

We are in the midst of several crises right now. Preloaded by the omnipresent climate crisis and the Covid 19 pandemic, we are directly exposed to another crisis: one of our European neighbors is currently fighting for its existence in a direct war of aggression. At the same time, the climate crisis is currently revealing itself more than ever, and it will reveal itself in many more catastrophes in the future. At the same time, the word crisis also means decision. In connection with the current crises, it means how we deal with our health, how we show solidarity with our neighbors and refugees, and how we influence our climate and our environment at the same time. We are in the midst of multiple crises and thus facing multiple choices. The climate crisis threatens the rights of millions of people and thus the rights of current and future generations. Right now we have a current global warming of 1.1 degrees above pre-industrial levels and we are already experiencing devastating impacts such as heat waves and unprecedented forest fires, successive strong tropical storms and severe droughts. If we continue at this rate, we are headed for global warming of about 3.2 degrees. Scientists do not yet agree on the impact this will have on our environment.

Only when we understand the seriousness of our situation will we stop forgetting that we are always facing multiple crises. Only then will we most likely understand what we have really done. Namely, we accept the fact that we are destroying our planet and thus the consequences of the climate change we have caused. But by doing this and having the knowledge at the same time, we are far from saving the planet. By doing this, we are no better than the people who deny climate change. Worse, by doing this and standing awkwardly next to our burning house, we are committing an unforgivable crime, whereas climate change denial is just a grave mistake.

The climate crisis is a human rights crisis. Right now, policies are being made to preserve our current prosperity. By doing so, neither a climate-just nor a people-just policy is being made. By not making policies for the climate, this will cost us our prosperity in the long run and countless lives along the way. Measures that do not comply with the 1.5°C target violate human rights. Companies must finally be given a binding obligation at the international level to live up to their responsibility to people and the environment. Neither human rights nor the environment are negotiable! For this reason, the subsidization of fossil fuels must be ended immediately! Also in view of the Ukraine crisis we notice again that not only the environment but also people suffer from our climate policy.

Every day, the EU imports gas worth 600 million euros from Russia, filling Putin's war chest. In the EU, Germany is the largest importer of natural gas from Russia, with 55.6 billion cubic meters per year. This must stop!

We need an import stop. We need a stop to the financing of Putin's war. We need a stop to the subsidization of natural gas as a so-called bridge technology. Just about a month ago, the EU Commission classified nuclear power and natural gas as sustainable.

And where has such a policy gotten us in recent years? We have spent the last few years financing a war with natural gas that is now being fought in the middle of Europe. Every time there is a fight over a nuclear power plant in Ukraine, I am afraid that there will be another Chernobyl, that there will be another Fukushima.

Liquefied natural gas and tank rebates are not enough to cover our energy consumption in Europe and make us independent. We already failed after the annexation of Crimea to change course, to expand renewable energies and to stop supporting a regime that is currently committing war crimes in one of our neighboring countries.

Instead, we have relied more and more on natural gas to satisfy our hunger for energy in Europe. All the more reason now is the time to become independent of gas imports and thus also support Ukraine's independence. A boycott of Russian fossil fuels is not only a sign of climate protection, but also solidarity with Ukraine.

We are responsible not only for what we do, but above all for what we do not do. Let's make a difference together and overcome our unjust system. However, not all of us are decision makers and our actions have their limits. That's why we have to demand decisions from politicians and companies in the current crises: Decisions for our climate and for human rights. Decisions against war and against fossil fuels.

We need more renewable energies, more justice and we need solidarity with Ukraine.

We need people not profit!