

WORLD CONGRESS FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

12th-15th October 2023, Milan, Italy

Synthesis Report by the WCCJ committee

31 years after the approval of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the establishment of the COPs (Conference of Parties), we must recognize the failure of these tools in stabilizing the climate and channelling the demand for climate justice coming from below. We believe we need to counter the greenwashing of the COPs while we create new opportunities of convergence such as the International for Climate Justice.

Summary

The World Congress for Climate Justice has brought together the major currently active climate movements and it has established that:

1) From its plenary, the **International for Climate Justice (ICJ) is born**. We must converge and coordinate ourselves, as much as possible, to support each other and to have a bigger impact on public opinion, when necessary and according to the proposals made to ICJ by whoever need our help.

We don't want to standardize ourselves, **we defend our plurality of visions and thoughts**. We respect different practices, timings, identities, and modalities. We are also conscious about, and our will is, to find out political points on which we can mediate between us to be more effective on our individual and collective goals.

2) This entails:

- Establishing an **International Committee** in which each of the involved groups and movements should provide **one or more delegates** who will participate consistently. They could permanently join the International Committee, take a break from it or quit their commitment according to each member's will. The committee must decide on the location and date for the **next WCCJ**.
- We must **give more space to the Global South** and, in general, to people who are struggling with this climate emergency the most and better represent our common goals;
- We must **act both on a local and international scale**, according to each member's possibilities;
- We must **act both right now and to organize ourselves in the medium and long period** to better face the ongoing emergency.

Some common online and offline tools and suggestions for managing the International for Climate Justice have already been proposed:

- a [common agenda](#) for the upcoming year;
- a **common chat** on Telegram to keep each other constantly and quickly updated;
- a **mailing list** to keep us in contact and to share detailed information and materials;
- a **list of topics and a synthesis of theoretical discussions** to work on, coming from the thematic assemblies;
- a **common method**, based on mutual feedback.

Ongoing:

- fill in the **feedback form** on the first WCCJ, to improve our next meetings;
- a **website** to publish and spread our outputs;
- joint **mobilisations**.

Context

Nowadays it is clear that the current global climate crisis is the main challenge that humanity has to face to safeguard and preserve societies and ecosystems. It is therefore crucial to imagine and go beyond the current colonial-capitalist-patriarchal system and patterns of production to a new framework of possibilities that embrace diverse multiplicities in order to smash capitalism and embrace post-capitalist pluriversal alternatives to preserve nature and all forms of life.

Within the current system, the fossil fuel industry, the agribusiness and the wealthiest individuals have most of the responsibility for the greenhouse gas emissions that are leading us to climate collapse. Therefore, we believe that climate activism should prioritize these targets and their allies in politics, media and finance.

The World Congress for Climate Justice has brought together for 4 days around 200 delegates from 66 movements, collectives, unions, territories and social spaces from almost 30 countries. 45 workshops, seminars, assemblies, and actions have been carried on to constitute the radical, anticapitalist, antispeciesist, ecotransfeminist and anticolonial organization of the global climate movement: the International for Climate Justice.

Milan was the initial stage of the first International for Climate Justice. Although the organization of Congress was not involved in all the realities and was structured with rapidity, we did it and that is a fact. Future meetings will go into details about how to organize it, the methods and the tactics.

Plenary Assembly

After a brief presentation by the chairs who reported the main points that emerged from Saturday's thematic assemblies, the plenary began to discuss how to keep this convergence of movements alive and how to do it.

Below you can read a synthesis of the discussion, whose main points are reported in the Summary. You can also find the raw minutes [here](#).

- In this Congress, we have debated and presented local struggles against capitalism worldwide. It is important in the next one to find more space to reflect and discuss strategies and tactics of protest according to the plurality of the actors represented, from peaceful protest to civil disobedience to hacking, boycotts, demonstrations, civil disobedience, referenda, hacking and squatting actions.
- Despite the failure of COPs and other similar mainstream and greenwashing events, it's important to occupy those spaces with our radical content to properly discuss what really matters, avoiding fake agreements and always-broken promises.
- We need to create a blended (online and in-person) platform to share knowledge, methods, practices and use this space to unify climate struggles with those of workers and other movements and organize the first International for Climate Justice.
- In the coming months, we will define a common slogan and organize simultaneous demonstrations in different countries. The main proposals are focused on three action lines: 1) boycott and counter the capital infrastructures, the production lines of multinational corporations and the big events promoted by capitalism as consensus tools to perpetuate financial speculation, environmental degradation, animal exploitation, and social marginalization; 2) democratize and raise public awareness to go beyond the actual global crisis; 3) share and exchange existing best practices. It is important to maintain the plurality of the movements represented here.
- We must be humanly sustainable: as everyone has personal and collective projects, instead of not breaking down, we should look around us and collaborate with ongoing networks or actions.
- We need to create an International Committee over the next year, composed of delegates from different movements and realities. It is therefore important for each interested delegation to put effort and people into creating the structure of the International for Climate Justice effectively. This process can be carried out online or in-person, exploiting the opportunity of international meetings such as the Earth Social Summit (5-10th December in Casanare, Colombia) or upcoming events.
- The aim of this International Committee is to start organizing the real structure of this alliance, finding the city to host the next World Congress for Climate Justice and some dates of convergence.
- It is fundamental to listen to and support the demands of the local communities, indigenous people and the Global South, starting with the cancellation of its debt and the rejection of all forms of extractivism, including its "green" versions. The unheard voices of non-humans kept prisoners in the modern lagers of mega farms should also be taken into account from a perspective of animal liberation. This International for Climate Justice has to be based on solidarity and target not only national governments and enterprises but also international entities such as Big Oil and agroindustrial corporations.

Conclusion and next steps

To conclude, we want to thank all the delegates and delegations who have passed through the 4 days of the World Congress for Climate Justice. This was a unique and great opportunity to congregate so many different souls, entities and movements in one place, and it wasn't easy to realize with all the difficulties we faced. These moments of convergence are extremely precious to image and go beyond the actual path imposed by the capitalist system. There is an impellent necessity to re-instil a sense of hope and a horizon of liberation in the manifold movements across the planet that defend ecosystems.

Next steps

We need to work together to complete the **following tasks**:

CONTENT TEAM:

a) to give the International Committee an online space where to organize and to check which proposals bring to other meetings, starting from the ones on our common agenda;

WEB-DESIGN TEAM:

b) to create a team that can co-design a website;

LOGISTICS TEAM:

c) to begin to organize the next World Congress for Climate Justice.

Please validate this document adding your comments, if and where necessary, and candidate yourself to one of the teams above by sending an email to: DelegationSegretariat.WCCJ@gmail.com.

