



CURIA GENERALIZIA DELLA COMPAGNIA DI GESÙ
Segretariato per la Giustizia Sociale e l'Ecologia (SJES)



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Message of Solidarity with young activists

From Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat (SJES) Rome, I appreciate the courage and determination of the young German activists who are raising their voices in a peaceful, non-violent way calling for civil disobedience towards climate emergency action. I do believe that these youngsters, though may sound unrealistic, the EU leaders and all of us must listen to their voices from the scientific facts that are there for everyone to see. We know how the shifting weather patterns, rising sea levels and more extreme weather conditions are disproportionately affecting the poor and the vulnerable. But let us remember that it is not only the poor in Asia or somewhere else in Latin America getting affected by them. Such calamities are at our doorsteps in Europe now. Remember the flash flood in Germany, Belgium and Netherlands in July 2021 and later in November in Calabria, Italy. Remember the increasing number of hurricanes and flash floods in US in the recent years. For some, blocking motorways may seem to anticipate disruptions which will arise in the foreseeable future for all due to climate change and which are already a day-to-day reality in other parts of the world.

I sincerely hope that the voices of these young German activists are heard at the portals of power at EU and the non-violent *satyagraha*, advocated by Mahatma Gandhi, keep resonating in everyone's ears. Let us take bold measures in the coming years at all levels to prevent further climate crisis and crossing tipping points.

In Solidarity,

Xavier Jeyaraj SJ
Secretary, SJES