

## DECLARATION OF SUPPORT

ADOPTED AT THE CLIMATE ALLIANCE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
ON 26 SEPTEMBER 2019 IN ROSTOCK, GERMANY



Climate Alliance

# EMERGENCY IN AMAZONIA: WE MUST ACT TOGETHER NOW!

*The balance of Mother Earth depends on the Amazon Basin,  
allowing its devastation implies the extermination of humanity.*

**Open Letter of Indigenous Peoples declaring an environmental and  
humanitarian emergency** – COICA, Quito, 22 August 2019

The Amazon region has been in flames for weeks both in Brazil and beyond, where overexploitation and now fire are destroying the rainforest. So far, over a million hectares have been decimated.

Our partner, COICA, the umbrella organisation of indigenous peoples in the Amazon basin, declared a humanitarian and ecological emergency at the end of August due to the devastating situation in Brazil and Bolivia. More than 500 indigenous peoples are in immediate danger. The destruction of the rainforest and its biodiversity can hardly be estimated. They are an irreparable loss for humankind!

The pressure on the Amazon and the (indigenous) peoples living there is growing steadily, above all due to the economic development of the region. In addition to the expansion of agricultural land, for example, through cattle breeding and soy cultivation, the construction of settlements and roads as well as the mining of mineral resources contributes to the destruction of Amazonia's rainforests.

The current Brazilian government is aggravating the situation. Attacks on indigenous peoples and general violence against them has increased since Jair Bolsonaro took office while state institutions in charge of demarcating indigenous areas have been systematically weakened. The leadership of key authorities has been delegated to lobbyists from large landowners.

We, too, have a responsibility: Europe is Brazil's second largest market for consumer goods and raw materials. Our consumer behaviour thus helped trigger the situation in Amazonia and is providing incentives for the burning of the rainforest.

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**We, the member municipalities of Climate Alliance, gathered at the General Assembly in Rostock, Germany, on 26 September 2019:**

*Reaffirm* COICA's call for unity and solidarity with all indigenous peoples of Abya Yala and the world, to condemn and end genocide and ecocide.

*Underscore* our support for our indigenous partners in the Amazon basin, represented by COICA. The recognition of their land rights is a fundamental condition to securing their right to self-determination. In order to preserve the rainforests of the Amazon basin, the land titles of indigenous peoples must be recognised.

*Reaffirm* the importance and necessity of global partnerships to combat climate change, adapt to its unavoidable consequences and advance climate justice.

**We call on the European Union and its member states to**

- Suspend the ongoing Mercosur trade talks and send a clear message to President Bolsonaro that a trade agreement is not possible under the current circumstances. A necessary precondition for further talks is an end to human rights violations and further deforestation, as well as concrete climate protection commitments.<sup>1</sup>
- Support international cooperation to meet the basic needs of the people affected and take measures to restore degraded biodiversity.
- Call on all member states that have not yet ratified the ILO Convention No. 169, the only binding international treaty protecting the rights of indigenous peoples, to do so as soon as possible.

**Together for local responses to global climate change!**

## MUNICIPAL SIGNATORIES

Aschaffenburg (DE)	Delbrück (DE)	Feulen (LU)
Ardagger (AT)	Donaueschingen (DE)	Frankfurt am Main (DE)
Assling (AT)	Dornbirn (AT)	Freiburg im Breisgau (DE)
Bad Aibling (DE)	Dudelange (LU)	Gauting (DE)
Bad Dürkheim (DE)	Elmshorn (DE)	Gent (BE)
Bad Homburg v.d.Höhe (DE)	Esch-sur-Alzette (LU)	Gerersdorf (AT)
Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler (DE)	Esch-sur-Sûre (LU)	Gols (AT)
Bad Oeynhausen (DE)	Eschweiler (DE)	Gütersloh (DE)
Chemnitz (DE)	Essen (DE)	Hagen (DE)
Coburg (DE)	Esslingen am Neckar (DE)	Halle (DE)
Contern (LU)	Ettelbruck (LU)	Hamel (DE)

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<sup>1</sup> See [Open Letter](#), signed in June 2019 by over 340 NGOs and networks, including Climate Alliance.

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Hattenhofen (DE)	Linz (AT)	Puchheim (DE)
Heidelberg (DE)	Lübeck (DE)	Remich (LU)
Hesperange (LU)	Magdeburg (DE)	Rostock (DE)
Hirschbach im Mühlkreis	Meerbusch (DE)	Répceszemere (HU)
Hofkirchen im Mühlviertel (AT)	Mersch (LU)	San Giuseppe Vesuviano (IT)
Junglinster (LU)	Mondorf-les-Bains (LU)	Schlierbach (AT)
Käerjeng (LU)	Modena (IT)	Schuttrange (LU)
Kajárpéc (HU)	Mühlacker (DE)	Schwaz (AT)
Kayl (LU)	Mülheim an der Ruhr (DE)	Steinfort (LU)
Kiel (DE)	Nürnberg (DE)	Steinsel (LU)
Koerich (LU)	Nußdorf ob der Traisen (AT)	Steyerberg (DE)
Kolbermoor (DE)	Ober-Grafendorf (AT)	Tirgu-Mures (RO)
Köln (DE)	Ostheide (DE)	Traunstein (DE)
Krumbach (AT)	Ostseebad Heringsdorf (DE)	Tübingen (DE)
Krummnußbaum (AT)	Oxford (UK)	Tuttlingen (DE)
Kunsziget (HU)	Parasznya (HU)	Walferdange (LU)
Lac de la Haute Sûre (LU)	Perca (IT)	Werfenweng (AT)
Land Berlin (DE)	Pfaffenschlag (AT)	Winnenden (DE)
Landkreis Mainz-Bingen (DE)	Pirna (DE)	Worms (DE)
Laxenburg (AT)	Prad am Stilfserjoch (IT)	Wulkaprodersdorf (AT)
Leverkusen (DE)	Prägraten A.G. (AT)	

## NGOS AND OTHER NETWORKS

### Amazonia

Coordinadora de las Organizaciones Indígenas de la Cuenca Amazónica (COICA)

### Hungary

Észak-Magyarország Flórája Faunája Alapítvány  
(Foundation Flora and Fauna of Northern  
Hungary)

Holocén Természetvédelmi Egyesület (Holocén  
Nature Conservation Association)

IMRO-DDKK Nonprofit Ltd.

Keszthelyi Környezetvédő Egyesület (Keszthely  
Environmental Protection Association)

Közép-magyarországi Zöld Kör (Central-  
Hungarian Green Circle)

Magosfa Környezeti Nevelési és Ökoturisztikai  
Alapítvány (Magosfa Foundation for  
Environmental Education and Ecotourism)

Magyar Természetvédők Szövetsége (National  
Society of Conservationists – Friends of the  
Earth Hungary)

Magyarországi Éghajlatvédelmi Szövetség  
(Climate Alliance Hungary)

Ökológiai Stúdió Alapítvány (Ecological Studio  
Foundation)

Reflex Környezetvédő Egyesület (Reflex  
Environmental Association)

Tanácsadók a Fenntartható Fejlődésért  
(Consultants for Sustainable Development)

ZÖLD KÖR – A Föld Barátai Magyarország tagj  
(Green Circle – Friends of the Earth member)

### Luxembourg

Action Solidarité Tiers Monde (ASTM)  
Mouvement Ecologique

### The Netherlands

Klimaatverbond

## CONTACT

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