

# The Cosmopolitan

Monday

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Edition #3



## What happened? A recap of the environmental week

**STELLA K.**

From the second to the sixth of May, BCS's climate action group, Cosmo For Future, or CFF for short, hosted a BCS Environmental Week, to spread awareness on the topic of climate change and encourage activism. There were a few things Cosmo For Future organized: In the cafeteria, there was a bulletin board with information regarding climate change, and a map of Berlin with several locations of shops that sell environmentally friendly products. It's still in the cafeteria if you want to have a look at it. Secondly, CFF asked teachers to preferably teach lessons that are environmentally themed, which depended on the teacher's ability to do so. The main event came on Thursday: at 9:45, there was an assembly in the back courtyard. Starring: Dietrich Brockhagen from atmosfair. Atmosfair is a company that you can donate to when you travel by plane, for example, and they compensate the CO<sub>2</sub> you produced on your flight. They do so by subsidizing renewable energies in developing countries that are often reliable on fossil fuels. Mr. Brockhagen explained a bit about the company, showed a few images and talked about the projects they're running, and, finally, about the solar-powered bike he'd brought along. In the end, there was a question session. BCS students seemed very interested, particularly in the solar bike. Cosmo For Future is considering a bike-building workshop next year.

At the assembly, Cosmo For Future reminded everyone of the quiz that was scheduled for Friday. It was a kahoot quiz, about climate change, naturally. You could sign up in brunch for the whole week, for 5 euros that would then be donated to atmosfair. However, BCS students needed encouragement. The entrance fee was lowered on Thursday, 2.50 euros for a ticket and the websites to get information from. For 5 euros, you would get a cheat-sheet with more specified information. On Friday, tickets were ultimately free. In the end, 25 people participated. Arnav Chaudhary from 7b came third place, winning a T-Shirt or Hoodie with the Cosmo For Future logo that can be worn in school, the second place went to Tuana Önel from IBDP 11th grade, who won a Tote-bag, also with the Cosmo For Future logo, and, finally, Margarete Reinhardt came first place. Instead of receiving her prize of a 20-euro coupon for one of the previously mentioned sustainable shops, she generously donated the money to Atmosfair.

The week may be over, but climate change isn't, sadly. Which is why we put together this newspaper to inform and educate you about this pressing matter. I hope you enjoy it!

### Climate Action Week, Day 4

**Atmosfair**

**AENEAS T**

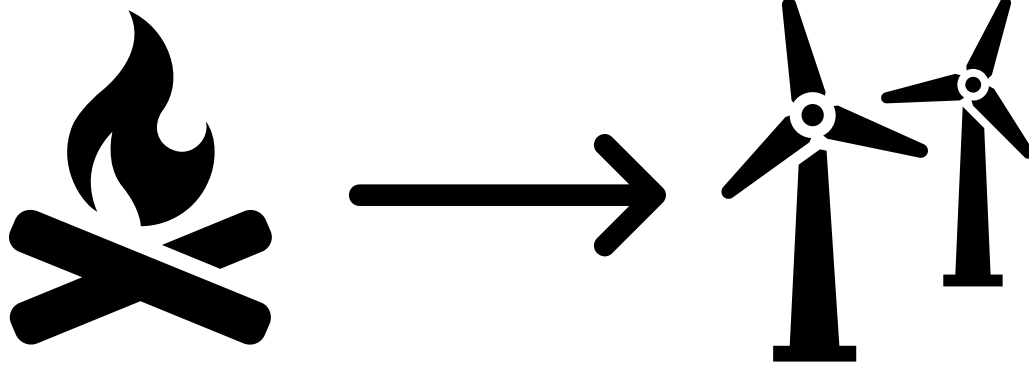
I bet we were all excited to miss two lessons when we were pulled out of our current lesson to what felt like the first assembly in years. I bet a lot of us thought that it might get a little boring and I bet all of us were positively surprised. In case you already forgot about that fresh spring morning, here's a quick recap of day four of Cosmo for Future's Climate Action Week, a recap of the grand Atmosfair Assembly.

I still vividly remember entering the back courtyard. It was May 5th, 09:35. There was already almost half of secondary school sitting on chairs, surrounding a big screen, watching what seemed to be old Social Studies video projects. As the number of students carrying their chairs into the courtyard increased and the number of video projects still available to watch decreased, it was clear, something needed to happen. At last, when all the secondary students were gathered, the show could finally begin.

A short Introduction by Cosmo for Future was then followed by a long, thorough presentation by Dietrich Brockhagen, the founder of, "Atmosfair". To refresh your minds a little, Atmosfair is a non-profit organisation founded in Germany. They have developed an emissions calculator where clients can learn about the emissions of their travel. The customers may then donate an amount of money in order to compensate for the emissions. With these donations climate-friendly projects are financed, for example, wind, solar and hydro energy projects or energy conservation measures and education.

After the presentation, it was time for questions! A lot of students had a lot of questions, especially about the solar-panel-powered bike Atmosfair brought with them. And then it was time to take the chairs back upstairs. It was a big chaos and a lot of curious primary students leaned so far out of the window their teachers had to hold them back.

In light of the many terrible climate catastrophes our planet has been experiencing during the last few years, with forests burning, our ice caps melting, floods and hurricanes destroying entire landscapes, I do find it calming that innovative organisations like Atmosfair are constantly looking for new solutions and that there seems to be a sense of hope and ambition as well as a readiness to save our planet.



## An embargo on Russian oil – a first step?

**ALISA K.**

Ukraine is currently at war and the most important factor that may affect the tragedy is the embargo on Russian minerals by EU countries. Every day, the EU pays hundreds of millions of euros to the Kremlin's regime for oil, coal and gas. Currently, the embargo is imposed by the EU only on the supply of coal, but it is delayed until the end of summer. According to the International Energy Agency, Russia is the world's largest exporter of oil to global markets, and its natural gas feeds the European economy. This is not the first time that Russian military aggression has prompted world leaders to worry about energy security, so the biggest question facing world leaders right now is how to break their energy dependence on Russia.

In this perspective, many people are worried about the future of the European and German economy in particular, because they hear about the embargo, but don't understand what comes next. During the talks on the embargo, the issue of not only the abandonment of Russian oil and gas, but also the transition to renewable energy sources became more relevant. Three days after Russian tanks crossed the Ukrainian border, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz commented: "A responsible, far-sighted energy policy is crucial not only for our economy and our climate, but also for our security. Because the sooner we move forward with expanding the use of renewable energy, the better."

In a poll conducted by Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, 77 per cent favoured rapidly expanding the use of renewable energy sources. From a perspective of climate change, the events of the last few months mean that we must resolutely undertake the restructuring of the energy sector and its decarbonisation.

After all, the use of coal in the energy sector today remains the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions. The energy sector, in terms of only CO<sub>2</sub> has about 70-72% of all greenhouse gas emissions. If one adds methane, the emissions of which come from mines (coalbed methane) and leaks from pipelines or production wells, they can easily approach 80% of emissions.

Therefore, even if we can handle all the other gases, if we reduce their emissions to zero, we will not solve the problem. Nothing will be done until we are in the fossil fuel sector. This is a crucial issue. Fundamental and complete decarbonisation of the entire energy sector by 2050 is a key requirement for achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement. What we do in 2030 will determine whether we will slow warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius - a level that scientists agree will help avoid the worst effects of climate change. Energy can make opportunities for change. For the 759 million people within the world who are missing access to electricity, the usage of clean solutions can bring crucial services such as progressed health care, way better education and approachable broadband access, job creation, employments and economic-financial significance for poverty reduction. The energy transformation, based on renewable energy and energy effectiveness, is critically required not only to accelerate economic progress and development, but moreover to diminish emissions that are rapidly warming our planet. Currently, the energy sector, overwhelmed by fossil fuels, accounts for 73 per cent of anthropogenic greenhouse gas outflows. Global CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions must be reduced in half by 2030 to avoid expanding the frequency and severity of dangerous and unprecedented extreme climate conditions, counting heat waves, devastating floods and droughts, food and water security dangers, population displacement and loss of life and livelihoods.

Green energy must now grow faster than ever before. Not only because it is ecological and it is necessary to save the planet, but first of all because it is a way to energy independence of the countries. And this is why that's so important that the EU reduces its reliance on Russian gas, as a step towards moving from fossil fuels entirely and ending a tragedy in Ukraine.

## Greenwashing

**HELIN T. & AIMÉE G.**

### Was ist Greenwashing?

Dies beschreibt ein Unternehmen, das irreführende oder falsche Behauptungen über seinen Einsatz für die Umwelt aufstellt.

Greenwashing liegt nach den Kriterien von Greenpeace vor, wenn:

- Es wird viel Geld für Werbung als für Umwelt Zwecke (z.B. bei der Krombacher Regenwaldkampagne) ausgegeben.
- Das Geschäft selbst ist schon umweltschädlich (z.B. Schifffahrt, Kohle- oder Ölindustrie) und wirbt dennoch mit Umweltfreundlichkeit.

Erfahren Sie, wie Sie Greenwashing erkennen und verhindern können. Hier sind einige Tipps:

- Wenn beispielsweise Vorschriften und Gesetze eingehalten werden, ist dies kein umweltfreundliches Verhalten, aber es bewirkt Folgendes: Einhaltung der Gesetze (z. B. wenn bald das erste Unternehmen ankündigt, ab 2021 keine Plastikstrohhalm mehr zu verwenden)
- Hüten Sie sich vor Produkten, die generische Behauptungen wie „100 % natürlich“ oder „umweltfreundlich“, ohne Informationen darüber zu geben, wie oder warum.
- Vermeiden Sie Produkte mit irrelevanten Aussagen wie „FCKW-frei“ (FCKW wurde vor mehr als 20 Jahren verboten).
- Suchen Sie nach einem Aufkleber oder Prüfzeichen von einem anerkannten unabhängigen Dritten, der sich auf grüne Forderungen spezialisiert hat.
- Achten Sie auf die Verpackung: Ist die Verpackung grün, auch wenn das Produkt grün ist?
- Lassen Sie sich nicht von schönen Bildern und umweltfreundlichen Farben auf Produktetiketten täuschen. Das McDonalds- oder Coca-Cola-Logo mag grün sein, aber das ist nicht umweltfreundlich.
- Fordern sie einen Prozentsatz von Fragen wie „Dieses Produkt enthält 50 % mehr recycelten Inhalt“ 50 Prozent mehr als alles andere?



## GSL Competition Project

8B

During this semester, class 8b participated at the Global Social Leaders competition, trying to achieve some of the 19 UN goals with their brand, which each group needed to create. Here you will get the description of each group's project:

### ZeroW - Grade 8 Economics Project (Bisher, Aeneas, Lara, Emil)

When we were asked to start a project in Economics, we chose to help tackle the **Social Development Goal 2: Zero Hunger**. We always knew that there is a lot of untouched food waste at our school each day. We found out that the amount of food waste is 5 - 20 kg each day, by interviewing the cafeteria. Our idea is to bring the food to people in need. By doing this, we can reduce the amount of food waste at our school, and we are able to reduce the amount of hunger. We are starting small, and we are hoping to continue and grow.

We are Eleanore, Luise, Duru and Nantiya from 8b and we decided to do our **GSL Goal Project on goals 5 (Gender Equality) and 10 (Reduced Inequalities)**

Our project is called **GE-quality**, a combination of the words gender and equality. It is focused around teaching the younger grades (1 to 4) about gender inequality and stereotyping in the hopes that they would learn from our lessons and integrate them into their own lives. We taught classes 1b, 2a, 2b, 4a and 4b. Our presentation centered around different tasks for the classes and talks with the class. We have received plenty of positive feedback from the teachers that we worked with and hope to continue the project successfully.

Our group called "**HelpforMe!**", consists of five people from class 8b: Aylin, Luci, Jurian, Keira, Golda.

We are trying to achieve these three goals from the 19 UN goals: Reducing Inequality, Quality Education and building partnerships with other companies. Our goal of the group was, and still is, to go to a special needs school, and spend a whole day documenting their everyday life. After that, we would go back to our school, and explain to our students how people with inclusions live their lives. We can't measure what we have achieved yet, as we are still in the middle of the project. In the future, we want to arrange a festival at school with another group from the class, and would then set up different booths, and teach the students about how people with limitations also want to be treated normally.

### LGBTQity !

Hello, we are LGBTQity and our goal was to inform and spread awareness about LGBTQ+ to people who are misinformed or do not understand what it is. We did this for an Economics project where we were supposed to do something that benefits people. We decided that to teach the correct education on LGBTQ+ would be a great decision. Our group had the idea to speak to 5<sup>th</sup> grade about this topic, so that they would be educated at an early age. We prepared worksheets, flyers, and a presentation, to give the 5<sup>th</sup> graders a good overview of this topic. We hope that we have influenced the 5<sup>th</sup> graders.



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Source: <https://www.nationalgeographic.org/projects/photo-ark/animal/accipiter-nisus/>

## BCS's Tenants

### Sparrowhawks in the Back courtyard

STELLA K

All around the world, many animals are making cities their home. Either, because humans brought them long ago as foreign pets, like ring-necked parakeets (a type of parrot) in London, where they arrived in 1839 approximately, or because humans have made cities quite a comfortable place. In Singapore, other populations are growing rapidly, because they are nearly no predators and they have good food sources, like koi ponds. Wild Turkeys are living in New England, Cougars (mountain lions) are beginning to feel at home in American cities like Las Vegas, wild boars are now habitants of Hong Kong— wild animals are living in cities now, too. This can be explained by the theory of the Anthropocene. It's an unofficial era, starting when humans began impacting the earth's ecosystems and climate.

It can be applied to the animals living in cities: the more we meddle with nature, the thinner the boundary between it and us becomes, until there is basically none, and everything is impacted by humans. No wonder animals are starting to live with us.

On the occasion of the BCS Environmental week, a certain fact can't go unnoticed— BCS has its very own, special, wild inhabitant as well. Or, rather, two: in the back courtyard, students can now see hawks, who are peacefully living in the trees above the noisy, playing students. According to Mr. Oates, who has been keeping an eye on them, they belong to the species of the sparrow hawks. Sparrowhawks are usually solitary species, they travel alone. Except when nesting and breeding. Probably, they are doing just that: they have a nest, built on an old football someone shot up into the tree and that got stuck there some time ago. The hawks don't seem to mind.

Overall, the 32-37 cm big birds hunt small birds or mammals, like pigeons or sparrows, and maybe mice. Sparrowhawks kill their prey by digging their claws into it until it's dead. They hunt short-range and use surprise attacks, and they, because they can't carry the dead prey into the trees as a whole, often rip off the best parts and leave the rest to be....

At the moment, the sparrowhawks are breeding, and, probably, we will soon have a whole hawk family.

Sources:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/topic/wild-cities/>

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/encyclopedia/anthropocene/>

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/projects/photo-ark/animal/accipiter-nisus/>

## Heated Up

### What global warming is doing to the animals

Tonio G. and Arved J.

Mehr als 50 Prozent aller Tierarten werden in Zukunft sehr negativ vom Klimawandel beeinflusst. Wenn sich der Klimawandel in diesem Tempo weiterhin entwickelt, dann sind Naturparadiese wie der Amazonas noch während der Lebenszeit unsere Kinder in großer Gefahr. Das ist kein Schicksal, sondern eine Folge des menschen-gemachten Klimawandels. Tiere von allen Teilen der Welt werden aussterben, daher müssen wir so schnell wie möglich aus Kohle, Öl und später Erdgas aussteigen, denn sie sind die Haupttreiber der Erderwärmung. Besonders hart werden die Miombowälder im südlichen und östlichen Afrika, der Amazonas Regenwald und der Südwesten Australiens betroffen sein.

Wenn beispielsweise der Klimawandel auf einen Temperaturanstieg von 2 ° C beschränkt werden würde, ein Ziel, auf das sich viele führende Politiker der Welt geeinigt haben, würde sich das Gesamtrisiko des Artensterbens immer noch verdoppeln. Heute sind 2,8 Prozent aller Arten weltweit vom Aussterben bedroht; Eine Erhöhung der Temperatur um 2 ° C erhöht dieses Risiko um 5,2 %.

Sollte die Durchschnittstemperatur um 4,5° C steigen, dann:

- Würden in den Miombowäldern 90 Prozent aller Amphibien, 80 Prozent alle Säugetiere und 86 Prozent aller Vogelarten aussterben
- Würde die Pflanzenvielfalt im Amazonas Regenwald um 69 Prozent zurückgesetzt werden
- Ständen 89 Prozent aller Amphibien in Südwest Australien vor dem regionalen Aussterben
- Würden in Madagascar 60 Prozent aller Tier- und Pflanzenarten sterben

Die Gründe für all dies sind vor allem die veränderten Lebensbedingungen, die durch die Erderwärmung verursacht wurden. Mit diesen Veränderungen können verschiedene Arten unterschiedlich gut umgehen. Zum Beispiel sind Afrikanische Elefanten, die pro Tag 150 bis 300 Liter an Wasser trinken, besonders durch den Klimawandel beeinflusst, da sie auf Grund ihres Wasserbedürfnisses auf eine entsprechend hohe Wasserverfügbarkeit angewiesen sind.

Daher werden zahlreiche Arten gezwungen werden sich anzupassen: Entweder sie passen sich an die neuen Bedingungen vor Ort an oder sie wandern in andere Gebiete um. In vielen Fällen wird dies jedoch nicht möglich sein, da menschliche Infrastruktur, aber auch natürliche Hindernisse, wie Flüsse und Berge, die Migration behindern.

Aus all diesen Gründen kann man nur Eins schließen, die Menschheit muss ihre Bemühungen den Klimawandel zu stoppen nicht nur verdoppeln, sondern vertausendfachen!

1989



2022



## The Cosmopolitan Film Corner presents: Chip 'n Dale—a surprising and unexpected reboot

^Chip 'n Dale: before and after

### AENEAS T

As the official founder (and the only member) of the Disney-Reboot-Hate-Club, I always look out for new Disney reboots that I can hate. When I first watched the trailer for “Chip ‘N Dale: Rescue Rangers”, a reboot of the well-known Disney animated series from the 90s, I was sure to have found the perfect film to dislike, but I was mistaken. As it turns out Disney actually made a reboot about two chipmunks hating reboots, living in a world full of reboots, trying to stop people from making more reboots. To be clear, this may not be the best film of all times, but it has a pretty good way of making fun of itself and the typical Hollywood mechanisms of recent years. And this I really enjoyed!

The story line of the film is very straight-forward and only a little generic. “Chip ‘N Dale: Rescue Rangers” is set in a universe where both humans and animated characters co-exist, where the original 90s show was actually shot with Chip and Dale being real actors. They never were the detectives that we know from the show, they were just actors. It is set approximately 30 years after the series was cancelled. Chip and Dale are separated, their friendship is broken after the series’ cancellation, Chip is working at an insurance company and Dale, despite being unpopular without Chip, is wasting his time at a convention (hoping for a reboot) with the other animated characters that everyone just forgot about. When an old friend & cast member (an animated character named Monty) is kidnapped, Chip and Dale are forced to leave their past conflicts behind and work together to stop the evil bootleg-gang from kidnapping more animated characters, altering their look (because of copyright) and making terrible bootleg movies (rip-offs from the original e.g. “Beauty and the Beast” becomes “Beauty and the cursed dog man”). This problem exists in the real world as well). In the end, they become friends again and blah, blah, blah. Just the usual happy-ending cliché but that’s not necessarily bad. Moreover, there are many famous comedians and actors, for example, Will Arnett, J.K. Simmons and Keegan-Michael Key, voicing the characters, which brings me to the next point on the list. CAMEOS!!!

Because the second thing Hollywood is obsessed with right now besides reboots is cameos. Nowadays, the more famous cameos in a movie, the better. It has become an essential, golden rule because it is an easy way for studios to get people to watch a movie. Do you think “Spider-Man: No Way Home” would have grossed almost 2 billion dollars without Tobey Maguire and Andrew Garfield? No! Nowadays, cameos make a movie and this one is full of them. Altogether, “Chip and Dale” had more cameos than the “Doctor Strange” sequel and “Spider-Man: No Way Home” combined. Way more! You could spot a cameo in almost every scene. Blink and you’ll miss hundreds. For really big Disney Animation fans, this is like the multiverse of madness but better. If Disney Animation was as famous as the MCU, this would’ve been the most anticipated movie of the year. Some cameos have more important parts than others, for example, Peter Pan from “Peter Pan” showed up as one of the main antagonists of the story (before going on to his Live-Action Reboot, “Peter Pan & Wendy”, coming this year). They even have Ugly Sonic, Winnie the Pooh, E.T., Batman, Alvin and the chipmunks (because why not?) and it goes on and on... Scrooge McDuck... In one scene Chip walks along the Hollywood walk of fame and he sees movie posters for reboots, for example, “Fast & Furious Babies”. There is even a poster of a “Ms. Doubtfire” reboot titled “Mr. Doubtfire” starring Meryl Streep (a gender-swap from the original). Most of the cameos are characters owned by Disney, nonetheless, a lot of characters like Ugly Sonic (As in, the earlier character design of Sonic for the Sonic the Hedgehog movie), Batman or the Ponies from My Little Pony are not (yet) owned by Disney and therefore, there were a lot of steps the Disney Legal Department had to take to get those into the movie according to director Akiva Schaffer. “The legal department at Disney deserves a big box of chocolates from me and the other makers of this film because they had to spend more time on this...” he states.

What I like most about the film is its humour and of course the hate towards reboots which it depicts. There are a lot of scenes that are very well written in terms of humour. I laughed the most, though, when they were talking about reboots, clichés, bootlegged films, depicted their hate towards those and conveyed how studios are always just reaching their hand out for the money. I was indeed very surprised to see this coming from Disney, of all things (with Disney making the worst reboots). I always liked films that make fun of the movie industry and films that make fun of themselves. The reason for this self-mockery is the fact that this is not a pure Disney production but that it was co-created by the satire and comedy trio “The Lonely Island” who already made a lot of parodies. The people who made the film really cared about it -at least it seems like it -and I appreciate that. It’s not made mainly for the money. It feels like the filmmakers knew, that nobody asked for this movie, so they even named the screen play “The Chip and Dale Rescue Rangers Reboot That Nobody Asked For”, which is really ironic and funny.

I also enjoyed the style and tone of the movie. Of course, the tone wasn’t like a Wes Anderson film, however, at least it wasn’t like the new. “Home Alone” Reboot from last year. The blend between the real world and animation was executed well and I really liked the concept that animated characters and humans live in the same universe together in different animation styles including Claymation, 3D Animation, 2D Animation and puppets (they also make fun of the bad animation styles). It’s all in the movie.

“Chip ‘N Dale: Rescue Rangers” offers an entertaining and action-loaded story, while simultaneously being a satirical commentary on the current state of the film industry, making fun of all the obsessions of 2020s Hollywood. It is a reboot making fun of reboots and that gives it its strength.

8/10