*)

## Mentorship

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### I. Doctoral Dissertation Supervision

Dianna Belman. In progress. George Mason University.<sup>‡</sup>

Ushakiran Madari. In progress. George Mason University.<sup>‡</sup>

Ramji Venkatachari. In progress. George Mason University.<sup>‡</sup>

\* = student coauthor, <sup>†</sup> = equal contribution, <sup>‡</sup> = chair/co-chair

Benjamin Adjei. In progress. George Mason University.  
 Colin Chadduck. In progress. George Mason University.  
 Hasti Narimanzadeh. In progress. Aalto University.  
 Furhad Nasserjah. In progress. George Mason University.  
 Ville P. Saarinen. In progress. University of Helsinki.  
 Sonja Savolainen. In progress. University of Helsinki.  
 Rachel Stewart. In progress. George Mason University.

## II. Master's Thesis Supervision

William M. Barker. In progress. George Mason University.<sup>‡</sup>  
 Jordan Bertaux. In progress. George Mason University.<sup>‡</sup>  
 Muhammad Suleman Sikandar. In progress. George Mason University.<sup>‡</sup>  
 Anniina Penttilä. 2022. *Online Networks and Offline Policy: A Study on Influence in the Finnish Climate Change Policy Network*. M.A. University of Helsinki.<sup>‡</sup>  
 Ville P. Saarinen. 2022. *kMMI: Minimization of Intergroup Interference in Networked Experiments*. M.Sc. Aalto University.  
 Rico Pircklén. 2021. *Quantification of Change in Online Activity Patterns through the Course of the COVID-19 Pandemic*. M.Sc. Aalto University.  
 Yan Xia. 2021. *Inferring Multilayer Spreading Networks in Online Social Media*. M.Sc. Aalto University.  
 Ali Salloum. 2021. *Quantifying Polarization in Social Networks*. M.Sc. Aalto University.

## III. Master's Project (Non-thesis) Supervision (Environmental Science & Policy, George Mason University)

Sabrina Roman (in progress), Essam Temuri (2025), Luke Cannon (2024), Ashley McKenna Robertson (2024), Alyssa Chase (2023)

## IV. Undergraduate Supervision

Jordan Bertaux. Spring 2024. *Role of Institutions and Insurance in Breaking Barriers of Inequalities in Disasters*. Undergraduate Research Scholars Program, George Mason University.

## Teaching

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### I. Course Instructor

Politics of Climate Change Governance (Undergrad, GMU), Spring 2024, Spring 2025  
 Research Design for Environmental Social Science (Grad, GMU), Fall 2022, Fall 2023, Fall 2024  
 Human-Environment Interactions (Undergrad, GMU), Spring 2023  
 Global Climate Governance (Grad, University of Helsinki), Spring 2021, Spring 2022  
 Applied Data Science for Policy Research (Grad, Aalto University), Spring 2021  
 Collecting and Analyzing Social Media Data (Grad, Aalto University), Winter 2019  
 Political Assassinations (Undergrad, Penn State), Spring 2018, Spring 2019

## II. Curriculum Development

Politics of Climate Change Governance (Undergrad, GMU); Human-Environment Interactions (Undergrad, GMU); Research Design for Environmental Social Science (Grad, GMU); Global Climate Governance (Grad, University of Helsinki); Applied Data Science for Policy Research (Grad, Aalto University); Collecting and Analyzing Social Media Data (Grad, Aalto University); Political Assassinations (Undergrad, Penn State); Advanced Research Design (Undergrad, Penn State)

## III. Others

Exponential Family Random Graph Modeling with R, Workshop Instructor, Political Networks Conference, Jun 2021, Jun 2022, Jun 2023

CodeRefinery Workshop on Scientific Computing, Exercise Leader, May 2021

## Awards

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2021. Best Conference Paper Award: “Polarization of Climate Politics Results from Partisan Sorting: Evidence from Finnish Twittersphere”. Political Networks Section, American Political Science Association.

2019. Jesse M. MacKnight Memorial Graduate Scholarship. Department of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University. \$1,500.

2016–2017. Program in Empirical International Relations Predoctoral Research Fellowship. Department of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University.

2016. Summer Graduate Research Award. Department of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University. \$3,500.

2015. Peter Schallmoser Award. Department of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University. \$2,500.

2014. Summer Graduate Research Award. Department of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University. \$3,500.

## Software

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**Ted Hsuan Yun Chen** [aut, cre]. 2024. *multilayer.ergm: Exponential Random Graph Models for Multilayer Networks*. R package v0.2.3. [github.com/tedhchen/multilayer.ergm](https://github.com/tedhchen/multilayer.ergm)

Christian S. Schmid [aut, cre], **Ted Hsuan Yun Chen** [aut], and Bruce A. Desmarais [aut]. 2020. *cERGM: A package to fit citation Exponential Random Graph Models*. R package v1.0.0. [github.com/schmid86/cERGM](https://github.com/schmid86/cERGM)

## Talks

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### I. Invited Talks

“Political Polarization through the Lens of Issue Alignment: A Public Health-Climate Change Case Study and Developments in Methodology.” Digital Humanities and Computational Social Sciences Special Seminar, Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology, July 2025.

“Climate Disasters Mobilize the Rich and Suppress the Poor: Voter Turnout Post-Harvey.” The Society, Culture, and Environment Series, George Mason University, Oct 2022.

“Partisanship and Polarization in Climate Politics: Evidence from Social Media Analysis.” Mathematics Applications Consortium for Science and Industry Seminar, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Limerick, May 2022.

“How Police Repression Shapes Social Movements Online: Climate Protests in Finland.” World Politics Research Seminar, Department of Political Science, Indiana University Bloomington, Apr 2022.

“Activism and Contestations over Climate Politics in Online Space.” Helsinki Institute for Social Sciences and Humanities Interdisciplinary Brown Bag, University of Helsinki, Nov 2021.

## II. Recent Conference Participation

“Climate Emotions and Participation in High Risk Activism.” (With V.P. Saarinen, S. Savolainen.)

- American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Vancouver, Sep 2025.
- Political Networks Conference, Northeastern University and Harvard University, Aug 2025.

“Climate Policy Elites’ Twitter Interactions across Nine Countries.” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Vancouver, Sep 2025. (With Anniina Kotkaniemi.)

“Intramovement Acceptance of Unexpected Tactic Change and Participation: Evidence from Climate Activism.” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Vancouver, Sep 2025. (With V.P. Saarinen, S. Savolainen.)

“Competing Cascades: Climate Activism and Counter-activism on Social Media.” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, Sep 2024. (With S. Savolainen.)

“Natural Hazards Threat and Early Marriage for Women and Girls: Case Study of Latin America.” (With B. Lee, G.N. Fasolin.)

- American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, Sep 2024.
- International Studies Association Convention, San Francisco, Apr 2024.

“Measuring Individual-level Belief System Networks using Surveys.” Political Networks Conference, Florida State University, Jun 2024. (With D. Belman.)

“Legal Institutions, Climate Change, and Human Trafficking.” (With O. Koren, J.S.C Wang.)

- International Studies Association Convention, San Francisco, Apr 2024.
- American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, Sep 2023.

“The Effect of Locally Targeted Celebrity Climate Activism: Evidence from Greta Thunberg’s Visit to Canada.” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, Sep 2023. (With S. Savolainen.)

## Public Engagement

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“What can Social Science Tell Us about Social Movements and Public Opinion on Climate Change?” Speaker at the Washington Youth Summit on the Environment, George Mason University. Jun 24, 2025.

Quoted about partisan responses to climate disasters in Bob Berwyn, “[Climate Disasters Only Slightly Shift the Political Needle](#).” *Inside Climate News*. Oct 13, 2024.

Post-performance panel discussion for *The Trails* (King 2022). W.T. Woodson High School, Fairfax. Oct 8, 2023.

“Disaster-trapped Populations.” Presentation and panel discussion, *Intersectional Climate Justice: Calls to Action*. Mason Exhibitions Arlington, Arlington. Sep 24, 2022.

Interview on polarization surrounding climate change on Finnish Twitter. Summarized in Mikko Pelttari, “[Ilmasto jakaa tvittikansaa](#).” [Climate Change Divides Twitter.] *Yliopisto-Lehti* 2022(1), p.18.

## Service

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### I. External Reviews

#### Journals & Proceedings

ACM Journal on Responsible Computing; ACM Transactions on Social Computing; American Journal of Political Science; Climate and Development; Environmental Communication; Environmental Politics; Environmental Research Communications; Environmental Research Letters; IEEE Transactions on Computational Social Systems; International Political Science Review; International Studies Quarterly; Journal of Asian and African Studies; Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis; Journal of Computational Social Science; Nature Climate Change; Network Science; PLOS Complex Systems; PLOS ONE; Politics and Governance; Politics, Groups, and Identities; Public Opinion Quarterly; Royal Society Open Science; Scientific Data; Scientific Reports; Social Networks; The Web Conference; World Development

Others (e.g., Grants, Awards, Books)

Cambridge University Press; National Science Foundation (U.S.); Palgrave Macmillan; Political Networks Section, American Political Science Association; Wellcome Trust

Program Committees

- Political Networks and Computational Social Science Conference, 2025
- Division Chair, Political Networks Section, APSA, 2024
- Political Networks Conference, 2021
- Advances in Social Network Analysis and Mining (Multidisciplinary Track), 2020

## II. Professional Societies

Executive Committee, 2022–2024, Political Networks Section, APSA

## III. George Mason University

University and College of Science

- Judge, College of Science Undergraduate Research Colloquium, 2025
- Panelist, New Faculty Orientation, 2023

Department of Environmental Science and Policy

- Graduate Curriculum Coordinator, 2023–
- Committee on Committees, 2022–
- Department Seminar Committee, 2022–
- Ad Hoc Committee on Teaching Assistant Assignment Policies, 2025

## IV. Previous Internal Service

Master's Thesis Grader, 2020, 2021, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Helsinki

Graduate Mentor, 2017–2018, Department of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University

Graduate Recruitment Panel, 2016, 2017, Department of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University

Graduate Exhibition Judge, 2015, Pennsylvania State University

Graduate Conference Organizing Committee, 2010, Institute of Asian Research, University of British Columbia

## Skills & Languages

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Software and Programming: R, Python, Git,  $\text{\LaTeX}$

Languages: English, Mandarin Chinese

Last updated November 10, 2025.