

From Publications to Public Actions

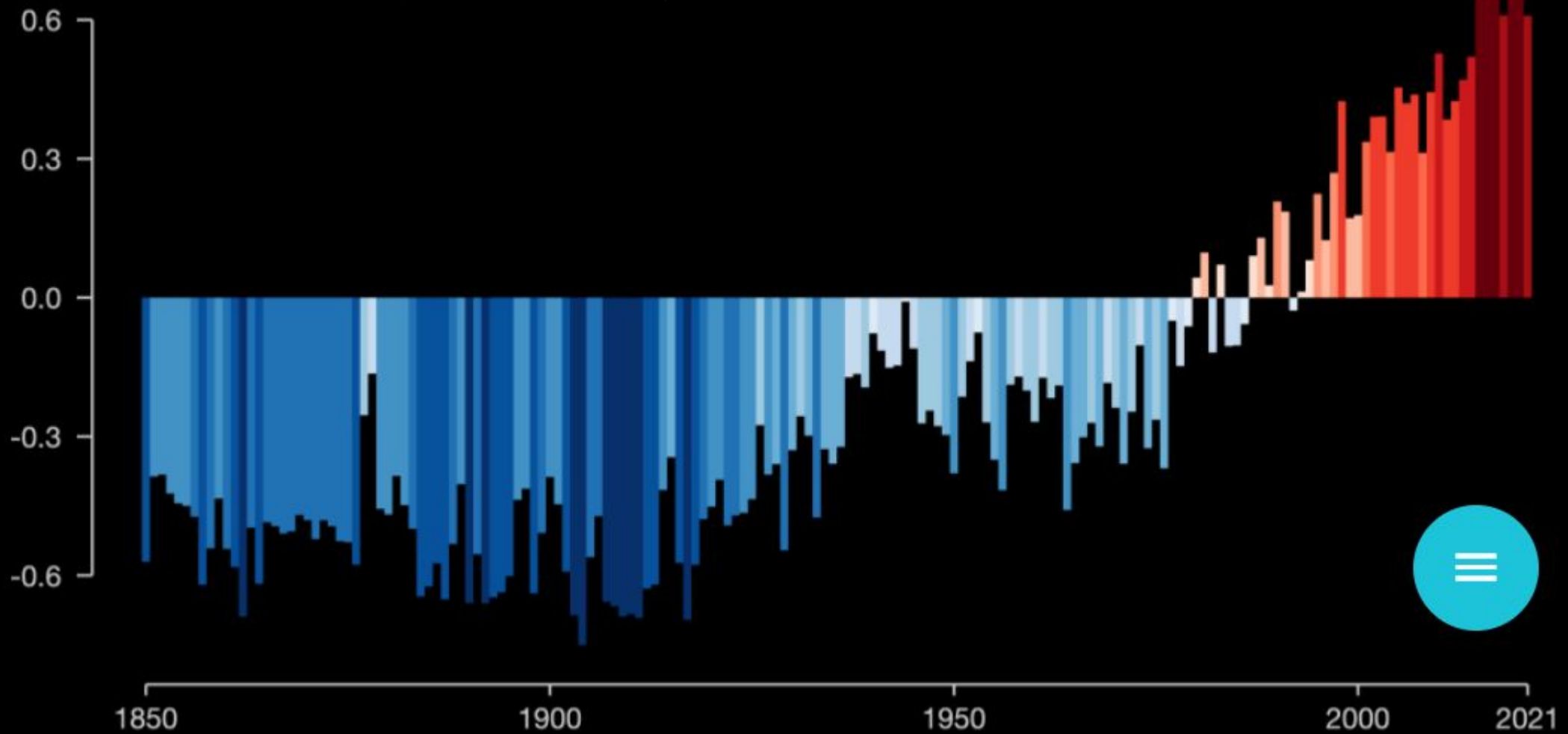
The Global Scientist Rebellion

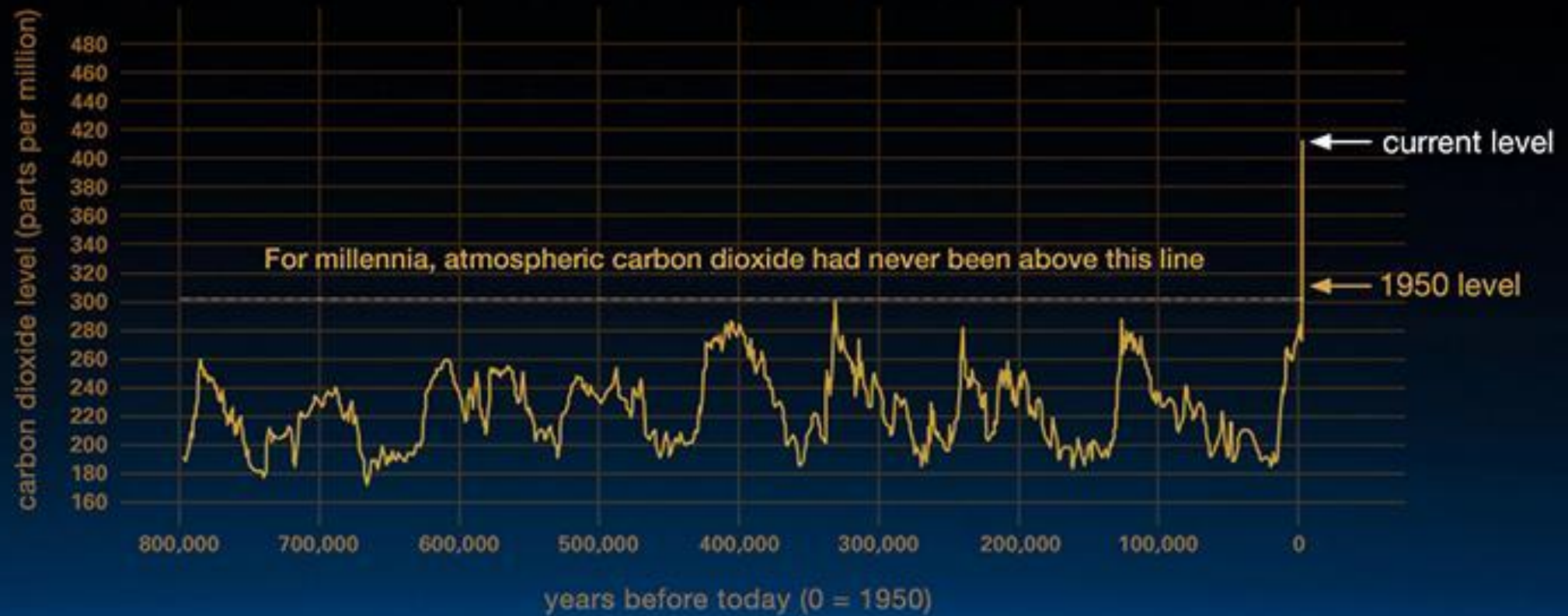


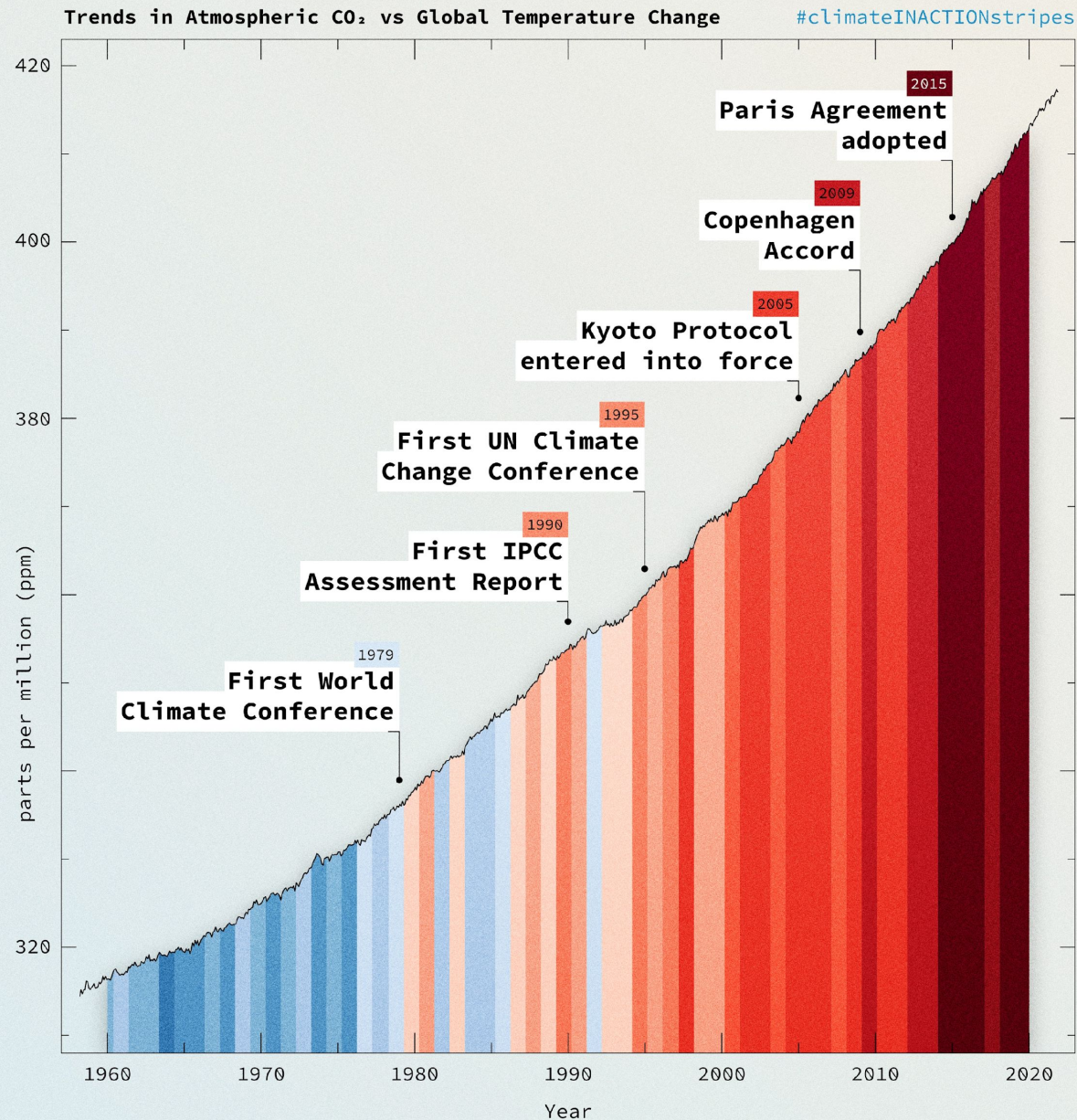
Gianluca Grimalda / Laura
Horn
INOS Seminar
7th July 2022

Global temperature change

Relative to average of 1971-2000 [°C]







COP26: Fossil fuel industry has largest delegation at climate summit

Carbon Copy: Draft COP26 text mentions fossil fuels for first time in history of UN climate talks



So what's the alternative?

What is Scientist Rebellion?

- A global movement of scientists, researchers, students and supporters
- We act through civil non-violent resistance to respond to the urgency of climate emergency
- We do that because traditional models of social change have failed:
 - Scientists inform politicians, who then take actions;
 - Scientists inform the public, who then demand change.

NEWS | 12 November 2021

Scientist Rebellion: researchers join protesters at COP26

Scientists are among hundreds of demonstrators at the COP26 climate conference – and want more to join them.

[Tosin Thompson](#)

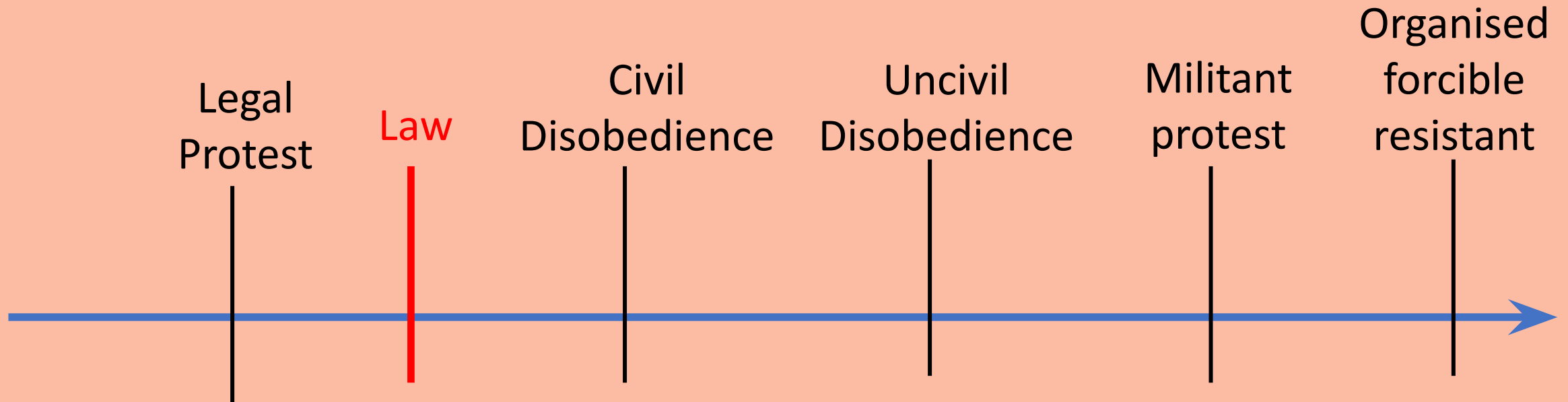


Members of Scientist Rebellion, including Kyle Topfer (second from the left) and Charlie Gardner (far right), chained together on Glasgow's King George V Bridge. Credit: Mar Sala/Scientist Rebellion

What is civil disobedience?

Civil disobedience defined as

- Public
- Non-violent
- conscientious
- breach of law undertaken with the aim of bringing about a change in laws or government policies (Rawls 1999, 320).



Features of Civil Disobedience

□ Principled Disobedience

- Lawbreaking (direct/indirect)
- Principled, intentional
- Conscientious

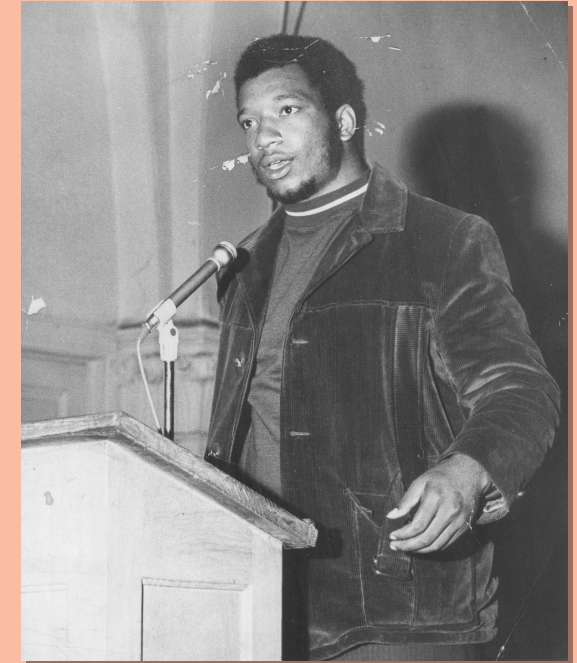
□ Civility

- Communicative
- Public
- Non-violent (property damage?); Persuasive/coercive
- Non-evasion

□ Justifiable

- Longstanding injustice
- Last resort
- Minority group coordination

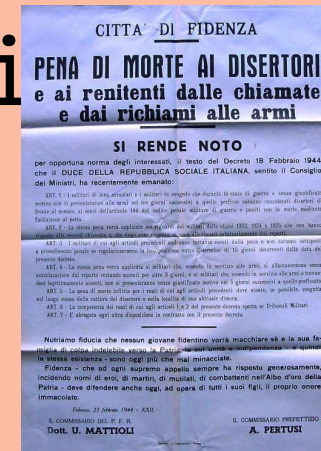
Class Struggle and Civil Disobedience



- Civil resistance opposes unjust laws & oppression
- Movements build solidarity together

Examples of civil disobedience

- Henry David Thoreau (1846) refused to pay his state poll tax as a protest against the institution of slavery, the extermination of Native Americans, and the war against Mexico
- Rosa Parks violated the Montgomery, Alabama, city ordinance requiring African Americans to sit at the back of public buses
- Italy: Objection to conscription in the army (before 1972)



The multifaceted role of scientists in the climate and ecological emergency...

- Relevance of academic activism *within* the university/institutions; permeating different fields and practices (teaching, research, institutional/managerial processes)
Consequences of climate activism (career, reputation, livelihood...)
- Open science and science communication - SoMe, established media, audiences



... in and beyond academia

- Strategies and repertoires of action:
global, decentral, horizontal...
depending on the context (norms, opportunity structures, boundaries, risks), audiences
- Links and relations to other
climate/ecological activist groups; political
positioning and cleavages

→ challenging assumptions about the role of
scientists



SR actions: Glasgow Nov 2021

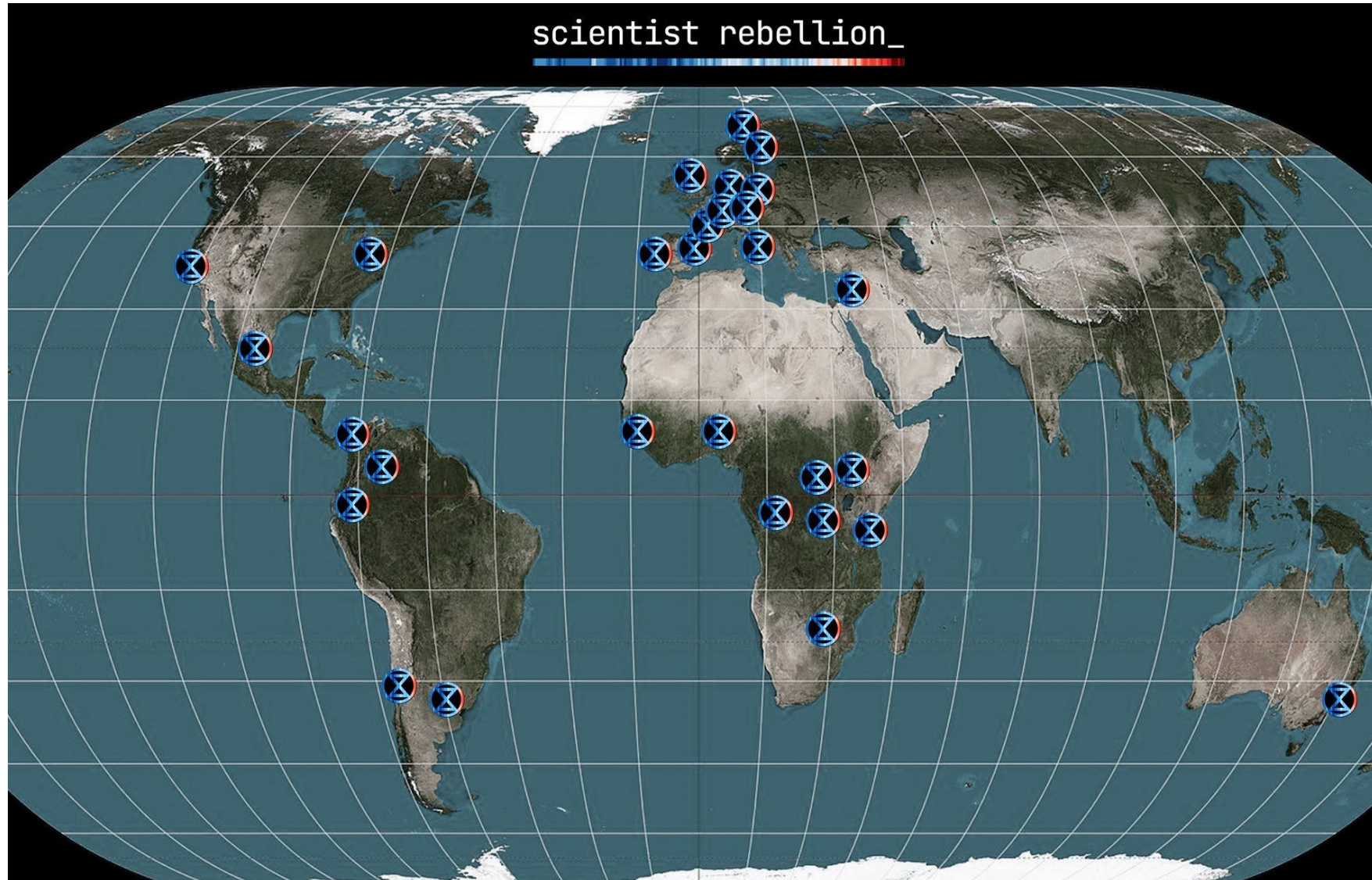
5 hr bridge block

21 arrests - 1st mass arrest of
scientists over climate, anywhere
Glue-on at ScottishPower HQ - 5 arrests

Coverage in Nature and global media



Global week of mobilisation 4-9 April 2022



Greenhouse gas emissions must peak within 4 years, says leaked UN report

Group of scientists release draft IPCC report as they fear it will be watered down by governments



Villagers attempt to put out a wildfire in the Kabylie region of Tizi Ouzou, Algeria, on 11 August. Photograph: Abdelaziz Boumzar/Reuters

Global week: Europe

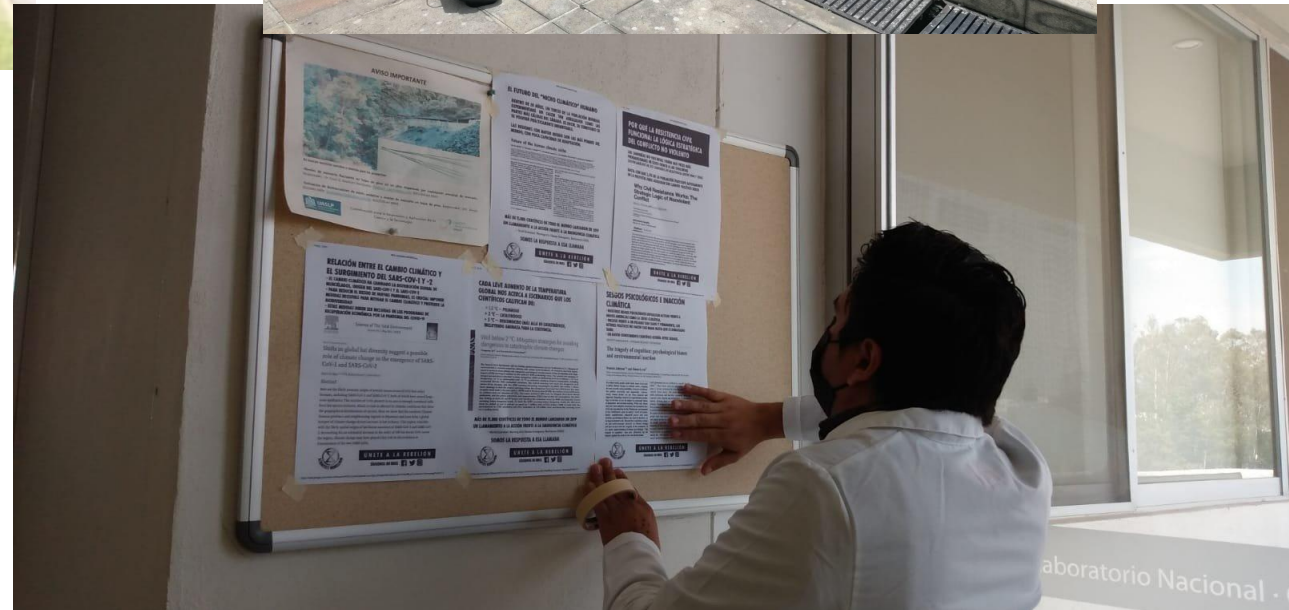


Global week: Europe+US+Australia





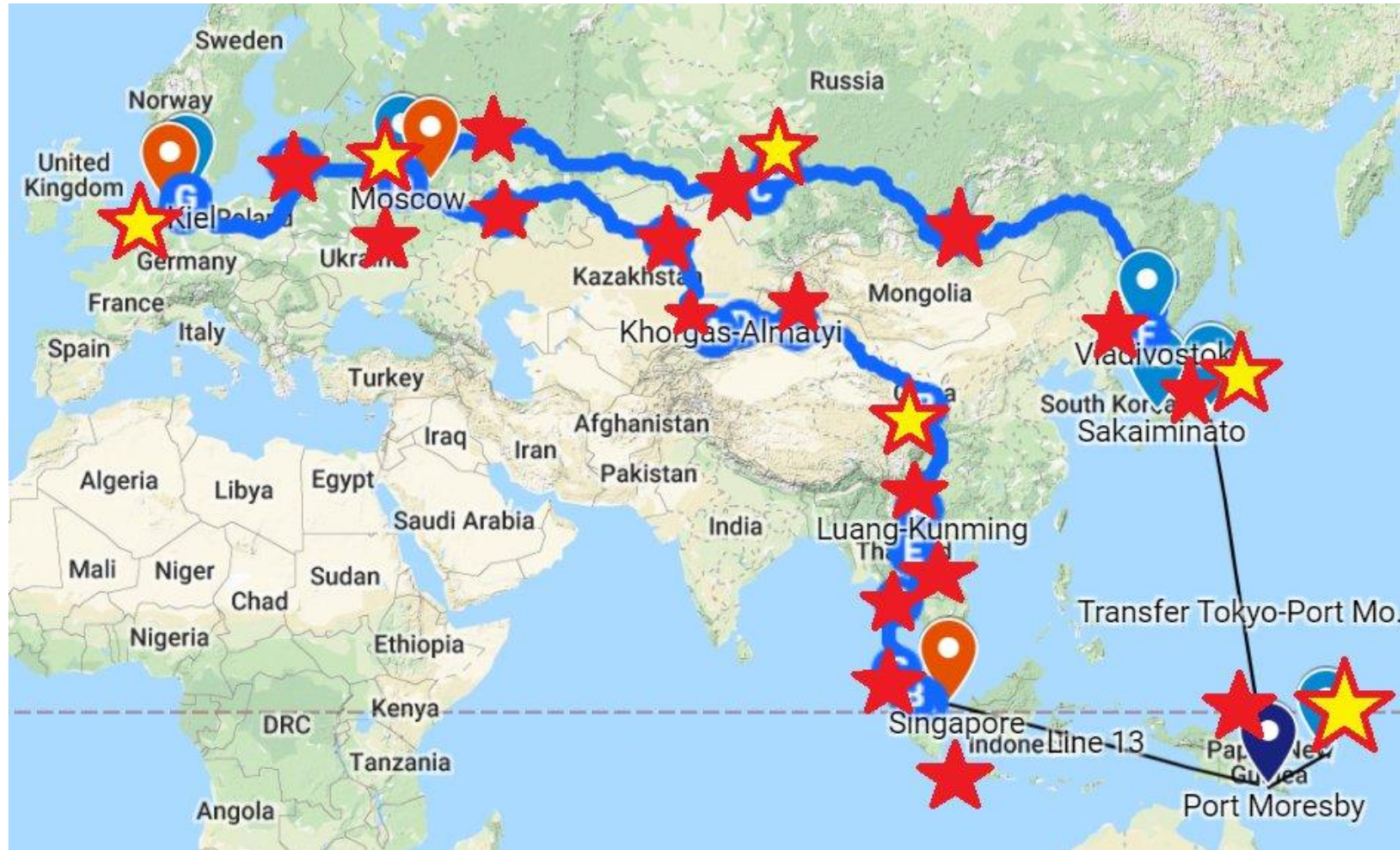
Global week: South America



Gianluca's personal trajectory: done legal protests for ~20 years



Nofly commitment to travel to fieldwork sites/conferences



Travelled
27,000 km on
train/ coaches
to minimise
CO2 impact of
my research
fieldwork in
2019, 2016,
2015, 2011.

Nofly commitment



Fieldwork in Papua New Guinea



And eventually embraced civil disobedience this year, with blockade of ENI plant in Venice...



And actions against Deutsche Bank in Germany.



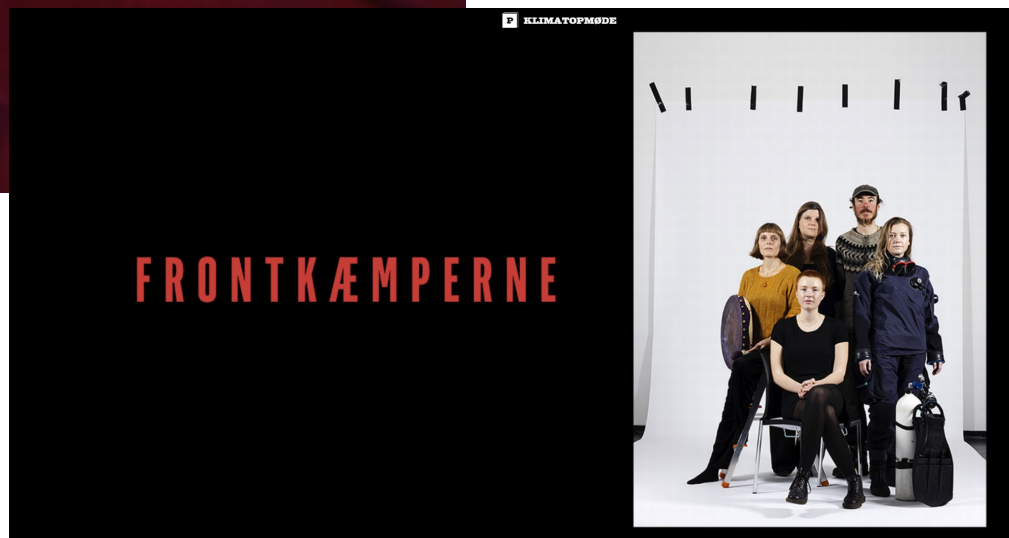
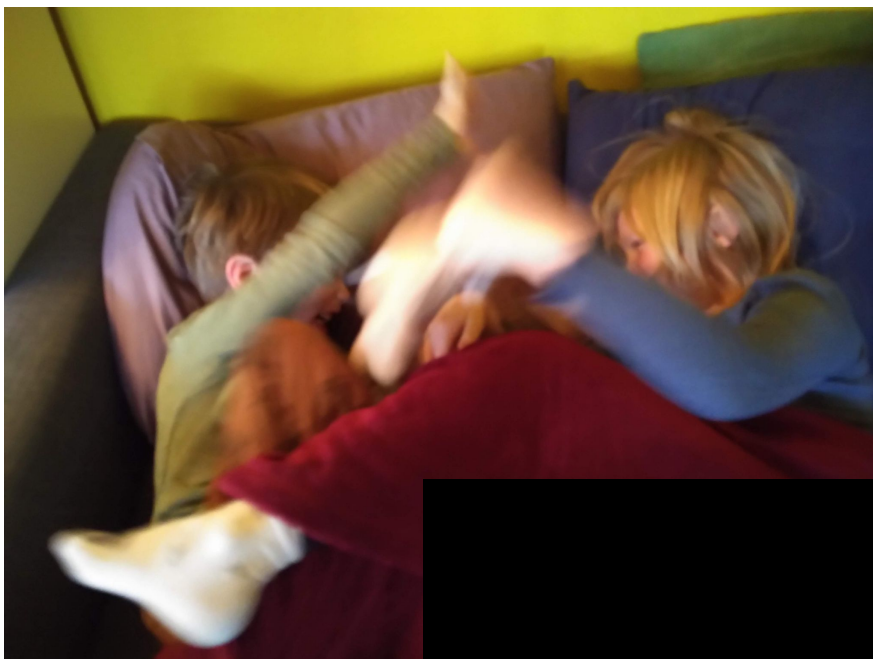
And a share-in of science in the UN square in Bonn in front of the COP27 Climate Conference



Laura's trajectories - in SR Nordic...



... and personal



Forsker promoverer og arbejder for ekstrem miljøorganisation – og er fast gæst i lufthavnene

26. april 2022 · Lars Bjørknæs · Laura Horn · 0



Del artiklen her:



Der er tilsyneladende langt fra de politiske udmeldinger og aktivismen hos RUC-forskeren Laura Horn og så til, hvordan hun selv agerer i forhold til CO2-udledninger.



Scientist Rebellion

Sign-up:

<https://scientistrebellion.com/how-to-join/>



Twitter [@ScientistRebel1](https://twitter.com/ScientistRebel1)

Instagram [@scientistrebellion](https://www.instagram.com/scientistrebellion)

Facebook [ScientistRebellion](https://www.facebook.com/ScientistRebellion)

Youtube [ScientistRebellion](https://www.youtube.com/ScientistRebellion)

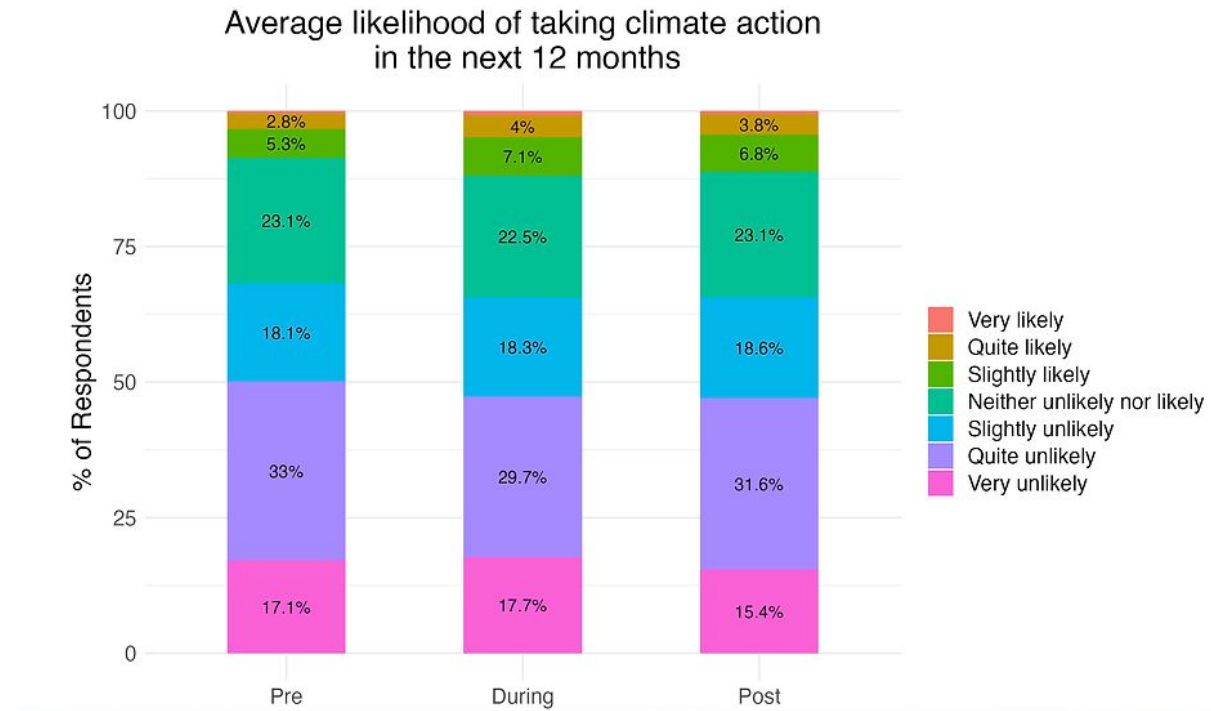
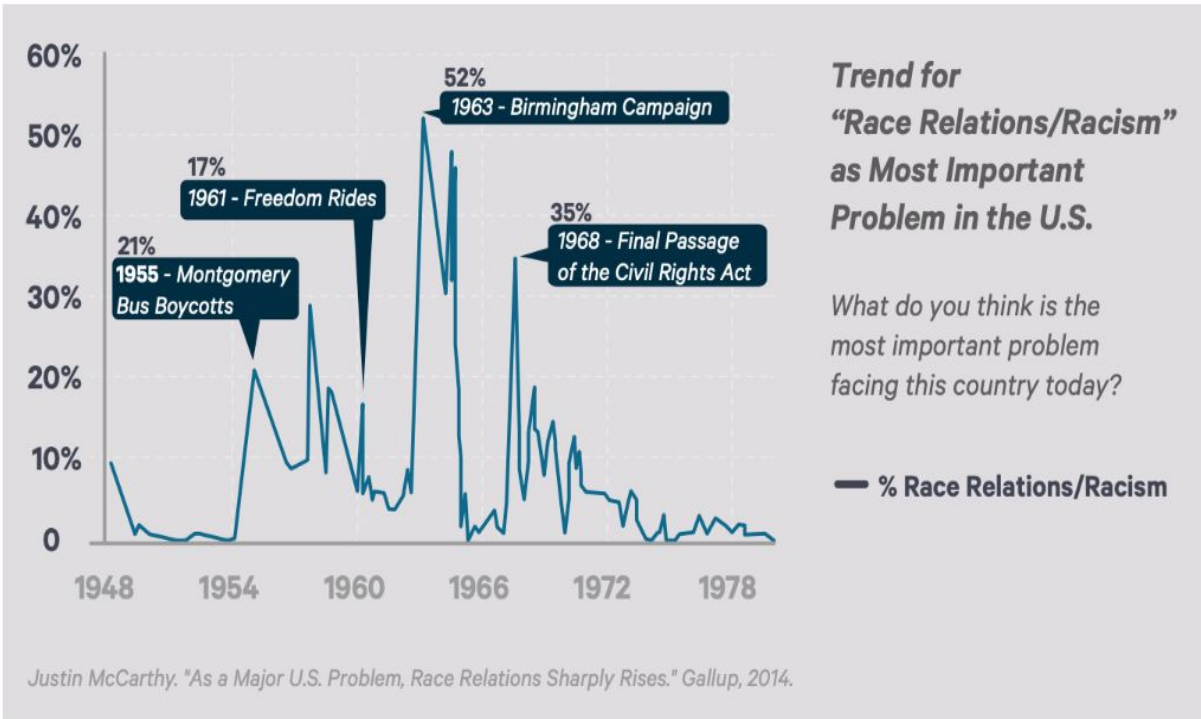
More links:

<https://linktr.ee/ScientistRebellion>

Financial support by Climate Emergency Fund
(CEF)



Empirical evidence on Impact of civil disobedience



Source: <https://www.socialchangelab.org/survey>

Concern about the environment at highest levels on record

Which do you think are the most important issues facing the country at this time?
Please tick up to three. % saying "the environment"

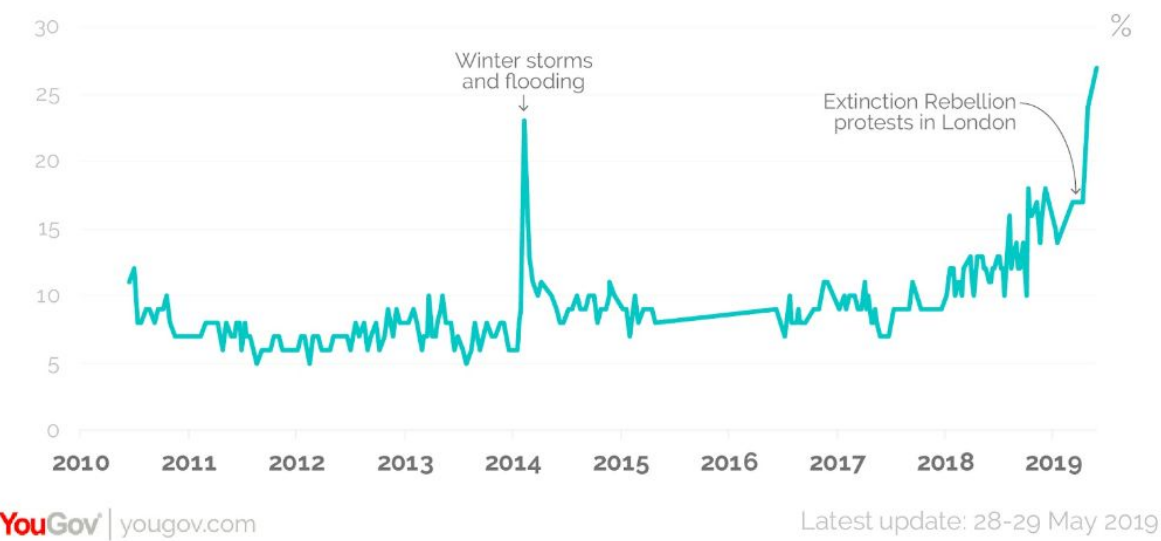


Figure 4: Impact of Extinction Rebellion (XR) on concern for the climate in the UK. Another example can be seen [here](#), with XR named as one of the key factors in growing concern. Source: YouGov

Extinction Rebellion (XR) has highlighted the potential for social movements using nonviolent protest to create positive societal change. However, there has been little quantitative analysis of the exact impact that XR or other social movements have had on shifting public opinion, creating policy change or, in this case, reducing carbon emissions. In this research project, I attempted to quantify the cost-effectiveness that XR's protests, and other activities, has had on reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) and influencing government spending on climate-related activities. These findings suggest that **XR has abated 16 tonnes of GHGs per pound spent on advocacy**, using the median estimates for cost-effectiveness. Relative to the top Effective Altruist (EA) recommended climate change charity, **Clean Air Task Force** (CATF), **this is more effective by a factor of 12x**. If true, this indicates that nonviolent protests can be highly effective in achieving positive outcomes and social movement objectives. This leads to the conclusion that social movement theory should be a focus area for impact-focused researchers, advocates and philanthropists, to determine when these opportunities might arise and how to best utilise them.