

Action Consensus End Fossil Occupy Bonn

This action consensus is a binding framework for our days of action. We invite all people who agree to this consensus to join the occupation.

0. Who are we?

We are the Bonn chapter of the End Fossil Movement, which is occupying hundreds of schools and universities around the world, demanding the end of the fossil fuel economy. This occupation is the start of a long-term and cooperative transformation process at the university, which also builds on past engagement, as well as the call to travel together to the big demonstration in Lützerath on 14.01.

1. Why protest?

"We are in the fight of our lives, and we are losing" (UN Secretary General Guterres). Because it is a fact: the measures taken so far to contain the climate crisis are far from sufficient - we are heading at full speed towards a world of destruction, a planet uninhabitable for all life. Is this what we want? Protest can only be the answer here! We must pull the ripcord and finally stand up for a society that confronts the climate catastrophe with all necessary measures. We want to tackle the problems at their roots and demand that the University of Bonn also makes the necessary contribution to confronting the climate catastrophe. We cannot think of everyday life and university "as usual". We need fundamental change and we need it NOW.

As a place of science, not least the University of Bonn is obliged to follow current scientific findings. And these clearly state what needs to be done: away with fossil solutions, towards a just future and profound transformation.

2. What is our goal?

In order to confront the climate catastrophe and work towards a climate- and socially just society, we need comprehensive changes in our politics, in our institutions and in our everyday lives. Our universities and schools cannot be excluded from this! Because previous university efforts do not correspond to the urgency of the problems of our time! Therefore, we - students of the University of Bonn and supporters - demand to proactively change and shape our teaching, research, its financing, the university's everyday life, the canteen food, the mobility (offers), the resource consumption of our university, the connection to central venues of the climate justice movement and more according to the reality of climate change in order to enable a climate-just future.

3. Why occupy the university?

We, the students, occupy, become visible and hereby reclaim the content-related and physical space in order to jointly advance the shaping of a climate-friendly and social society. This should be the focus of all research projects, not capitalist interests. It is important to us: this occupation is not the end of cooperations, but an invitation for discourse and the beginning of a profound transformation of society, in which science and thus the university play a central role. All are welcome to join the occupation and participate in our programme: Follow science, help shape it and let's look for solutions together!

4. Our demands

4.1 Lützerath must stay

We demand a clear commitment to the preservation of Lützerath because without the preservation of Lützerath and the cessation of coal production, Germany will fail to meet its climate commitments. The lignite under Lützerath is not needed even in the current crisis situation. Security of supply needs investment in renewable energies.

Lützerath is a place where the future is shaped and lived - this should and must also be important for a university that educates (young) people for the future. Therefore: Preserve places like Lützi & take a leaf out of their collective learning practice. If injustices in society are not only to be pointed out, but also changed and crises countered, then knowledge production at the university must come closer to social movement practice and thus increase its socio-political relevance (Schuster 2016). Lützerath lives!

4.2 Transformation of the university

The University of Bonn writes on its website that it is committed to sustainability and a "future worth living in". We support this endeavour and say "existence instead of excellence"! The University of Bonn must change fundamentally in order to exist in the long term in a climate-friendly future and to be able to take on a formative role. We demand a comprehensive reorientation of university organisation in the areas of transport, energy, financing of research and content as well as co-creation of teaching.

The Excellence Initiative clearly shows that universities today are subject to economic competition, which promotes a stronger symbolic and material differentiation of the university landscape and by no means knowledge research. But everyone benefits from scientific innovation, not from economic competition! We call on the University of Bonn to turn away from the neoliberal elite pursuit of excellence competition and to orient its "excellence" towards climate-friendly projects for the good of society and the containment of the climate crisis.

These internal changes are anything but an end in themselves but, due to the powerful position of the university in society, are groundbreaking for the university's influence on (local) politics & discourses in the media as well as a just climate in all other places that (former) students of the University of Bonn help to shape.

4.3 We also join the demands of End Fossil

No profits with energy production! In the long term, energy production must be socialised. Traffic change for all! In the long term, ticketless, free public transport should be the goal.

Basically, our demands are based on current scientific findings. We are guided, for example, by Scientist4Future, scientist rebellion or the IPCC reports. We aim to develop a critical perspective on dominant science, which is still shaped by (post/neo)colonial and capitalist interests, and we are aware that our demands must constantly adapt and expand to new (reflective) findings in the course of the occupation and beyond.

5 Outlook - Join in!

This occupation is the start of a long-term and cooperative transformation process at the university, which also builds on past engagement, as well as the call to travel together to **the large demonstration in Lützerath on 14 January.**

There are enough "construction sites" at the university. Join in, help shape it, we look forward to seeing you! More info on Insta @end_fossil_bonn & <https://endfossil.de> .

Drop by in lecture hall 17 and join us on 14.01 for the big demonstration in Lützerath!