



---

## JOINT STATEMENT

**Greenpeace protests against Gazprom's Arctic oil drilling was a "service to humanity"**

**Russia without legal grounds to charge crew of Arctic Sunrise and their exemplary act of civil disobedience**

November 2013

We, the signatories of this statement, Councillors of the World Future Council and recipients of the Right Livelihood Award, call upon the Russian authorities to immediately release the 28 Greenpeace activists and two journalists from the 'Arctic Sunrise' arrested for their peaceful protest of the Pirazlomnaya oil platform belonging to the international oil and gas company Gazprom. We are convinced that the allegations of piracy and hooliganism against the Greenpeace crew are baseless.

We further applaud the sober minded and non-violent protests against Gazprom's oil drilling in the Arctic, which poses a dangerous threat to the fragile Arctic environment and the global climate. We feel that the Greenpeace protest in the Arctic against oil drilling has drawn the world's attention to one of the most controversial plans of Gazprom and other oil companies: to consider the melting of the Arctic ice, a consequence of human induced climate change, as encouragement to extract more fossil resources. We see the protests in the Arctic as an exemplary act of civil disobedience and welcome the ongoing protests in support of the Greenpeace activists and against Arctic drilling in thousands of cities around the world.

We come to the conclusion that oil and gas drilling in the Arctic, and in particular in newly explored areas of the Arctic Ocean, would magnify existing hazards and create new problems without solving the energy crisis. Governments and the oil and gas industry might use economic interest to argue for the exploitation of untapped reserves in the Arctic Ocean. Not only does the economic benefit remain questionable, Arctic drilling also threatens the ability of future generations to inherit a healthy planet and of future Arctic populations to live in an intact environment.

Only a consequent development of renewable energies and energy efficiency and the corresponding redirection of investments can lead the way out of our devastating reliance on fossil fuels. Instead of investing billions in an outdated and dangerous resource, funds can be used to tap the huge renewable potentials of the Arctic and elsewhere.

**Signatories have signed in their individual capacity. Organizational affiliations are provided for informational purposes only:**

**Hafsat Abiola-Costello**, Member of the World Future Council; Founder of the Kudirat Initiative for Democracy (KIND), Nigeria

**Dr. Ibrahim Abouleish**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2003; Member of the World Future Council, Founder of SEKEM, Egypt

**Swami Agnivesh**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2004; Founder and Chairperson of Bandhua Mukti Morcha (Bonded Labour Liberation Front), India

**Annelies Allain and Marcos Arana**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1998; Representatives of the International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN), Switzerland

**Dr. Martín Almada**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2002; Founder of the Fundación Celestina Perez de Almada, Paraguay

**Uri Avnery**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2011; Founder of Gush Shalom, Israel

**Dr. h.c. Maude Barlow**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2005; Member of the World Future Council; First Senior Advisor to the UN on water issues; Chairperson of The Council of Canadians, Canada

**Nnimmo Bassey**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2010; Founder of Health of Mother Earth Foundation (HOMEF), Nigeria

**Dr. Walden Bello**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2003; Senior Analyst Focus on the Global South; Representative in the House of Representatives of the Philippines, Philippines

**Andràs Biró**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1995; Life Chair of Másság Foundation, Hungary

**Prof. Theo van Boven**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1985, the Netherlands

**Carmel Budiardjo**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1995, Co-Founder of Tapol, United Kingdom

**Prof. Ana María Cetto**, Member of the World Future Council; Research professor of the Institute of Physics and lecturer at the Faculty of Sciences, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico

**Helen Mack Chang**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1992, Fundación Myrna Mack, Guatemala

**Dr. Zafrullah Chowdhury**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1992; Founder of Gonoshasthaya Kendra (The People's Health Centre), Bangladesh

**Tony Colman**, Member of the World Future Council, Labour Member of Parliament, Entrepreneur, United Kingdom

**Erik Dammann**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1982; Founder of Future in Our Hands, Norway

**Tahia Devisscher**, Member of the World Future Council, Go4Biodiv Messenger; Research Fellow at the Stockholm Environment Institute in Oxford

**Nicholas Dunlop**, Member of the World Future Council, Co-founder and Secretary General, Climate Parliament, UK/New Zealand

**Dr. Riane Eisler**, Member of the World Future Council, President, Centre for Partnership Studies, author, United States of America

**Dr. Daniel Ellsberg**, Right Livelihood Laureate 2006; Senior Fellow of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, United States of America

**Dr. Scilla Elworthy**, Member of the World Future Council; Founder of the Oxford Research Group and Peace Direct; Director of Programmes for the World Peace Partnership, UK

**Prof. Anwar Fazal**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1982; Director of the Right Livelihood College, Malaysia

**Irene Fernandez**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2005; Founder of Tenaganita, Malaysia

**Dr. Juan Garcés**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1999, Spain

**Stephen and Ina May Gaskin**, Right Livelihood Award Laureates 1980 and 2011, United States of America

**Dr. Inge Genefke**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1988; Founder of International Rehabilitation and Research Centre for Torture Victims, Denmark

**Prof. Martin A. Green**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2002; Executive Research Director of the ARC Photovoltaics Centre of Excellence, School of Photovoltaic and Renewable Energy Engineering, University of New South Wales, Australia

**Dr. Monika Hauser**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2008; Executive Member of the Management Board of Medica Mondiale, Germany

**Dr. Hans R. Herren**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2013; Founder of the Biovision Foundation; Winner of the World Food Prize 1995, Switzerland

**Martín von Hildebrand**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1999; Founder and Director of Fundación GAIA Amazonas, Colombia

**Henk Hobbelink**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2011; Representative of Grain International, Spain

**SM Mohamed Idris**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1988; Founder and President of Sahabat Alam Malaysia; Founder and President of the Consumers' Association of Penang, Malaysia

**Wes Jackson**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2000; Member of the World Future Council; President of The Land Institute, United States of America

**Hayrettin Karaca**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2012; Co-Founder TEMA Foundation, Turkey

**Dr. Ashok Khosla**, Member of the World Future Council

**Dom Erwin Kräutler**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2010; Bishop of Xingu; President of the Indigenous Missionary Council of the Catholic Church in Brazil, Brazil

**Prof. Rolf Kreibich**, Member of the World Future Council, Former Scientific and Managing Director, Institute for Future Studies and Technology Assessment, Germany

**Dr. David Krieger**, Member of the World Future Council; Co-Founder and President of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, United States of America

**Dr. med. Katarina Kruhonja**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1998; Founder and Director of the Centre for Peace, Non-violence and Human Rights, Croatia

**Dr. Ida Kuklina**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1996; Member of the Union of Soldiers Mothers Committees of Russia Coordination Council; Member of the Council of RF President for Development Civic Society and Human Rights, Russia

**Birsel Lemke**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2000; Founder of HAYIR, Turkey

**Prof. Alexander Likhotal**, Member of the World Future Council; President of Green Cross International, Russia

**Hunter Lovins**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1983; Founder of National Capitalism Inc., United States of America

**Wanjira Maathai**, Member of the World Future Council; Vice Chair, Green Belt Movement; Project Leader, Wangari Maathai Institute for Peace & Environmental Studies, Kenya/United States of America

**Dr. Rama Mani**, Member of the World Future Council; Co-Convenor of Agents of Transformation; Vice-Chair of the Academic Council on the United Nations

System

**Tappio Mattlar**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1992; Representative of Finnish Village Action Movement, Finland

**Prof. Manfred Max-Neef**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1983; Member of the World Future Council; Director of the Economics Institute, Universidad Austral de Chile, Chile

**Prof. Raúl A. Montenegro**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2004; Professor at the National University of Cordoba; President of the Environment Defense Foundation FUNAM, Argentina

**Dr. h.c. Frances Moore Lappé**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1987; Member of the World Future Council; Founder of the Small Planet Institute, United States of America

**Dr. Denis Mukwege**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2013; Founder of Panzi Hospital, Democratic Republic of Congo

**Anna R. Oposa**, Member of the World Future Council; Co-Founder of Save Philippine Seas and Global Shaper, Manila Hub, World Economic Forum, Philippines

**Dr. Katiana Orlic**, Member of the World Future Council; Director of Development/Strategic Affairs, Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary (TBA21)

**Juan Pablo Orrego**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1998; President of Ecosistemas, Chile

**Medha Patkar**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1991; Co-Founder Narmada Bachao Andolan and National Alliance of People's Movement, India

**Nicanor Perlas**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2003; Co-Founder and President of the Center for Alternative Development Initiatives, Philippines

**Dr. Vithal Rajan**, Member of the World Future Council; Member of the Jury of the Right Livelihood Award; Vice-President of Oxfam India; Chairman of the Confederation of Voluntary Associations, India

**P. K. Ravindran**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1996; Kerala Sastra Sahitya Parishat, India

**Dr. Sima Samar**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2012; Chairperson of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission, Afghanistan

**Prof. Vandana Shiva**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1993; Member of the World Future Council; Founder of the Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology and the India-based NAVDANYA network, India

**Prof. em. Michael Succow**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1997; Founder of the Michael Succow Foundation for Nature Conservation, Germany

**Suciwati**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2000; widow of Munir, Indonesia

**Dr. Hanumappa Sudarshan**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1994; Founder of Karuna Trust and Vivekanada Girijana Kalyana Kendra (VGKK), India

**Prof. David Suzuki**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2009; Co-Founder of the David Suzuki Foundation, Canada

**Pauline Tangiora**, Member of the World Future Council; Maori elder of the Rongomaiwahine Tribe, New Zealand

**Alice Tepper Marlin**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1990; Co-Founder of Social Accountability International, United States of America

**Vesna Teršelič**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1998; Co-Founder of Croatian Anti-War Campaign (ARK), Croatia

**Shrikrishna Upadhyay**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2010; Executive Chairman, Support Activities for Poor Producers of Nepal, Nepal

**Janos Vargha**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1985; Founder of Duna Kör, Hungary

**Judit Vásárhelyi**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 1985; Representative of Duna Kör, Hungary

**Dr. Paul Walker**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2013; Director of Environmental Security and Sustainability Program at Green Cross International, United States of America

**Alyn Ware**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2009; Member of the World Future Council; Founder and international coordinator of the Network Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament (PNND), New Zealand - Aotearoa

**Francisco Whitaker Ferreira**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2006; Member of the World Future Council; Co-Founder of the World Social Forum, Brazil

**Anders Wijkman**, Member of the World Future Council, co-president of the Club of Rome, former president of Globe EU, former member of the European Parliament (1999–2009), Sweden

**Dr. Yukio Yamaguchi**, Co-Director of Citizens' Nuclear Information Center (founded by Jinzaburo Takagi, RLA 1997), Japan.

**Angie Zelter**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2001; Founder of Trident Ploughshares, United Kingdom

**Elena Zhemkova**, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2004; Executive Director of Memorial, Russia