

## **15 members of Scientist Rebellion occupied the Porsche exhibition center overnight in Wolfsburg, Germany, and demand from Volkswagen CEO to advocate for speed limit in Germany**

**Wolfsburg, October 20, 2022.** 15 members of Scientist Rebellion occupied the Porsche exhibition center after a climate protest action of 25 scientists which had started on Wednesday at 2:45 p.m. in the Autostadt in Wolfsburg. The academics protested against VW's climate-damaging influence on politics. 9 of them glued themselves in front of various luxury cars and spread out a white cloth showing a speed limit sign of 100 km/h. They demand that the CEO of Volkswagen talk to them and immediately advocate for a speed limit of 100 km/h throughout Germany.

"As the biggest car manufacturer in Europe, Volkswagen emits an enormous amount of carbon dioxide, which is causing climate disaster across the world. People are dying, yet Volkswagen continues to engage in lobbying to delay climate action. This has to stop, now. Because scientific reports are not enough, I glued myself to the Porsche Pavilion to express the direness of our situation", says Dr. Marta Matos, computational biologist.

"VW has lied to us about the actual emission levels of its diesel engines and continues to lie when they claim they will be carbon neutral by 2050. VW relies on carbon offsetting programs, but their effectiveness is highly dubious. VW must stop their greenwashing, which delays urgent climate action," adds Dr. Grimalda, social psychologist at a German research institute, who remains glued at the Porsche Pavilion and on hunger strike.

VW spends over 6.5 million on lobbying in Berlin thereby opposing and delaying climate protection measures such as a 100 km/h speed limit and the 9€ ticket for transport. In doing so, VW is contributing to the failure of the Paris Agreement. The public must be informed about the urgency of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, as there is a real possibility of a global catastrophe.

Through its actions of civil resistance, Scientist Rebellion, a coalition of international scientists founded in 2021, demands immediate action to limit the escalating impacts of the climate crisis – nationally and internationally. Traditional science communication and policy advocacy are no longer enough in the face of planetary emergency. As part of the coalition "Unite Against Climate Failure", the academics had set off the fire alarm last Sunday at the World Health Summit taking place in Berlin and pasted scientific publications on the conference building. On Monday, they protested together with "Debt for Climate" at the Ministry of Finance, calling for debt cancellation for the Global South. On Tuesday, together with "Letzte Generation" and "Eltern gegen die Fossilindustrie", they protested in front of the Ministry of Transport for a speed limit and the reintroduction of the 9€ ticket for public transportation.

Climate Emergency Fund supports Scientist Rebellion's recruitment, training, capacity-building, and educational efforts.

**Photos / videos authorized for immediate use:**

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/115VEaQoGMyaREkPLxhchcLTl74GDMgcW?usp=sharing>

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