

CLIMATE EMERGENCY INSTITUTE

The Health and Human Rights Approach to Climate Change

PRESS RELEASE

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Europe's 2017 Heatwave and Global Carbon Catastrophe Heading Atmospheric CO2 Continues to Accelerate in 2017 Northern Hemisphere Warming for 2017 Is Running at Last Year's Record High

Governments are failing to recognize that the planet is facing a dire emergency due to the acceleration of atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations and surface warming particularly of northern hemisphere, according to Dr. Peter Carter of the Climate Emergency Institute.

Dr. Carter attended the European Geosciences Union General Assembly in Vienna, Austria in April 2017, where he presented the latest data showing the acceleration of atmospheric greenhouse gas pollution and its direct effects.

Southern Europe's extreme and early 2017 heat wave is a result of exceptionally high surface warming affecting Europe, as shown by the Copernicus climate change service. Russia and US south west are similarly affected.

https://climate.copernicus.eu/resources/data-analysis/average-surface-air-temperature-analysis/monthly-maps/june-2017

Northern hemisphere surface warming from NASA GISS for 2016 was 1.48°C.

For March, April, May 2017 it was even higher at 1.55°C.

This is despite the absence of the 2015-2016 EL Nino.

http://www.stateofourclimate.com/egu_2017.html

This year's just-released NOAA Annual Greenhouse Gas Index found that atmospheric CO2 equivalent was 489 parts per million of air. Atmospheric CO2 equivalent includes the powerful greenhouse gases methane and nitrous oxide, as well as CO2. It has increased 40% since 1990. https://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/aggi/

Today, Dr. Carter reports, the latest NOAA data (posted on his site StateofOurClimate.com) shows that there is no let-up in the accelerating increase of atmospheric CO2.

https://static.secure.website/wscfus/9167827/6120297/co2-noaa-scripps-06-16-july-17.png

On 26 April 2017, atmospheric CO2 spiked up to a stunning new daily record of 412.63 ppm. May 2017 was a record month at 409.65 ppm, with a record week of 410.36 ppm.

https://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/ccgg/trends/graph.html (scroll down to Mauna Loa Daily, Monthly and Weekly Averages for two years)

Today's accelerating CO2, with these atmospheric CO2 records, comes despite fossil fuel CO2 emissions being flat from 2014, as reported by the International Energy Agency.

https://www.iea.org/newsroom/news/2017/march/iea-finds-co2-emissions-flat-for-third-straight-year-even-as-global-economy-grew.html

A shocking new paper shows that even a slow and steady increase in atmospheric CO2 has in the past led to abrupt extreme warming.

https://www.awi.de/nc/en/about-us/service/press/press-release/wie-sich-das-klima-an-kipppunkten-in-kurzer-zeit-aendert.html

The NASA GISS average temperature increase for the northern hemisphere spring of 2017 (March/April/May) is 1.55°C from pre-industrial (1881-1920), and this is without the big El Niño that boosted the 2015 and 2016 temperature records. 2016 northern hemisphere warming was 1.48°C.

The latest estimate from Climate Interactive is that combined national emissions targets will lead to 3.3°C of warming, up to a possible 4.2°C by 2100.

https://www.climateinteractive.org/programs/scoreboard/

These degrees of climate change are projected to have devastating effects on world food production. May 2017 research from the UK Met Office indicates that at these degrees of climate disruption, extreme heat and drought can lead to multiple crop failures in the northern hemisphere breadbasket regions, with catastrophic consequences for world food supply.

See Guardian article 15 July 2017 https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/jul/15/climate-change-food-famine-study http://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/aa6cb9/pdf

Dr. Carter also released a video, which is available for free distribution, to warn about the potentially catastrophic consequences of these latest findings: https://youtu.be/kdsipNdZ_5w

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