

# Anticolonialism discussion

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# GLOSSARY

MAPA = Most affected People and Areas by the climate crisis

LAPA = Least affected people

BIPOC = Black, Indigenous, People of Colour

FFF = Fridays For Future, where Climatestrike Switzerland is also a part of in the international space

Tokenization = When people are not perceived as individuals but only as representatives of "their" supposed group and thus reduced to their supposed identity categories. Thus, they do not have the possibility to speak for themselves, but are supposed to represent whole (constructed) groups.

# GLOSSARY

**Weiss:** Im Gegensatz zu den Bezeichnungen Schwarz und PoC ist weiss keine Selbstpositionierung. Weiss sein bedeutet, Privilegien und Macht zu besitzen, wie zum Beispiel das Privileg, sich nicht mit Rassismus auseinandersetzen zu müssen. Weiss sein wird als Norm etabliert und als solche nie benannt. Dabei geht es nicht um nur um Hautfarben, sondern politische Begriffe, die den Zugang zu Macht beschreiben.

**Schwarz:** Ist die korrekte Bezeichnung für Schwarze Menschen, die afrikanische bzw. afrodiasporale Bezüge haben. Afrodiasporal bedeutet, dass Menschen in ihrer Geschichte verwandtschaftliche Bezüge zum afrikanischen Kontinent haben. Um den Widerstandscharakter dieses Wortes zu betonen, wird das „S“ grossgeschrieben. Schwarz ist eine Selbstpositionierung.

**PoC:** Abkürzung für Person/People of color; ist die Selbstbezeichnung von Menschen, die Rassismuserfahrungen machen. Die Bezeichnung ist in der Bürgerrechtsbewegung in den USA entstanden und zielt darauf ab, die unterschiedlichen Gruppen, die Rassismus erfahren, zu vereinen, um so Kräfte zu bündeln und gemeinsam gegen Rassismus zu kämpfen. PoC ist der Begriff der alle nicht-weissen Identitäten vereint. Es existieren noch genauere Bezeichnungen für gewisse Gruppen wie etwa BIPOC (Black and Indigenous People of Color), Schwarz (siehe Schwarz) oder auch QPoC (Queer Person of Color). Der BIPOC wird manchmal auch als Black, Indigenous and PoC verwendet, da sich einige Schwarze Personen nicht als PoC definieren.

# INTRODUCTION

## MAPA Boycott statement

“Countless times MAPA activists have called for solidarity, redistribution, reparations, accountability, management space, decision capability, and the end of tokenization in the climate movement—these demands have not been met.”

# DEMANDS

- Public commitment with the Palestinian struggle and signature of all LAPA national groups with the SWANA call for solidarity.
- Monetary commitment to pay for professional decolonization facilitation for FFF Groups, especially for those with racist behavior like FFF Germany.
- Fund redistribution for MAPA strikes and initiatives, the groups with the most wealth, like FFF US and FFF Germany, should commit their funds to reparation.
- Commitment from LAPA to restructure international spaces, targets, and campaigns led by MAPA. Forget about the white narrative of the future and center those affected and vulnerable to the crisis.
- Commitment from national groups to restructuring led by BIPOC within their countries

# DEMANDS

- The creation of a transformative justice and accountability code for International, with explicit mentions of violences like celebrity tokenism, epistemic extractivism, racism, sexism, sexual misconduct, ableism, gaslighting, and financial abuse
- Hierarchical national groups need to establish themselves as horizontal and decentralized, promoting the participation of all their members in local and international decision making. When existent, internal nationalist hierarchies constantly create international hierarchies.
- International spaces should be officially structured as a confederation of movements, where horizontality is key and there are not international elites. To keep thinking that international groups are not an official place that doesn't need a concrete structure just creates an easy place for tyranny of structurelessness.
- The movement needs to work hard to solve all the said problems, and let MAPA restructure itself, before starting the organization of another strike after March 25th.

## WHAT WE WANT TO DO TODAY:

- Reflect on the racist and colonialist structures inside our movement and our activism
- Try to speak about some of the points mentioned in the MAPA boycott statement and other sources
- Try to reflect on possible approaches and initiatives/projects to continue this process

## FOR THE DISCUSSION:

- This discussion is only the starting point of a long process
- The people who organized this discussion are all white and coined by our privileges. We see this discussion as an opportunity to reflect on our movement rather than educating you on colonialism.
- Thus, the discussion will not be complete nor perfect.



# PLEASE BE AWARE...

- Be aware that not everybody in this room has the same privileges. Please reflect on your own space in the discussion.
- this is a topic where some of you might have already thought a lot about and others not at all. Please try to help reducing knowledge hierarchies by explaining yourself, asking questions or having patience with others. We are all here to learn.

## TIME TABLE:

First round of Discussion: The problems (30')

Summary and sharing in the plenary (15')

Second round of Discussion: Approaches and projects (30')

Summary and sharing in the plenary (15')

Next steps (5')

# FIRST ROUND OF DISCUSSION

Form small groups (ca. 10 people). Every group should discuss one of the following topics:

1. Racism inside climatestrike, how we internatize racism
2. How is our activism and communication coined by colonialism and racism?
3. How is our support/ connection with MAPA?
4. Further topics?

**BREAK 10'**

Walk around and have a look at the flipcharts :)

# PLENARY

- Every group summarises shortly the **most important points** of their discussion by responding to this question :
  - What is exactly the problem we are facing and why do we have this problem ?

# SECOND ROUND OF DISCUSSION

Form small groups (ca. 10 people). Every group should discuss one of the following topics:

- How can we improve our support for MAPA?
- Ideas for anticolonial activism and communication
- “Debt for Climate”-Campaign
- Peoples’ Climate Agreement and quick response actions
- Other things that came up in Round 1



# PLENARY

Every group summarises shortly the **most important points** of their discussion by responding to the following question :

- What can we do and how? Will this discussion lead to something concrete we start doing now ?

# NEXT STEPS

- International Solidarity and Anticolonialism Working Group :



- Debt for Climate: ask Lilian (@liluschkao)
- Peoples' Climate Agreement: ask Maret (@maretiport)
- The 11.06 in Geneva : Via Campesina manifestation !





# NEXT STEPS

Information/Ressources :



feel free to complete !