



[Greta Thunberg](#)

This is all wrong. I shouldn't be standing here. I should be back in school on the other side of the ocean. Yet you all come to me for hope? How dare you!

You have stolen my dreams and my childhood with your empty words. And yet I'm one of the lucky ones.

People are suffering.

People are dying.

Entire ecosystems are collapsing.

We are in the beginning of a mass extinction.

And all you can talk about is money and fairy tales of eternal economic growth. How dare you!

For more than 30 years the science has been crystal clear. How dare you continue to look away, and come here saying that you are doing enough, when the politics and solutions needed are still nowhere in sight.

With today's emissions levels, our remaining CO2 budget will be gone in less than 8.5 years

You say you "hear" us and that you understand the urgency. But no matter how sad and angry I am, I don't want to believe that. Because if you fully understood the situation and still kept on failing to act, then you would be evil. And my generation would never forgive you. I refuse to believe that.

The popular idea of cutting our emissions in half in 10 years only gives us a 50% chance of staying below 1.5C degrees, and the risk of setting off irreversible chain reactions beyond human control.

Maybe 50% is acceptable to you. But those numbers don't include tipping points, most feedback loops, additional warming hidden by toxic air pollution or the aspects of justice and equity. They also rely on my and my children's generation sucking hundreds of billions of tonnes of your CO2 out of the air with technologies that barely exist. So a 50% risk is simply not acceptable to us – we who have to live with the consequences.

To have a 67% chance of staying below a 1.5C global temperature rise – the best odds given by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change – the world had 420 gigatonnes of carbon dioxide left to emit back on 1 January 2018. Today that figure is already down to less than 350 gigatonnes. How dare you pretend that this can be solved with business-as-usual and some technical solutions. With today's emissions levels, that remaining CO2 budget will be entirely gone in less than eight and a half years.

• *Greta Thunberg is a climate activist. Above is the speech she courageously delivered to the UN Climate Action summit in New York, on Monday, September 23, 2019.*

Les Artistes pour la Paix is adding its concern about nuclear weapons and NATO influence on Canada (such as Trudeau spending \$70 billion on Irving/Lockheed Martin warships), a concern shared with our guests in Montreal on Saturday, Sept.21, 2019, the UN International Day of Peace: <http://lautjournal.info/20190920/invitation-un-debat-sur-la-question-nucleaire>

Please take a moment to sign our letter to the UN Secretary-General at: <http://www.artistespourlapaix.org/?p=17023>

CODEPINK tells us that the U.S. military is the world's largest consumer of carbon, and causes more pollution than 140 countries combined. Yet 64% of the American discretionary budget is siphoned off to the Pentagon every year, and the private weapons companies that the Pentagon contracts will continue to place their short-term profits above the future of our planet. Funding endless war is an existential threat to human life and one of the leading causes of climate change.

