

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**"Youth warns: Don't condemn us to hell - Youth4Climate Action - "We face a betrayal of, and for, generations!"**

---

The Youth4Climate Action delegation arrived in Baku on November 14 in solidarity for a greener world – the COP29 motto – and immediately began their work. If current policies continue, the world is facing 3.1C of warming by the end of the century. The first week of the conference quickly revealed the scale of the challenge: the science is clear, but the politics are not.

Since arriving, we have covered and reported on each day of the COP and talked to negotiators, UN representatives, scientists, activists, business representatives, and other attendees. Many are from countries literally sinking into the sea, or battered by unprecedented wildfires, droughts, and storms only possible due to the climate crisis. Critically, delegation after delegation referenced their responsibility towards youth and future generations, but negotiations quickly became stuck.

We leave with 3 key demands and message:

- **A Betrayal of, and for, Generations:** the adults in the room are not being responsible with our collective future and that of future generations. We will have to suffer the resulting ever-accumulating, irreversible damage for all our lives.
  - Youth should be given meaningful participation and inclusion in and around decision-making on climate related issues. **We can not simply be used as decoration.** Youth focal points and sounding-boards should be instituted in all ministries and international bodies to assure youth-perspectives and demands are heard and accounted for.
- **Historical emissions create historical accountability** for a just and equitable transition. Those least responsible for the climate crisis are suffering the worst, and developing countries lack the financial capacity to face the consequences of developed countries' prosperity.
  - **The floor for climate finance must be 1.3 trillion annually, covering adaptation, mitigation, and Loss & Damage.** This number must be achieved through a combination of grants, concessional loans, solidarity levies on CO2 emissions by developed countries to support the green transition, and avoid debt-inducing instruments. Climate finance should not be understood as charity. It is a globally shared but differentiated responsibility necessary for climate justice and preventing ever-increasing financial burdens from the impact of the climate crisis.

- **Luxembourg's Nationally Determined Contribution for 2025 must keep 1.5C alive, with economy-wide emission reduction targets, covering all greenhouse gases, sectors, and categories.** This is not purely a technical exercise: this is about societal accountability to a global crisis and its impact on people, businesses, and nature, and the interconnectedness and interdependence of each. It is also about transforming Luxembourg into a leading greener and more sustainable economy that is prepared for a low-carbon future.

## **A Betrayal of, and for, Generations: Irreversible Damage by Irresponsible Adults**

Your hesitation has accelerated our demise! The planet is burning, the ice is melting, our oceans are rising – and you keep repeating the same talking points year after year. We read your pledges and hear your negotiators, but you do not follow the science: **you are blind and deaf to the future you leave us with. You are condemning us to survive in a hellscape.** We demand commitments and action in line with IPCC recommendations for keeping 1.5C alive – NOW! There can be no rollbacks, no backsliding or regression relative to the UAE consensus of COP28.

**What about fossil fuels? We need a just and equitable phase out – NOW! Either we commit to a liveable planet or we don't. A fossil-fuel-free future is the only way forward,** and neither gas nor oil can be part of that transition. Developing countries relying on fossil fuels must be given access to finance for adaptation and mitigation that does not come at a cost to their development and transition. Developing countries must be compensated for their development paths having been historically robbed from them by corporate oil giants of the global north. They must be given sufficient resources to continue development in an equitable and ecological fashion. We require global solidarity for a greener world.

**Renewable energy? Immediate transition – NOW! We call on tripling renewables and doubling energy efficiency by 2030.** Investing in renewables is as much about reaching net-zero as it is about creating a decarbonised infrastructure and the jobs building our future. Moreover, it is a Global Health intervention in a world in which 99 percent of people breathe polluted air, costing \$8 billion per day in health and economic costs. Renewable energy itself is 4 times cheaper than coal and gas, enabling more economic growth for less investment.

You cannot keep pushing this disaster to someone else's doorstep. The time to act is **NOW**. No more delays. No more excuses. **You started this crisis – We all have the power to end it.** Step up, take responsibility, and deliver the change we need. The planet is watching. The people are watching. We are watching, and we will not forgive inaction.

*“ A Fractured Europe on Display at COP29”*

- *LU Youth4Climate Action Delegate*

*“The current draft on the NCQG does not move us forward on ambition, it moves us forward on extinction.”*

- *Panama Head of Delegation*

*“There is no more time to lose, 30 years of talks saw doubled emissions, we need to ramp up efforts across the board.”*

- *LU Youth4Climate Action Delegate*

*“Science stresses that there is no way to reach 1.5C without a phase-out of fossil fuels, of course in the context of a just transition. Whatever language will be adopted does not change this reality.”*

- *UN Secretary-General Guterres*

## **Bridging Divides: Luxembourg’s Youth Advocates at COP**

Throughout the COP, the delegation was able to identify key trends. **A striking example was the nine-hour delay in adopting the agenda**, highlighting the challenges and complexities of the negotiation process during the first week. We identified these trends while attending a multitude of negotiations and other conferences.

The delegation attended the gender and climate negotiations, which focus on supporting women disproportionately affected by the climate crisis. **The final session, scheduled for Saturday, November 16th, broke down without reaching an agreement.** This failure occurred as certain conservative states pushed to reverse previously agreed-upon inclusive language that addressed the rights of LGBTQIA+ individuals.

Furthermore, the negotiations on new climate funding goals have been stuck in disputes that are unacceptable. The most ridiculous example is how parties wasted negotiation time debating how to procedurally track text-amendments (brackets or tracked changes) while our planet and people grow ever sicker and weaker, and we march ever closer to a protracted societal suicide.

In attempting to combat this, and have a positive impact, **our delegation has produced a number of videos aimed at raising awareness and spreading our message**, which were posted on our social media, as well as broadcast on the largest climate-change focused broadcaster “We Don’t Have Time.”<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> [https://app.wedonthavetime.org/?utm\\_source=wwwredirect](https://app.wedonthavetime.org/?utm_source=wwwredirect)

In addition to these videos, we have held exchanges with multiple members of civil society, from Mexico to Afghanistan and many in between. **We also spoke to Dutch Vice-Premier and Climate minister Sophie Hermans, as well as EU Climate commissioner Wopke Hoekstra, Céline Caron-Dagioni, Environment Minister of Monaco, Paul Galles and Franz Fayot, Member of the Luxembourgish Parliament.**

We have been closely collaborating with members of the Luxembourgish delegation to ensure the youth voice is well represented, and **we have an exchange planned with Minister Wilmes before the closing of negotiations, as well as with other ministers from across the world.** We have also collaborated with other youth activists, such as **a delegation from Norway who invited us to an exchange**, and one of our members to participate in a panel discussion that they hosted. Both of these events went well, and we further raised awareness about the perspectives of the Luxembourgish youth on climate.

**However, despite our work, the conference itself is not moving nearly quickly enough, and it seems increasingly unlikely that we will reach the 1.3 trillion US Dollars of funding per year needed to address current challenges.** The floor of financing to be made available to individual regions, let alone those worst affected are grossly insufficient. In fact, the EU is currently looking at a figure of around 200 to 300 billion US Dollars of global public finance. This simply is not good enough, and the fairytale that public finance of billions can mobilise trillions in private finance remains elusive since its inception.

**Developing countries must be heard on their struggle with accessing quality climate finance, with Least Developed Countries paying twice as much servicing their debts as they are able to access in climate finance.** While it is possible that this MAY happen, the chances are far too low to gamble our planetary future on. Furthermore, if public finance truly would unlock private finance, the principle of “the more: the better” still stands.

Therefore, we believe that governments must push to achieve at least 1.3 trillion US Dollars of funding in order to safeguard our future. **Across Europe and the world, youth are taking to the streets and also increasingly to the courts to make governments take our future seriously.** Just this week, we were inspired and impressed by the efforts of the South Korean youth and their intergenerational allies, who are taking to the streets and considering litigation against their government for jeopardising their futures.

We would consider and support similar action if new NDCs and relevant policies do not keep 1.5C alive. **We implore politicians, diplomats and negotiators to act on their conscience, and display political bravery and vision in order to rescue our planet.** History is a harsh judge, and she will not remember them well if they fail in their duty. Neither will we.

**The reality is that the climate crisis is a matter of life and death** for many, and the world’s future cannot afford to wait. **It is not enough to talk — it is time to act.** The young people of today are demanding the world we deserve. We will not back down. We will not accept half-hearted measures or delayed promises. **The time for real, systemic change is now.**

**Contact pour plus d'informations :**

**Nom:** Julien Lemmer Veloso

**Position:** Président du LRSL\_Acionteam4future

**Organisation:** LRSL\_Acionteam4future

**Tél:** 691 357 723 ( **just per Whatsapp** )

**E-mail:** lrsl\_actionteam4future@posteo.lu

**Site web:** <https://www.lrslactionteam.com/youth-for-climate-action>

---

**Fin du communiqué**



**GREENPEACE**



**ŒUVRE**

Nationale de Secours  
Grande-Duchesse Charlotte