

## Press Release

We have come from a scorching summer, for the second year in a row there have been disasters in every corner of the globe. In June, we exceeded the +1.5°C mark for the first time, and July saw the highest average temperature on Earth since we have been able to measure it. This goes beyond data, as we emerge after a year of torrid dreadful droughts that depleted our soil, followed by heavy, disruptive floods that claimed lives, caused damage, and displaced people. Around us, we remember the region of Emilia Romagna, but further away, the list is endless, as the water wiped off cities and natural resources in, for example California, Vermont, South Chorea, Slovenia. But let's also not forget 2022, Marche, Ischia, Pakistan, Nigeria. And now Libya, with more than 10,000 deaths. Elsewhere there is no water, crops are lost.

The governments' response has been to tighten repression against activists: just to focus on Europe, the most recent examples are the Meloni government's law providing for up to 60,000 euros in fines and imprisonment for eco-activists and the striking dissolution of Soulevements de la Terre in France. But also the death of Manuel Esteban Paez Teràn, a 26-year-old activist who was killed by a policeman while defending the Weelaunee Forest, the green lung of Atlanta, Georgia. Over the past ten years, more than 1,700 environmental activists have been killed.

And now - at the institutional level- the prospect is a Cop28 to be held in Dubai, literally in the fossil wolf's den chaired by the CEO of the UAE's main oil agency (ADNOC).

It was with this heat, with this anger and with this desire to overthrow sick priorities, powers and values that we bottled up the urgency in order to bring together radical environmental activists from all over the world to face each other, confront each other, tell stories of territories and struggles near and far, and find common strategies together.

The World Congress for Climate Justice will be held in Milan from 12 to 15 October. It will be hosted by the State University of Milan and partly by the self-managed Leoncavallo Public Space.

For several months we have been building and organizing a committee made up of Ecologia Politica, Institute of Radical Imagination, XR, Fridays for Future, Ultima Generazione, as well as social spaces, student collectives and individual activists, and we have been meeting at Piano Terra, an occupied space in the Isola district. Right from the start we were supported by Bologna for Climate Justice and the Torino Climate Social Camp, and over time we collected adhesions from all over Italy and the world: among others Ende Gaelende, Soulèvements de la Terre, Climáximo, Rise-up Uganda, Defend Atlanta Forest, Colectivo Yasunidos, Via Campesina.

It will open with a press conference on Thursday 12 October at 11 a.m. at the Casa della Cultura in Milan. That afternoon there will be eco-activist art workshops in the cloisters of the Università Statale and simultaneously the Stay Grounded European Network assembly.

Friday will be the day of open seminars. They will discuss climate justice, deforestation, patriarchy, discrimination, neo-colonialism. Collectives from Uganda will speak, as well as Mexico, Brazil, Ecuador, all over the world, and then from Europe, Italy, Milan.

Saturday 14th will be the day of the thematic assemblies: the 250 or so delegates will discuss the overarching thematic demands of green anti-capitalism, look for buzzwords, tactics and strategies, formulate declarations and make plans in a common attempt to oppose fossil capitalism.

Exponents of the major movements (FFF, XR, UG, Ende Gaelende etc.) will discuss models of climate revolt and opportunities to build a common front against fossil capital and repression; political syntheses will be sought between the major currents of green anti-capitalism such as Social Ecology, Eco-Marxism and Anarcho-ecologism; ecotransfeminism and intersectional climate strategies will be discussed as well as Climate refugees and institutional racism; we'll talk about new economic perspectives beyond productivism; the theme of agroecology will be addressed, bringing together experiences ranging from Urupia or Mondeggi in Apulia and Tuscany to Via Campesina and CGLTE-OA in Latin America and West Africa.

On Sunday October 15th we will end with a closing plenary assembly where we will bring together ideas and synergies for a class-based and transnational climate conflict.

We hope to come out of these four days with the baton of WCCJ to pass onto those who will take it, and a new wave of activism for climate justice strengthened by the alliances we will have built.

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To help us make the meeting accessible to the most distant delegations and movements hit the hardest by extractivism and social injustice, you can contribute by crowd-funding:

<https://www.produzionidalbasso.com/project/milano-world-congress-for-climate-justice-12-15-oct/>