

# Advocacy Activity Guidelines

"We know the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now" (Romans 8:22)



### TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

A Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty (FFNPT), now!

# As people of faith, we hope for a better world and wish to act accordingly.

"Despite the many negotiations and agreements, global emissions continue to increase. [...] The necessary transition towards clean energy sources, such as wind and solar energy, and the abandonment of fossil fuels is not progressing at the necessary speed." His Holiness Pope Francis

"The fundamental criterion for an ecological ethic is not individualistic or commercial. It is deeply spiritual. For, the root of the environmental crisis lies in human greed and selfishness. What is asked of us is not greater technological skill, but deeper repentance for our wrongful and wasteful ways. What is demanded is a sense of sacrifice, which comes with cost but also brings about fulfillment. " <u>His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew</u>

"As people of faith, we don't just state our beliefs — we live them out. One belief is that we find purpose and joy in loving our neighbors. Another is that we are charged by our creator with taking good care of his creation. The moral crisis of climate change is an opportunity to find purpose and joy, and to respond to our creator's charge." Most Revd Justin Welby

We hope for a world free from the monopoly of fossil fuels! And we can act with hope by supporting FFNPT!

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# INTRODUCTION

This Season of Creation, Christians worldwide will raise awareness about the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty (FFNPT), a global framework to transition our world from coal, oil, and gas.

These activity guidelines provide you and your community with tools to understand better FFNPT and how you can take action. It includes (1) an overview of FFNPT with key talking points, (2) action ideas and (3) resources for taking action.

More advocacy resources will be continually uploaded to the Season of Creation website, so check back for ideas and inspiration.





# **AN OVERVIEW FFNPT**

The <u>Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty (FFNPT)</u> is an initiative that strives for an international agreement to phase out fossil fuel while ensuring a just global transition for workers, communities, and countries. The FFNPT complements the Paris Agreement (a legally binding international treaty on climate change to keep the global temperature under 1.5°C) by addressing the supply side of fossil fuels. Lessons learned from other successful global campaigns for international agreements - including the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, the Landmine Ban Treaty, and the Montreal Protocol - offer a model for the path to a Fossil Fuels Treaty.

The proposal for an FFNPT has gained significant momentum. Its three pillars are non-proliferation, global phase-out of existing production, and support for an equitable and just transition.

- Just transition: Fast-track the adoption of renewable energy and economic diversification away from fossil fuels so that no worker, community, or country is left behind
- 2. Non-proliferation: End the expansion of coal oil and gas production. Say no to new projects.
- 3. A fair phase-out: A fair plan for the wind-down of existing fossil fuel production, where nations with the capacity and historical responsibility for emissions transition fastest, providing support to others around the world.





The FFNPT would help to promote an international framework that recognizes economic measures to keep oil and coal reserves in the ground, unite leaders on a profoundly inequitable global problem, ensure that the transition is done fairly according to international standards, obtain support from rich countries to make the energy transition, diversify its productive basket away from dependence on coal and oil revenues, and generate international and national attention and publicity for greater leadership on the issue.

A treaty does not need to be universal to be effective. A grouping of 'driver' countries, including those most vulnerable to climate change, non-producers, and small and medium-sized producers, can exert significant influence by generating collaboration between consumer and producer countries to slow down production. They can also create new international legal standards and change the rules that flow down to the financial sector, subnational governments, and national policy-making. We are at a critical moment when we all have a role to play in addressing the climate crisis and realizing a more just future. We need international cooperation to explicitly halt the expansion of fossil fuels and manage a global, just transition away from coal, oil, and gas—a transition that is swift and just so that no worker, community, or country is left behind.

(ROMANS 8:22)

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# **Key talking points about FFNPT**

- Science speaks clearly: The Earth faces the impact of climate change, which is closely tied to carbon dioxide emissions linked to fossil fuels.
- Fossil fuel industries often prioritise greenwashing efforts over actively supporting the transition away from fossil fuels, despite scientific warnings and the needs of vulnerable communities.
- We trust divine guidance in our pursuit of equilibrium between urgency and enduring transformation. To achieve this, we wield a powerful global civil society tool that can drive lasting, transformative change while ensuring swift implementation: the FFNPT.
- The global Civil Society initiative at the United Nations began developing the 'Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty' shortly after the 2016 Paris Agreement.
- The Paris Agreement (2015) still has a substantial gap regarding fossil fuels. Up until 2023 they have not been mentioned at all in the agreement and now only have loose language to "transition away" from fossil fuels.
- The FFNPT's initiative strives for an international agreement that complements the Paris Agreement in addressing the still-growing supply of fossil fuels.
- Lessons learned from previous successful global initiatives, such as the Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty, the Landmine Ban Treaty, and the Montreal Protocol, provide a blueprint for approaching a Fossil Fuel Treaty.

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- As the principles of the Fossil Fuels Non-Proliferation Treaty continue to evolve, they offer an opportunity to reevaluate and challenge the technocratic mindset that drives environmental degradation. This mindset, characterized by a pursuit of infinite growth and unbridled ambition, treats the world merely as an object of exploitation.
- The established technocratic approach has demonstrated its role in fostering unsustainable production, consumption patterns, and lifestyles, perpetuating inequality and injustice (Laudato Si' paragraphs 5, 23, 59, 164).

# Blog posts to deepen the understanding

Throughout the whole Season of Creation, we will publish blog posts at <u>SeasonOfCreation.org</u> to help deepen the understanding of FFNPT and how it relates to other important issues for climate justice as people of faith. These topics will include renewable energies and financing, fossil fuel consumption, climate change denial, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, mining, as well as common misconceptions or myths related to FFNPT.

Check out the news to know





# **ACTION IDEAS**

Here are ways you can promote FFNPT during this Season of Creation 2024:

- Raise awareness about FFNPT. To help people of faith understand the need to phase out fossil fuels and engage in the campaign for the FFNPT, raising awareness is crucial. Communities are encouraged to hold talks and sign-up events to help people understand what FFNPT is and to call on faith leaders to sign.
- 2. Participate in the Season of Creation global day of action on 21 September. Communities are encouraged to hold and participate in events to call on political leaders to sign the FFNPT. Activities can range from education workshops, prayer services, vigils by faith communities, or events with faith leaders calling on political leaders to sign the Treaty.
- 3. Spread the news on social media Follow the Season of Creation campaign on our <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, and <u>X (formerly Twitter)</u> pages, and amplify our advocacy asks on your social media channels. Post your events on social media by using #SeasonOfCreation. Using this hashtag #SeasonofCreation will allow your actions to be visible on the Season of Creation website.

To help you share your action and amplify our united voice during the season, we have also prepared some sample social media messages (see below) that you can use to incorporate key messages about FFNPT.

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# **Endorsing the FFNPT**

- 4. For communities or individuals ready to go beyond awareness, we encourage you to endorse the FFNPT Faith Letter <u>here</u>. This Faith Letter serves as a tool for people of faith, individually or as an institution, to call on governments to develop and implement a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty.
- 5. You can also encourage others to endorse the FFNPT treaty in these ways:
- On the day of action, 21 September, get signatures for the FFNPT Faith Letter with a tablet or iPad.
- Share video messages from faith leaders and political leaders calling for other political leaders and other faith leaders to sign the FFNPT.
- Organize a public action to bring attention to the petition, such as vigils calling on faith and political leaders to endorse the call for an FFNPT.
- Encourage your leaders to attend the high-level webinar on FFNPT in September to sign the treaty. Details of the event will be published on the Season of Creation website, so stay tuned!
- After the day of action on 21 September, celebrate faith leaders and political leaders who have endorsed the FFNPT during the Season of Creation and prepare for the COP 29 push.





# RESOURCES

### Videos from faith leaders

Faith leaders from across the world are speaking out about FFNPT and why it matters to people of faith. Subscribe to the <u>YouTube channel for the Season of</u> <u>Creation</u> to watch them and share.

Check out the YouTube channel here

#### **Prayer for FFNPT**

Consider using this prayer in the events you organize during the season. You might also use portions of the prayer as part of the prayer petitions in your prayer services.

#### Loving Creator,

In this Season of Creation, as our sister and mother Earth groans in travail (Romans 8:22), and alongside her, all creatures, including humans, cry out over the damage caused by the climate crisis and biodiversity loss.

This is the Season for us to support and spread the Fossil Fuels Non-Proliferation Treaty, recognizing that we cannot remain indifferent to the suffering of humans and other creatures, to the alarming disappearance of many species, and to the existential threat that climate crises pose to many beings.





Our human dignity is the foundation of hope in the Season of Creation; it is a hopeful anticipation of a better future. Let us act with Creation to contribute to a better world, recognizing that one of the current wounds to the Earth is climate change, a wound intimately linked to carbon dioxide emissions from the use of fossil fuels.

We pray to God the Creator that fossil fuel industries, governments, and societies will join the call of science and the most vulnerable to move away from fossil fuels and to move fairly and safely to new forms of renewable energy with greater energy efficiency and sustainable lifestyles that are less dependent on fossil fuels.

We ask all this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

# Social Media Kit

We have prepared a special social media kit for you to use and help raise your voice about FFNPT during Season of Creation. The kit includes key template messages, designed flyers and posts that we encourage you to use freely.

Check out the social media kit here





## **Further resources**

The Laudato Si' Movement has prepared additional resources to help people understand FFNPT even more and take bolder action. Feel free to use and adapt these resources so they serve as tools for your community to understand and engage with FFNPT during this year's Season of Creation.

- A Briefing on FFNPT for SoC 2024
- FFNPT in the light of Laudato Si' and Laudate Deum
- Presentations for formation or talks
  - FFNPT 2024 training LSA short version.pptx
  - FFNPT 2024 brief version.pptx
  - LSM and the FFNPT internal training



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