Dr. Christine Merk

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Removing CO2 from the air and reflecting sunlight into space – Extreme ways to deal with climate change?

Her main research interests are individuals' trade-offs between cutting emissions, carbon dioxide removal, especially via the ocean, and stratospheric aerosol injection. She conducts survey experiments and deliberative workshops to explore people's perceptions of and reactions to these new technologies.

CV

Christine Merk is the Deputy Director of the Research Center Global Commons and Climate Policy at the Kiel Institute for the World Economy. She studied Political Science, Policy Analysis, and Administration at the University of Konstanz and Rutgers University (USA). In 2016, she earned her doctorate in Quantitative Economics at Kiel University. In May 2018 she was a visiting scholar at the Harvard Solar Geoengineering Research Program.

Research Interest and Experience (Quelle Internet)

She is currently involved in two research projects that look at lay perceptions of ocean-based carbon dioxide removal: She leads the work package on public perceptions of marine CDR in the H2020 consortium OceanNETs and contributes to the Preoject SeaStore on seagrass restoration funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research. She contributes the insights from these two projects to Working Group 41 on Ocean Interventions for Climate Change Mitigation of the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection (GESAMP) and the interdisciplinary project ASsessment framework for MArine CO_2 removal and SYnthesiS of current knowledge (ASMASYS).
She explores the perceptions of the cross-border transportation of CO_2 for storage in countries bordering the North Sea together with partners at the Norwegian Research Center (NORCE). In the past, she was a member of the German Research Foundation's Priority Programme 1689 Climate Engineering researching Trade-offs between Mitigation and Climate Engineering.
Christine's other research interest are ways to promote changes toward more sustainable behavior. She researches the effects of nudging interventions on climate-friendly meal choices in field experiments. In the project Instruments to Promote Climate-Friendly Diets researchers from consumer psychology, environmental and behavioral economics work together with the university canteens in Schleswig-Holstein.

Appointments

She was part of the coordination team of the Dialogue on the Economics of Climate Change which was initiated by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research to stimulate the exchange between climate economic research and societal stakeholders.
Since late 2020, she has been Deputy Director of the research center. Her background is in policy analysis and administration science (University of Konstanz and Rutgers University), and she holds a Doctorate in Quantitative Economics from Kiel University (2016). In May 2018 she was a visiting scholar at Harvard's Solar Geoengineering Research Program.