

CLIMATE CHANGE? LET'S BE THE CHANGE!

21.07.-25.07.2025 @UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA

25 interdisciplinary student from the 9 Circle U. partner universities gathered at the University of Vienna for a one-week summer school on climate action.

Our summer school was entirely organised by students for students and was realised by means of the Circle U. Seedfunding Scheme 2024.

Who we are

We are the Student Network for Climate Action (SNCA) – a group of motivated students from across Europe who came together through the Circle U. alliance. Our shared commitment is to address the climate crisis by taking responsibility, learning from one another and creating spaces for interdisciplinary collaboration.



Our Mission

Our mission is to empower students to take responsibility for climate action by creating inclusive, interdisciplinary, and hands-on learning spaces. We believe that sustainability is not only a topic to be studied but a practice to be lived. Through student-led projects, we connect theory with everyday action, build networks across disciplines and borders, and foster a spirit of collaboration that enables young people to grow as thinkers, creators, and changemakers.

Our Actions

At the core of SNCA is the belief that student-driven learning and teaching should be intertwined, with knowledge exchange at its foundation. Through an interdisciplinary approach, participants can best tackle climate change from multiple perspectives, developing tangible projects and strategies.

We don't just talk about change. We create it.



Developing climate related initiatives



Establishing a strong, vibrant student network



Embracing interdisciplinarity



A student-led learning experience

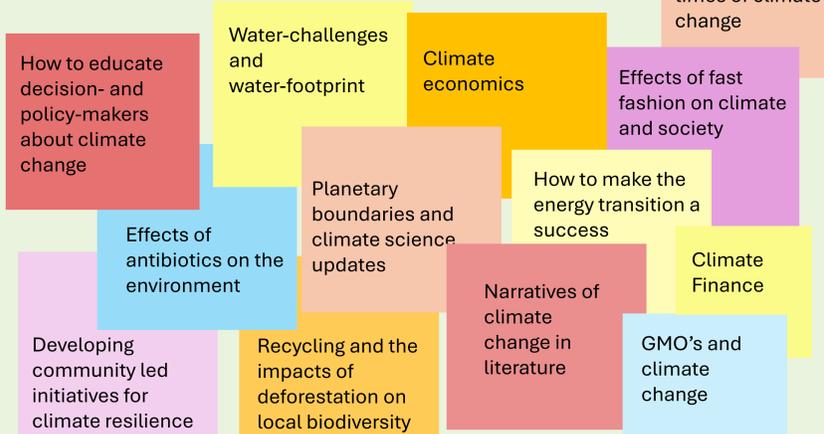
Timeline	July 2024	Aug-Oct 2024	Dec 2024	Dec - Feb 2025	March 2025	May 2025	21-25 July 2025	Oct 2025
	<p>Circle U. summer school „Empowering Climate Action: Policy, Communication & Agency“ @Humboldt University: 25 highly motivated students meet for the first time. After one week we are certain: We want to keep working on the ideas this summer school experience has prompted.</p>	<p>Seedfunding Application 9 students of the Berlin summer school unite to form the organising team of our student project and lay its foundations in the seedfunding application.</p>	<p>We got the Seedfund!!!! We actually get the chance to realise our idea! We found the SNCA (Student Network on Climate Action), create our own website* and develop the programme of our summer school.</p>	<p>Let's get to work We receive support by our faculties, student representatives and the universities' mobility offices. Now we'll be able to offer financial support to incoming students!</p>	<p>Applications The planning of our summer school continues as participants sign up and hand in proposals for student-led classes.</p>	<p>It's Kickoff Time! All participants of meet for the first time in an online kickoff session, where we present the course programme and set tasks to prepare for the programme.</p>	<p>Climate Change? LET'S BE THE CHANGE! 25 students from all over Europe arrive in Vienna and step up to make this project a huge success. We share knowledge, take action, form friendships and make this week memorable.</p>	<p>We did it! What next? Fueled by the success of our first student-led summer school, the SNCA comes together again and applies for the Circle U. Seedfunding Scheme 2025 with our next student initiative, the „SNCA ACTION LABS“!</p>

Outline

- 5-day-summer school @University of Vienna for 25 **international, interdisciplinary** students from the 9 Circle U. partner universities
- Entirely organised and designed **by students for students** to enable an open minded space for exchange – free of performance and grading pressure
- Funding of students' participation, course materials and programme activities through the **Circle U. Seedfunding Scheme 2024**
- Students could sign up to organise and design classes on a climate change- related topic of their choice (academic or personal interest) – in the format of lectures, workshops, discussion forums, scavenger hunts, games, etc.

Summer School Programme and Activities

• In total, **13 student classes** were conducted by 17 students:



- **Prof. Fabio Lampert** (University of Vienna, Department of Philosophy) gave a talk on “On Consensus and Dissensus in Climate Science”
- **Guided tours** of United Nations Vienna and Spittelau Waste Incineration Plant
- **Morning sport sessions:** yoga / city bike tour / frisbee / swimming
- **Fun leisure time activities:** picnic and board games / city walk / pub crawl / climate action based game of Werewolf / social dinners / ...

*Scan here to check out our website!



Impact

- Empowered students to take leadership in climate action and responsibility for their learning experience
- Translated theoretical knowledge and interests into practical, action-oriented outcomes
- Created a lasting student network on climate action
- Strengthened the Circle U. network by deepening collaboration among students from all nine partner universities

...made friends, had fun, learned loads!

