

S/M5.004|2-20|

## MANDATE

### **Mandate for Action on the 2020 Climate Bill**

Submitted by: Aoife Hynes (Green Campus Senator & Sustainability Caucus Leader)

Seconded by: Gavin Fanning (DARE Senator) & the Sustainability Caucus including Michaela Waters (HEAR Senator), Liam Cosgrove (Active Citizenship Senator), Anna Travers (Social Sciences Faculty Assembly Member)

#### **Student Senate recognises:**

That we are at an unprecedented point in history. The Sustainability Crisis has placed us in an unstable and fragile position. Extreme weather events and temperatures are on the rise and are already causing havoc for many nations. The entire ecological system which has allowed us to evolve, has provided food, water, air for millions of years and has supplied the materials for our technological advancements is on the verge of utter collapse. Man-made climate change and this 6th mass extinction will have severe consequences.

#### **Student Senate further recognises:**

This crisis is a human rights issue. Many of the most severe effects are felt by “underdeveloped” nations, who have contributed the least to the current crisis. India is already experiencing extreme floods, East Africa droughts and famine, Kiribati is sinking below the waves and the world is facing the Corona virus pandemic (a result of habitat destruction and wildlife trafficking).

It is of utmost importance that MSU take action against the rising climate crisis. We are privileged to have a country where we can speak our mind without threat of violence or death – unlike the 219 environmental and indigenous land defenders murdered in 2019 alone. There are people on the front lines of this War on Life who risk death every time they raise their voice or dare to defend themselves.

#### **Student Senate further recognises:**

The Climate Bill 2020 published by the current government is inadequate. It does not reflect the seriousness of the current climate crisis and lacks the ambition we need for real change. MSU must take action to pressure our government to take meaningful and well-planned action to tackle the Climate Crisis.

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**Student Senate therefore mandates:**

That Maynooth Students' Union take the following three steps:

- 1) Publish an open letter detailing our demands for change in the current Climate Bill and reasoning why.
- 2) Run an email campaign to elected representatives include TDs and councillors.
- 3) Ally themselves with the Climate Bill campaign of an already active organisation such as Friends of the Earth Ireland, Extinction Rebellion or others.