

## **Footprint Justice**

Press Release, April 25, 2024.

<https://Footprint-Justice.com>

### **Press kit:**

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1bVLgstt6e6c58CsdRARliUNZ48Z-p6JP>

Artist Paolo Cirio presents his new campaign, *Footprint Justice*, envisioning a Carbon Tax for Climate Justice, where citizens with a lower carbon footprint gain free access to public transportation and receive credits for using trains, buses, metro, and trams.

The financial revenue to compensate citizens and fund public transportation will come from taxing fossil fuel companies, which have made enormous profits for decades, a situation exacerbated by recent wars and the energy crisis.

Cirio has initiated the visionary movement *Footprint Justice*, promoting the concept of Carbon Justice with posters in the streets and interventions on buses, trains, and the metro in Paris, Strasbourg, Milan, Venice, and other European cities.

The campaign focus on the main fossil fuel company in continental Europe, Total Energy, the French multinational has the highest revenues in Europe and it is expanding production in Africa, and worldwide, with the permission of the French governments and European Commission.

Photos and videos of the interventions are circulating on social media, with statements by influencers explaining the concept and the campaign. Ultimately, Cirio designed a petition in the form of postcards and emails, which are sent to the European Commission to advocate for a more fair Carbon Tax across Europe and for subsidizing public transportation rather than fossil fuels by taxing the major greenhouse gas emitters, such as Total Energy. For this campaign, Cirio partnered with climate activists in France.

The project *Footprint Justice* is commissioned by the Lethica Institute of the Strasbourg University. Paolo Cirio has been an artist in residency at the Lethica Institute and lecturer at the Strasbourg University, with his course "Ethics of Climate Aesthetics" in the academic years 2023-2024. During his residency, Cirio launched a campaign to address the ethics of climate change, aiming to make them accessible to everyone. Employing subtle irony, the project seeks to popularize the ethics behind the concept of the Carbon Footprint, highlighting the accountability of major fossil fuel companies like Total Energy and critiquing weak European climate policies.

In parallel to this project, Paolo Cirio launched a new book, which is the culmination of years of his research into the ethics and aesthetics of climate change. Titled *Climate Tribunal*, the book focuses particularly on the accountability of the fossil fuel industry, employing philosophical, political, economic, and legal arguments. Cirio introduced the concept of the *Climate Tribunal* in 2021, with a series of artworks, exhibitions, and campaigns. Alongside the *Footprint Justice* campaign in Europe, Cirio is currently leading the *Climate Class Action* campaign in the United States.

### **Social media of the project *Footprint Justice*:**

<https://Footprint-Justice.com>

<https://www.instagram.com/Footprint.Justice>

<https://www.facebook.com/Footprint.Justice>

<https://www.youtube.com/@FootprintJustice>

<https://twitter.com/FootprintJust>

### **Website of Paolo Cirio:**

<https://paolocirio.net/work/footprint-justice/>

### **Book *Climate Tribunal* by Paolo Cirio:**

[https://paolocirio.net/press/media/Climate\\_Tribunal-book-2024.pdf](https://paolocirio.net/press/media/Climate_Tribunal-book-2024.pdf)

<https://www.lulu.com/shop/paolo-cirio/climate-tribunal/paperback/product-2mm7yvd.html>

### **Lethica Institute at Strasbourg University:**

# Littératures, éthique & arts | Lethica

Les Instituts thématiques interdisciplinaires de l'Université de Strasbourg

&  & 