# JOIN THE RIDE FOR CHANGE

# WEWANT A SOCIALLY JUST CLIMATE AGREEMENT!

CLIMATE BUS

LICHTERVELDE

FRANKFURT

# 27-30 NOVEMBER 2015

International Young NatureFriends

VOUTH AND ENVELOPMENT EUROPE WWW.YEENET.EU

#### Join the Ride for Change!

International Young Naturefriends (IYNF) together with Youth and Environment Europe (YEE) are going to the COP21, and you can join us!

The world needs a **global strategy** to tackle **climate change**! The effects of rising global temperatures on our planet are expected to be **changing our way of life as we know it**. We are in need of a shifting paradigm towards a **more sustainable future**, if we want a future at all. That is why we are going to **the climate negotiations in Paris**. Together with thousands of other people we are going to claim the streets of Paris and show the world that we need an **international climate agreement** that is **socially just** and represents the urgency to **take action globally**!

From 27 – 30 November we are going to Paris. For the price of 85€ you can join us and your accommodation, food & transport are all covered!

Mail to Thomas@iynf.org or call us on <u>+420 234 621 573</u> if you have any questions or are interested to join.

See you in Paris!



### **CLIMATE BUS INFOSHEET**

#### WHY WE GO TO PARIS?

This year the 21st Conference Of the Parties (COP21) organized by the UNFCCC takes place in Paris from 30 November until 11 December. During those two weeks; negotiators, politicians, lobbyists, scientists human & environmental rights organizations and national representatives from all the corners of the world come together to discuss the 21nd attempt to create a global agreement on the approach towards climate change. It is expected that the outcome of the COP21 will be an agreement that replaces the Kyoto-protocol and will be implemented from 2020. However, IYNF & YEE expect an agreement that does not represents the urgency of the global challenge we are already facing. We hope that we are wrong.

IYNF & YEE organize a bus from Prague to Paris to take part in the civil society demonstration on 29 November, right

before the official negotiations take place. Our main aim is to provide the possibility to go for interested people, Naturefriends, activists and whoever finds it important to attend the demonstration. We want to be present in Paris to demand an international legally binding socially just climate agreement that encourages nations to change the direction towards a more sustainable future. Together with other youth organizations we have created our demands for the COP21 (see page 10). The European Youth Forum will lobby within the UNFCCC negotiations to advocate for these demands, once their members have approved them.

We want to be in Paris to join the mass manifestation and show the world that we care for our planet and its inhabitants. We are convinced – <u>as shown in history</u> - that a demonstration attended by a lot of people can have a strong impact and put political pressure on the ones who are responsible for the creation and finalization of the climate agreement.

Although we value the participation in the demonstration in Paris a lot, we also see this weekend as the perfect opportunity to bring people from all over Europe together who care about our environment and

are motivated to create and take part in activities that reflects the need to build a sustainable future. One of the main aims of IYNF is to build a network of people from all over Europe that share the values of solidarity, justice, democracy, sustainability and love and care for nature. IYNF exist with the mission to educate young people from all over Europe and provide activities that represent our Naturefriendly values. The aim of YEE is to encourage youth to be involved in environmental protection and to provide a platform where these organisations can work together.If this is the first time you come in contact with our movements, then we are glad to announce: 'Welcome on board'!



#### THE PROGRAM

Because we will be together with 60 people for 4 days, we would like to invite you to mingle as much as possible and enlarge your personal networks. Therefor we have created a couple of activities to get to know each other during our trip to Paris, expect the unexpected!

Friday 27/11	Saturday 28/11	Sunday 29/11	Monday 30/11
Friday 27/11 'MEET & GREET' - We will meet 18h30 at Benevino in Prague - At 19h30 we'll have a Potluck - At 22h we'll	<ul> <li>'PREPARE YOURSELF'</li> <li>Very early in the morning at 05h we'll stop in Frankfurt, Germany</li> <li>Around 9-10h there will be a speed date on the bus</li> </ul>	<b>'SYSTEM CHANGE,</b> <b>NOT CLIMATE</b> <b>CHANGE!'</b> - At <b>6h30</b> in the morning we go to Paris - <b>10h30</b> we arrive in Paris	<ul> <li><b>'THE WAY BACK – THE</b></li> <li><b>Around 4h</b> we arrive in Brussels</li> <li><b>Around 10h</b> we arrive in Frankfurt</li> <li><b>Around 15h</b> we</li> </ul>
go to Florence - 23h – Off to Paris with the CLIMATE BUS!	<ul> <li>At 11h we arrive in Lichtervelde, Belgium</li> <li>From 11h – 13h there will be brunch</li> <li>At 14h – 18h30 we start with different workshops</li> <li>18h30 – 20h dinner</li> <li>20h – 22h short but powerful Party!</li> <li>22h – Campfire &amp; sleeping time</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>At 12h we join the Climate March</li> <li>After the Climate March there is free time to explore Paris</li> <li>At midnight 24h we gather again</li> <li>O0h30 we leave with the Climate Bus</li> </ul>	- Around 15h we arrive in Prague.

Friday

Our trip starts at 18h30 in Benevino - **Benediktská 5, Praha 1 - Staré Město**. We will gather there and enjoy our time with a glass of local wine. Later in the evening we will have a potluck! We invite you to bring some vegetarian or vegan food that can be easily consumed while meeting new people. At 23h we take off with the bus to Belgium at the bus station Florence. If you're not able to come to Berevino, please come latest to the bus station at 22h30.





#### Saturday

In the morning you can expect a 'Climate Bus speed date'. Once we arrive in Lichtervelde, we will brunch and take the time to relax a bit. In the afternoon we will divide ourselves in different groups and you will be able to choose a workshop that you like. We're still searching for more workshops, if you have an idea, let us know: Thomas@iynf.org

After dinner we put the tables aside and stretch our legs a bit with the 'Short but Powerful Party!' There will be beer available and fair-trade wine for reasonable prices. Don't forget to bring Euros! In the evening we will camp in the shed, in tents. You don't need to bring tent pegs, as we will sleep on a carpet. Please be aware that it will be very cold, so it is absolutely necessary to have warm sleeping material if you want to sleep comfortable! Let us know if you can't find a tent, then we'll help searching for a solution.

#### Sunday

The day of Action! We leave Lichtervelde early in the morning and we go for Paris. There will be food provided that you can take with you for during the day. We will claim the streets and join the mass. We will shout and sing for the climate, so all the citizens of Paris will know what is happening in their city. Please bring your flags, instruments or your activist suit. Let's change the course of history! We want a socially just climate agreement!

#### Monday

We leave Paris at 00h30, direction home. Let us call it the geographical way back, but the mental way forward!



#### WHAT TO BRING

- Your passport or ID
- European insurance card (if you have them) –
   Or national insurance card
- Euro's Paris can be quite expensive, be aware of that
- Warm clothes!
- A good warm sleeping bag!
- A sleeping mat!
- A tent To reduce the cold we're going to camp in tents inside a large shed. It is absolutely necessary that you take a tent with you, or share one with friends!
- Food for the potluck if you come from Prague
- Some snacks for during the trip
- Small board & card games
- Small instruments
- Earplugs You never know you're sleeping next to a snorer 😊

#### WHAT TO LEAVE HOME

In and around Paris there will be a lot of police control to ensure public safety. As experienced in previous COPs, we know that the police puts a lot of effort in preventing dangerous situations. There is a chance they will stop us before Paris and check our luggage to check if we brought 'dangerous material'. To make sure that our trip does not cause unexpected delays we want to emphasize the importance of



leaving the following materials at home.

Any kind of (fake) weapon - Please leave your Swiss knife at home
 Alcohol – There will be the possibility to drink something on Friday in
 Prague, on Saturday you can taste Belgian beer & on Sunday you can
 taste real French wine. So please don't bring anything for on the bus

- Any type of drugs

- Gas masks – In the COP15 in Copenhagen people were arrested for having a gas mask in their backpacks!

- Banners with violent slogans

#### WHAT IF I GET ARRESTED?

The chance that you will get arrested is very little with the Climate March on 29 November. The demonstration is meant to be non-violent, is known & accepted by the City State Government of Paris and thus completely legal. Still, that does not mean you can do what you want. Any act of violence (towards the police) will be perceived as a crime and can lead to detainment for 8h up to 24h. If they have 'good reasons' for it they can detain you up to 3 weeks. In Copenhagen around 900 activists were held longer than 2 weeks, because of strong acts of civil disobedience. Any act of violence of the police towards the demonstrators, will be perceived as an act of public safety.



Everyone will get the number of the 'Climate Bus Emergency Phone' during the trip. When arrested you are legally permitted to call at least one number. Once this happened, we will do anything in our power to make sure you can join the bus again in the evening. IYNF & YEE cannot be held responsible for any act of violence, we do not tolerate such behavior and are not accountable for it, if it happens. We stimulate any type of non-violent action!



#### HOW DO I REGISTER?

You can register for the Climate Bus here. Registration is open until 10 November.

How does it work?

1) Fill in the questions in the registration form.

2) After filling in the form you will receive a confirmation email with a personal code.

3) From the moment you get this email with the code, you have exactly 3 days to pay 85€ on our Bank account. Don't forget to add the code to ensure your participation. Please do this as fast as possible, places on the bus are limited!

For Czech people paying in Czech Koruna our bank account is:
 198298737/0300 (for transfers within the Czech Republic only) or IBAN: CZ81 0300 0000 0001 9829
 8737, SWIFT: CEKO CZ PP

- For others paying in Euro our bank account details are: IBAN: AT55 1400 0040 1088 8161, BIC/SWIFT: BAWAATWW, account holder: Naturfreundejugend Internationale

4) Please send us a print screen of your payment, so we know that we can expect your money on our bank account soon.

5) Once we have received the 85€ with the personal code, you will get a second email with the full confirmation of your participation with the Climate Bus! Congratulations, you're now officially going to Paris!

IMPORTANT: If we have not received any confirmation of your payment (E.g. Print screen) within 3 days, you will get an email saying that your reservation code will be invalid and you have to fill in a new form!



By attending the Climate Bus you support Forest Protection in Brazil: http://www.climatepartner.com/portfolio/1023\_en.pdf

#### Example:

Marcel lives currently in Prague. Once he heard about a climate bus, he got enthusiastic immediately, found all the info online and he filled in the registration form. A day later he got an email from IYNF, saying: 'Thank you Marcel for filling in the registration form. You're code is CBP\_000, please pay within 3 days from now, or send us a print screen of your payment, so we can expect your contribution. See you soon!' A big smile emerged onto Marcels face, he paid his participation fee directly and waited patiently for another email to arrive. 2 Days later, Marcel gets an email from IYNF saying: 'Dear Marcel, we've got your payment, you're now officially going to Paris with the Climate Bus! All info about the activity can be found in the attached info sheet. See you very soon!' Marcel jumps out of his chair, makes a little dance of joy and then invites all his friends to join the Climate Bus.

#### WHAT IF WE DON'T FIND ENOUGH PARTICIPANTS FOR THE BUS?

By the 10<sup>th</sup> of November we will have a final overview of the participation, if we don't have 60% of the bus filled by then, we are obliged to either cancel the whole bus, or ask for more financial contribution. In case we have to cancel the bus, every participant will be reimbursed. So please invite all your friends so we can send a full bus to Paris for the price of 85€!

#### WHO IS IYNF?

IYNF is an international organisation bringing together Young Naturefriends and their organisations across Europe.

IYNF combines three roles and identities:



IYNF is a network of groups and organisations which cooperate together. The core role of IYNF is to facilitate this cooperation by creating links, organising meeting, providing direct support and promoting nature-friendly activities all over Europe.

IYNF is a training and exchange organization, organising value-driven youth exchanges and capacity building activities for the benefit of its members. We do so in our core fields of outdoor programming, amateur art and environmental education. Our methods are based on experiential and intercultural education.

IYNF is a value-based organisation representing its members at the European level. By our delegations, publications and promotion activities we carry our values of IYNF to European political stakeholder: respect, equality, solidarity, sustainability and love and care for nature.

More info on www.iynf.org



#### WHO IS YEE?

Youth and Environment Europe gives an opportunity to contact other European organisations, to exchange experiences and ideas and to work together.

All our activities are organised and carried out by young people under 30. YEE organises and encourages all activities that can increase the knowledge, understanding and appreciation of nature and the awareness of environmental problems among young people in Europe. Its aim is to promote the commitment of youth to the principles of environmental conservation. Therefore, young people's voluntary actions have to be stimulated for the protection and the rational use of the Earth's resources. Since environmental problems have no borders, we act together within YEE in order to implement our ideas in our local groups and in joint activities. Within international actions, we intend to raise public awareness and to put pressure on enterprises and politicians.

YEE's European activities fall into two main areas:

1) Supporting the work of member organisations by promoting the widest possible exchange of information, ideas and experience among them. We achieve this through publications and European training courses (e.g.: sustainable development, landscape management, ecology and economy, sustainable tourism, energy, climate change).

2) Coordinating the activities of member organisations by promoting direct cooperation between individuals on topics of mutual interest through European working groups and by organising joint actions and campaigns on environmental issues of European importance.

#### More info on <u>www.yeenet.eu</u>

#### **KNOWLEDGE IS POWER**

Interesting articles on climate change, UNFCCC, previous COPS & workshop or trainers guidelines:

More info on the COP concept: <u>http://www.iynf.org/2013/11/young-naturefriend-explains-cop-and-un-climate-negotiations/</u>

Climate March in New York: <u>http://www.iynf.org/2014/10/biggest-climate-march-in-history-with-a-yet-uncertain-impact/</u>

Critical review of the way UNFCCC works: <u>http://www.iynf.org/2015/04/how-many-cops-do-we-need-to-find-a-solution/</u>

Environmental publications of YEE: <u>http://yeenet.eu/index.php/publications/yee-general-publications</u>





## **Climate matters:**

# The vision of European youth for COP21



The global climate change negotiations in Paris this year (COP21) will decide the future of young people in today's world. The last Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report states it clearly<sup>1</sup>: There is an increased likelihood of severe, pervasive and irreversible impacts for people and ecosystems due to climate change.

Projected changes, taking into account various scenarios, will likely include rising surface temperatures, more regular and longer heat waves, more intense and frequent extreme precipitation events, a rising global mean sea level, and an acidifying and warming ocean. All of these changes are starting to disrupt the lives of living beings on earth and impact biodiversity.

Given that our socio-economic system is already vulnerable, climate change could have potentially catastrophic global effects as entire ecosystems will have to adapt to new conditions. In the end, it is our whole way of life that is at risk.

This is why the recently agreed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) put a large focus on climate change: without radical climate action, hundreds of millions of young people worldwide risk falling into extreme poverty.

As young global citizens and actors of change, we demand immediate action from the world's leaders. COP21 must agree on an ambitious and binding agreement that will adequately mitigate and adapt to climate change. We also express solidarity with those that will be most affected by climate change in the Global South: we want to see an agreement that implements real sustainable development for everyone.

#### Young people at the centre

Young people are already and will keep on being the social category most affected by the effects of climate change. The socio-economic burden they carry, especially in the current context, will grow with the consequences of climate change. Indeed, climate change reveals and reinforces inequalities especially for young people and particularly young women living in the Global South.

Climate change also raises the issue of intergenerational justice as today's action or inaction has implications on current youth and future generations.

We consider young people as actors of change, able to advocate for and take action to preserve our future. Youth organisations play a major role in empowering young people, advocating for their rights and educating wider society. Yet their voices are not being heard.

Taking this into account, we call for:

- increased participation of young people in the decision-making process of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as well as representation for future generations. This means youth representatives in national delegations as well as involvement of youth organisations in the definition, implementation and evaluation of global agreements on climate change, at all political levels.
- a legally binding instrument at international level that commits States to the protection of future generations as mentioned in article 3<sup>3</sup> of the UNFCCC.
- a global agreement that ensures greater intergenerational solidarity through funding mechanisms for loss and damage due to climate change: some degree of harm is unavoidable but young people and future generations shouldn't carry the burden by themselves.

#### A social and human rights-based approach

Recognising climate change has consequences in terms of socio-economic conditions and access to Human Rights; a right-based approach is needed in addressing this issue.

The necessary ecological transition can only happen if public and private actors and individuals change their habits. Thus, it is highly necessary that young people have access to education on sustainable development. Education, both formal and non-formal, is fundamental in raising public awareness and should be recognised as a powerful tool to disseminate relevant information and to empower people for positive change.

Also, youth, women and marginalised groups are at higher risk of living in conditions of isolation and social exclusion. Therefore, they have limited access to early warning signs in time of disasters and to forecasts of drastic changes in climate. Thus, they are susceptible to forced displacement, extreme poverty that may endanger their health, food security and capacity to survive.

Taking this into account, we call for:

- the inclusion of the principles of article 6 of UNFCCC on education, training and public awareness in the Paris agreement;
- a climate justice approach that links human rights, including youth rights and development to achieve a human-centred approach, safeguarding the rights of the most vulnerable by sharing the burden of climate change. This right-based approach has to consider access to global public goods such as water, clean air, clean and renewable energy and food safety as universal human rights;
- developed countries to take a proactive stance on the matter of environmental displaced populations.

#### Promoting a new sustainable model

Because we are aware of the connection between climate change and all dimensions of our society, the global agreement that should come out of COP21 should adopt a **transversal approach**. Adaptation and mitigation measures to adapt to climate change and reduce its impact are key for this new sustainable model. It should be an opportunity, through innovation, for young people to have a better future.

Taking this into account, we call for:

 a global transition to a green, carbon neutral and circular economic system based on a "cradle to cradle"<sup>4</sup> approach and short supply chains. It is a tool to create new quality jobs for young people and promote innovation;

- an EU Energy Union that moves away from non-renewable sources. It should instead enable the full potential of renewable energy and interconnectivity to create security of supply moving surplus energy internally within the EU and promote energy saving;
- the acknowledgement of the hidden costs<sup>5</sup> of current policies. Young people should not bear the double burden of a degrading environment and of a transition that becomes more expensive the longer we wait;
- a transparent and regular assessment of the impact of climate change at all levels;
- relevant funding mechanisms such as a global tax on financial transactions and environmental impact, and implementation of an efficient Emission Trading System. Resources should be divested from fossil fuels to be invested in the green economy;
- the acknowledgement and support of the right to develop for the Global South.

Inter-regional cooperation and aid should support mitigation and adaptation actions through the Green Climate Fund<sup>6</sup> that the Global North should pledge to;

- research to support resilience strategies should be encouraged and funded by all states according to their capacities;
- an agreement balancing innovation and precautionary principles, especially when it comes to health issues (cancer, chronic diseases, lowering fertility rates, etc.) that affect more and more young people.

#### The way forward

In order to achieve the above-mentioned calls, basic principles should be applied. Thus, we demand:

- a legally binding agreement including accountability measures;
- ensuring the 2°C goal, and focusing on "step-by-step" objectives to facilitate follow- up processes. A similar point of comparison and a common time-frame for all countries are a necessary basis for the agreement;
- the European Union to lead the process by example, setting ambitious goals that exceed the existing 50% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions target<sup>7</sup> such as being carbonneutral by 2050;
- a financing solution to every political decision taken at COP21;
- a more democratic and equitable process within the climate negotiations.

#### 1. IPCC Fifth assessment report

2. 2006 Policy Paper on "Sustainable Development"; 2008 Resolution "On European youth fighting against Climate Change"; 2009 Position paper "What kind of global climate deal do youth deserve"

<sup>3</sup>. "The Parties should protect the climate system for the benefit of present and future generations of humankind, on the basis of equity and in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities." United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Article 3, 1992

4. This framework seeks to create production techniques that are not just efficient but are essentially waste free.

5. Negative externalities, i.e. costs that affect a party who didn't choose to incur that costs.

6. The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is a fund within the framework of the UNFCCC founded as a mechanism to assists developing countries in adaptation and mitigation practices to counter climate change.

7. EU position for Paris climate change conference – 18.09.2015