The Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is an international treaty on climate change. Countries which ratify this protocol commit to reduce their emissions of carbon dioxide and five other greenhouse gases, or engage in emissions trading if they maintain or increase emissions of these gases. The United States, although a signatory to the protocol, has neither ratified nor withdrawn from the protocol. The protocol is non-binding over the United States until ratified.

As climate change becomes an ever-increasing problem that has been linked to frequency and severity of hurricanes in recent years, the decision by the United States not to ratify the Kyoto Protocol deserves heightened scrutiny. This panel will discuss the domestic and international implications that non-ratification has for the efficacy of international climate change policy.

Panelists include:
Anita Halvorssen - University of Denver College of Law & University of Colorado Political Science Department
J. Kevin Healy - Bryan Cave (New York)
William Pizer - Resources for the Future
Jacob Werksman - Global Inclusion, Rockefeller Foundation
Douglas Williams - Saint Louis University School of Law