

## PRESS RELEASE

KATOWICE / FRANKFURT AM MAIN, 7 DECEMBER 2018



Climate Alliance

# UN Climate Secretariat recognises children's action on climate

## 150,318 youngsters prove most active group ever in history of Climate Alliance Green Footprints campaign

**Katowice / Frankfurt am Main, 7 December 2018.** Today, a group of primary school children from Katowice presented their efforts on climate change along with their wishes for the future in a letter to the decision makers at the 24th UN Climate Summit. The pupils underline that their actions will be futile if they- the leaders- do not give them an example.

Andreas Wolter, Climate Alliance President and Mayor of the City of Cologne emphasized that "the children from our twin city Katowice are better role models than us adults. They just spring into action without debating on details year in and year out."

Over 1,200 schools spread across 9 European countries participated in the 2018 Green Footprints or ZOOM campaign. Together they collected some 2.2 million green footprints. Andreas Wolter presented footprints carrying the expectations of participating children as well as those of municipal representatives to UNFCCC Deputy Executive Secretary Mr. Ovais Sarmad. The ZOOM encourages children to reflect on sustainable mobility and lifestyle choices. This year's participants were the most active since the Paris Agreement, collecting even more green footprints per child for sustainable travel and behaviour in order to convince the decision makers in Katowice to draw up a strong action plan for our future as well.

### FURTHER INFORMATION

- **Photos for press use** (available as of 14:00 on 07 December 2018)
- Participates 2018 come from Austria, Belarus, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Macedonia, Netherlands, Poland and Sweden
- **Campaign results** (pdf) | **Campaign info sheet** (pdf)
- **Several wishes of participating children and statements of participating schools** (pdf)
- **Footprints of municipal representatives**
- Campaign website: [zoom-kidsforclimate.eu](http://zoom-kidsforclimate.eu)

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#### **THE GREEN FOOTPRINTS CAMPAIGN**

Since 2002, Climate Alliance's Green Footprints has been helping children across Europe learn about the influences of their daily actions on the climate and encouraging them to become role models for both their parents and climate politicians. During at least a one week period, children in participating classes collect so-called 'green footprints' for every sustainable trip completed via public transport, bike or foot as well as for other environmentally-friendly habits such as sustainable nutrition. These footprints are presented to the participants and politicians at the UNFCCC's annual Climate Conferences. [zoom-kidsforclimate.eu](http://zoom-kidsforclimate.eu)

#### **THE CLIMATE ALLIANCE**

For more than 25 years, Climate Alliance member municipalities have been acting in partnership with indigenous rainforest peoples for the benefit of the global climate. With some 1,700 members spread across 27 European countries, Climate Alliance is the world's largest city network dedicated to climate action and the only one to set tangible targets: each member city, town and district has committed itself to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 10 percent every 5 years. Recognising the impact our lifestyles can have on the world's most vulnerable people and places, Climate Alliance pairs local action with global responsibility. [climatealliance.org](http://climatealliance.org)

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