

Really United to Tackle Climate Change? A reflection on the COP26 from a global perspective

**Workshop, 3 December 2021, 10.00 to 12.00 a.m. (registration required)
Diplomatic Academy Vienna (Musikzimmer), Favoritenstraße 15a, 1040 Vienna**

“Uniting the world to tackle climate change” is the motto of the 26th UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow. Facing the tremendous challenges of the global health, climate and biodiversity crises – against the background of a looming debt crisis – international solidarity and the strengthening of multilateral cooperation seem more necessary than ever.

Limiting global warming to below 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels will also need a profound transformation of our financial and economic systems. Especially countries of the Global South – who are historically not responsible for climate change but bear the brunt of its effects – will need massive support for climate adaptation, climate mitigation and the necessary transformations of their economies. Climate finance might be one of the most crucial elements to help those countries. But “developed” countries have not yet fulfilled the USD 100 billion target already agreed in 2009. Especially climate adaptation measures need an urgent financial ramp up. Moreover, more than 80 % of current finance comes in the form of (non-concessional) loans, leading to additional debt distress in many lower income countries.

At the workshop, we will discuss the outcomes of the COP26, especially with regards to climate financing, and look at possible ways forward.

Input from

Martin Krenn, KOO, is a policy officer at KOO, the Co-ordination Office of the Austrian Bishops’ Conference for International Development and Mission, and is speaker of the Austrian Alliance for Climate Justice (Allianz für Klimagerechtigkeit), a platform of 26 environmental, development and social NGOs. Martin mainly works on development finance and international climate finance and takes part in UNFCCC climate conferences as an NGO observer in the Austrian delegation. He took degrees in political science and social management in Vienna.

Ann Pettifor, political economist, author and public speaker. Her latest book “The Case for the Green New Deal” (2019) explains how we can afford what we can do, and what we need to do, before it is too late. Other books include „The Production of Money” (2017) and “The Coming First World Debt Crisis” (2009). Ann is Director of PRIME, Policy Research in Macroeconomics, as well as (amongst others) Council Member of the Progressive Economy Forum, Chair of the advisory board of Goldsmith’s College Political Economy Research Centre and fellow of the New Economics Foundation. Ann has led the Jubilee 2000 campaign, which was part of a successful international movement that led to the cancellation of USD 100 billion of debt owed by the poorest countries. Ann was born in South Africa and took her degree in politics and economics at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg.

Language: English

Contact and registration: Martina Neuwirth (VIDC), neuwirth@vidc.org

Covid-19 protective rules: 2 G+ (vaccinated or recovered, plus valid PCR test). Please show your certificates at the registration desk. *Due to the uncertain pandemic situation, we ask you to note short-term changes!*

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