



Change in Global Environmental Politics

As wildfires rage, the cover of pollution thickens, and species disappear, the world confronts environmental crisis with a set of global institutions in urgent need of reform. Yet, these institutions have proved frustratingly resistant to change. Introducing the concept of Temporal Focal Points, Michael W. Manulak shows how change can – and does – occur in world politics. By reenvisioning the role of timing and temporality in social relations, his analysis presents a new approach to understanding transformative phases in international cooperation. We may now be entering such a phase, he argues, and global actors must be ready to realize the opportunities presented. Charting the often colorful and intensely political history of change in global environmental politics, this book sheds new light on the actors and institutions that shape humanity's response to planetary decline.

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Temporal Focal Points and the Reform of
International Institutions

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Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-009-16589-1 — Change in Global Environmental Politics
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Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India
103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment, a department of the University of Cambridge.

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www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781009165891

DOI: 10.1017/9781009165877

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First published 2022

First paperback edition 2023

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication data

Names: Manulak, Michael W., 1983- author.

Title: Change in global environmental politics : temporal focal points and the reform of international institutions / Michael W. Manulak, Carleton University, Ottawa.

Description: First Edition. | New York : Cambridge University Press, 2022. | Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2021058158 (print) | LCCN 2021058159 (ebook) | ISBN 9781009165884 (Hardback) | ISBN 9781009165891 (Paperback) | ISBN 9781009165877 (ePub)

Subjects: LCSH: Environmental policy—International cooperation. | Environmental management. | Environmental protection—Political aspects.

Classification: LCC GE170 .M368 2022 (print) | LCC GE170 (ebook) | DDC 363.7/0526—dc23/eng/20211214

LC record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2021058158>

LC ebook record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2021058159>

ISBN 978-1-009-16588-4 Hardback

ISBN 978-1-009-16589-1 Paperback

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Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-009-16589-1 — Change in Global Environmental Politics
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Frontmatter
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To Jee, Theodore, and Sophia

Contents

<i>List of Figures and Tables</i>	<i>page</i> viii
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	ix
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	xii
1 Introduction: Institutional Suboptimality in World Politics	1
2 It's About Time: Explaining Change in United Nations Environmental Institutions	34
3 The Stockholm Conference and Institutional Change	68
4 UNEP and the 1982 Nairobi Conference	105
5 The Brundtland Commission and the Seeds of Change	139
6 The Rio Conference and Institutional Change	176
7 Post-UNCED UN Environmental Institutions	207
8 Conclusion	233
<i>Bibliography</i>	260
<i>Index</i>	292

Figures and Tables

Figures

2.1 The temporal coordination model of change	<i>page</i> 58
2.2 Conventional models of institutional change	59

Tables

2.1 Matrix of temporal coordination	<i>page</i> 38
2.2 Convergent expectations and change incentives	46
2.3 Triggers for convergent expectations in time	47
2.4 Levels of theory-testing	56
8.1 Summary of case studies	244
8.2 Theoretical comparison summary	246

Acknowledgments

This book would not have been possible without the support of a wide group of friends and colleagues. My greatest debt is to Duncan Snidal, a tremendous mentor, doctoral supervisor, and friend. He encouraged me to pursue the Temporal Focal Point framework when it was a fuzzy idea and challenged me to make it better. He guided and nurtured this project with generosity and graciousness, even long after I completed my degree. In the process, I became a political scientist. I am grateful to Norman Hillmer for his support and friendship. His empathy, advice, and incisive comments on multiple drafts of this book made the final product better and much more readable. I would like to thank Anne Deighton for her supervision in the early stages of my doctoral work, and Margaret MacMillan, a tremendous support and inspiration as I developed the historical side of this project, for her advice. While researching and writing the dissertation that formed the basis for this book, the University of Oxford's Department of Politics and International Relations, St. Antony's College, and Goodenough College in London provided tremendous intellectual environments.

In revising and completing this book, I've incurred huge intellectual debts to those who have read and commented on all, or some, of the book. I'd like to give special thanks to those who participated in my book workshop: Steven Bernstein, Orfeo Fioretos, Fen Hampson, Maria Ivanova, Phillip Lipsy, Louis Pauly, Stephen Saideman, Alexander Thompson, Inger Weibust, and David Welch. I am grateful to the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs (NPSIA) and the Centre for Security, Intelligence and Defence Studies at Carleton University for funding and hosting the workshop. My colleagues at NPSIA have been a tremendous support as I overhauled my dissertation and turned it into this book. Many others have read sections of the book and helped me refine it along the way. For this, I would like to thank Marion Barthelemy, Paula Caballero, Pamela Chasek, Felix Dodds, Judith Goldstein, Peter Haas, Thomas Homer-Dixon, Robert

Keohane, Walter Mattli, Andrew Moravcsik, Dane Rowlands, Catherine Stewart, and Michael Zürn. At Oxford, I benefited from a wonderful and supportive cohort. I would especially like to thank David Blagden, Nick Chan, Nicole De Silva, Francesca Giovannini, Nina Hall, Kai Hebel, Amy King, Sean Richmond, Landry Subianto, Henning Tamm, Diarmuid Torney, and Michael Urban. I would also like to recognize the excellent research assistantship of Karim Abuawad, Nathalie Chaar, Kaia Counter, Pablo Mhanna-Sandoval, Serena Rourke, and Selena Zabian. I would like to thank Guy Trangoś for his brilliant cover design, depicting our warming planet as well as the transnational connections – so vital to addressing global environmental issues – spanning it. The initial concept came from my brilliant and far more visual wife, Jee.

My biggest debt is to Jee, and my children: Theodore and Sophia. This book is dedicated to them. Without their patience, good humor, and love, this book would not have been possible. Jee experienced every bump in the road and moment of satisfaction along the way. When I was complacent, she pushed me. When I was proud, she brought me down to earth. No one has heard more about Temporal Focal Points and UN environmental politics than her. I would like to thank my parents, Christina and Bob Manulak, and brother, Daniel, for their constant love and encouragement. My mother-in-law and father-in-law, Eun Sook and Dong Chul Lim, have lovingly cared for our family as I wrote and then revised the book for publication. They housed, fed, and took care of the kids so that this book could be completed. They are generous people, and their *sa-rang* continues to amaze me. I thank God for the many blessings in my life, including my beautiful family, and for guiding and sustaining me along the way.

I would like to acknowledge the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada for a doctoral fellowship, which made my studies possible. I would also like to thank the William Lyon Mackenzie King Scholarship for its support of my research. The London Goodenough Association of Canada funded a fantastic year of personal and scholarly growth in central London, enabling my archival research at the UK National Archives. My study also benefited from the research travel support of the University of Oxford's Department of Politics and International Relations' Cyril Foster Fund, the St. Antony's College Carr and Stahl Fund, and the Colin Matthew Fund for historical travel at St. Hugh's College. I would like

Acknowledgments

xi

to thank André Aranha Corrêa do Lago, Luiz de Andrade Filho, and the Brazilian foreign ministry for making Brazilian preparatory documents for the Stockholm conference available for this project. I would also like to thank John Haslam, Tobias Ginsberg, Robert Judkins, and the entire team at Cambridge University Press for their support during the publication process.

Abbreviations

CSD	Commission on Sustainable Development
ECOSOC	United Nations Economic and Social Council
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
G77	Group of 77
GEF	Global Environment Facility
HLPF	High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
TFP	Temporal Focal Point
UN	United Nations
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNCHE	United Nations Conference on the Human Environment
UNCSD	United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly

List of Abbreviations

xiii

UNSSC	United Nations Environment Programme Session of a Special Character
WCED	World Commission on Environment and Development
WHO	World Health Organization
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development