

# By2020WeRiseUp – Newsletter June 2020

*Corona is here – and so are we!*

Here is the shortest summary possible of this newsletter: We'll get back to the streets in June, and we're planning for the autumn. Want to know more? Read on!

#By2020WeRiseUp

## Table of Contents

Call for mobilization in June.....	2
Read it! .....	2
What is it about? .....	2
Proposals for the 5th & 6th of June .....	2
Who is mobilizing for what in June? .....	3
How are we framing our narratives? What is your story in this context? .....	5
How to tell a story together.....	5
Call for coordination in the autumn.....	6
What is already happening? .....	6
What kind of objectives are we looking at for the autumn?.....	7
Trigger moments, what do they mean?.....	7
Other updates.....	8
Coordination means knowing what's going on.....	9

## Call for mobilization in June

### Read it!

In [English](#), [Spanish](#), [French](#) or [German](#).

### What is it about?

#### Proposals for the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> of June

##### Spain

“2020 Rebelión por el clima” (the Iberian sister of By2020) is planning a protest that includes going back to the street on June 5<sup>th</sup>, World environment day, for at least 15 to 20 locations. We have been

working on a protest proposal claiming for a Just Ecosocial reconstruction, we are calling for climate justice and social justice. This is coming from the effort of a wide range of social movements, platforms and civil society organizations. Being able to combine the social and environmental claims, and show how interconnected they are is key in order to reinforce all the transformation potential of the following months. There will be a constant work with the Green Heart concept in order to tackle right-wing hate with love.

You can find all details in [this document](#), translated into English, with the description of the proposed actions, security and safety protocols and legal considerations. In Spanish, [you can find all the information here](#).

Alongside the Spanish initiative, we are happy to see that groups in other countries are also planning good stuff in June. Those are at least Portugal, Belgium, the Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland, the Czech Republic, Romania, France, Germany, Luxembourg and we are sure that others aren't on the radar yet. We are looking to see if they can reinforce each other by speaking with similar voices and with similar messages. There's no time to build a coordinated European push with such different groups, but at least to share some hashtags and keep an eye on each other to make each national protest bigger and framed internationally could prove powerful in a context of needing to take the streets back together and prepare mobilizations in the autumn.

## Portugal

Portugal will mobilise for the 6<sup>th</sup> of June under the motto of Resgatar o Futuro, Não o Lucro (Bailout the Future, Not Profit). There will be a public demonstration in Lisbon while keeping social distancing, using “jellyfish” formations for instance.

- [Action consensus](#)
- [Manifesto](#)
- Contact: resgatarofuturo[at]riseup.net
- Don't hesitate to share on social media!
  - [Website](#)
  - [Facebook](#)

## Who is mobilizing for what in June?

*These actions are not necessarily directly part of the call-out mentioned above as far as we are aware, but some of them are, and all of them fall in the same time frame.*

- You can find a [toolkit for offline tactics in times of corona and beyond here](#).
- **Slovenia:** In term of mass protests: 10k people in Slovenia are on the streets on their bikes (to ensure the distance) every Friday, one of the main asks is environmental – there is an attack on environmental NGOs ability to be part of infrastructure permits (but the main demand is that the government steps down)
- **Belgium**
  - Rise for Climate online action on 18 June during the European Council meeting. Will be online due to uncertainty over face-to-face meeting. [27 spokespeople \(1 from each member state\) will](#)

[address the EU's heads of state in their native language in an online action](#). Subtitles will be provided in English and scorecards will be presented on countries performance on climate and recovery policies. An additional aim is to unite the movements in Belgium.

- The Belgian Climate Coalition (Belgian coordination) is organizing an action of mass civil disobedience while respecting social distancing end of June.
- Ineos Will Fall action - end of June, static distancing action in front of House of Port in Antwerp.
- Act For Climate Justice will go ahead with ad busting and banner drops at economic/lobby network houses
- XR Belgium: national action, end of June, work in progress
- **Luxembourg:** Working on "[The World After](#)" (in collaboration with France) - a wave of community mobilization to meet up for open conversations on drawing out lessons from the crisis. Could be setting up solidarity networks in local area, community garden. There is no specific focus on climate change, housing is a very pressing issue. We had a glass ceiling in our past mobilizations due to the poor connect between climate justice and social justice. Focusing on new emergent issues of the corona crisis is making it easier to connect. There's going to be an counter Peoples Summit in June around the European Council to counteract narratives.
- **Netherlands:** Full frontal approach on big polluters. Disagreement about lack of attention and care on the bailouts. [The planned airport action has risk attached and it is easy for narratives to be attacked](#). Necessary for the movement to show fighting spirit, people need inspiration.
  - Currently, idea to go to The Hague for a day of action towards the end of June, focus on just bailouts, idea to surround Parliament and to reproduce it in other places at the same time. In parallel, guerrilla poster actions planned
  - [Presentation of the Dutch Climate Movement Action in June](#)
  - 16th of June: Klimaatstrijd in Crisistijd - Staken als middel, juist nu ([Facebook event](#))
- **Poland**
  - FfF Poland wants to target the EU summit on the 18th/19th of June, with actions leading up to it: human-chain-action in Warsaw and hopefully other places, targeting Poland's biggest coal power plant. The idea is to put pressure on the EU-summit, especially in regards to bailouts.
- **Czech Republic**
  - XR Czech Republic is active against an airport expansion.
  - The city of Prague is lending land for organic farming - this is being used to establish collective agriculture
- **France**
  - Push for a "World after" different from the "World before", with a call for multiple people's assemblies every Sunday, starting on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May, with a special focus on the 21<sup>st</sup> of June. You can read up on the [manifesto](#) and the [call-out for grassroots actions](#)

- Examples of actions planned in June: 17 occupation and civil disobedience actions planned, along with 19 calls to chalk actions in relation to the European summit on the 21<sup>st</sup> of June support to the official (working with the government) advisory French citizen assembly on climate. [You can find the call-out here](#).
- **Spain**
  - In addition to the above-mentioned call for action, the Plan de Choque Social is a newly created platform, formed by more than 400 hundred organizations and social movements of very diverse origins. Its main objective is to serve as advocates for the necessary social measures in many different fields, such as healthcare, education, economic policy and others, in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis. [More information here](#).
- **Greece**
  - SupportEarth is a new coalition of grassroots groups, artists and citizens that was born in Greece out of a need to resist the newly voted tourism and environment bills - they call for a worldwide mobilisation on the 5th of June WorldEnvironmentDay. The idea is to connect with environmental groups across the world to amplify the message of the Greek struggle, but also to galvanize more mobilisation and actions across the world for World Environment Day. Follow and support: #SupportEarth, #aposityre\_to and #to\_akyronoume, and on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) & [Instagram](#). Direct contact: [s.earth.athens@gmail.com](mailto:s.earth.athens@gmail.com)

## How are we framing our narratives? What is your story in this context?

- **Portugal:** Narrative built around urgency - we will either seize the moment or we will miss the opportunity. We need to launch immediately and begin raising up tensions. That action will either be too early in terms of public perception or it will be too late in terms of affecting the timeline of recovery decision-making. We have to address the issue of jobs and poverty that are part of people's everyday conversations. We are pushing the idea of free public services and large-scale public intervention. Climate is only mentioned 3 times in the manifesto.
- **Romania:** going back to normal is not good enough for climate justice. We have wanted to begin offline actions but recognized the likelihood of it being attacked by media etc. Trying to transition from online actions into the real world but still working on narrative building.
- **Spain:** Talking to lots of social actors to increase number of people building the narrative
- **By2020WeRiseUp:** [Summary document put together in May](#), with ideas for narratives, notes on Corona discussions, and tactics for actions in times of Coronavirus.

## How to tell a story together

Connecting communications means increasing the effectiveness and solidarity of our actions. Some thoughts on the matter (further than the already-presented ideas for common messaging):

**Poland:** It is hard to connect directly on social media. It is possible to weave a European message into all Polish actions.

**The Netherlands:** Let's coordinate and amplify. Need to hear from the autumn strategy working group if we are moving towards something bigger in the autumn, with the overall aim of making June a preparation for later in the year.

**Romania:** Would be helpful to link up because we are getting lost in the media at the moment

**By2020WeRiseUp:** Send social media links etc. to By2020WeRiseUp to share on social media (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram) and amplify impact and connection possibilities.

Contact: [by2020we@riseup.net](mailto:by2020we@riseup.net) or <https://twitter.com/By2020WeRiseUp>

## Call for coordination in the autumn

Based on the mandate that was given to By2020 during [the last European strategy conference in Brussels](#) (especially page 28ff.), a working group is starting to work on strategy and coordination for the autumn.

If you're interested in joining the working group, we'll gladly have you! Simply write an email to [by2020we@riseup.net](mailto:by2020we@riseup.net) with the subject line "Joining Autumn strategy WG".

## What is already happening?

- **Glasgow agreement**
  - The purpose of the Glasgow Agreement is to create a new, alternative, coordinated and escalating political power for the climate justice movement, and to reclaim the initiative from governments and international institutions (the COP process). 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.
  - There have been three assemblies so far and the agreement is currently in its second draft. The most important ongoing discussion is on how to sign a counter-agreement without a COP. The current plan is to close the text by September and to have a signatory event in November.  
Contact: [glasgowagreement@riseup.net](mailto:glasgowagreement@riseup.net)
- **COP 26 UK coalition**
  - What to do after the COP postponement is still to be decided, a digital mass action on the 13th/14th November is being discussed.
- **EU-Mercosur trade-agreement**
  - Planned trade agreement between the European Union and Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay, would be the biggest ever. Similarly to TTIP or CETA, it would have lots of bad consequences for climate, environment, health, agriculture, human rights etc. A broad coalition is already active against it but it counts for now too few radical groups

- There is an existing working group in close collaboration with activists from the Mercosur-countries, based on a mandate from the last European strategy conference in Brussels. Feel free to join! Contact address: [zeta-ekis@riseup.net](mailto:zeta-ekis@riseup.net)
- Tactical proposal from the last European strategy meeting to **occupy places of power**, maybe in parallel to **people's assemblies**
- XR working on **citizen's assemblies**
  - Citizens Assembly for Europe Working Paper Extinction Rebellion: Appeal for the inclusion of Citizen's Assemblies as a commonplace democratic structure in Europe, beginning by implementing it in the EU. Contact: [sfiedler@protonmail.com](mailto:sfiedler@protonmail.com)
- [ChangeFinance](#) and [ReclaimFinance](#) (among others) are working on **BlackRock and EU-institutions**. They are looking for support from grassroots groups. This could prove very interesting for the autumn, especially to work around social justice. They should (hopefully) join the next European call. Direct contact: [till@changefinance.org](mailto:till@changefinance.org)

## What kind of objectives are we looking at for the autumn?

- We should empower and support each other's project - and it could actually be pretty easy to combine in time & narratives people's assemblies, the Glasgow Agreement and the occupation of places of power! Including the EU/MERCOSUR-trade agreement and the finance industry as a target shouldn't be hard either.
- **Targets?**
  - Economic and/or financial system
  - Tackle governments: "the movement has to win 3 times; first to convince the public that there is a problem, second to convince the public that institutions are part of the problem, third that our solution is the correct one". Targeting governments has pros and cons that can be evaluated based on national contexts: for instance, it can force a reaction from them and empower people who don't see themselves as activists, along with connecting with movements fighting for greater (or real) democracy and the end of lobbying. On the other hand, if a government is seen as popular by your target population (for example for being perceived as having dealt "well" with Corona), it might backfire.
  - Whom are we trying to shift to our cause? Governments? The middle class? Workers? Let's make sure we organize actions based on a strategy with a specific target in mind, especially as the three above-mentioned groups (as examples) require a very different language and type of work.
- **Aims?**
  - Social justice
  - Normalize tackling the climate crisis, just as it was obvious to act on the Covid crisis: we need to shut the machine down
  - Building on people's discontent and weakening of the system by playing on trigger moments

- Make sure that climate justice doesn't get played off against saving jobs etc. but on the contrary get worked into the same social and climate justice narrative

## Trigger moments, what do they mean?

- Trigger moments are moments that shifts a movement's dynamic, they can be either internal (e.g. Global strikes by FfF) or external (e.g. Bushfires in Australia, the Amazon burning, etc.) See also the [Movement Action Plan](#).
- Three broad possible systemic outcomes for the impending/current economic crisis:
  - Austerity as we know it
  - States take over the role of the private economy
  - States run out of money – inflation possibly empowering right wing agenda
- Upcoming (possible) trigger moments:
  - June mobilizations & voicing of discontent from general population
  - Summer events: heatwaves, forest fires etc. → General population (including “passive allies”) would find itself directly affected again
  - Bailouts: social injustices being laid bare and here for the taking
  - Indigenous populations being hit hard by Covid-19, violence against indigenous communities, in addition to increased extractivism
  - Possibility of 2nd wave of Corona and therefore of lock-down
  - Possibility of supply chains deteriorating – food shortages happening already in some places
  - Creating our own trigger moment: shutting down economic powers in the autumn would have escalating potential into 2021
- How do we plan with trigger moments to make them useful? A question to be answered differently in different contexts, but trigger moments would ideally be always factored into any planning.

## Other updates

- System Change not Climate Change made a small [overview about the legal developments and actions in Austria](#) (mainly Vienna) during Corona.
- The European commission is having online consultations to collect feedback on their climate policies - not only NGOs, business, but every EU citizen can participate
  - [European Climate Pact](#) (open until June 17)
  - [Sustainable finance](#) (open until July 15)
  - [Climate adaption](#) (open until August 20)
- 18<sup>th</sup> of June: climate webinar with words from Across Europe. Facebook event [here](#).

- 19<sup>th</sup> of June: Everywhere. Call from Workers for future to leave visual messages everywhere, especially in front of center of powers (if we can't gather and make ourselves heard, we can disperse and make ourselves visible). Facebook event [here](#).
- As always, if you're interested in working on bailouts, reach out to: [prensa@odg.cat](mailto:prensa@odg.cat) and [info@code-rood.org](mailto:info@code-rood.org). Some further thoughts on bailouts from previous discussions: <https://pad.systemli.org/p/coordinationorstreets>

## Coordination means knowing what's going on

### European Calls:

- The next European call will take place on Thursday, the 4th of June at 7pm CEST. We'll talk about June mobilisations, strategising for the autumn, and more. Feel free to leave agenda suggestions in the pad already!
  - Pad: <https://pad.systemli.org/p/D8yx82322RTdn39hT5tL>
  - Zoom-ID: 851 1844 9103
  - Zoom-PW: 165102
- If you want to read up on the most recent European calls, [you can find the pad here](#). We also compiled a [summary of the European Corona-calls that By2020 held here](#) and our [newsletter from May here](#).
- If you can't join European calls, let us know about what you're doing, either by email or social media if you'd like the rest of climate-justice-action-Europe to know!
  - Social media, or how to connect fast & easy. Write to [by2020we@riseup.net](mailto:by2020we@riseup.net) or connect on [Twitter](#)

### Next European Conference:

On the last European call, there was a preference for having an in-person beginning of July. This would only be possible if we're hosted by Collective Climate Justice at their climate camp in Switzerland, they'll decide shortly if and how to do their climate camp. We are also considering postponing the European conference and doing it a couple weeks later. We'll keep you posted :)