



THE UNIVERSITY
of ADELAIDE

FACULTY OF ARTS

Adelaide Summer Research Scholarship 2020-2021

Make the World Greta Again: The Activism of Greta Thunberg

Supervisor: Dr Benito Cao

Department of Politics and International Relations

School of Social Sciences

The threat of climate change is having a profound impact on all dimensions of life on Earth. This includes the ways in which environmental activism in general, and youth environmental activism in particular, is taking shape in the twenty-first century. The poster child of this development is Greta Thunberg, a sixteen-year-old Swedish girl who inspired the School Strike for Climate, also known as Fridays for Future.

This Summer Research Scholarship Project will focus on collecting and analysing the media coverage of the environmental activism of Greta Thunberg. The student will also conduct a literature review of relevant theoretical and empirical work, and analyse the speeches delivered by Greta Thunberg since she began delivering public talks in late 2018.

The project will expose the student to interdisciplinary research methods and draw on previous and current research on environmental citizenship conducted by the project leader, Dr Benito Cao, including his book *Environment and Citizenship* (2015) and his keynote contributions to the European Network for Environmental Citizenship. The project will include the preparation of a scholarly article for submission to a high-quality peer reviewed journal on which the student will be co-author. The project will also inform the teaching of several courses, including "Introduction to Global Politics", "Citizenship and Globalisation", "Global Environmental Politics", "Environment and Citizenship", and "The State of the World: Post Covid-19". This will familiarise the student with the teaching/research nexus.

The analysis of the media data and public speeches will be submitted to a high-quality peer-reviewed journal on environmental politics or citizenship studies.

The student will gain the following research skills and experience;

- identify relevant background literature and produce a literature review
- organise key relevant themes
- source data from popular media and other internet sources
- conduct textual and discourse analysis
- write a scholarly journal article
- work on a collaborative research project

- construct an engaging public presentation of scholarly work in research and teaching academic settings