



Cca and climate storyboard

May 8th 2026

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This storyboard contains stories collected until 24.04.2026 as part of the climate adaptation theme (UID =cca) and additional stories selected for being climate related.

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Mobility and transport

Trump can stop subsidies for electric vehicles, but he can't stop the global transition

Trump has stopped all subsidies for electric vehicles. It's so sad, but I imagine many states, just continuing on their own, without federal assistance. I don't think we can stop the awareness and the action many people in America want to take. Let's not get distracted, but keep steering our course in Europe.

Original title: Trump can stop subsidies for electric vehicles, but he can't stop the global transition

Origin and language : NA ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like : a powerhouse

Europe is like: my home

Democracy is like: it needs a serious upgrade - voting alone is killing us (and nature...)

Who should hear: everyone who gets distracted by TRump every day

Question: Ursula von der Leyen - how will you keep steering the greenest course possible

The experience was: Negative and: very common

This story also appears in Mobility and transport ; Nature and climate ; Living together and Community ;

Original text: Trump has stopped all subsidies for electric vehicles. It's so sad, but I imagine many states, just continuing on their own, without federal assistance. I don't think we can stop the awareness and the action many people in America want to take. Let's not get distracted, but keep steering our course in Europe.

old car owner experience

I am an owner of an old car, and other members of my family are as well. And now we see ourselves more and more limited regarding where we can drive with our cars. Governments of different countries are kind of forcing us to buy a new car and stop driving an older one which is still working and are often more reliable than the newer ones. Now I never know for sure where I am allowed to drive and where not. Each city has different rules. It feels confusing and also unfair. As buying a new car and therefore producing a whole new car is also consuming resources and is not climate friendly. I can imagine that other solutions should be possible rather than simply banning older cars from the cities.

Original title: old car owner experience

Origin and language : Spain ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like : An attempt to live together in peace, justice and social solidarity.

Europe is like: A complex and diverse historical and geographical region.

Democracy is like: Being able to take part, being able to find the best solution for the society as a whole.

Who should hear: nan

Question: nan

The experience was: Negative and: very common

This story also appears in Mobility and transport ; Fairness and social justice ; Nature and climate ;

Original text: I am an owner of an old car, and other members of my family are as well. And now we see ourselves more and more limited regarding where we can drive with our cars. Governments of different countries are kind of forcing us to buy a new car and stop driving and older one which is still working and are often more reliable than the newer ones. Now I never know for sure where I am allowed to drive and where not. Each city has different rules. It feels confusing and also unfair. As buying a new car and therefore producing a whole new car is also consuming resources and is not climate friendly. I can imagine that other solutions should be possible rather than simply banning older cars from the cities.

Climate denial

Many people in my personal circle calculate that there are problems with the climate, but do not link any consequences to this in their actions.

Original title: Klimaat ontkenning

Origin and language: Netherlands ; nl

Unique identifier: insta

EU is like: Organization

Europe is like: Society

Democracy is like: Should be a core value

Who should hear: Policy influencers

Question: Start policy with people's lived experience.

The experience was: Negative and: somewhat common

This story also appears in Mobility and transport ; Nature and climate ;

Original text: Veel mensen in mijn persoonlijke omgeving rekenen dat er problemen zijn met het klimaat, maar verbinden er geen consequenties aan in hun handelen

Infrastructure in the Netherlands

Recently in the Netherlands, the whole country went basically on lock-down due to bad weather. The train system shut down, our main airport became dysfunctional and supply chains started shutting down. What does this say about the Netherlands? When they self-proclaim themselves to be one of the more developed countries in the world but the infrastructure cannot handle three days of snow. I believe this experience has shown to never rely on best case scenario, the Netherlands has invested in the belief that global warming will make our climate warmer and not just more extreme. In a world where we need to adapt to risks, the Netherlands' divesting from infrastructure is a grave mistake. What will happen when the next crisis comes along, both man-made or from nature?

Original title: Infrastructure in the Netherlands

Origin and language: Netherlands ; en

Unique identifier: MVE

EU is like: Community

Europe is like: Unity

Democracy is like: A voice

Who should hear: People in general

Question: What are your plans for risk prevention in future crisis?

The experience was: Negative and: rare but it happens from time to time

This story also appears in Mobility and transport ; Nature and climate ; Living together and Community ;

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No openness for green movement.

I have asked my sports club to invite the green major candidate Volt is supporting. The idea was to advertise our club, because we need new young people joining. The green candidate is currently visiting different places and and posting on Social Media. The president of the club was rather making fine of it, because he does not like the local green party team for investing to much in mobility transformation, even though the city is on dept. There was no democratic voting about my idea. So the club will not invite the major candidate.

Original title: No openness for green movement.

Origin and language: Germany ; en

Unique identifier: MVE

EU is like: Home

Europe is like: One culture

Democracy is like: The best but complicates option

Who should hear: nan

Question: nan

The experience was: Negative and: somewhat common

This story also appears in Mobility and transport ;

Original text: I have asked my sports club to invite the green major candidate Volt is supporting. The idea was to advertise our club, because we need new young people joining. The green candidate is currently visiting different places and and posting on Social Media. The president of the club was rather making fine of it, because he does not like the local green party team for investing to much in mobility transformation, even though the city is on dept. There was no democratic voting about my idea. So the club will not invite the major candidate.

Fairness and social justice

Resistance to climate change is against our own interests.

I have all the green stuff, my energy bill is only €17,-/month so clearly it's working! The energy transition is also the solution to the cost of living crisis here in the Netherlands.

However we see a lot of unfounded resistance. For example: my friend owns a company called inductie.nu which sole business is to make rental homes gas free. It's funded by the rental company not having to pay for the gas supply anymore. That money is used for a loan to pay my friend. Renters get a free induction stove and free pans. It doesn't cost them anything!

Yet quite often people slam the door in his face because they don't want to know anything about it. Only to then call back in tears 2 months later that they cannot cook anymore since gas supply has been cut off, begging him to deliver the free stove anyway.

It's honestly sad how people are so stuck in their ways and act against their own interests.

Its also maddening that the Dutch gouvernement is cutting gasoline taxes yet trains tickets continue to rise.

Original title: Resistance to climate change is against our own interests.

Origin and language: Netherlands ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like : An abstract far away necessity that acts way too slowly

Europe is like: A continent with like minded countries

Democracy is like: The least bad system of gouvernement. It has it's flaws, but the alternative is way worse.

Who should hear: Policy makers and media figures. Or representatives in general.

We need to reach those stubborn people who fall for this oil propaganda and keep voting against their own interests.

Question: Why don't we abolish the 46 billion in fossil subsidies and use the money to make ourselves energy independent with renewables?

The experience was: Neutral and: very common

This story also appears in Fairness and social justice ; Housing and Living Conditions ; Other, please specify ; Energy Transition ;

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Lessons to be learned

I'd like to share a work experience with a friend: I recently realized that the more you put yourself out there, the greater the potential for exploitation. People often rely on the fact that they know you'll be available and precise so they can work less and put less effort, but when it all falls on you, it's really boring. I think society in general relies heavily on this way of doing things, and I think everyone should take a little more responsibility.

Original title: Lezioni da imparare

Origin and language: France ; it

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like: Something I still have to figure out.

Europe is like: A general feeling of the area I live in

Democracy is like: Give everyone the same opportunities but adapt them to each individual. Often, we don't think about the disabilities or difficulties someone might have.

Who should hear: Employers and young people approaching the world of work

Question: How much of the work you do is actually something you believe in, and how much of the work you do is actually something you do simply out of habit? Do you believe you have what you do?

The experience was: Negative and: very common

This story also appears in Fairness and social justice ;

Original text: Condividerei con un amico un'esperienza vissuta in ambito lavorativo:

recentemente mi sono resa conto che più ci si mette in gioco più c'è talvolta potenzialità di essere sfruttati. Spesso le persone si appoggiano al fatto che sanno che tu sarai disponibile e preciso in modo da lavorare meno e sforzarsi meno, però quando il tutto ricade su di te è davvero noioso. Penso che la società in generale si appoggi tantissimo su questo modo di fare e ritengo che tutti dovrebbero responsabilizzarsi un po' di più.

Always learning and share best practice to multiple generations

I have contact called Boudwijn (80 years old) for 1 year now. He is driving me nuts when he talking about all his achievements what he did in the past and still is doing. All have to do with tell the real truth about a sustainable product in concrete. I have background in digitalization, lean management and indirect we have crossed our paths in our lives. Me

going 100% for best engineers products , Boudewijn going for the less environmental impact for concrete. Boudewijn know the real truth and try to get the story out and accepted in the industrie on a way they the youth is also know what to choose.

Original title: Always learning and share best practice to multiple generations

Origin and language: Netherlands ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like: the door opener

Europe is like: big machine

Democracy is like: with the people by the people and equality for everybody

Who should hear: Everybody. and kick some ... to tech industry in USA.

Question: When are you building knowledge centers in Africa? Why do we need Ai LLM data centers?

The experience was: Very positive and: rare but it happens from time to time

This story also appears in Fairness and social justice ;

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old car owner experience

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Europe is like: A complex and diverse historical and geographical region.

Democracy is like: Being able to take part, being able to find the best solution for the society as a whole.

Who should hear: nan

Question: nan

The experience was: Negative and: very common

This story also appears in Mobility and transport ; Fairness and social justice ; Nature and climate ;

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Less "economies of scale" means more "social justice".

Having fled the city shortly after my retirement, I took refuge in a rural area. Six thousand liters of rainwater irrigate my toilets and my land when drought strikes. Photovoltaic panels stand proudly on the roofs. I let my small garden plots lie wild and reintroduce native plant species from my region. I buy my dairy products from a nearby farm. I have local produce delivered. Throughout my life, I've seen large retailers kill, step by step, local businesses, the kind that built community. Today, they're playing the victim card to consumers who are tired of their mantra: "economies of scale." They're starting to mimic the neighborhood grocery store they banished decades ago. It's a sham. Only one religion prevails: profit. Price has become the sole selling point, to the detriment of quality, sustainability, and health. Producers are being squeezed dry.

I'm doing my part, but it seems insignificant compared to what needs to be done to return to a minimum of humanity and social cohesion. Europe must be united or risk being crushed. But it must be united around more regionally focused projects. Social cohesion moves mountains. The neoliberalism driving globalization is destroying the bond and the very essence of humanity. Volt interests me because of its cross-border aspect, and I also appreciate hearing that you have an approach that respects regional specificities. People who have lost their identity and see the far right as an escape route frighten me. To what level of deprivation of freedoms, of cultural mortification, are they capable of embracing it? The duty to remember is no longer enough. We must address all the human rights abuses that accompany dictatorships. The USA shows us the path not to follow... Have we failed? Are our children no longer being raised in the spirit of the Enlightenment? Is it the digital revolution that is destroying the very engine of our democracies: critical thinking? Is it possible to rediscover values other than the sole pursuit of profit? Have we, to such an extent, forgotten that we are mortal and that the accumulation of goods is futile once we can house, feed, clothe, and heat ourselves? Can we still rely on the political world to halt climate change? Citizen mobilization seems more convincing today. If we can no longer influence decision-makers, we must act at the Achilles' heel: consumption, which fuels the power of those who acquire ever-increasing monopolies. We want to revitalize the economy? How can favoring large corporations and monopolies encourage entrepreneurship? Does creating startups prevent them from being sold off to large corporations that absorb them to become even more powerful?

I grew up with the mantra: "The economy self-regulates thanks to the principle of supply and demand"... That's no longer really the case. If we let a company become a behemoth that

takes up all the market share, where is the self-regulation? More SMEs competing with each other— isn't that what boosting the economy is all about?

Original title: Moins d' "économie d'échelle", c'est plus de "justice sociale".

Origin and language : Belgium ; fr

Unique identifier: voltnws

EU is like : An economic union that struggles to remember the political values it prides itself on.

Europe is like: A solution to defend oneself against obscurantism

Democracy is like: The only way to preserve the fundamental freedoms of the individual

Who should hear: More than a story, I've transcribed my daily life, my fears, my anxieties. It's by uniting the forces of those who share the same questions that we can create a critical mass that will bring about change. If I were to ring my five neighbors' doorbells to try and convince them, it's a safe bet I'd be met with complete indifference. They don't realize that the common good is the driving force behind their own self-interest. Only the present fuels their vote... when they even bother to consider the nature of their vote. The general disengagement from politics is blatant. Self-interest and short-term thinking prevail.

Question: Do you have a job you enjoy, outside of politics?

The experience was: I don't know / Not sure and: not sure

This story also appears in Fairness and social justice ; Nature and climate ;

Original text: Ayant fui la ville peu après ma retraite, je me suis réfugié dans un coin de campagne. 6000 litres d'eau de pluie irriguent mes chasses d'eau et mon terrain quand vient la sécheresse. Des panneaux photovoltaïques trônent sur les toits. Je laisse mes quelques ares de jardin en friche et y réintroduis des espèces végétales indigènes de ma région. J'achète mes produits laitiers à une ferme toute proche. Je me fais livrer des produits du terroir. J'ai vu au cours de ma vie les grands distributeurs tuer, pied à pied, le commerce local, celui qui faisait société. Aujourd'hui, ils jouent du violon aux oreilles des consommateurs qui sont fatigués de leur credo: "l'économie d'échelle". Ils se mettent à mimer l'épicerie de quartier qu'ils avaient bannie quelques décennies plus tôt. C'est un leurre. Une seule religion prévaut: le profit. Le prix est devenu l'unique argument de vente au détriment de la qualité, de la durabilité, de la santé. Les producteurs sont étranglés. Je fais ma part, mais ça me paraît infime à côté de ce qu'il y a à faire pour retourner à un minimum d'humanité et de lien social. L'Europe doit être unie sous peine de se faire écraser. Mais elle doit être unie autour de projets plus régionalisés. On déplace des montagnes avec de la cohésion sociale. Le néolibéralisme qui conduit la mondialisation détruit le lien et l'essence-même de l'humanité. Volt m'intéresse par l'aspect transfrontalier et j'aime aussi entendre que vous avez une approche qui respecte les spécificités régionales. Les gens en perte d'identité qui voient en l'extrême-droite une porte de sortie m'effraient. A quel niveau de privation de libertés, de mortifications de la culture sont-ils capables d'adhérer? Le devoir de mémoire ne suffit plus. Il faut relever toutes les atteintes aux droits de l'homme qui vont avec les dictatures. Les USA nous montrent la voie à ne pas suivre... Avons-nous failli? Nos enfants ne sont-ils plus élevés dans l'esprit des lumières? Est-ce le ras-de-marée digital qui est en train de détruire le moteur-même de nos démocraties: l'analyse contradictoire? Est-il possible de retrouver d'autres valeurs que la seule recherche de profit? Avons-nous, à ce point, oublié que nous sommes mortels et que l'accumulation de biens est vaine dès lors que nous pouvons nous loger, nous nourrir, nous vêtir, nous chauffer. Peut-on encore compter sur le monde politique pour enrayer le dérèglement climatique? La mobilisation citoyenne semble aujourd'hui plus convaincante. Si on ne peut plus influencer les décideurs,

il faut agir au niveau du tendon d'Achille: la consommation qui nourrit la puissance de ceux qui acquièrent de plus en plus de monopoles. On veut dynamiser une économie? En quoi favoriser les grosses entreprises et les monopoles peut-il encourager à entreprendre? Créer des start-up empêche-t-il qu'elles finissent revendues à des gros groupes qui les phagocytent pour devenir toujours plus puissants? J'ai grandi avec le mantra: "l'économie s'autorégule grâce au principe de l'offre et de la demande"... Ce n'est plus trop d'actualité. Si on laisse une entreprise devenir un mastodonte qui prend toutes les parts de marché, où est l'autorégulation. Plus de PME qui se concurrencent, n'est-ce pas cela, dynamiser l'économie?

#

Nature and climate

Climate crisis consequences in the Ruhr area

A few days ago, I was walking my dog in Essen (mid-November 2025). The weather was far too warm; it was around 18.5°C that day. Many poppies were blooming in the meadow I passed. A striking sight for a meadow in Germany in mid-November.

Original title: Klimakrise-Folgen im Ruhrgebiet

Origin and language: Germany ; de

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like: nan

Europe is like: nan

Democracy is like: nan

Who should hear: nan

Question: Do you not notice such obvious changes, and does this not worry you?

The experience was: Negative and: somewhat common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ;

Original text: Ich war vor ein paar Tagen mit meinem Hund in Essen spazieren (Mitte November 2025). Das Wetter war viel zu warm, an dem Tag waren es um die 18,5°C. Auf der Wiese, an der ich vorbeikam, blühten viele Mohnblumen. Ein frappierendes Bild für eine Wiese Mitte November in Deutschland.

A knee-jerk "nothing can be done" response

I moved to a new neighbourhood a few years ago and have been trying to integrate. Met up for coffee with a retired person who used to work in a resilience function, to chat about preparedness and resilience. At some point, I mentioned climate, which seemed to trigger a "click, whirr" monologue about how we can't do anything about that, being such a small locale. But what I wanted to say was that we should prepare for mass population displacement. They did eventually get the point.

Original title: A knee-jerk "nothing can be done" response

Origin and language: Finland ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like: nan

Europe is like: nan

Democracy is like: nan

Who should hear: nan

Question: How are you planning to stimulate preparedness in local social networks such as neighbourhoods?

The experience was: Neutral and: a one time occurrence

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Migration and Refugees ; Living together and Community ;

Original text: I moved to a new neighbourhood a few years ago and have been trying to integrate. Met up for coffee with a retired person who used to work in a resilience function, to chat about preparedness and resilience. At some point, I mentioned climate, which seemed to trigger a "click, whirr" monologue about how we can't do anything about that, being such a small locale. But what I wanted to say was that we should prepare for mass population displacement. They did eventually get the point.

When will we start storing water?

Recently, a huge amount of EUR in my country was allotted to windmills. One of the reasons is that the money comes from the EU. A lot of focus is on building windmills - but not on storing the energy (on the infrastructure needed for storage and distribution). Seeing this, I'm shocked at the lack of attention on water storage. The weather is becoming more extreme: we experience both extreme droughts and extreme rains. Why is no one, at the national level, strategically thinking about the infrastructure that allows for storing the water (for drought times)?

Original title: When will we start storing water?

Origin and language: Slovenia ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like: nan

Europe is like: nan

Democracy is like: nan

Who should hear: nan

Question: nan

The experience was: Very negative and: somewhat common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Living together and Community ; Peace and Security ;

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Too much and too little water

This summer we had the biggest downpour every in the area I live. The water came through the ground into the cellar, which has just never happened before. Fortunately we live in an old farmhouse, and water can easily flow without damaging the construction. It makes me think that people in the olden days really understood how to build and take the natural flow of ground and surface water into consideration. We are lucky because on our part of the valley we haven't experienced water shortages yet. In a way, our house is build on the area with most water. The other side of the valley is a different story. This year, there were no major problems (yet) but the last few years people on that side of the valley experienced shortage: the sources started to dry up. They were replenished, but you wonder, will they next time? We are too far from the village to get town water. People are concerned, but they do not think about what could be done.

Original title: Too much and too little water

Origin and language : France ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like : nan

Europe is like: nan

Democracy is like: nan

Who should hear: nan

Question: nan

The experience was: I don't know / Not sure and: somewhat common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Housing and Living Conditions ;

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the blind society

A friend told me that he had to buy a new fire place because of new regulations of fine dust in Germany. He said " I have to buy a new one that costs much money. And what happens with my old fire place? It will be brought to the East of Europe and they will use it further. And all this because of the new regulatory. But Germany is only a little part of the world when talking about CO2 emissions. I don't see the effect, when we do something whereas many others don't."

This made me frustrated because it shows the mindset that many people have: They all shot at China and claim this country as the big emittent of CO2 emissions. But they forget, that China is producing all that staff, that we are using everyday. And when braking down the

CO2 emissions per capita, China has a smaller CO2 footprint in average per year than we have here in Germany.

Original title: the blind society

Origin and language : Germany ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like : the initial platform to establish personal carbon trading by giving every citizen a basic income via a complementary climate currency ECO (Earth Carbon Obligation) as personal emissions budget to pay exclusively for fossil based consumption

Europe is like: a big economy system, which should lead the way in climate protection

Democracy is like: that everyone has a voice with the same weight, but currently rich people have more

Who should hear: the whole world but we can also start with VOLT Europe because my story is typical for the mindset of many people. And the topics behind that story are much more important because we need to talk about the interdependence between politics, industry, and us citizens, and why our current climate policy instruments are reaching their limits

Question: Please spend one hour of your valuable time to me and allow me to present you why we must decouple climate protection from the monetary system to allow efficient, fast and socially fair emissions reduction. And why we therefore need a complementary climate currency called "ECO" (Earth Carbon Obligation) that works as CO2-equivalent to provide everybody with a basic ecological income in form of a personal emissions budget to pay only the fossil based consumption with that currency. Because everything will have a second price in this climate/CO2-currency. With Euros we pay the economic price and with ECO the real CO2-footprint. CO2 calculation how we do it today becomes obsolete, because the emissionsmanagementsystem "ECO" provides an autonomous and tamper proof CO2 pricing along the entire value chain.

The experience was: Very negative and: very common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ;

Original text:A friend told me that he had to buy a new fire place because of new regulations of fine dust in Germany. He said " I have to buy a new one that costs much money. And what happens with my old fire place? It will be brought to the East of Europe and they will use it further. And all this because of the new regulatory. But Germany is only a little part of the world when talking about CO2 emissions. I don't see the effect, when we do something whereas many others don't."

This made me frustrated because it shows the mindset that many people have: They all shot at China and claim this country as the big emittent of CO2 emissions. But they forget, that China is producing all that stuff, that we are using everyday. And when braking down the CO2 emissions per capita, China has a smaller CO2 footprint in average per year than we have here in Germany.

Polarized society

Climate change is polarizing society into climate fanatics and climate deniers.

Original title: Polarisierte Gesellschaft

Origin and language : Germany ; de

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like : the beginning of the United States of Europe

Europe is like: nan

Democracy is like: Take action instead of complaining

Who should hear: nan

Question: nan

The experience was: Neutral and: somewhat common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Health and Wellbeing ; Living together and Community ;

Original text: Der Klimawandel polarisiert die Gesellschaft in Klimafanatiker und Klimaleugner.

The crisis is crying out – but nobody is listening.

Lately, I've noticed how much the media presence of Fridays for Future and the Last Generation has declined. Their actions used to be a constant topic of conversation – in the news, on social media, in everyday conversations. Now you hardly hear anything about it. I find that a shame, because climate change hasn't become any less urgent. It feels to me as if the issue is disappearing from public consciousness, even though it should be everywhere.

Original title: Die Krise schreit - Keiner hört zu

Origin and language : Other ; de

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like : a place that should do better, learn from the past, and serve as a role model.

Europe is like: a place that should do better, learn from the past, and serve as a role model.

Democracy is like: nan

Who should hear: All

Question: When will things change? When will the issue be taken seriously?

The experience was: Very negative and: very common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ;

Original text: In letzter Zeit ist mir aufgefallen, wie stark die mediale Präsenz von Fridays for Future und der Letzten Generation zurückgegangen ist. Früher waren ihre Aktionen ständig Thema – in den Nachrichten, auf Social Media, in Gesprächen. Heute hört man kaum noch etwas. Ich finde das schade, weil der Klimawandel ja nicht weniger dringlich geworden ist. Für mich fühlt es sich an, als würde das Thema aus dem öffentlichen Bewusstsein verschwinden, obwohl es eigentlich überall präsent sein müsste.

Climate indifference

I'm hardly interested in the climate issue. We can't change anything now anyway. I certainly won't restrict myself because of it.

Original title: Klimagleichgültigkeit

Origin and language : Germany ; de

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like : nan

Europe is like: nan

Democracy is like: nan

Who should hear: nan

Question: What do you want to do?

The experience was: I don't know / Not sure and: not sure

This story also appears in Nature and climate ;

Original text: Mich interessiert das Klima Thema kaum. Jetzt können wir eh nichts mehr ändern. Ich werde mich bestimmt nicht deswegen selber einschränken.

Missing male turtles

Due to climate change, the soil temperature has risen. However, the temperature in a turtle's nest determines whether the hatchlings will be male or female. This increased temperature means that almost only female turtles are hatching, and some species have already become extinct. (As an aside: I participated in a turtle conservation program in Malaysia, tagged the mother turtles, and dug up the eggs to bury them on the project grounds. The sand there can be kept wet and therefore cold.)

Original title: Fehlende männliche Schildkröten

Origin and language: Other ; de

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like: A very big opportunity

Europe is like: A multiple personality in which all personalities think egocentrically.

Democracy is like: Freedom

Who should hear: Anyone who doesn't believe that a few degrees Celsius will change anything.

Question: nan

The experience was: Very negative and: rare but it happens from time to time

This story also appears in Nature and climate ;

Original text: Aufgrund der Klimawandels ist die Temperatur im Boden gestiegen. Die Temperatur im Nest von Schildkröten entscheidet aber darüber, ob die Tiere männlich oder weiblich werden. Die erhöhte Temperatur führt dazu, dass fast nur noch weibliche Schildkröten schlüpfen und einige Arten bereits ausgestorben sind. (Betug zu mir: Ich war in Malaysia bei einem Schildkrötenschutzprogramm dabei, habe die Muttertiere markiert und die Eier ausgebuddelt, um sie auf dem Gelände des Projektes zu verbuddeln. Dort kann der Sand nass und damit kalt gehalten werden)

The dry reality.

While on vacation in Italy, I fled from my rather annoying parents, grabbed my Mountainbike and went for the nearest Mountain with the most beautiful scenery. According to Google Maps. 1500 meters of elevation later, the lake that was supposed to be there was bone. Dry.



Original title: The dry reality.

Origin and language: Italy ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like: The desperately needed safety net.

Europe is like: A dysfunctional family with a history, just figuring out how their past influences the present.

Democracy is like: Meeting each other at eye-level

Who should hear: All those antivaxxers and Snake-oil believers should see this first hand.

Question: Look up!

The experience was: Very negative and: somewhat common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Health and Wellbeing ;

Original text: While on vacation in Italy, I fled from my rather annoying parents, grabbed my Mountainbike and went for the nearest Mountain with the most beautiful scenery. According to Google Maps. 1500 meters of elevation later, the lake that was supposed to be there was bone. Dry. 🙄

The Giant Fucking Spider That Got In My Room

A gigantic fucking spider got in my room a few years ago, two reasons: very long early summer apparently makes them bigger, and we're no longer allowed to put bug killer on the windows, which in a rural environment causes a lot of bugs to get in.

Original title: The Giant Fucking Spider That Got In My Room

Origin and language: Netherlands ; nl

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like : A country/empire

Europe is like: The West

Democracy is like: Law, order, freedom, stability

Who should hear: To be honest, no one...

Question: Fear of spiders is a thing; can you do something about it if it potentially has negative effects on the ecosystem?

The experience was: Negative and: somewhat common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ;

Original text: A gigantic fucking spider got in my room a few years ago, two reasons: very long early summer apparently makes them bigger, and we're no longer allowed to put bug killer on the windows, which in a rural environment causes a lot of bugs to get in.

Extraordinary weather events

A few years ago, there was severe flooding in the Ahr Valley. The heavy rainfall was quite predictable. Nevertheless, there was no adequate automatic warning system.

Many people there lost their homes or large parts of them.

My step-aunt was also affected.

The water even reached the front door of the house where I lived as a child.

These extreme weather events are occurring with increasing frequency.

Currently, we are also experiencing recurring periods of drought, which are then interrupted by monsoon-like downpours.

This is increasingly leading to reduced yields for farmers.

Original title: Außergewöhnliche Wetterereignisse

Origin and language: Germany ; de

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like: The only possible solution option

Europe is like: A coherent unit

Democracy is like: The best possible form of governance, although it's noticeable that it still needs some adjustments.

Who should hear: nan

Question: To what extent should one holistically rethink one's own actions, instead of only reacting to problematic developments within society on a case-by-case basis?

The experience was: Negative and: rare but it happens from time to time

This story also appears in Nature and climate ;

Original text: Vor ein paar Jahren gab es im Ahrtal ein gravierendes Hochwasser. Die Regenmassen waren im Vorfeld durchaus vorherzusehen. Dennoch gab es kein hinreichendes automatisches Alarmsystem. Viele haben dort ihr Haus bzw. Große Teile davon verloren. Auch meine Stief-Tante war davon betroffen. Das Wasser stand auch bis zur Haustüre des Hauses, in dem ich in meiner Kindheit gewohnt habe. Diese außergewöhnlichen Wetter Ereignisse treten immer regelmäßiger auf. Auch aktuell erleben wir wiederkehrende trockenphasen, welche dann von monsunartigen Regengüssen unterbrochen werden. Dies führt bei Landwirten verstärkt zu minder Erträgen.

End of snow

I live near a low altitude ski resort in the Jura. The cross countrys ski tracks are just 25 minutes drive from my place and I enjoy going cross country over the winter season. Since several years the season starts every year later and ends sooner. This year there was no snow at all during Xmas break. I noticed that the station is diversifying into alternative, snow free activities : bike, summer, tyrol-type gliding, . . . I guess it is a good thing, since it will maintain the economic activity that would otherwise be lost, and I am happy for all the local who can maintain a job. But I still wonder: why is it not sufficient for people to just walk and enjoy nature?

Original title: End of snow

Origin and language: France ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like: Home

Europe is like: Origin

Democracy is like: Walking together

Who should hear: nan

Question: nan

The experience was: Positive and: somewhat common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ;

Original text: I live near a low altitude ski resort in the Jura. The cross country's ski tracks are just 25 minutes drive from my place and I enjoy going cross country over the winter season. Since several years the season starts every year later and ends sooner. This year there was no snow at all during Xmas break. I noticed that the station is diversifying into alternative, snow free activities: bike, summer, tyrol-type gliding, . . . I guess it is a good thing, since it will maintain the economic activity that would otherwise be lost, and I am happy for all the local who can maintain a job. But I still wonder: why is it not sufficient for people to just walk and enjoy nature?

Trump can stop subsidies for electric vehicles, but he can't stop the global transition

Trump has stopped all subsidies for electric vehicles. It's so sad, but I imagine many states, just continuing on their own, without federal assistance. I don't think we can stop the awareness and the action many people in America want to take. Let's not get distracted, but keep steering our course in Europe.

Original title: Trump can stop subsidies for electric vehicles, but he can't stop the global transition

Origin and language: NA ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like: a powerhouse

Europe is like: my home

Democracy is like: it needs a serious upgrade - voting alone is killing us (and nature...)

Who should hear: everyone who gets distracted by TRump every day

Question: Ursula von der Leyen - how will you keep steering the greenest course possible

The experience was: Negative and: very common

This story also appears in Mobility and transport ; Nature and climate ; Living together and Community ;

Original text: Trump has stopped all subsidies for electric vehicles. It's so sad, but I imagine many states, just continuing on their own, without federal assistance. I don't think we can stop the awareness and the action many people in America want to take. Let's not get distracted, but keep steering our course in Europe.

Digitalisation in Yamaha

The company I work for today has announced that they have changed all of our paperworks with e-signature. This is important in reducing the number of papers we consume, as we're a big company. This initiative comes from the management.

Original title: Digitalisation in Yamaha

Origin and language: Netherlands ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like: one big country

Europe is like: nan

Democracy is like: nan

Who should hear: The management of other big companies in the world

Question: Why not sooner?

The experience was: Positive and: rare but it happens from time to time

This story also appears in Nature and climate ;

Original text: The company I work for today has announced that they have changed all of our paperworks with e-signature. This is important in reducing the number of papers we consume, as we're a big company. This initiative comes from the management.

old car owner experience

I am an owner of an old car, and other members of my family are as well. And now we see ourselves more and more limited regarding where we can drive with our cars. Governments of different countries are kind of forcing us to buy a new car and stop driving and older one which is still working and are often more reliable than the newer ones. Now I never know for sure where I am allowed to drive and where not. Each city has different rules. It feels confusing and also unfair. As buying a new car and therefore producing a whole new car is also consuming resources and is not climate friendly. I can imagine that other solutions should be possible rather than simply banning older cars from the cities.

Original title: old car owner experience

Origin and language: Spain ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like: An attempt to live together in peace, justice and social solidarity.

Europe is like: A complex and diverse historical and geographical region.

Democracy is like: Being able to take part, being able to find the best solution for the society as a whole.

Who should hear: nan

Question: nan

The experience was: Negative and: very common

This story also appears in Mobilty and transport ; Fairness and social justice ; Nature and climate ;

Original text: I am an owner of an old car, and other members of my family are as well. And now we see ourselves more and more limited regarding where we can drive with our cars. Governments of different countries are kind of forcing us to buy a new car and stop driving and older one which is still working and are often more reliable than the newer ones. Now I never know for sure where I am allowed to drive and where not. Each city has different rules. It feels confusing and also unfair. As buying a new car and therefore producing a whole new car is also consuming resources and is not climate friendly. I can imagine that other solutions should be possible rather than simply banning older cars from the cities.

Climate change denial

I am outraged that Friedrich Merz, our elected Chancellor, is suggesting that climate protection is unimportant, that Germany's contribution is pointless anyway. These messages are reaching millions of people. I thought the issue of climate change was settled, all the groundwork laid, resolved. Instead, its relevance is now being denied even in my own country. I can't believe it. Now I, too, feel the disconnect between myself and the politics being pursued at the top.

Original title: Klimawandelleugnung

Origin and language : Germany ; de

Unique identifier: eurosense

EU is like : an organization that helps us act together

Europe is like: my cultural home, my community of values in all its diversity

Democracy is like: the essence of our society

Who should hear: nan

Question: What is truly important to you? What is it deep inside?

The experience was: Very negative and: rare but it happens from time to time

This story also appears in Nature and climate ;

Original text: Ich bin empört dass Friedrich Merz, unser gewählter Bundeskanzler, darstellt, dass Klimaschutz nicht wichtig ist, dass Deutschlands Beitrag eh nichts bringt. Diese Geschichten erreichen Millionen von Menschen. Ich dachte das Thema Klimawandel sei durch, alle Weichen gestellt, gelöst. statt dessen wird er nun auch in seiner Relevanz in meinem Land geleugnet. ich kann es nicht glaube. Nun spüre auch ich den Disconnect zwischen mir und der Politik die oben gemacht wird.

The climate concern paradox

I talk to many people who have been very concerned about climate change for quite a while. Very few of them have changed their behavioural patterns in order to translate the concern into any action that may have a positive impact.

Original title: The climate concern paradox

Origin and language : Germany ; en

Unique identifier: nan

EU is like : a true miracle that people either take for granted after a while or even blame it as the mother of all problems

Europe is like: a wonderfully complex piece of art that looks & feels more attractive the further you are away from it

Democracy is like: family: Not always fun and at times really demanding, but indispensable

Who should hear: nan

Question: What would change if you seriously asked yourself every day: How can I contribute meaningfully to a future worth living for as many people as possible?

The experience was: Neutral and: very common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Health and Wellbeing ; Economy and Markets ;

Original text: I talk to many people who have been very concerned about climate change for quite a while. Very few of them have changed their behavioural patterns in order to translate the concern into any action that may have a positive impact.

Nature + Climate and Other Life as a legal entity.

That we neither appreciate nor respect nature (and the climate) and other life at all. Whether it concerns the meat industry, milk, eggs, or nature. As long as it stands in the way of our profits, we destroy everything in a gruesome manner. Yet we enjoy taking the dog for a walk.

Then there is the climate, our biggest security problem. If it were a country invading us, we would do what is necessary, but with the climate, it's YOLO.

We constantly apply double standards and, laughing all the while, destroy the world, for others and for ourselves.

Original title: Natuur + klimaat en ander leven als rechtspersoon.

Origin and language: Other ; nl

Unique identifier: voltsense

EU is like: holy (I am not religious). No EU, no peace on this continent, and no path to world peace.

Europe is like: A future for us, but also as an example for others.

Democracy is like: Until we find something better, also holy. The only form that seems to be able to work.

Who should hear: I don't need people who just hear it. I do need people who have the guts to look in the mirror.

Question: What should I ask? I wouldn't know anymore; people don't want to, they want to suffer, and that is shameful what they are choosing. Not only those in power, but also no one becoming a vegan for the climate. People just want to destroy the earth. Even within Volt, I think their eyes are ajar.

The experience was: Very negative and: very common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ;

Original text: Dat we natuur (en klimaat) en ander leven totaal niet waarderen noch respecteren. Of het nu om de vlees industrie, melk, ei of natuur gaat. Zolang het onze winst in de weg staat maken we alles op gruwelijke wijze kapot. Maar wel gezellig met de hond lopen.

Dan klimaat, ons grootste veiligheidsprobleem. Als het een land zou zijn wat ons binnen valt zouden we wel doen wat nodig is maar met het klimaat yolo.

Constant meten we met dubbele maten en al lachend slopen we de wereld, voor een ander en onszelf.

Carbon tunnel vision distracts city council from the real problem

The municipality I work for organized an information session for the city council about sustainability. They hired an engineering firm to explain topics such as 'climate neutral' and 'energy neutral'.

After introducing climate neutral, it was mentioned the city is responsible for emissions from ships that fare the rivers. Somebody said those emissions were already compensated by national solar and wind energy parks. Therefore, the municipality does not have to compensate those emissions. As a response, the speaker tried to explain that it does not matter how it is compensated (national or in the municipality), the municipality just has to provide reasoning for it.

I felt helpless as I thought: why are we bickering over CO2 budgets, when this is about ecological overshoot, the breaching of 6 out of 9 planetary boundaries? The warming build in the pipeline has too big of a momentum to stop, and climate chang is just one of the factors.

So painful to see a completely sidetracked dicussion.

Original title: Carbon tunnel vision distracts city council from the real problem

Origin and language: Netherlands ; en

Unique identifier: Inkdin

EU is like: a powerful influence that loses power due to its heterogenity

Europe is like: a collection of landscapes on spaceship earth

Democracy is like: majority rules the minority, and although clumsily implemented, the best we have until we are able to have wise dialogue and action.

Who should hear: city councils

Question: I you study and understand ecological overshoot and planetary boundaries, and how our economy ultimately depends on ecology, do you still believe in green growth and CO2 as a key metric?

The experience was: Negative and: very common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ;

Original text:The municipality I work for organized an information session for the city council about sustainability. They hired an engineering firm to explain topics such as 'climate neutral' and 'energy neutral'.

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So painful to see a completely sidetracked dicussion.

sealing

Despite the need to adapt our cities to climate change, more and more green spaces are being paved over and built upon, especially in my city. And this is happening against the express wishes of the residents. Politicians are doing the exact opposite of what is necessary, given the advancing warming, to make life in the city bearable in the future.

Original title: Versiegelung

Origin and language: Germany ; de

Unique identifier: voltnws

EU is like : a hope for a united Europe

Europe is like: my home

Democracy is like: important and indispensable

Who should hear: All people

Question: Why do they act according to the motto: After me, the deluge?

The experience was: Negative and: somewhat common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Health and Wellbeing ;

Original text: Trotz der Notwendigkeit unsere Städte dem Klimawandel anzupassen werden gerade in meiner Stadt immer mehr Grünflächen versiegelt und bebaut. Und das gegen den erklärten Willen der Einwohner. Die Politik macht genau das Gegenteil von dem was angesichts der fortschreitendem Erwärmung notwendig wäre, um das Leben in der Stadt zukünftig erträglich zu machen.

Citizens' participation and climate change

Last year my name was drawn to be part of Bologna's Citizens' Assembly on Climate Affairs. This gave me the opportunity to learn more about climate change, meet many active fellow citizens, get more involved and be a small part of solutions in our city. The city council took over most of our recommendations, and we are now actively monitoring their implementation with the aim of keeping the council to its promises. The experience taught me how important it is that citizens be involved in forming climate policies. Most carbon emissions are directly or indirectly produced by citizens, and most consequences of climate change fall directly upon their shoulders - it is important that they get agency, and that they understand that it cannot be solved without them.

Original title: Citizens' participation and climate change

Origin and language: Italy ; en

Unique identifier: rpc

EU is like : a fantastic tool that we are still learning how to use effectively

Europe is like: a home full of brothers and sisters

Democracy is like: a dear friend in fragile health who needs to be taken care of, nursed and fed

Who should hear: Citizens and political leaders of European cities where citizen participation in climate affairs has yet to be given shape.

Question: Please involve your constituencies in developing and implementing climate change policies.

The experience was: Very positive and: a one time occurrence

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Democracy and Governance ;

Original text: Last year my name was drawn to be part of Bologna's Citizens' Assembly on Climate Affairs. This gave me the opportunity to learn more about climate change, meet many active fellow citizens, get more involved and be a small part of solutions in our city. The city council took over most of our recommendations, and we are now actively monitoring their implementation with the aim of keeping the council to its promises. The experience taught me how important it is that citizens be involved in forming climate policies. Most carbon emissions are directly or indirectly produced by citizens, and most consequences of

climate change fall directly upon their shoulders - it is important that they get agency, and that they understand that it cannot be solved without them.

Climate denial

Many people in my personal circle calculate that there are problems with the climate, but do not link any consequences to this in their actions.

Original title: Klimaat ontkenning

Origin and language: Netherlands ; nl

Unique identifier: insta

EU is like: Organization

Europe is like: Society

Democracy is like: Should be a core value

Who should hear: Policy influencers

Question: Start policy with people's lived experience.

The experience was: Negative and: somewhat common

This story also appears in Mobility and transport ; Nature and climate ;

Original text: Veel mensen in mijn persoonlijke omgeving rekenen dat er problemen zijn met het klimaat, maar verbinden er geen consequenties aan in hun handelen

Journey to the near future

There is a lot of negativity surrounding the energy transition. Unfeasible. Unaffordable. Meanwhile, all generations continue to travel more. At the same time, activists and conservatives are hardening in their trenches. My journey concerns the development of a new technology that you probably haven't heard of yet. But one that we have worked hard on over the past 7 years. With which we can give everyone their own compact power plant in their home. With which the citizen becomes master of their own home again. The transition is given a huge boost, because it is a green technology, cheaper than the most polluting and fossil energy. Decentralized, which prevents grid congestion. Because it is green, cheap, and European, that topic of polarization is off the table again. Win-win. As it should be. It is a typical product for Volt. Green, inclusive, and democratic. Power to the people.

www.ion-energy.nl

Original title: Reis naar de nabije toekomst

Origin and language: Netherlands ; nl

Unique identifier: voltnws

EU is like: a United States of America, from before the Hamilton moment.

Europe is like: The only refuge of decency and human values, seriously threatened from outside and from within

Democracy is like: The only way to actually get out of the cycle of power and abuse of power and stay out of it.

Who should hear: Every Volter may hear it. And also outside Volt.

Question: When are you going to use that power so that the world looks better than before you got that power?

The experience was: Very positive and: rare but it happens from time to time

This story also appears in Nature and climate ;

Original text: Er is veel negativiteit over de energietransitie. Onhaalbaar. Onbetaalbaar. Ondertussen reizen alle generaties maar meer. Tegelijkertijd verharderen activisten en conservatieven in hun loopgraven. Mijn reis betreft de ontwikkeling van een nieuwe technologie waar je waarschijnlijk nog niets van gehoord hebt. Maar waar we in de afgelopen 7 jaren hard aan hebben gewerkt. Waarmee we iedereen een eigen compacte energiecentrale in huis kunnen geven. Waarmee de burger weer baas wordt in eigen huis. De transitie enorm wordt geholpen, want een groene technologie, goedkoper dan de meest vervuillende en fossiele energie. Decentraal waardoor netcongestie wordt voorkomen. Omdat het groen, goedkoop en Europees is, is dat onderwerp van polarisatie weer van tafel. Win-win. Zoals het hoort. Het is een typisch product voor Volt. Groen, inclusief en democratisch. Power to the people. www.ion-energy.nl

We are fooling each other

Almost everyone makes a number of sustainable choices, such as separating waste or installing solar panels. But actually, this is an economic choice. If residual waste is not priced or solar panels are not profitable, then we simply won't do it. Furthermore, we misuse sustainable choices to continue using fossil fuels, to fly, etc.

We do not want to formulate and implement necessary policy on a national level, but only within a European context or even more broadly. And there, we stall the process of policy making and accuse "Brussels" of infringing upon our sovereignty.

In short, we cling to our self-interest even though the climate is deteriorating, poverty is increasing, and we are threatened by Russia, the US, Big Tech, etc. And no politician dares to expose this for fear of losing the favor of the voter. Whoever does dare gets my vote.

Original title: We houden elkaar voor de gek

Origin and language: Netherlands ; nl

Unique identifier: voltnws

EU is like: our future when it comes to security, climate, economy and migration

Europe is like: an opportunity for the world when it comes to cooperation and progressive policy

Democracy is like: the best we have, a means to realize an acceptable existence for all people, now and in the future

Who should hear: Everyone.

Question: Why is staying in power more important to you than what is best for the world's population?

The experience was: Negative and: very common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Living together and Community ; Peace and Security ;

Original text: Bijna iedereen maakt een aantal duurzame keuzes, bijvoorbeeld afval scheiden of zonnepanelen nemen. Maar eigenlijk is dit een economische keuze. Als restafval niet betaald wordt of zonnepanelen niet rendabel zijn dan doen we het niet. We misbruiken

daarnaast ook nog de duurzame keuzes om wel fossiel te blijven gebruiken, om te vliegen etc.

We willen noodzakelijk beleid niets land formuleren en uitvoeren, maar dat alleen in Europees verband of nog breder. En daar traineren we dat er beleid gemaakt wordt en verwijten "Brussel" dat onze soevereiniteit wordt aangetast.

Kortom we houden vast aan ons eigenbelang ook al gaat het klimaat achteruit, neemt de armoede toe, worden we bedreigd door Rusland, VS, bigtech etc. En geen politicus durft dit door te prikken om de gunst van de kiezer niet te verliezen. Wie wel durft krijgt mijn stem.

Transformation towards more efficient energy use

A setback in climate protection. We must finally move away from combustion and towards the use of quantum mechanics (e.g., heat pumps).

Original title: Transformation zu effizientere Energienutzung

Origin and language: Germany ; de

Unique identifier: voltnws

EU is like: a guarantee of stability and prosperity.

Europe is like: Our shared home

Democracy is like: Sometimes it's difficult, but I can't think of anything better.

Who should hear: All

Question: How many more climate disasters will it take in Europe before decisive action is taken?!

The experience was: Very positive and: very common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Housing and Living Conditions ; Economy and Markets ;

Original text: Rückschritt beim Klimaschutz. Wir müssen endlich weg von der Verbrennung und hin zur Nutzung der Quantenmechanik (bsp. Wärmepumpen).

Less "economies of scale" means more "social justice".

Having fled the city shortly after my retirement, I took refuge in a rural area. Six thousand liters of rainwater irrigate my toilets and my land when drought strikes. Photovoltaic panels stand proudly on the roofs. I let my small garden plots lie wild and reintroduce native plant species from my region. I buy my dairy products from a nearby farm. I have local produce delivered. Throughout my life, I've seen large retailers kill, step by step, local businesses, the kind that built community. Today, they're playing the victim card to consumers who are tired of their mantra: "economies of scale." They're starting to mimic the neighborhood grocery store they banished decades ago. It's a sham. Only one religion prevails: profit. Price has become the sole selling point, to the detriment of quality, sustainability, and health. Producers are being squeezed dry.

I'm doing my part, but it seems insignificant compared to what needs to be done to return to a minimum of humanity and social cohesion. Europe must be united or risk being crushed. But it must be united around more regionally focused projects. Social cohesion moves

mountains. The neoliberalism driving globalization is destroying the bond and the very essence of humanity. Volt interests me because of its cross-border aspect, and I also appreciate hearing that you have an approach that respects regional specificities. People who have lost their identity and see the far right as an escape route frighten me. To what level of deprivation of freedoms, of cultural mortification, are they capable of embracing it? The duty to remember is no longer enough. We must address all the human rights abuses that accompany dictatorships. The USA shows us the path not to follow... Have we failed? Are our children no longer being raised in the spirit of the Enlightenment? Is it the digital revolution that is destroying the very engine of our democracies: critical thinking? Is it possible to rediscover values other than the sole pursuit of profit? Have we, to such an extent, forgotten that we are mortal and that the accumulation of goods is futile once we can house, feed, clothe, and heat ourselves? Can we still rely on the political world to halt climate change? Citizen mobilization seems more convincing today. If we can no longer influence decision-makers, we must act at the Achilles' heel: consumption, which fuels the power of those who acquire ever-increasing monopolies. We want to revitalize the economy? How can favoring large corporations and monopolies encourage entrepreneurship? Does creating startups prevent them from being sold off to large corporations that absorb them to become even more powerful?

I grew up with the mantra: "The economy self-regulates thanks to the principle of supply and demand"... That's no longer really the case. If we let a company become a behemoth that takes up all the market share, where is the self-regulation? More SMEs competing with each other— isn't that what boosting the economy is all about?

Original title: Moins d' "économie d'échelle", c'est plus de "justice sociale".

Origin and language: Belgium ; fr

Unique identifier: voltnws

EU is like: An economic union that struggles to remember the political values it prides itself on.

Europe is like: A solution to defend oneself against obscurantism

Democracy is like: The only way to preserve the fundamental freedoms of the individual

Who should hear: More than a story, I've transcribed my daily life, my fears, my anxieties. It's by uniting the forces of those who share the same questions that we can create a critical mass that will bring about change. If I were to ring my five neighbors' doorbells to try and convince them, it's a safe bet I'd be met with complete indifference. They don't realize that the common good is the driving force behind their own self-interest. Only the present fuels their vote... when they even bother to consider the nature of their vote. The general disengagement from politics is blatant. Self-interest and short-term thinking prevail.

Question: Do you have a job you enjoy, outside of politics?

The experience was: I don't know / Not sure and: not sure

This story also appears in Fairness and social justice ; Nature and climate ;

Original text: Ayant fui la ville peu après ma retraite, je me suis réfugié dans un coin de campagne. 6000 litres d'eau de pluie irriguent mes chasses d'eau et mon terrain quand vient la sécheresse. Des panneaux photovoltaïques trônent sur les toits. Je laisse mes quelques ares de jardin en friche et y réintroduis des espèces végétales indigènes de ma région. J'achète mes produits laitiers à une ferme toute proche. Je me fais livrer des produits du terroir. J'ai vu au cours de ma vie les grands distributeurs tuer, pied à pied, le commerce local, celui qui faisait société. Aujourd'hui, ils jouent du violon aux oreilles des

consommateurs qui sont fatigués de leur credo: "l'économie d'échelle". Ils se mettent à mimer l'épicerie de quartier qu'ils avaient bannie quelques décennies plus tôt. C'est un leurre. Une seule religion prévaut: le profit. Le prix est devenu l'unique argument de vente au détriment de la qualité, de la durabilité, de la santé. Les producteurs sont étranglés. Je fais ma part, mais ça me paraît infime à côté de ce qu'il y a à faire pour retourner à un minimum d'humanité et de lien social. L'Europe doit être unie sous peine de se faire écraser. Mais elle doit être unie autour de projets plus régionalisés. On déplace des montagnes avec de la cohésion sociale. Le néolibéralisme qui conduit la mondialisation détruit le lien et l'essence-même de l'humanité. Volt m'intéresse par l'aspect transfrontalier et j'aime aussi entendre que vous avez une approche qui respecte les spécificités régionales. Les gens en perte d'identité qui voient en l'extrême-droite une porte de sortie m'effraient. A quel niveau de privation de libertés, de mortifications de la culture sont-ils capables d'adhérer? Le devoir de mémoire ne suffit plus. Il faut relever toutes les atteintes aux droits de l'homme qui vont avec les dictatures. Les USA nous montrent la voie à ne pas suivre... Avons-nous failli? Nos enfants ne sont-ils plus élevés dans l'esprit des lumières? Est-ce le ras-de-marée digital qui est en train de détruire le moteur-même de nos démocraties: l'analyse contradictoire? Est-il possible de retrouver d'autres valeurs que la seule recherche de profit? Avons-nous, à ce point, oublié que nous sommes mortels et que l'accumulation de biens est vaine dès lors que nous pouvons nous loger, nous nourrir, nous vêtir, nous chauffer. Peut-on encore compter sur le monde politique pour enrayer le dérèglement climatique? La mobilisation citoyenne semble aujourd'hui plus convaincante. Si on ne peut plus influencer les décideurs, il faut agir au niveau du tendon d'Achille: la consommation qui nourrit la puissance de ceux qui acquièrent de plus en plus de monopoles. On veut dynamiser une économie? En quoi favoriser les grosses entreprises et les monopoles peut-il encourager à entreprendre? Créer des start-up empêche-t-il qu'elles finissent revendues à des gros groupes qui les phagocytent pour devenir toujours plus puissants? J'ai grandi avec le mantra: "l'économie s'autorégule grâce au principe de l'offre et de la demande"... Ce n'est plus trop d'actualité. Si on laisse une entreprise devenir un mastodonte qui prend toutes les parts de marché, où est l'autorégulation. Plus de PME qui se concurrencent, n'est-ce pas cela, dynamiser l'économie?

Infrastructure in the Netherlands

Recently in the Netherlands, the whole country went basically on lock-down due to bad weather. The train system shut down, our main airport became dysfunctional and supply chains started shutting down. What does this say about the Netherlands? When they self-proclaim themselves to be one of the more developed countries in the world but the infrastructure cannot handle three days of snow. I believe this experience has shown to never rely on best case scenario, the Netherlands has invested in the belief that global warming will make our climate warmer and not just more extreme. In a world where we need to adapt to risks, the Netherlands' divesting from infrastructure is a grave mistake. What will happen when the next crisis comes along, both man-made or from nature?

Original title: Infrastructure in the Netherlands

Origin and language : Netherlands ; en

Unique identifier: MVE

EU is like : Community

Europe is like: Unity

Democracy is like: A voice

Who should hear: People in general

Question: What are your plans for risk prevention in future crisis?

The experience was: Negative and: rare but it happens from time to time

This story also appears in Mobility and transport ; Nature and climate ; Living together and Community ;

Original text: Recently in the Netherlands, the whole country went basically on lock-down due to bad weather. The train system shut down, our main airport became dysfunctional and supply chains started shutting down. What does this say about the Netherlands? When they self-proclaim themselves to be one of the more developed countries in the world but the infrastructure cannot handle three days of snow. I believe this experience has shown to never rely on best case scenario, the Netherlands has invested in the belief that global warming will make our climate warmer and not just more extreme. In a world where we need to adapt to risks, the Netherlands' divesting from infrastructure is a grave mistake. What will happen when the next crisis comes along, both man-made or from nature?

#

Health and Wellbeing

Polarized society

Climate change is polarizing society into climate fanatics and climate deniers.

Original title: Polarisierte Gesellschaft

Origin and language: Germany ; de

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like: the beginning of the United States of Europe

Europe is like: nan

Democracy is like: Take action instead of complaining

Who should hear: nan

Question: nan

The experience was: Neutral and: somewhat common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Health and Wellbeing ; Living together and Community ;

Original text: Der Klimawandel polarisiert die Gesellschaft in Klimafanatiker und Klimaleugner.

The dry reality.

While on vacation in Italy, I fled from my rather annoying parents, grabbed my Mountainbike and went for the nearest Mountain with the most beautiful scenery. According to Google Maps. 1500 meters of elevation later, the lake that was supposed to be there was bone. Dry.



Original title: The dry reality.

Origin and language: Italy ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like : The desperately needed safety net.

Europe is like: A dysfunctional family with a history, just figuring out how their past influences the present.

Democracy is like: Meeting each other at eye-level

Who should hear: All those antivaxxers and Snake-oil believers should see this first hand.

Question: Look up!

The experience was: Very negative and: somewhat common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Health and Wellbeing ;

Original text: While on vacation in Italy, I fled from my rather annoying parents, grabbed my Mountainbike and went for the nearest Mountain with the most beautiful scenery. According to Google Maps. 1500 meters of elevation later, the lake that was supposed to be there was bone. Dry. 🙄

The climate concern paradox

I talk to many people who have been very concerned about climate change for quite a while. Very few of them have changed their behavioural patterns in order to translate the concern into any action that may have a positive impact.

Original title: The climate concern paradox

Origin and language : Germany ; en

Unique identifier: nan

EU is like : a true miracle that people either take for granted after a while or even blame it as the mother of all problems

Europe is like: a wonderfully complex piece of art that looks & feels more attractive the further you are away from it

Democracy is like: family: Not always fun and at times really demanding, but indispensable

Who should hear: nan

Question: What would change if you seriously asked yourself every day: How can I contribute meaningfully to a future worth living for as many people as possible?

The experience was: Neutral and: very common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Health and Wellbeing ; Economy and Markets ;

Original text: I talk to many people who have been very concerned about climate change for quite a while. Very few of them have changed their behavioural patterns in order to translate the concern into any action that may have a positive impact.

sealing

Despite the need to adapt our cities to climate change, more and more green spaces are being paved over and built upon, especially in my city. And this is happening against the express wishes of the residents. Politicians are doing the exact opposite of what is necessary, given the advancing warming, to make life in the city bearable in the future.

Original title: Versiegelung

Origin and language : Germany ; de

Unique identifier: voltnws

EU is like : a hope for a united Europe

Europe is like: my home

Democracy is like: important and indispensable

Who should hear: All people

Question: Why do they act according to the motto: After me, the deluge?

The experience was: Negative and: somewhat common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Health and Wellbeing ;

Original text: Trotz der Notwendigkeit unsere Städte dem Klimawandel anzupassen werden gerade in meiner Stadt immer mehr Grünflächen versiegelt und bebaut. Und das gegen den erklärten Willen der Einwohner. Die Politik macht genau das Gegenteil von dem was angesichts der fortschreitendem Erwärmung notwendig wäre, um das Leben in der Stadt zukünftig erträglich zu machen.

#

Migration and Refugees

A knee-jerk "nothing can be done" response

I moved to a new neighbourhood a few years ago and have been trying to integrate. Met up for coffee with a retired person who used to work in a resilience function, to chat about preparedness and resilience. At some point, I mentioned climate, which seemed to trigger a "click, whirr" monologue about how we can't do anything about that, being such a small locale. But what I wanted to say was that we should prepare for mass population displacement. They did eventually get the point.

Original title: A knee-jerk "nothing can be done" response

Origin and language : Finland ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like : nan

Europe is like: nan

Democracy is like: nan

Who should hear: nan

Question: How are you planning to stimulate preparedness in local social networks such as neighbourhoods?

The experience was: Neutral and: a one time occurrence

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Migration and Refugees ; Living together and Community ;

Original text: I moved to a new neighbourhood a few years ago and have been trying to integrate. Met up for coffee with a retired person who used to work in a resilience function, to chat about preparedness and resilience. At some point, I mentioned climate, which seemed to trigger a "click, whirr" monologue about how we can't do anything about that, being such a small locale. But what I wanted to say was that we should prepare for mass population displacement. They did eventually get the point.

Work and Occupation

Housing and Living Conditions

Resistance to climate change is against our own interests.

I have all the green stuff, my energy bill is only €17,-/month so clearly it's working! The energy transition is also the solution to the cost of living crisis here in the Netherlands.

However we see a lot of unfounded resistance. For example: my friend owns a company called inductie.nu which sole business is to make rental homes gas free. It's funded by the rental company not having to pay for the gas supply anymore. That money is used for a loan to pay my friend. Renters get a free induction stove and free pans. It doesn't cost them anything!

Yet quite often people slam the door in his face because they don't want to know anything about it. Only to then call back in tears 2 months later that they cannot cook anymore since gas supply has been cut off, begging him to deliver the free stove anyway.

It's honestly sad how people are so stuck in their ways and act against their own interests.

Its also maddening that the Dutch gouvernement is cutting gasoline taxes yet trains tickets continue to rise.

Original title: Resistance to climate change is against our own interests.

Origin and language : Netherlands ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like : An abstract far away necessity that acts way too slowly

Europe is like: A continent with like minded countries

Democracy is like: The least bad system of gouvernement. It has it's flaws, but the alternative is way worse.

Who should hear: Policy makers and media figures. Or representatives in general.

We need to reach those stubborn people who fall for this oil propaganda and keep voting against their own interests.

Question: Why don't we abolish the 46 billion in fossil subsidies and use the money to make ourselves energy independent with renewables?

The experience was: Neutral and: very common

This story also appears in Fairness and social justice ; Housing and Living Conditions ; Other, please specify ; Energy Transition ;

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It's honestly sad how people are so stuck in their ways and act against their own interests.

Its also maddening that the Dutch gouvernement is cutting gasoline taxes yet trains tickets continue to rise.

Too much and too little water

This summer we had the biggest downpour every in the area I live. The water came through the ground into the cellar, which has just never happened before. Fortunately we live in an old farmhouse, and water can easily flow without damaging the construction. It makes me think that people in the olden days really understood how to build and take the natural flow of ground and surface water into consideration. We are lucky because on our part of the valley we haven't experienced water shortages yet. In a way, our house is build on the area with most water. The other side of the valley is a different story. This year, there were no major problems (yet) but the last few years people on that side of the valley experienced shortage: the sources started to dry up. They were replenished, but you wonder, will they next time? We are too far from the village to get town water. People are concerned, but they do not think about what could be done.

Original title: Too much and too little water

Origin and language: France ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like: nan

Europe is like: nan

Democracy is like: nan

Who should hear: nan

Question: nan

The experience was: I don't know / Not sure and: somewhat common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Housing and Living Conditions ;

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Transformation towards more efficient energy use

A setback in climate protection. We must finally move away from combustion and towards the use of quantum mechanics (e.g., heat pumps).

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Origin and language: Germany ; de

Unique identifier: voltnws

EU is like : a guarantee of stability and prosperity.

Europe is like: Our shared home

Democracy is like: Sometimes it's difficult, but I can't think of anything better.

Who should hear: All

Question: How many more climate disasters will it take in Europe before decisive action is taken?!

The experience was: Very positive and: very common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Housing and Living Conditions ; Economy and Markets ;

Original text: Rückschritt beim Klimaschutz. Wir müssen endlich weg von der Verbrennung und hin zur Nutzung der Quantenmechanik (bsp. Wärmepumpen).

#

Democracy and Governance

Citizens' participation and climate change

Last year my name was drawn to be part of Bologna's Citizens' Assembly on Climate Affairs. This gave me the opportunity to learn more about climate change, meet many active fellow citizens, get more involved and be a small part of solutions in our city. The city council took over most of our recommendations, and we are now actively monitoring their implementation with the aim of keeping the council to its promises. The experience taught me how important it is that citizens be involved in forming climate policies. Most carbon emissions are directly or indirectly produced by citizens, and most consequences of climate change fall directly upon their shoulders - it is important that they get agency, and that they understand that it cannot be solved without them.

Original title: Citizens' participation and climate change

Origin and language: Italy ; en

Unique identifier: rpc

EU is like : a fantastic tool that we are still learning how to use effectively

Europe is like: a home full of brothers and sisters

Democracy is like: a dear friend in fragile health who needs to be taken care of, nursed and fed

Who should hear: Citizens and political leaders of European cities where citizen participation in climate affairs has yet to be given shape.

Question: Please involve your constituencies in developing and implementing climate change policies.

The experience was: Very positive and: a one time occurrence

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Democracy and Governance ;

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#

Economy and Markets

The climate concern paradox

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Original title: The climate concern paradox

Origin and language: Germany ; en

Unique identifier: nan

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Who should hear: nan

Question: What would change if you seriously asked yourself every day: How can I contribute meaningfully to a future worth living for as many people as possible?

The experience was: Neutral and: very common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Health and Wellbeing ; Economy and Markets ;

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Original text: Rückschritt beim Klimaschutz. Wir müssen endlich weg von der Verbrennung und hin zur Nutzung der Quantenmechanik (bsp. Wärmepumpen).

#

Living together and Community

A knee-jerk "nothing can be done" response

I moved to a new neighbourhood a few years ago and have been trying to integrate. Met up for coffee with a retired person who used to work in a resilience function, to chat about preparedness and resilience. At some point, I mentioned climate, which seemed to trigger a "click, whirr" monologue about how we can't do anything about that, being such a small locale. But what I wanted to say was that we should prepare for mass population displacement. They did eventually get the point.

Original title: A knee-jerk "nothing can be done" response

Origin and language: Finland ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like: nan

Europe is like: nan

Democracy is like: nan

Who should hear: nan

Question: How are you planning to stimulate preparedness in local social networks such as neighbourhoods?

The experience was: Neutral and: a one time occurrence

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Migration and Refugees ; Living together and Community ;

Original text: I moved to a new neighbourhood a few years ago and have been trying to integrate. Met up for coffee with a retired person who used to work in a resilience function, to chat about preparedness and resilience. At some point, I mentioned climate, which seemed

to trigger a "click, whirr" monologue about how we can't do anything about that, being such a small locale. But what I wanted to say was that we should prepare for mass population displacement. They did eventually get the point.

When will we start storing water?

Recently, a huge amount of EUR in my country was allotted to windmills. One of the reasons is that the money comes from the EU. A lot of focus is on building windmills - but not on storing the energy (on the infrastructure needed for storage and distribution). Seeing this, I'm shocked at the lack of attention on water storage. The weather is becoming more extreme: we experience both extreme droughts and extreme rains. Why is no one, at the national level, strategically thinking about the infrastructure that allows for storing the water (for drought times)?

Original title: When will we start storing water?

Origin and language: Slovenia ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like: nan

Europe is like: nan

Democracy is like: nan

Who should hear: nan

Question: nan

The experience was: Very negative and: somewhat common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Living together and Community ; Peace and Security ;

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Polarized society

Climate change is polarizing society into climate fanatics and climate deniers.

Original title: Polarisierte Gesellschaft

Origin and language: Germany ; de

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like: the beginning of the United States of Europe

Europe is like: nan

Democracy is like: Take action instead of complaining

Who should hear: nan

Question: nan

The experience was: Neutral and: somewhat common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Health and Wellbeing ; Living together and Community ;

Original text: Der Klimawandel polarisiert die Gesellschaft in Klimafanatiker und Klimaleugner.

Trump can stop subsidies for electric vehicles, but he can't stop the global transition

Trump has stopped all subsidies for electric vehicles. It's so sad, but I imagine many states, just continuing on their own, without federal assistance. I don't think we can stop the awareness and the action many people in America want to take. Let's not get distracted, but keep steering our course in Europe.

Original title: Trump can stop subsidies for electric vehicles, but he can't stop the global transition

Origin and language: NA ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like: a powerhouse

Europe is like: my home

Democracy is like: it needs a serious upgrade - voting alone is killing us (and nature...)

Who should hear: everyone who gets distracted by TRump every day

Question: Ursula von der Leyen - how will you keep steering the greenest course possible

The experience was: Negative and: very common

This story also appears in Mobility and transport ; Nature and climate ; Living together and Community ;

Original text: Trump has stopped all subsidies for electric vehicles. It's so sad, but I imagine many states, just continuing on their own, without federal assistance. I don't think we can stop the awareness and the action many people in America want to take. Let's not get distracted, but keep steering our course in Europe.

We are fooling each other

Almost everyone makes a number of sustainable choices, such as separating waste or installing solar panels. But actually, this is an economic choice. If residual waste is not priced or solar panels are not profitable, then we simply won't do it. Furthermore, we misuse sustainable choices to continue using fossil fuels, to fly, etc.

We do not want to formulate and implement necessary policy on a national level, but only within a European context or even more broadly. And there, we stall the process of policy making and accuse "Brussels" of infringing upon our sovereignty.

In short, we cling to our self-interest even though the climate is deteriorating, poverty is increasing, and we are threatened by Russia, the US, Big Tech, etc. And no politician dares to expose this for fear of losing the favor of the voter. Whoever does dare gets my vote.

Original title: We houden elkaar voor de gek

Origin and language: Netherlands ; nl

Unique identifier: voltnws

EU is like : our future when it comes to security, climate, economy and migration

Europe is like: an opportunity for the world when it comes to cooperation and progressive policy

Democracy is like: the best we have, a means to realize an acceptable existence for all people, now and in the future

Who should hear: Everyone.

Question: Why is staying in power more important to you than what is best for the world's population?

The experience was: Negative and: very common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Living together and Community ; Peace and Security ;

Original text: Bijna iedereen maakt een aantal duurzame keuzes, bijvoorbeeld afval scheiden of zonnepanelen nemen. Maar eigenlijk is dit een economische keuze. Als restafval niet betaald wordt of zonnepanelen niet rendabel zijn dan doen we het niet. We misbruiken daarnaast ook nog de duurzame keuzes om wel fossiel te blijven gebruiken, om te vliegen etc.

We willen noodzakelijk beleid niets land formuleren en uitvoeren, maar dat alleen in Europees verband of nog breder. En daar trainen we dat er beleid gemaakt wordt en verwijzen "Brussel" dat onze soevereiniteit wordt aangetast.

Kortom we houden vast aan ons eigenbelang ook al gaat het klimaat achteruit, neemt de armoede toe, worden we bedreigd door Rusland, VS, bigtech etc. En geen politicus durft dit door te prikken om de gunst van de kiezer niet te verliezen. Wie wel durft krijgt mijn stem.

Infrastructure in the Netherlands

Recently in the Netherlands, the whole country went basically on lock-down due to bad weather. The train system shut down, our main airport became dysfunctional and supply chains started shutting down. What does this say about the Netherlands? When they self-proclaim themselves to be one of the more developed countries in the world but the infrastructure cannot handle three days of snow. I believe this experience has shown to never rely on best case scenario, the Netherlands has invested in the belief that global warming will make our climate warmer and not just more extreme. In a world where we need to adapt to risks, the Netherlands' divesting from infrastructure is a grave mistake. What will happen when the next crisis comes along, both man-made or from nature?

Original title: Infrastructure in the Netherlands

Origin and language : Netherlands ; en

Unique identifier: MVE

EU is like : Community

Europe is like: Unity

Democracy is like: A voice

Who should hear: People in general

Question: What are your plans for risk prevention in future crisis?

The experience was: Negative and: rare but it happens from time to time

This story also appears in Mobility and transport ; Nature and climate ; Living together and Community ;

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#

Education and Schools

Bad planning for school kids

In a small town they recognized that they don't have enough rooms to accommodate all the Kids coming to school . Although the teachers addressed this issue already some years ago, the Community council did not act. This led to provisorums (container) which were put-up in area where pupils are doing their break. Not enough, it happened now a second time and a solution was found to put some classes in the schools' Aula. Taking away area where the school can have events together. No excuse from the community council to make the experience again.

Original title: Bad planning for school kids

Origin and language : Switzerland ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like : a big machine

Europe is like: nan

Democracy is like: One for all, one for all

Who should hear: nan

Question: nan

The experience was: Very negative and: rare but it happens from time to time

This story also appears in Education and Schools ;

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#

Peace and Security

When will we start storing water?

Recently, a huge amount of EUR in my country was allotted to windmills. One of the reasons is that the money comes from the EU. A lot of focus is on building windmills - but not on storing the energy (on the infrastructure needed for storage and distribution). Seeing this, I'm shocked at the lack of attention on water storage. The weather is becoming more extreme: we experience both extreme droughts and extreme rains. Why is no one, at the national level, strategically thinking about the infrastructure that allows for storing the water (for drought times)?

Original title: When will we start storing water?

Origin and language: Slovenia ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like: nan

Europe is like: nan

Democracy is like: nan

Who should hear: nan

Question: nan

The experience was: Very negative and: somewhat common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Living together and Community ; Peace and Security ;

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We are fooling each other

Almost everyone makes a number of sustainable choices, such as separating waste or installing solar panels. But actually, this is an economic choice. If residual waste is not priced or solar panels are not profitable, then we simply won't do it. Furthermore, we misuse sustainable choices to continue using fossil fuels, to fly, etc.

We do not want to formulate and implement necessary policy on a national level, but only within a European context or even more broadly. And there, we stall the process of policy making and accuse "Brussels" of infringing upon our sovereignty.

In short, we cling to our self-interest even though the climate is deteriorating, poverty is increasing, and we are threatened by Russia, the US, Big Tech, etc. And no politician dares to expose this for fear of losing the favor of the voter. Whoever does dare gets my vote.

Original title: We houden elkaar voor de gek

Origin and language: Netherlands ; nl

Unique identifier: voltnws

EU is like: our future when it comes to security, climate, economy and migration

Europe is like: an opportunity for the world when it comes to cooperation and progressive policy

Democracy is like: the best we have, a means to realize an acceptable existence for all people, now and in the future

Who should hear: Everyone.

Question: Why is staying in power more important to you than what is best for the world's population?

The experience was: Negative and: very common

This story also appears in Nature and climate ; Living together and Community ; Peace and Security ;

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#

Other, please specify

Resistance to climate change is against our own interests.

I have all the green stuff, my energy bill is only €17,-/month so clearly it's working! The energy transition is also the solution to the cost of living crisis here in the Netherlands.

However we see a lot of unfounded resistance. For example: my friend owns a company called inductie.nu which sole business is to make rental homes gas free. It's funded by the rental company not having to pay for the gas supply anymore. That money is used for a loan to pay my friend. Renters get a free induction stove and free pans. It doesn't cost them anything!

Yet quite often people slam the door in his face because they don't want to know anything about it. Only to then call back in tears 2 months later that they cannot cook anymore since gas supply has been cut off, begging him to deliver the free stove anyway.

It's honestly sad how people are so stuck in their ways and act against their own interests.

Its also maddening that the Dutch gouvernement is cutting gasoline taxes yet trains tickets continue to rise.

Original title: Resistance to climate change is against our own interests.

Origin and language: Netherlands ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like: An abstract far away necessity that acts way too slowly

Europe is like: A continent with like minded countries

Democracy is like: The least bad system of gouvernement. It has it's flaws, but the alternative is way worse.

Who should hear: Policy makers and media figures. Or representatives in general.

We need to reach those stubborn people who fall for this oil propaganda and keep voting against their own interests.

Question: Why don't we abolish the 46 billion in fossil subsidies and use the money to make ourselves energy independent with renewables?

The experience was: Neutral and: very common

This story also appears in Fairness and social justice ; Housing and Living Conditions ; Other, please specify ; Energy Transition ;

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It's honestly sad how people are so stuck in their ways and act against their own interests.

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Is it still "right" to procreate?

There would be many thoughts to describe but I will dissolve this. I think the overpopulation has reached its highest point, causing a good part of the world's population to be deprived of their basic rights. Closing in brief my thought, I think that we should start to procreate less, thinking instead of the option of being able to adopt children. I know that maybe having a child is a fundamental right, but in my opinion it is necessary to start making a balance, which I see day after day, especially nowadays, increasingly negative. There are children who are in serious difficulties, especially in countries with more political and economic problems, but also from a human rights point of view. I don't want to be the one who saves children from "poorer countries", don't see it in this way, but I think there is only that gain from this situation for all, in my opinion it could be a first step to rebalance a world that is in total ruin.

Original title: Is it still "right" to procreate?

Origin and language: Italy ; en

Unique identifier: cca

EU is like: I still have to understand it well, but for now, for my lived experiences is more positive than negative

Europe is like: if everyone wanted them, Europe could be the whole world and we could all be Europe or Africa or whatever you want to call it

Democracy is like: a great advantage, if only the human being were not so profiteers on one side and unbeliever on the other

Who should hear: It does not matter who, but if, with all this frenzy, there was a moment of reflection for each of us, maybe we will realize how what we are doing is all wrong, thanks

Question: Will you be honest to my questions?

The experience was: I don't know / Not sure and: very common

This story also appears in Other, please specify ; Save the world, help others and rebalance ;

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