

# OUR CLIMATE 2030

STATEMENT

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Young people demand that policymakers take action to mitigate climate change. Our statement addresses climate change from an ecological, economic and socio-cultural point of view. This statement is based on our vision for the state of the climate in 2030, a description of the present challenges and the measures to address them.

## VISION

In 2030, we live in a Finland that has taken significant steps towards a carbon-neutral society and is among the first countries on the way to achieving ambitious climate goals. Climate action has been implemented so that human rights are realised with global justice and decreasing social inequality. The role of young people in climate policy-making is well established, and young people participate in climate action within their own resources.

In 2030, instead of sustained economic growth, the world is seeking sustainable wellbeing. Saving the climate is seen as an opportunity to create a fairer

economic system. Creating new work in society is subordinate to sustainable development. The price of the products includes their real cost, and the individuals are seen as citizens rather than consumers. The rights of the animals are realized and the animals are not only seen through economic gain.

We cannot accept that decision-makers have still not taken the necessary measures despite being aware of the consequences of climate change for a long time. The current lack of vigor in solving the challenges of climate change will create larger problems in the future.

## CURRENT STATE

Climate change is a phenomenon that affects the whole world and all life. It has negative effects on our ecological, social and economic lives.

Carbon dioxide emissions increased for the first time in four years in 2018. Economic growth accelerated the rise in emissions. If nothing changes, a 1.5 degree warming will happen already before 2050. In order to achieve the 1.5 degree target, Finland should reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by at least 60% by 2030 compared to 1990. At present, our national target is only 40%.

Finland outsources the environmental impact of its production to developing countries and consumes in under four months the natural resources that should last for a year. There is a contradiction between the current economic system and solving climate change. Our current economic system requires constant growth, which is largely tied to the use of natural resources.

Nature has an intrinsic value. Climate change is changing the earth's conditions permanently threatening the ecological balance that has enabled the development of ecosystems and biodiversity in their present form. With global warming, the diversity of life on earth is diminishing, aggravating an environmental crisis.

Climate change is particularly affecting already vulnerable groups, such as people living in poor conditions and indigenous populations. In the Arctic, a particularly vulnerable group of people in Finland are the indigenous Sámi whose culture and traditional livelihoods are closely linked to the nature of the Arctic. In Finland, people from different social categories have different opportunities to adapt to climate change. The generations that have caused climate change are not suffering from its consequences, but they now have the opportunity to remedy the situation.

We call for urgent measures and an active climate policy, the measures taken so far are completely inadequate.

# MEASURES

The time for radical climate action is now. Climate change does not wait for better economic times or new innovations; We need immediate short-term measures and wider, progressive reforms throughout our lifestyle. We believe that the following steps are necessary to achieve the vision.

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Climate policy is taken as a priority in Finland's foreign and EU policy. Climate and environmental impact assessments are included in all decision-making and the new laws are evaluated from a climate perspective.

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Finland should promote the introduction of a carbon tax and the elimination of environmentally harmful subsidies. The environmental impact of products must be reflected in the prices of products by the means of taxation. The unequal impact of consumption taxation is offset by social policy.

## 03

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Climate education is linked to the curriculum in all subjects and class levels. Education based on a sharing economy and decreasing consumption is introduced. The environmental education for children and young people provided by the third sector is supported with public funds.

## 04

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The prospects of civil society to act to curb climate change are supported with public funds.

## 05

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The requirement for low-emission production chains is implemented through legislation.

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Shift to a sustainable food system that minimizes environmental impact and favors closed circuits and zero waste. To shift the focus of agricultural subsidies from animal to sustainable plant production and low carbon practices.

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Carbon sinks and stocks are preserved and cultivated. The question of carbon sinks must be addressed from the point of view of climate change, not from the short-term economic advantage.

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Cities are planned to encourage transport by more sustainable means other than driving. Comprehensive and low-emission public transport is supported by public funds.

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Efficient recycling and circular economy models are built and material efficiency and reduced disposability are in focus.

# HOW DO WE ACHIEVE CHANGE?

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We demand policy makers to take action so that climate change can be mitigated. We urge all citizens to act in order to bring about change. We urge everyone to make sustainable choices, vote, sign addresses, participate in organizational activities, participate in demonstrations, to go on strike, to complain to courts and make citizens' initiatives.

Waiting for change,

Finnish Agenda2030 Youth Group

In cooperation:

Plan International Suomi · WWF Nuoret · Eurooppanuoret · Nordic Ocean Watch Finland Dodo ry · Suomen YK-nuoret · Suomen opiskelijakuntien liitto - SAMOK ry  
SYL - Suomen ylioppilaskuntien liitto ry · Suomen Ammattiin opiskelevien liitto - SAKKI ry  
Suomen Opiskelija-Allianssi - OSKU ry · Suomen Sadankomitea ry · Spark sustainability  
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