

# Call for Papers (Second Round) | 2nd International Conference on Climate Leadership (July 2026, Harbin) – Bridging Global Wisdom for a Low-Carbon Future

Conference Dates: July 18–20, 2026

Venue: Harbin Institute of Technology, Harbin, China

Organizers: Business School, Harbin Institute of Technology;

the Bartlett School of Sustainable Construction, University College London;

Chinese Economic Association UK/Europe

Climate change remains one of the most pressing challenges of our time. Building on the success of the inaugural conference, the Second International Conference on Climate Leadership will take place in the summer of 2026 in the 'Ice City' of Harbin. The conference aims to provide a premier interdisciplinary forum for scholars, policymakers, industry leaders, and early-career professionals from around the world to examine the critical role of climate leadership across different levels, sectors, and regions.

## 1. Conference Chairs



- Prof. Tao Ma, Dean of Business School, Harbin Institute of Technology



- Prof. Priti Parikh, Director of Bartlett School of Sustainable Construction, University College London



- Prof. Zhifu Mi, 36<sup>th</sup> President of Chinese Economic Association UK/Europe

## 2. Keynote Speakers (in alphabetical order by last name)

The conference has confirmed keynote addresses from several distinguished scholars and elected fellows of learned academies from around the world, including:



- Xuemei Bai, Professor at Australian National University, Fellow of Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia.



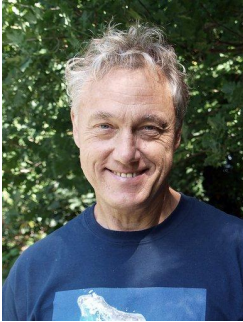
- Ruben Enikolopov, Professor at Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF), Chair of the Board of the *Review of Economic Studies* (One of TOP5 Economics journals).



- Marc Gruber, Professor at the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne Switzerland, Editor-in-Chief of *Academy of Management Journal* (UTD).



- Gbenga Ibikunle, Professor at the University of Edinburgh, Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (FRSE).



- **Manfred Lenzen**, Professor at University of Sydney, Fellow of International Input-Output Association .



- **Priti Parikh**, Professor at University College London, Director of Bartlett School of Sustainable Construction.



- **Shilong Piao**, Professor and Vice President of Peking University, Academician of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.



- **Rosalie L. Tung**, Professor at Simon Fraser University, Editor-in-Chief of Journal of International Business Studies (UTD).



- **Richard S J Tol**, Professor at University of Sussex, Member of Academia Europaea.

More distinguished speakers to be confirmed

### **3. Submissions may address, but are not limited to, the following themes:**

- Artificial intelligence (AI) and climate change
- Behavioural change and public engagement
- Climate adaptation and resilience
- Climate finance and investment
- Climate leadership in emerging and developing economies
- Corporate climate strategies and leadership
- Deep decarbonisation of key sectors
- Digital transformation and climate change
- Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG)
- Extreme weather and system risks
- International climate cooperation
- Just transitions and social inclusion
- Low-carbon technologies and innovation
- National and regional climate governance
- Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)
- Urban climate action and sustainable infrastructure and other relevant themes

### **4. Publishing Opportunities**

The conference is supported by the *Environmental Research Communications* (Impact Factor: 2.9), which will publish a special issue on "Climate Leadership." **Papers accepted for presentation at the conference will receive priority for inclusion in the special issue.** Please note that the conference submission and special issue submission processes are independent.

Special issue submission: <https://iopscience.iop.org/collections/erc-250515-844>

### **5. Journal Editors' Session**

This session invites editors-in-chief of high-quality domestic and international journals to participate. They will introduce the research priorities and recent developments of their journals, share experiences in academic writing and submission, and address common queries faced by authors in journal selection, submission and review. Selected papers from the conference will be recommended to supporting journals on a merit basis (list continuously updated):

<b>Journal</b>	<b>Editor / Board Member</b>
Advances in Climate Change Research (Impact Factor: 5.2)	Xiaoling Wang, Executive Associate Editor
Academy of Management Journal (UTD Journal, Impact Factor: 10.5)	Marc Gruber, Editor-in-Chief
Business & Society (Impact Factor: 5.3)	Wen Helena Li, Associate Editor
Cell Reports Sustainability (Cell Press Journal)	Lu Liu, Scientific Editor
Chinese Journal of Population, Resources and Environment (Impact Factor: 4.8)	Chengqing Liu, Executive Director
Climate Policy (Impact Factor: 5.2)	Zhifu Mi, Associate Editor
Journal of Business Research (Impact Factor: 9.8)	Gracy J.Y. Yang, Associate Editor
Journal of Comparative Economics (Impact Factor: 3.1)	Ruben Enikolopov, Editor-in-Chief
Journal of International Business Studies (UTD Journal, Impact Factor: 9.0)	Rosalie L. Tung, Editor-in-Chief
Journal of International Management (Impact Factor: 5.9)	Yi Li, Associate Editor
Nature Climate Change (Nature Research Journal, Impact Factor: 27.1)	Lingxiao Yan, Senior Editor

Review of Economic Studies (Top 5 Economics Journals, Impact Factor: 6.4)	Ruben Enikolopov, Editor-in-Chief
Structural Change and Economic Dynamics (Impact Factor: 5.5)	Zhifu Mi, Editor-in-Chief

## 6. International Organisations Session

This session will focus on the role and impact of international organisations in the global climate governance system, exploring how they effectively advance the implementation of the global climate agenda through policy advocacy, project delivery, capacity building and multilateral cooperation. In addition, speakers will provide practical guidance for early-career researchers and students, sharing valuable insights on internship opportunities, recruitment processes, competency requirements, and career pathways in this field. Invited organisations include:

- Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)
- C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- World Economic Forum (WEF)
- World Resources Institute (WRI)
- World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)

## 7. Awards, Funding & Registration Fees

- Best Paper Award (based on full paper submission) & Best Poster Award
- Travel Grants: 10 early-career researchers/students, 5,000 RMB each
- Registration Fee: USD 99 (standard) / USD 50 (student), including lunch and refreshments

## 8. Important Dates & Submission Guidelines

- Submission Deadline: 31 May 2026
- Acceptance Notification: 20 June 2026
- Registration Deadline: 10 July 2026
- Conference Dates: 18–20 July 2026
- Submission Language: English or Chinese
- How to Submit: Submit an abstract or full paper via the conference website
- Conference Website: <https://www.climateleadership.cn/>

## 9. Contact Information

- General Enquiries: [climateleadership@hotmail.com](mailto:climateleadership@hotmail.com)
- Visa / Invitation Letter: Please contact the conference organisers in advance

#### Previous Conference Review:

The First International Conference on Climate Leadership was held on 21–22 July 2025 at Harbin Institute of Technology. Organised by the Business School, Harbin Institute of Technology; the Bartlett School of Sustainable Construction, University College London; and the Chinese Economic Association UK/Europe, the inaugural conference brought together more than 200 experts and scholars from countries including China, the United Kingdom, Spain, and Australia, as well as representatives from international organisations and academic journals.



Opening Ceremony of the First International Conference on Climate Leadership



Address by Jiashuang Yuan, Deputy Director of the National Climate Centre



Address by Yangchun Liang , President of Management World Magazine



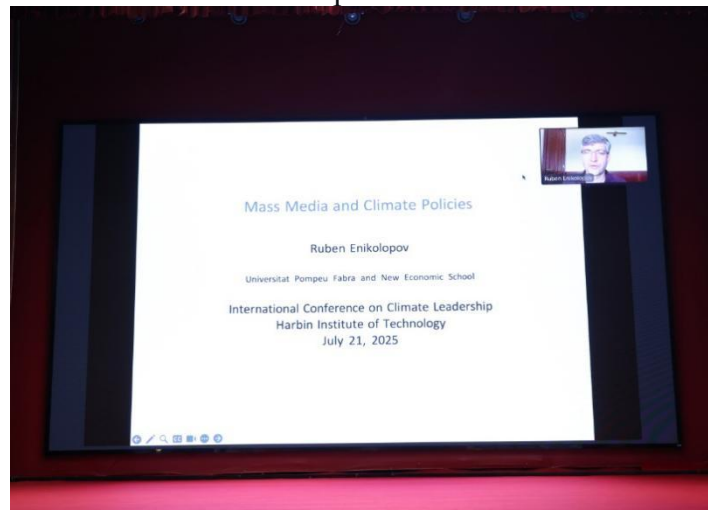
Address by Academician Jiecai Han, President of Harbin Institute of Technology



Academician Jiecai Han, President of Harbin Institute of Technology, presented letters of appointment to the editorial board representatives of the journal Climate Leadership



Editor Bronwyn Wake, Editor-in-Chief of Nature Climate Change, delivered a keynote speech



Professor Ruben Enikolopov, Editor-in-Chief of The Review of Economic Studies, delivered a keynote speech



International Organisations Forum