22nd OREFORM Group Meeting, Salzburg – August 26 – 31, 2018 Energy Democracy and Climate Change Policy

### **Energy Transition and Democracy in China**

Aug.30, 2018

ASUKA Jusen Tohoku Univ., Japan asuka@cneas.tohoku.ac.jp

#### **CHINA Paradox !?**

## If democracy and energy transition is positively-correlated, is China democratic country!?

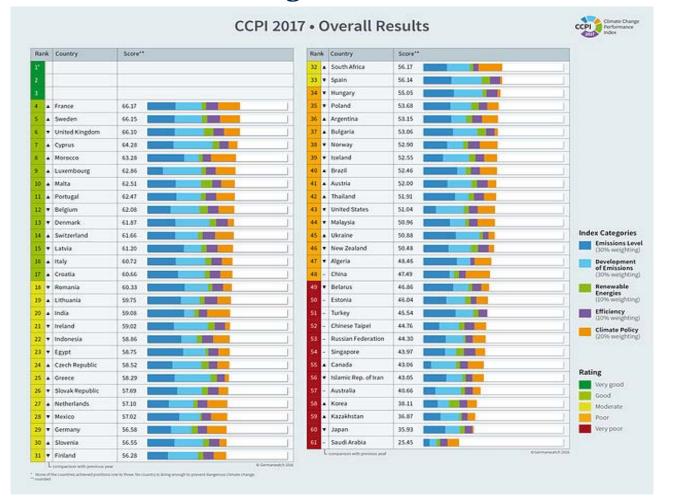


#### **Democracy can do everything!?**

**Zeynep Clulow "Democracy, electoral** systems and emissions: explaining when and why democratization promotes mitigation", *Climate Policy*, **18 Jul 2018**.

#### **Ranking of the climate policy**

#### **Climate Change Performance Index**

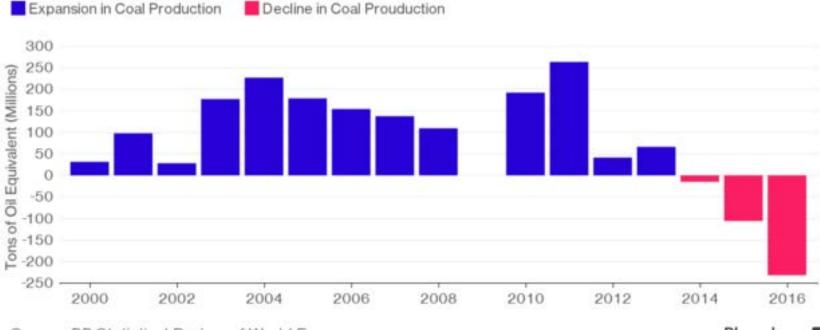


#### Source: https://germanwatch.org/en/CCPI 4

### Carbon (Coal) Crash

#### **Carbon Crash**

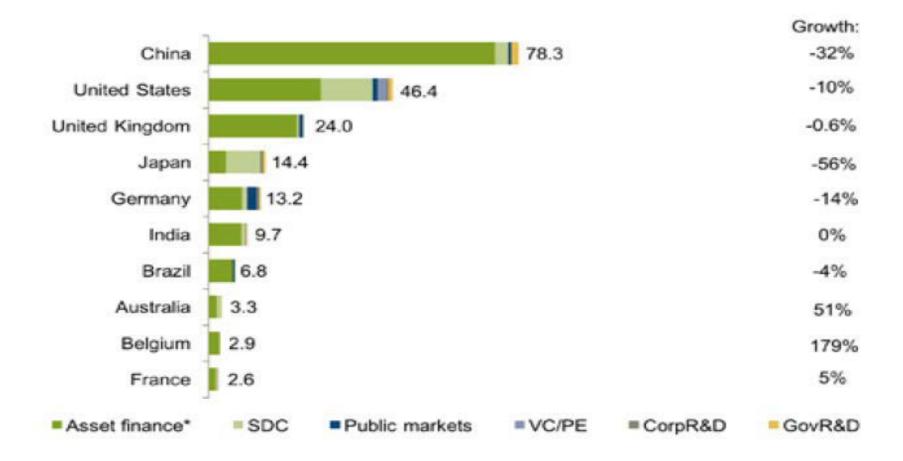
Production of coal fell the most on record last year as consumers turned to cleaner energy



Source: BP Statistical Review of World Energy

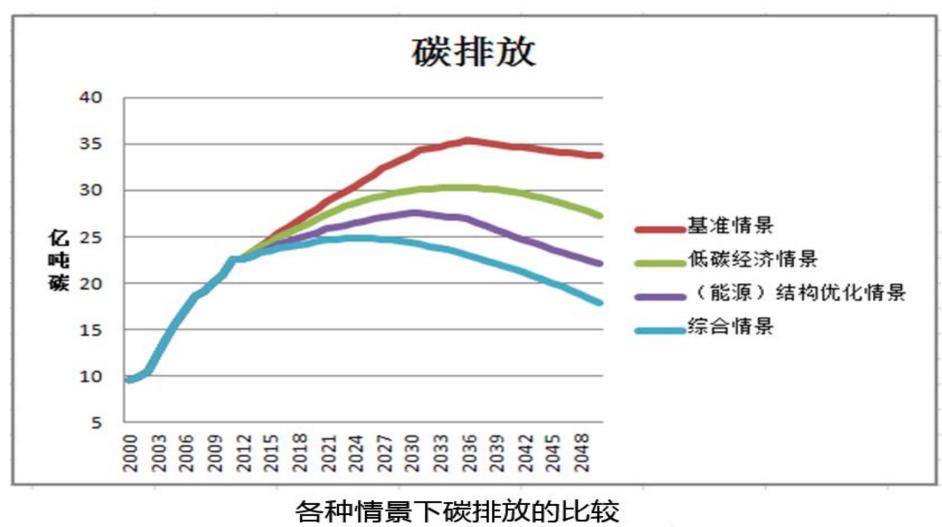
Bloomberg

#### Investment on renewables (2016)



Top 10 countries. \*Asset finance volume adjusts for re-invested equity. Includes corporate and government R&D Source: UN Environment, Bloomberg New Energy Finance

#### **CO<sub>2</sub>Emission Scenario**



出典: Jiang et al. (2015)



出典:He (2016)

### Northern big cities (2+26) including Beijing, coal use is banned



#### Price of blue sky

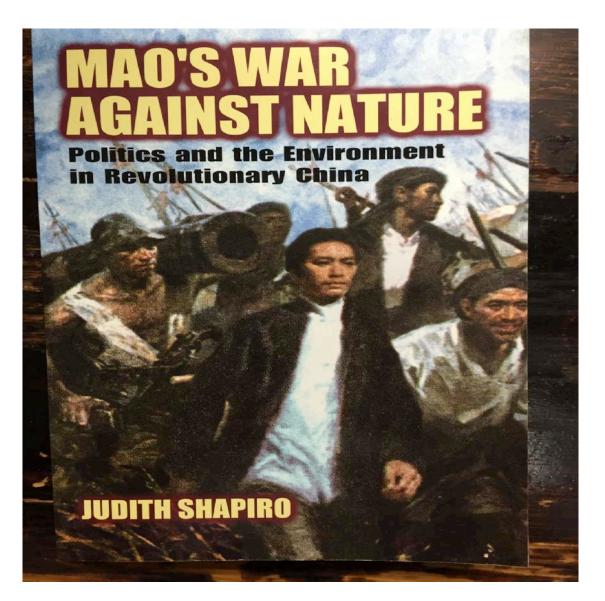
"In 2016, we shifted the labor force of 726,000 coal and steel industry already to other industries. In 2017 another 500 thousand people will be shifted ] (comment by the Ministry of labor and welfare in March, 2017)

#### Price of blue sky (cont'd)

# Millions of people did not have the heating in the

winter of 2017/2018

#### **Environmental authoritarianism?**



### Anti-nuclear movement in Guangzhou (July.14, 2013)



#### Conclusion

- 1. CO<sub>2</sub> plateauing or peaking: Decoupling is certainly happening
- 2. Renewable: Super-massive investment
- 3. Mix of (super-stringent) command & control and market mechanism
- 4. Nuclear power: Lagging behind the plan
- 5. Anyway, China may be different in many senses and is interesting