

European Fridays For Future Summit

Press conference | 05.08.19

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Program of the press conference

Date and place

Monday 05.08.19 Starting at 12:30 (±90 min) at the Amphimax (MAX-351) UNIL

Protocol of the PC

> Introduction

- Welcome
- Fridays For Future

> European Citizens' Initative «Actions on Climate Emergency»

- Co-initiator Astrid Budolfsen
- Co-initiator Thomas Eitzenberger
- Co-initiator Greta Stripp
- O&A about the initiative

> Presentation of the summit

- Organiser Loukina Tille
- Participant Greta Thunberg
- Participant Ilyess El Kortbi
- Jacques Dubochet
- Ernst von Weizsäcker
- Q&A about the summit

> Free Q&A

- Organisers Loukina Tille
- Participants Greta Thunberg, Ilyess El Kortbi
- Jacque Dubochet
- Ernst Weizsäcker

Important information

- Some of the participants are minor, you can recognize them by the globe on their badge. Some of them doesn't want to be filmed or photographed, they are wearing red stickers on their badge.
- Press releases are available in French, German, English, Hungarian and Italian on our website Smileforfuture.eu/press
- If you have any questions, please contact Loïc Bernet at +41 (0)78 766 49 04 or Tobias Schuster at +49 (0) 157 3910 23 20

European Citizens' Initiative «Actions on Climate Emergency»

Spokespersons

Thomas Eitzenberger - Co-initiator

Thomas Eitzenberger is an activist from FFF Austria. In addition to providing quality insurance consultancy to software companies on a freelance basis, he has been fighting for the environment for more than a decade. He is 50 years old, has 5 children and has recently become a grandfather.

Greta Stripp - Co-initiator

Greta Stripp, 16, is German but lives and is active in France. Besides organising strikes and actions in Montpellier (France), she is part of the team behind the European citizens initiative "Actions on Climate Emergency".

Astrid Budolfsen - Co-initiator

Astrid studied economics. She has been passionate about climate issues since she was a child and has been involved in organizing strikes for FFF and the climate movement in Denmark since January 2019.

Press release | European Citizens' Initiative (ECI)

Fridays For Future members are launching a European Citizens' Initiative - Actions on Climate Emergency

Members of the European Fridays for Future movement are launching a European Citizens' Initiative [ECI] entitled "Actions on Climate Emergency". The initiative calls the European Union to set more ambitious climate goals, in line with the 1.5°C warming limit. The initiators will have one year to collect one million signatures, starting in September.

This ECI is the collective work of a multigenerational group of citizens, climate activists and lawyers from different countries, as part of the broader movement Fridays For Future. It has the following four objectives: First, it demands that the European Union [EU] adjust its climate goals [NDC] defined under the Paris Agreement as follows: The EU should reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2030, aim to reach net-0 by 2035 and adjust the European climate legislation accordingly. As the EU will have to update its NDC by 2023, the timing for this is right now. Second, the initiators want the EU to implement a Border Carbon Adjustment [BCA]. Import goods would incur a surcharge according to the greenhouse gas emissions at their source. This way, a transforming European industry would be on an equal basis with countries not complying with the 1.5°C goal. Third, free trade treaties shall be signed only with partner countries that follow a 1.5°C compatible pathway. To prevent free-trade agreements circumventing the BCA, a neutral entity would need to judge whether a country is aligned with the 1.5°C goal or not. The Climate Action Tracker is suggested as an adequate choice. And finally, the EU shall create free educational materials that not only highlights the causes and effects of the climate crisis, but also different potential solutions to the problem. This way, future generations would be inspired to come up with new ideas and approaches, while simultaneously providing a course of action for citizens.

The objectives are designed to raise discussions among the public and politicians, by calling on the European Commission to make legislative proposals. Although these objectives will not solve the climate crisis on their own, they are the first steps into European legislation and will allow other and even more demanding laws to be put in place over time. Once the initiative gathers I million signatures, the Commission will decide on what follow-up actions to take.

"According to scientists, we are at a turning point in our history; that makes current legislators extremely powerful. Law has the potential to be a forceful tool in protecting the interests of those who do not have a voice in decision-making, but if our laws cannot secure a safe future for our children against a threat we can control, not only our laws but our systems of legislating are failing us." --- Rowan Ryrie, consultant UK lawyer and founding member of Parents For Future.

"We want, we need and we absolutely must have strong and ambitious leadership from the representatives of the EU, if we are going to have a chance at tackling this issue. The world is at the cusp of a potential catastrophe. We can no longer afford the failure of leadership or half-hearted measures. The time to act is now. " --- Astrid Budolfsen, 24, Substitute-Representative of the Citizens Committee.

Note to editors, not for publication: If journalists want to know more about the ECI, they can mail to eci@fridaysforfuture.org, join https://t.me/ECIpresschannel contact Jesse van Schaik (+31) 06 18698547, Marvin Aelen (+41)774771371 or Ole Müller (+49)1578/7681645

Text of the ECI

Subject Matter

We call on the European Commission to strengthen action on the climate emergency in line with the 1.5° warming limit. This means more ambitious climate goals and financial support for climate action.

Objectives

- 1. The EU shall adjust its goals (NDC) under the Paris Agreement to an 80% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, to reach net-0 by 2035 and adjust European climate legislation accordingly.
- 2. An EU Border Carbon Adjustment shall be implemented.
- 3. No free trade treaty shall be signed with partner countries that do not follow a 1.5° compatible pathway according to Climate Action Tracker.
- 4. The EU shall create free educational material for all member curricula about the effects of climate change.

Treaties

- o **Article 3(1) and (5), TFEU** ("The Union's aim is to promote peace, its values and the well-being of its peoples." and "In its relations with the wider world, the Union shall uphold and promote ... the sustainable development of the Earth")
- **Article 11, TFEU** ("Environmental protection requirements must be integrated into ... the Union's policies and activities...")
- o Article 173 TFEU ("speeding up the adjustment of industry to structural changes")
- Article 165(1) and (2) TFEU ("shall contribute to the development of quality education, if necessary, by supporting and supplementing" and "developing exchanges of information and experience on issues common to the education systems of the Member States")
- Article 166 TFEU ("The Union shall implement a vocational training policy which shall support and supplement the action of the Member States")
- o Article 191 et seq. TFEU (Union policy on the environment)
- → https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:C:2016:202:FULL&from=EN#page=134

Citizens Committee

- > Thomas Eitzenberger, Austria Representative
- > Astrid Budolfsen, Denmark Substitute Representative
- > Ole Müller, Germany
- > Federica Gasbarro, Italy
- > Alejandro Martinez Martinez, Spain
- > Janina Swiersewska, Poland
- > Guilhem Heuline, France

Additional information

Due to the nature of the Paris Agreement every nation was allowed to choose their National Determined Contribution (NDC) on a voluntary basis. The idea was that over time nations would update their NDC to more ambitious goals. As recent studies[1] show, NDCs or goals are currently not being reached by any of the member states of the EU. It is becoming clear that current plans of the European Union will not do enough to curb the emissions of member states, and thus, will lead to dramatic global warming.

Although many countries have individually declared a state of climate emergency, in most cases no concrete actions followed. Thus making these declarations no more than symbolic acts. We believe that an emergency should be regarded as a critical measure which demands concrete and determined actions. That's why we decided to try and get all member states of the European Union to consider a more ambitious common set of binding goals.

However, we are not calling for a military state of emergency which would result in the loss of societal freedom, but instead an assurance of actions being taken which are powerful enough to protect our climate and the well-being of future generations.

In order to reach out to people of all member states we decided to use an European Citizens' Initiative (ECI), which is a policy setting tool intended to give the citizens of the EU an opportunity to make their voices heard. The European Commission is obliged to answer to the ECIs objectives in a written statement and the European parliament will hold a public discussion and hearing on the topics of the ECI.

For this to happen, one million signatures need to be collected from at least 7 member states within a year. In this hearing the Citizens' Committee, made up of seven organisers of the initiative, will present and defend the ECI in front of the European Commission. So far there have only been four ECI's, of sufficient signatories, one of which ("Water is a Human Right") successfully changed the ongoing plans of privatising water in Europe.

About the objectives

- 1. Currently the most "ambitious" goal is net-0 emissions by 2050. However, this is only enough if every country worldwide can achieve this. Many developing nations do not have the resources for such a feat. That is why the industrial nations have to step up in the name of climate justice. They are responsible for the majority of the pollution. A study by the Fraunhofer Institute in Germany estimated that it is possible for Germany to completely exit coal power production as early as 2030. Creating a carbon free energy production by 2035. The matter was seen only as a question of political will. The same is true for any climate goal.
- John Hontelez, secretary general of the European Environmental Bureau (a federation of 140 environmental organizations based largely in European Union member states), made similar points in a widely-circulated piece from April 2007, <u>Time to tax the carbon dodgers</u>. He wrote:
 - "Border Tax Adjustments (BTAs) might be the answer which allows the EU to develop responsible climate policies without having to wait for other countries. They would result in products imported from the US being taxed to compensate for resulting differences in production costs. Thus EU firms would be protected against unfair, carbon-careless competition from outside."

- 3. The Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP) wrote in an extensive report in 2016 analysing the adverse climate effects of the TPP:
 - "The national commitments on climate action through the Paris climate agreement are in many ways under-mined by conflicting commitments set by the TPP and other free trade agreements. The Paris commitments are voluntary and non-binding they are considered soft law, as opposed to the hard law of the TPP. Despite the limitations of the Paris agreement, countries have never before made this level of public commitment to address climate change. Countries will have an opportunity to ratchet up their climate commitments in 2018, then again in 2020 and every five years after that."
- 4. Education is one of the longer term strategies to ensure that climate leadership will be spread through the new generations and that citizens know the basic facts. It will help make the process more streamlined, as common discussion points will have been treated in schools and universities. This way one can focus on the how, not the why. Additionally this material will provide an outreach not only to students but to grown up citizens and provide an action plan.

About writing the ECI

- The team are around 30-50 people working on and off, aged 14-50. We are from all over europe and worked closely together with the national FFF groups and organized via a number of telegram chats.
- In order to be able to say that we are an ECI representing FFF, we contacted the national FFF groups in every member state to reach an agreement about the text. We had in total 5 drafts as different groups highlighted different priorities.
 - However by now we are legislated by the following countries:
 - Sweden, UK, Austria, Estonia, France, Latvia, Malta, Spain, the Netherlands and Switzerland declared their agreement with the ECI.
 - The ones not agreed yet, like Germany, were closely tied into the design process, and it is a matter of organizing a representative group to get a national agreement.
 - However we are planning to get endorsement from all FFF groups across the EU.
- An ECI is not a legal draft. It is not a referendum neither is it a petition. An ECI is a suggestion to the European Commission to think about possible legal drafts to achieve the objectives. However the commission will have to explain the steps they take in case 1Mio signatures are collected within the given time.

References and further reading

- [1] https://europeanclimate.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Planning-for-Net-Zero.-Assessing-the-draft-NECPs.pdf
- [2] https://www.ingentaconnect.com/contentone/oekom/gaia/2019/00000028/00000002/art00004#
- [3] https://cadmus.eui.eu/bitstream/handle/1814/60628/RSCAS_FSR_RR_2019.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y
- [4] https://www.iisd.org/pdf/2008/cph_trade_climate_border_carbon.pdf
- [5] https://www.iatp.org/sites/default/files/2016_09_06_ClimateCostFreeTrade.pdf
- [6] https://www.ecologyandsociety.org/issues/article.php/6476
- [7] https://www.breakthroughonline.org.au/whatliesbeneath
- [8] https://www.greenpeace.de/sites/www.greenpeace.de/files/publications/2030_kohlefrei_fraunhofer_iee_greenpeace.pdf

SmileForFuture summit

Spokespersons

Loukina Tille - Organiser

Loukina Tille, a Swiss student, got involved in the climate strike movement in December 2018. Organising a gathering of strikers from many countries this summer was really important for her. She therefore got involved in the organisation of the SMILE, alongside others.

Greta Thunberg - Participant

Greta Thunberg is a Swedish activist who, at the age of 15, began protesting in front of the Swedish parliament in August 2018, demanding immediate action to combat climate change. Her "school strike for the climate" inspired the Fridays For Future movement, which spread globally.

Ilyess El Kortbi - Participant

Ilyess is a 22 year-old Ukrainian student. As one of the initiators of the FFF movement in Ukraine, he is involved in the organisation of local strikes as well as national and international FFF work. Ilyess has been passionate about internationally united organisations and cultural diversity since his childhood.

Sofia Pasotto - Participant

Sofia Pasotto is a 19 year-old activist from Italy. She is particularly interested in environmental and social issues, as she studies international relations to achieve her dream of becoming an ambassador at the UN

Kristin Siil - Participant

Kristin Siil is a 16 year-old climate activist who started the Fridays For Future movement in Estonia. She has been striking in Tallinn for over 20 weeks. She also plays football at a local club and is a drummer in the Rhythms of Resistance band.

Jacques Dubochet - Special guest

Jacques Dubochet, Nobel laureate in Chemistry, is a retired Swiss biophysicist and honorary professor of biophysics at the University of Lausanne. Member of *Grandparents for climate*, he is concerned about the deteriorating conditions for life on our planet and the risks they pose.

Ernst Ulrich von Weizsäcker - Special guest

Ernst Ulrich von Weizsäcker, formerly professor of biology and co-chair of the International Resource Panel, is currently engaged as honorary president of the Club of Rome. In 1998, he was

elected a member of the German Bundestag. As a legislator, he chaired the select committee on globalisation (2000-2002) and the environment committee (2002-2005).

Press release | SmileForFuture

European meeting of the Fridays for Future movement in Lausanne, Switzerland

More than 450 young climate strike activists from 38 countries, among them Swedish activist Greta Thunberg, will gather for the international SmileForFuture summit in Lausanne, held in view of the threat to the planet's future.

Organisers of the Fridays for Future movement will meet in Lausanne from the 5th of August to the 9th to turn their hopes for the future into action. Established political systems have drastically failed to tackle the causes of the climate crisis. The movement fights for its reasoned demands for climate justice and for a viable future for all. In the span of only a few months, more than one and a half million people around the world have joined the movement to share their concerns about the future and demand responsibility.

The participants of this first big European Fridays for Future meeting in Lausanne will reflect on the future of the global movement, which has brought together young people from all over the world. Their aim is to generate inspiration and share their experiences in order to initiate concrete further steps. In particular, they will discuss strategies for fostering international cooperation within the movement and working towards an agenda with concrete common values, goals and demands. Coordinating the peaceful worldwide uprising of millions of climate-strikers of all ages in the context of the "Week for Future and Climate", during the UN Climate Summit this coming September, will also be on the agenda. During workshop discussions, scientists and experts will support the young Europeans. The movement calls for a fundamental political re-orientation and a social transformation towards global climate justice. In the light of climate change, the activists demand a sharpened ecological and social awareness and call for concrete action.

The young activists are raising alarm regarding the global climate crisis and its already evident impact on people and the environment. They do this as Europeans united across national, political and economic borders. They denounce the lack of commitment of the political establishment and contrast this with the colourful creativity, persistence and growing initiative in of their rapidly-expanding movement. They organise, among other things, the school strikes and show massive peaceful civil disobedience, so that politicians take seriously the central issue of our time, the future of humanity and our planet.

Isabelle Axelsson from Stockholm, Sweden, says: "The meeting is a unique opportunity to meet other young climate strikers from all over Europe. It will be great to share our common actions against the climate crisis."

Alongside local and European activists, Greta Thunberg, the initiator of the movement, will attend the meeting in Lausanne throughout the week..

Notable guests

Prominent scientists who support the Fridays for Future movement will be attending the SMILE summit in Lausanne. They include Professor Ernst von Weizsäcker, Honorary President of the Club of Rome, Professor Jacques Dubochet, Nobel Laureate and supporter of the movement from the start, Roger Hallamand Dr. Rupert Read, respectively the founder and spokesperson of Extinction Rebellion, Professor Madani Kaveh, former vice president of the United Nations

Environment Programme and Prof. Jean-Pascal van Ypserle, climatologist and former vice president of the IPCC.

Participants

Four hundred and fifty climate activists from 38 countries will join the Summit. Our movement may be best known for "Youth Strike For Climate" protests, but it welcomes strikers of all ages. National groups decided freely who to send to Lausanne as their representatives, with a maximum of 30 participants per country

Sometimes criticised for consisting of young people who are "inexperienced" or "easy to manipulate", our movement, in fact, welcomes activists of all ages - even if it is best known for its "Youth Strike For Climate" protests. The SMILE summit in Lausanne will involve participants ranging in age from 11 to 58, proving Greta Thunberg's quote that "no one is too small to make a difference" but also that "no one is too old."

- 57% of attendees are over the age of 18.
- four generations are represented: Generation X, Millennials, Generation Z and babyboomers
- Age range: 47 years, from 11 to 58

Food

SMILE aspires to eat well. That is, to provide good food for participants while protecting the Earth in the process. We know that modern agriculture alone is responsible for nearly twenty-five per cent of greenhouse gas emissions. Transport, food processing and food waste must be added to the equation because currently, one-third of the food produced is lost or wasted.

Considering this situation, SMILE has chosen to collaborate with farmers and local producers mindful of the environmental impact to source the best organic products. The summit will provide vegan cuisine. SMILE will also work with local agents to point out unsold food wasting.

During this week, SMILE hopes to demonstrate that eating well and limiting pollution are compatible.

Strike and party

The summit will end on August 9th with a demonstration followed by a party near the lake (Vidy, Lausanne). The march and the party, attended by meeting participants, will be open to the public. The march, which will start at 15.00 at the Place de la Gare in Lausanne, will be playful as artists and musicians have been invited to join. Organisers and participants - among them Greta Thunberg - will state their demands. In the evening DJ's and a group will animate the parc. And some food stand will be present. During these events, special attention will also be paid to the choice of artisans and products (mostly seasonal and local). Careful attention will also be paid to resource management to achieve zero waste. Washable dishes and dry toilet will be used.

Fridays For Future is also calling for a second international strike on September 27. The first international mobilisation in March involved more than the 1.4 million young people.

Strategy Working Group and plenaries

Despite the diversity of members of the global FFF initiative, common ideas central to the movement are shared cheyond local and national branches. The Strategy Working Group was

formed with the goal of gathering these shared ideas into a Europe-wide long-term strategy and vision for the FFF movement. At the SMILE summit, the Working Group will bring together national delegation representatives with the aim to develop a strategy proposal that win the consensus of of all delegations and other participating parties.

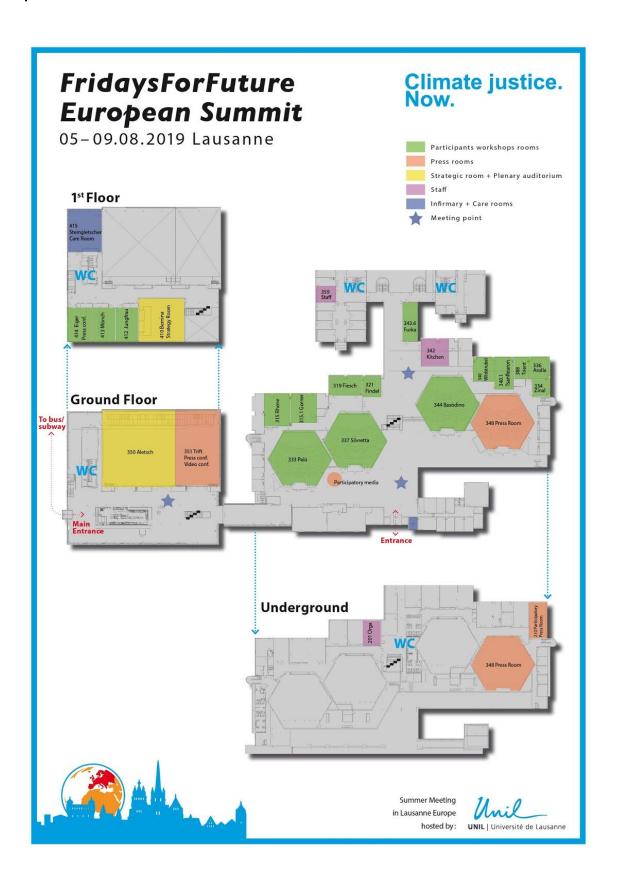
The strategy and vision will be determined by defining and laying down the movement's Values and Principles, Strategic and Operational goals, and Demands of our movement. In the pre-session work, the Strategy Working Group collected proposals from local and national initiatives for each of these three pillars. In addition, three subgroups focused on structuring the proposals and turning them into functional strategy suggestions to be discussed at plenaries.

The plenaries that will take place at the SMILE Summit form the basis of the FFF's democratic decision-making process. During each plenary, members of the respective subgroups will present the three draft documents produced by the Strategy Working Group. This presentation will be followed by questions and comments from participants, which will be addressed by Strategy Working Group members. The Strategy Working Group will later work on including participants' comments and feedback into the proposals, to be reviewed and revised further at the following plenaries until a consensus is reached on the Values and Principles, Strategic and Operational goals, and Demands of the FFF Europe movement.

Program of the week

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Map of the summit



Annexe

Important facts about the situation put together by S4F

- 1. The global mean temperature has already risen by 1 °C (relative to 1850 to 1900) (IPCC 2013, 2018). Half of the rise has occurred during the last 30 years (NASA 2018, IPCC 2014).
- 2. The years 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018 were, globally, the warmest years in the modern record (NASA 2019).
- 3. The temperature rise is almost entirely due to human-made greenhouse gas emissions (U.S. Global Change Research Program 2017, IPCC 2013, 2014)
- 4. Already the current temperature rise increases the probability of extreme weather conditions in several regions of the globe, such as strong precipitation and heatwaves, leading to elevated rates of regional droughts, floods and forest fires (e. g., IPCC 2012, 2013, 2018, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine 2016).
- 5. Global warming is a risk factor for human health (Watts et al. 2015, 2018). Besides the above-mentioned direct consequences, its indirect consequences include the lack of food security and the spread of pathogens and disease carriers.
- 6. If humanity fails to limit global warming to 1.5 °C, as envisaged by the Paris Agreement, additional severe consequences must be expected for humanity and nature at large in many parts of the world (IPCC 2018).
- 7. In order to restrict warming to the 1.5 °C limit with high probability, net emissions of greenhouse gases (in particular CO2) must be swiftly reduced and must, at the global level, reach zero within the next 20 to 30 years(IPCC 2013, 2018)
- 8. Instead, CO2-emissions continue to rise. Given the policy proposals currently on the table, global warming is likely to cross 3 °C by the end of the century and will increase afterwards due to continued emissions and positive feedback dynamics (Climate Action Tracker 2018).
- 9. Based on current emissions, the remaining CO2-budget left for reaching the 1.5 °C goal will last for about ten years. For the 2 °C goal, the budget is likely to last for about 25 to 30 years (MCC 2018, IPCC 2018).
- 10. Afterwards, humanity lives on a "CO2-overdraft-loan": any emitted greenhouse gases have to be removed later from the atmosphere with tremendous efforts (e. g., Rogelj et al. 2018, Gasser et al. 2015). Today's young people are already supposed to pay off this loan. If this fails, the following generations will suffer from the severe consequences of global warming.
- 11. Rising temperatures increase the probability of crossing climatic tipping points in the earth system dynamics, i.e., positive feedback loops will be-come more likely (Schellnhuber et al. 2016, Steffen et al. 2016, 2018). This would result in a situation, where returning to the current temperature regime would become unrealistic for future generations.

- 12. Oceans are currently absorbing around 90 percent of the additional heat(IPCC 2013). They have furthermore absorbed about 30 percent of the CO2 emitted so far. Consequences are rising sea levels, melting of sea ice, acidification and dissolved-oxygen depletion in the oceans. Meeting the goals set by the Paris Agreement is essential to protect humanity and nature, and to mitigate the loss of marine biodiversity and ecosystems, specifically the currently endangered coral communities (IPCC 2018).
- 13. The human basis of life is threatened in several areas by the crossing of "planetary boundaries". As of 2015, two boundaries are exceeded with a degree of uncertainty (climate and land use change) and two further are critically exceeded: the destruction of genetic variability (biodiversity) and the phosphorus and nitrogen biogeochemical cycles (Steffen et al. 2015).
- 14. We currently face the largest mass-extinction event since the era of the dinosaurs (Barnosky et al. 2011). Global extinction rates are 100 to 1000 times faster as compared to before humanity exerted its influence (Ceballos et al. 2015, Pimm et al. 2014). The past 500 years saw the extinction of more than 300 land-dwelling vertebrate species (Dirzo et al. 2014); the abundance of investigated vertebrate species has dropped on average by around 60 percent from 1970 to 2014 (WWF 2018).
- 15. Causes for biodiversity loss are on the one hand habitat destruction by agriculture, deforestation, as well as land consumption by settlements and roads. On the other hand, invasive species play a role, as well as depletion due to over-collection, overfishing and overhunting (Hoffmann et al. 2010).
- 16. Global warming adds to this: with undiminished CO2 emissions, half of the plant and animal species of the Amazon basin or the Galapagos islands, for example, can be expected to have vanished by 2100 (Warrenet al. 2018). Similarly, global warming is the major threat for the survival of coral reefs (Hughes et al. 2017, 2018, IPCC 2018).
- 17. The loss of agricultural areas and soil fertility, as well as the irreversible destruction of biodiversity and ecosystems threaten the basis of life and limit the options of current and future generations (IPBES 2018a, 2018b, Secretariat of the CBD 2014, Willett et al. 2019, IAAST 2009a, 2009b).
- 18. Insufficient protection of soil, ocean, fresh-water resources and biodiversity acts as a risk multiplier in the face of global warming (Johnstone andMazo 2011). It increases the risk that water shortage and famine in many countries will trigger or aggravate social and military conflicts, and contrib -ute to the migration of larger human populations (Levy et al. 2017, WorldBank Group 2018, Solow 2013).
- 19. A sustainable diet with reduced meat, fish and milk consumption, as well as a reorientation of agricultural methods to resource-saving food production are necessary for the protection of land and marine ecosystems and the stabilisation of climate change (Springmann et al. 2018).
- 20. Meat production produces less than one fifth of the calories used world-wide on more than four fifths of the agricultural area (Poore and Nemecek 2018), and emits a significant proportion of greenhouse gases (FAO 2013). Since the agricultural area includes permanent pastures and meadows as well as croplands, and most of the former cannot be converted to cropland, another comparison is also illustrative: more than one third of the global cereal harvest is used currently as animal feed (FAO 2017).

- 21. A transition to increased direct consumption of plant-based foods will reduce both the need for cropland and the level of greenhouse gas emissions while providing additional health benefits (Springmann et al. 2016).
- 22. Direct government subsidies for fossil-based industries amount to more than 100 billion U.S. dollar per year (Jakob et al. 2015). Taking social and environmental costs (in particular health costs, but also air and water pol -lution) into account, global post-tax subsidies for fossil fuels are significantly higher. According to experts of the International Monetary Fund (IMF)they amount to about five trillion U.S. dollar per year that is 6.5 percent of global gross domestic product (2014) (Coady et al. 2017).
- 23. According to the polluter pays principle, the cost of climate damages should be attributed to the burning of fossil fuels. One possible approach is the introduction of CO2 prices. As long as a sufficient supply of low-cost renewable energies is not achieved, the resulting financial burden will need to be distributed in a socially responsible way. Examples are direct transfers or tax reductions for particularly affected households or lump-sum payments for citizens (Klenert et al. 2018).
- 24. Based on already established sustainable energy technologies, a strong reduction in costs and an increase in production capacities is possible. This would, in turn, render a change from burning fossils to an energy sys -tem fully based on renewable energy financially feasible and create new economic possibilities (Nykvist and Nilsson 2015, Creutzig et al. 2017, Jacobson et al. 2018, Teske et al. 2018, Breyer et al. 2018, Löffler et al. 2017, Pursiheimo et al. 2019).

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