

By2020WeRiseUp – Newsletter April 2020

Corona is here, and so are we!

We thought you might be bored, so we brought you some news and a couple of exciting plans!! :D

On a more serious note, most likely, you all know this combined feeling of pressure and opportunity that Corona is bringing us. You might be looking around you and seeing, in addition to burning questions, a multitude of initiatives, actions, campaigns, calls for mobilization and/or solidarity, brainstorming, webinars, training etc. that are matching particular contexts, expertise and capacities – but, in the aggregate, are "slightly" overwhelming!

Groups and people who took part in the last European calls brought with them a wide array of plans, and we agreed that, after the first moments of thinking together and sharing, now was the time to spread the word, attempt to coordinate around existing plans in order to increase their impact, and complement one another into an ecosystem of actions! The following newsletter (attached as a PDF) has the following topics:

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Have a week full of rage and love, be it on the occasion of Earth Day, climate strikes, or otherwise!

#By2020WeRiseUp

By2020 & Corona coordination

Note: The "we" mentioned in the next paragraphs is meant to give a feeling of the conversations that have been taking place between groups and individuals over the past weeks, not to represent the By2020 platform's internal team or to give an exhaustive picture of everything that was discussed - to get a more nuanced feeling of the conversation(s), don't hesitate to have a look at the pads of the past European calls <https://pad.systemli.org/p/3-QjDYhqWM90zeQF3xIA>.

Over the last four weeks, grassroots groups joined in 3 European calls to understand how the climate justice movement(s) can adapt, respond and make the most of the new context (corona, economic crisis, repression etc.). We all came together with similar burning questions and, to explore them, 9 working groups were created on the platform Riot. They, for example, have been working on communication, narratives, tactics (e.g. moving real life actions to powerful online activism), radical solidarity, repression, economic crisis and bailouts.

We understand several threats are coming our way, such as: restrictive laws and normalization of militarization, reduced security in our activism (due to online communication), prioritization of economic recovery/bailouts and boost of fossil economy, loss of mass mobilization, false solutions getting stronger, opportunity for the system and governments to normalize climate and democracy-damaging measures.

However, Corona can also be perceived as an opportunity with grounds for community building, increased empathy, delegitimization of the usual systemic narrative, increased perception and understanding of inequalities and injustices, direct view into key problems of the current system, an open door to another "normal" and new possibilities or priorities, a break into people's daily life and rat race, a possibility to build new bridges and solidarities, an opportunity for climate movements to take a break and communicate, thus increasing coordination for the months to come.

Shared opinions are that we know that the system is failing us and that we don't want to bail out what's killing us. We know we need to shift the power. The general feeling is that we need to focus on a culture of care, social justice while empowering, with what we can contribute, an already-existing dynamics of movement of movements (intersectionality, community and solidarity being in the center). We cannot go back, as normality was the problem, and Corona is offering a breach into normality. Corona is a crisis, climate catastrophe is a crisis, and in every crisis lies an opportunity. In spite of current challenges, this is the time to demand a just recovery and a new society without begging for change but rather taking the challenge of the completion of the change needed within our own hands, through on-the-ground solidarity, smart tactics and actions, coordination and cooperation.

The question of what comes after Corona is a difficult one. The timing will be different in different countries: while restrictions will be lifted slowly in some places, others will be kept in place in parallel. What we can and should do once we get back out there is an open topic and also depends on contexts (More creative actions? Mass mobilization in a framing of care? How to take the necessary precautions to protect people while still fighting against the system?). The times are changing quickly, we will have to be resilient, take care of ourselves and organize. Information and communication are crucial to get a feeling on what to coordinate around, and how - let's do it!

Discussions around Corona

- **Internal** conversations within groups and NGOs
- **By2020WeRiseUp** regular European calls + working groups
- **National** or **language-specific** coordination calls such as: German speaking Climate Justice Movement Call on Corona. France : ongoing calls between climate justice movements (NGO and groups). Switzerland: national calls. Iberian peninsula coordination: 2020 Rebelión por el Clima platform organizing calls + coordination.
- **Movement of movements** weekly calls (Mondays) by XR UK
- (International) conversations between/within **Occupy**, **Indignados** and **municipal** movements
- **Time to Breathe** (primarily French-speaking) gives a space to look at how to use this forced pause to reflect, take time for ourselves, breathe in & out, connect local initiatives and the power of community.
- The [Viral Open Space](#) aims at connecting Corona-isolated people & continents in a totally open way with a platform for discussions on all imaginable topics and maybe another 24h call coming up in May. Skillsharing, visibility, feeling united, adapting, exchanging, learning, are some of its goals!

Aware of more conversations and wanting to let other groups know? Write to us for the next newsletter! by2020we@riseup.net

Sharing Plans

Call for contribution

- **Building resistance online:** The European Changemaker Project is hoping to collaborate across Europe with experienced trainer collectives, but also make sure to make results easily accessible; creating videos or workshop templates you can use. This [survey](#) is the starting point – if you have any question, please reach out to karl.andreasson@greenpeace.org

Resources

- Examples of tools:
 - [Riot](#), to connect between topics of discussions, groups and countries.
 - A [place open to all to share](#) across the world created by the **Viral Open Space**.
 - (French only) [La Bulloterie](#)
 - (French only) **Time to Breathe's** own [Wiki](#): and [map of ideas](#).
- [Covid19 resources collection](#) from the Gastivists!
- A [working basis of key principles](#) to **push for a #JustRecovery** from 350 with a website and a map, along with an [art kit](#) for everyone to use.
- An effort from GSCC to [keep track of the evolution of the Corona conversation in the media](#).
- Greenpeace's [investigative journalism newsletter](#).
- [Leading groups online](#), a down-and-dirty guide to leading online courses, meetings, trainings, and events during the coronavirus pandemic.

Webinars

- April 21-24: Webinar series on **The Power of Finance Campaigning**.
More info: nicole@urgewald.org
- April 22: [Webinar on resisting mining and fossil fuel projects](#)
- May 13: Poland, Lodz - fourth webinar from **5R cycle- REPAIR**. Aim is to target broader audience- non-activists- to bridge people interested in zero-waste ideas with climate awareness.
[To be announced on FB](#).
- Weekly FfF **International Talks for Future**: @instagram, [Youtube](#), Contact : achilles4revolution@riseup.net
- Weekly **Ende Gelände skillshares**: every Tuesday, 8pm CEST. [All info on the webinars](#) (e.g. on facilitation or cyber security).
- [Weekly webinars](#) from **Youth for Climate Belgium**: Saturdays 5pm.

- Daily **Extinction Rebellion's** "[Reset TV: Daily webinars / workshops](#)"
- (Ongoing:) **Fridays for Future** [international online trainings](#).
- (Date to be determined:) **350.org** series of webinars on **online activism**, new webinars are planned. To be kept informed, [sign up](#).
- (Offer:) **Gastivists** interested to CO-HOST webinars so contact naomi@gastivists.org if this is interesting for you.
- (Past:) [Recorded webinar](#) from CH on **Citizens Assemblies**.

Targeting banks

- (Ongoing:) Switzerland: Round of action targeting **Swiss banks** (UBS and Credit Suisse mainly) but also indirectly the main shareholders of Credit Suisse and UBS: **BlackRock + Qatar Sovereign Funds**, Goldman Sachs, Norges Bank Investment Management, Vanguard Group and several other key players in the global destruction system.
Contact: guillaume_durin@protonmail.ch
- (Ongoing:) Last week, 11 investors co-filed a [resolution](#) to force the oil and gas major Total to reduce its emissions. If passed, the **resolution would force the biggest French polluter to phase out fossil fuels**. But another group of investors is likely to ally with Total and make a joint statement endorsing half-backed measures instead of climate action. [Retweet](#) to call the investor community to make the right choice and vote for the resolution
- (Ongoing:) The European central bank is injecting thousands of Euros to save the economy. But its **response to Covid will mainly benefit to big companies and polluters** instead of supporting the smaller, most vulnerable companies and households. [Retweet](#) to call Lagarde out.
- (Ongoing:) The EU just appointed the US asset manager **BlackRock to advise on the integration of ESG factors into the EU banking regulation**. Beyond the huge and several conflicts of interests, the deal undermines the goals of social and climate justice.
[Retweet](#) to call the EU commission to cancel the deal.
- (4th-7th October 2020) actions at the heart of the **Swiss financial world**. More info soon.

Targeting companies

- (April 22 UK) - UK **Biofuelwatch** Online protest coinciding with the **AGM of Drax** whose power station is the UK's biggest CO2 emitter (biomass, gas)
Contact: biofuelwatch@gmail.com
- (April 22 Spain) - Online campaign in Spain **against greenwashing** during the Earth Day targeting companies and corporations (**Endesa, Santander, Repsol**, etc.). This content can be spread and shared through social media.
Contact: marta.solytinta@protonmail.com

- (April 23) Join the [#ShutDownKKR communications blockade](#) for [#EarthDay](#) and rise up for the **Wet'suwet'en!** The Coastal GasLink pipeline threatens Wet'suwet'en land, water, air, and people.
- (April 24 Portugal) Climáximo is organizing an action directed at the Annual General Meeting **(AGM) of Galp, the main oil company in Portugal**. The action will be online *and* offline, inside *and* outside of the AGM, in solidarity with the frontline communities, and with the workers who lost their jobs with the recent lay-offs, with a bunch of activist elements on social networks, and also an online march/demo from 15:00 until 18:00 Portuguese time. Collectives and organizations that would like to help make this action a success please contact us via climaximo@riseup.net.
- (April 24) Block Bayer is targeting **Bayer's shareholder meeting**. Moreover, there's the idea of "jumping the bandwagon" and shifting the campaign focus on Bayer's role in both creating and profiting from the Corona-crisis.
Contact info@blockbayer.org
- (April 25 - 14:00-16:00 GMT+1) Where? Online, every place where **agroindustrial giants** Syngenta, Bayer & Co. are representing themselves. What? Instead of the sixth "March against Bayer & Syngenta, a big demonstration against corporate power, pesticides and GMO and for a fair and sustainable agriculture. [Call-Out and a detailed How-To #WebAgainstSyngenta](#).
Contact: basel@marchagainstsyngenta.ch
- (Ongoing, UK) - **#PollutersOut**. Effort to make this hashtag trend.
- (Ongoing) - Up for digitally challenging expensive, **dangerous fossil gas projects**? In the context of important developments going on on EU level, here is an invitation to a grassroots/local anti-fossils group call. Write to lise.masson13@gmail.com for more info.
- (Upcoming, Netherlands) - **SHELL MUST FALL** digital plans [telegram channel](#) or email gnomey@riseup.net
- (Upcoming in July) - Action in a Belgian **harbor**.

Pressure campaigns

- **April 21** (Belgium) - **Make Noise For Climate**: Working on **digital manifestation around green deal** with [tool](#) or similar app with more functionalities and linked with social media. This new & better digital manifestation app in production via Greenpeace EU – and to be spread out in European & global network once ready.
Contact: apollo2020@riseup.net
- **April 24** - Countries joining the 24th of April strike: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldavia, Netherlands, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, India, Lebanon, Philippines, Morocco, Canada, Costa Rica, Mexico, Arge, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Spain, Paraguay, Uruguay.
- Belgium - **Global Strike** organised by Youth for Climate, Greenpeace & Climate Coalition (focus on Green Deal & bailouts): [Facebook](#).
Contact: info@klimaatcoalitie.be

- **April** (Belgium, Autonomous activists) - **Offline action spraying** through the city “We can't go back to normal, normal wasn't working!”
- **April** (Belgium, XR) - National campaign: **Tell the complete truth** : different actions online and offline. Join the swarm on [Telegram](#).
Contact: Majo4future@protonmail.com
- **May 15** (Belgium) - Students for Climate & Gilet Jaunes groups: **No CETA in port of Gent - offline manifestation/action**, will probably be postponed.
Contacts: Gilet Jaunes rafverbeke1956@gmail.com + Students For Climate studentsforclimate@protonmail.com.
- **Mid May** (Poland) - **Storytelling project with Amnesty** by Earth Strike Lodz (Poland) called **#startthechange**. Combining art (simultaneous drawing), varied topics and stories of people who were doing things in a way that was bad for the Earth and now have to face the consequences of it. The message is clear: ACT NOW. Stories [published on FB](#) with #ZmieniamTo2030 and [#StartTheChange](#).
- **June** (Belgium) - XR Rebellion Week, **EU Rebellion**, Week of convergence & action camp - unsure for the moment.
- **June** (Austria) - SCnCC (System Change not Climate Change): **Action Day #carfree** in June – uncertain for now.
- (**Post confinement**, Belgium, Various Anarchist groups) - Postponed, but revolutionary **1st of May** manifestation will be preceded by a week of intense agitation. [Facebook](#)
- (**Post confinement**, Belgium) -Working out idea to build a **NVDA local farm** on symbolic public space in the city - plans to do it in cooperation with agricultural collectives
- **March/April 2021** - Cooperation with FFF in a numerous countries for a "Climate Live" event of **global concerts**. Contacts: Make Noise For Climate apollo2020@riseup.net; Greenpeace UK Digital Mobilisation akshey.kalra@greenpeace.org; Greenpeace Europe is Burning knaessen@greenpeace.org
- (Ongoing) - Possible UK **debt strike** action, coordinating with existing strike groups
- (Ongoing) - **Rent strikes** initiatives exist in the UK, Switzerland, Spain, possibly France and Belgium.
To ask for or to share contacts, you can send an email to: by2020we@riseup.net.
- (Ongoing) - **Glasgow Agreement**. Substitute institutional impotence for social power through an agreement between social movements and organizations to take matters into their own hands by implementing locally defined plan for massive emissions cuts through civil disobedience and a politics of climate justice. Every Wednesday at 2pm GMT there is a webinar explaining the agreement and how to join.
Contact: glasgowagreement@riseup.net.
- (Ongoing) - **People's bailout**. Based on [this pad](#) and on the [350.org principles for a just recovery from covid19](#) there is a working group working on a possible people's bailout campaign.
Contact: info@code-rood.org.
- (Ongoing) - **#ChangeGoesViral**: A broad campaign - concerns about the system, different

countries and continents. We use our own networks to spread out the message. We will do different actions. The first one: Banner in windows/on balconies: people can share their wishes, dreams ... after the crisis. We do slight escalation in actions. The second action will be sharing private affairs like plants on the street. [Facebook](#), Contact: change Goes viral@riseup.net

- (Ongoing, Belgium) - **Tell the complete truth** - XR, First action: Deep fake with Sofie Wilmes (prime ministre). Other actions will follow soon. [Updates](#).
- (Ongoing, France) - [Climate Citizens Convention](#), an independent instance of 150 citizens proposing measures to the government.
- (Ongoing) - Working on a concept called "**Bold New World**" and have already done a [visioning exercise](#) in Germany during a Hackathon. Methods include [Backcasting and 3 Horizons Framework](#).
- (Ongoing, Belgium + France) - [Post corona civil movement building](#) (broader part of society is becoming system critical and vocal. [#postcorona](#) movement in Belgium, [#coronareset](#) in France.
- (Ongoing, Spain) - **Plan de Choque Social** (social shock plan/measures), covering prisons, migrant, housing, work, health, agriculture, education...measures from the collectives, trade unions, which should be the ones being established. **e.g.: rent/mortgage strike**. For contact, write to: by2020we@riseup.net
- (Ongoing, Austria:) - **CoView -19**. [Social and Political and watchgroup](#) about Corona.

Solidarity

- (Ongoing, France) - **Mutual aid** initiative: "[Covid entraide France](#)" was created to make mutual aid groups visible, by providing different tools such as a map (more than **560 referenced groups**), toolboxes or thematic threads for exchanges. The will is that these groups will continue after the end of the crisis. [Some key fundamental principles](#). For more information, or to join Telegram chats: nestor56@riseup.net
- (Ongoing, UK) – [Covidmutualaid](#): **Mutual aid** initiative.
- (Ongoing, Spain) – [Frenalacurva](#): **Mutual aid** initiative.
- (Ongoing, Spain) – [suspensionalquileres](#): Ecosocial emergency(s), build alliances with **social justice** movements, **rent strike, housing, land rights**.
- (Ongoing, Germany) – [Seebrücke](#): **Radical solidarity** and raising voices of migrants and be able to come to Germany and have somewhere safe to stay.
- (Ongoing, Belgium) - There is lots of talk around **health workers struggle / anti-austerity** taking the streets post Corona. [Facebook](#)

General actions

Actions in Spring

- April 22, Earth Day:
 - **Poland - 50th Earth Day** (Earth Strike Warsaw): Given that hope, action and responsibility are key, this day will be about focusing on the best possible future scenarios, but also on what we have to do and what to require from decision-makers so that positive visions have a chance to come about. Prepare your content about hopes for a better future and publish it on your social media on April 22 using hashtags: #WykielkujNadzieja # DzieńZiemi #EarthDay #ClimateStrike #StrajkDlaZiemi.
 - **UK, 7-9pm - Online watch party** of "Power of Community: How Cuba Survived Peak Oil" with a discussion after. [Registration](#).
 - **Spain - Hologram/Lights & Shadows March:** campaign online & offline.
Contact: martabordonsmartinez@gmail.com

- April 24:
 - [FfF International's 24h Livestream](#).
 - Belgium - **Hologram March** in Brussels
 - Spain - #AcciónGlobalporelClima24A + #VolvemosconJusticiaClimática. **Lights & shadows March** projected from the balconies with sound systems/loudspeakers, projectors or just cut-outs and flashlights. Resources to be downloaded, [tutorials of how to make your cut-outs and example images](#). Everyone can help making their own signs and shadows, taking pictures and posting them with the hashtags written above and tagging: @By2020WeRiseUp, @AlianzaXClima and @JuventudXClima.
Contact: marta.solytinta@protonmail.com

- (End of April, post-confinement, Belgium) - XR Youth, Teach The Truth. Edu-Action - **Direct Action Study-Blockade public space**.
Contact: LinaCoxryouth@protonmail.com or wolfgirl7@protonmail.com

- (May 1, UK + everywhere) - Green Anticapitalist Front calling for autonomous actions alone or with your household on May 1st. This is to **mark May Day** without being able to gather. Suggestions of everything from opening squats to dropping banners. Other groups can get involved by promoting the **#MayDayRevolt** and carrying out their own actions.
Contact: greenanticapitalistfront@riseup.net

- (During confinement, Belgium) - Act For Climate Justice offline action to **challenge lock-down** restrictive measures during & after lock-down, in regards to future activism

- (June, after confinement, Belgium) - Direct action **targeting global economical & financial elites**

Contact: ar_no@riseup.net or apollo2020@riseup.net

- (Date to be determined) - Switzerland - **Music Declares Emergency** Switzerland will make an online action. Contact: contact@musicdeclares.ch
- (Anytime, UK, London) - Check [the work being done](#) at the **GRASS squatted social centre**.
- (Ongoing, Belgium) - Climate Express can **support other initiatives**.
Contact zanna@climate-express.eu

Actions in Autumn:

- (September 13, Belgium) - La santé en Lutte & **convergence** of different movements ("**Health fight back**"). Society-wide revolutionary manifestation on 13 September (with many autonomous groups doing actions all around) – [Facebook](#).
Contact : lasanteenlutte@gmail.com
- (September 13, Belgium) - Génération climat. Support **convergence / Escalation** + focus manifestation + actions.
Contact Jusdepasteque@riseup.net
- (November 13-14, UK) - **COP26 Coalition, digital mass action**

Climate Camps

- **June 5-7** (Germany): Climate Camp Leipzig region goes online to offer all kinds of workshops, panels and culture - Save the date! Depending on the corona measures in place at the time, there may also be some actions and events in Leipzig that have a limited number of participants on site and will be livestreamed online. [More info](#), contact: info@klimacamp-leipzig.de.
- **August** (France): Summer camp of social movements. Not cancelled at the moment. We think that it will be the main rally for the French social movement during the post-covid period.
- **August** (France): Climate Camp Alternatiba/ANV-COP21. Still working on it but thinking about changing its format and limiting it to 300-500 people.
- **August** (Germany): Klimacamp Rheinland. Planning still ongoing, high level of uncertainty.
- **August 24-30** (France, near Lyon): - [Radiation's anti-nuclear summer camp](#). Planning continuing, not yet clear how/what the camp/action will be like.
- **Beginning of October** (Italy, Rimini): STOP CLIMATE CHANGE Human Write on Beach 9.000 - Photographed from satellite (courtesy of ESA European Space Agency and European Imaging)
- **Postponed**: Venice climate meeting: original date 4-5 april (international meeting + direct action + demo), now postponed (date to be determined).
- **Postponed**: Climate camps in Spain (Barcelona and Huelva). Originally planned for mid-May, postponed till autumn.

- Undecided (Czech Republic): Limity Jsme My. Date is not yet clear, since its supposed to react to the **government's coal commission**, which can't meet at the moment. Originally in September, now probably later. Thinking of making an internet sing-in action. Maybe more people from all Europe want to join?

Next steps

- Invitation for next European call:

After three main Corona calls, many parallel ones and brainstorming work in working groups, the feeling during the last online meeting was that now is the time to see what implementation of coordination through existing plans can look like. This newsletter is part of a first step going in this direction, by spreading information as widely as possible for coordination to grow organically. But then, **what next?** What is developing & needs support, what is gaining speed, what are we missing?

To share thoughts and work that out, join the next European call: 27th April 7pm CEST
Zoom room: 154 450 428, Password: 224 364, [Pad](#).

Regarding the agenda on the [pad](#): please contribute with what you'd like to talk about by Friday the 24th, so that we can build an agenda fitting your needs :)

- Next newsletter:

Keep the information flowing! We'd like to keep on advertising actions and plans as much as possible and are aiming at circulating a similar newsletter (less packed probably) around beginning of May. You have plans you're burning to share after spending tons of time working on them? Let us know!! by2020we@riseup.net

- Social Media:

As a platform, we aim at **sharing as widely as possible what is happening to help grow impact**, coordination and communication. One of the easiest way to do so are social media - don't hesitate to reach out if you want us to share there what you are doing! See [Twitter](#) or other [Social Media](#). .

- Whatever you want to work on:

Would you like to chat about your burning questions with other groups? [Join us in Riot!](#) You can create new rooms if you want to. To ask for tech support, write to: [snn\[at\]riseup.net](mailto:snn[at]riseup.net).