

**Dear Representatives  
of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,**

We are primary and secondary school students and teachers, heads of schools and members of the schools' local communities in Austria, Czech Republic, Malta, Poland and Slovakia, and coordinators of the international project "Global Action Schools 2 Communities" which is implemented in more than 160 schools in our countries.

Two years ago, in 2009, we sent a letter to our representatives at the Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen. The most critical fact for us today is that since then, our political leaders have not managed to come up with a sustainable solution for one of the planet's most alarming problems – the progressing climate change and all its impacts and threats. The situation has not changed and we find ourselves here, having to send practically the same letter again. This makes us disappointed, angry and sad.

As representatives of the future generation and as active local and global citizens, we expect that in Durban this year, you will finally agree on binding commitments for the upcoming decisive period in the question of Climate Change. Your decisions will have an enormous impact on everyday life of each single person and living creature worldwide and, even more so, on the lives of future generations. It is too late to be pessimistic, it is too late to remain passive; it is time to act now!

A huge movement has emerged, consisting of many different initiatives and civil organisations all over the world, dedicated to a change in the negative climate process that has been observed during the last century. We see ourselves as part of this global movement and want to support you in the decision-making process. At the same time, we demand that you fulfil your obligations as elected representatives of your peoples. You are in a responsible position and we want and need you to act accordingly.

Global Action Schools across Europe and the World have been showing strong commitment to contribute to the solution of Climate Change for more than five years now, raising awareness, taking actions and encouraging politicians to undertake the necessary changes and commitments. Our schools want to contribute to a positive and sustainable change in climate policy and therefore we need your support and binding decisions in Durban.

In Durban, you are going to discuss one of the most important questions that can be raised. Climate Change affects every single person on this planet and it harms the most vulnerable groups in the poorest countries of the World the most. Although this is not only a political question, you must negotiate on the international political level, because it is the only possible way to solve the issue in the current international system of states as key actors.

We consider it your duty to find a lasting solution for saving our climate in order to ensure a proper and healthy lifestyle for the current and future generations as well as to find a sustainable solution which overcomes political and economic differences. By the same principle,

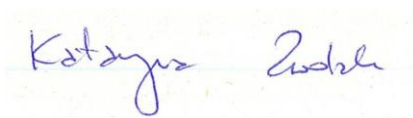
we consider it our duty to raise awareness among our students, teachers and local partners because we are aware of our role as important local actors. We trust that you are also aware of your crucial decisive role and your big chance for taking action at the UN Climate Change Conference 2011 in Durban.

We are sending this letter to you on behalf of Global Action Schools in Europe and on behalf of schools all around the globe. Global Action Schools reach out with their ideas and activities to schools worldwide to act respectfully together. We do our best to reduce global warming to secure sustainable environmental conditions worldwide and we demand of you to do the same.

On behalf of "Global Action Schools 2 Communities" project Partners,

Sincerely,

Katarzyna Zwolak

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Katarzyna Zwolak".

International Project Coordinator  
Polish Humanitarian Action

Silvia Marhold

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Silvia Marhold".

Project Coordinator Styria  
Welthaus Diözese Graz-Seckau