



COP29 Interfaith Call to Action

We stand at a crossroads, facing an existential threat to life on Earth as we know it. The urgency to act cannot be overstated. As people of faith from diverse traditions, we believe the climate emergency must be addressed on a moral level, with decisions driven by honesty, compassion, courage, trust, and foresight. The survival of our planet and future generations depends on the choices made today.

The protection of our common home, Mother Earth, cannot wait. We need to take action now to confront and remedy the interconnected crises of climate breakdown, biodiversity loss, and land degradation.

The climate crisis demands unprecedented unity and action. At COP29, world leaders must act with moral clarity and ambition, moving beyond delays to reset our course towards a just, sustainable future. This pivotal moment requires us to safeguard our planet for generations to come, honouring our shared responsibility to all forms of life.

Ambitious Climate Action

- COP 29 and updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) must be ambitious to keep us below 1.5 degrees, aligned with the Paris Agreement and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.
- NDCs should include mitigation, adaptation, and address losses and damages. NDCs must lead to a just transition and reflect the fair share of each country in light of their historic responsibilities.
- All countries must prioritise the urgent phase-out of fossil fuels, which are the primary source of greenhouse gas emissions, by eliminating subsidies and supporting a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty, rejecting compromises or geoengineering solutions that prolong fossil fuel use.

Climate Finance

- As people of faith, we appeal to COP 29 to include the concepts of alms, tithe, waqf, and zakat, which remind us of the duty to support the needs of the most vulnerable. In this context, we call for considering debt cancellation.
- We call on COP29 to urgently reform global climate finance by establishing a new collective quantified goal (NCQG) that prioritises human rights,

emphasises grant-based support for developing nations, and ensures direct access for local communities and Indigenous Peoples. This goal must be based on actual needs, promote gender responsiveness, and significantly increase public funding through sub-goals for mitigation, adaptation, and addressing loss and damage.

Loss and Damage

- Loss and Damage is integral to climate justice. The principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CBDR-RC) and "polluter pays" must guide funding, ensuring that those most responsible for emissions contribute the most.
- Both economic and non-economic loss and damage must be addressed by prioritising grant-based finance for vulnerable communities and acknowledging losses such as the erosion of indigenous ways of life and the need to safeguard the interests of Indigenous Peoples, migrants, women, children, disabled and other groups in vulnerable situations.

Climate & Intergenerational Justice, Indigenous Peoples Rights, and Gender Equality

- Faith traditions and moral imperatives call for climate action rooted in solidarity, compassion, and justice for all life, including non-human life, prioritising sufficiency, efficiency, and equity while safeguarding the rights of people and groups in vulnerable situations and ecosystems. A holistic approach must also address the mental health crisis, especially among youth, as an integral part of our climate response.
- Intergenerational justice must guide climate decisions, with youth, children and future generations at the heart of the conversation.
- Indigenous Peoples' rights and traditional knowledge must be respected and integrated with modern science. Indigenous Peoples, including Indigenous women, should be key decision-makers in climate agreements.
- Gender justice must permeate all aspects of climate solutions, recognising the disproportionate impact of climate change on women and girls.

War, Conflict, and Climate Action for Peace

- Many current conflicts stem from competition over fossil fuels. A shift to renewable energy can reduce these tensions and promote energy sovereignty, peace, and democracy.
- Climate action is also an action for peace, prioritising our collective future over narrow national and powerful corporate and individual interests.

Call to Faith-based Organisations

- Faith-based organisations (FBOs) must articulate the moral imperatives that underpin their advocacy, raising awareness within their communities.

- FBOs should counter narratives that justify fossil fuel reliance and instead support actions such as the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty and climate litigation.
- Multi-faith communities must collaborate, invest in transformative awareness campaigns, and promote sustainable practices, including plant-based diets, shifts to renewable energy suppliers, and climate awareness in making mobility choices.

Our commitment

As people of faith, we commit to being an encouraging presence at COP29, urging leaders to approach negotiations with genuine intention to find solutions. By fostering hope, trust, and decisive action, we can lift the human family's spirit and create ripples of positive change. Together, we can give the world a reason to feel hopeful about our shared future.

Signatories/Endorsing organisations

1. ACT Alliance
2. Adamah
3. Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture
4. BOCS Civilization Planning Foundation
5. Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University
6. Canadian Interfaith Fast For the Climate
7. Carmelite NGO
8. Casa Generalizia della Societa del Sacro Cuore
9. Center for Earth Ethics
10. Christian Aid
11. Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life
12. Company of the Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul
13. Congregation of the Mission
14. Congregations of St. Joseph
15. Dominican Leadership Conference
16. Dominicans for Justice and Peace
17. Fast For the Climate
18. Federation of Sisters of St. Joseph of Canada
19. Fondazione Proclade Internazionale-onlus
20. Franciscans International
21. GreenFaith
22. Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Loreto Generalate
23. Interfaith Center for Sustainable Development
24. Interfaith Scotland
25. International Presentation Association
26. Islamic Relief Worldwide
27. Jesuit European Social Centre
28. KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives

29. Laudato Si Movement
30. LM International Sweden
31. Loretto Community (Sisters of Loretto)
32. Lutheran World Federation
33. Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers
34. Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic, Inc.
35. The Office of Religious Congregations for Integral Ecology (ORCIE)
36. Parliament of the World's Religions
37. Passionists International
38. Pax Christi International
39. Quaker Council for European Affairs
40. Quaker Earthcare Witness
41. Quaker United Nations Office
42. Quakers in Britain
43. Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary
44. SEWA (Self Employed Women's Association, India)
45. Shepparton Interfaith Network
46. Sisters of Charity Federation
47. Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur
48. Society of Catholic Medical Missionaries
49. Soka Gakkai International
50. Ummah For Earth U4E
51. UNANIMA International
52. United Church of Christ - Board for World Ministries
53. VIVAT International
54. Visitation Province of CND
55. Wellspring Community of Australia
56. Won Buddhist International
57. World Christian Life Community
58. World Council of Churches
59. World Yoga Community

Endorsing individuals

1. Blair Matheson
2. J. Venneman
3. Ourania Markaki
4. Sudeep Budhaditya Deb
5. Uhuru Dempers
6. Dr Mathew Koshy
7. Archbishop Serafim Kykotis
8. Ulrich Dr Moeller
9. Yih-ren Lin
10. Jennifer Vanini
11. Caroljean Willie

12. Sven Reinhard
13. Mackenzie Doyle
14. Fausta Umutoniwase
15. Sophie Robe
16. Darlene O'Leary
17. Naira Martirosian
18. Franette Hyc
19. Annemarie O'Connor
20. Gale Mohammed Oxley
21. Roxanne Endalle
22. Michel Kohler
23. Chris Parnell
24. Paul Rahmat
25. Ulrich Nitschke
26. Phelyster Nafula
27. Gustav Claassen
28. Fred Milligan
29. Paul Emuekpere
30. Alberto Parise
31. Rev. Felipe Ribeiro
32. Joe Okumu
33. Peggy Steinbeck
34. Noura Bassal
35. Kerstin Egouli
36. Antonella Visintin
37. Rev. Fr. Cornelius Wambi Gulere
38. Rosario Casas
39. Charlotte Evans
40. Adriana Krieg
41. Margaret L. Lacson
42. Michel Roy
43. Rosemary Brosseau
44. Nouhad Awwad
45. Maryann Calabrese
46. Marianela Soto
47. Leonie Furrer
48. Carl Madigan
49. Iole Bada
50. Ibrahim Sherif
51. Maura McGrath
52. Elena Leonard
53. Kathleen Kelly
54. Sophie Clament