GOVERNING THE CLIMATE-ENERGY NEXUS

Combating climate change and transitioning to fossil-free energy are two central and interdependent challenges facing humanity today. Governing the nexus of these challenges is complex, and includes multiple intergovernmental and transnational institutions. This book analyzes the governance interactions between such institutions and explores their consequences for legitimacy and effectiveness. Using a novel analytical framework, the contributors examine three policy fields: renewable energy, fossil fuel subsidy reform, and carbon pricing. These fields are compared in terms of their institutional memberships, governance functions, and overarching norms. Bringing together prominent researchers from political science and international relations, the book offers an essential resource for future research and provides policy recommendations for effective and legitimate governance of the climate-energy nexus. Rooted in the most recent research, it is an invaluable reference for researchers, policy makers, and other stakeholders in climate change and energy politics.

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"Far too little work looks at climate change or energy studies from an interdisciplinary social science perspective, and far less than that does so effectively. This book is a notable exception, expertly tracing the governance dynamics and dilemmas of climate change as well as its twin partner in crime, the global energy system. In doing so, it covers a range of exciting topics, from subsidy reform to institutional complexity, from renewable energy to policy coherence, through a compelling milieu of different perspectives. The book is truly important reading for anyone who professes to take the study of climate governance seriously."

– Benjamin K. Sovacool, University of Sussex, and author of Global Energy Justice *(Cambridge University Press)*

"If we are to prevent catastrophic global warming, the world needs to establish more effective global governance of energy. This carefully planned book brings together contributions by leading experts and provides an insightful macro perspective on the current climate-energy nexus – its institutional complexity and fragmentation, as well as the potential for change. The volume stands out for its rich empirical analysis, coherence and rigour. A must read!"

– Robert Falkner, London School of Economics and Political Science

"Governing the Climate-Energy Nexus offers a novel approach to understanding the vexing challenge of decarbonizing the global energy system and moving toward a more sustainable future. Drawing on diverse theoretical debates in political science and international relations, the authors present rich empirical analyses that help academics and practitioners navigate the complex institutional landscape of global climate and energy governance and evaluate the trade-offs and synergies between different policy options. Moreover, this book advances the growing field of 'nexus' research by breaking new theoretical and methodological ground that will facilitate more effective and legitimate governance systems in an increasingly interconnected global system."

– Michele M. Betsill, Colorado State University

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Institutional Complexity and Its Challenges to Effectiveness and Legitimacy

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