

We are Line and Leonie, students and activists in Heidelberg. In the last weeks and months, we spent a lot of time organizing protests, putting up posters, writing emails, or even speeches like this one.

We stand together against all forms of discrimination such as structural racism, sexism, classism, exploitation, and long-established power structures.

We stand for climate justice, for the rights of LGBTQ+ people, for the rights of black, indigenous people, and People of Color, in short BI_PoC.

We stand here for the abolition of the system that has oppressed people for centuries, especially BI_PoCs and women or FINTA* persons. This system is the root of the global catastrophe towards which we are still heading today because of the failure of previous climate policies.

Fridays for Future and United Colors of Change are protesting together today for global justice and against structural oppression.

Fridays for Future has now been demonstrating for two years on the streets, here in front of the city hall or the Bundestag, again today all over the world for climate justice. For compliance with the 1.5-degree target, which now requires radical measures at all levels. We are calling for system change, a turnaround in energy and transport - it has never just been about our future. Nor is it about Schnitzel, cars, or airplanes. It is about secure jobs now and in the future, which means better working conditions and the expansion of public transport, the phasing out of coal by 2030, and the end of all fossil subsidies. Our demands are clear: Listen to science, the necessary measures have been on the table for a long time. But what we notice despite all the current political promises: We must ask the question of power. Who has the sovereignty to interpret today's life on our planet and in our futures? Who can negotiate, who can decide, who must bear the responsibility?

We stand in boundless solidarity with activists from around the world here today as the climate crisis rages, floods, dries up, and threatens the livelihoods of millions of people.

After the Black Lives Matter Protests in Heidelberg, after moments of grief, anger, and disappointment, moments of struggle and self-assertion, we realized how important it is for BI_POCs in Germany to network and stick together. The organizers of the Black Lives Matter Protests in Heidelberg have taken this as their goal. As United Colors of Change, we connect and empower BI_POCs in Heidelberg and the surrounding area. We stand for progressive changes and improvements on different levels of our community. Be it racist oppression and injustice, exploitation, or the strengthening of BI_POCs. We want to uncover the origins of

racism and connect them to global injustices. United Colors of Change stands for a discrimination-free and just society.

The last weeks of preparation for this protest have presented us with many hurdles. How do we bring together two groups that seem so different at first? How can we work together in a system that is characterized by structural oppression? How do we treat each other equally if we do not have the same starting conditions?

Fridays for Future is also not free of racist structures and internalized stereotypes. In our choice of words and our way of working, there are so many repetitions of discriminatory structures that it is easy to get used to them as long as you don't suffer from them yourself. Many activists at Fridays for Future don't have to experience racism and we called ourselves 'anti-racist' at a very early point in time. But BI_PoCs report about racism within the movement, about racist behavior of other activists, which shocks many people but shouldn't surprise us. The realization of a racist system in which we all grow up does not end with me, just because I call myself anti-racist.

As long as Muslim women with headscarves are looked at crooked on our protests, we have not done enough against racism. As long as people are supposed to appear in public because of their appearance or their name to represent a certain 'diversity', we have not done enough against racism. As long as other realities of life are denied or relativized within the movement, we have not done enough against racism. As long as we keep asking ourselves whether we should speak out about racist attacks or whether this distracts too much from the 'core issue of climate', we have done too little against racism.

On the one hand, the racism of the climate crisis is ignored and on the other hand, no space is created in which people affected by racism feel comfortable. The same applies of course to any form of discrimination, but we knew how to uncover sexist structures earlier.

It is high time to remember the origin of the climate crisis, which is so often ignored without a second thought. People who contribute the least to the climate crisis are the most threatened. Through exploitation and exclusion, they are much more difficult to absorb the consequences of the disaster. We live in a racist system that makes profit at the expense of humanity. For example, a company in Baden-Württemberg wants to mine lithium in Bolivia, causing the local population to suffer from a lack of drinking water. Structural injustices have determined our world order for centuries and continue to do so today.

We are in the middle of the worst-case scenario of climate catastrophe. The heatwaves in the Arctic thaw the permafrost so strongly as only predicted for 2090, and forests all over the world burn like never before, Germany experiences the longest drought since 1766.

The climate crisis has long been a full-blown crisis of justice and humanity. The consequences threaten the right to life of people all over the world. Violent conflicts over access to drinking water and arable land have been coming to a head for years, destroying livelihoods every day and displacing more people every year.

The fight against the climate crisis is not only taking place in Germany and, above all, was not started here. People from particularly affected regions, i.e. the Most Affected People and Areas - MAPA for short - are rarely portrayed in European reporting as the leaders of the climate justice movement that they actually are.

That's why they are asking for a sign of international solidarity on all strikes today -> this hand signal stands for solidarity in some countries like Costa Rica and the Philippines and also reminds you of the placement of handcuffs. So raise all your hands to two fists as a worldwide sign for MAPA:

[MAPA SIGN]

"They are unheard but not voiceless. They are fighting for their present, not just their future. We will not be prisoners of injustice."

"Sie sind ungehört, aber nicht stimmlos. Sie kämpfen für ihre Gegenwart, nicht nur für ihre Zukunft. Wir werden keine Gefangenen der Ungerechtigkeit sein".

What do we want, climate justice! When do we want it? Now! For who do we want it? For everyone!