

PRESS RELEASE

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Climate Alliance

Climate Action Call issued as cities worldwide declare climate emergency

Climate Alliance joins coalition urging European leaders to take decisive action on climate ahead of EU elections

Brussels/Frankfurt, 7 May 2019. Stakeholders across Europe have launched a Climate Action Call today in Brussels. “Hundreds of cities across Europe and the globe are declaring a climate emergency. They are reaching towards zero carbon and setting 100% renewable energy goals, thus contributing to climate justice the world over,” explains Thomas Brose, Executive Director of Climate Action Call signatory Climate Alliance. “It is time for current and future EU policymakers to help turn this local level ambition into a European reality.” The call comes ahead of the EU Heads of State and Government debate on the Future of Europe on 9 May and the European elections from 23 and 26 May. In parallel, more than 200 mayors are sending an open letter to the European Council and its Member States calling for more climate ambition. Signatories of the Climate Action Call demand that current and future EU leaders act on public and local government mobilisation by publicly committing to make climate action a priority in upcoming debates.

The call spells out five steps for the new European Parliament and Commission as well as all EU Member State governments:

- 1) Commit to accelerate actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and reach net zero emissions as soon as possible.
- 2) Plan the end of the use of fossil fuels and provide strong support to energy efficiency, renewable energy and emission cuts outside the energy sector.
- 3) Safeguard a just and fair transition and ensure that the EU increases its support to developing countries to mitigate and adapt to climate change.
- 4) Increase efforts to roll out the circular economy and increase resource efficiency.
- 5) Recognise biodiversity protection and ecosystem restoration as a crucial component of climate action.

Hundreds of cities, businesses, investors, scientists, faith groups and civil society organisations, including climate, human rights, litigation, citizens’ mobilisation and sports groups have taken up this unprecedented Climate Action Call to profoundly alter the way we run our societies and economies and limit temperature rise to 1.5°C.

FURTHER INFORMATION

- [The Climate Action Call](#)
- [Video message from Climate Alliance President Tine Heyse](#)

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- [Complete signatory statements](#) (scroll down)
- [Mayor's letter for more climate ambition](#) (pdf)
- [On local climate emergency declarations](#)
- [Further information on zero carbon](#)

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THE CLIMATE ALLIANCE

For more than 25 years, Climate Alliance member municipalities have been acting in partnership with indigenous rainforest peoples for the benefit of the global climate. With some 1,700 members spread across 26 European countries, Climate Alliance is the world's largest city network dedicated to climate action and the only one to set tangible targets: each member city, town and district has committed itself to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 10 percent every 5 years. Recognising the impact our lifestyles can have on the world's most vulnerable people and places, Climate Alliance pairs local action with global responsibility. climatealliance.org