

## Islamic Legal Perspectives on Climate Change and Global Policy Frameworks

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### Abstract

This article explores the intersection of climate change and Islamic law, analyzing how Sharia principles may enhance and support global environmental policies. The study aims to address the urgent need for ethical frameworks in environmental action by examining Islamic jurisprudence's approach to stewardship (*Khilafah*), justice (*Adl*), and protection for vulnerable populations. Using a comprehensive literature review and case studies, this research investigates the relevance of Islamic law and international legislation on climate change. Islamic principles offer unique perspectives on environmental governance that prioritize equity and communal responsibility, bridging gaps in existing global policy frameworks. Findings reveal that integrating Sharia-based ethics can promote more inclusive and justice-oriented climate policies. This integrative approach underscores the potential of Islamic legal principles to strengthen and diversify international climate action, contributing to more equitable and effective solutions. By incorporating Islamic legal concepts, this study provides insights into developing a robust, ethical foundation for global climate governance.

**Keywords:** Sharia law; Islamic jurisprudence; climate change; environmental ethics; global policy

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## Introduction

Climate change is an unparalleled global crisis, with far-reaching impacts on ecosystems, economies, and human societies. Efforts to mitigate these impacts require not only robust international frameworks but also culturally relevant approaches that resonate across diverse regions and communities. While numerous international treaties have been established to address these challenges, limitations in enforcement and global commitment persist, underscoring the need for more inclusive and effective strategies<sup>17</sup>.

Recent studies have highlighted multiple perspectives and frameworks addressing climate governance. Palinkas and Wong<sup>1</sup> have explored the social dimensions of climate change, particularly its psychological impact on vulnerable populations. They emphasize that mental health and social stability are increasingly at risk due to climate-induced displacement and economic instability. Genovese<sup>2</sup> investigates Europe's carbon trading efforts, underscoring the role of market-based mechanisms in fostering regional climate action. However, such approaches often lack alignment with non-Western ethical and governance frameworks, limiting their global applicability. Additionally, Ginsburg<sup>3</sup> critiques international agreements, pointing out that many lack binding enforcement, especially in authoritarian contexts, reducing their effectiveness in driving substantial climate action. Turnbull<sup>4</sup> and Al-Jayyousi et al.<sup>5</sup> explore the role of Islamic principles in environmental sustainability, discussing how Sharia's ethical foundations can support global climate goals. These studies collectively reveal the strengths and limitations of existing climate governance mechanisms, suggesting that new approaches are needed to bridge cultural and ethical gaps.

Despite these insights, existing research has yet to fully explore how Islamic legal principles could directly contribute to climate governance on a global scale. Previous studies have focused on isolated aspects of Islamic

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<sup>1</sup> Lawrence A. Palinkas and Marleen Wong, "Global climate change and mental health," *Current Opinion in Psychology* 32 (2020/04/01/ 2020), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.copsyc.2019.06.023>.

<sup>2</sup> Federica Genovese, "Market responses to global governance: International climate cooperation and Europe's carbon trading," *Business and Politics* 23, no. 1 (2021), <https://doi.org/10.1017/bap.2020.2>.

<sup>3</sup> Tom Ginsburg, "Authoritarian International Law?," *American Journal of International Law* 114, no. 2 (2020), <https://doi.org/10.1017/ajil.2020.3>.

<sup>4</sup> Elizabeth Turnbull, "What Islamic contributions have been made to climate change action and how useful are they in promoting environmental justice?," *Journal of Financial Crime* 28, no. 4 (2021), <https://doi.org/10.1108/JFC-10-2020-0208>.

<sup>5</sup> Odeh Al-Jayyousi et al., "A Critical Discourse Analysis on Climate Change in a Globalized World: The Nexus of Islam and Sustainable Development," *Sustainability* 15, no. 19 (2023), <https://doi.org/10.3390/su151914515>.

environmental ethics<sup>6</sup> or discussed general Islamic perspectives on sustainability without examining specific applications within international climate policy frameworks<sup>7</sup>. This study fills a critical gap by systematically integrating Islamic jurisprudence with established climate governance structures, thus providing an ethical and culturally resonant alternative to traditional frameworks. This integration of Islamic values into formal policy discussions is notably absent in contemporary environmental discourse, as emphasized by Mammides<sup>8</sup> and Bahuguna<sup>9</sup> highlight the need for culturally adaptable solutions in regions most affected by climate change.

This article's novelty lies in its comprehensive approach, bridging Islamic legal concepts such as stewardship (Khilafah), justice (Adl), and moderation (Wasatiyyah) with modern climate governance strategies. By addressing both theoretical and practical dimensions, the study offers a unique framework that not only aligns with ethical obligations in Muslim-majority contexts but also provides a valuable addition to international climate policy discussions. Manuamorn et al.<sup>10</sup> and von Lüpke and Well<sup>11</sup> underscore the importance of localized solutions, but few studies have examined the role of Islamic law in providing such solutions within the global climate policy arena. This study's approach contributes a distinctive perspective by examining the practical compatibility between Sharia principles and established climate policies, which has not been comprehensively addressed in previous research.

The hypothesis underlying this study is that integrating Islamic legal principles with global climate frameworks will enhance policy inclusiveness and effectiveness, particularly for regions most impacted by climate change. This

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<sup>6</sup> Md Monirul Islam Chowdhury et al., "A review of policies and initiatives for climate change mitigation and environmental sustainability in Bangladesh," *Environment, Development and Sustainability* 23, no. 2 (2021/02/01 2021), <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10668-020-00627-y>.

<sup>7</sup> Jens Koehrsen, "Muslims and climate change: How Islam, Muslim organizations, and religious leaders influence climate change perceptions and mitigation activities," *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Climate Change* 12, no. 2 (2021), <https://doi.org/10.1002/wcc.702>.

<sup>8</sup> Christos Mammides, "A global analysis of the drivers of human pressure within protected areas at the national level," *Sustainability Science* 15, no. 4 (2020/07/01 2020), <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11625-020-00809-7>.

<sup>9</sup> Pooja Bahuguna, "The Role on International law in Addressing Climate change in India: An Analytical perspective," *psychologyandeducation* 55, no. 1 (2023), <http://psychologyandeducation.net/pae/index.php/pae/article/view/7765>.

<sup>10</sup> Ornsaran Pomme Manuamorn, Robbert Biesbroek, and Victor Cebotari, "What makes internationally-financed climate change adaptation projects focus on local communities? A configurational analysis of 30 Adaptation Fund projects," *Global Environmental Change* 61 (2020/03/01/ 2020), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gloenvcha.2020.102035>.

<sup>11</sup> Heiner von Lüpke and Mareike Well, "Analyzing climate and energy policy integration: the case of the Mexican energy transition," *Climate Policy* 20, no. 7 (2020/08/08 2020), <https://doi.org/10.1080/14693062.2019.1648236>.

approach is expected to provide ethical dimensions that resonate across culturally diverse contexts, encouraging broader engagement and compliance.

To address this hypothesis, the study employs a mixed-methods approach. First, it performs a qualitative analysis of relevant Islamic texts and doctrines, focusing on their potential application to environmental governance. Next, a quantitative analysis is conducted to examine climate treaty commitments and corresponding emission data, identifying trends and gaps in current frameworks. Comparative case studies from Muslim-majority nations provide additional insights, along with expert surveys capturing diverse perspectives on climate policy and Islamic ethics.

The primary objective of this article is to demonstrate the potential of Islamic law to complement international climate frameworks, offering an inclusive and ethically grounded approach to climate governance. By integrating Sharia-based ethics, this study aims to contribute to a model of climate policy that is responsive to both environmental needs and social justice considerations, advancing more equitable and effective global climate solutions.

This study employs a mixed-methods approach to examine the relationship between international law, Islamic jurisprudence, and climate change. By combining quantitative and qualitative analyses, it seeks to provide a comprehensive understanding of how Islamic legal principles can complement global climate frameworks.

Data collection focused on the responsibilities of various countries for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, as outlined in international climate agreements, comparing these commitments to actual achievements using reliable datasets. Additionally, climate-related legal cases and outcomes were analyzed to assess the effectiveness of existing frameworks. To incorporate Islamic perspectives, data on the application of Sharia principles to environmental issues was gathered, referencing key Islamic texts and relevant case studies from Muslim-majority nations<sup>4</sup>.

For the statistical analysis, advanced methods like regression, time series analysis, and predictive modeling were employed to explore trends and relationships between emission commitments and results. This phase identifies critical factors contributing to successful emission reductions, highlighting areas where Islamic ethical frameworks could offer valuable support<sup>2</sup>.

An online survey was conducted with experts across climate science, law, activism, government, and climate-vulnerable communities, ensuring diverse viewpoints on the strengths and weaknesses of international climate policy. Additional surveys and interviews with Islamic scholars provided insights into how Islamic principles can inform and strengthen environmental<sup>5</sup>

In the interpretation phase, statistical and survey data were synthesized to draw unified conclusions, recognizing information gaps and proposing recommendations. A comparative analysis examined specific countries and agreements through case studies, offering a detailed perspective on the adaptability of international and Islamic frameworks governance<sup>11</sup>.

Policy evaluation assessed the impact of integrating Islamic principles on domestic climate strategies. This phase combines qualitative and quantitative insights to enhance global climate law, ensuring recommendations are inclusive and culturally relevant, supporting a fair and effective response to climate challenges<sup>12</sup>.

## Discussion

### Analysis of Treaty Commitments and Emission Outcomes

Before examining expert viewpoints on international climate agreements, it is crucial to have a solid grasp of the contextual factors that influence treaty responsibilities related to emission results. The primary objective of our investigation is to examine the relationship between the extent of pledges made by countries in international climate agreements and the observed variations in greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 to 2022. With more than thirty years of experience, we are in a favorable position to examine the long-lasting effects of international accords on the path of national emissions<sup>2</sup>.

The findings indicate a complex and sometimes conflicting relationship between promises and outcomes. Germany achieved a significant reduction of 27 percent in its emissions, demonstrating a high degree of dedication rated at 10 on a scale of one to ten. China and India have divergent patterns: although demonstrating moderate to high levels of dedication (6 and 7, respectively), their emissions saw a significant rise of +194.4% and +188.3%, respectively. When determining emission reductions, variables such as industrialization rate, economic development, and the effectiveness of policy execution are more relevant than high levels of commitment based on these trends<sup>13</sup>.

Furthermore, the study emphasizes the need to assess the presence of treaty requirements and their content and execution. The results of various countries highlight the intricate nature of global climate governance, which involves differences in financial capacities, political will, and technical

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<sup>12</sup> Anatolii P. Getman and Hanna Anisimova, "Climate Legislation and Legal Relations: Current State and Development Prospects Within the National Security Framework," *Problems of legality* (2023), <https://doi.org/10.21564/2414-990X.162.287135>.

<sup>13</sup> Nicole Glanemann, Sven N. Willner, and Anders Levermann, "Paris Climate Agreement passes the cost-benefit test," *Nature Communications* 11, no. 1 (2020/01/27 2020), <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-019-13961-1>.

proficiency. These factors influence the degree to which pledges result in actual reductions in emissions<sup>6</sup>.

### Expert Perspectives on Global Climate Agreements

To better understand the success of international climate agreements, we sought experts' opinions after analyzing the pledges made in these treaties and comparing them to the actual emissions results. The research included the involvement of climate scientists, attorneys, politicians, and activists who expressed doubt about the present state of international climate agreements and their efficacy, implementation, and repercussions. An extensive review encompassing greenhouse gas emissions, treaty commitments, and their legal consequences from 1990 to 2022 was done to elucidate the interconnections between climate change and international law<sup>3</sup>.

Table 1: Expert Opinions on International Climate Treaties for Selected Questions

Question	Highly Effective (%)	Moderately Effective (%)	Neutral (%)	Slightly Effective (%)	Not Effective (%)
Do you find the current international treaties adequate for climate mitigation?	10	55	5	15	15
Are the enforcement mechanisms in current climate treaties sufficient?	5	25	10	25	35
How effective are international treaties in driving national policies towards sustainability?	15	50	10	10	15
Do international climate treaties adequately address the concerns of developing nations?	8	30	12	20	30
In your opinion, how influential are major economic powers in shaping the direction of climate treaties?	20	45	10	10	15

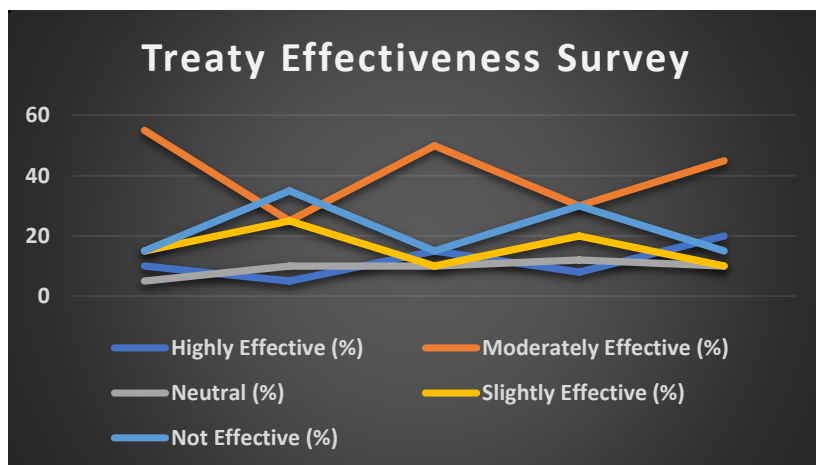


Figure 1: Expert Perspectives on the Adequacy and Impact of International Climate Treaties on Sustainability and Developing Nations

The survey results suggest that most persons need more faith in the present international climate agreements, but they see them as somewhat successful or with limited efficacy. The previous examination of pledges concerning outcomes uncovered substantial concern over the efficacy of climate mitigation agreements and the sufficiency of enforcement measures<sup>11</sup>.

An important finding from the expert poll is that big economic powers are believed to influence the development of climate accords. This suggests the presence of geopolitical considerations in climate governance. The insufficiency of this feature and the treaties' efficacy in enforcing domestic policies and resolving the worries of developing countries are pivotal aspects that need more advancement in international climate law<sup>8</sup>.

As the recognition of the significance of litigation in addressing climate change grows, so does the frequency of legal proceedings brought to tackle the problem. This chapter examines the results of climate-related litigation from 1990 to 2022 to better understand how the legal system impacts climate policy and the enforcement of international treaty obligations.

Across countries, the results of climate-related litigation exhibit significant statistical variation as shown on Table 2. Germany leads the way in achieving beneficial climate action via the legal system, with a success rate of 72% in court proceedings. Germany's high success rate indicates the presence of a robust legal framework and a strong societal commitment to addressing climate change<sup>14</sup>.

<sup>14</sup> Bahuguna, "The Role on International law in Addressing Climate change in India: An Analytical perspective."

Approximately 52% of legal cases in China resulted in an unfavorable outcome, reflecting the country's challenging environment for climate action. This mismatch demonstrates the difficulties of implementing climate measures in regions with varied political and legal systems.

The high success rate of lawsuits in the United States, India, and Brazil suggests that their civil society and court systems are actively involved in resolving climate change issues. These results demonstrate the increasing importance of lawsuits in shaping climate policy and emphasize the possibility of governments and companies being held responsible for their harmful environmental effects via legal means<sup>15</sup>.

Table 2: Climate-Related Litigation Outcomes (1990-2022)

Country	Total Cases	Favorable Outcomes for Climate Action (%)	Unfavorable Outcomes (%)	No Significant Outcome (%)
USA	155	62	23	15
China	22	38	52	10
India	38	53	32	15
Germany	28	72	18	10
Brazil	32	57	28	15

Examining the results of legal cases relating to climate change reveals the increasing influence of the court in the worldwide climate regulation system. Litigation is increasingly playing a crucial role in protecting environmental laws, highlighting insufficient policy actions, and encouraging more aggressive climate pledges at both the global and national levels<sup>16</sup>.

Nevertheless, the disparity in legal results across different nations highlights the need for improved legal systems and broader availability of justice for communities impacted by climate change. When countries like Germany succeed in legal proceedings, instances illustrate how litigation may complement international accords and promote substantial action on climate change<sup>4</sup>.

<sup>15</sup> Eeshan Chaturvedi, "Climate Change Litigation: Indian Perspective," *German Law Journal* 22, no. 8 (2021), <https://doi.org/10.1017/glj.2021.85>, <https://www.cambridge.org/core/product/8776773582C54FE6715472733A8516D4>.

<sup>16</sup> Koehrsen, "Muslims and climate change: How Islam, Muslim organizations, and religious leaders influence climate change perceptions and mitigation activities."



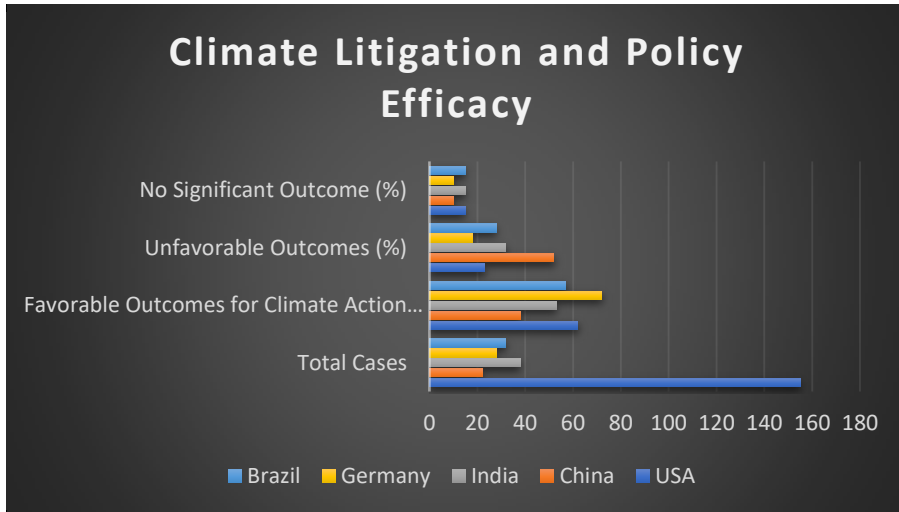


Figure 2: Assessing the Impact of Climate-Related Litigation on the Effectiveness of International Policy Frameworks in Mitigating Global Climate Change

This comprehensive examination of legal case results emphasizes the need to adopt a diverse strategy to address climate change, as previously shown by the insights of experts about the effectiveness of treaties. By advocating for responsibility, openness, and inclusiveness in managing global climate affairs, it envisions a potential future where international agreements, legal structures, and national policies come together to tackle the pressing issue of climate change.

### Analysis of Global Emissions Trends

The historical emissions trends of greenhouse gases in 50 significant nations over the last 30 years are vital in understanding the worldwide efforts to address climate change. The carbon footprint of a specific country may be assessed by examining its emissions data, which provides insights into the influence of several variables, such as changes in policies, international obligations, and national economic development. This study lays the groundwork for future research on the potential hazards associated with reducing emissions in line with global climate objectives, as several countries have attempted<sup>17</sup>.

<sup>17</sup> H. Shellae Versey, "Missing Pieces in the Discussion on Climate Change and Risk: Intersectionality and Compounded Vulnerability," *Policy Insights from the Behavioral and Brain Sciences* 8, no. 1 (2021/03/01 2021), <https://doi.org/10.1177/2372732220982628>.

Table 3: Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Selected Countries

Country	Emissions 1990 (MtCO <sub>2</sub> )	Emissions 2000 (MtCO <sub>2</sub> )	Emissions 2010 (MtCO <sub>2</sub> )	Emissions 2022 (MtCO <sub>2</sub> )	% Change (1990- 2022)
USA	5,500	5,700	5,300	4,980	-9.5%
China	2,400	3,180	5,080	6,920	+188.3%
India	900	1,110	1,830	2,650	+194.4%
Germany	1,000	910	855	730	-27%
Brazil	400	425	470	520	+30%

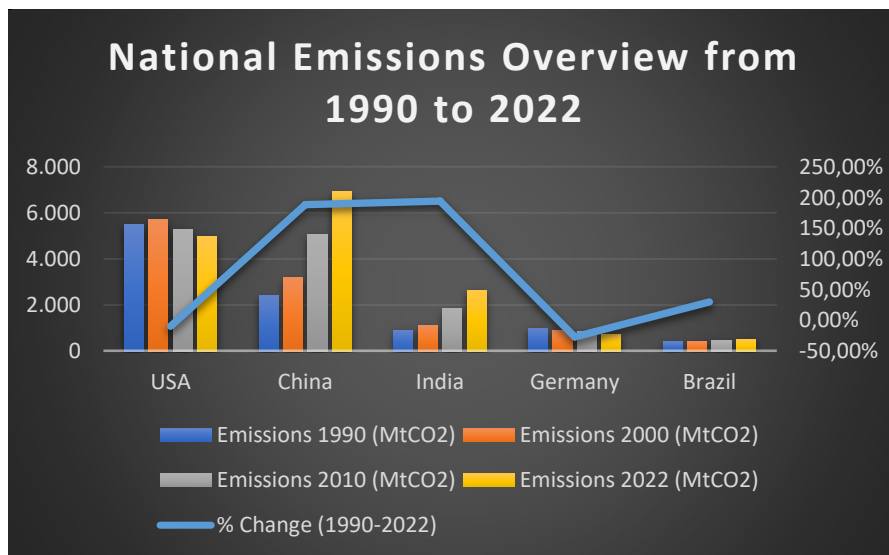


Figure 3: A Comparative Analysis of Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trends in Major Emitting Countries from 1990 to 2022

The data reveals that the emission paths of the chosen countries are significantly different, highlighting the complex nature of global efforts to address climate change. Germany has successfully reduced emissions with its renewable energy policy and commitment. In contrast, India and China have seen a significant rise in emissions owing to their fast industrialization and economic expansion<sup>18</sup>. The present minor drop provides evidence of the continuous failure of climate actions undertaken by the United States government over the years<sup>19</sup>.

<sup>18</sup> Hojjat Salimi Turkamani, "The Role of Islam in Realizing the Goals of Climate Change Law: From Theory to Practice?," *Journal for European Environmental & Planning Law* (2023), <https://doi.org/10.1163/18760104-20010007>.

<sup>19</sup> Jason Hickel, "Quantifying national responsibility for climate breakdown: an equality-based attribution approach for carbon dioxide emissions in excess of the planetary

These trends highlight the need for a sophisticated and fair global climate strategy that considers each country's historical obligations and developmental goals. Given the different advancement rates, it is crucial to develop customized plans considering each nation's specific circumstances, benefits, and drawbacks. To achieve equal access to a low-carbon future for everyone in the future, we can enhance the effectiveness and inclusivity of climate action measures by incorporating the knowledge and perspectives gathered from a wide range of experiences<sup>15</sup>.

### Analyzing the Efficacy of Climate Action through International Treaties

When evaluating the efficacy of global climate agreements, it is essential to assess the pledges made by countries in these treaties concerning the results of reducing their greenhouse gas emissions. While it is vital to discover if international legal processes pressure national governments to prioritize sustainability and carbon reductions, this research will also investigate whether other variables impact these results despite great devotion<sup>3</sup>.

Table 4: Treaty Commitments vs. Emission Outcomes (2000-2022)

Country	Commitment Level (Scale: 1-10)	Actual Emission Change % (2000-2022)
USA	9	-12.6%
China	6	+114.3%
India	7	+138.7%
Germany	10	-19.8%
Brazil	5	+22.4%

The Table depicts the correlation between national obligations stated in global climate agreements and the changes in greenhouse gas emissions over a substantial timeframe, from 2000 to 2022. The diverse range of problems and possibilities that might occur when aligning local efforts with global ambitions is shown by the variations in emission outcomes in response to commitment levels<sup>8</sup>.

Germany, among other nations, exemplifies how strong treaty commitments may incentivize substantial climate action by successfully achieving significant reductions in emissions at the most stringent level of dedication. In contrast, nations like China and India have seen significant increases in emissions despite their considerable levels of commitment. This exemplifies how fast economic growth and development goals impact a country's emission paths<sup>9</sup>.

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boundary," *The Lancet. Planetary health* 4 no. 9 (2020), [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2542-5196\(20\)30196-0](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2542-5196(20)30196-0).

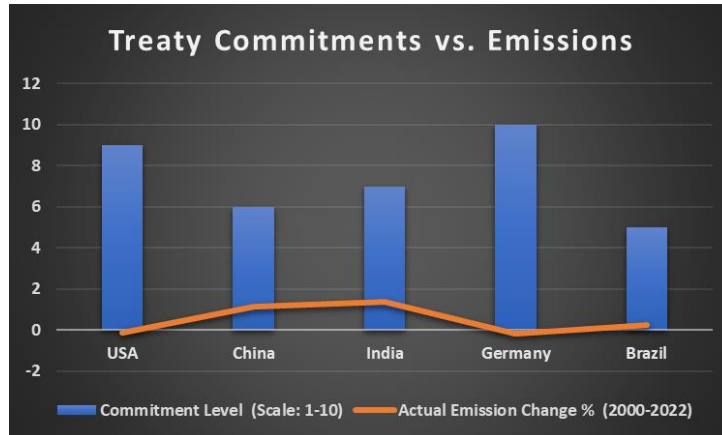


Figure 4: Evaluating the Correlation Between National Treaty Commitments and Actual Greenhouse Gas Emission Outcomes (2000-2022)

This mismatch raises fundamental inquiries on the effectiveness of international accords in governing the global climate. Although treaty obligations are crucial in shaping national policy, the emissions data indicate that more is needed. For the agreements to be efficacious, it is essential that there be widespread compliance and that national endeavors are focused on achieving global climate objectives<sup>13</sup>.

The study suggests that a comprehensive strategy for global climate governance is required to strengthen the capacity to enforce pledges, meet the developmental requirements of fast-growing countries, and promote international collaboration in combating the common threat of climate change<sup>10</sup>.

The merging of climate change and Islamic law offers a unique framework for assessing and strengthening international policy structures. This discussion seeks to interpret the presented data, examining its implications for policymakers and stakeholders, and emphasizing how Islamic legal principles can be integrated to enhance the effectiveness of climate governance.

Strategic climate legislation has proven essential in various contexts. For instance, Averchenkova, Fankhauser, and Finnegan highlight the UK Climate Change Act as an example of how legally binding commitments drive national climate action effectively, setting a precedent for accountability and resilience in climate policy<sup>20</sup>. Islamic law, with its emphasis on *Adl* (justice) and *Khilafah* (stewardship), provides a robust ethical foundation that aligns well with the need for fair and accountable climate action. These values underscore a collective

<sup>20</sup> Alina Averchenkova, Sam Fankhauser, and Jared J. Finnegan, "The impact of strategic climate legislation: evidence from expert interviews on the UK Climate Change Act," *Climate Policy* 21, no. 2 (2021/02/07 2021), <https://doi.org/10.1080/14693062.2020.1819190>.

responsibility to protect the environment, advocating for policies that are both just and sustainable<sup>4</sup>.

The relationship between economic growth and carbon emissions has been extensively studied, particularly in China, where Song illustrates how rapid economic development, if unmanaged, can lead to substantial emissions increases<sup>21</sup>. Islamic teachings emphasize moderation and responsible consumption, which, if applied to economic policies, could guide nations toward sustainable growth. By integrating these values, countries can balance development with environmental stewardship, promoting policies that align economic and ecological objectives.

The environmental Kuznets curve hypothesis, revisited by Gormus and Aydin, posits that as economies mature, environmental degradation initially rises but may later decline as income levels increase and environmental priorities shift<sup>22</sup>. This theory resonates with the Islamic principle of Ihsan (excellence), encouraging continuous improvement and responsible management of resources. Embedding such principles could help shape economic policies that prioritize sustainability as nations progress.

Regional commitments, such as those described by Kuramochi et al., show that city and business pledges significantly impact global emissions reductions<sup>23</sup>. Islamic communities and organizations, through grassroots movements, can similarly drive climate action. Koehrsen's study on Muslim organizations highlights how religious leadership influences public attitudes toward climate change, showcasing the potential for faith-based movements to enhance regional climate strategies<sup>7</sup>.

Institutional approaches to climate change benefit from a multi-level framework that combines decision science and policy integration, as suggested by York et al.<sup>24</sup>. Islamic law, with its comprehensive ethical guidelines, can support these efforts by introducing a moral and spiritual dimension to

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<sup>21</sup> Zhiguang Song, "Economic growth and carbon emissions: Estimation of a panel threshold model for the transition process in China," *Journal of Cleaner Production* 278 (2021/01/01/ 2021), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2020.123773>.

<sup>22</sup> Sakir Gormus and Mucahit Aydin, "Revisiting the environmental Kuznets curve hypothesis using innovation: new evidence from the top 10 innovative economies," *Environmental Science and Pollution Research* 27, no. 22 (2020/08/01 2020), <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11356-020-09110-7>.

<sup>23</sup> Takeshi Kuramochi et al., "Beyond national climate action: the impact of region, city, and business commitments on global greenhouse gas emissions," *Climate Policy* 20, no. 3 (2020/03/15 2020), <https://doi.org/10.1080/14693062.2020.1740150>.

<sup>24</sup> Abigail M. York et al., "Integrating institutional approaches and decision science to address climate change: a multi-level collective action research agenda," *Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability* 52 (2021/10/01/ 2021), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cosust.2021.06.001>.

environmental management. This integrative approach promotes diverse, culturally inclusive responses to environmental challenges, enhancing the efficacy of climate measures.

Economic implications of environmental degradation, as emphasized by Ma et al., show the need for policies that mitigate financial losses from ecological harm<sup>25</sup>. Islamic finance, explored by Obaidullah, provides innovative tools that adhere to ethical and sustainable investment principles, fostering climate finance mechanisms that align with moral guidelines and encourage eco-friendly investments<sup>26</sup>.

The human rights perspective, advocated by Mayer, supports addressing climate change as an obligation under international human rights treaties<sup>27</sup>. Islamic law reinforces these efforts by advocating for the rights of vulnerable populations, emphasizing human dignity and justice in climate policies. This intersection between human rights and environmental justice is crucial for equitable climate governance.

Turnbull and Al-Jayyousi et al. underscore the role of Islamic beliefs in fostering environmental justice and sustainable development, contributing to global climate efforts through ethical frameworks<sup>4</sup>. Turkamani further explores the practical applications of Islamic law in meeting climate objectives, suggesting that Islamic principles can strengthen legal systems and enhance policy effectiveness<sup>18</sup>.

Research by Bahuguna and Getman and Anisimova illustrates the role of national contexts, such as India<sup>9</sup> and national security considerations, in shaping climate policy<sup>12</sup>. Islamic law's adaptability to specific cultural contexts provides valuable insights for crafting policies that are both effective and culturally resonant, particularly in Muslim-majority nations.

Practical applications of Islamic principles, as demonstrated by Indonesia's Muhammadiyah organization, reveal the potential for Islamic law to address environmental issues. Gade's exploration of Islamic law and environmentalism in Indonesia highlights how religious teachings can support sustainable practices at a community level<sup>28</sup>.

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<sup>25</sup> Guoxia Ma et al., "The valuation of China's environmental degradation from 2004 to 2017," *Environmental Science and Ecotechnology* 1 (2020/01/01/ 2020), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ese.2020.100016>.

<sup>26</sup> Mohammed Obaidullah, "Managing Climate Change: The Role of Islamic Finance," *PSN: Global Warming & Climate Change (Topic)* (2017), <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3303687>

<sup>27</sup> Benoit Mayer, "Climate Change Mitigation as an Obligation Under Human Rights Treaties?," *American Journal of International Law* 115, no. 3 (2021), <https://doi.org/10.1017/ajil.2021.9>.

<sup>28</sup> Anna M. Gade, "Islamic Law and the Environment in Indonesia," *Worldviews: Global Religions, Culture, and Ecology* 19, no. 2 (2015), <https://doi.org/10.1163/15685357-01902006>.

Integrating Islamic legal principles into global climate frameworks provides a unique opportunity to improve the inclusivity and effectiveness of climate governance. By grounding policies in values such as justice, responsibility, and sustainable consumption, a holistic approach to climate action can be achieved. This method aligns with global sustainability goals and incorporates diverse cultural and religious perspectives, contributing to a more comprehensive response to the global climate crisis.

## Conclusion

Climate change represents a profound challenge in the 21st century, affecting every sector of society, from ecosystems to legal and economic systems. This study has explored the potential for Islamic legal principles to enhance global climate policy frameworks, presenting an ethical and culturally grounded perspective that can contribute to more inclusive and effective climate action.

Islamic law, with its focus on justice, stewardship, and balance, aligns closely with the objectives of environmental protection and sustainable development. By incorporating these principles, climate policies can better address ethical considerations and inclusivity. The principle of justice (Adl) underscores the importance of safeguarding vulnerable communities and ensuring equitable sharing of the responsibilities and benefits associated with climate action. As those least responsible for climate change often bear its greatest consequences, a justice-centered approach in Islamic law advocates for climate policies that prioritize the protection of marginalized populations.

The concept of stewardship (Khilafah) in Islamic jurisprudence emphasizes humanity's responsibility to care for and preserve the environment. This principle encourages proactive, sustainable behaviors that align with global climate mitigation and adaptation efforts. Stewardship fosters a sense of accountability that can motivate both individuals and nations to adopt sustainable practices, supporting long-term environmental resilience.

Moderation (Wasatiyyah) is also integral, promoting a balanced approach to economic development and environmental health. Islamic teachings encourage responsible consumption and restrained economic growth, which can guide policies in developing nations toward sustainable pathways. This balance is essential for achieving progress that is not only equitable but also enduring, allowing for economic growth that does not compromise environmental well-being.

Islamic finance offers additional support for climate initiatives through its emphasis on ethical and environmentally conscious investments. By channeling funds toward sustainable infrastructure, renewable energy, and climate-resilient projects, Islamic finance can strengthen climate action, directing

resources toward initiatives that benefit both the environment and society. Integrating Islamic financial principles into climate financing could enhance the sustainability and resilience of financial systems, supporting global climate goals.

The inclusion of Islamic principles in global climate policy also provides a culturally relevant foundation for many Muslim-majority countries. As climate change poses severe risks to these regions, integrating Islamic values into national and regional strategies can lead to more effective and culturally aligned climate policies. This approach encourages unity and collaboration across Muslim societies, fostering coordinated efforts to combat climate change.

Islamic teachings on the environment recognize the interconnectedness of all beings, a holistic perspective that supports comprehensive climate strategies addressing social, economic, and ecological dimensions. By promoting integrated approaches, Islamic law contributes to addressing the root causes of climate change, building societies that are not only resilient but also sustainable.

Islamic law offers valuable principles: justice, stewardship, and moderation, that can reinforce global climate policies. These ideals provide a robust ethical foundation that aligns with global sustainability goals, fostering policies that are fair, inclusive, and effective. This culturally rich approach broadens the global discourse on climate action, recognizing the diverse values that can contribute to climate solutions.

As humanity grapples with the urgent and multifaceted issues of climate change, Islamic jurisprudence offers an impactful path toward a more just and sustainable future. Through its ethical and practical insights, Islamic law has the potential to enhance global climate strategies, ensuring that they are resilient, inclusive, and equipped to address the complex challenges of a rapidly changing world. Integrating Islamic values into climate efforts enriches the global response, contributing a meaningful and culturally attuned approach to one of the most pressing challenges of our time.

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