

Name: Fridays for Future
Location: Global
Founded in: 2018
Team size: ~5 unpaid
2019 Funding: \$300,000 (US only)



Organization website



Who We Are

Fridays For Future is an international, intersectional movement of students striking for climate. FFF began in August 2018, after 15 year old Greta Thunberg sat in front of the Swedish parliament every school day for three weeks to protest against the lack of action on the climate crisis. Since then, millions of people have participated in Fridays For Future strikes around the world.

We believe that listening to and following the best available science should be at the heart of our government's policies and actions. However, many of our current elected officials choose to ignore the scientific consensus on climate change and deny its severity. Therefore, we must take action to ensure that our government listens to the science and fights to protect our futures.

We are the embodiment of people power. We are school children who are fighting for our right to a livable future. We are frontline communities who did not create this crisis but feel the brunt of its impacts. The issue of climate change unites us all. In order to stop the climate crisis, we need everyone to join us in this fight.

Fridays for Future as an international movement strikes every Friday to demand that people in power:

- Keep the global temperature rise below 1.5C compared to pre-industrial levels
- Follow the Paris Agreement and ensure climate justice
- Listen to the best united science currently available

REASONS TO STRIKE

Many question why millions of children and adults across the world are taking the time to strike: don't they have school, work or other responsibilities?

The answer is simple: We strike because we have no choice. We are fighting for our future and for our children's future. We strike because there is still time to change, but time is of the essence. The sooner we act, the better our shared future will be.

The Earth is already warming. In the 2015 Paris Agreement, countries undertook to pursue ambitious efforts to limit global temperature increase to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and efforts to limit the long term temperature increase to 1.5°C. Achieving this target, says the IPCC, will mean fewer climate-related risks for natural and human systems than warming of 2° Celsius. Higher levels of warming are causing worse heat waves, more droughts and floods, and higher sea level rise, causing destruction to the earth we have inherited. These effects will impact everyone – rich and poor – and be most devastating to our most vulnerable: the poorest and youngest people.

Not enough is being done to limit warming – not even close. This is why Fridays For Future's mission is to unite behind the science and make those in power take the facts seriously, and act accordingly. We strike for our own future but also for the future of coastal peoples, farmers, indigenous people, and others who are already suffering because of climate change. Farmers in countries like the US, the UK and India are already committing suicide because droughts and floods have undermined their livelihood.

The good news is that scientists believe limiting warming is absolutely technically possible. With renewable energy technologies, changes in farming and transport, and other big changes, we can limit warming and avoid even worse outcomes. Scientists have modeled these pathways to a better future in detail, we simply need our leaders to embrace them. Scientists have been demanding this for 50 years and haven't been listened to, and that is why we are taking to the streets. Non-violent protesting is an effective way to bring change.

So, we say to those who question our actions: How can we study or work for a future, which is being destroyed in front of our eyes? We are losing football-sized fields of irreplaceable Amazon rainforest every minute. Why should we spend the time and effort on an education, when our governments are not listening to the finest scientists? Why should we study so we can do great things later, when the time for greatness, for action, is now? Humans created this crisis, so humans have to stop it – or face global destruction. Already, we see heat waves, droughts, wildfires, floods and 200 species are disappearing every day from the face of the earth, never to return.

It is important to add that while we want—even demand—action to keep global warming under 1.5 degrees Celsius, we will not quit or go away if the planet hits that mark. No matter what happens, it is never “too late.” There are always better and worse futures to be had. We will not give up.