

Mediterranean Youth Climate Declaration



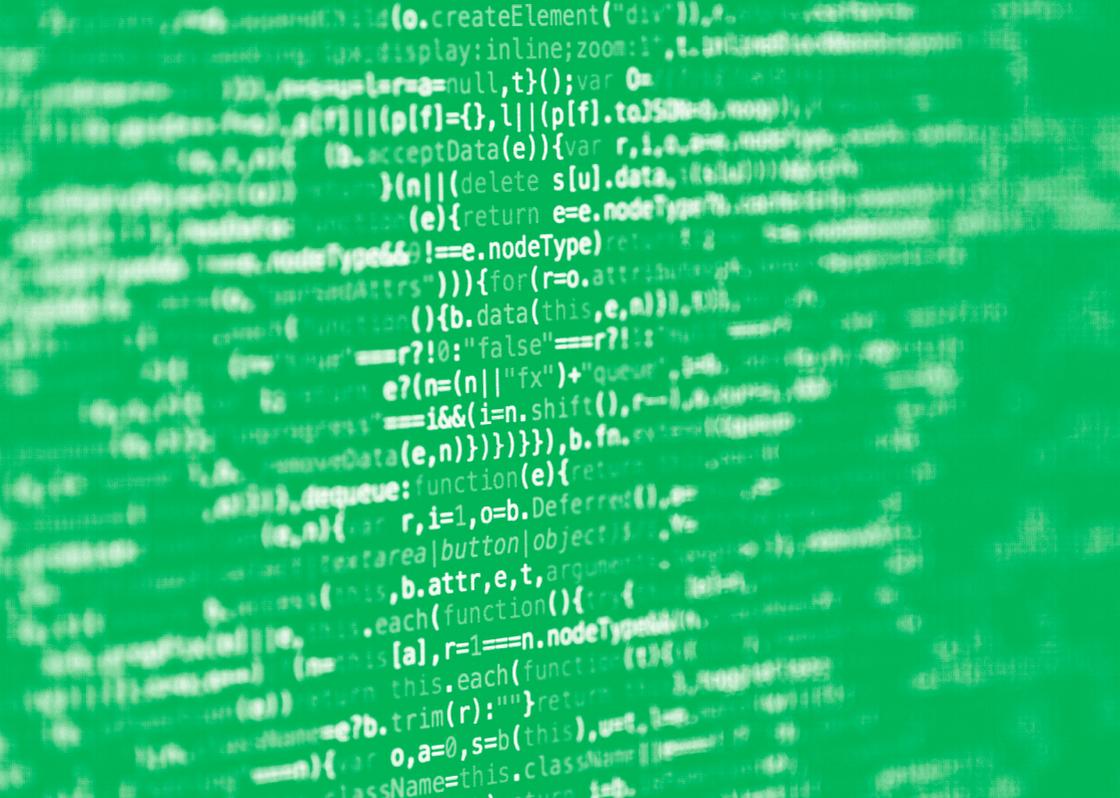
Generalitat
de Catalunya

25 ANYS 1995 - 2020
PROCES
DE BARCELONA
Unió per la Mediterrània

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**We, the Mediterranean
young people who have
gathered at the Youth &
Climate Mediterranean+25
Virtual Forum, organised
by the Catalan Government
to mark the 25th anniversary
of the Barcelona Process,**

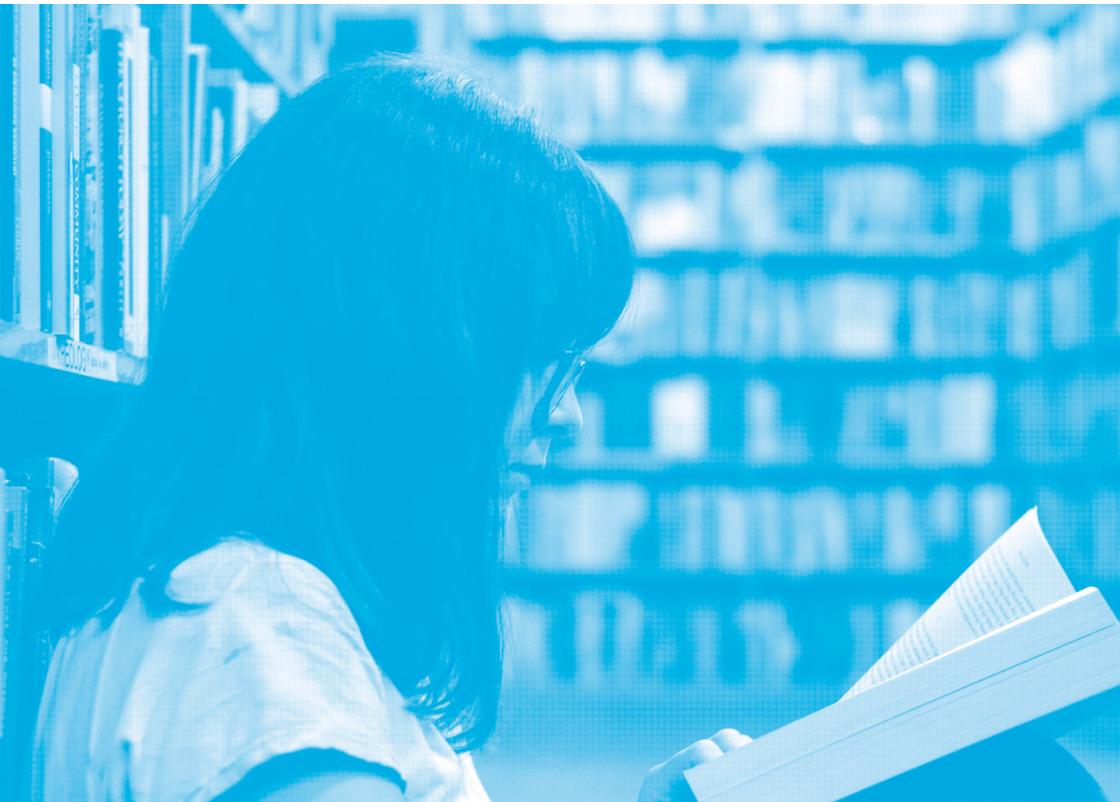
declare that we are deeply concerned on the climate justice in the Mediteranean basin, that's the main reason why we have concrete our proposals in the following Declaration.



There is more room for the use of technologies and digital solutions in the fight against climate change. Social media allow us to strengthen communities and create networks across the Mediterranean. Technology gives us practical solutions to the climate challenge. The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the process of digitalisation, but we need to go a step further.

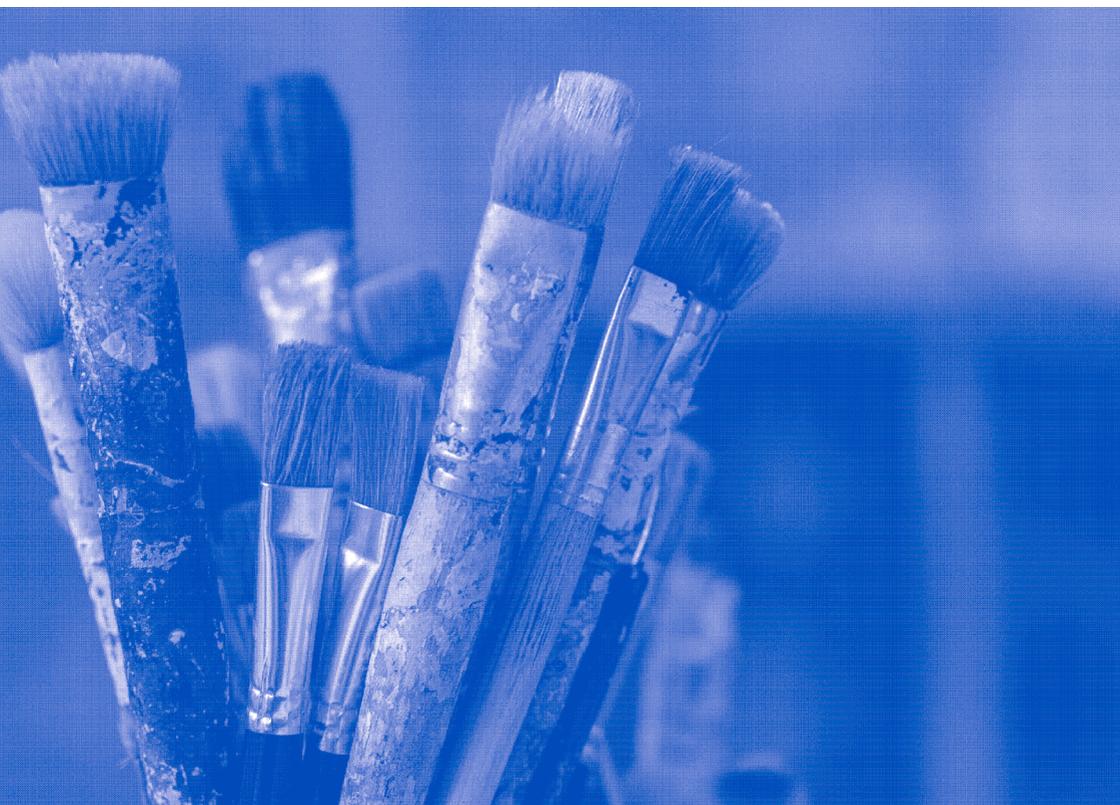


We need to better include young people in decision-making processes by enhancing both formal and informal engagement as well as advocacy, in particular at the grassroots level, and building virtual venues for participation. Governments must be accountable for their actions concerning climate change and ensure transparency. They should better inform about the opportunities young people and citizens have to engage in local policy actions.



THREE

In order to be truly transformative, the fight against climate change needs to be interdisciplinary and incorporate an artistic perspective outside the mainstream academic and political approaches. It is necessary to emphasize our common cultural heritage and overcome the differences between cultures and nations across the Mediterranean to generate truly transformative and integrating engagement among young people in climate issues.



C₃ O₁ N₁ S₁ U₁ M₃ E₁

L₁ E₁ S₁ S₁

S₁ H₄ A₁ R₁ E₁

B₃ E₁ T₁ T₁ E₁ R₁



Climate change in the Mediterranean is directly caused by an economic system that depletes resources and leads to rural flight while it is unable to meet the needs of all people, especially young people. We need a whole new model that promotes the solidarity economy, agro-ecology through women's empowerment and cooperation between the two shores of the Mediterranean.



FIVE

Because of their increasing relevance, cities need to reformulate their present production and consumption patterns as well as their environmental management systems and start a transformation towards sustainable models. By creating venues and mechanisms for local action, cities across the region will be contributing to the preservation of the entire Mediterranean environment.



We need more forums for discussion and for young climate activists to be heard. Ignoring or repressing nonviolent climate activism can only damage democracy and our future. Activists must be heard and respected; otherwise, democratic channels for discussion will be in serious danger.



SEVEN

The fight against climate change needs to incorporate the fight against other oppression structures such as neo-colonialism and patriarchy which are so widespread in our region and in north-south inter-Mediterranean relations. Because climate change affects people from different backgrounds and conditions unequally, we need a more global, holistic and intersectional approach.





EIGHT

We, the young people of the Mediterranean, encourage every reader of this Declaration to share it and act accordingly. We expect it to have an impact at a social and political level globally but especially in the Mediterranean basin.



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