

Scientific freedom, responsibility and protection of scientists

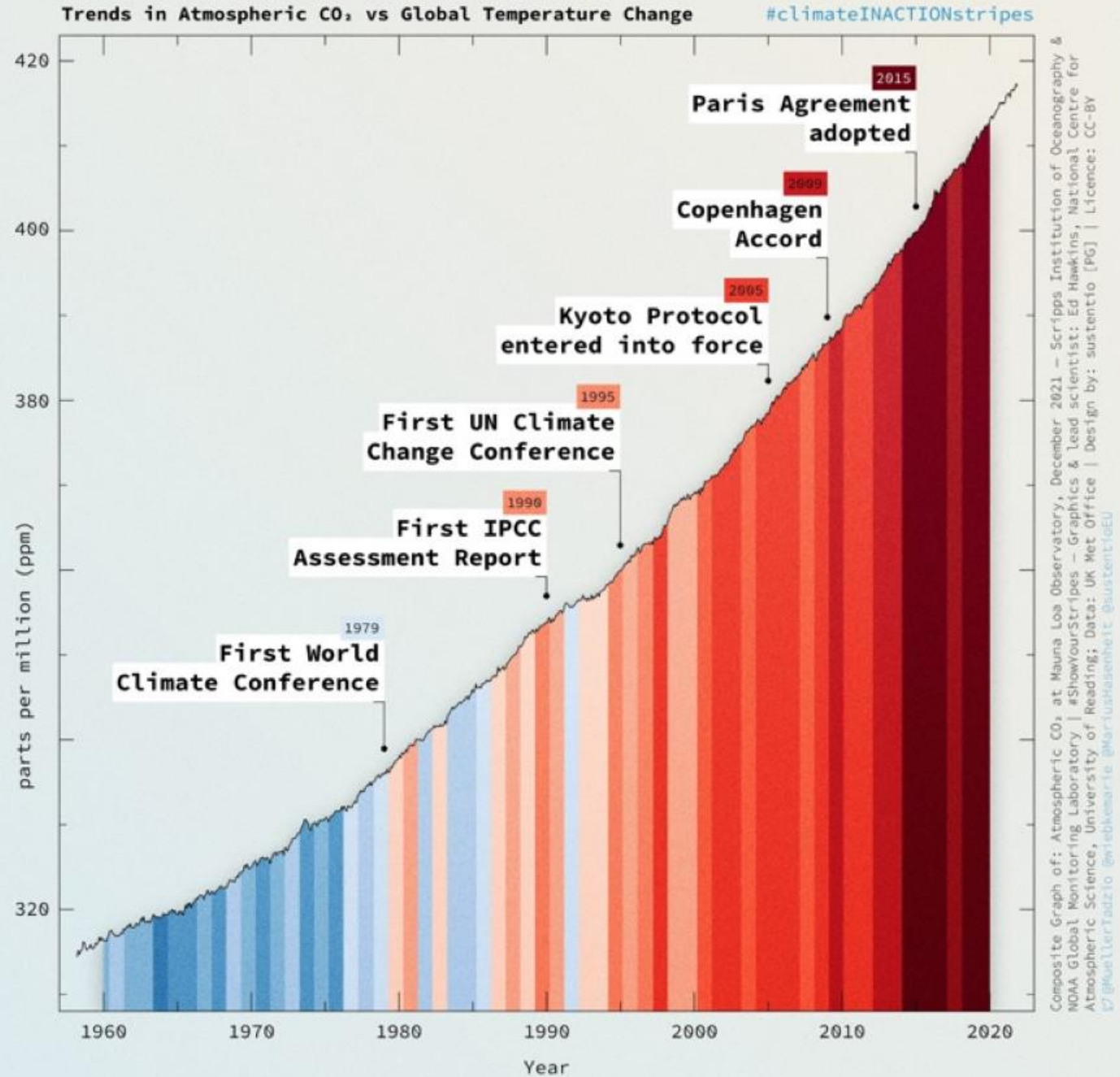
Responsible science activists
in a planetary emergency

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World Science Forum 2024



Our political system is failing us, domestically and internationally



World Scientists' Warning of a Climate Emergency

WILLIAM J. RIPPLE, CHRISTOPHER WOLF, THOMAS M. NEWSOME, PHOEBE BARNARD, WILLIAM R. MOOMAW, AND 11,258 SCIENTIST SIGNATORIES FROM 153 COUNTRIES (LIST IN SUPPLEMENTAL FILE S1)

Scientists have a moral obligation to clearly warn humanity of any catastrophic threat and to "tell it like it is." On the basis of this obligation and the graphical indicators presented below, we declare, with more than 11,000 scientist signatories from around the world, clearly and unequivocally that planet Earth is facing a climate emergency.

Exactly 40 years ago, scientists from 50 nations met at the First World Climate Conference (in Geneva 1979) and agreed that alarming trends for

as actual climatic impacts (figure 2). We use only relevant data sets that are clear, understandable, systematically collected for at least the last 5 years, and updated at least annually.

The climate crisis is closely linked to excessive consumption of the wealthy lifestyle. The most affluent countries are mainly responsible for the historical GHG emissions and generally have the greatest per capita emissions (table S1). In the present article, we show general patterns, mostly at the global scale, because there are many

forest loss in Brazil's Amazon has now started to increase again (figure 1g). Consumption of solar and wind energy has increased 373% per decade, but in 2018, it was still 28 times smaller than fossil fuel consumption (combined gas, coal, oil; figure 1h). As of 2018, approximately 14.0% of global GHG emissions were covered by carbon pricing (figure 1m), but the global emissions-weighted average price per tonne of carbon dioxide was only around US\$15.25 (figure 1n). A much higher carbon fee price is

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News | Climate Crisis

Climate change: 11,000 scientists warn of 'untold suffering'

Climate crisis has arrived and is accelerating faster than most scientists expected, signatories say.

10 JUL 2019 | PRESS RELEASE | YOUTH, EDUCATION & ENVIRONMENT

Higher and Further Education Institutions across the globe declare Climate Emergency

“We declare, with more than 11,000 scientist signatories from around the world, clearly and unequivocally that planet Earth is facing a climate emergency”

2019

**Emergency
times...**



**...call for
emergency
measures**

From Publications to Public Actions

There is an imperative for responsible scientific activism
in a planetary emergency



Proliferation of social movements.....



....that are making a difference

Collective action as part of social or lifestyle movements underpins system change (*high confidence*). Collective action and social organising are crucial to shift the possibility space of public policy on climate change mitigation. For example, climate strikes have given voice to youth in more than 180 countries. In other instances, mitigation policies allow the active participation of all stakeholders, resulting in building social trust, new coalitions, legitimising change, and thus initiate a positive cycle in climate governance capacity and policies. {5.4.2, Figure 5.14}

scientist rebellion_

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We are scientists uniting against climate failure.

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Scientist Rebellion – 32 countries

AFRICA	AMERICAS	ASIA PACIFIC	EUROPE
DRC Malawi Nigeria Rwanda Sierra Leone Tanzania Uganda Zimbabwe	Argentina Chile Colombia Ecuador Mexico Panama Peru US/Canada	Australia India 	Belgium Denmark France Finland Germany Greece Italy Netherlands Norway Portugal Spain Sweden Switzerland UK

National group contacts at
<https://scientistrebellion.org/contact-us>



Targeted interventions – government, insurance, law, museums



INSURE OUR SURVIVAL

DO-IT-AT-HOME ACTION TODAY!
THURS 31ST OCT

MASS PHONING + EMAILING

DIGITAL REBELLION





ASK A SCIENTIST LIVE
 Organised by XR Scientists

Wednesday 7th April
 5:30 p.m. (BST) - 4:30 p.m. (UTC)

**BEYOND OPTIMISM OR DOOM:
 HOW CAN WE COMMUNICATE
 THE NEED FOR URGENT
 CLIMATE ACTION?**

ASK A SCIENTIST LIVE
 Organised by XR Scientists

Monday 29th June, 17:00 (BST)

**TIPPING POINTS:
 WHAT SHOULD WE
 BE AFRAID OF?
 HOW MAY THEY END
 UP SAVING US?**



Scientists for Extinction Rebellion at The Big One - a mass protest in London, April 2023



MAY 6, 2022

Why this XR climate scientist went on hunger and thirst strike

Emma Smart gave up all food and drink to protest the government's lack of action on the climate crisis

SHARE



Doctor found guilty of professional misconduct after taking part in climate protest



Acts of Civil Disobedience

Collaborate with
and support other
activist groups

Organize legal support

Teach-ins

Action Support

Build Regenerative Culture

Expert Testimony

Action Planning

Amplify
marginalized
voices

Write Opinion
pieces and
perspectives

Lobby for change
at Universities

Solidarity Actions

Social Media

Discuss climate change
and personal responsibility
with coworkers

HOW WE REBEL

Non-violent civil resistance has proven to be one of the most effective tools to catalyze societal change, and has been a major driver behind historic victories for decolonization, labour rights, women's rights, LGBTQ+ rights, and civil rights. It is a last-resort, but one that members of Scientist Rebellion, alongside many other members of society, are increasingly embracing to protest the glaring injustice of the policies, laws, and systems that continue to fuel the climate and ecological crises. When we stand up to a more powerful authority, we can engage the public and mount political and economic pressure in ways that other forms of action cannot.

Behind every person you see risking arrest in civil resistance, there is a vast, multi-disciplinary team supporting them behind the scenes. You can think of it as an iceberg. No matter your circumstances, there is a place for you.

What can WSF participants do?

AS AN INSTITUTIONAL LEADER

- **Protect the safety and freedom of scientists who choose to be activists – “have their backs”**
- **Run/host initiatives** on science activism and social movements to raise profile amongst members
- **Provide training, evidence and fact-checking support** to social movements
- **Defend the right of academics to protest**
- **Build science activism into research evaluation frameworks**
- **Instigate research programmes** on science activism and its efficacy
- **Provide free meeting space** to social movements
- **Divest from oil and gas industry** funding and sponsorship
- **Adopt green, sustainable institutional practices** – minimise travel, use and waste; use green-flagged third parties; prepare public annual accounts

AS A MEMBER OF THE GLOBAL RESEARCH COMMUNITY

- **Lead / participate in (research/advocacy) initiatives** on science activism
- **Write OpEds, editorials** etc on science activism
- Provide **behind-the-scenes support** e.g. fact-checking, training
- **Support colleagues and students** who choose to be activists
- **Publicly support** science activism and social movement campaigns
- **Go on marches, join demonstrations**

Be kind,
supportive,
protective,
proactive

=> Recognise peaceful, disruptive science activism as a necessary and legitimate part of the global science community's toolkit for communicating science and influencing policy

Conclusion-

As Albert Einstein is said to have remarked:

