There are now fewer than one hundred days before the 27th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 27) to the UNFCCC, which is set to take place in Egypt from November 7-18, 2022. The world's climate is deteriorating at a much faster pace than expected as we experience more frequent extreme weather and natural disasters. Also, the current measures on climate change set during COP 26 are far from being met. With the ambition of making this conference into “a radical turning point in international climate efforts in coordination with all parties,” COP 27 seeks to find solutions to both imminent and persisting climate crises. COP 27 hopes to continue the world’s efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions within the framework of the Paris Agreement. Meanwhile, it plans to support the climate-vulnerable countries in adapting to the unavoidable impacts of climate change. Therefore, financing and assisting developing countries that lack the monetary and technical capacities to achieve the stated goals is another essential component of COP 27.

Are countries delivering on their climate protection agendas as they promised at last year’s COP 26 and the Paris Agreement, which was signed almost seven years ago? What are some examples of noticeable domestic policies designed to fulfill these agreements? Are there any recent developments in or retrogressions of these policies? Is establishing international institutions to form binding forces in affecting countries’ domestic environmental policies a feasible solution? As an important topic of COP 27, what are examples of practical measures in assisting developing countries to mitigate and reverse climate challenges? How do we encourage different actors to walk together in the same direction and consider using one another’s comparative advantages in multilateral cooperation? Considering recent downturns in both geopolitical interactions and mutual trust, how do we ensure countries pay close attention to environmental problems while not using it as a bargaining chip? Conversely, would healthy competition be a good solution to bring all major powers back to the table? Join the ICAS Blue Carbon & Climate Change Program for this event to warm up for COP 27 in November.
Anke HEROLD is the executive director of the Oeko-Institut e.V. – Institute for Applied Ecology Research. Her main research topics include “International, European, and national climate policy,” and “design of an international climate regime under the UNFCCC.” She is an EU negotiator in negotiations under the UNFCCC and the co-chair for agenda items under the UNFCCC related to monitoring, review or accounting. She is also the author, lead author, review editor for several reports of the IPCC. She was research coordinator for international climate policy at Oeko-Institut from 2008 to 2018, and she joined the Oeko-Institut in Berlin in 1997. Prior to joining the Oeko-Institut, Herold was the Public Relations Officer of the Brandenburgische Energiesparagentur, Potsdam, she also worked as a research associate at the Green Party in the German parliament, and worked for Environmental NGO ROBIN WOOD c.V. as a research associate.

Sally YOZELL is a Senior Fellow and Director of the Environment Security program at the Stimson Center. Her research examines the suite of environmental threats that have the potential to undermine national, regional, or global security. Her work focuses on ocean security, climate security and wildlife protection. Yozell leads a team of experts who explore the links between natural resources protection, environmental crime and global security issues to develop security strategies that combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, thwart illicit wildlife networks and increase transparency and traceability throughout the seafood supply chain. Prior to joining Stimson, Yozell was a Senior Advisor to the Secretary of State where she provided advice and technical expertise to advance U.S. policies in the international arena related to ocean, climate, and wildlife protection. Previously, Yozell served as Director of Policy and as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Oceans at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). She also worked as a Regional Director for Marine Conservation at The Nature Conservancy; was a Vice President in the applied marine science group at Battelle Memorial Institute; and worked for almost a decade in the U.S. Senate as an environment and energy advisor to Senator John Kerry.
**Prospects of Climate Policies and Cooperation: The Expectations of COP 27**

**TENG Fei** is an associate professor and deputy director of the Institute of Energy, Environment, and Economy at Tsinghua University. He is also a lead author of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Fifth Assessment Report, Working Group III. He is lead author on the Second and Third China National Assessment Report on Climate Change, and a member of the drafting team for several key national documents, including the National Plan on Climate Change and the White Paper on Climate Change. He served as an advisory expert for China’s negotiation team under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change for many years. He is also a member of BASIC (Brazil, South Africa, India, China) expert group in BASIC ministerial meetings since 2011. His research interests include climate policy, international climate regimes, consumer behavior in energy consumption, and energy modeling. Teng finished his postdoctoral research in France in 2004.

**Keita FURUKAWA** has more than 30 years’ experience with marine and coastal environmental research. This includes coastal ecosystem restoration project implementation work within governmental institution the National Institute for Land and Infrastructure Management (NILIM) from 1988 to 2013, ocean policy studies at the Ocean Policy Research Institute of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation (OPRI-SPF) from 2013 to 2019, followed by citizen engagement action as NPO Association for Shore Environment Creation (ASEC) from 2019. His scientific work has extended in estuaries, tidal-flats, seagrass beds, coral reefs, and mangrove forests. He has been actively involved in local, national, regional, and global action for marine environment conservation and restoration with ICM implementation.

**Nong HONG** holds a PhD of interdisciplinary study of international law and international relations from the University of Alberta, Canada and held a Postdoctoral Fellowship in the University’s China Institute. She was ITLOS-Nippon Fellow for International Dispute Settlement and Visiting Fellow at Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security, the Center of Oceans Law and Policy, University of Virginia, and at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law. She is concurrently a research fellow with China Institute, University of Alberta, Canada, and the National Institute for South China Sea Studies. She is also a China Forum expert. Her research takes an interdisciplinary approach to examining international relations and international law, with focus on International Relations and Comparative Politics in general; ocean governance in East Asia and the Arctic; law of the sea; international security, particularly non-traditional security; and international dispute settlement and conflict resolution. Her selected publications include China’s Role in the Arctic: Observing and Being Observed (London and New York: Routledge, 2020), UNCLOS and Ocean Dispute Settlement: Law and Politics in the South China Sea (Routledge, 2012).
WANG Sheng is the current president of the National Institute for South China Sea Studies (NISCSS) in Hainan, China. For over 20 years, Mr. Wang's career has been devoted to foreign affairs and South China Sea research. He has immersed himself in a variety of research fields including international relations and regional security strategy, China's rights and interests in the South China Sea, island development, and the Hainan Free Trade Port. He graduated from Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, with a Master's degree in Applied Linguistics in English. He is a graduate student supervisor, a Specially-appointed Professor, and a senior Chinese foreign affairs professional. He has studied at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government and Duke University in the United States, and Oxford University in the United Kingdom.

YANG Li is currently the executive director at the Institute for China-Europe Studies. He graduated from the Law School of Wuhan University, China, and got his Master's Degree, majoring in Law in 1996. His major was public international law. Then he became a diplomat in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China, working in the Dept. of Treaties & Law and the Dept. of Boundary & Ocean Affairs successively. His overseas posts included China's Embassy in the Republic of Guyana and China's Permanent Mission to the United Nations, New York. Most of his twenty years' career as a diplomat was spent on the law of the sea matters and maritime issues. Before he took the current position, he worked with the National Institute for South China Sea Studies in Haikou, China.