

VALERIYA AZAROVA

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Google Scholar [profile](#)

Experienced climate professional with a PhD in Economics and extensive background in project management, stakeholder engagement, quantitative and qualitative analysis, microeconometrics, and randomized control trials. 9+ years of leading complex multi-disciplinary research & innovation projects in the field of decarbonization, sustainability and health impacts of climate change. Translating complex economic reports and analyses into actionable strategies for diverse stakeholders.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Rocky Mountain Institute, Oakland, CA

2023 - present

Senior Associate, Climate Aligned Industries

- Management of portfolio of corporate clients: project scoping and management, providing techno-economic analysis of new green products, services and supply chains, including SAF (sustainable aviation) and hydrogen
- Design, management and statistical analysis of a novel survey with discrete choice experiment evaluating willingness-to-pay for sustainable aviation fuel among target B2B offtakers
- Evaluated health impacts of 27 industrial decarbonization projects in TX and CA on local communities (including economic costs of health hazards)
- Facilitation of convenings with 11 leading financial institutions analyzing barriers to industrial decarbonization project funding, insights published by Latitude Media
- Funding relationship management (application, planning and reporting) with public and private funders (e.g. DOE, Bezos Earth Fund)
- Thought leadership development – 2 blogs

Energy and Resources Group, UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA

01.2023 - 09.2023

Visiting Researcher

- Designed and conducted analysis of “hidden” climate damages for climate models and social cost of carbon (e.g., mental health costs of extreme weather events) using high frequency weather and health expenditures data (health insurance including Medicare), joint project with Stanford
- Secured ~27,000\$ funding to deliver empirical research based on large health insurance and weather datasets from private funders
- Shared key results at Sustainability and Environmental Justice conference at Stanford (April, 2023), AERE Summer Conference in Portland (June, 2023) and Environmental Economics group seminar at UCSB

ifo Institute, University of Munich, Munich, Germany

2020 - present

Economist/Postdoc

- Lead research team working on emissions reduction pathways in energy and mobility sectors: quantitative research, energy system modeling, desktop research and literature review, data acquisition and analysis
- Project-managed two in-parallel running R&D projects (total budget 1.6 ml \$) focused on decarbonization of electricity production across the value chain and stability of the grid, results delivered to Bavarian Ministry of Energy and Economics
- Analyzed impacts of climate policy announcement on uptake of reporting using SBTIs and CDP data among large companies
- Authored 5 publications in international peer-reviewed journals and 3 policy-briefs

- Delivered 4 presentations at high-level academic and industrial conferences
- Designed and executed 4 grant applications for new national and international R&D projects, secured total funding of 160,000\$

Energy Institute at the Johannes Kepler University, Linz, Austria

2016 – 2020

Researcher

- Project managed three in-parallel running complex international research and innovation projects funded by the European Commission in the field of decarbonization (Scope 1,2, and 3 emissions)
- Coordinated, evaluated and disseminated results of PEAKapp, European Sustainable Energy Award winning project (total budget ~2 ml \$), focused on novel electricity pricing, energy efficiency and renewable energy sources acceleration through demand flexibility – achieved increase energy efficiency of on average 7% and reduced average monthly GHG emission reduction is 30.81 kg CO2e per project participant.
- Harmonized work of a multi-disciplinary team of 14 partners to analyze energy-related choices and behaviors across 31 countries in the framework of ECHOES project (total budget ~4 ml \$)
- Cooperated with public and private sectors stakeholder across 4 countries in the framework of SMARTEES project (total budget ~4 ml \$) to evaluate energy- and mobility-related local social innovation potentials for climate resilience in cities including quantitative analysis of willingness to pay evaluating a novel business model for EV charging (community based charging)
- Communicated key results to stakeholders in industry and policymaking at 4 high-level international forums and conferences
- 5 publications in international peer-reviewed journals (e.g., Nature Energy, Energy Policy, Energy Economics)
- Developed of evidence-based policy recommendations for the European Commission

OMV, Group, Vienna, Austria

2015 – 2015

Trainee

- Provided gas and oil market analysis (focus on gas pricing, supply chain sustainability and energy crisis adaptation measures)
- Prepared regular recommendations for Strategic Department based on energy market research
- Organized Gas Conference in Vienna with over 20 international participants

EDUCATION

PhD in Economics, Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria

2019

- Graduation with Distinction
- Next Generation Award for PhD, Mission Innovation Austria Award (2021)

Master's in Economics Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria

2015

Bachelor's in Public Relations and Marketing, Moscow State Institute for International Relations (MGIMO), Russia

2009

- Graduation with Distinction

PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES (selected)

1. The drivers of individual climate actions in Europe (with Johannes Reichl, Jed J. Cohen, Christian A Klöckner, Andrea Kollmann), *Global Environmental Change*, 2021, Vol. 71, 102390.
2. Preferences for community renewable energy investments in Europe (with Jed J. Cohen, Andrea Kollmann, Johannes Reichl), *Energy Economics*, 2021, Vol. 100, 105386.
3. The potential for community financed electric vehicle charging infrastructure (with Jed J. Cohen, Andrea Kollmann, Johannes Reichl), *Transportation Research Part D: Transport and Environment*, 2020, Vol. 88, 102541.
4. Reducing household electricity consumption during evening peak demand times: Evidence from a field experiment (with Jed J. Cohen, Andrea Kollmann, Johannes Reichl), *Energy Policy*, 2020, Vol. 144, 111657.
5. Exploring the impact of network tariffs on household electricity expenditures using load profiles and socio-economic characteristics (with Dominik Engel, Cornelia Ferner, Andrea Kollmann, Johannes Reichl), *Nature Energy*, 2018, Vol. 3, 317-325