



## December 2020 Newsletter - Green New Deal #1

Hi! It's great to see you with us. This newsletter includes a short intro about us and some news of our activism in the last few months.

### Why do we need a Green New Deal?

It's time to take back control of our future. **The climate crisis is not only an environmental crisis but also a socio-economic one.** In the face of such an unprecedented crisis, the Green New Deal campaign for Israel offers a future of hope through joint action to change policy. This is neither about changing legislation nor about a government decision: we are working to change the priorities in the country. We believe that the climate crisis is an opportunity for change to ensure a better future for all of us. We demand a substantive policy that puts the best interests of society, employees and the environment first.

Many environmental organizations are already working in response to the climate crisis. **So why do we need a Green New Deal as well?** The climate crisis is intensifying and will continue to amplify the lines of inequality in society. Just as the COVID-19 crisis severely harms the periphery and the poor, so does the climate crisis severely hurt the elderly who cannot afford to heat their homes or cleaning and construction workers who do not benefit from an air-conditioned office. The difference in temperatures between South Tel Aviv and North Tel Aviv in summer can reach 7(!) degrees - as a result of the lack of green spaces and the quality of the infrastructure.

**So what can we do?** It is not enough to change consumption habits. The climate crisis is one of the results of the economic system that also collapsed the welfare state, so tackling it is an opportunity to promote a comprehensive policy that benefits society: a rapid transition to a zero-carbon renewable energy economy and investment in a public safety net that will protect us from crises. This network should include health, pensions, welfare and job security, creating green jobs through investment in renewable energy infrastructure, strengthening workers' organizations, green public housing and education. All, with dialogue with communities, businesses and residents.

[You haven't had a chance to listen to the fascinating episode on the Green New Deal in Kriat Hashkama? Here it is!](#)

[Visit our new website!](#)

## Our Field Activism



Following years of discussions about the future of the petrochemical industry in Haifa Bay, an inter-ministerial committee of directors was established at the end of October to examine the issue. The committee was given 90 days to reach a decision on closing the factories. This is a critical time for activism, and we too have joined demonstrations in front of the Bazan compound and blocked the access road demanding the immediate closure of the petrochemical industry.

This requirement may affect the thousands of people currently employed by the companies in the factories. Are we doing the right thing in calling for the closure of factories? On the one hand, the factories irreversibly harm the environment and the health of the residents of the area. On the other hand, closing the factories will hurt the livelihood of people and their families who depend on it. This is the heart of the Green New Deal, which demands environmental-social justice: closing factories with concern and security for the employed - a **just transition** from a polluting industry to a clean industry. Vocational retraining, good social conditions and pensions, the right to associate and a healthy environment to work in - all of these are an integral part of the call to close polluting companies. Concern for health, the environment and good employment come together and this is our main requirement.

“Bazan workers reacted this morning with rage to the decision to establish an inter-ministerial committee on the issue of closing the factories, arguing that the Minister of

the Environment 'chose a popular path that will hurt thousands of employees' (Globes, 25/10/2020)

The campaign in Haifa Bay is an example of the nature of the Green New Deal campaigns; campaigns that support the environment on the one hand and society on the other. If you are campaigning for environmental and social justice in your area, we would like to hear from you! We work in cooperation with local struggles across the country for a healthier society and environment.

Email us to join our campaigns

For more info on the Green New Deal activity in Haifa Bay in the next month, join Telegram

Follow us on Twitter for the latest updates from Bazan

## Volunteers required: join us in the Green New Deal revolution!

1. Content people - for writing posts on social media and opinion columns to the press.
2. Video editors for making short videos
3. Digital people for managing our content on social media.
4. Amazing field people! [Join us in calling for a Green New Deal for Israel now!](#)

[Join one of our teams](#)

## Why isn't our logo green?



As part of the process of building the "Green New Deal for Israel" brand, there was a need to create a logo that represented the organisation and would be recognisable in the public's consciousness. Expressing a variety of values and principles in a 2-dimensional symbol measuring 2 cm is not a simple task. The combination of environmental and socio-economic struggle is at the heart of the Green New Deal. The colours in the logo express the urgency of the struggle and differentiate it. And the green? It is already expressed in our name.

The symbolism associated with the chosen logo by the members of the movement is of a rising sun, a lifebuoy, the light at the end of the tunnel. We strive to be all of these things.

We will be happy to read your compliments on the logo on our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages!

[See our event calendar for upcoming events](#)

Join us!

On Telegram, you can get routine updates on events

If you missed Ori Nachmani's fantastic presentation of the Green New Deal, watch it [here](#).