



**extinction
rebellion**

BAIL OUT THE PLANET

XR EU.ROPE ACTION PROPOSAL – JUNE 2020

NARRATIVE

In response to the COVID-19 crisis, the European Union, as well as European governments, voted stimulus packages to help salvage “essential” industries, proving that, when the situation demands, political power is capable of radically and rapidly change the economic model of our society.

However, by offering billions to sectors such as aviation, transports or fossil fuels, our governments are proving once again that they wish to remain on the same destructive path as before, instead of focusing on a truly efficient ecological transition. **We cannot trust them to address the ongoing ecological breakdown the way they should.**

In the light of the current crisis, and with ecological disasters amplifying each year, we, as citizens, need to question what activities we deem as essential. Do we really want to rescue industries that are harmful to people and ecosystems? Do we really need electric cars, monocultures, and “green growth”? Or do we need a radical change of our economic and political organization as a whole?

Together as XR European groups, we want to set the foundations of a radically democratic and ecological system, in which we should collectively answer the following questions: **what do we really need, as a society and as individuals? What are the main activities we would like to develop or create?**

WE CANNOT STAND STILL AS OUR INSTITUTIONS KEEP SIDING WITH THE MOST POLLUTING INDUSTRIES, DESPITES ALL THE WARNINGS.

WE DEMAND THAT CITIZENS GET THE FINAL WORD IN DEFINING THEIR REAL AND COLLECTIVE NEEDS, IN ORDER TO BUILD A DESIRABLE FUTURE TOGETHER.

BECAUSE TODAY MORE THAN EVER, IT IS OUR PLANET THAT NEEDS A BAIL OUT.

"The only effective solution to the crisis in Europe is one based on co-operation, flexibility and, above all, solidarity". EU Commission Chief Ursula von der Leyen

NOW WHAT?

Let's get organised, and act together!

The following action proposal was written by a group of European rebels, and aims to be the first of many collaborations!

This action is meant to take place simultaneously, on similar targets and at the same time, in as many countries as possible.

Every XR Chapter, Local or Affinity group that wants to take part in the action can organise it, using the following resources.

However, in order to communicate more sensitive details to the groups that do wish to set up the action in their country, we'll need a **contact link** to reach out to!

If you wish to take on this role for your group, you can send us an email at:

europaenactions@protonmail.com

Please include:

- your name, or action name
- Mattermost handle name (if relevant)
- the Chapter/group you're representing
- the best way to get in touch with you (*Proton email address, Signal phone number or Mattermost names are preferred for security reasons*)

THE ACTION

WHERE

In every willing XR Chapter, Local or Affinity group, all over Europe.

The exact target we have in mind will be communicated safely through your group's contact link, but you can also just pick one that is more appropriate to your local context.

Just think **institutions that are linked to the economy, and more specifically to the bailouts.**

We made the choice to target the **institutions where the money comes from** rather than the industries themselves, because they are the ones **allowing polluting companies to receive stimulus packages with no strings attached.**

WHEN

BETWEEN JUNE 29 AND JULY 3.

Because one date would not fit all, we'll try to act over a short time frame. But **let's try and make it as synchronized as possible!**

Once your group sets up the exact date, please add it on this spreadsheet :

<https://teamup.com/kstegxmw1z619ohn5p>

We are conscious that some chapters might have already started planning actions for the end of June: but because of its rather broad narrative, this action can easily be included in an already existing « No going back » campaign, or be part of an action that was already in the works!

RESOURCES

Internal and external communication materials from the Medias & Messaging team, as well as diverse resources will be uploaded on this folder on the global cloud:

<https://cloud.organise.earth/s/oaakntBxBjNDdiP>

It will include a press release template, content for social media presence, etc...

- **DON'T HESITATE TO MAKE THEM YOUR OWN**

These are only suggestions, and can be modified to fit your local context better.

- **BUT LET'S STILL KEEP IT COORDINATED**

Keep in mind that we want to create a **sense of unity** throughout this first European collaboration, so that all of the actions can be linked together by the medias!

ACTION MENU

WE NEED TO PUT STRONG PRESSURE ON OUR GOVERNMENTS NOW, AND STRESS OUT HOW ANTI- DEMOCRATIC THEIR CHOICES ARE. WE NEED TO STAND STRONG AND ASK FOR THEM TO LISTEN TO THE CITIZENS' VOICE WHEN IT COMES TO DECISIONS THAT WILL STRONGLY IMPACT EVERYONE'S FUTURE. LET'S EMBODY THE GREEN STRINGS THAT SHOULD ALWAYS BE INVOLVED IN THESE DECISIONS.

Because all XR groups have different backgrounds or capacity, we have worked on several action ideas with different risk levels to chose (or get inspired) from.

They are detailed in the attached action menu.

However, the main frame we are proposing is:

1. **Green string/fabric in the hands of rebels during a distanced protest (depending on local context : two meters between people, masks on...)**
2. **Green string/fabric around the targeted building, covering or blocking the entrances.**

This is meant to be the basic identity **linking all of our actions as one**, so that they can be recognized as such by the medias.

Now, let's all build on that in our action groups to make it more interesting 😊

SEE ANNEXE FOR THE FULL ACTION MENU & INSPIRATION DOCUMENT!

LEGAL

Because legal context varies between countries, we cannot offer legal advice that would fit us all. Each group should consult with their own legal team for specificities, or contact us so that we can recommend someone!

GOT MORE QUESTIONS?

Contact us at europeanactions@protonmail.com

OPEN CALL

Because it's always easier to speak « face to face », the action team will host an open call on the **9th of June at 7pm CEST**

We'll meet over here: <https://meet.jit.si/bailouttheplanet2020>

Come with all your questions ready!

WITH PLENTY OF LOVE AND RAGE,

The XR EU.rope action team!
(No, we still haven't settled on a name yet 😊)

BAIL OUT THE PLANET ACTION MENU

The Action Ideas detailed below are organized in order of high risk to low risk, high capacity to low capacity and high corona restrictions to low corona restrictions.

Every local chapter or Affinity Group is invited to chose one, combine several, or think of other additional actions for their target. **The most important part to keep are the Green Strings, as the symbolic part of the action that unites all actions across Europe.**

- VIDEO PROJECTION

Low Risk, Medium Capacity, Possible in High Corona Restrictions

Produce a video of a mock-government meeting, with rebels acting as ministers, where we decide on the green bailout for the planet the way the government should have. Project the message onto the building of the target. (Inspiration: <https://theyesmen.org/project/cop15>)

Or produce a video of a mock talk with a "contemporary witness", supposedly from the year 2100. The "witness" should be visibly old and answer questions by children/young people living in a world heavily affected by climate and environmental breakdown, about how life was back in the year 2020 and how the governments failed to act properly.

- MAGIC MONEY CEREMONY

Medium Risk, Medium Capacity, Possible in High Corona Restrictions

Have a ceremony outside the entrance of the target where you cut up fake bank notes or distribute piles of "magic money" like the money that is now magically found for bailouts, even though they said it was too expensive to transition away from destructive industries.

Additionally, ceremoniously rename the target by (pretending to) removing the name plate and replace it with something more fitting.

- RECLAIM THE SPACE

Medium to high Risk, Medium to High Capacity, Possible in High Corona Restrictions

Lay natural materials outside the target (hay, grass, dirt, wood, small trees and/or plants...) to block the entrance.

Or Build a community garden and reclaim the place by raising flower and vegetable beds on what formerly was the parking space for cars for example (can be done over night and the vegetable garden can be made portable, so it can be removed again without being destroyed).

Each Rebel can bring a plant or tree to put in front of the entrance of the target, blocking or not.

- **FAKE OIL**

High Risk, Medium to High Capacity, Possible in Medium Corona Restrictions

Cover the outside of the target with fake oil, or block the entrance by dumping a pile of coal in front, which symbolizes what they are putting over our children's future. This can be combined with other symbolic or disruptive actions.

- **SIT IN**

Medium to High Risk, Medium to High Capacity, Possible in Medium Corona Restrictions

Have a one/two weeks long sit-in outside the entrance of the target. Take a banner and come in the morning, when the people enter the building, and leave each evening after they have left. You can also try to engage in conversation with the people or hand out leaflets.

You can be only 3-5 rebels sitting 1.5 Meters apart from each other or you can be more, spread all around the space. You can also divide the days into shifts.

- **LOCK ON**

High Risk, Medium to High Capacity, Possible in Medium Restrictions

If the target has a fence around their building, lock yourselves (preferably the neck) to it with signs/banners.

Keys to the locks can be sent to the target's officials beforehand so that they are forced to open up the locks themselves to free the rebels.

- **BLOCKING**

High Risk, Medium to High Capacity, Possible in Medium Restrictions

Rebels gluing themselves to the entrance of the target (potentially with upper or full bodies naked and painted green).

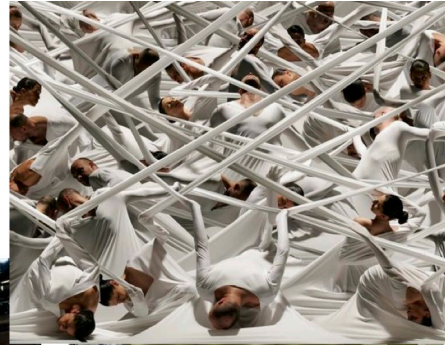
Or rebels using a barricade tape that says "Caution: future at risk" to tape around themselves and onto the building.

The numbers of rebels involved in these actions will obviously depend on your group's capacity, and on Covid-19 restrictions context in your country!

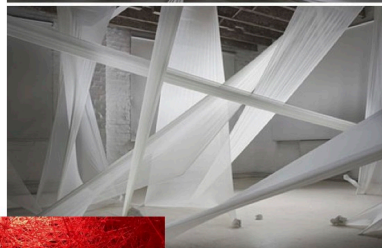
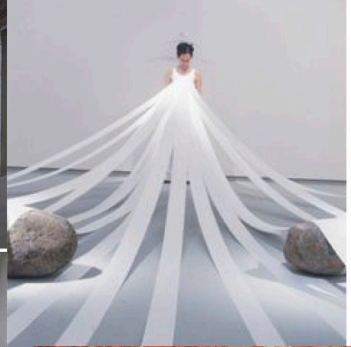
Don't forget to check with your chapter's legal time beforehand, to anticipate the possible consequences for participants involved.

BAIL OUT THE PLANET VISUAL INSPIRATION

LINK AND UNITY IN CRISIS



CRISIS WITHOUT BORDER



WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER

