



Centre for

**Global
Cooperation
Research**

33rd Käte Hamburger Lecture

Is the Paris Agreement Working?

Wednesday 30th October 2019 (18:00-20:00h)

Venue: Mercator-Saal, Building LR (Gerhard-Mercator-Haus), Lotharstraße 57, 47057 Duisburg

In the 33rd Käte Hamburger Lecture, Prof. Dr David Victor, Professor at the School of Global Policy & Strategy (University of California, San Diego), will evaluate the impact and limitations of the 2015 Paris Agreement. As a global response to the threat of catastrophic climate change, the Paris Agreement offered a fresh approach to fostering cooperation among countries to address the imminent climate crisis. By design, it is more flexible and inclusive than earlier agreements, such as the Kyoto Protocol, and many analysts supported this new approach because it would be more effective. From our vantage point of today, four years later, this lecture will take stock of the evidence to ask whether it is indeed working.

In order to achieve this, Prof. Victor will survey what is known about the efficacy of Paris and explain its major strengths and weaknesses. Furthermore, he will explain why, even if successful, the Agreement is unlikely to yield changes in policy that are consistent with the widely discussed goals of stopping warming at 1.5 to 2 degrees above pre-industrial levels. Moreover, the talk will delve into theories of industrial transformation to explain how the Paris process (and efforts in parallel with Paris) can radically accelerate emission reductions. In the end, a sober assessment of the Paris Agreement, while supportive of the process, must also recognize that the world has spent three decades without a serious strategy for addressing the climate crisis, and during that time we have put the planet on a trajectory to substantial warming.

Programme

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| 17:30-18:00 | Registration |
| 18:00-18:05 | Welcoming and Introductory Remarks:

Prof. Dr Sigrid Quack, Managing Director, Käte Hamburger Kolleg/
Centre for Global Cooperation Research |
| 18:05–18:50 | 33rd Käte Hamburger Lecture

Prof. Dr David Victor
Professor at the School of Global Policy & Strategy, UC San Diego |
| 18:50-19:10 | Comments by discussants

<i>Discussants:</i> Dr Takeshi Kuramochi, Climate Policy Researcher, NewClimate Institute, Cologne & Guest Researcher, Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development, Utrecht University

Dr Amanda Machin, Interim Professor of International Political Studies, Faculty of Management and Economics, Witten/Herdecke University |
| 19:10–19:30 | Q&A with the Audience |
| 19:30 | End of the Lecture and Get-together |