

Christian Traeger

Christian P. Traeger is professor of Environmental Economics at the University of California, Berkeley. He is dedicated to understanding and quantifying the non-linear and uncertain interactions between the economy, the environment, and human welfare. He received his MA. and PhD. in Economics from the University of Heidelberg and holds an MA. in Physics from SUNY Stony Brook where he spent a year as a Fulbright scholar. His research focuses on conceptual and applied aspects of long-term evaluation, climate change economics, and decision-making under uncertainty. His work on long-term evaluation was recognized by several awards including the Dulger Prize by the University of Heidelberg and the CESifo affiliate award. The National Science Foundation funds Prof. Traeger's present work on Sustainable Climate Risk Management. His axiomatic work focuses on a better conceptualization, measurement, and integration of uncertainty in economic modeling. A focal point of his interest is the interplay between uncertainty and intertemporal evaluation over long time horizons. These model characteristics are of fundamental importance for many fields of economics, and they are indispensable for the assessment of climate change policy. Prof. Traeger's applied work advances the integration of uncertainty into climate change policy assessment. Instead of picking best guess parameters or policies, his models derive the optimal policy acknowledging uncertainty and anticipating learning. These state of the art numeric assessments are accompanied by general analytic insights explaining how risk and deep uncertainty affect climate policies in general. Prof. Traeger's work pushed the evaluation of policy in the face of uncertain climate tipping points to a new level. His work is published in leading journals in environmental, theoretical, and general economics, as well as in Nature Climate Change. Prof. Traeger is teaching the Economics of Climate Change to Berkeley's undergraduate students and teaches Environmental & Resource Economics and Advanced Dynamic Methods at the graduate level. He is on the editorial board of the leading environmental economics journal JEEM.