Payne Institute Spring Webinar Series presents

Dr. Paasha Mahdavi
Assistant Professor of Political Science
University of California Santa Barbara

The Politics of Oil Nationalizations and Implications for the Energy Transition

Extractive resource nationalization—seizing operations for the state—is a gamble: its immediate windfalls can fortify the foundations of enduring rule, or its operational costs can risk future prosperity and political survival. In this webinar, Mahdavi advances a novel theory of nationalization based on his new book, Power Grab, and describes how we can apply lessons from the oil sector to the politics of extractives needed for the clean energy transition.

Paasha Mahdavi is an assistant professor of political science at UCSB. His research broadly explores the political consequences of natural resource wealth, including extractive resource nationalization; the effects of oil-to-cash transfers on civic engagement; the political economy of fossil fuel subsidy reform; and the efficacy of policies to eliminate natural gas flaring.