



# In case you've missed it...

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As of this moment, over **one million eight hundred thousand** people have signed the **petition initiated by Greta Thunberg** and three other climate activists. If you're among them, **thank you!** Make sure to share it with others as well - let's see how quickly the world can get to two million signees! If not - well, now is your time. :)

*'To world leaders,*

*'Betrayal.'*

*That's how young people around the world describe **our governments' failure to cut carbon emissions**. And it's no surprise.*

*We are catastrophically far from the crucial goal of 1.5°C, and yet governments everywhere are still accelerating the crisis, **spending billions on fossil fuels**.*

*This is not a drill. It's code red for the Earth. Millions will suffer as our plane is devastated – **a terrifying future that will be created, or avoided, by the decisions you make**. You have the power to decide.*

*As citizens across the planet, **we urge you to face up to the climate emergency**. Not next year. Not next month. Now.'*

The petition follows with an outline of action required to avert climate catastrophe, including **emission reductions and aid to vulnerable countries** (objectives we talked about in our last newsletter). You can read the whole petition and sign it [here](#).



## What did we do?

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Members of the [Green Office attending the COP26](#) have just returned - and have stories to tell. In the coming days, we will be sharing thoughts, hopes and experiences - so make sure to check our [website](#) to learn what it is like to attend such a formative event for global climate action.



Remember the [Amsterdam climate march](#) we wrote about? Thanks to an amazing group of volunteers organising transport and signing up to participate, UCR was once again represented on the streets.



## Climate News

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### Update on Glasgow, round 2

- On Tuesday, over 90 countries have joined a pledge to **curb methane emissions by 30% by 2030**. Methane is the second most important greenhouse gas and has a warming effect 80 times that of carbon dioxide. It is released by oil and natural gas sites, livestock and landfills. Half of the world's top methane emitters have agreed to the goal, however - **China, India and Russia** have once more abstained. More about this [here](#).
- A day later, more than 40 countries made the promise to phase out coal-fired power either by 2030 or 2040. Canada, Poland, Ukraine, and Indonesia are among those signing the deal - the most important countries missing from it are Australia, China, India, and the US. You can read more via [this link](#).

- *Important speakers:*
  - **Greta Thunberg** spoke at a panel discussion last Thursday. She called **COP26 a failure**, and expressed her frustration over what she saw as the summit turning into a **'greenwash campaign**, a PR campaign'.
  - **President Obama** gave a speech today in Glasgow. He admitted that the world was **'nowhere near wher we needed to be'** to avoid climate catastrophe, and urged youth activists to **'stay angry'** in their fight for climate action - while also reminding them that compromises are needed to be accepted. Critics were quick to point out the **failures of his administration** in meeting climate pledges.
  - More information can be found [here](#) and [here](#).
- Last Saturday, about 100,000 protesters - including members of the Green Office :) - marched through Glasgow to push for meaningful climate action. Read the full story [here](#).



*News to make you angry:*

- [BBC](#): According to campaigners assessing the participant list of COP26, **fossil fuel industries are represented by more people than any country**. Overall 503 people connected to fossil fuel industries have been accredited - meanwhile Brazil has 479 delegates, Canada 276, and the UK 230.
- Leaders from around the world arrived to Glasgow last week - on **private jets**. While such decisions are made to ensure the safety of world leaders, the [BBC pointed out](#) that for a flight between Rome and Glasgow (which leaders attending the G20 meeting before COP26 took) each passenger is responsible for the release of **1.2 tonnes of CO2** - almost 5 times higher per capita emissions of a commercial flight over the same distance.

## Upcoming Events

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Just before the break, we launched the **Mindful Midday Meditators** program in collaboration with the Well-Being Team and SportsCo. We meet every Friday 13:20-13:35 in F16 to step out of the maddening crowd. (Sorry about the literary reference.) Join the team and end your week with a peaceful mind!



And an early notice: next week, that is, in Week 11 we are organising a **Vegan Week** here at UCR! Keep an eye out for the detailed programme which will be released in the coming days.

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And that's all from us for now. Thank you for reading, and have a wonderful week,

Your Eleanor Green Office

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