

WS 4: Energy Governance




Beyond Adoption: Implications of Energy Policy on Parties, Publics, and Individuals

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In cooperation with the CTI

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 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Confederaziun svizra

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Commission for Technology and Innovation CTI

Motivation for research

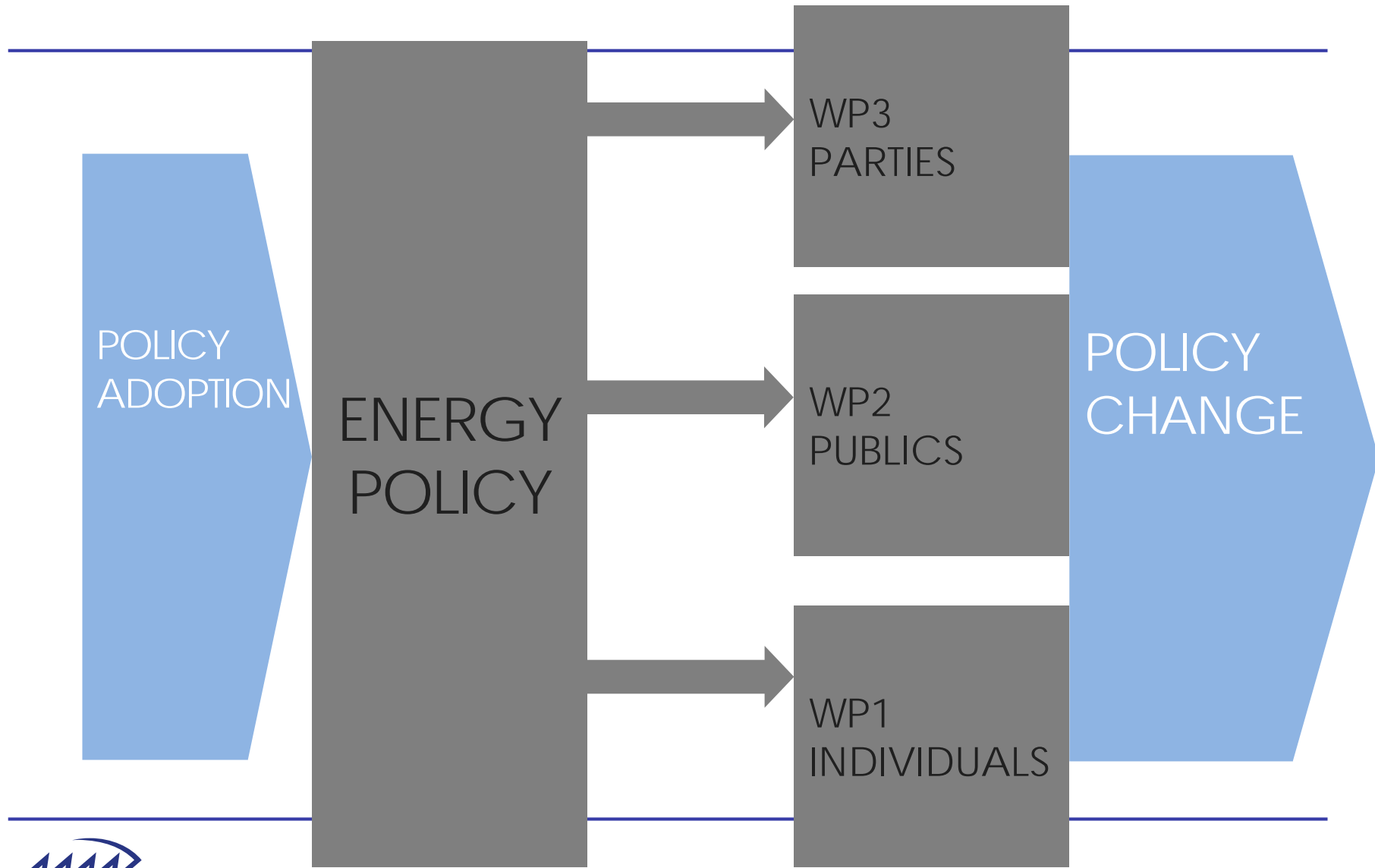
Research on climate-related energy policy is mostly occupied with

1. The **adoption phase**, i.e. explanations about which policies are chosen by whom
2. A policy / an instrument's **effectiveness**, i.e. does it work for example to reduce carbon intensity
3. A policy / an instrument's **efficiency**, i.e. does it do so at least cost

However, the potential societal implications of energy transition are an understudied area so far.

Beyond Adoption: Implications of Energy Policy on **Parties**, **Publics**, and **Individuals**

Overview



Individuals

Linked to my work on individual trade preferences

- Do people understand the impact of energy policies on their self-interest?
- Do individuals have sociotropic or egocentric preferences on energy policy? Does this vary between countries?

→ a notable feature of energy policy is that it has a public as well as a private good character (cf., Hughes and Lipsky (2013)).

Publics (interest groups, public opinion)

Questions whether the distributional impact of energy policy has a sizeable impact on interest groups and public demand.

Do distributional policies lead to more and more controversial media discourses?

Do new groupings emerge around the low-carbon economy?
Overcoming carbon lock-in or locking-in subsidies?

Parties

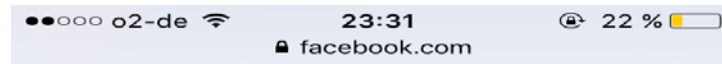
Leading questions:

Parties matter. Can the choice between certain energy policy instruments be linked to partisan theory?

Parties align. Given redistributive consequences for core constituencies, do parties realize their representative function and align their party positions?

Parties adjust. Do external shocks, such as an economic crisis, accelerate change or obfuscate genuine partisan positions in the area of energy policy?

Example: German election 2017



FDP

September 5 at 11:03am · ⚙️

Strom darf nicht zu einem Luxusgut werden. Wir brauchen eine marktwirtschaftliche Wende in der Energiepolitik, die das ökonomisch und physikalisch Machbare berücksichtigt. Auch für die erneuerbaren Energieträger müssen in Zukunft die Regeln des Marktes mit allen Chancen und Risiken gelten. Denn nachhaltige und subventionsfreie Geschäftsmodelle lassen sich nur im technologieneutralen Wettbewerb unter marktwirtschaftlichen Bedingungen durchsetzen. Deshalb wollen wir das Dauersubventionssystem des EEG mit Einspeisevorrang und -vergütung beenden. Unsere Lösungen für eine [#PolitikDieRechnenKann: www.fdp.de/rechnen](http://www.fdp.de/rechnen) [#DenkenWirNeu](#) [#FDPInhalte](#) [#Rechnen](#)



Research Project: Key dates

SNF Assistant Professor Energy Grant

1st of December 2017 – 30th November 2021 (4 Years)

People involved

– **University of Luzern, Department of Political Science:**

– PI

– Postdoctoral researcher (open call: <https://lena.schaffer.de>)

– PhD student (open call: <https://lena.schaffer.de>)

– 2 research assistants

– **Interface Politikstudien**

– Sibylle Studer

– Stefan Rieder

Research Project: Methods

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Survey experiments

Thank you
for your attention.