MENGXI XIE

Citizenship: Chinese   Email: mengxi.xie@kuleuven.be
Gender: Female   Webpage: https://mengxi-xie.netlify.app/

DOCTORAL EDUCATION

October 2021 - August 2025(expected) Economics, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KU Leuven)

RESEARCH FIELDS: Climate Economics, Corporate Finance, and Industrial Organisation

DISSERTATION TITLE: Essays on Domestic and International Effects of Environmental Policies

THESIS ADVISOR AND REFERENCES:

Professor Sandra Rousseau (Supervisor)   Professor Frederiek Schoubben (Committee Member)
Department of Economics   Department of Finance
KU Leuven   KU Leuven
Warmoesberg 26, 1000 Brussel   Hendrik Conscienceplein 8, 2000 Antwerpen
sandra.rousseau@kuleuven.be   frederiek.schoubben@kuleuven.be
Tel. +32 2 609 82 75   Tel. +32 3 201 18 31

Professor Simon De Jaeger (Committee Member)
Department of Economics
KU Leuven
Warmoesberg 26, 1000 Brussel
simon.dejaeger@kuleuven.be
Tel. +32 2 609 82 55

PRE-DOCTORAL EDUCATION
2016-2019   M.Sc. Public Policy and Management, Tsinghua University
2012-2016   B.A. International Politics, Tsinghua University

WORK IN PROGRESS
- China's Green Industrial Policy, IMF Working Paper (with Balasundharam Vybhavi, Dong Ximing, Hanappi Tibor, and Kinoshita Yuko).
- Agriculture and Forestry Taxation: Fiscal, Economic and Environmental Impacts, IMF Staff Research Note (with Coelho Maria, Matheson Thornton, and Gaafar Yomna).

WORKING PAPERS
"Environmental Monitoring Automation and Induced Innovation: Evidence from China"

Abstract: This paper examines the reform of the environmental monitoring automation and evaluates its impact on innovation activities of the Chinese economy. We assess the reform's impact on firms' R&D investment using panel data of all publicly traded firms in China between 2010 and 2017, with the triple-difference method. Our analysis reveals that the reform raised the compliance cost of the monitored firms with local political connections via removing their information advantage from the connections, thus significantly induced their R&D investment. This study contributes to the literature of induced innovation and Porter hypothesis by detangling the effect of monitoring in addressing regulatory capture and strengthening environmental regulation.

"Firm Heterogeneity and Responses to Carbon Border Adjustment: Evidence from Earnings Conference Calls of Chinese Firms"

Abstract: This study estimated firms' exposure to border carbon adjustment with semantic analysis on 624,713 Q&A records in earnings conference calls of all the Chinese public companies between 2012 and 2023, employing NLP and machine learning approaches. It further examined how the firms with heterogeneity in industries, scales, and financial performance, were exposed to CBAM risk and responded strategically during the EU CBAM policy agenda.

ACADEMIC PUBLICATION

Xie, M., & Rousseau, S. (2024). Policy solutions for addressing carbon leakage: Insights from meta-regression analysis. Journal of Environmental Management, 365, 121557.

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

Strategic Management Society 44 Annual Conference, October 2024; AERNA 2024 Annual Conference, September 2024; ENVECON 2024 Annual Conference, March 2024; Belgian Environmental Economics Day, February 2023; Industry Studies Association 2021 Annual Conference, June 2021.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERENCES

- **International Monetary Fund,** *Washington D.C.*

  FIP Intern (June 2024 – August 2024)

- **Center for International Knowledge Development (CIKD), Development Research Center (DRC) of the State Council,** *Beijing*

  Research Analyst (Jun 2018 – Sep 2019; February 2021 – Jul 2021)

- **Center for Industrial Development & Environmental Governance, Tsinghua University,** *Beijing*

  Research Assistant (Sep 2016 – Jul 2019; September 2020 – February 2021)

- **United Nations Industrial Development Organization,** *Vienna*

  Intern (Aug 2019 – May 2020)

OTHER EDUCATIONAL EXPERENCES

- ETH-EAERE Winter School, 2023, Switzerland
- Summer Visiting in University of California Berkeley, 2017, USA
- Exchange Study in Sciences Po, 2014, France

LANGUAGES

Chinese (Native), English (Professional)

SKILLS

• Stata; Python; R

• Natural Language Processing and Machine Learning Techniques for Empirical Economic Analysis