

Week-long scientific resistance to government and industry inaction on the climate emergency

Over 1,000 scientists and academics in over 25 countries took disruptive, non-violent actions and engaged in civil disobedience targeting governmental, scientific and corporate institutions, many risking arrest in order to highlight the urgency and injustice of the climate and ecological crisis. The global week of action coincided with the release of the third part of the latest IPCC report.



Scientist Rebellion UK threw fake oil at the headquarters of Shell on April 6th.

Press contact: Scientistrebellion@protonmail.com

From Sunday 3rd April to Saturday 9th of April, more than 1000 scientist rebellion activists took part in over 63 non-violent direct actions in at least 26 countries. Actions varied and included bridge and building occupations, entrance blocking, sit-ins, strikes, pasting of scientific papers and posters, marches, theatrical performances, teach-ins and outreach events. Demands were location specific but the groups were united under the slogan "1.5°C is dead, climate revolution now!"; highlighting how inaction has led to a situation where it is virtually impossible to not overshoot 1.5° C and that urgent emergency actions are needed to prevent every fraction of a degree of warming.

Hundreds of scientists participated in the week-long strike from their academic work. Some engaged in educational disobedience and taught about the climate crisis instead of the topic on the syllabus or holding classes on the streets. Strikes happened in more than 25 countries, including Spain, Chile, Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, Congo, France, Germany, USA, Norway, Sweden, UK, Austria, Italy, New Zealand, Holland, Thailand and Brazil.

Numerous nonviolent lock-ins took place in Spanish universities such as Granada, Seville, Madrid, Mallorca and Barcelona. Some universities, such as the University of Panama, embraced the state of climatic and ecological emergency and promoted the Scientific Rebellion campaign, committing to alert the civilian population to the situation, and pressuring for emergency measures to be taken by the institutions.



Scientist Rebellion march in Lilongwe City, Malawi on April 8th

Many of the actions took place in the Global South, specifically in Africa and South America, where climate impacts are felt strongly already today. In Zimbabwe they highlighted that inland wetlands are critical to help communities adapt to a changing climate, and that they need to be protected as they are currently deteriorating. Activists in the Global North also spoke out in support of the Global South, asking their governments to not only decarbonize rapidly but to also assist the Global South financially for adaptation and mitigation.

There were strong police responses and legal actions for some of the actions. In Italy, Sapienza Università di Roma sued 4 activists for interruption of public service which can lead to 7 years in jail and a 3000 euro fine each. In Los Angeles, about 100 members of the

police force arrived in full riot gear to deal with 4 scientists that were peacefully chained to the entrance of Chase bank.

Pasting abstracts of scientific papers in poster format to buildings is one of the signature actions of Scientist Rebellion. The founding action in September 2020 used this method and since then it has been used many times by Scientist Rebellion and other groups. With this action, the group wants to highlight the science that is being ignored by the organisation or government agency residing in that building.

Folder with pictures:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Z7_qjEdmiC6f-rFkrr_WRG1iw3V1PDcj?usp=sharing

Website: www.scientistrebellion.com

Quotes:

“The needs of the poorest countries must be addressed swiftly. Unless we have social justice, there are not going to be more accelerated greenhouse gas reductions. These issues are inseparable.” Blessed Chidhoni, Scientist Rebellion member

“I think scientists need to be out here with our children, with our Indigenous, with our old and our young”
Dr. Rose Abramoff, who got arrested twice in Washington DC last week.

"Scientists do not know how to shout or stain walls or stop traffic. But we know how to do one thing well: learn. And we are studying the new language to communicate the gravity of climate change." Prof. Fernando Valladares, Scientist Rebellion member from Spain

“If everyone could see what I see coming, society would switch into climate emergency mode and end fossil fuels in just a few years”
Dr. Peter Kalmus, NASA Scientist and scientist rebellion member

“We need a billion climate activists. I encourage everyone to consider where we are heading as a species and to engage in civil disobedience. The time is now”
Dr. Peter Kalmus, NASA Scientist and scientist rebellion member

“We are likely to lose everything we have. Imagine the entire global economic system collapsing because of the heat, all the Amazon trees are down, all the ice in Antarctica and the Arctic melted, all this would be happening...”
Ugandan Scientist Rebellion Activist

“The fight for 1.5 C is over, the fight for human existence on this planet has begun... Act now”
Scientist Rebellion activist from Sweden

“Listen to the scientists. Hear the voices of activists. Climate justice now. I stand for climate.”

Amwanika Sharon Scientist rebellion member protesting in the heart of oil exploration and refinery construction in Uganda.

“Yesterday, I was arrested for occupying the WTC in Portland in solidarity with hundreds of scientists across the globe because I am terrified of climate and ecological destruction. I feel obligated to use my voice and my body to push for radical change”

Will, Material Scientist and Scientist Rebellion member

“Climate activists are sometimes depicted as dangerous radicals. But the truly dangerous radicals are the countries increasing the production of fossil fuels.”

- U.N. Secretary General Antonio Guterres, April 4th, IPCC report press conference

Overview of actions that took place:

This table is an incomplete overview of all actions. Number of people participating is abbreviated as P., number of people arrested or detained as A. XR stands for members of Extinction Rebellion and SR for members of Scientists Rebellion.

Country	3rd April	4th April	5th April	6th April
Germany	Berlin: Poster pasting			Berlin: Bridge blocked for 4 hours. 15 P.
Spain		Granada: Occupation of University, 30 P.;	Madrid: Press conference 5P and action at the Education Ministry, 2P	Madrid: Throwing fake blood at National Congress and sit down. 80 P. 53 A. Oviedo: Educational Disobedience at the University of Biology Mallorca: Occupation at the University of Balears
France			Nice: University Strike, Paper pasting	

Portugal

Lisbon:
Display of
Posters at
Environmental
and Economy
Ministries, 4 P.

Argentina

Buenos Aires:
Poster pasting

Australia

Sydney:
Occupation of City
West Link, 1 P., 1 A.
Collaboration with
Fireproof Australia

Rwanda

Muhanga city:
March and Teach In
at Lilongwe
University

Italy

Venice: 10 hour
Occupation of ENI
20 P and details
taken.
Rome: Occupation
of University of
Rome La Sapienza,
10 P. 4 A.
Turin: Poster
pasting Piemonte
Region Palace, 12
P., restricted by
police in continuing
action, details
taken.

Denmark

Roskilde:
reading of the
IPCC report at
University
campus

Copenhagen:
Street blockade at
the Climate Ministry,
display of papers,
reading of IPCC. 40
P. 10 scientists
detained and fined.
2 scientists

	arrested.
United Kingdom	London: Throwing fake oil at shell HQ 15 P. 1 Detained
Norway	Trondheim: Protest 100 P.
Sierra Leone	Stakeholder engagement, 20 P
Netherlands	The Hague: March 50 P., Block entrance to Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy 7 P. 7 A.
Switzerland	Bern: Pasting of papers on walls of Federal Palace. 18 P. 18 details taken
Colombia	Bogota: Teach-in
USA	Washington DC: Protest, Locked onto white house fence 12 P. 5 A. Los Angeles: Locked to entrance of Case bank 10 P. 4 A. Portland, OR: Occupation of PBA headquarters and city council, 100 P. 2 A. New York City: Paper pasting 7P.
Malawi	Lilongwe: Teach in at Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources 30 P.

Ecuador

Quito: Pasting paper and protest at Ministry of Environment 8 P.
3 other actions 12 P.

Panama

Panama city: protests at the US, German and UK embassy 20 P.
Entire country: Climate march with 500-1000 High school students, climate talks at schools

Country	7th April	8th April	9th April
Germany	Berlin: Action and paper pasting at the Federal Ministry for Economy and Climate 5 P.	Berlin: Paper pasting at Bundesverkehrsministerium 15 P. Bonn: Paper pasting at Bundesministerium für Digitales und Verkehr 6 P. Stuttgart: Paper Pasting at Wirtschaftsministerium 4 P. Würzburg: Paper pasting 4 P.	
Mexico	San Luis Potosí : Paper pasting at University 2 P.		Playa del Carmen: Poster pasting 1 P.
Uganda		Kampala: Road block, paper pasting 90 P., 3 A.	

DR Congo	<p>Boende Tsuapa: Action with 25 P. Goma: Action with 14 P. Kinshaha: Conference on climate and ecological crisis 200 P.</p>
Zimbabwe	<p>Harare: Protest at PPC cement company 12 P. 3 A.</p>
USA	<p>Washington D.C: Traffic blocked on I-395 into DC</p>
Argentina	<p>Buenos Aires: Poster pasting Buenos Aires: Poster pasting Misiones: Poster pasting Mar del Plata: Poster pasting Rosario: Poster pasting</p>
Spain	<p>Oviedo: Educational Disobedience at the University of Biology Girona: strike at University of Girona + concentrations in 4 places of the city</p> <p>Oviedo: Talk calling for the University to act and society to organise Gijón: 30 mins work stoppage in support of action of day 6th in Madrid at the Oceanographic Centre</p> <p>Madrid: Teach-in in front of Spanish Congress and popular assembly later in Plaza España</p>
Sweden	<p>Lund: teach-in at the University, 100P Stockholm: paper pasting at the headquarters of the ruling party, 6P</p>
Italy	<p>Venice: Occupation of main square of Venice: Teach-in at Ca Foscari scientific campus Rome: Teach-in at Rome Venice: 2 Teach-ins including theatrical act</p>

university
campus; throwing
of "blood"; paper
pasting. 30P. (22
XR, 8SR)

La Sapienza University
with paper pasting. All
pages of Executive Report
pasted.

UK

London: Teach-In at
Jubilee Park

Netherlands

Amsterdam: Outreach
event with written quotes
and graphs from IPCC
reports 12 P.

Nigeria

Abeokute: Action:
climate talks and walk,
Federal College of
Education Abeokuta
.Ogun State

France

Paris: Occupation of
Museum National
d'Histoire Naturelle 30 P.