

Green News

Human rights or planet rights?

**Climate change and
how is affecting our
lives**



**What should we do to
face it?**

**Are you interested in
recycling?
We show you how!**

Causes and consequences of human's action

Many people tend to underestimate how great is the impact that human activities have on our environment. That is because humans modify the environment in order to fit their needs, and this is getting worse and worse with the problem of human overpopulation.

Climate change is basically a normal consequence of every activity that humans are practising on our planet, and that is undeniable. Even Rick Perry, the US energy secretary, during a recent congressional hearing, remarked that *“to stand up and say that 100% of global warming is because of human activity, I think on its face, is just indefensible”*.

Humans emissions and activities have caused around 100% of the warming observed since 1950. Human activities contribute to climate change by causing changes in Earth's atmosphere in the amounts of greenhouse gases, aerosols (small particles), and cloudiness. The largest known contribution comes from the burning of fossil fuels, which releases carbon dioxide gas to the atmosphere.

The way humans contribute in the making of these gasses can come from a wide variety of activities, such as the burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, exploitation of land, meat production, plastic use, pesticides, transports and management of waste.

The environmental impact of transport is significant because it is a major user of energy, and burns most of the world's petroleum. This creates air pollution, including nitrous oxides and carbon dioxide for which transport is the fastest-growing emission sector, particularly, during the recent year, the rapid growth of air travel in recent years contributes to an increase in total pollution attributable to aviation. By subsector, road transport is one of the largest contributors to global warming, together with the change in the use of land.

Climate change is attributed to land use mainly because of deforestation. Deforestation both reduces the amount of carbon dioxide absorbed by deforested regions and releases greenhouse gases directly, together with aerosols, through biomass burning that frequently accompanies it.

But why human cut down entire forests, decreasing in this way the level of the oxygen in the air and increasing the release of greenhouse gasses? Mainly because of the exploitation of the land for livestock production (and moreover meat production).

Worldwide, livestock production occupies 70% of all land used for agriculture and more than 18% of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions are attributed to livestock and livestock-related activities. This sector is also the primary driver of deforestation in the Amazon, with around 80% of all converted land being used to rear cattle.

Specific attributions to the livestock sector include 9% of global anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions, 35–40% of global anthropogenic methane emissions and 64% of global anthropogenic nitrous oxide emissions, chiefly due to fertilizer use.

That actually means that meat production is also one of the leading causes of climate change, since most of the trees are cut down in order to make space for animal farming or soy cultivation, mostly used to feed the animals (and also soy cultivation is not sustainable). Environmental impacts associated with meat production include use of fossil energy, water and land resources, greenhouse gas emissions, and in some instances, rainforest clearing, water pollution and species endangerment, among other adverse effects

Reducing the amount of meat consumed in our diet per year would actually help the environment more than not using the car for an entire year.

Every single action that we make can have a strong impact on our surroundings, even the smallest one, so be careful of whatever you do and try to be the smartest as possible.

The importance of local environment protection and active citizenship

What is active citizenship? Active citizenship is debate over rights and responsibilities. To sum up, active citizen is the one who fulfils internet and earths rights and responsibilities in a balanced way. Active citizen is one who is well managed volunteer, view-giver, good neighbour, and community group member and activist.

You can be active citizen by doing many things. e.g. doing campaigns, raising awareness about the issues we have considering environmental problems and illegal actions that are made against any law and nature. And of course active citizen should talk about it in order to raise awareness and attract other peoples interest

The Importance of being actively involved in protection of communities' local habitat is pretty big. The same thing goes to other environmental issues too. Such as global warming, deforestation that's happening all around the world. And it is mainly done illegal, that way the nature is harmed even more and by that so do we.

Of course there always will be someone who will not support your ideas and actions. Sadly, below all these actions activists are doing to prevent our environment from being polluted and destroyed, stand politics. E.g. this forest has to be cut down because the cost of the trees is high. And we can't control that, or can we?

There are many ways to protect the environment from being polluted with trash that doesn't break apart for hundreds of years, from sea pollution, deforestation and quickly expanding farms and agriculture. Locals that don't want to live in polluted area and who don't have the resources to preserve local habitat can start events such as beach cleaning if they live near the sea, animal habitat maintaining, local area cleaning, recycling trash and when trash cans are full, take the sorted trash to special facilities and upcycle or recycle the trash instead of taking it to landfills where it will just lay and wait for something.



Get up and stand up!

Stop the pollution and start the revolution!

The fight for environmental rights is a fight for equality.

A right is a basic element for the substantial survival of human being.

So to ensure progress is an efficient way one stand and fight for his/her own rights whether it is given or not.

Fighting for our rights is the fundamental things we need to do.

The other aspect can be the condition we should demand our rights in case there is a threat to any persons live to family or countries honour in any manner.

I am in favour only of those fight for rights which have no bad impact on our people, our society.

One of that rights is about the environment.

The environment is always right.

Its protection is so important and vital to human health and the economy.

Although 97% of climate scientists agree that climate change is the main cause of anthropogenic greenhouse gases, the political will to transition to a zero-emission economy is not strong enough.

Perhaps even more extreme meteorological phenomena such as hurricanes, floods, droughts and heatwaves convince public opinion politicians but most importantly industrialists that they must change their minds because in a few decades there will be no markets for their products.

So we all have to act together and fight for the problems our environment faces before it's too late!



DON'T WASTE THE WASTE!

Nowadays we can't find out what could we do with the lot of trash around us. Here is some tips about the many ways and opportunities you can find in a single bottle or in something else.

What exactly is the problem?

The waste. Waste is anything we throw away or get rid of, that doesn't get used.

How can you help reduce the waste?

You can help by learning about and practicing the three R's: **Reduce, reuse, and recycle!** This article will show you opportunities to recycle, upcycle or reuse the trash to reduce the waste. Practicing all three of these activities every day is not only important for a healthy environment, but it can also be fun too. So let's take a minute right now to learn more about waste and waste management, so you can become a key player in making our world a safe and healthy place.

1. Upcycle plastic bottles

Plastic bottles can be used for many ideas, from making garden decorations, and brooms to seats. Its resilient, flexible, transparent qualities allow us to creatively reuse them for many purposes.

If you don't have an opportunity to separate your waste for recycling, do not throw the beverage bottles out, it might become into a beautiful plastic bottle craft project.

Here is some pictures that show what can you build from this simple material.



2. Upcycle the paper at home

We can upcycle the paper also, but it is a more difficult question how. While you can always throw used paper out for your regular recycling collection, there are other, more creative, ways of recycling paper that you might want to try at home.

Use it as mulch compost Waste paper. If you don't have the space or time to build

one yourself then you can still recycle paper as mulch. Simply tear it into small strips and place it around your plants. You can combine this idea with the plastic flowerpot idea (2. picture).

Then, are you not sure how to recycle paper packaging and newspapers? Use them to bulk out boxes when packing items to move house, putting items into storage, or sending gifts to friends. Wrap delicate items in newspaper and scrunch up other items of used paper or cardboard to fill gaps in the box and protect your valuables. At first it may seem strange to give a friend trash, but the newspaper can be a spectacular package.



3. Reuse the durable items like Glass Jars, Containers or Cans

Glass and metal are easily recycled, but why not cut down on excess packaging and waste by reusing them? Glass jars and old coffee canisters make great containers for bulk pantry items, desk organizers or bathroom containers. Got a lot of leftover narrow necked beer bottles? Make them into a set of drinking glasses!

Your recycling mission is not impossible. It's just one simple issue: Don't throw away anything that can be recycled. The key part is to reduce waste. Use natural resources wisely.



Let's check your knowledge about EU Environment Strategy 2020!

- 1- Which one is a key target of EU 2020 package?
 - A) Reducing greenhouse gas
 - B) Renewable energy
 - C) Improvement of energy efficiency
 - D) All the ones mentioned above
- 2- What is the meaning of ETS?
 - A) European Top Scores
 - B) Energy Team Strategy
 - C) Emission Trading System
 - D) It has no meaning
- 3- The EU supports the development of...?
 - A) High carbon technologies
 - B) Medium carbon technologies
 - C) Low carbon technologies
 - D) None of the ones mentioned above
- 4- ETS covers Of EU's greenhouse gas emission?
 - A) 15%
 - B) 45%
 - C) 79%
 - D) 3%
- 5- The progress made by the countries are monitored....
 - A) Every year
 - B) Every month
 - C) Every six months
 - D) Once a week

ANSWERS:

1- D

2- C

3- C

4- B

5- A

If you got all 5 questions right, good job, you're really smart!

If you got 4 questions right, still congratulations!

If you got 3 or less questions right, don't worry, but you should practise a little bit more!

