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HUMAN RIGHTS

DON'T CALL
IT CHANGE

PROJECT 101081483 – DOCC



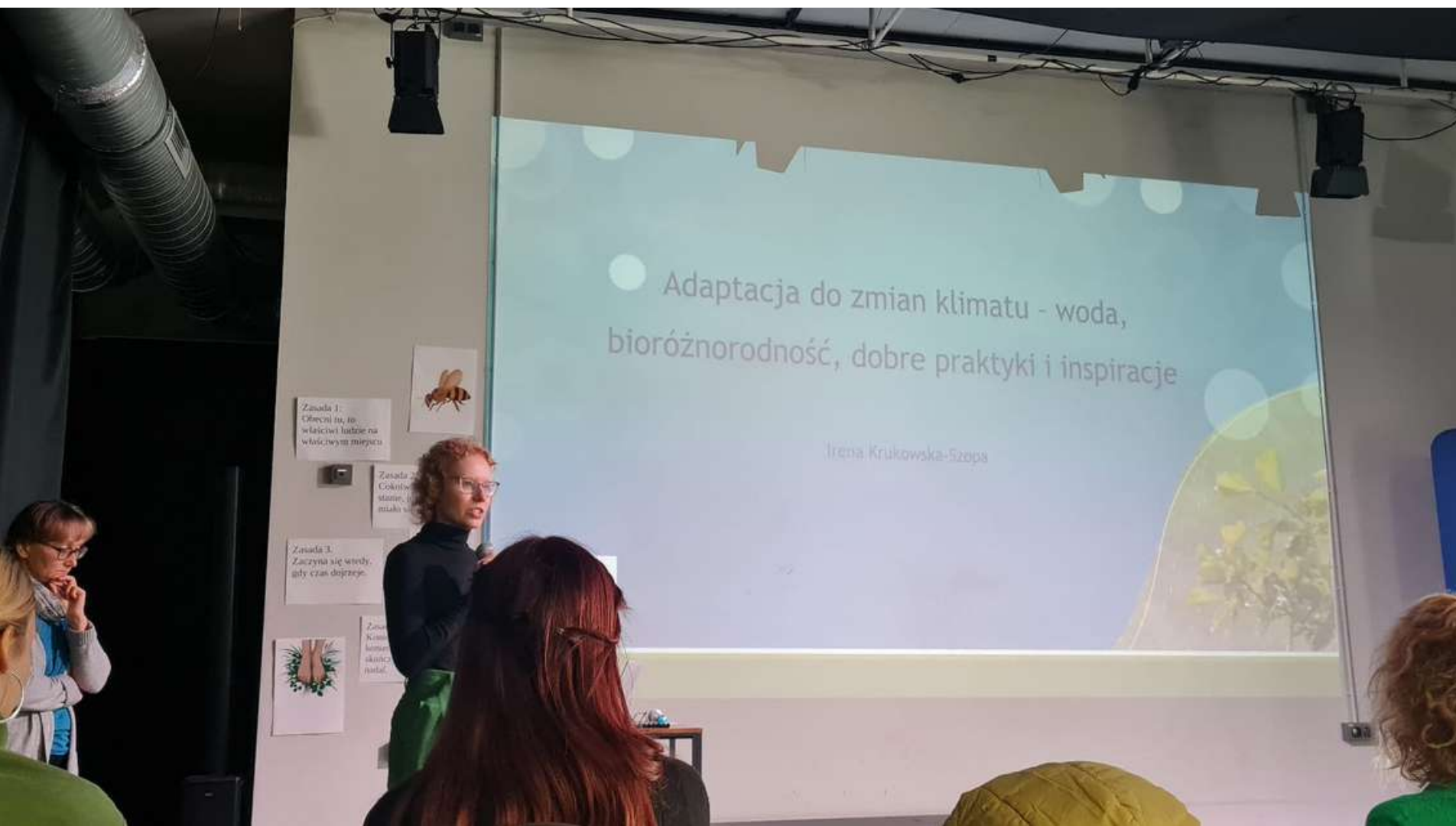
Agenda

1. Information about our organization - DFOP.
2. Information about the "Don't call it change" project.
3. Human rights.
4. Regulations regarding human rights and climate protection.
5. Position of the UN and the human rights council.
6. Facts about the impact of climate change on human rights.
7. Climate change and migration, armed conflicts and children's rights.
8. Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).
9. UNESCO on climate education.
10. Sustainable development goals and human rights

WHO ARE WE?



Dolnośląska Federacja Organizacji Pozarządowych (DFOP) is a union of associations that has been operating for non-governmental organizations from Lower Silesia in Poland for 16 years (it was established in May 2004 in Wrocław). Our basic task is to build a platform of cooperation, exchange information and experiences and initiate joint activities of the non-governmental sector in Lower Silesia.



DON'T CALL IT CHANGE PROJECT

Don't call it change (DOCC) - is a project financed by the European Union, through the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) program.

The project brings together the experiences and knowledge of the partners in:

- non-formal learning activities (local and transnational)
- climate and the consequences of the climate crisis on the social and environmental spheres.

The project partners are:

- YouNet APS (Italy);
- Mare Nostrum (Romania);
- Org. Earth (Greece);
- European Association World-Our Home (Latvia);
- Dolnośląska Federacja Organizacji Pozarządowych (Poland).

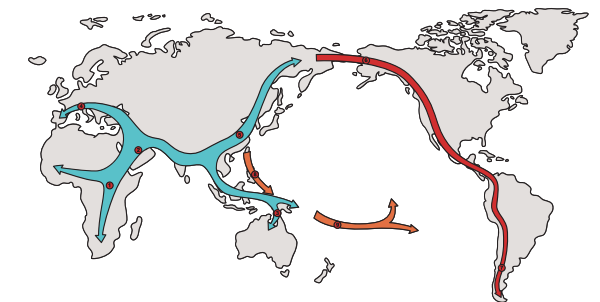
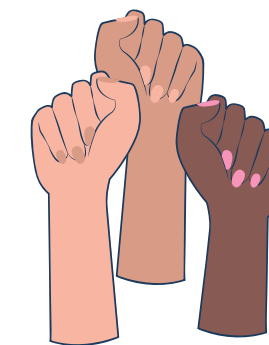
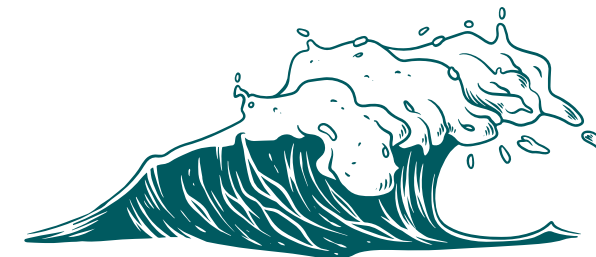


DON'T CALL IT CHANGE PROJECT

Within the project, 4 physical workshops and 2 transnational online workshops will be held (with participants from all 5 partner countries).

The 4 themes of the workshops are:

- Climate emergency and the ocean;
- Climate emergency and migrations;
- Climate emergency and human rights;
- Climate emergency and gender equality.



HUMAN RIGHTS

IT IS A SET OF RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS THAT EVERY PERSON IS ENTITLED TO REGARDLESS OF RACE, GENDER, LANGUAGE, RELIGION, POLITICAL BELIEFS, NATIONAL AND SOCIAL ORIGIN, PROPERTY, ETC.



HUMAN RIGHTS

Human rights are:

- **universal** – they are the same for every person, regardless of their values/views/religion;
- **natural** – they exist regardless of the will of the authorities or the law, the state only creates a system for their protection;
- **inalienable** - no authority can take them away from us, they cannot be waived;
- **inviolable** – they exist independently of the government and cannot be arbitrarily regulated by it;
- **natural** - we have them because of our personal dignity and humanity, and not because of someone else's decision or gift;
- **indivisible** - all constitute an integral and interdependent whole.



Regulations regarding climate protection law as a human right



- **The Convention on Biological Diversity** adopted in Rio in 1992 and signed by 168 countries.
- **Resolution of 16 January 2020** on the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP15) to the Convention on Biological Diversity
- **The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** adopted by the UN General Assembly on September 25, 2015 and the Sustainable Development Goals.
- **UN Human Rights Council Resolution 41/21** identifies the impacts of climate change and continuing environmental degradation on freshwater resources, ecosystems and community livelihoods, which negatively impact the effective enjoyment of human rights, including the right to life, food security, and safe water drinking, sanitation, health, housing, self-determination, work and development.

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR), Michelle Bachelet, at the opening of the 48th session of the UN Human Rights Council:



"A safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment is the basis of human life. But today, due to human action - and inhuman inaction - a planetary crisis including climate change, environmental pollution and biodiversity loss is having a serious and direct impact on a wide range of human rights, including the right to food, water, education, housing, health, development and even life itself."



United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR), Michelle Bachelet, at the opening of the 48th session of the UN Human Rights Council:



(...) "Forecasts of this magnitude and impact cannot be ignored by any decision maker, anywhere. They will have cascading economic, social, cultural and political impacts that will impact every society in the world. Addressing the world's triple ecological crisis is a humanitarian imperative, a human rights imperative, a peace-building imperative and a development imperative."



The United Nations Human Rights Council has recognized that the right to live in a healthy environment is a human right.

The discussion lasted 30 years!

The fact that the right to live in a healthy environment should be considered a universal human right began to be discussed for the first time in the 1990s.

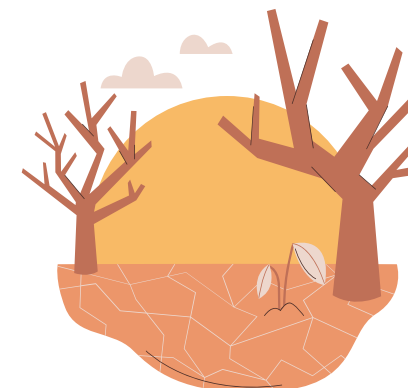
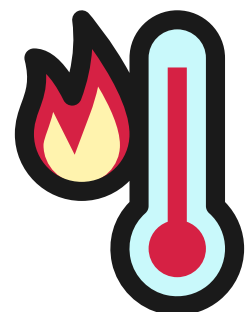
However, there were many critical voices in the discussion. Primarily from countries that – like Russia, India, China and Japan – were afraid of the legal and economic consequences of the change.

The World Health Organization estimates that approximately 13.7 million people die each year due to environmental pollution. The causes include smog and exposure to harmful chemicals. That's almost 25% all registered deaths worldwide.



FACTS ABOUT THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

- The Lancet Countdown report shows **the growing problem of vulnerability to heatwaves in all countries of the world**. Data show that the problem mainly concerns countries with rapidly aging societies. It is the elderly (over 65 year old), people with comorbidities and children (up to 1 year old) who most often get sick during heatwaves.
- According to the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) report, at 2°C warming, **800 million to 3 billion people will experience chronic water shortages due to drought**, which is also a consequence of climate change.
- According to the World Bank, **216 million people will leave their homes by 2050**. Migration is expected to hit Sub-Saharan Africa (86 million people), East Asia and the Pacific (49 mln) and South Asia (40 mln) the most. Followed by from North Africa (19 mln), Latin America (17 mln) and Eastern Europe and Central Asia (5 mln).



FACTS ABOUT THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

- According to the United Nations, **the effects of climate change may worsen living conditions and make it more difficult for current refugees to return.** This is caused, among others, by: increasing number of extreme weather events, droughts, desertification and rising sea levels. As a result, living space is limited, access to drinking water is limited, and yields are lower. Countries already exposed to an increase in migration processes include: Chad, Cameroon or Niger.
- According to a report by The UN Refugee Agency, in 2020, **95 percent of all armed conflict-related refugees were in areas vulnerable to climate change and extreme weather.**
- On October 8, 2018, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) published a Special Report on the **increase in global warming by 1.5°C compared to the pre-industrial era.** (SR1.5) The report constitutes one of the most important scientific assessments conducted by the IPCC in the panel's thirty-year history.



Climate change and migration, armed conflicts and children's rights

By 2050 216 million people will leave their homes!



- According to the World Bank **by 2050 216 million people from six regions will move within their country.** It is as if all the inhabitants of Brazil had abandoned their homes.
- **Climate change is beginning to play an important role in global migration. Currently, areas that are most exposed to climate change and the associated mortal danger to people are areas that are extremely politically unstable and prone to armed conflicts** - e.g. Chad. In 2020 95% of all conflict-related refugees were in areas vulnerable to climate change and extreme weather conditions.
- **Global climate change poses a serious challenge to children's rights, their standard of living and safety, emphasizes UNICEF.** About one billion children worldwide (50%) are extremely vulnerable to the negative effects of climate change. Today's three-year-olds will grow up amid extreme weather events and deteriorating living conditions in many regions of the world.

Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

The report was published in 2022 and assessed future threats to societies not only in the context of climate change itself, but also other ongoing phenomena.

These include:

- **loss of biodiversity,**
- **excessive consumption,**
- **urbanization,**
- **destruction of natural areas.**



KEY CONCLUSIONS FROM THE IPCC REPORT

- almost half of the Earth's population lives in regions at high risk of climate change;
- threats are unevenly distributed within regions and most affect vulnerable social groups, e.g. people with low income;
- the possibilities of adapting to a changed climate will decrease as warming progresses;
- civil society is a valuable support in adapting to the effects of climate change, adaptation activities are progressing, but short-term solutions are preferred, while systemic changes are necessary, introduced in a socially fair way, i.e. one that treats citizens in a non-discriminatory manner and acts in accordance with the principle of solidarity and caring for the common good;
- not only scientific data is valuable, but also the knowledge of indigenous and local peoples;
- the increase in social and economic inequalities deepens the vulnerability of marginalized groups - threats are becoming more complex and therefore more difficult to control; this is because natural risks and anthropogenic pressures – caused by, for example, urbanization – drive each other.



UNESCO on climate education

- only just over half of the world's national curricula address climate change - as many as 47% of the curricula - out of 100 selected countries - have no education about climate change. In turn, in the case of the remaining 53%, this education occurs, but they do not attach much importance to it;
- climate change education should be at the core of every country's curriculum and cover all stages of learning;
- more emphasis should be placed on introducing climate change education in countries that emit more pollutants, teachers must be properly prepared to teach about climate change so that they feel confident in this area;
- climate education should address the "head", "heart" and "hands" equally, and teachers must be ready to teach holistically;
- teaching about climate change should become an integral part of national curricula and regulations, ministries of education and environment should cooperate on climate change education;



DOCC
DON'T CALL IT CHANGE

Sustainable development goals and human rights



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

- **The Sustainable Development Goals are a call for action by all countries** – poor, rich and middle-income – to promote prosperity while protecting the planet. They recognize that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that build economic growth and address a range of social needs including education, health, social protection, and job opportunities, while tackling climate change and environmental protection. More important than ever, the goals provide a critical framework for COVID-19 recovery.
- **The Sustainable Development Goals are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and improve the lives and prospects of everyone, everywhere.** The 17 Goals were adopted by all UN Member States in 2015, as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which set out a 15-year plan to achieve the Goals.
- **Today, progress is being made in many places**, but, overall, action to meet the Goals is not yet advancing at the speed or scale required. 2020 needs to usher in a decade of ambitious action to deliver the Goals by 2030.



**Thank you
for your attention!**

