

# This Is Not About Polar Bears: Let's Combine Social and Ecological Struggles!

## *Join the Frankfurt Protests from May 16-17*

From May 16 through 19, thousands of people will take over Frankfurt's streets. The spending cuts imposed by the Troika of the European Central Bank, the IMF and the European Commission finally meet with resistance in Germany as well.

The crisis is not just a European crisis, or a crisis of debt, or of the banks. Rather, it is a fundamental crisis of our entire mode of life:

By producing **competition** and permanent **expansion** (often euphemistically labeled "economic growth") as a structurally inherent constraint, the dominant **economic system** destroys the **natural foundations of our lives** in an ever more extensive and rapid manner.

**Hunger** is becoming increasingly widespread, due to capital's speculation with food as a result of its search for new opportunities for valorization, among other things;

**areas that are crucial to human survival such as access to clean drinking water are being subordinated to a ruthless logic of profit;**

under the guise of attempting to reduce sovereign debt, **hard-won democratic rights are being dismantled.**

These are only a few of the numerous elements of the pervasive crisis of an economic system that, even in the face of **climate change** and other **ecological catastrophes**, remains unable to change direction and continues to approach the abyss at high speed.

The crisis in all its forms is where we need to intervene; in many places we are already interrupting the regular operations of the system:

At **Frankfurt Airport and elsewhere**, we are protesting against air traffic noise as well as the most carbon-intensive mode of travel. We engage in struggles against coal-fired power plants in **Hamburg-Moorburg, Datteln, Jänschwalde, Staudinger** and many other places because they harm the environment. In the **Lausitz area** and in the brown **coal districts along the Rhine**, we are fighting against the removal of entire villages by strip mining and against the "deep geological repository" of CO<sub>2</sub>, so-called carbon capture and storage.

In **Gronau**, we keep demanding the shut-down of the uranium enrichment facility. In **Gorleben, Morsleben, Ahaus, Lubmin**, at the Asse II pit and the **Konrad pit**, we oppose nuclear waste disposal sites.

In thousands of places, we are attacking the large energy corporations. Initiatives are fighting for the **re-municipalization** or direct **socialization of energy services**. We stand united against the practice of disconnecting people's electricity supply.

Our protests against pointless **climate negotiations** and our counter summits, such as the one in **Cochabamba**, make our international solidarity real. Allied with subsistence farmers, we struggle for

**solidarity-based agriculture and food sovereignty.**

At the same time, all our local struggles are an expression of our resistance against the underlying global ecological crisis that requires a comprehensive and joint response. That makes us part of a much broader movement against the dominant economic system, against capitalism.

Frankfurt is the place where we will make this nexus palpable and visible. We, activists from ecological movements and struggles, will also join the protests.

**Join us as well, and come to Frankfurt in huge numbers!**

On **May 17**, use squares and parks to create symbols of the ecological crisis.

Contribute to the ecology finger of the **ECB blockades on May 18!** With vats, white protective suits and breathing protection, we'll be symbolizing numerous ecological crises. Bring diving goggles and snorkels to represent rising sea-levels.

Become part of the "**Let's flood Frankfurt**" actions and carry your protest right to the headquarters of the banks and corporations whose profits are derived from environmental destruction.

Participate in the **international demonstration** on Saturday, **May 19**, by making your local struggles as well as your global solidarity visible.

**Against capitalism – for self-determination and preserving the foundations of our lives.**

***[www.blockupy-frankfurt.org/](http://www.blockupy-frankfurt.org/)***