

COP31: DELIVERING JUSTICE, REPARATIONS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

WHAT'S AT STAKE AT COP31?

COP31 takes place amid growing repression of human rights defenders, continued corporate influence over climate policymaking, and unresolved questions on climate finance, reparations and accountability.



AT COP30

Parties agreed to develop a Just Transition Mechanism, but negotiations at SB64 failed to agree on its structure, functions or institutional placement. Frontline communities remain largely excluded from decisions affecting their lives and territories.



AT COP31

ESCR-Net calls on States to advance concrete action on feminist climate justice, a just and equitable transition, demilitarization, climate reparations, debt justice and binding corporate accountability.



Image credit: Belém, Brazil | November 17, 2025 – Global March of Indigenous Peoples. Photo: Bruno Peres/Agência Brasil.



OUR COMMON AGENDA

Climate justice requires dismantling corporate impunity, militarism, debt and structural inequalities while ensuring that people and communities shape the decisions affecting their futures.



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climate justice at COP31

SIX PILLARS FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

ESCR-Net's six interconnected demands for COP31 call for concrete action to address the structural drivers of the climate crisis, grounded in human rights and peoples' self-determination.

01. CENTER FEMINIST JUSTICE AND PROTECT DEFENDERS



THE CHALLENGE

Women, gender-diverse people and human rights defenders face disproportionate climate impacts, repression and shrinking space for civil society.



OUR DEMANDS

Guarantee meaningful participation, freedom of expression and peaceful assembly; embed feminist and intersectional approaches in climate policy; and recognize and redistribute unpaid and underpaid care work.

02. DELIVER A JUST AND EQUITABLE TRANSITION



THE CHALLENGE

COP30 agreed to develop a Just Transition Mechanism, but SB64 left its structure, functions and institutional placement unresolved.



OUR DEMANDS

Establish a mechanism with a clear mandate, timeline, resources and accountability; ensure a time-bound fossil fuel phaseout; guarantee Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC); and reject carbon markets, extractivism and debt-creating approaches.

03. CONFRONT MILITARISM AND DEMAND ACCOUNTABILITY



THE CHALLENGE

Militarism, occupation and war fuel fossil-fuel dependence, ecological destruction and displacement, while military emissions remain inadequately accounted for.



OUR DEMANDS

Require transparent military emissions reporting, hold the military-industrial complex accountable, and redirect resources toward reparations. Address ecocide in Gaza and Southern Lebanon, ban white phosphorus, and support the Global Energy Embargo for Palestine.

04. DELIVER CLIMATE REPARATIONS AND REMEDY



THE CHALLENGE

Climate accountability remains fragmented, despite the legal foundation reinforced by the International Court of Justice's Advisory Opinion on climate change.



OUR DEMANDS

Align climate mechanisms with international human rights law, operationalize the ICJ Advisory Opinion, and establish accessible, enforceable pathways for reparations, ecological restoration and guarantees of non-repetition.

05. RECLAIM CLIMATE FINANCE AND DEBT JUSTICE



THE CHALLENGE

Climate finance remains shaped by colonial extraction, unequal trade and debt dependency, with unresolved questions of scale, delivery and accountability.



OUR DEMANDS

Deliver at least USD 1.3 trillion annually in new, additional, predictable, public and grant-based climate finance from the Global North to the Global South, grounded in Article 9.1 of the Paris Agreement. Cancel illegitimate, odious and colonial debt; reject debt-creating finance; and ensure direct community access.

06. END CORPORATE CAPTURE AND IMPUNITY



THE CHALLENGE

Fossil-fuel, extractive, financial and arms industries influence climate negotiations, while voluntary measures fail to ensure corporate accountability.



OUR DEMANDS

Enforce conflict-of-interest safeguards, exclude polluting industry representatives from negotiations, require corporate transparency across supply chains and financing, and advance a strong UN legally binding treaty on business and human rights that guarantees accountability and access to remedy.