



EXTINCTION REBELLION SOUNDS THE CLIMATE ALARM

First action by Extinction Rebellion Belgium

Extinction Rebellion Belgium launches its first civil disobedience action during the Climate Change and Oceans Preservation conference that takes place in Egmont Palace on 19th February 2019. Members of Extinction Rebellion will be present both at and outside the conference in order to make their demands heard.

During this conference Prime Minister Charles Michel, Minister of Energy and Environment Marie-Christine Marghem, and other policymakers will come together to sign the Brussels Declaration on climate change and oceans preservation (<https://climateoceans.eu/documents>).

Extinction Rebellion Belgium considers the text to be an inadequate declaration of intent which will not be followed by action. The citizens' movement would like to take this opportunity to continue to put pressure on political decision-makers and remind them that the time for rhetoric has passed. It is time for concrete and ambitious action. An alternative Brussels Declaration will therefore be proposed during the conference, inspired by the demands of Extinction Rebellion and the entire climate movement.

For several months thousands of citizens have participated in climate marches in order to demand a more ambitious climate policy. Extinction Rebellion Belgium notes however that the only answers from our politicians alternate between denial and contempt.

That is why the members of Extinction Rebellion are moving to alternative forms of action such as civil disobedience. They consider this method reasonable and legitimate in light of the danger and urgency of climate change.

On Tuesday 19th February a gathering will take place from 8am to 10:30am in front of the Egmont Palace (Place du Petit Sablon, 8, 1000 Brussels). There demonstrators will attempt to make themselves heard by the political decision-makers in the building, and will hand out leaflets to participants at the conference.

Members of Extinction Rebellion will also be present at the conference, and will use the speech by Prime Minister Charles Michel to make the demands of the climate movement heard there and then. The alternative Brussels Declaration will also be distributed to those present.