

SGHN. Position paper

Emergency and climate change

SGHN manifests its official position on the climate emergency. The severity of the situation calls for decisive action and a joint effort to rectify the current situation.

SGHN decided to adopt the declaration of CEDAMIA (Australia). It is neither the most extensive nor the most strict, but it is one of the most inclusive. It is a question of uniting, of establishing minimum standards without falling into details that make us miss the objective: to reverse climatic change.

To all those responsible at all levels of government.

Given that:

Climate impacts are already causing serious losses of lives and destroying vital ecosystems.

Average global temperature, greenhouse gasses and the acidity of the oceans are already at dangerous levels and

Economic mobilisations in times of war proved the speed with which nations can restructure their economies in the event of an external threat.

It is inexcusable to continue on with policies that damage the climate and that put us all in great danger. The aim of limiting the rise in temperatures to 1.5 °C compared to the pre-industrial levels established in the Paris Agreement is not a safe aim.

We call on all policy makers at all levels of government, be it central, regional or local of whatever kind, to:

- Declare a climate emergency.
- Commit to offering maximum protection to all the people, economies, species, ecosystems and civilizations and the full restoration of a safe climate.
- Mobilise necessary resources and adopt effective measures on the necessary scale and speed.
- Transform the current economic system into one of zero emissions and contribute fairly to the reduction of excess carbon dioxide in the air.
- Encourage all the other governments of the world to take the same measures.

Great challenges have been met in the past when emergency situations were declared, with citizens and politicians of all political parties reached compromises and decided to work together for the common good.

We call on all government levels to do what is needed now.

Santiago de Compostela, 10 October 2019

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