The proposed project will undertake an historical analysis of the development, role and impact of the Washington DC based think tank Resources For the Future (RFF) - from its founding in 1952 to the late 1990s. REFUTURE investigates RFF’s role in constructing an economic vision of the environment around the concepts of scarcity, value, and externalities; and the subsequent application of that vision through US and international policies focused on managing the environment in relation to economic efficiency. By focusing on this history of economic thought in environmental practice, REFUTURE raises larger political economic questions regarding the contribution of
RFF to i) the global ‘great acceleration’ of the Anthropocene in terms of material throughput and pollution concomitant with an emphasis on economic growth from the middle of the twentieth century; ii) what I call here the ‘great deceleration’ of effective environmental and climate policy from the early 1980s on – due to the overwhelming political focus on maintaining economic growth by governing nature and managing environmental impacts through the price mechanism. Drawing from the methodologies of intellectual history, economic sociology and historical political economy, I will undertake research at a number of key libraries and archives in the US and will significantly benefit from outbound placements and training at the Center for the History of Political Economy (HOPE) at Duke University and the Institute at Brown for Environment and Society (IBES) at Brown University. Overall research direction will greatly benefit from a placement at the Institute of Environmental Science and Technology (ICTA) at Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona – a key European centre for research and critical analysis into the relationship between economic growth and environmental sustainability. As an affiliated researcher here I will bring key insights from historical analysis of the applied economics of the environment.

Fields of science

social sciences > sociology

humanities > history and archaeology > history

natural sciences > earth and related environmental sciences > environmental sciences > pollution

social sciences > economics and business > economics > political economy

Keywords

historical political economy political economy of the environment

history of economic thought Anthropocene neoliberal governance

history of economic growth history of environmental policy

Programme(s)

HORIZON.1.2 - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)
Topic(s)
HORIZON-MSCA-2022-PF-01-01 - MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2022

Call for proposal
HORIZON-MSCA-2022-PF-01

See other projects for this call

Funding Scheme
HORIZON-TMA-MSCA-PF-GF - HORIZON TMA MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships - Global Fellowships

Coordinator
UNIVERSITAT AUTONOMA DE BARCELONA
Net EU contribution
€ 216 699,60

Address
Edif à campus de la uab bellaterra cerdanyola v
08193 Cerdanyola del valles
Spain

Region
Este > Cataluña > Barcelona

Links
Contact the organisation
Website
Participation in EU R&I programmes
HORIZON collaboration network

Other funding
€ 0,00

Partners (2)
DUKE UNIVERSITY
United States
Net EU contribution
€ 0,00

Address
Allen building 207
27708 Durham nc

Links
Contact the organisation
Website
Participation in EU R&I programmes
HORIZON collaboration network

Other funding
€ 0,00

BROWN UNIVERSITY
United States
Net EU contribution
€ 0,00

Address
164 angell street
02912 Providence, ri

Links
Contact the organisation
Participation in EU R&I programmes
HORIZON collaboration network

Other funding
€ 0,00

EC signature date 12 May 2023
Last update: 8 June 2023

Permalink: https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101108290

European Union, 2023