

PRESS RELEASE

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Climate Alliance

88 cities denounce human rights and environmental abuses in Amazonia

Climate Alliance members call for solidarity with indigenous peoples in midst of Amazon Basin climate emergency at international conference in Rostock

Rostock/Frankfurt, 27 September 2019. Local authorities from across Europe have passed a declaration in the German city of Rostock demanding joint action to protect indigenous peoples of the Amazon Basin and the Amazonian rainforest. “The balance of Mother Earth depends on the Amazon Basin; allowing its devastation implies the extermination of humanity,” explains Robinson Lopéz Descanse, Climate Alliance Vice President and Coordinator for Climate Change and Biodiversity of COICA, Amazonia’s umbrella association for indigenous organisations. In August, COICA followed the example of over 60 Climate Alliance municipalities by declaring its own climate emergency. Rostock declared its own Climate Emergency on 25 September.

The statement calls for a halt to Mercosur talks until deforestation and human rights abuses are stopped as well as the legal recognition of indigenous territories and the ratification of ILO Convention 169 on indigenous rights. The declaration of support was passed during the 28th Climate Alliance International Conference, where 175 participants representing municipalities, NGOs and governmental organisations from 18 countries have gathered to discuss topics including climate policy, climate justice, sustainable mobility and community engagement in climate action. The event also marks 25 or more years of dedicated Climate Alliance membership for 195 municipalities. This year’s conference is part of Rostock’s climate week from 22 to 27 September.

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FURTHER INFORMATION

- [Declaration of support, voted by the Climate Alliance General Assembly](#)
- [Photos for use by the press](#)
- [Open letter from COICA](#)
- [Information on Amazonia in flames](#)
- [2019 Climate Alliance International Conference](#)
- [COICA as Climate Alliance partner organisation](#)
- [Climate emergency declarations of Climate Alliance members](#)
- [Climate Alliance member list](#)
- [Rostock Climate Week](#) (pdf, in German)

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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

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