

In Support of Earth Strike

The NYU Graduate Student Organizing Committee wishes to express its support of the Earth Strike <u>campaign</u>, which is calling for a series of protests, followed by a worldwide general strike on September 27th demanding governments and corporations make binding commitments to decrease carbon emissions radically in the coming decades, end the destruction of wildlife habitats such as rainforests, and hold private corporations accountable for the damage they cause.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) projects that to prevent catastrophic damage to the environment, carbon emissions need to be reduced by 50% by 2030, and down to 0 by 2050. While this is an ambitious goal, it may be achievable if radical action is taken now to make it happen. While lack of government and personal action is a problem, private entities like corporations pose an even larger one: 100 polluters are responsible for over two-thirds of the emissions, and so far most international agreements have failed to acknowledge their responsibility.

The glacial pace at which progress has been made in the diplomatic ring on this issue is being far outpaced by the actual melting of glaciers. The scientists among us are appalled at the willingness to ignore decades of projections and data, and all of us are afraid of the effect this will have on young people, working people, and the poor of the world who will not have access to safe houses to stay in. As the union for graduate employees at NYU, GSOC views its work as part of a larger, intersectional movement for all workers' rights, health, and well-being. No sustainable, equitable economy is possible without addressing the climate crisis.

We urge the NYU administration as well as our fellow undergraduate student body to follow us in endorsing the Earth Strike campaign.

In Solidarity,
GSOC Political Solidarity Committee